

IN THE NIGER DELTA.

Horrible Superstitions Prevailing in that Part of Africa.

Lizard and Snake Worship—A Mother Rejoicing to See Her Child Devoured by a Python—Good Work Done by Christian Missionaries.

In the last issue of the "Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society," London, there is an unusually interesting article on the "Niger Delta" in Africa, of which the following synopsis has been made for the New York Ledger:

The Niger represents to-day the ruling people of the extreme lower Niger, of Brass, of New Calabar, Bonny and Opobo. In times past they were fanatic adherents of a savage type of animistic religion. Like the majority of the Africans, they did not know or conceive of the existence of one supreme God, but embodied a number of natural principles in the forms of certain animals, or in a concrete representation of "fetiches" or idols.

Each little community had its "totem," or sacred animal, in whose species the ancestral spirit—the soul of the tribe, so to speak—was supposed to dwell. Thus in Brass they worshipped the python snake; in Bonny the monitor lizard. Only nine or ten years ago the British authorities in the Oil Rivers were compelled to afford to a certain amount of recognition. Europeans were forbidden to kill the sacred lizard of Bonny, or the still more sacred serpent of Brass, and were heavily fined by their Consul if they infringed the prohibition.

On one occasion, an agent of Messrs. Hatton & Cookson's firm found a large python in his house and killed it. When the misdeed became known the Brass people made a descent on the factory, dragged the agent out of the house on to the beach, tied him up by his thumbs, spat in his mouth, and inflicted other indignities on him. Then they broke open the store, and took out £20 worth of goods, which they confiscated. The British consul, hearing of the disturbance, arrived in Brass, considered the case, and was unable to afford the agents any redress, because he was supposed to have brought the punishment upon himself.

At Bonny the monitor lizards became a sickening nuisance. They devoured the Europeans' fowls, turkeys, ducks and geese with impunity; they might lie across the road or doorway of houses with their six feet of length, and their heads, like those of people who attempted to pass with their whip-like serrated tails, and if you wounded or killed one, there was no end of a to-do. You were assaulted or robbed by the natives, harangued by the Consul on board of a man of war, and possibly fined into the bargain.

In other parts of the delta it might be the shark, or the crocodile, or some water-bird that was worshipped, but nowhere was this zoölatry carried to greater lengths than at Bonny and Brass. For its effectual abatement, which has been of the greatest benefit to the well-being of Europeans and natives alike, we owe our thanks not to the intervention of naval or consular officials, but to the bluff remonstrances of traders, but to the quiet, unceasing labors of the agents of the Church Missionary Society, who by winning the natives from these absurd practices, have brought about the extinction of the python and lizard.

How cheaply they make these things you can judge from this instance. Here is a toy of furniture consisting of three chairs, a bureau, a table, a sofa and a mirror, carefully done up in a substantial pasteboard box. Now, after having paid 35 per cent. duty and having allowed 30 per cent. for freight and other expenses, we sell such furniture sets at 75 cents per dozen and make a reasonable profit. You can figure out the original cost if you choose.

"Porcelain" toys, sets and things of that sort—are also made very cheaply, the waste places in the potteries being filled up with their made with much additional cost. Toy horses, cows, elephants, castles, dogs, lions, tigers and all kinds of animals are made largely in the German prisons. Many of these are ingenious toys, being so constructed as to be able to move heads and emit a noise resembling more or less the natural cries of each animal. The retail price of these toys runs from 25 cents to 50, according to size and perfection. We sold a toy horse the other day for \$9 about the same time a real one was disposed of at auction up-town for a much less sum.

"Of the wooden toys fully one-half are made in America. They include A B C blocks, building blocks and games, and are easily turned out by machinery. Iron toys are also made largely here, and so are tin toys. The tin for the latter is imported from Europe, and when the toys are finished they are exported for the European market. The majority of the rubber toys come from France, chiefly from Alsace, where the manufacture of this line of playthings is constantly increasing in America, and the American rubber toys are really the best to be had. The reason that America has not taken the lead in the manufacture of rubber toys is found in the fact that the demand for other rubber goods is so great as to shut out toys. Toy watches are largely made in France and are remarkably cheap. We sell watches with chains, charms and movable hands for 35 cents per dozen, after having allowed for duty and freight.

A WOMAN'S ADVICE.

She Tells Her Sisters How to Fascinate Their Husbands. Many women lose the love of their husbands because they are too ignorant or too indifferent to keep it. An experienced writer in the Louisville Courier-Journal. Ask any of your friends who have captured their other half, and they will tell you frankly: "I don't know." A man's heart is ensnared by a pretty hand, nice teeth, a round face, frank eyes, beautiful hair; by the way a girl walks, talks, plays, and puns; by her gifts, her smiles, her amiability, good taste, generosity, or the very manner in which she greets, fascinates or abuses him. She may not know how she wins him, but if she doesn't know how to keep him, the best thing for her to do is to find out. There are many things we know by intuition, the rest have to be learned by experience. Consistency of her abilities and inabilities as a wife, a wise woman will learn how to keep her husband just as she learns how to keep house, to make chicken croquettes, chocolate cream, bread, beds or lemonade, and if she doesn't, why, some siren will for all time relieve her of the trouble. Men like to preach down extravagance, and style, and dress; but the woman who bangs her hair, hides a blotch or scar under a piece of court-plaster, who wants pretty gowns and stockings, trim slippers, perfumes, balms, cold creams, finger curls and fancy notions to increase her charms, is the woman who is admired by them all. Common sense and ugliness may be morally wholesome, but they're not alluring, and art is apt to triumph over nature unadorned. If a man is fond of flattery, let him have it. If he has ambitions or schemes, listen to him with open eyes of wonder, and no matter what the occasion is, never permit your knowledge to exceed his. Men despise smart women, but have a fancy for a man when her talent is large enough to appreciate his greatness. Men like to be looked up at, depended on, quoted and referred to. An ugly temper is a trial that few women are able to endure. The only cure is silence. You can't kiss a furious man; it only makes him worse. The thing to do is keep still, let him cool, and let the matter drop. He will respect your sense and come to terms of a truce with a smart, but a woman is to be born a martyr, but the husband that is worth wedding is worth keeping; and if a little artifice, a pleasant smile, a contented heart, and all means of love and tact will hold him, by all means let him be held. Men must be taken as they are, not as they should be; they improve under the refining influence of mutual interest and love, and he is a wretched specimen of humanity who can not be counted on to shield his wife from the buffets of the world and be an anchor for her when youth and beauty have proved unfaithful.

Minard's Liniment is used by Physicians. It can make a man's arm shrink into the size of a piece of paper.

WHERE TOYS COME FROM

Most of Them the Product of Cheap German Labor.

Why the United States Can Not Make the Cheaper Kinds of Playthings—All About Dolls, Toy Automobiles, Ten-Cent Watches and Other Trifles.

"Of the dolls sold in America," says a prominent wholesale dealer in toys to a New York Times man, "the greater portion are made in one little place, Sonneberg, a town of about ten thousand inhabitants in Thuringen. Almost the entire industry of this place is confined to the manufacture of dolls. The inhabitants are very poor people and are brought up to doll-making."

"Before it is completed a doll passes through many hands. The heads, hands and feet are made by one person, the body by another, the hair is fixed on by another, and the face is painted by two other different people, one doing the rough work and the other the finishing touches. The clothing is made by another person and the dresses are put on by still another. All this labor is done at such starvation prices that Americans can not compete in the manufacture, although the duty for importation is thirty-five per cent."

"To the town of Sonneberg there come every year a large number of buyers from all over the world. I go there myself and never fail to meet at least a score of American buyers engaged in the same business. There are at least 500 different kinds of dolls, and the variety is remarkable. The French import many of the most attractive, but the Germans copy them so cheaply that the world's buyers go to the latter for their stock. For the manufacture of fine dolls the French still hold the lead by long odds. It is only in the cheaper goods that the Germans outstep them. England furnishes very few dolls, and I can not recall only one kind that is distinctly English—the English rag doll, which is made wholly of rags, even to the face, the eyes being covered with French walking dolls, smoking men and other automatic figures, but these do not really belong to the family of dolls. They are mechanical toys, which are brought to the market as such, and are not to be classed as mere dolls. Of the rubber dolls fully one-half are made in America, where any thing that is machine-made prospers to the exclusion of imported stuffs."

"The price of dolls ranges from 1 cent to \$20, but the most popular are those that sell for 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1, although there has been a great run recently on 5-cent and 10-cent dolls."

"As with dolls, so it is with other toys. The most of them come from Germany, where they are made very cheaply. This same town of Sonneberg furnishes many of the toys, but more come from other small towns in its vicinity. It is in this district that magnetic toys, swords, guns, trumpets, horns, woolly sheep, jumping jacks, monkeys on sticks, tin soldiers and ingenious mechanical toys are made. The carved wooden toys come principally from the Bavarian Highlands, but they are brought to Nuremberg to be sold. The cheaper grades of wooden toys are made in poorer Saxony and comprise cheap cars and sets of furniture."

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A LITTLE FORESIGHT.

Why It is of More Use Than An Unaimed Quantity of Afterthought. A little foresight is of more value than much afterthought, says the Sunday-School Times. Foresight is the planner, afterthought is the critic of our deeds. What painful scenes, embarrassments, regrets, disappointments, self-accusations, the habit of looking ahead and planning to meet and to avoid conflicts of duty and the impossible demand to be in two places at one time, are well spent. But the forethought is more difficult than the afterthought. The one requires intense application to systematic consideration and search of the field of the possible; the other suggests itself instantly and naturally. Any body can see that the door is in the wrong place after the house is built, or can say that the speech was a mistake after it had been delivered and its effect noticed. It is easier to criticize well than to construct well; but it is more useful to construct a plan perfectly beforehand, than to criticize it afterwards.

The Doctor Who Succeeds.

A physician who understands human nature, who plays with the baby, makes friends with the children and listens to the woes of the good wife and mother, is the fellow to whom the master of the house most cheerfully pays the largest bills. It isn't the medicine that's bottled up, but the comfort, the consolation that are unbottled that mark the broad line between an unsuccessful and a popular physician.

A mortgage is worse than an earthquake. It can make a man's arm shrink into the size of a piece of paper.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Use Seavey's East India Liniment. 12 Minard's Liniment cures Diarrhoea.

Senator Carvell has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island.

Among the many remedies for Worms, McLean's Vegetable Worm Syrup takes the lead; it is the original and only genuine.—Pleasant to take and sure in effect. Purely vegetable.

The diphtheria at St John's, Nfld., is subsiding. Out of 2,000 cases there were 366 deaths.

A distressing cough or cold not only deprives one of rest and sleep, but if allowed to continue, is liable to develop more serious trouble in the way of Croup or Laryngitis, or perhaps Consumption. Use Baird's Balsam of Horehound.

The steamer City of Rome consumes an average of 300 tons of coal a day in crossing the ocean at top speed.

The evils resulting from habitual coarseness are many and serious; but the use of harsh, drastic purgatives is quite as dangerous. In Ayer's Pills, however, the patient has a mild but effective aperient, superior to all others, especially for family use.

Thousands have been relieved of indigestion and loss of appetite by a single bottle of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. The use of this medicine, by giving tone and strength to the assimilative organs, has made innumerable cures of chronic dyspepsia. Price \$1. Worth \$5 a bottle.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria, When she became a Child, she cried for Castoria, When she became a Man, she clung to Castoria, When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

It is expected over 20,000 men will take part in the great fête of labor day in Montreal, on September 2d, and in the workmen's congress, which comes off on the following day.

One of the reasons why Scott's Emulsion has such a large sale, is because it is the best. Dr. H. W. Cameron, Halifax, N. S., says: "I have prescribed Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites, for the past two years, and found it more agreeable to the stomach and have better results from its use than any other preparation of the kind I have ever used." Sold by all Druggists, 50c. and \$1.00.

A German woman reached Halifax a few days ago in search of her husband who had left her in Germany. She had followed the runaway to New York and then to Halifax. The husband is supposed to be somewhere in Nova Scotia.

CONSUMPTION SURELY CURED. Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send you a bottle of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Express and P. O. address. Respectfully, DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 37 Yonge street, Toronto Ont.

The plan of using the vast pastures of Alberta, N. W. T., to fatten cattle for the Eastern markets, has been inaugurated by a Winnipeg dealer. A beginning was made the other day with two thousand steers, purchased in various parts of Ontario, and shipped in two instalments to Calgary.

C. C. RICHARDS & Co. (Contd.)—I sprained my leg so badly that I had to be driven home in a carriage. I immediately applied MINARD'S LINIMENT freely and in 48 hours could use my leg again as well as ever. JOSHUA WYNAGOTT, Bridgewater, N. S.

Rhodes and Curry, of Amherst, the most enterprising firm of contractors to-day in Canada, has monopolized nearly all the contracts in the Maritime Provinces this year. The firm must have on hand fully twenty contracts, and the other day were awarded a \$75,000 contract at the Moncton railway buildings. Success to such enterprise.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures Diphtheria and Diarrhoea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething, is pleasant to the taste, and is the best prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists and Bowles, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething, is pleasant to the taste, and is the best prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists and Bowles, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall St., N. Y. (13-11-85)

THE "WITNESS" FOR 1889. More Interesting Than Ever. Great Inducements For Club Workers And Subscribers. A copy of the \$120,000 picture, "CHRIST BEFORE PILATE," for the nominal sum of 25 cents, to every old or new subscriber remitting for 1889. DAILY WITNESS AND PICTURE, - \$3 25 WEEKLY - \$1 25

THE GREAT LONDON & CHINA TEA CO., IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN TEAS, COFFEES, SUGARS. 191 Barrington St. Halifax. Price List of Teas. ENGLISH BREAKFAST—25s, 30s, 35c, 40c, 50c, Best 50c. OOLONG—30s, 40s, 50s, Best 60c, FORMOSA—50s, 60s, Best 60c, GUNPOWDER—40s, 50s, 60s, Best 70c, YOUNG HYSON—30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, Best 70c, SCENTED ORANGE PEKOE—60c, Best 70c, BASKET FIRED JAPAN—40s, 50s, Best 60c, UNCOLORED JAPAN—40s, 50s, Best 60c.

Excelsior Package Dyes! Are unequalled for Simplicity of use, Beauty of Color, and the large amount of Goods each Dye will color. The colors, namely are supplied: Yellow, Orange, Eosine (Pink), Rismarck, Scarlet, Green, Dark Green, Light-Blue, Navy Blue, Seal Brown, Brown, Black, Garnet, Magenta, Slate, Blue, Drab, Purple, Violet, Maroon, Old Gold, Cardinal, Red, Crimson.

Valuable Testimonials. The following testimonials will be of valuable service to all intending using dyes and want to be sure of getting good reliable dyes:— We the undersigned have used and sold all kinds of dye, but have found none near so good as the "Excelsior" dyes; for which we can truly say that the "Excelsior" dyes are the best dyes that can be used. They are sold by all first-class grocers and druggists at only 8 cents per package, which is cheaper than other dyes, and they will also dye more goods than any dyes we ever used; and a trial of a package or two will soon convince all that are interested in dyeing. They will not fade like other dyes and besides give a most beautiful color, and they are so simple to use that any child can use them; and are economical, brilliant and durable colors.

For Sale or Let! The premises in New Minas lately occupied by Howard Pinco, consisting of dwelling-house and outbuilding and about 1/2 of an acre of land set out with fruit trees in bearing. Apply to JACOB WIDSON, or ISAAC N. COLDWELL, Gaspercau, March 15, '89. 4 ins

THE "DAISY" CHURN. People buy the "Daisy" Churn because it makes a superior quality of butter and fully ten per cent. more of it than any other churn in the world. And because it saves half the labor and is perfect in material and workmanship and is so easily cleaned. And because it is so simple and durable. And because it is warranted to give perfect satisfaction. Over 80,000 sold in the United States last year. Try one and see for yourself. For sale by D. MUMFORD, Wolfville N. S., July 12th.

NOTICE! P. CHRISTIE, TAILOR, Begs to inform his numerous friends and customers that he has on hand a choice lot of Diagonals, Tweeds and Paintings in great variety and at prices To Suit Every One. These goods he is prepared to make up in the Latest Style and a perfect fit guaranteed, and all work finished when promised. Special Discounts given to Clergymen and Students. Don't forget the place—over J. R. Blanchard's Dry Goods Store. Kentville, Feb. 16, 1887

I CURE FITS! When I say CURE I do not mean merely to stop them for a time, and then have them return again. I MEAN A RADICAL CURE. I have made the disease FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS, a life long study. I WARRANT my remedy to CURE the worst cases. Because others have failed to do so, I have made a special study of the disease and have found a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my REMEDY. Give Express and Post Office. I accept no money for a cure, and I will cure you. Address DR. E. C. BOOT, 37 King St., Toronto, Ont.

THE "YARMOUTH" is the fastest steel steamer "YARMOUTH" will leave Yarmouth for Boston every Wednesday & Saturday. Returning, will leave Lewis' Wharf, Boston, on every TUESDAY and FRIDAY, connecting at Yarmouth with train for Halifax and intermediate stations. The "YARMOUTH" carries a regular mail to and from Boston and is the fastest steamer plying between Nova Scotia and the United States, fitted with triple expansion engines, electric lights, huge keels, &c., &c.

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JOHNSON'S LINIMENT ANODYNE Established 1810. -UNLIKE ANY OTHER.- AS MUCH FOR INTERNAL AS FOR EXTERNAL USE. It is superior to any other different complaints it will cure. Its strong point lies in the fact that it acts quickly. Heating all Cuts, Burns and Bruises like Magic. Relieving all manner of Rheumatism and Chills. All who buy direct from us, and request it, shall receive a certificate that the money shall be refunded if it does not cure the disease, 60c. Express and duty paid to any part of the United States or Canada. For Valuable pamphlet sent free. I. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass. GENERATION AFTER GENERATION HAVE USED AND BLESSED IT.

"Dairy Prince." OUR JOB ROOM IS SUPPLIED WITH THE LATEST STYLES OF TYPE -OF- Every Description JOB PRINTING DONE WITH NEATNESS, CHEAPNESS AND PUNCTUALITY.

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