

THE COLUMBIAN.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1909.

Civilization Advancing.

The Days of Prize Fighting and Cock Fighting Are Numbered.

The Scranton Times recently contained the following editorial: Some day there will be no more prize-fighting, cock-fighting, dog or bull fighting, no more war, the brain, brawn, time, money and grounds will be utilized to more humane purposes. In fact a great advance has already been made and many of the brutal sports are prohibited in the United States which flourished in all the states at one time. Out in California there was a great pavilion, near San Francisco, with thousands of seats and dozens of little round, altar-like booths. Thousands of people used to gather in this pavilion, principally on Sundays. They saw rabbits let loose, and after them pups of the greyhound breed. The dog chased the rabbits and tore them limb from limb. When a particular dog was particularly skillful in chasing and tearing, the screams of the little woolly creatures whose sole defense the Lord has fixed at quick action of legs, were drowned in the cheers of the men and women in the pavilion who had bet on that pup. Did you ever hear the shriek of a rabbit that was caught? Well, it sounds like the scream of a child being strangled. But what does the agony of a live animal amount to? You bet \$5 to \$4 that the pup "Tra La" will catch him first and first tear out his heart or entrails. You win or lose. Let the rabbit shriek. One day the California Legislature put an end to public gambling, and what occurred? Only a little while ago the ground above mentioned was plowed, later the pavilion torn down, and ground carefully harrowed. Dozens of men were employed to put in cuttings of potatoes. Almost daily the fogs from the ocean came up from the west and moistened this field of men's hopes. Daily the sunshine came and set roots and shoots to growing until now the plants are full eight inches high. How those potatoes do grow! Why, there are going to be hundreds and hundreds of bushels of potatoes, one of the staples of human life, in that field. One of the regular items on the poor man's menu is going to be more plentiful and cheaper. Family after family of the poor are going to be able to live cheaper by reason of that field, have more to eat, have a bit of a let-up in the hard struggle to live, by reason of what's doing under ground in that field. It's all right to have recreation, to have a play time and sport, but not where some human being or animal is to be the victim of suffering or death, to gratify some vil passion of man. Put away the spear and savagery for the pruning knife or the plow.

Breezy Adventure Novel in the June Lippincott's.

Grace MacGowan Cooke has volved a tremendously strong plot or her complete novel, "The Royal Line," in the June Lippincott's, and in the development thereof she has done full justice to it. The result is one of the most fascinating pieces of fiction which have appeared in a long time. The heroine, Princess Elfrida of Waldavia—a petty kingdom of Europe—has a marriage arranged for her by her uncles, but, to their surprise, she has the temerity to prefer the man of her own choice to the disolute royal rake they have picked out for her. Plans are promptly laid to prevent her marriage, and when these fail, her enemies are resorted to on both sides and for a

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, LUCAS COUNTY, ss.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and state aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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time things look black for the royal lovers. But the clouds finally pass by, and their silver lining more than makes up for their previous gloominess. There are many strong scenes in the narrative, and action abounds, yet there is a praise-worthy absence of the flamboyant, hackneyed episodes which occur in so many romantic novels—such as the duel with swords, in which the hero displays phenomenal fencing ability. The characters are wonderfully well depicted, especially the two leading ones, the Princess Elfrida and her stalwart lover, Marcus of Odessa. Lippincott's has seldom, if ever, printed a better novelette.

There are a number of enticing short stories also in this number. "The Mollycoddle," by Augusta Kortrecht; "A Desperate Character," by Owen Oliver; "Temperament," by Eleanor Mercein Kelly; "And Away They Galloped Together," by Will Levington Comfort; "Some Spoons and a Dog," by Alice Louise Lee; "The Truth, the Whole Truth," by Thomas L. Mason; and "That Denied 'Giftie,'" by Mella Russell McCallum, are among the most noteworthy. Another posthumous paper by "Ouida," the famous novelist, who died not long ago, is an interesting feature. It is entitled "Love Versus Avarice," and is a frank analysis of the causes which make for social evil. Other interesting articles on timely subjects will be found in the department "Ways of the Hour," and there is the usual complement of jokes, jingles, and anecdotes in "Walnuts and Wine." The other magazines will be hard put to it to excel the June Lippincott's in point of interest.

REDUCED RATES TO GETTYSBURG. Dedication Regular Army Monument.

On Monday, May 31, Memorial Day, the monument to the regular army engaged in the battle of Gettysburg will be dedicated on the Battlefield by the United States Government. President Taft will participate in the ceremonies. Excursion tickets to Gettysburg will be sold by the Pennsylvania Railroad from all principal stations, May 27 to 30, good to return until June 3, inclusive, at reduced rates. May 20, 27.

Fijian Fire Walkers.

Those who witnessed the coronation procession will doubtless recollect a small group of copper-colored soldiers with bare legs and outstanding hair innocent of covering. These strange people—Fijians—and their ancient ceremony of the Vilavilavevo, or fire walking, were the subject of a paper read by W. L. Allardyce, C. M. G., at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute recently. Admiral Sir N. Bowden-Smith presided.

The ceremony of fire walking, Mr. Allardyce explained, is performed by a certain tribe at the Island of Boga, and originated in a legend that in reward for having spared the life of a man he had dug out of the ground, one Tul Qualita was invested with the power of being able to walk over red-hot stones without being burned. An earthen oven is made and filled with layers of wood and stone. In this a fire is kindled about twelve hours before the fire walking takes place, and, when the hot stones have been exposed by brushing away the charcoal the natives, under the direction of a master of ceremonies, walk over them barefooted.

The temperature at the edge of the oven is about 120 degrees Fahrenheit, while on one occasion, when the thermometer was suspended over the stones, it registered 282 degrees and the solder was melted. Yet, stated Mr. Allardyce, after the ceremony the natives show no signs of the terrible ordeal through which they have gone. By means of a number of views the lecturer gave a realistic idea of the ceremony as performed nowadays.

Vice-Admiral Lewis Beaumont described a fire walking ceremony as witnessed by himself. Although those who took part in it showed no signs of discomfort, he remarked that apparently they did not like it over much.

Replying to questions, Mr. Allardyce said the only explanation he could give of the apparent immunity from harm following on the process was that soles of the feet of the natives were hardened to an unusual degree through constant walking on a sandy soil covering coral, which became exceedingly hot under the sun. There was also the element of absolute belief by the natives in the legend that they were proof against fire.—London Standard.

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If a bird's eye view of the different railroad and steamship lines which carry the mails could be taken the giant spiders' web thus formed would appear woven in a pattern so intricate that the mind would balk at the mere suggestion of unraveling it, says St. Nicholas.

And besides the regular steamship and railroad threads of this maze would appear tens of thousands of cross-lines, representing pony routes, dog-and-sled tracks, swift courier and runner "trails" and even reindeer, whaling ship and canoe lines.

Every sort of vehicle and beast of burden, and nearly every invention of men for quick transportation have been pressed into the postal service, and it is possible for a letter to go around the world under conditions so strange that the mere history of its journey would form a story of thrilling interest.

If a man should start from New York and travel northward to Alaska, then down the coast to California and take ship to Manila, and follow the lines of travel to Hongkong, to Singapore, to Canton, to Tokio, to Vladivostok, to St. Petersburg, to Vienna, to London, to South Africa, and finally to South America, touching on the way at several Pacific and South Atlantic islands, and thence back to his starting point, he could travel a distance several times greater than the circumference of the globe.

If he ordered his mail forwarded to him, and left correct addresses behind at each place, the letters would dutifully follow him and finally be delivered to him in New York a few days after his own arrival there. All that he would have to pay extra for this remarkable journey would be a dollar or two in tolls, which would represent the charges for forwarding exacted by some of the countries through which it passed.

There is at the post-office department at Washington the envelope of a letter which traveled in this way 150,000 miles, and another which came safely through a trip of 125,000 miles. Both are marked and stamped in a way to baffle any except very expert decipherers of puzzles.

PRIMARY ELECTION LAWS. [Continued from 1st page]

warrants, or the preserving of the peace.

Any election officer who permits a person to vote at any primary, with the knowledge that such person is not entitled to vote, or refuses to permit any lawfully entitled elector to vote at such primary, with the knowledge that such person is so entitled to vote, or who refuses to permit him to receive the party ballot for which he asks, after having executed the affidavit herein provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to undergo an imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Any election officer or clerk who shall be guilty of any wilful fraud in the conduct of his duties at a primary, or who shall make a false return of the votes cast at such primary, or who shall deposit fraudulent ballots in the ballot box, or who shall certify as correct a return of ballots in the ballot box which he knows to have been fraudulently deposited therein, or who shall write false names in the lists of voters for the purpose of concealing the deposit of such fraudulent ballots or of aiding in the perpetration of such fraud, or who shall conspire with others to commit any of the offenses herein mentioned, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to undergo imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both in the discretion of the court.

Except as modified by the terms of this act, election officers shall be subject to the pains and penalties for violations or neglect of their duties at a primary as they are or hereafter may be subject to for violation or neglect of such duties at elections. In all other respects, officers officiating at primaries shall be subject to the pains and penalties provided by law for offenses committed at primaries. The existing laws relating to bribery at primaries shall continue in force, and shall apply to bribery at primaries as provided by this act.

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