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BURIAL PLACE OF GIANTS.

Skeletons of an Ancient Race Unearthed in Indiana.

Many Traditions Brought Out by the Discovery — Evidences of an Extinct Tribe of Very Large Americans.

A rich archæological find was recently unearthed two miles west of Crawfordsville in a gravel pit along the high bluffs of Sugar creek. Thus far twenty-five skeletons of Brobdingnagian stature have been exhumed, and the unburying of these mammoth bones is still going on. This necropolis of long ago is filled with excited hunters of curios and scientific students from Wabash college almost continually, and as soon as removed from the gravel their rattling bones are carried away to become part of departments of archæology, which are being established all over the city.

The last skeleton taken from the burial ground was a gigantic one, measuring seven feet in length. The femur alone would prove that the skeleton was that of a giant, and the pelvic bones are twice as large as those of an ordinary man. The grinning skull of the giant had a perfect set of teeth, not one cracked or decayed, and with an enamel as beautiful as polished marble. The bones were perfect in every detail, notwithstanding the fact that they must have been interred here for centuries. The entire absence of vegetable matter in the soil and the perfect drainage would account for the preservation of the bony structure.

Of the whole number of skeletons thus far found only two indicate immature development, the remainder representing the framework of a race of men evidently extinct for centuries. This is certainly the first discovery of skeletons in which the characteristic development of giants has been observed. It is thought by local scientists that these bones belong to a tribe of aborigines, but this theory cannot be fully established by the material structure of the skeleton.

Although no implements or ornaments were found buried with the bones, yet in close proximity many instruments of warfare and domestic utensils were found. They are mostly composed of stone, though some are composed of copper and a few of shell and bone. The stone implements are flint spears and arrow heads, and appear to be wrought with exceeding great skill. Pottery is found in great abundance. For many years specimens of these pots have been unearthed in this region, especially along the banks of the creek.

None of these skeletons was found in a separate grave, they being for the most part piled together in one conglomerate mass. Ten were found in one place in close contact, facing the setting sun, and arranged in a sitting posture. Many of the bones found farther down the bank, and in a soil in which there was more vegetable matter, crumbled to dust as soon as exposed to the atmosphere, and the symmetry of a single bone could not be distinguished.

Many traditions have been brought out since this discovery. One old settler has called to mind the fact that fifty years ago a tree was uprooted on this same spot, exposing three skeletons of gigantic dimensions, and as they were beneath the tree, it must have sprung up long after the bodies were buried.

Gen. Lew Wallace says he remembers the actions of a stranger who several years ago spent many months digging along the banks of Sugar creek in search of a gold spoon supposed to have been buried long ago when this part of the country was inhabited by savage tribes, and the owner of the land on which these remains were found calls to mind a tradition often related by his grandfather that a Spanish treasure had been buried here in the long, long ago, when the country was a wilderness and Chicago a barren waste of impenetrable swamps.

The excavations are being continued, and it is thought that rich developments are in prospect, for there is not a foot of the soil removed that does not contain some relic or grinning skull.

FROM FATHER TO SON.

A Banking Institution Where Positions Are Hereditary.

A queer case of family succession in a well-known financial institution of the city is told by the New York Daily Stockholder.

Josiah Kisterbock, Jr., who is now the president of the City national bank, is the son of the former vice president, who was for many years an active spirit as a director also. The present president entered the bank as a boy and he has filled every position. Joel Cook, the vice president, is a son also of a former director, says the Philadelphia Record.

William Potter, one of the active directors, is a son of Thomas Potter, who was for years, until his death, the president of the bank. Collins W. Walton, another director, is a son of Samuel S. Walton, who was connected with the institution for many years. Henry S. Grove, another director, is a son of Conrad S. Grove, who, until his death, was also for many years a member of the board of directors. John Kisterbock, another director, is the brother of the present president.

William Henry Lex, another director, succeeded his father, Charles E. Lex, who was for a long period solicitor for the bank, as well as a director. F. Oden Horstmann; another director, is the son of William H. Horstmann, who was also identified with the institution for a long time.

Rain Gambling.

"Rain gambling" is the latest vice to develop in India, and the police of Bombay and Calcutta are just now vigorously at work prosecuting rain gamblers in the local courts in an endeavor to show that the law includes this form of gambling. In Calcutta the "outfit" of the rain gamblers is in a street in the Burra bazar. Here into a small tank, four feet square and six inches deep, an ordinary spout discharges rain water from the roof of a three-story building. In gambling with this apparatus bets are made at the beginning of the rainy season as to whether or not the tank will overflow at a given shower, to the extent the rain will overflow it when the water sheets come down in proper tropical style. It is alleged that on busy days in the bazar several lakhs of rupees change hands. This is surely vice made easy for the lazy man.

WHAT STUMP SPEECHES COST.

Campaign Orators Paid from One Hundred to One Thousand Dollars a Week.

These are the palmy days of the campaign orator, and to the number of over two thousand he is now being heard throughout the land. Many of these speakers, according to the Indianapolis News, are under the direction of the several state committees, but the movements of a large number are controlled directly by the national bodies. The members of the latter class are nearly all men of national repute, and their efforts are confined in the main to the close and doubtful states. Committeeman William M. Hahn, of Ohio, directs the movements of the speakers who labor under the auspices of the republican national committee, and Committeeman Bradley B. Smalley, of Vermont, those of the democratic speakers. Their task is neither an easy nor a pleasant one. Some orators decline to speak in small towns, and others of less extended fame insist upon being scheduled for speeches in New York and other large cities. But both Hahn and Smalley are very successful in smoothing over these difficulties, in impressing the different orators with the fields in which they can do the most good, and in persuading them to accept the assignment for which they have been scheduled.

Formerly the cost of stump speeches was the largest item in a bill of campaign expenses, but it is very different now. The great majority of campaign speakers, aside from their necessary expenses, receive no recompense for their services; those of the first class never do. Mr. Blaine has never been paid for his speeches, and the late Senator Conkling not only refused pay for his services in a campaign, but always insisted upon paying his own expenses, and was careful to take receipts therefor. Still there are quite a number of attractive speakers who are not only paid, but well paid, for their speeches. Some receive one hundred dollars a week and expenses, and a very few as high as one thousand dollars a week. There are not wanting those who make a business of campaign speaking and have no other regular means of support. One speaker, a well-known ex-congressman, has been employed for several years by the national committee of his party at a handsome annual salary.

STILL HUNTING FOR GOLD.

Queer Life of an Argonaut Who Continues to Do Placer Mining.

Along the strip of seabeach south of the Ocean house, near San Francisco, there have recently sprung up several placer mining camps of primitive pattern. One of the most unique characters about the place is Abraham Wellington Birough, an original Argonaut, who has made and spent several fortunes in California. Birough has been styled the mayor of the beach combers, and every possible title of authority in connection with the camp has been attributed to him, despite the fact that he is now said to be "cradling" sand for the munificent stipend of fifty cents a day and "found."

Birough is a queer sort of a genius. His hair has never been outraged by the wanton snip of the scissors during the past half century. As a consequence, the old man appears to be several inches taller than he really is. He is no dwarf, however, as without his hirsute crown he stands more than six feet high. Somehow or other Birough seems to have been conceded to be the bad man of the camp. He is an original forty-niner, and since he first struck California he has been engaged exclusively in gulch and gravel mining.

Birough has had many ups and downs in his career. His first mining experience was at Yankee Bar on the middle fork of the American river. He was exceptionally fortunate with his claim and is said to have got more than one hundred thousand dollars' worth of the precious metal. This soon slipped through his fingers and he once more shouldered his prospecting outfit and began to search for another rich mine, which he found in due time in Placer county. A second fortune came quickly and went the same way. Since then Birough has never been able to "strike it rich," but even now, when he is working for fifty cents a day and board, his "sporting blood" is as warm as of yore, and whenever pay day comes around he takes a trip to the city and returns to the camp "dead broke."

A PRISON ROMANCE.

Discovery of a Missing Brother Among Jail Inmates.

"I'm going to join the army and will be gone three years." Thus wrote a young man to his dear old mother and sisters at home. The boy, says the Salem Statesman, was under sentence to state prison when he wrote the letter that he supposed would quiet all inquiry as to his whereabouts. He had been found guilty of forgery, and the judge in pronouncing sentence upon him gave him three years at hard labor.

This was several months ago, and the young man is by this time well acquainted with the monotonous routine of life in the Oregon state penitentiary. On a recent Sunday afternoon a couple of young ladies, sisters, new arrivals in Salem, visited the prison.

They arrived too late to be admitted to the services, but were given seats in the waiting room. At the first sound from the choir they were interested, but as the music of the song filled the chapel and resounded throughout the corridors, they recognized a familiar sound in the sweet-toned voice that carried the air. They advanced nearer to the chapel, impelled by they knew not what and glancing through the barred doors recognized among the singers wearing the stripes the absent brother whom they supposed to be serving his country in the army. The recognition was mutual and it was pitiful. The shock was more than the delicate nerves of the young women could bear. But it is only one incident of the many. The prison is full of sad romances and expectations that are never realized.

Unlucky Colors in China.

Chinese superstition about lucky and unlucky colors is one that foreign merchants must observe when they attempt to sell their wares in China. The use of black paper as a wrapping for needles has militated against their sale in China. Blue must be especially avoided on wrappers of goods intended for the Chinese market, while red is auspicious.

HARASSED BY A NAME.

McGinty Thinks of Disposing of His Patronymic Very Cheaply.

"I am sorely annoyed and harassed by a name," said a dapper little man with keen gray eyes and fierce mustache to a St. Louis Republic reporter. "I bear a name that for centuries has been borne with pride and that to my positive knowledge has never been disgraced. It is an honorable name and is associated with many of man's greatest achievements. And yet in these degenerate days of the comic-song writer and his arch-conspirator, the wandering minstrel, my name is weighing down my ambitions and my hopes of prosperity and posterity. My name is McGinty—Michael J. McGinty—but not one man in fifty to whom I am introduced believes either my introducer or myself when with the most dignified solemnity we assure him that that is my real cognomen.

"I have surrendered all hope of ever utilizing the telephone, for as soon as the man at the other end of the line asks me who it is that has rung him up and I tell him McGinty he rails at me for disturbing him with my jokes and snappishly rings me off. I never attempt to introduce myself to anyone as other men do, for I would only be considered an impostor who was trying to disguise his identity for some sinister motives or a person entirely too fresh. About the queerest experience that my name has occasioned me occurred last summer on one of those magnificent steamboats that ply the Hudson. I joined a party of friends for an excursion up the river. In the party was one of the most beautiful young women I ever saw. I at once sought an introduction to her, and imagine my heartburns and chagrin when I was introduced to Miss Rooney. I tried to relieve the embarrassment we both felt by my making some jocular remark about the singular coincidence, but Miss Rooney wouldn't have it. Her great, liquid eyes filled with tears and she turned her back on me. All this may seem funny to you and other people, but I tell you the thing has gone so far that there is no fun in it to me."

NEGRO WEALTH IN LOUISIANA.

It Is Least Where the Negroes Outnumber the Whites and Run Politics.

A recent act of the legislature requires that in making the assessment of the state the property of the whites and negroes shall be assessed separately, so as to determine the progress made by the latter and how much they contribute towards the negro schools; and with the design, possibly, that under certain circumstances the taxes paid by the negroes shall be set aside for the public schools, and that paid by the whites for the white schools.

The assessments are not favorable to the negroes. They show a total for the country parishes of only $6,793,257, to be divided among half a million negroes, which gives $13.60 as the per capita wealth of each negro. The school tax on the property is only $5,097, so that if the taxes should be apportioned, as has been proposed in several states, there would be barely $90 in each parish for colored schools.

Some of the parishes make an even worse showing. In Lafourche the average property per negro is only $8.52; in Assumption, also a rich sugar parish, the assessment is only $6.87, the lowest in the state. In St. John it is $8.10, and St. Charles $9.25.

The last three parishes are all rich sugar parishes and have a large majority of negroes, who control political affairs and elect all the local officers, yet it seems that the negroes are poorer there than anywhere else in the state. In St. Tammany parish, however, where they are in a minority, they average $62.40 apiece and own 25 per cent. of all the property in the parish, and in Cameron, where the whites are in an overwhelming majority, the negroes average $51.60 per capita.

The assessments clearly prove that where the negroes are congregated in large bodies and are in a majority, no matter how rich the soil and whether or not they are in political control, they are comparatively poor, and that they are best off where the whites outnumber them, although the soil is poorer.

DRESSMAKERS' CHIN.

If a Tailor Talked So to a Customer He Would Get Knocked Down.

"I am not particularly vain," said a New York belle, "but when I leave the average dressmaker I am a mere abject smudge of myself. I know many a woman will lift up her voice with me over the way we are treated by the average dressmaker. We protest faintly about a wrinkle around the shoulder. 'Well, you see, madam, your left shoulder is so much higher than your right it is almost impos—' We flush and say never mind. 'Then, of course, that style of sleeve needs a full arm. I should not have chosen that sleeve for you myself,' and 'a person with round shoulders can't expect her back to set real straight,' or 'the present style is trying to a person of long neck, like yours.' She admits the general effect of the gown is 'dumpy,' but then you do incline to that build, and, of course, it can't be blamed on the dressmaker.

"If your chest was fuller your dress would button more even. If the hips were regular the skirt wouldn't sag. You walk home wondering how you can get along without crutches and thinking what a bad job nature made of you anyhow."

WITH THE SPORTS.

TWO-BALL billiards is a game fast coming into favor with the experts. To count, a player must hit the object ball twice with the cue ball at each shot.

A BAPTIST church in England, in order to induce cyclists to visit it, has provided a safe shelter for bicycles. Others have set apart a "cyclists' pew."

THE French Rowing club, whose crew lately beat the crew of the London Rowing club on the Seine, has only about two hundred members against the two thousand Londoners.

THE golf championship this year, conducted by the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, was won by an amateur, Mr. Hilton, another amateur, Mr. Ball, being second. All prominent professionals but one played.

GRACE, the great cricketer, has joined the committee for the promotion of the athletic section of the new scheme for a periodical Pan-Britannic gathering and Anglo-Saxon Olympiad, when the athletes of England, America and the English colonies will compete.

AN ODD EXHIBIT.

A Vessel Loaded with Curiosities from the Interior.

Some Rare Old Relics from Historic Battlefields and Vegetable and Mineral Products of Various States.

The handsome schooner-rigged vessel, City of Clinton, has arrived in Chicago, after sailing down the Tennessee and up the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, laden with a fine exhibit of curiosities and specimens for the world's fair. The boat was built at Clinton, Anderson county, up among the mountains, and floated down the Clinton river to the Tennessee. The work of collecting the cargo was a difficult one. Many curious and interesting war relics and mineral and wood products were to be found, but the people were loath to part with them. One piece of an old tree, on which Daniel Boone cut his name in 1754, was only obtained after a one thousand dollar bond had been signed for its safe return after the fair. The products brought include specimens of granite, polished and rough, onyx, iron ore, corals, stalactite and stalagmite formations, and some choice specimens of southern woods. These include black oak, maple, curly poplar, sassafras, curly chestnut, black walnut, satinwood, mahogany and gopher wood, such as built Noah's ark. There are also some rare old relics from the battlefield of Chickamauga—whiffle trees, old bits and exploded shells. There is the pistol and hat of Joe Williams, the notorious moonshiner, with thirteen holes in it—a hole for every man he shot. The City of Clinton is a graceful sailing craft, sixty feet ten inches in length, by seventeen feet four inches beam, with masts and sails that can be lowered on deck when not required. The interior is elegantly fitted up and paneled in choice woods. Capt. Bettes and a boy named Joe Coyle sailed the vessel alone and kept up canvas for one thousand nine hundred miles of the voyage. The other three hundred miles were made by towing.

PRISONS FROM ALL NATIONS.

They Will Be Illustrated in the Bureau of Charities and Corrections.

Not the least interesting study at the world's fair will be the exhibit in the liberal arts department under the direction of Superintendent Rosenau, of the bureau of charities and corrections. To the great majority of mankind it can be happily said that the convict's cage and the dark prison walls of so-called houses of correction are like bad dreams and vague nightmares. The life of the French galley slave as seen through the lines of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" is a picture that can never be effaced from the mind of a sympathetic reader. The very name bridewell, Tombs or penitentiary carries with it a feeling of dread and the thought of punishment rather than that of correction or charity. Man is advancing, however, and his ideals, if not his actions, are approaching nearer to the time of universal brotherhood. In developing the exhibit of penology it is the aim of Mr. Rosenau to show the advancement made with the growth of civilization from the days of early history down to the present time; advancement in the manner of handling truant members of society. Visitors to the fair can take their choice between burning at the stake, which seems since the discovery of fire to have been the favorite method of capital punishment up to the time Chala Ekke made the first rope, or being electrocuted after the manner of Kemmler. It's all the same thing in the end. Illustrations of prison cells in Siberia will be placed side by side with those of Joliet and Sing Sing.

JAPANESE ATTRACT ATTENTION

Curious Crowds Watching the Workmen from the Land of the Mikado.

The Japanese workmen who are building the Japanese village on the north end of the island within the world's fair grounds attract a great deal of attention from the visitors. There are eighteen mechanics from the land of the mikado and a civil engineer. They have the framework for the village all in place.

Right in the center of the proposed village is a short pole with a bunch of rice paper strips floating from it. When the men began to work they went through a ceremony to drive away the evil spirit from their labors. The pole with the papers is intended to divert his attention from the mechanics in case he should wander around there.

The Japs evidently saw an American level for the first time; the fair grounds. They have not yet tired of admiring the way in which the implement indicates whether a surface is level or plumb. The head carpenter got hold of it and placed it under a box. Then he ordered one of the men to put chips underneath the ends of the box until the level indicated that the box presented a level upper surface. Then he carefully scrutinized the result and smiled all over to see how easily the level did the work. For nearly an hour he kept testing it on everything at hand.

Some Ancient Industries.

Wickerwork, demanding strength of muscle, skill in construction and marked touches of beauty in the details of finishing, was a business of great moment in the past ages in Britain; to it the artisans of the period gave earnest thought. The dwellings of their monarchs, their so-called palaces, were planned and abiy completed by the wickerwork builders, and to them was given the fashioning of warriors' shields and the construction of war boats and canoes; and here another industry was brought into requisition—the preparation of the skins of animals essential for the covering of these small ships, for everything must be taut and trim, ready to battle with ocean's waves.

The Way They Wash in Japan.

Washing was and is still done in Japan by getting into a boat and letting the garment drag after the boat by a long string. It is an economical habit of traveling Japs to get a large amount of washing thus accomplished by a steamboat excursion, and has given rise to the story that they travel to wash up once a year. They have no instinct for laundry work, like the Chinese, and think it complete when the soap is in the garment, and will not wring it out. Salt water washes to their taste just as well as fresh.

AN OLD CURIOSITY SHOP.

The Place in New York Where the Relics of Unknown Men Are Kept.

When a person who hasn't a known legal heir dies in this city his effects are handed over to the public administrator under the law and are retained by that official until the city's right to dispose of them is made clear, says the New York Advertiser.

The storehouse is a three-story brick building directly opposite the site of the old sugar house that played such an important part in the early history of the United States. One part of the building is used as a depot by the fire department. If there is an old curiosity shop anywhere in New York city it is in 5 Duane street. The two floors of the building are jammed full of personal effects. Some of the things are practically without value and some are strange articles that might have "millions in them." A number of poverty-stricken inventors have died in New York in the last few years. In nearly every instance they were men well advanced in years who had lived alone and were unknown outside an exceedingly limited circle. Their relatives, if they had any, were distant cousins, whose whereabouts were unknown and whose existence was perhaps in doubt.

Nearly all of these men left scanty wardrobes, a small amount of money, a few books and usually a model of something which they had hoped would astonish the world and secure for them unlimited means and great honor. With their death died the idea. The models in every instance proved to be unique mechanical devices, but of no value beyond that which the wheels and springs and other contrivances were worth if removed.

If some of the old-fashioned clocks or quaint pictures that have been stored in the Duane street building could but speak they might tell some interesting tales of long-lost brothers and men who were the last of their race.

CHURCH FOLK OF THIS LAND.

Catholics Most Numerous, Episcopalians Wealthiest, Blacks Most Enthusiastic.

Charles S. Buell, chief of the sixth division of the United States census, is looking up delinquent churches whose statistics are either incomplete or unsatisfactory. He stated that the official bulletin of the verified count of church membership has not yet been published. Upon these points he made the following statement:

"Twenty millions of people in this country are communicants and 1,000,000 are in religious bodies but not communicants. The Catholic denomination heads the list, with a membership of 6,250,000 in the ten bodies of the church in the United States. The Methodists, with eight branches or bodies, four of which are colored, follow with a membership of 4,000,000 in round numbers. Then come the Baptists, with eleven branches and 3,500,000, inclusive of the colored people. The remaining 143 denominations are of varying strength in membership and wealth. There are thirteen Presbyterian bodies, with an aggregate membership of 1,278,815. The Episcopalians are in the neighborhood of 600,000, but, as these figures are unofficial, I cannot give them as correct. The Episcopalians are the wealthiest by far, per capita, as they have property of the value of $75,000,000; the Catholic denomination, $187,000,000; the Methodists, $96,000,000; the Presbyterians, $95,000,000. Not one of the United Presbyterian churches had a debt upon it. Religion has a strong hold upon the 6,000,000 colored people in this country; over a million are in both the Methodist and Baptist churches."

HOW TO MAKE WOOD PULP.

After an Exhaustive Fickling Process a Cohesive Mass Is Produced.

The utilization of wood pulp has lately taken some new and interesting forms, especially in the line of ornamentation, says the New York Sun. The pulp is taken as it comes from the mill, and after being first fully dried, or not, as circumstances may require, it is immersed in an indurating pickle, so called, with coloring if desired.

This pickle is composed of any compound or solution capable of indurating the mass, and, after the material is taken out of the pickle and thoroughly dried, it is run through a mill and ground sufficiently fine to insure a mixture of the particles which have not absorbed the indurating substance with the particles which are fully hardened. The powdered pulp is then compressed, with the application of heat, in a mold or die, with the result of producing an article of manufacture composed of a homogeneous and cohesive mass of thoroughly indurated particles, and the objects produced in this manner may be polished or otherwise improved in their appearance, according as may be desired.

OF ROYAL BIRTH.

DUCHESS DA MONTENSSIER, sister of Queen Isabella, is a great grand-mother at 55.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S new dining-room at Osborne cost $100,000. She paid for it herself.

ABU BUKAR, the sultan of Johore, who will visit the world's fair next season, is about 65 years of age, a man of progressive views and worth about $20,000,000.

MARQUIS GUICCIOLI, the new Italian ambassador at Berlin, is a grand nephew of the beautiful Countess Guiccioli, the friend of Byron. The marquis was formerly mayor of Rome.

THE czar is said, on what London papers quote as the authority of his English physician at St. Petersburg, to have lately grown thin and nervous. There is nothing bracing and fattening about being the czar of Russia.

THE FIRST.

THE Babylonians first divided the hour and minute into sixty parts.

THE first book imported from Europe was brought over by John Sabin, of Philadelphia.

ALJEZIRI ALHAMBALI says coffee was first made known as a beverage in 870 of the Hegira.

ABRAHAM presented his son's wife with a pair of earrings, the first of which there is historic mention.

THE first railroad to use the steam locomotive regularly in this country was the South Carolina railroad in 1831.

THE first French newspaper, the Gazette de France, was started in 1631 by Theophraste Renaudot. He also established the first Mont de Piete.

IN FAR-AWAY LANDS.

THE public executioner of Paris, M. Diebler, has guillotined 220 persons.

LE VOLEUR (the thief) is the name of a new popular weekly paper started in Paris.

HORSES are so plentiful in Buenos Ayres that everybody owns at least one. It is said that even the beggars beg on horseback.

PARIS has 87,655 trees in its streets, and each tree represents a cost to the city of thirty-five dollars. This makes, in round numbers, three million dollars worth of trees in the streets.

THERE is a curious snake (Hydraci yeti) in South Africa that lives wholly upon birds' eggs. It has no teeth or sighs of teeth in its mouth, the whole dental array being located in the stomach.

THE first ice cream venders in England were Neapolitan peasantry of the poorest type, but the venders now come from all parts of Italy, many being natives of the most remote country districts.

THE native Australians have a weapon which is called a "wummera." It is a straight stick, hollow at the end, in which is placed the handle of a dart. The dart is thrown, but the stick remains in the thrower's hand.

IN some of the ancient temples of Egypt, known to be more than four thousand years old, the stones were doweled together with hour glass shaped ties of the Timarish or Shittim wood, the dowel sinks being only about one inch deep.

LONDON NOTES.

CIGAR stubs bring about a shilling a pound in London.

THE streets of London are cleaned between eight in the evening and nine in the morning. Many of the carriageways are washed daily by means of a hose, and the courts and alleys inhabited by the poorer classes are cleaned once a day.

A LIGHT breakfast in London means, to an Englishman, a cup of coffee, a boiled egg and three slices of toast. The breakfast substantial is a small chop, one egg, a penny-loaf of bread, a buttered muffin and a cup of coffee.

THE London Daily Telegraph is the most valuable newspaper property in London, and is said to net its proprietors a profit of over half a million dollars a year. And yet when it was first started every other paper said it would be a dismal failure.

IN the British patent office, where of all places in the world one would expect to find things ordinarily well "up to date," the steel pen is unknown, and the antediluvian goose-quill absolute and supreme. Verily, the ways of government officials are not as other men's!

A LONDON woman well known in society opened a curiosity shop. One day a friend came in and left an umbrella which had cost fifty shillings. He returned to find the handle of it in the window labeled: "Antique Venetian silver umbrella mounting, 10 guineas."

BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

WILLIAM D. HOWELLS, the novelist, is about to take up a residence in Italy, it is stated.

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER was a shoemaker in his youth, and one, as results show, who was too smart to follow the advice of an antiquated adage.

SINCE Dickens' death the firm of Chapman & Hall have sold 643,000 copies of "Pickwick." The profits on Dickens' works still amount to about $40,000 a year.

M. ZOLA has just received the highest price ever paid in France for the serial rights of a novel. The sum is about thirty-one cents a line, a total amount of $7,000, and is paid for Zola's new story, "Dr. Pascal."

"AUNT ANNE," the peculiarly clever novel by Mrs. W. K. Clifford, about which all London is talking, is what may be called emphatically a woman's book. It is the sort of bright realistic story which makes people laugh and cry as they read it, and which sets the ball of conversation rolling briskly.

A FREE library of ten thousand volumes has been recently opened at Baroda, India, by Shrimant Sampatrao Gaikwar, the brother of the Maharajah Gaikwar. Seven thousand of the books are in English, the rest in Sanscrit, Merathi and Guzerati, and it is the first free library in any native state in India.

FREAKS OF INVENTORS.

AN ingenious Indianian has invented a plow in which an auger or screw mold board is operated by means of a drive wheel in the rear.

AN automatic match igniter is a recent novelty. You pull a lever, a match travels along a roughened surface and is then thrust out of an opening already ignited.

A PASSAIC inventor has devised a novel projectile, which is rifled to correspond to the bore of the gun. The grooves are provided with bearing pieces to diminish friction.

A BOSTON inventor has invented a strainer for mixed drinks, consisting of a circular plate, around the circumference of which is a spiral spring. The coil forms the strainer, which is removable at will.

Geographical Names.

Siberia signifies "thirsty." Sicily is "the country of grapes." Caledonia means "a high hill." Asia signifies "in the middle," from the fact that ancient geographers thought it between Europe and Africa. Italy signifies "a country of pitch," from its yielding great quantities of black pitch. Hibernia is "utmost" or "last habitation," for beyond this to the westward the Phœnicians never extended their voyages. Britain is "the country of tin," great quantities being found in it. The Greeks called it Albion, which signifies either "white" or "high," from the whiteness of its shores or the high rocks on the western coast.—Boston Globe.

The Value of Words.

First Customer—Have you any flower-pots?

Dealer—Here are some Royal Dusenbery, only fifty cents each. (Exit customer.)

Second Customer—Have you any jardinieres?

Dealer—We have a fine line of Royal Dusenbery from thirty-seven dollars up.

Second Customer—Show a fifty-dollar one.—The Jewelers' Circular.