

Freeman

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ABOUT MOSQUITOES.

The Little Pests Get Looked At by a Scientist.

BLUE RAYS KILL GERMS.

It is Shown That the Upper End of the Sun's Spectrum Does the Trick.

THE BLACK ART.

Signs of a Revival of the Practice of Voodooism.

CHASED BY AN ELEPHANT.

Miraculous Escape of a Hunter in the Indian Jungle.

SIMPLE SAVAGES.

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DWARFING DOGS.

Taken From Their Mothers in Infancy They Are Bred to Lilliputian Size.

QUEER USE OF A CIGAR.

Story Which Shows a Sea Captain's Presence of Mind.

A POOR OPINION OF US.

An Egyptian Thinks American Live in a Filthy Maner.

There are supposed to be about one hundred and fifty species of mosquitoes in the world. Already, twenty-one species have been identified as native to North America. The largest variety occurs in the tropics, where insect life of all kinds is most prolific and most perfect development. No where, however, are these blood-suckers more abundant than in far northern latitudes, as in Arctic Alaska, where they appear in countless swarms during the brief boreal summer. There are at least three or four species of Jersey mosquitoes, one succeeding another during the summer months. The largest known mosquito is only found as a fossil, happily. It lived in tertiary times, being contemporary with the mastodon and the megatherium. It has been preserved in the appropriate name of "culex danatorum," meaning "gnat of the damned."

There is no reason to doubt that mosquitoes carry diseases, says the Washington Star, and they are justly suspected of propagating yellow fever. It has been noted that yellow fever comes with them and goes when they are absent. Mosquitoes are most plentiful in localities where they are most abundant. But respecting this complaint comparatively little has been definitely ascertained. The mosquito is likewise accused of propagating malaria by carrying the infection from one person to another. This charge is not proven, however.

It has long been known that only the female mosquito bites. The male possesses no lance for inflicting a wound, such as his mate is provided with. The purpose of his existence is merely to perpetuate the species, and he never enters a house unless by accident. The natural food of the female is the juices of plants, and it is not known why she seeks blood. The indulgence seems to be a kind of dissipation with her, like whisky and tobacco with human beings. Unlike the latter, she never gets full but one. Her sting consists of five extremely sharp needles, two of which are barbed. They unite and form an awl, which, having inflicted the wound, serves as a tube for sucking the blood of the victim. The suggestion that poisonous fluid is introduced into the wound for the purpose of making the blood more liquid is mere theory.

The female mosquito lays her eggs in a boat-shaped mass on the surface of still water. From these larvae, called "wigglers," are hatched. When the wrigglers are nearly grown, they wriggle long enough to come to the surface and carefully extricate themselves from their skin, which serves as a raft for them. This is a dangerous time, for the slightest disturbance of the surface of the water will upset the raft and drown him. Happily escaping this fate, he flies away as soon as his wings are dry. If a mosquito is caught, it is best to smother it with oil, or to burn it with a match. It is best to smother it with oil, or to burn it with a match. It is best to smother it with oil, or to burn it with a match.

A good story is told of a sea captain who did not long ago and who was formerly in command of a ship in which passengers were carried from London to Lisbon. On one occasion, says Tit-Bits, the ship caught fire, and the passengers and crew were compelled to get into the life boats. The captain remained perfectly cool throughout all the confusion and fright of the delirious, and at last everyone except himself was got safely into the boats.

By the time he was ready to follow the passengers were almost wild with fear and excitement. Instead of hurrying to get into the life boats, the captain called out to the sailors to hold on a minute, and, taking a cigar from his pocket, coolly lighted it with a bit of burning rope which had fallen from the rigging. The captain then descended with deliberation and gave the order to push off.

"How could you stop to light a cigar at such a moment?" he was asked afterward by one of the passengers who were talking over their escape. "Because," he answered, "I saw that if I did not do something to divert the minds of those who were panicking and overcrowded as it was, there was danger of the boat being upset. The act took but a moment, but it attracted the attention of the passengers, and I was not concerned as I seemed to be, but was in reality in a fever of excitement. My little plan succeeded. You all forgot yourselves because you were thinking of other curious behavior, and we got off safely."

GARRICK was generally so quiet that he often created the impression of diffidence. HENRY CLAY was said to make the most engaging bow of any gentleman of his time. MARCUS AURELIUS was said to be the politest Roman emperor who ever sat on the throne. DAVY was solitary in his habits, and by his austerity, chilled most of those whom he met.

MILTON was quiet and reserved in conversation, but thoroughly refined and well bred. SYDNEY said that the soul of politeness lay in preferring the happiness of others to your own. PHILIP of Macedon was courteous to all who approached him, even the humblest servant of a hearing. PITS IX, both before and after his elevation to the pontifical chair, was a model of studied politeness. MOHAMMED incalculated politeness in the Koran. He himself was one of the most courteous of men. ANDREW JACKSON was rough in his manners, but could be polite when he pleased. He was always a courteous lady.

Curious Custom in Holland. When young Queen Wilhelmina visited the other day the marvellous vaults at Maastricht, which are one of the sights of the place, she was requested by the authorities to inscribe her name upon a marble slab in the wall, which bears the signatures of other monarchs. The young Queen, who had been preceded by the late Emperor William of the Netherlands, had been preceded by the late Emperor William of the Netherlands, had been preceded by the late Emperor William of the Netherlands.

Protecting His Chickens. A Sanguine (Me.) man has balled the hen hawk, and so far the laugh is all on his side. He makes a large yard for his chicken coop, putting boards around the sides to prevent escape from the inclosure, and over this he stretches wire netting with coarse mesh. Inside the hen and chickens run at will free from attacks of every sort. A number of times since he made this arrangement the hen hawk has been seen to enter the premises, but he is unable to get past the netting. The man has a large flock of chickens, and he is very particular about them. He has a large flock of chickens, and he is very particular about them.

Baited Up. Lawyers are not more free than other public speakers from superstitions of the tongue. Mr. Asquith, of the English cabinet, in a recent speech in parliament, said: "Let it be known, gentlemen, that of those just demands we make, the only one that is not a demand is that you should be fair. A few days later an English judge, after a policeman had testified that he had found the prisoners in bed with their clothes on, asked, in amazement: "Do you mean to say that they had gone to bed with their beds on?"

The Black Art. Signs of a Revival of the Practice of Voodooism. Different Methods in Vague of Casting Spells and Bewitching—Need of a Reform in the Old Style Hoodoo. Modern occultism, or, to put it in diplomatic costume, Occultism moderne, is becoming decidedly aggressive, to say the least of it. If we are to believe the Revue Illustrée, strange as the news may appear, says the New York Sun, it is nevertheless reported that the black art is flourishing fearfully both in Europe and America. Casting a spell upon an individual, or, as they say on the Bowery, "hoodooing a fellow," has not, according to the Revue, fallen into innocuous desuetude. We all remember the scene depicted by Alexandre Dumas in the "Keine Macht," in which the performer of Catherine Medias plunges a golden needle into the heart, or rather the brain, of a man, to cause him to die. The chief difficulty to be overcome was the great weakening of the intensity of the dispersed rays of the beam of light decomposed to form the spectrum—a weakening caused by the distribution of the incidence of the rays over a larger area and by their absorption and reflection in passing through the lenses and prisms.

It was found, also, in working with the electric light, that the power of the blue and violet rays was further impaired—in other words, that they were stopped by the glass through which they had to pass. The effect of the glass was practically the same as that of mist or haze in the atmosphere, which so filters out the blue violet rays. The effect of a dull day was little effect in the author's experiments.

These difficulties were overcome by using just a single glass, with which it was possible to obtain a very pure spectrum sufficiently rich in blue and violet rays to kill the spores in a few hours. The author found it easy to inflict the blue violet rays, even with glass lenses, mirrors, etc., and exposures of five or six hours, but in winter the exposures required to be so long as to be almost impracticable.

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CHASED BY AN ELEPHANT. Miraculous Escape of a Hunter in the Indian Jungle. The author of "Gun, Rifle and Hound" narrates an adventure which he had in the Indian jungle, and which he has called "Chased by an Elephant." The author of "Gun, Rifle and Hound" narrates an adventure which he had in the Indian jungle, and which he has called "Chased by an Elephant."

SIMPLE SAVAGES. How They Bounced a Whisky Prize Out of a Sloop Loaded with Opium. The Indians of the west coast of Vancouver Island have adopted a novel and decidedly effective method of dealing with white whisky pirates who frequent their villages, as James Johnson, of Victoria, formerly master of the sealing schooner Kilmory, knows to his cost. He had conceived the notion that there was big money for the man who made a systematic tour of the west coast with bottled samples of gin and whisky.

VARIETIES OF IDLENESS. Some Persons Do Nothing from Choice, Others Per Force. Idleness plays many parts. There are the conditionally idle, those who, like Dr. Johnson, never physically, but who, like him, are possessed of a conscience which compels them more and more to do something. There are those who, like him, are possessed of a conscience which compels them more and more to do something.

DWARFING DOGS. Taken From Their Mothers in Infancy They Are Bred to Lilliputian Size. Specialists and doctors who take an interest in the progress of alcoholism, its injurious action on generation and the part it plays in degeneracy will be glad to add another branch to their study in the shape of the lilliputian dog, says the New York World.

ASIA STANDS STILL While Europe and America Push On. The common phrases, the old world and the new world, have gained an application which would hardly have been given them had man known in the past what they know now. Asia, geologically considered, probably the oldest of the continents and that man perhaps inhabited the western hemisphere in early ages.

SPARKS FROM THE CABLE. ENDEAVORS are now being made in England to establish the Sabatana party, one year's rest in seven, for school-teachers. LISBON will have a great festival next June to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the death of the Duke of Braganza, who was born here in 1717.

THE BERLIN STREET CAR COMPANY paid \$250,000 into the treasury of the city for the privilege of crossing the principal avenue, Unter den Linden, at one point. FIORE VENICE comes the announcement that the bodies in the old Protestant cemetery, where many Americans and Englishmen are buried, are to be removed to the new municipal cemetery.

HE WILL SUCCEED. Like his brother of the north, the southern small boy is capable of much. A writer in the New York Home Journal says that upon her arrival in a southern town her cabman was a small boy, aged about nine. The cab had two seats, and the boy told her that if during her stay she wanted a carriage, she could get him any time by inquiring for Jackson's express—price six bits an hour.

A GREAT LIGHTHOUSE. On the Pointe de Penmach, in Brittany, the southernmost point of France, is a lighthouse, midway between Brest and L'Orient, a new lighthouse is being erected whose light will be seen one hundred miles in clear weather, and thirty-five to forty in hazy. It will be an electric light of ten million candle power, and will rise one hundred and eighty-five feet above the sea level, and is to be ready by the beginning of 1897.

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