

CANNIBAL ORGIES. HIDEOUS SCENES WITNESSED IN THE DARK CONTINENT.

An Amazing Story of Mingle^d Civilization and Barbarism. Prisoners of War Slain and Divided Among the Victors. A Savage Frenzy.

Father J. Dubendorf, Superior of a mission at Onitsha, Africa, on the Niger, 150 miles above its mouth, tells an amazing story of mingled civilization and barbarism among the natives near the mouth of the river. Father Dubendorf journeyed down the river by canoe some months ago along with Nathaniel, an African boy of Brass, educated and Christianized at the mission. The Father and his companion were entertained at a Zenobian trading post, six or eight hours from the native city of Brass, and there the king of Brass had a pirogue waiting, with the request that the lad be sent to visit his people.

Brass is one of the mouths of the Niger, not far from the sea. On another of the mouths is the rival city of Akassa, the seat of the British Royal Niger Company, a trading concern which, according to the Father, has driven out of the region by severe action three other companies, two French and one English, and has earned, by alleged brutality, the hatred of the natives. Father Dubendorf reached the region when this feeling was at its most intense point, and the natives were ripe for revenge.

When the request of the King that Nathaniel be sent to Brass reached the Father he determined to accompany the boy, lest the latter be detained in captivity by the King, and in time relapse into barbarism. The journey was successfully accomplished, and the Father found Brass a considerable town of palm-leaf-thatched huts. Some had great platforms to catch rain water because the water of the river at that point is peculiarly unwholesome. The King clad in a silk robe, a cravat of like material, and a felt hat, received the Father most graciously, offered him lodging, and invited him to share the royal table. The King, who was once a pupil of a mission, was now an old man of venerable mien, but abundant strength and activity.

Near the King's great house was a house built on a European pattern and covered with zinc. It was comfortably furnished with European chairs and tables, and had a coal oil lamp. There were glasses and mural decorations. The King's supper was an elegantly served meal in the European style, and the Father, knowing that earlier Kings of Brass had been notable barbarians, could hardly believe his senses.

Early the next morning the Father called on the King, but learned that he was too busy to be seen. Waiting an hour, he was astonished to see the King come forth from a council with the chiefs, painted, with white rings under his eyes, a musket in his hand and a knife in his belt. The benevolent old King of the night before was transformed into a savage of ferocious aspect. Sixty canoes laden with arms were drawn up along the river bank, and the King was walking back and forth delivering incoherent orders. At the sound of a cannon he hastily gave the Father his hand, bade him live as if the house in which he lodged was his own, assured him that orders had been given for his comfortable entertainment, and went off, leaving the priest to understand that the exhibition about to start was to make war upon a neighboring tribe. The Father saw the King pause before an assemblage of idols near the river bank, sprinkle his warriors with a liquid, and join in the war dance.

Nearly all the men of Brass went on the expedition. An old chief was left behind in charge of the village, and the women were forbidden in the absence of their lords to enter the houses. No sooner were the warriors gone than the women fell to quarrelling among themselves over the possession of various household utensils. They wailed over the departure of their sons to the battle and prophesied their return with wounds or their death in the fight. The quarrelling kept up until after nightfall, and then the women crept to bed wherever they could find shelter outside the houses.

The first returning canoe reached Brass at 6 o'clock next morning, and a quantity of booty was carried into the King's house. Then it was that the Father first learned that the attack had been the headquarters of the Royal Niger Company. Father Dubendorf represents that the English would have been destroyed but for a French naval officer, Lieutenant Guizgues, whose courage and address delayed the attack and gave some of the whites time to escape.

A young African of the returned party leaped upon a cannon just after it had been fired and displayed the company's flag in token of triumph. Other canoes rapidly arrived, bringing more booty, and many of the warriors wore white breech cloths in token of enemies slain. By noon nearly all the canoes but the King's had returned. He and some of the warriors had stopped at an island some miles from Brass and taken ashore six captive Kroumen Africans of the slave coast, who had been employed at the company's agency and had come to hate the people of Brass. These six men were beheaded on the island, and some hours later the King, with a dozen white-clouted warriors arrived in his canoe, and the six corpses in another. Other captives, still alive, were also brought home.

Then began a scene of savage rejoicing and cannibalism. The bodies were cut up in pieces, the children being stationed around that they might be injured to the sight, and whole limbs were carried off to be cooked and eaten. One young African who, the Father declares, had been educated at a mission, taking in one hand the sabre of Mr. Flint, General Agent of the Royal Niger Company, and in the other a limb of one of the victims, danced in savage joy about the company's flag, with a crowd of onlookers applauding.

The division of the plunder followed, accompanied with quarrels and a sort of savage frenzy. The madness of gin and palm brandy was added to that of slaughter, and the scene was so hideous that the Father refuses to describe it. He notes that several parts of a human body were brought to him and he was courteously asked to take his choice. His refusal was evidently not understood.

Later, in looking from his window, the Father saw a roast thigh taken to the King's house, and mentally resolved to be careful at his next meal. The supper at which the King was not present, was served in the European style and with European dishes, save for a large roast which the priest recognized and sent away. His mind was now made up to get away from Brass as soon as possible with the boy Nathaniel. The King was not to be seen, so the priest sent word of his wishes. The King answered that the boy must remain at Brass.

"Then I remain, too," was the Father's answer, for he knew that the King desired to make a sorcerer of Nathaniel. The latter was eager to be gone, and declared that if the King made him a sorcerer, in return he would, in that character, transform the King into a gorilla.

The Father and Nathaniel, neither being guarded, concerted an escape. The village was sound asleep early in the evening, and the two visitors also pretended to go to bed. Between 9:30 and 10 they stole to the river, took a light pirogue, already fixed upon at a reconnaissance early in the evening, and made off. They paddled until exhausted, and then the boy fell asleep. At 4 in the morning they heard a large pirogue pass their hiding place. They had lost their way during the night, but, conjecturing that this pirogue was laden with merchandise bound for one of the white settlements, they followed it cautiously, and after some hours reached the European factory where they had already been entertained.

Meat Consumption in Summer.

A greater amount of sunshine tends to lessen the consumption of meat. It was found that in England in 1893 less meat by 161,000 tons was consumed than in 1892, and the reason given for this is that in 1893 200 days of hot weather with bright sunshine took away one ounce per day of the normal appetite of 38,000,000 of a flesh eating people. This one ounce diminution of the meat ration would fully account for minimizing the butcher's bill to the extent of 161,000 tons. Caloric from the eating of meat was not wanted, the sun being the universal provider of all the caloric needed. It is a well known fact that less food is required in the heat of summer than in colder portions of the year. In winter, with the temperature of the external air at zero, the temperature of the blood in healthy persons is 98.3 degrees, and when the sunshine of summer drives the mercury of the thermometer near to or above that mark, still the blood registers 98.3 degrees. It is evident that the force needed to raise the temperature of the whole body to nearly 100 degrees in winter is no longer required in the hot sunshine of summer.

Electricity as a Beautifier.

A recent writer declares that while electricity is known to be a cure for many of the troubles that flesh is heir to, an unsuspected use has been found for it, and that a slight faradic current applied morning and evening to the face, neck and shoulders will increase the flesh and greatly improve the complexion. The electric current is too often prostituted to quackery, but in this instance its application seems to be perfectly natural, and based on the simplest laws of electrical and physiological effects. The treatment is far more sensible and effective than cosmetics and washes, and a small pocket battery will meet all its requirements. Much in beauty is due to the anatomical substratum of the skin, attractiveness depending largely upon contour, and anything that "tones up" the facial muscles tends to restore and accentuate their outlines. This modification of the muscular tissue is primarily the result of the influence of the current upon the nerves, for the muscles are controlled by the nerves, both in their movement and in their nourishment. The effect upon the healthiness and beauty of the skin follows on the improved circulation of the blood in the skin. Increased flow of blood means increased nourishment, capacity to eliminate deleterious material, and firmness and vigor of the skin, so there is little doubt that the judicious application of a mild faradic current to the face, neck and shoulders of those who wish to improve their personal appearance can in no way do any harm, and, if patiently persevered in, is most likely to aid them in their purpose.

He Wrote a Famous Song.

The writer of the famous song, "I'll Take You Back Again, Kathleen," Thomas P. Westendorf, was recently appointed Superintendent of the State Reform School at Chehalis, Wash. Like many writers of such famous heart-songs, he is not a professional song writer, and though he has written a number of others this is the only one that has lived long.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The State censuses of 1895 nearly all indicate a movement from the cities back to the farms.

The new woman is booming in Oklahoma. More than twenty are in the jails there charged with being bandits.

PERMISSION to establish a steamboat service on the Dead Sea has been asked of the Sultan of Turkey by the provincial authorities of Syria.

ANDREW CARNEGIE has aroused British wrath by saying that it would pay England to burn up her railroad equipment and replace it with American models.

It is said that if England were to become a republic to-morrow, and there were a popular election for President, the Prince of Wales would be sure to receive a majority of all the votes in the United Kingdom.

ANOTHER learned man has been studying the "language" of insects. He says he has discovered satisfactory evidence of telepathy among them. Telepathy is described as a sixth sense, by which the insects are able to communicate ideas to one another at a great distance.

The aggregate number of employees of all the roads in the United States is as large as the standing army in Germany. The 1,890 railroads in this country employ 900,000 persons; that makes one person in every ninety in our population depend for his living on a railroad.

CORX is not the only product which is breaking all records. The iron output these days is the largest which the country has ever had at this time of the year. Moreover, it is steadily growing. This is one of the most striking evidences which could be found that a period of business activity exceeding any which the country has yet known is close at hand.

The latest census of Berlin shows that the population is nearly stationary. It appears to be hopeless for Berlin to overtake Paris, which is now 800,000 ahead. Vienna is pressing Berlin closely, while St. Petersburg progresses more rapidly than the German capital. In Berlin there are now more than forty-five thousand apartments without tenants.

Its latest census gives Boston only 494,000 people, and leaves it still behind St. Louis in population, but the suburban population of St. Louis is small. Within a few miles of most Western cities it is possible to find the primitive wilderness, while Eastern cities have suburbs often nearly as heavily populated as the city itself. Thus with its suburbs Boston now claims a population of 971,000.

HERB HAGENBECK, of Hamburg, the animal collector and trainer, urges that some practical steps be taken to protect the elephants of Africa, which he asserts, are threatened with total extermination. He proposes that the exportation of tusks weighing less than twenty-two pounds should be prohibited by law, and that hunters be forbidden to kill females and young bulls, but rather encouraged to capture them alive and bring them into the trading stations.

ACCORDING to the Vienna Neue Freie Presse, the shoe manufacturers of Austria and Germany have been compelled to raise the price of shoes thirty per cent. on account of the dearth of leather, caused by the exportation of immense quantities of it to the United States. The demand in the United States is by some supposed to be due to vast exportation of skins and leather to Japan and China; others consider it fictitious.

The bank of England rightly has the reputation of being one of the mightiest powers in the world of finance. But there are other institutions in Europe whose capital and transactions are not to be sneezed at even by the Rothschild aggregation. In its last monthly report the Austro-Hungarian Bank, at Vienna, states that the value of its notes in circulation is 529,408,000 gulden (\$260,000,000), and that it has gold and silver to the amount of 340,405,000 gulden.

The English elections in 1894 cost \$5,220,000, a comparatively small amount of money, but in 1880, 1886 and 1892 the figures were much larger, being respectively, \$9,000,000, \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The cost of the last election will reach \$16,000,000 at least, which means that each vote is worth \$3. Truly the legislative functions are gratuitous in England, and corruption is unknown, according to the English press.

A STATISTICAL work about the world's millionaires has just been published. While there are richer individuals in America, it says, most millionaires are to be found in Great Britain. But the figures must be taken as guesswork, more or less. This is how the people possessing \$5,000,000, or more, are divided among the nations: Great Britain, 200; United States, 105; Germany and Austria, 100; France, 75; Russia, 50; India, 50; all other countries, 125.

A WOODEN leg, if stood upon, is not dutiable, according to a recent decision of the Treasury Department. To be admitted without the customs tax it must be attached to the body of the owner. False teeth in the mouth, wigs on the head, false eyes in their sockets, are, under the same ruling, also exempt from duty. The false leg that does not support the owner must bear its part of the support of the Government. Thus the imported leg must do its duty or pay it.

WHEN the change from horse cars to the trolley cars was made in Massachusetts hundreds of stamenen lost their work and wages, and the conclusion was that the change to work had gone. The facts show, on the contrary, that 4,103 workmen were employed on Massachusetts street cars under the old system, and that under the new system 7,451 are employed, a considerable part of the increase being employed in constructing 2,050 extra cars, needed to carry the 230,464,099 passengers, instead of the 100,746,786 passengers who used the street cars of the old system.

The discoveries incident to the uncovering of the buried cities of Herculaneum and Pompeii have been recently paralleled in Turkestan in Central Asia, where an underground city has just been discovered. The archaeological importance of such relics of the past is more widely understood now than it was when the Pompeian discovery startled the

world. There will, undoubtedly, be a duly authorized commission organized by the Russian Government to establish the authenticity of this subterranean city and record the statistics of its whilom civilization. Archeology has in time past and in certain other "discoveries" that have been claimed taken many doubtful chances; but no peril of this kind need be feared from so conservative and experienced a government as that of Russia.

THERE are twenty laws on one street in New York, each of which is worth \$1,000,000. Dr. Webb has paid \$3,000,000 for his residence in New York. J. J. Astor has given \$1,000,000 in jewelry to his wife. Miss G. Vanderbilt received \$25,000 worth of bouquets from nabobs at her recent "coming-out" party. Ex-Secretary Whitney, who would like to be president, has a ballroom in his house the panels of which cost \$5,000 each. Pianos costing as high as \$15,000 are common among the nabobs. At a recent opera the women's jewels aggregated \$1,385,000. Cornelius Vanderbilt has gates from France, stone from the west, a gardener from Berlin and plants from Italy. At the Burden-Sloane wedding there were 150 millionaires, with the aggregate pile of \$1,000,000,000.

GERMAN educational methods and manners are becoming more and more the models for the world. To the German universities, in constantly increasing numbers, flock the representatives of education from every clime and country. In the twenty two German universities (including the Academy at Munster and the Lyceum at Braunsberg) in the year 1886-'87 the total attendance was 28,045; in the year 1891-'92 it was 21,486. In the first-named year the total included 15,712 Prussians, 10,551 other Germans, and 1,682 foreigners; in the second year the figures were, 14,282 Prussians, 11,440 other Germans, and 1,814 foreigners. Of these 1,814 strangers, 291 were from Austro-Hungary, 162 from Turkey and the Balkan countries, 351 from Russia, 24 from Sweden, Norway and Denmark, 43 from the Netherlands, 39 from Belgium and Luxemburg, 138 from Great Britain and Ireland, 27 from France, 7 from Spain and Portugal, 338 from Switzerland, 29 from Italy, 261 from the United States, 32 from other American countries, 66 from Asia, 6 from Africa, and 5 from Australia. Arranged according to faculties, these 1,814 foreigners were distributed as follows: 147 students of Protestant theology, 14 of Roman Catholic theology, 223 of law, 446 of medicine, 984 in the philosophical department.

A SUBMERGED FOREST.

Trees a Hundred Feet Tall Standing Upright in the Water.

Many years ago, even so far back that the traditions of the oldest Siwash extend not thereto, there was some vast upland on the shores of Lake Samamish that, sent a portion of the big Newcastles hills sliding down into the lake, with its tall evergreen forest intact, and there it is to this day. About this time of the year the waters of the lake are at their lowest, and the tops of the tallest of these big submerged trees are out of the water, but never more than ten or twelve inches.

Unfortunately for the traveling public, the submerged forest is on the opposite side of the lake from the railroad and the station of Monohon, and very few people ever see the phenomenon unless they take the time and pains necessary to reach it.

The waters of the lake are very deep, and the bluffs back of the beach very precipitous, so that the only explanation of the freak is that by an earthquake or some other means a great slide had been started in early times, and it went down as a mass until it found lodgment at the bottom of the lake. At this time one can see down into the glassy, mirror-like depths of the lake for thirty feet or more. Near the banks the forest trees are interlaced at various angles and in confusion, but further out in the deep water they stand straight, erect and limbless and barkless, fully a hundred feet tall. They are not petrified in the sense of being turned to stone, but they are preserved and appear to have stood there for ages. They are three feet through, some of them, and so firm in texture as to be scarcely affected by a knife blade. The great slide extended for some distance, and it would now be a dangerous piece of work for a steamer to attempt passage over the tops of those trees. Even now the water along shore is very deep, and a ten-foot pole would sink perpendicularly out of sight ten feet from the shore line.

All over this country are found strata of blue clay, which in the winter season are very treacherous, and given the least bit of opportunity will slide away, carrying everything above with them. This is the theory of the submerged forest of Lake Samamish. It probably was growing above one of these blue earth strata, and heavy rains, or an earthquake, set it moving. The quantity of earth carried down was so great that the positions of the trees on the portion carried away were little affected. It is hardly to be believed that the earth suddenly sank down at this point and became a portion of the lake.

Few such places exist. There is a place in the famous Tumwater canon, on the line of the Great Northern, near Leavenworth, which is in some respects similar. At some early time a portion of the great mountain side came rushing down and buried itself at the bottom of the canon. Now there is a considerable lake, and in the center stand tall, limbless trees, different in species from those growing along the canon.

At Green lake, near Georgetown, Col., a lake which is 10,000 feet above sea level, is a submerged forest of pine trees, some a hundred feet tall, but not so numerous as in Lake Samamish.

The flax yield of the State of Illinois comprises 4672 acres.

Odds and Ends.

KANSAS has 166,617 farms, having an acreage of 30,214,456.

The barley fields of Illinois yielded in 1890, 1,197,506 bushels.

Washington, including real and personal property, is valued at \$23,810,693.

A Maine firm is preparing to manufacture horseless carriages commercially.

The slaughter of elephants in Africa goes on at the rate of 65,000 a year.

Most of the land in the Republic of Mexico is held in almost feudal tenure by 7000 families.

The biggest ferryboat in the world is said to be the Solano, plying between San Francisco and Oakland.

The Humane Society of Pittsburg has decided that young girls must cease selling papers on the streets.

A number of women of Cincinnati have provided sand heaps for the poor children of the city to play on.

There are five "tasters" in the sultan's kitchen at Constantinople. They taste every dish before it is placed before the royal master.

It is said that moths will not attack green fabrics. Arsenic is used in dyeing green, and the moths are wise enough to shun that deadly drug.

One of the most striking of the experiments in a recent lecture before the Royal Institute of Great Britain showed a frozen soap bubble floating on liquid air.

It is the belief of oyster catchers that oysters are peculiarly sensitive to sudden jars. The careful oysterman never chops wood on board lest he kill the oysters, and he breaths a thunder storm.

With a population of about thirty millions, England gets along with thirty-two judges of the first class, while Indiana, with a population of about four millions, has 178 judges altogether.

Missouri furnishes the government cavalry horses at from \$45 to \$75 each. In some of the Pacific States a horse can be bought for \$2 or \$3, and is considered to be worth less than a good sheep-dog.

The Chinese believe that when telegraphy was introduced in their country foreigners cut out the tongues of children and suspended them on the insulators to transmit the message from pole to pole.

The fact appears that there is a very marked difference in the way temperature is borne by the eyes when it is below 2300 degrees Fahrenheit and when above that heat. Up to such a degree a man can look at the metal in a furnace with comparative ease, but before it reaches 3000 degrees he is compelled to wear colored glasses.

The latest English religious novelty is a smoking service. The following invitation has been widely circulated in White-chapel: "If you want a smoke free, come next Sunday afternoon at three o'clock to Christ Church Hall. A free cup of tea if you like. Tobacco gratis."

In the cities of Japan there is a large class of women who make their living by furnishing amusement to emiled patrons. They are well educated, can converse, recite poetry, tell stories, sing songs, play the guitar and dance for the entertainment of those who send for them.

London saloon-keepers must not supply liquor to police officers unless by authority of a superior officer. A woman was summoned recently before the police court for serving at the same time a sergeant and a constable while on duty, and pleaded that the sergeant gave the needed permission.

In the event of a wreck at sea, instinct in some marvelous way seems to warn animals of their peril. The confusion among the crew and passengers spreads like wildfire to the live stock, and even the rats come screaming on deck, evidently fully conscious that their lives are in jeopardy.

Queen Victoria's word in the matter of titles is absolute law. Were she to address a bystander inadvertently as "duke," a duke he would remain, unless she revoked the honor. There are several cases on record in which titles were conferred by a sudden impulse of the sovereign in a colloquial moment—titles which are extant to this day.

A story comes from Louth, New South Wales, of an extraordinary adventure of a little boy about two years of age who wandered from his home and was lost in the bush. He was tracked thirty miles and over a rabbit-proof fence before he was found. He spent five cold nights in the bush without food or water, and when discovered was still walking, though much exhausted.

A Wonderful Ad-rtation.
A friend of mine, who was for several years in the service on the Western plains, gave me a very interesting account of the wonderful adaptation of the plant and animal life of that section to their surroundings. I have never seen it laid down in the books.

bloom, the deeply tinted flowers sparkling with the dew drops. Now they form great masses of color, then scatter in all directions, crossing and recrossing, a brilliant flashing of color like an Arctic aurora. It was a living, breathing, animated flower garden, to be seen nowhere else on earth. It were well worth a trip to the far West just for one hour of a scene like that.

The Bannocks Hate the Shoshones.

"I see that the newspapers are giving considerable space to the uprising of the Bannock Indians, and perhaps you would like to know something about them." This remark was made by a muscular looking fellow at Holland House the other day, as he ran his eyes over the column of a morning paper. "The Bannocks," he continued, "occupy the Fort Hill reservation in southeastern Idaho, with the Shoshones. The Shoshones are more numerous than the Bannocks, who, in 1894, were 772, all told, 132 being males over eighteen years of age, while of 1747 Shoshones, there were 286 males over eighteen years of age. The only purpose for which the Bannocks appear to be preserved, according to the account given me while on a visit to the Fort Hill reservation a few years ago, was to vex and annoy the Shoshones, who take more kindly to labor schools, and the use of other clothing than blankets than do the Bannocks, who have appeared to be incurably opposed to civilization for themselves and Indians. The two tribes have been thrown together for many years on the same reservation, and while the Shoshones have manifested a willingness to accept the benefits of schools and instruction in the use of implements of agriculture, the Bannocks have assumed a superiority because of their refusal to be civilized, and have taunted the Shoshones as 'squaws' because they embrace the opportunities for improvement held out by the Government. The Shoshones are peaceful and industrious. There were raised and sold for the reservation during 1893 more than \$15,000 worth of agricultural products, of which it is safe to assume that the Shoshones produced a very considerable share. The reports of the Indian agent show that of all the Shoshones and Bannocks on the reservation, only 140 can speak enough English to be understood in ordinary conversation.

"The United States had a Bannock war in 1878. It was hot and short, and it cost \$556,636.19. Twenty-four soldiers, thirty citizens and seventy-four Indians were killed before it ended."

Treasures From Egyptian Tombs.

The treasures which have been unearthed by Mr. de Morgan in Dashur, whose interesting explorations formed the subject of an article in a recent issue of the Journal, are now on exhibition in the Gizeh Museum of Egypt.

Best preserved of the necropolitan trophies is a bronze bladed poniard which was taken from the sarcophagus of Princess Ita, who lived many centuries ago.

Considering the date of this weapon, it is a marvelous piece of workmanship. The handle is made of solid gold, inlaid with Cornelian stone, lapis lazuli and Egyptian emerald. The pommel is formed of one large lapis lazuli.

More intricate, but cruder, and, perhaps, less artistic, is the crown of Queen Kinmont. It is made of solid gold, the motives being miniature lyres, also inlaid with emerald, cornelian and lapis lazuli.

All these motives, all these flowers also, which link these lyres together, are finished with such scrupulous decision and display such ingenuity of artistry that they compare favorably with the best works of the modern goldsmiths and lapidaries.

It would be a difficult task to enumerate here all the bigwigs which have been taken from the ancient coffins. There are nearly 6000 of them. Vultures chiseled of pure gold, hawk's heads and tiger claws, all beautifully enamelled and inlaid, and hundreds of clasps surmounted with lions, tigers, snakes and other wild animals.

It will take the French Egyptologists several months to decipher the small hieroglyphs on all these ornaments, heavy earrings and finger rings which are generously inscribed.

Some of them will perhaps only furnish names which will never be identified with the history of ancient Egypt. They will tell the domestic tales of births, love and marriages, but other inscriptions, especially those of the queen's and king's rings, will elucidate much that our historians have been unable to harmonize.

They have grappled for years with the Egyptian chronology, and it is a question whether, after all, we will succeed in ever obtaining an accurate chronology of the Pharaonic dynasties.

Proved Their Claim.

Three alleged vagrants were arrested in Pendleton, Or., recently and locked up over night. The next day they pleaded before the Recorder that they were not tramps but acrobats on their way to fill an engagement in a neighboring town, and that they were saving money by walking instead of traveling by rail. Their appearance was against their plea, but the judge said they might prove their case by doing some tumbling in court, if they cared to do so. The tables and chairs were cleared away, and the alleged vagrants gave a very clever acrobatic exhibition on the floor of the courtroom. The judge forgot his dignity and the court officers the circumstances of the tumbler being there, and all applauded vigorously, and his honor was so much pleased with the show that he held circuit in court for half an hour and then released the men and chipped in to a subscription for their benefit.

The street cars of Sacramento City in California are now run by electricity by the falls of the American River at Folsom, twenty-four miles away. The river has been dammed, creating a reservoir three miles long with a flow of 85,000 cubic feet a minute. After turning the turbine wheels at the dam the water is not allowed to escape further service, but is used for irrigation. Sacramento City expects soon to be warmed and lighted by the river.