

PIRATES OF THE PRESENT.

DARING CORSAIRS ABOUND ON THE CHINESE COAST.

They are Desperate and Difficult to Catch. Efforts of European and American Warships to Drive Them From the Sea.

The thrilling stories of the pirates of the Spanish Main have been responsible for a vast amount of sensational literature, and even to-day, says the Detroit Free Press, the imagination loves to recall the scenes of daring bravery and reckless adventure that the buccanniers of the Caribbean sea participated in during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The desire to hear the stories of their wild life recounted is made more conspicuous because of the absence of any such adventurous life to-day, and because of the gradual disappearance of the pirates from our North American coast. In the age of iron and steel gunboats, when swift cruisers are built to overtake the fastest sailing craft launched, the opportunities of pirates in leading a lawless life on the high seas are limited indeed.

And yet we have pirates to-day in considerable numbers—men as blood-thirsty and careless of life as any who ever followed a Louis Scott, Captain Kidd, or a greater Morgan. Along the Chinese coast, in Malay waters, and off the shores of Africa, well-organized and desperate pirates operate on a scale commensurate with the value and extent of the commerce carried on in those waters. American and European warships have repeatedly attempted to wipe out these corsairs, but owing to the irregularity of the coast line, and the numerous safe hiding places in the bays and rivers the pirates have successfully eluded capture.

The Rifian pirates of North Africa have openly attacked sailing vessels upon the high seas hundreds of miles from the shore, and after taking everything of value away with them they have marooned the crew and passengers or carried them off into slavery in the interior of Morocco. The Malay and Chinese pirates prey chiefly upon the Chinese junks that may happen to fall into their hands, and they swarm in numbers at the mouths of the huge rivers of Cochinchina, or among the straits of the Malay Archipelago. But even these Oriental survivors of the old school of pirates do not hesitate at times to attack a German, English, or American merchantman. They preserve the ancient reputation of the craft for bloodthirstiness by mercilessly cutting every throat with their curved crescent knives.

There is not a sailing vessel which navigates in these pirate-infested waters that does not run the risk of being captured by the outlaws of the high seas, and insurance companies exact special fees for this risk. The regular steamers which ply in the waters off the Chinese coast are not subject to the same danger, for they can usually escape the junks and sailing vessels of the pirates. Occasionally, however, a slow steamer is caught napping, and the pirates swarm over her deck with the ferocity of wild beasts. One of the chief duties of foreign men-of-war have to perform in the Chinese waters is to keep down the pirates, and to make navigation for their countrymen more safe.

The Chinese take to pirating as a duck does to water. The extreme poverty of the lower classes drives many to this bloody work, and they generally make the worst sort of corsairs. It is estimated that there are thousands of Chinese pirates along the coast who have confederates in the towns and cities to keep them apprised of the state of affairs, and that scarcely a sailing vessel or a steamer leaves port without having on board a number of these agents. Should the vessels be attacked at any time by the pirates they are ready to lend assistance, and to handicap the craft in a race for life by cutting ropes or sails or by injuring the machinery. So well known is this danger that the hardy captains of those waters keep the strictest watch and discipline, and they never employ a new man for a sailor unless his past history is investigated.

The Chinese pirates are united by secret oaths and signs, and the organization is so extensive that when a foreign war vessel starts off after some of the piratical junks that have been reported in a certain latitude the news is generally conveyed to the outlaws beforehand. In order further to avoid capture the junks are built in such a way that they can be beached at any convenient point. They are simply tied together by heavy thongs, and when beached they can be rapidly taken apart by simply cutting these thongs. The pieces of wood, the sails, and other parts of the queer craft can then be carried upon the beaches and hidden from view. When the war vessels arrive upon the scene there is not a sign of a pirate. Under such circumstances it is very difficult to corner and capture the corsairs.

American war vessels have done good service in the last dozen years in exterminating nests of these pirates along the Chinese coasts, but with the combined fleets of the English, German, French and American navies the pirates cannot be totally destroyed. Their warfare is like that of the American Indians. They hide behind islands and headlands, or run up into rivers and straits where no heavy vessel can go, and then rush out suddenly upon a helpless vessel before assistance can arrive. The best sort of vessel to fight with is not one of our modern battle-ships or crack cruisers, but the old steam tubs that look more like ancient sailing vessels and merchantmen than men-of-war.

Several of our old wooden war vessels have been stationed in Chinese waters for years, and their crews make room for the later products of our naval architect's skill may not be entirely satisfactory from one point of view.

The ease with which these old tubs could deceive the pirates rendered them of great service to merchantmen. By covering their sides with painted tarpaulin the character of the vessel could be quickly changed, and from time to time they would steam along slowly in a dress of jet black, white, brown or some other color. The pirates invariably chose the old steamers for lumbering merchantmen, and they would swarm around them in great numbers.

But suddenly the tarpaulin sides would be drawn up by means of ropes and pulleys, and broadsides of guns would reveal to the frightened pirates their course a broadside of shot and shell would be poured into them, and many of their number be sent to the bottom of the sea. This method of deceiving and fighting the Chinese pirates has been employed so many times that they are more particular than ever in attacking a steamer. A sailing vessel they know is safe, but steamers have such an unexpected way of changing from an ordinary merchant vessel into a dangerous man-of-war that most pirates avoid them entirely.

It was a Yankee captain who first taught the pirates of the Barbary states to respect and fear the American flag, and it has been their successors who have fought successfully the Chinese corsairs in their own waters, and made them distrustful of every steamer. But this has been accomplished through ingenuity more than by any particular acts of courage and bravery. It is a question whether our new cruisers, fine as they are, but incapable of disguise, will accomplish as much in keeping down the Chinese pirates as the old wooden gunboats that we have so long kept in China.

A Bird Whips a Cat.

Recently a singular fight between a bird and a beast was witnessed at Chula Vista, in San Diego county. While Mr. Henderson of Iowa was visiting his brother, G. L. Henderson, and was being shown about the country, they were treated to the novel spectacle.

It was the first roadrunner Mr. and Mrs. Henderson had ever seen. It came running gracefully down the gravelled avenue to meet its friend and owner, Mr. Ballou. A favorite kitten also claimed special attention as a pet and general favorite. The pugnacon bird wheeled upon its feline competitor, and a battle ensued that terminated in the routing of the cat, which spat and scratched and lashed its tail with tiger-like fury. The roadrunner took good care to keep out of the clutches of its enemy. It struck with its beak and jumped with an agility that was most amazing. No acrobat or pugilist could jump better or strike more effectively. The victorious bird stepped forward with a proud, elastic step to receive the caresses of its owner. It seemed to be as proud of the applause of the onlookers as it had been jealous of the competition of the cat.

The domestic tiger had not given up the desire to redeem his reputation and wreak his wrath on his pitiless antagonist. He reappeared, taking care to keep in the shelter, and jumped at his adversary. The feathered warrior used every device to drive the cat from its stronghold. The roadrunner seemed cautious at first, but soon began a most vigorous assault by a succession of leaps over the cat, each time dealing it a terrible blow, while in every instance it eluded the teeth and claws with a dexterity that defies description. At last the cat could stand these attacks no longer. It darted down the steps to escape, but its tormentor caught it by the tail and held on like a devilish till both disappeared from sight behind the woodshed. The roadrunner soon returned, and manifested by every motion all the pride of the conqueror. The vanquished cat came back no more.

Mr. Henderson declared that it was the most ably conducted war between feathers and fur that he had ever seen, and that he would never forget the most beautiful and the most pugnacon bird in California.—San Diego (Cal.) Tribune.

Fishermen Overturned by a Sturgeon.

The other morning about 11 o'clock an accident occurred on the river about three miles east of town, resulting in the drowning of two Indians, John Williams and Jim Walters, who were engaged in sturgeon fishing by Jake Andrews. They, with an Indian boy about 9 years o'd, were taking up a sturgeon line, when in some manner the boat swung in the current and one or more of the hooks caught over the gunwale of the boat. A sturgeon on the line pulling hard and assisted by the current, turned the boat over, throwing all the occupants out. The two Indians were carried down by the current, and soon succumbed to the chill and the whirling waters. The boy, more fortunate, managed to secure three oars which floated out of the boat, and with their aid reached the shore, and from him the particulars of the accident were learned. The boat was caught a short distance above town.

Jake Andrews, for whom the men were working, offers a reward of \$20 for the recovery of each of the bodies.—Dallas (Or.) Chronicle.

His Joke Saved Him.

A man was up before a judge the other day for stealing coal. The railroad detective said, he caught the fellow in a coal car, but the man said that he was only sleeping there because his wife had locked him out and he had no money to go to a hotel.

"Pretty hard bad, wasn't it?" asked the judge.

"Oh, no, sir," he answered, "it was soft coal."

And the judge was so struck with the joke that he let him go.—Buffalo Enquirer.

Exploring with Tin Cans.

Captain H. H. P. Deasy, of the Sixteenth Queen's Lancers, left England some time ago for a journey across Thibet from west to east, says the London Times. He intends on the way to throw soldered-up tins containing parliamentary notices in English and French into the tributaries of the Tsanpo and into the other large rivers which he may meet with, in the hope that some of them may be picked up far down stream, possibly in the Brahmaputra, Salween and Mekong, and thus help to solve the vexed problem of the origin and connections of these rivers.

The notices will be consecutively numbered, and the tins in which they will be enclosed will have a brass label soldered on the outside bearing the words, "Please open this," in English and French, and Captain Deasy's name. The parchment inside bears the request that it be forwarded without delay to the Royal Geographical Society, London, with as accurate a statement as possible as to where it was picked up.

Captain Deasy is trying to render an important service to geographical knowledge, and it is hoped that the officials, English and French, in the neighborhood of the rivers alluded to may be able to arrange for a lookout, so that the tins may be secured and the parchment delivered to the proper quarter.

Boredom Banished.

"If you are studying French or German, and happen to attend a stupid lecture, try to translate it into the language you are learning," says the person who does not like to be bored. "It is fascinating, and an excellent practice. As the speaker proceeds, you turn over his words in your mind into good, say, French, as you can. You follow his words with avidity; you lose a sentence here and there and hurry to catch up. You are excited, interested. Your mental faculties appear to be feeling the effects of a glass of champagne. Your friends ask you later why you should follow that dull talk with such eager, absorbed attention. But you do not tell the story of your mental gymnastics."

The Best Salad Plants.

According to a bulletin issued from the Vermont station, the best salad plants for general culture in this country are garden cress, white mustard and corn salad in the order named. Garden cress may be sown in any soil, at any season, between severe frosts, and will give plants fit for the table within three or four weeks. As it runs to seed quickly successive sowings are necessary at intervals of ten to fourteen days. In hot weather sow garden cress in a half shady place. White mustard is better known. Corn salad is but little known here. It will stand considerable freezing and may be sown in the fall.

No Use to Cry.

No use to fret and worry and itch and scratch. That won't cure you. Tetterin will. Any sort of skin disease, Tetter, Eczema, Salt Rheum, Ringworm or more abrasion of the skin. At drug stores, or by mail for 50c. In stamps from J. T. Shuptrine, Savannah, Ga.

The man who lives a lie has a pack of bloodhounds on his track.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents.

Over 400,000 cured. Why not let No-To-Bac regulate or remove your desire for tobacco? Saves money, makes health and madhool. Cure guaranteed. 50 cents and \$1.00, at all druggists.

What does it profit a man to be wise, if he marries like a fool?

His permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. \$7 trial bottle and treatise free. Dr. H. C. Kline, Ltd., 303 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

A wolf in sheep's clothing is none the less a wolf.

Piso's Cure is a wonderful Cough medicine.—Mrs. W. PICKETT, Van Sicken and Blake Aves., Brooklyn, N. Y., Oct. 28, 1904.

Winking at sin will soon ruin the eyesight.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

Nothing is gained by starving the soul to feed the body.

Just try a 10c. box of Cascarets, the finest liver and bowel regulator ever made.

Some very large trees bear very little fruit.

If afflicted with sore eyes, Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-water. Druggists sell at 25c per bottle.

Every temptation resisted, is a trouble escaped.

CASCARETS stimulate liver, kidneys and bowels. Never sicken, weaken or grip; 10c.

Every man is a giant in the eyes of some boy.

HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian HAIR RENEWER

Beautifies and restores Gray Hair to its original color and vitality; prevents baldness; cures itching and dandruff. A fine hair dressing.

R. P. Hall & Co., Props., Nashua, N. H. Sold by all Druggists.

REASONS FOR USING Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa.

1. Because it is absolutely pure.
2. Because it is not made by the so-called Dutch Process in which chemicals are used.
3. Because beans of the finest quality are used.
4. Because it is made by a method which preserves unimpaired the exquisite natural flavor and odor of the beans.
5. Because it is the most economical, costing less than one cent a cup.

Be sure that you get the genuine article made by WALTER BAKER & CO., Ltd., Dorchester, Mass. Established 1780.

Nelly Gwynn's First Love.

The following anecdote of "the pretty, witty Nelly," as she has been called, writes our contributor, G. B. G., was discovered in an interleaved copy of Downe's "Roscius Anglicanus," with this note prefixed: "An account which Basil Montagu somewhere read of Nell Gwynne when a child." We do not think it has been printed in any of the productions of this literary civilization. "My first love, you must know, was a link-boy." "A what?" "Tis true," said she, "for all the frightfulness of your what, and a very good soul he was, too, poor Dick! and had the heart of a gentleman. God knows what has become of him; but when I last saw him, he said he would humbly love me to his dying day. He used to say that I must have been a lord's daughter for my beauty, and that I ought to ride in my coach, and behaved to me as if I did. He, poor boy, would light me and my mother home, when we had sold our oranges, to our lodgings in Lewkenor's Lane, as if we had been ladies of the land." He said he never felt easy for the evening till he had asked me how I did; and then went gaily about his work, and if he saw us housed at night he slept like a prince. I shall never forget when he came, flushing and stammering, and drew out of his pocket a pair of worsted stockings which he brought for my naked feet. It was bitter cold weather, and I had chilblains which made me hobble about till I cried; and what does poor Richard do, but work hard like a horse and buy me these worsted stockings. My mother bade him put them on; and so he did, and his warm tears fell on my chilblains, and he said he should be the happiest lord on earth if the stockings did me any good."

Borrowed Odors.

Oranges have a power rarely possessed by other fruits, that of absorbing odors from the atmosphere. Blood oranges are especially liable to do this, and if placed in the same room with onions for several days will acquire a decided onion flavor.

It takes religion with sunshine in it to attract a child.

Tobacco.

No crop varies more in quality according to grade of fertilizers used than tobacco. Potash is its most important requirement, producing a large yield of finest grade leaf. Use only fertilizers containing at least 10% actual

Potash (K₂O)

in form of sulphate. To insure a clean burning leaf, avoid fertilizers containing chlorine.

All about Potash—the results of its use by actual experiment on the best farms in the United States—is told in a little book which we publish and will gladly mail free to any farmer in America who will write for it.

GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau St., New York.

FULL OF HEALTH

Every ingredient in Hires Rootbeer is health giving. The blood is improved, the nerves soothed, the stomach benefited by this delicious beverage.

HIRES Rootbeer

Quenches the thirst, tickles the palate; full of snap, sparkle and effervescence. A temperance drink for everybody.

Made only by The Charles E. Hires Co., Philadelphia. A package makes five gallons.

What He Says.

DENMARK, WASH. CO., MICH., Feb. 20th, 1907.

I have had a Jones 120 lbs. Scale in use for over 15 years; they are as good now as when I first got them.

To JONES OF BINCHAMTON, BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

PURCHASE DIRECT FROM THE MILLS AND FACTORIES. Underwear department. Address: CONSUMERS' SUPPLIES CO., Troy, N. Y.

ELECTRIC IN EFFECT Cutler's Quaker Inhaler CURES and relieves the sense of TASTE, SMELL, and HEARING. \$1.00.

W. H. SMITH & CO., Buffalo, N. Y., Props.

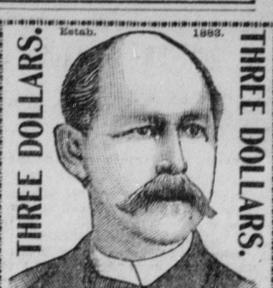
FIBROID TUMOR.

Expelled by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Interview With Mrs. B. A. Lombard.

I have reason to think that I would not be here now if it had not been for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It cured me of a fibroid tumor in my womb. Doctors could do nothing for me, and they could not cure me at the hospital. I will tell you about it: I had been in my usual health, but had worked quite hard. When my monthly period came on, I flowed very badly. The doctor gave me medicine, but it did me no good. He said the flow must be stopped if possible, and he must find the cause of my trouble. Upon examination, he found there was a Fibroid Tumor in my womb, and gave me treatment without any benefit whatever. About that time a lady called on me, and recommended Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, said she owed her life to it. I said I would try it, and did. Soon after the flow became more natural and regular. I still continued taking the Compound for some time. Then the doctor made an examination again, and found everything all right. The tumor had passed away and that dull ache was gone.—Mrs. B. A. LOMBARD, Box 71, Westdale, Mass.

THREE DOLLARS.



THREE DOLLARS.

W. L. DOUGLAS

\$3 SHOE . . . BEST . . . IN THE WORLD

For 14 years this shoe by merit alone, has distanced all competitors. Endorsed by over 1,000,000 wearers as the best in style, fit and durability of any shoe ever offered at \$3.00.

Made in all the LATEST SHAPES and STYLES and of every variety of leather. One dollar in a town gives exclusive sale and advertised in local paper on receipt of reasonable order. For Write for catalogue to W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Mass.

AGENTS. We want one agent in this County article on card. We pay all expenses. Address: G. L. YAZA CHEM. CO., Washington, D. C. BNO 15

FISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION

CANDY CATHARTIC Cascarets

CURE CONSTIPATION

10¢ 25¢ 50¢ ALL DRUGGISTS

ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED To cure any case of constipation, Cascarets are the ideal Laxative, never grip or irritate, but cause easy natural results. Sample and booklet free. Ad. STERLING REMEDY CO., Chicago, Montreal, Cal., or New York.

See Them

When you are talking Bicycles, don't be content until you have seen the new

Lovell Diamond Models of '97

They are the top notch of bicycle engineering, and science must now seek to develop other fields. The perfect point of PERFECTION is reached only by the Lovell Wheels. On this fact critics agree. Why not look them over carefully, study their strong points and note their beauty and elegant finish. Their points of superiority are so simple a child can understand them. We stake our business reputation of over 55 years that there was never so perfect a wheel made. It leads them all. Investigate and you will ride no other. Please call and examine, at our local agencies, or at our stores, 147 Washington and 131 Broad St., Boston.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE Mailed Upon Application.

John P. Lovell Arms Co.

BOSTON, MASS.

A list of Bargains in Second-hand Wheels mailed on application.

Strongest Bicycles IN THE WORLD.

1897 Columbia Bicycles are made of 5 per cent. Nickel Steel Tubing. We control the entire production of this tubing and use it exclusively in

Columbia Bicycles \$100 TO ALL ALIKE

STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

HARTFORDS, \$75, \$60, \$50, \$45 SECOND ONLY TO COLUMBIAS.

POPE MFG. CO., Hartford, Conn.

Catalogue free from Columbia dealers. By mail for one 2-cent stamp.

COMPLETE MODEL OF THE GREAT COLUMBIA FACTORIES, lithographed in colors, ready to be cut out and built up, affording unlimited amusement and instruction to old and young, sent by mail on receipt of five 2-cent stamps.

H. W. JOHNS' ASBESTOS LIQUID PAINTS

THE STANDARD PAINT FOR STRUCTURAL PURPOSES. Pamphlet, "Suggestions for Exterior Decoration," Sample Card and Descriptive Price List free by mail. Asbestos Roofing, Building Felt, Steam Packing, Boiler Coverings, Fire-Proof Paints, Etc. Asbestos Non-Conducting and Electrical Insulating Materials.

H. W. JOHNS MANUFACTURING CO., 87 Maiden Lane, New York.

CHICAGO: 249 & 265 Randolph St. PHILADELPHIA: 179 & 172 North 4th St. BOSTON: 77 & 79 Pearl St.

WE HAVE NO AGENTS

but have sold direct to the consumer for 25 years, at wholesale prices, saving them the dealer's profit. Ship anywhere for examination before sale. Everything warranted.

30 styles of Carriages, Buggies as low as \$50. Phaetons as low as \$75. Spring Wagons, Road Wagons, etc. Sold at special prices. See our catalogue.

See our Carriage, Buggy, etc. at special prices. See our catalogue.

ELKHART CARriage AND HARNESS MFG. CO., W. B. PRATT, Prop., ELKHART, IND.