

OSTRICHES IN PATAGONIA.

HUNTING THEM IS ONE OF THE LEADING INDUSTRIES.

Habits of the Big Birds—Capturing Them by Throwing the Bolas—Cooking the Game.



ATAGONIA'S principal industry — if such a term can be applied to the slovenly habits of Indians — is, according to Fannie B. Ward, in the Philadelphia Record, hunting guanacos and ostriches, for the skins of the former and the feathers of the latter are valued articles of commerce, and the flesh of both serves for food.

In the first place it should be understood that two distinct species of ostriches stalk over these plains, and that each species has its range, confined within certain limits. Thus the great struthero rhea, which more nearly resembles the African ostrich, roams the northern pampas, but never comes below the Chuput River, and the smaller struthero Darwinii, indigenous to the neighborhood of the straits, is not found upon the pampas. The northern variety is hereabouts known as "avestruz moro" (gray birds), their plumage being uniformly gray, while those of the south have brownish feathers tipped with white. Both build the rudest kinds of nests—merely a shallow hole scratched in the ground under the shelter of a bush and softened by a wisp of grass. The females are evidently the lazier of the birds, for one nest serves for several of them, who all deposit their eggs in it and then go gadding about, leaving their husbands to hatch the chicks. There are usually from thirty to forty eggs in a nest, and as each egg is about equal in size to ten hen's eggs, it requires considerable spread to cover them. The period of incubation averages twenty-two days, and it is a fact that the male bird squats patiently upon the nest day after day until all are hatched, and then he looks after the babies till they are able to take care of themselves. During rainy weather the faithful father never leaves the eggs for a moment, and has been known to stick to them a week or more without feeding. When the weather is fine he strays away an hour or two toward evening to stretch his long legs and get something to eat. If a fox or other animal intrudes and steals or breaks a single egg during his absence he knows it the instant he returns, and then his rage knows no bounds; he will dash the remaining eggs to pieces and dance around the debris like a lunatic.

After the hatching period the females lay their eggs promiscuously about the plains. The natives call these "huatochos," and the women and children spend a good deal of time hucting them. They keep fresh for half a year (fresh enough for a Patagonian), and one egg, being equal to eight or ten hen's eggs, is considered the fair quota for one person's dinner. The Darwinii ostriches are extremely shy, and as their vision is remarkably acute it is by no means an easy matter to capture them, unless the hunter has well-trained dogs. The American bird has many habits in common with his African cousin. One of these is that he scoots ahead in a straight line when pursued, and always against the wind if he can. Aware of this habit the Patagonians chase him on horseback, first placing some of their party in ambush in the direction which he is likely to take. They then gallop full tilt up to the line of flight and either intercept the ostrich altogether or "hoppie" it with a pair of bolas.

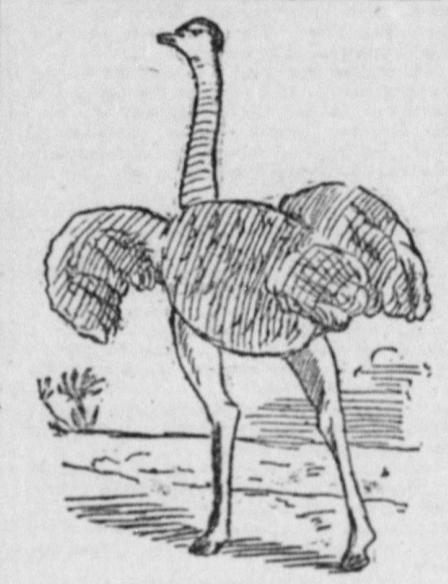


HUNTING OSTRICHES WITH BOLAS.

The latter weapon is peculiarly Patagonian and was in use nobody knows how many centuries before the coming of white men; yet nothing better has ever been devised for hunting the shy creatures of the plains, and the Spaniards and Guachos, away up in Chile and Argentina, have adopted its use. To make a pair of bolas take two stones of unequal size—one about as large as a goose egg, the other as a hen's egg—and grind them perfectly smooth by rubbing one against the other. Cover each with a bit of guanaco rawhide, firmly sewed on, till it looks something like a cricket ball. Then cut two stout thongs, each about four feet long; attach one end of each to a ball and knot the other end of the thongs together so that when the strings are at full stretch the balls will be at least eight feet apart. That is all there is of it and the bolas are then ready for use. But the difficulty commences when the novice attempts to handle them, for dexterity comes only with long practice. Every Patagonian has had his almost from the cradle, for the bolas is the plaything of his childhood as the sling is of the Bolivian gamin, and to display skill in its management has been the pride of his youth; so that it is no wonder he becomes so proficient that he can project the balls an incredible distance with unerring accuracy of aim, in such a way that the thong will wind

around the legs of the unlucky object struck, whether man, beast or bird, with force enough to bury itself in the flesh. The method of throwing an animal with the bolas has been thus graphically described: "The right hand only is used, and this grasps the thongs at each point of union, about half way between the ends. The balls are then whirled in a circular motion around the head, and when sufficient centrifugal power has been obtained the weapon is launched at the object to be captured. The aim is a matter of nice calculation, in which mind, eye and arm all bear a part, and so true is this aim in Patagonian practice that the hunter seldom fails to bring down or otherwise cripple his game, be it ostrich, cavy or guanaco.

The rounding of the stones is the work of the women, and it takes two or three days to grind a pair to the proper spherical shape. In some districts farther north a third ball has been introduced, but the Indians do not regard this as an improvement. Wooden balls are sometimes used, and iron ones whenever they can be had, as the heavier they are the more execution they will do. A



SEEKING SHELTER.

true Patagonian on horseback, armed with a pair of iron bolas, is a formidable enemy, from which neither bird nor beast within the radius of fifty yards has the smallest chance of escape. Commander Musters, in his interesting book called: "At Home With the Patagonians," says that the Indian law of dividing the game is as follows: The man who balls the ostrich leaves it for the other who has been chasing with him to take charge of until the end of the hunt. Then the feathers and body from the head to the breastbone and one leg belongs to the captor, the remainder to his assistant.

Fires are kindled, and while stones are heating the ostrich is plucked, the wing feathers being carefully tied together with a piece of sinew. The bird is then laid on its back and drawn; the legs are carefully skinned down and the bone taken out leaving the skin. The carcass is then separated into halves, and the back bone having been extracted from the lower half the meat is sliced so as to admit heated stones laid in between the sections; and then it is tied up like a bag, secured by the skin of the legs, with a small bone thrust through to keep all taut. The whole is placed on the live embers of the fire, and when it is nearly done a light blaze is kindled to perfectly roast the meat outside. During the process of cooking it has to be frequently turned, that all parts may be thoroughly baked. When taken from the fire the top part is cut off and the stones removed, when broth and meat will be found delicious. The party gather around to eat the meat, first sopping chunks of it in the broth. The back part, which if the ostrich was in good condition, is almost solid fat, is then divided, tidbits being given to each, not forgetting the waiting women and children. When the breast and head part are to be cooked the bones are not extracted, but the wings are turned inside out, the breast cavity filled with heated stones and then tied up. The gizzard, which is large enough to fill both hands, is carefully cooked by the insertion of a hot stone. The eyes, too, are sucked and the tripe devoured, and the hungry dogs get the little that is left.

A Steam Snow-Sled.
Ames Lane, of Truckee, has invented a snow-sled to run by steam, with which he thinks it will be possible to travel over ordinary snow-covered roads at the rate of twelve miles an hour and over level snow-fields, under favorable circumstances, at the rate of sixty miles an hour. The new sled will be tested this winter in carrying passengers from Truckee to Donner Lake, and it is scarcely necessary to say that if it proves successful it will almost revolutionize carrying in snowy countries and may enable explorers to reach the North Pole.—San Francisco Call.

Easier Said Than Done.
Marion was in a room with her mother, where she saw upon the wall the illuminated text: "What is Home Without a Mother?" Spelling it out, she said: "Mamma, why don't they put the answer to that conundrum up there?" "What is the answer?" asked her mother.

"An orphan, of course," answered Marion, with great satisfaction. "I guessed it easy."—Philadelphia Times.

EQUAL TO THE OCCASION.
Materfamilias (11 P. M.)—"What's the matter? You look distressed." Materfamilias—"I thought it about time to give that young fellow in the parlor a vigorous hint that he was nearing midnight, so I walked right into the room, and, giving both him and our daughter a severe look, I deliberately turned out the gas."

"Mercy! Didn't he get angry?" "No," he said "Thank you."—New York Weekly.

NO RAILS.
A wedding ceremony was to take place in one of the prominent churches. The

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Ball Games of the Season—Had Cause to Look "Put Out"—Good Name for a Gun, Etc., Etc.

In summer, when he held the bat, He asked the pitcher for a low ball; He took to football after that, And now he plays at snowball.
—Harper's Bazar.

GOOD NAME FOR A GUN.

Hunter—"That's a funny name for a gun—why do you call it Duty?" Guide—"Well, sir, ye see it's kinder hard to discharge."—New York Herald.

THE COMIC AUTOGRAT.

"It's mighty hard for that man to take a joke," said Scribbington disconsolately. "Who is he?" "He's the editor of a comic paper."

HAD CAUSE TO LOOK "PUT OUT."

"What is the matter with your clerk this morning. He seems very much put out." "So he is. I've just discharged him."—Baltimore American.

DAINTY COMPLIMENT.

He—"Another piece of sugar? I do not think I would like to be the sweetest girl in the world." She—"Why not?" He—"I prefer being next to the sweetest."—Boston Budget.

AUTOMATIC.

Bulfinch—"Say, Wooden, how about that great scheme you had. Did you ever put it through?" Wooden—"No, I didn't need to." Bulfinch—"How is that?" Wooden—"It fell through."—Boston Courier.

PREPARING FOR THE TORTURE.

Friend—"Good gracious, man, what a ghastly expression!" Mr. Oldbath—"I'm practicing a pleasant smile—I've got to call on Proudpoor to-night, and he always insists on reading his little boy's school compositions to his visitors."—Puck.

DOUBLE ENTENDEE.

Miss Polly—"No apologies are necessary; I'm sure I always wish you to be at home when you are here."—Pittsburg Bulletin.

REGARD FOR THE PROPRIETIES.

A widower married a sister of his late wife a few weeks after the death of the latter. An acquaintance who had just returned from a long journey sympathetically inquired whom he was in mourning for!

"For my sister-in-law," was the hesitating reply.—Lustige Blätter.

OFF AND ON.

Featherstone—"I tell you, old man, you ought to be with a girl like Miss Grosgrain. Her father travels a great deal, and while he is away we have a lovely time." Ringway—"What do you do when he comes home?" Featherstone—"Then I travel."—Life.

A VIOLENT CASE.

"Papa, Adolphus has proposed to me." "What! Adolphus, that silly fellow! Surely you are not going to marry him. First he came out as a painter; then he tried to invent a flying machine; after that he was confined in a lunatic asylum, and now he actually makes you an offer of marriage!"—Comic.

ENDED WELL.

Briggs—"First, I asked for the confidential clerk, and he was out, and then for the junior partner, and he was out, and then, in despair, I asked to see the head of the firm, and I'll be hanged if he wasn't out. But it was all right." Briggs—"Why, what did you do?" Briggs—"The office boy said he would see me."—Clothes and Furnishes.

THE DANGERS OF AN IMPORTED DIET.

Doctor—"Your husband's case is a serious one, Mrs. Moriarty. I'm afraid there is some foreign substance in his esophagus." Mrs. Moriarty—"Furrin, is it?" Bedad, an' Oim not surprised, sorr; for mony's the time O've warned him against atin' thim Dutch sausages that he's so fond of."—Kate Field's Washington.

ANSWER TO AN OLD MOTTO.

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A wedding ceremony was to take place in one of the prominent churches. The

bridal party had not yet arrived, but were momentarily expected, when a small boy put in an appearance and gazed long and curiously up the main aisle. "Humph," he muttered, disdainfully. "I don't see any."

"Don't see any what, boy?" asked an inquisitive usher standing near. "Don't see de rails, of course."

"Rails—rails for what?" said the usher, in wonderment, as a small group gathered around the boy. "Why, for de bride's train to run on—see?" And the boy escaped, and there followed a stillness so dense you could have heard a cough drop on the door step around the corner.—New York Herald.

TOO MUCH LYNCH LAW.

First Citizen (Golden Gulch)—"Wall, we caught up with the feller wot stole your new overcoat, an' lynched him." Second Citizen—"Ha, ha; that's some-thin' like. Teach those coyotes they've gotter obey the laws o' the land. Hung him, eh?"

"No, we shot him full o' holes." "Gee whittager! He didn't have my overcoat, did he?" "Jerusalem, partner, come to think, I'm 'fraid he did."

"Ye oughter be arrested, every one of ye. This ere lynch law is a disgrace to our civilization."—New York Weekly.

ON THE JUDGE'S SIDE.

A story is told of a well-known judge who is noted for his fondness for conveying to jurors, in his charges to them, his own opinions with regard to the merits of the case. In one case he had done so with great plainness, but to his amazement the jury remained out for hours without coming to an agreement. The judge inquired of the officer what was the matter, and learned from him that one juror was holding out against the other eleven. He sent for the juror at once, and, stating to the jurors that he had plainly intimated how the case ought to be decided, said he understood the one juror was standing out against the other eleven. He proceeded to rebuke the juror sharply. The obstinate juror was a nervous little man, and as the judge was done he rose and said: "Your Honor, may I say a word?"

"Yes, sir," said the indignant judge; "What have you to say?" "Well, what I wanted to say is, I am the only feller that's on your side."—The Comic.

WISE WORDS.

Girls learn faster than boys and forget easier.

No woman likes to hear her male friends ridiculed.

A fool is a man who believes all a woman says when she is "petting" him.

Women are silly when men are fools. Wise men have found women not silly.

A woman's love is better than a man's love—she loves another, he loves himself.

If a man thinks of a mean thing to do the first man he meets knows of a good way to do it.

It is generally better and easier to do a thing than to find an excuse for leaving it undone.

It is not what a man does, but what he gets caught at that weighs in the world's judgment.

Most men tell secrets to prove that they have been considered trustworthy of being told them.

Courtesy costs less and brings larger returns than any other investment a young man can make.

When a boy and a dog become friends it is hard to determine which is most in need of commiseration.

Trust to luck very much and you will soon find that it is the only thing in town that will give you credit.

The great drawback to doing one's best is that the world at once demands lots more of the same quality.

The trouble with most perfect people is that they spoil their perfection by knowing how perfect they are.

The most disgusting thing about humanity is the ease with which your best friend becomes your worst enemy.

Improving Earth Roads.

Earth roads are naturally unstable. In clayey soil they are almost always full of ruts besides being very muddy in rainy weather, while on sandy soil they are always soft. Still a fine hard road can be made by a proper mixture of clay and gravel. Enough clay is put with the gravel to bind the particles together, the same as mortar is used to bind brick or stone, and in about the same proportions. Sometimes this mixture can be found in its natural state, but it does just as much good when put on artificially. The spring is the best time for this, when the earth is just recovering from the winter upheaval, for then the particles unite more closely and a good surface will stay on all summer. It is a good plan to lay drain tile from two and one-half to three and one-half feet along the line of the road inside of the gutter and emptying at some fixed outlet. This will save from one-third to one-half the top dressing if properly done.

Don't make the mistake of plowing up the road after it is once hardened down. This is often done, but it tears up the solid foundation which is essential for a good road. Again, never scrape the material at the sides of the road into the middle. It is only fine washings. It may make a fine surface for a few days, but has no adhesive powers, and in a short time will be ground to powder, making miserable dust in dry weather and the softest mud when it rains. It is far better to go to some gravel bank or get fresh clean earth and put it on. Rather coarse gravel makes the best roads in the end, and when fresh is gritty, and will make a compact, hard road. A road scraper is good to fill in the ruts and smooth the surface.—Drainage Journal.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR JANUARY 10.

Lesson Text: "A Song of Salvation," Isaiah, xxvi, 1-10—Golden Text: Isaiah, xxvi, 4—Commentary.

1. "In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah. We have a strong city; salvation will be appointed for walls and bulwarks." This like chapter xli, will be one of Israel's millennial songs. See the phrase "that day" seven times between xxvi, 21 and xxvii, 13, and note its connections. Especially observe xxvi, 23, xxvii, 13, and you cannot fail to see the reference to Israel's restoration and glory in coming days, now perhaps very near. "The name of the city from that day shall be the Lord is there." It shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more forever. The Lord will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and the glory in the midst of her. He will be her strength and salvation (Isa. xxvii, 1; Jer. xxxi, 40; Zech. ii, 5; Isa. xli, 1, 2).

2. Trust ye in the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may praise in. This is the righteous nation of Isa. lx, 21; Jer. xxxi, 34. The nation shall be born at once, their iniquity purged in one day, for they shall look upon their long rejected King when He shall come in His power and glory (Isa. lxv, 8; Zech. iii, 9, xlviii, 1; Zech. xiii, 1). The city shall be a city of truth, for the God of Truth shall be her King (Zech. viii, 3; Isa. lxv, 16). As to opening the gates speak of Israel's restoration and future glory as preceded by a time of great trouble. See verses 20, 21; also chapters xxiv, 28; xxv, 4; Dan. xii, 1, 2; Matt. xxiv, 21, 22, 23. But however great the tribulation, whether then or now, the one who trusts in God need never be distressed. Trust in the mind that is stayed on Him will have perfect peace (Ps. xvi, 1, 5; Matt. xxiv, 6; John xiv, 1, 27, xvi, 33).

3. "Trust ye in the Lord forever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." The peculiar name "Lord Jehovah," or "Jah Jehovah" (R. V. margin), is found only here and in the other millennial song, Isa. xli, 2. Its full significance shall be seen in that day. Everlasting strength, or Rock of Ages (Margin), makes its debut, whether applied to the cleft of the rock covered with God's hand (Ex. xxxiii, 22), and of the perfect and eternal safety of all whose lives are hid with Christ in God. Col. iii, 3. Therefore trust in Him at all times (Ps. lxxii, 8).

4. "For He bringeth down them that dwell on high, the lofty city. He layeth it low; He layeth it low even to the ground; He bringeth it even to the dust." Here is hallelujah, hallelujah, and this is the record that shall be made, whether applied to a nation, a city or a person. We then see it now, but it shall be fully seen in that day. The proud and ungodly may prosper for a time, but let the righteous, though for a time opposed, have faith and patience. Note carefully Isa. li, 17, with the context, also the songs of Hannah and Mary, I Sam. ii, 1-10; Luke 1, 46-55.

5. "The foot shall tread it down, even the feet of the poor and the steps of the needy." Here is hallelujah. "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Math. v, 3). "Ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of Hosts" (Mal. iv, 1). "The stone which the builders despised shall become the head corner, and ye yourselves because of evil doers, but be patient, wait on the Lord and keep His way and He shall exalt thee to inherit the earth" (Ps. xxxvii, 1, 7, 9, 14).

6. "The just is upright, the just is upright, the just is upright." Thou most upright dost weigh the path of the just." The righteous Lord loveth righteousness. His countenance doth behold the upright (Ps. xl, 7). No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly (Ps. lxxv, 11). But we must remember that He not only weighs our path, but also our actions, and He trieth heart and reins (I Sam. ii, 3; Jer. xvii, 10). If we are only sincere before Him we shall share His glory.

7. "Yes, in the way of Thy judgments, O Lord, have we waited for Thee; the desire of our soul is to Thy name, and to the remembrance of Thee." In chapter xxv, 9, we read, "And it shall be said in that day, we waited for God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us; this is the Lord; we have waited for Him; we shall be glad and rejoice in His salvation." Jacob, on his death bed, looking forward to the last days, said, "I have waited for Thy salvation, O Lord" (Gen. xlii, 1, 18). Some shall be ashamed that wait upon Him and for Him. He commands us to wait upon Him. We therefore do well to say, "My soul wait thou only upon God" (Isa. xxx, 18; xxiv, 23; Zech. ii, 8; Ps. lxxii, 9).

8. "With my soul have I desired Thee in the night; yes; with my spirit within me will I seek Thee early; for wims Thy judgments are in the earth; the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." The first part of the verse reminds us of Ps. lxxii, 1, xli, 1, 2, and of the repeated, "Him whom my soul loveth," of Cant. ii, 1-4. God Himself is our salvation, joy and strength now, as He will be to Israel in that day, therefore seek and follow "Jesus only." The last part of the verse points to the great gathering unto God when He shall begin to pour out His judgments in the last days, after the church is translated, then shall be gathered out of the great tribulation the multitude of Rev. vii, 9-17, too late for the honors of the first company of translated ones for Rev. v, 9, 13, but not too late to be present at the marriage of the Lamb (Rev. xix, 1-10).

9. "Let favor be showed to the wicked yet he will not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the Lord." Some can only be humbled and led to see the grace and love of God by affliction, but God tries every way to win men to Himself (Job. xxxiii, 29, 30; II Peter iii, 9). There are some who will not submit, except feignedly, even in the millennium (Ps. xlv, 1, margin). These shall follow Satan at the end of the thousand years, and being destroyed with him shall never see the majesty of the Lord in the new earth (Rev. xx, 7, 8). Blessed are all who now receive the grace of God and walk humbly and sincerely with Him. We need not wonder that in this present time many followers of the wicked one shall for their own ends seek and find an entrance into the nominal church. In the nominal church there was a Judas, Ananias and Sapphira, a Demas and many others who though receiving favor would not learn righteousness, and it has been so ever since.—Lesson Helper.

10. "With wolves devouring children within St. Paul's city limits, and bears carrying off hunters to caves in Pennsylvania, the man who sighs now with regret at the decadence of the "good old times" must be put down as an atrabilarious, hypochondriacal kicker.

There is a farmer in Ventura County, California, whose name is Stubbfield, and another named Haymaker. Los Angeles, Cal., has still another honest granger, who bears the euphonious name of Job Root.

Every man thinks that if his neighbor could be in his shoes for a few days, he would go back to his own position contented for the rest of his life.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

The German Kaiser's favorite horse is a coal black mare.

The wealth of Baron Hirsch is just about equal to that of Jay Gould.

WHITTIER wrote his first published poem when he was seventeen years old.

KING OSCAR, of Sweden, is a collector of books of poems with autographs of the writers.

CONGRESSMAN McMILLAN, of Tennessee, commits a poem to memory every morning before breakfast.

QUEEN VICTORIA will open the British Parliament in person instead of by deputy in 1892. The date is February 9.

SPEAKER CRISP has the faculty of remembering names and faces, an invaluable accomplishment for a man in public life.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN was shot in the face by the Duke of Cambridge while hunting in England, and one eye had to be removed.

SIR MORRELL LACKYER is devoting more and more time to literary work, for which the English magazine publishers pay a big price.

MICHAEL DAVITT, the Irish Parliamentary leader, was only eleven years old when he lost his right arm in an accident in a Manchester mill.

MISS HARRIET HOMER will give \$25,000 for the "Queen Isabella of Castile," to be unveiled at the opening of the Women's Department of the World's Fair.

DOM PREBO'S daughter, the Countess d'Eu, might have been a first-class prima donna had she given attention to the higher cultivation of her natural gifts.

CHARLES ADOLPHUS BISHOP, Earl of Dunmore, is to be President of the Union Bank of South Carolina and London, shortly to be established at Columbia, S. C., with \$5,000,000 British capital.

JOHN P. RICHARDSON, who died in Louisiana the other day, was the largest planter in this country. He owned fifteen plantations and eight stores, and his operations were always conducted on a vast scale.

CAPTAIN JOHN DAVIS, of Deer Island, Me., believes he is the only survivor of the crew of fifty-two who sailed in the United States steamer Jamestown forty-three years ago to carry flour and grain to Ireland during the potato famine, who was one of the fifty-two men before the mast had previously been master or first officer of a ship and all served without pay.

LI HUNG CHANG, the Viceroy of China, has a thoughtful, not a cunning-looking face, eyes straighter than we are accustomed to expect to see in a Chinaman, and an unusually long, drooping mustache and imperial or "goatee." His hirsute adornment alone stamps him as a man of distinction in his native land, for an ordinary coolie wouldn't think of trying to grow a lip beard.

FAILURES OF THE YEAR.

Greater in Number Than in Any Previous Twelve Months.

The mercantile failures for the year 1891, as reported by the mercantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co., indicate that the number of failures in the United States is 12,273, as against 10,907 in 1890. The failures in 1891 are greater in number than in any previous year since the record was kept by this agency, running back to 1877.

In amount of liabilities, however, the figures are almost precisely the same as those of the year previous, amounting to \$199,000,000. The amount lost, therefore, does not exceed that of the previous year, while the average of the liabilities of each failure is \$15,471 in 1891, as against \$17,405 in 1890.

The distribution of the loss in geographical sections shows that the liabilities of failures in the Eastern States in the year just closed were \$19,000,000 as against \$27,000,000 last year. In the Middle States the liabilities were \$7,000,000 as against \$75,000,000 in 1890. In the Southern States a marked increase in liabilities is noticed, as they amounted last year to \$45,000,000 against \$27,000,000 in 1890.

In the Western States there is a decline of \$2,000,000 in liabilities, which amounted in the year just closed to \$45,000,000, as against \$50,000,000 in the year previous, while on the Pacific Coast in 1891 the liabilities amounted to \$9,000,000 as against \$7,000,000 in 1890.

McCALLA RESTORED.

The President Has Remitted a Portion of His Sentence.

The President has signed at Washington a paper of great interest to the United States Navy. It was a remission of the unexecuted portion of the sentence of suspension imposed by court martial upon Commander McCalla, who was tried for cruelty to his subordinates during a cruise of the United States steamer Enterprise, of which he was in command. The Court sentenced him to suspension for three years and to stand still in the grade in the meantime. The order carrying this sentence into effect was approved May 15, 1890. Nine officers in Commander McCalla's grade have passed him during this period, and it is thought that this incapacitates him from retiring with the rank of commodore.

It has been known for some months that strenuous efforts were being made by Commander McCalla's friends to secure a remission of the sentence. The day before Christmas Secretary Tracy signed an order restoring McCalla to duty. It is not known what duty he will be assigned to, as he is in Europe and is not within present reach, but it is thought that the officer will return to this country at once and be given an assignment.

What They Are Worth.

J. J. Hill is worth \$15,000,000.

E. B. Cox is worth \$20,000,000.

Jay Gould is worth \$75,000,000.

J. G. Fair is worth \$20,000,000.

A. J. Drexel is worth \$20,000,000.