### CROSSING THE DESERT.

ONE might imagine that the arid Sahara had been the bed of some great sea, and that wearying of its burden of waters had refused to hold them, and been doomed for its rebellion never more to know the blessing of its cooling and life-preserving presence. The ancients imagined that the desert was formed by wind spreading sand over the cultivated soil, and that the oases were spots of greater elevation and thus escaped, as the knolls are swept bare of snow which the drifting storm deposits in the low places. But instead of being higher than the surrounding surface, the cases are depressions, and are of such a geological formation that the water from some hidden spring is retained, and a verdure nourished which has won for them from the desert travelers the name of Islands of the Blessed. Were it not for these resting-places it would be impossible to traverse the desert even with the aid of an animal so wonderfully adapted to endure the peculiar hardships, as is the camel. Supplied by nature with wonderful store-places for food and drink, it can subsist for a long time with but very slight nourishment. The hump which we in our childhood days imagined was especially provided to afford a seat for the rider, is a reservoir of fat from which the camel draws nourishment, so that sometimes when the animal comes in from a long journey, the hump is greatly diminished. The countries adjoining the desert are almost as effectually separated as if a sea rolled between, and were it not for this "Ship of the Desert," as the poetical Arabs call it, the separation would be greater. The desert is the camel's home, he can eat the scanty herbage that springs up here and there, and which no other creature would deign to touch. His foot is so adapted to the sandy ground that he can travel without difficulty where a horse would fall exhausted on the yielding soil, before half his days journey was accomplished. But stranger still is the wonderful provision which enables these patient creatures to toil beneath the burning sun for days without drinking. They have been used in explorations in New Mexico and California, and the commander of one expedition testifies that the camels have carried water for the mules used by the men sometimes for more than a week without tasting it themselves.

The general ignorance concerning the whole continent of Africa, and especially the desert portion of it, has afforded a strong temptation to such as have penetrated into its secrets to exaggerate them, and as we are becoming better informed, some of the traditions of the past are losing their terror. Desert journeys are certainly not luxuriously comfortable, but they are probably attended with no severer suffering than has been experienced in mountain climbing. But men are less inclined to defy obstacles under a scorching sun whose enervating rays, reflected from the burning saud, acquire terrible power, than amid a cold and bracing atmosphere.

Monsieur Pouchet graphically describes his approach to one of the deserts of upper Egypt:

"The eye only sees an unbroken sheet of of burning sand. And yet upon its borders I found, having the heat of the sun, and never refreshed by a single drop of rain, numerous tufts of an asclepiad, the large, moist, velvety leaves of which glistened with freshness. It was an inexplicable problem. But this last effort of life soon disappears, and we see before us only an ocean of sand and a horizon of death. Not a cry, not a murmur is heard, and scarce even a loitering vulture devours the last fragments of some camel which has fallen on the sand, and the bleached skeleton of which will soon be added to so many others now marking out the desert routes. Not a cloud tarnishes the azure of the sky, not a breath refreshes the air; a sun, the ardor of which nothing moderates, pours down its sparkling light and flery rays, burning even through one's clothes. The motionless and heated atmosphere tortures the face with its flery breath, and even the sand attains an extreme heat. My thermometers being broken, I tried to ascertain the temperature by plunging my hands into the superficial layers, but at the end of a few seconds a stinging pain compelled me to withdraw them. The soil also, by reflecting the solar rays from the sparkling fragments of mica and quartz, sometimes becomes insupportably dazzling to the eye.

"Instead of the rolling waves and the cool breezes of the sea, this funeral region only gives out burning gusts and scorehing blasts which seem to issue from the gates of hell; these are the simoom or polson wind, as the word signifies in Arabic. The camel driver knows this formidable enemy, and as soon as he sees it looming in the horizon, he raises his hands to heaven and implores Allah; the camels themselves seem terrified at its approach. A veil of reddish black invades the gleaming sky, and very soon a terrible and burning wind rises, bearing clouds of fine impaipable sand, which se verely irritates the eyes, and makes its way into the respiratory organs. The camels squat down and refuse to move, and the travelers have no chance of safety, except by making a rampart of the bodies of their beasts, and covering their heads so as to protect themselves against this scourge."

It is said that entire caravans have sometimes perished in these sand-storms, and it was one of them that buried the army of Cambyses when it was traversing the des-

The cases vary in size from such as are just large enough to afford a halting place for a small caravan, to those which are really kingdoms. Of the latter, Fezzan is one of the largest and most noted. Its population is variously estimated at from 75,000 to 150,000. The inhabitants are a mixed race, speaking a language corrupted from the Arabic. Far behind surrounding nations in civilization, they devote themselves to raising and manufacturing the most indispensable necessaries of life. Caravans from the interior of Africa to the coast make her some exchange of merchandise. Their chief traffic has been the slave-trade, Muzzuk, the principal town of Fezzan, being the great starting-point from the north for the interior of Negro-

The most interesting of the oases which border on Egypt is that of Siwah, the ancient Ammonium, made famous in history by the visits of Cambyses and Alexander the Great. It is about six miles in length and two or three in breadth. The ground is highly impregnated with salt which in ancient times was purified for sacrificial purposes, and for the royal table, yet the production of fruit in sufficient quantities to form an important article of merchandise, indicates a remarkable fertility of the soil. The ancient inhabitants who came partly from Egypt and partly from Ethiopia, brought with them the worship of the god Amun, and an oracle was established there, to which kings repaired for counsel. The rains of the temple are still to be seen and near them is the famous Fountain of the Sun, of which so many wonders have been related. Marvelous tales of its boiling heat at night, and its icy coldness by day, come from the simple truth that like many similar tepid springs, retaining its own temperature while that of the surrounding atmosphere changes, it seems during the warm hours of the day to be quite cold, and in the cool hours of the night to be warmer than it really is.

Although there is so much that is disagreeable in a journey across the desert, there are some sights of beauty which can never be seen elsewhere.

The mirage which entrances while it deceives the traveler, is nowhere else seen in such perfection, and the aurora of the desert is described as gorgeous in the extreme. So there is no spot in this wonderful earthly home of ours, so barren that God's touch has not left its impress in exquisite charms of color and outline. - Christian

# Japanese Grog Shops.

The grog shops of Japan are neither more nor less than tea shops. All along public roads, at frequent distances, are planted pleasant tea houses. They "tea," according to a corespondent, when they must stop by the wayside, and in such little bits of cups that one could drink the contents of twenty of them and then want more. Pretty tea girls stand by the entrance, and (their teeth not yet blackened) the Archimedean lever whichwith pretty ways and courtesies so fascinating that tea even without sugar or milk waiters the tea girls hand you little tiny cups with a mouthful in them, and you squat down on the nice clean mats, if squat you can, and you sip and sip this mouthful Japan tea shop picks out as pretty a place for the tea house as she or he can get. The keeper covets, if possible, a view of and the air of the Bay of Yeddo, along which most of the way here runs the Tocaido. The grand tea house is cut up into numerous little rooms, with paper partitions to part them running on slides, but all removable at will, to restore the whole to one grand room. Cakes, sweetmeats and candies are brought in with the tea, all put on the gas." clean matted floor (there are no seats), and all squat or stretch out on that floor.

# A Sharp Trick.

Some years ago a traveler making a podestrian excursion among the lower Alps suddenly, at the turn of a narrow path came face to face with a very large brown bear. Afraid to advance or retreat, he drew a revolver, when suddenly, to his stupefaction, the bear cried out "Don't fire !" An explanation followed, when it turned out that the pretended bear was a man in the employment of some guides, who dressed him in a bearskin, and sent him out when they had a timid traveler to escort. At a preconcerted spot the bear would rush upon them, and would be only put to flight after a terrific combat. The traveler never failed to reward the courage and devotion of the guides by a handsome present, of which the bear received his allotted proportion. It was not a bad busi-

I would say to all young men, marry your second wife first, and keep out of debt by all means, even if you have to borrow the money to do it.

ENIGMA DEPARTMENT.

A Problem. A. Bought of B. \$3.00 worth of sugar and handed in payment a \$10.00 bill, which B. took into C's store to be changed, and for which he received a 5, a 3, and a 2 dollar bill. The first and the last he gave to A., who left with his sugar and went to C's store and purchased a pound of tea for \$1.00, and gave in payment the \$2.00 bill, which C. carried to B. for change and received back two \$1.00 bills, one of which which C. carried to B. for change and re-ceived back two \$1.00 bills, one of which he gave A., who left with his purchases. That night B. discovered the \$2.00 bill was counterfeit, and C. discovered the \$10.00 bill to be the same. As A. could not be found they arranged the matter between themselves justly. How much was the total loss of the operation with A., and how much fell upon each?

Can any one send an answer?

Here is a singular combination of

letters: "Sator arepo tenet opera rotas." 1. This spells backward and forward all

2. Then taking all the first letters of each word spells the first word.
3. Then all the second letters of each

word spells the second word.

4. Then all the third; and so on through

the fourth and fifth.
5. Then commencing with the last letter of each spells the last word.

6. Then the next to the last of each word;

and so on though.

### One of Ward's Jokes.

THE "Fat Contributor," in some recollections of "Artemus Ward," tells the following good story:

In the spring of 1859 I accepted a proffered editorial position on the Cleveland National Democrat, and renewed my acquaintance with "Artemus."

On the first evening of my arrival he volunteered to show me around-a very desirable achievement, as I was to fill the position of city editor. He "showed me around" so successfully that about 2 o'clock in the morning, I began to feel almost as much at home in Cleveland as though I had lived there all my days, to say nothing of my nights. "Artemus" invited me to share his bed with him for the remainder of the night, and I accepted.

Adjoining his room lodged a young professor of elecution, who was endeavoring to establish a school in Cleveland. He was just starting out in business, and was naturally anxious to propitiate the press.

"Let's get the professor up," said Artemus, "and have him recite for us."

I remonstrated with him, reminded him of the lateness of the hour, that I wasn't acquainted with the professor and all that, but to no purpose.

"He is a public man," said Ward, "and public men are glad to meet members of the press, as restaurants are supposed to get up warm meals, at all hours."

He gave a thundering rap on the door as he shouted:

"Professor-r-r!"

"Who's there? What yer want?" oried a muffled voice, evidently from beneath the bedelothes, for it was a bitter cold night in February.

"It is I-Brown, of the Plain Dealer," Artemus, and nudging me gently in the ribs, he whispered: "That'll fetch him. The power of the press in invincible. It is

His remarks were interrupted by the shivering in the doorway.

"Excuse me for disturbing you, Professor," said Artemus, in his blandest manner, "but I am anxious to introduce my of hot tea, as if the gods' nectar was going friend here, the new 'local' of the Demodown your throat in infinitesimal drops of crat. He has heard much of you, and demicroscopic invisibility. The keeper of a clares positive he can't go to bed until he hears you elocute."

> "Hears me what?" asked the professor, between his chattering teeth.

"Hears you elocute-recite-declaimunderstand?-specimen of your elecution. In vain did the professor plead the lateness of the hour, and his fire had gone out. Artemus would accept no excuse.

"Permit me at least," urged the professor, "to put on some clothes and light the

"Not at all necessary. Eloquence, my dear boy, is not dependent on gas. Here,' (straightening up a chair he had just stumbled over,) "get right up in this chair and give us, 'The boy stood on the burning deck," adding, in a side whisper in my ear, "The burning deck will warm him up!"

Gently, yet firmly, did Artemus boost the reluctant professor upon the chair, protesting that no apologies were necessary for his appearance, and assuring him that "clothes didn't make the man," although the shivering disciple of Demosthenes and Cicero probably thought clothes would make a man more comfortable on such a night as

He gave us "Casabianca," with a good many quavers of the voice, as he stood quaking in a single short white garment; and then followed: "On Linden, when the Sun was Low," "Sword of Bunker Hill," etc., "by particular request of our friend," as Artemus Ward said, although I was too near suffocated with suppressed laughter to make even a last dying request had it been necessary. It was too ludicrous to depit-the professor, an indistinct white object, standing on the chair "elocuting." as Ward had it, and we sitting on the floor, holding our sides, while Artemus

Ward would faintly whisper between his pangs of mirth, "Just hear him."

It wasn't in Ward's heart to have his fun at the expense of another without recompense; so, next day, I remember, he published a lengthy and entirely serious account of our visit to the professor's "room," spoke of his wonderful powers as an elecutionist, and expressed the satisfaction and delight with which we listened to his "unequalled recitations," The professor was overjoyed, and probably is ignorant to this day that Artemus was " playing it on him."

### How They Got Married.

CLERGYMAN who has had consid-A erable experience in splicing couples, thus tells how some of them acted on that solemn occasion:

"Many years ago, as I sat in my study one Saturday evening, a gentleman of some two score years entered my room, and after a very brief conversation, informed me that he wished to be married to the lady who had accompanied him to my house, and that he was somewhat in a hurry, as he had several miles to ride that evening before reaching home.

We at once entered the parlor, where the lady, with a friend of hers, was "patiently waiting" for us.

When I notified them that I was ready to "proceed to business," the gentleman remarked that he wished to see me in private a moment. We returned to the hall, where it was quite certain that no one could hear our conversation. After some hesitation, he said, "Sir, will you please tell me which side to stand on? I never was mar-

On a pleasant Sunday in June I was absent from home most of the day. On arriving at four o'clock, I was requested not to unharness my horse, but to hurry to the house, for a couple had been waiting for more than an hour for me to return, that I might marry them.

As I entered where the patient waiters were, the bridegroom's friend handed me the "necessary documents," preparatory to a marriage ceremony. I asked the bridegroom if I should take his hat, as I was ready to tie the nuptial knot. "No, I thank you," said Jonathan, "I can't stop."

The ceremony over, the first question asked was, "What is your bill?" When I told him to give me what he pleased, Jonathan remarked that "he thought one dollar was enough for such a job as that." I remarked, partly in earnest, and partly in sport, that, if he had no objections, he might pay me the legal fee, one dollar and twenty-five cents. He did so, after some hesitation, and immediately left the room, without further ceremony. In a moment he returned, and thrusting his head far enough into the room to be seen, exclaimed, "I don't know but I can find another quarter, if you want it."

In the month of October, as I was preparing a discourse for a special occasion, having arisen at four o'clock for that purpose, a rap on the door altracted my attention. The rain was pouring, and for many hours had fallen in great abundance. "Who can it be? "thought I. "It is two hours before daylight, and the storm is truly fearful." The door was opened with as little noise as possible, so as not to disturb the slumbers of the family. It was opening of the door, and I could just dis- dark in the hall, for the wind was blowing becomes agreeable. On pretty lacquered cover the dim outline of a shirted form too heavily to admit of an open light being taken to the door. I heard the voice of a human being just above a whisper. "Come in," I said. "Will you marry me," said the man, for it proved to be a man's voice. "Certainly," I said "come in."

The man insisted that I go into the street and perform the ceremony while they were sitting in the wagon. I objected, for many reasons; and after some debate the woman made her appearance. In a few minutes they were off again, having been married "according to law."

The following week the bride's sister called on me to inquire if Mr. B. and her sister were married; and when asked why she wished to be informed on that point, she replied that, "if her sister was married, it was all right, but if she was not married some of her conduct was highly improper.' I finally assured her that they were legally married, and "had rights that others were bound to respect."

In December, a gentleman-widowersome fifty years old, called at my house in the evening, bringing with him a woman some thirty years old. They were strangers. I did not inquire into their business. The man was very talkative, and for three hours he ceased not to grumble about taxation and troublesome neighbors. He was determined to make himself agreeable whethor I liked it or not.

I guessed the object of his visit, and patiently waited to have him introduce his own business; but when the clock struck ten I had become impatient, and told him that if he had any business with me, I was ready to attend to it. He seemed to have forgotten what he came for until his attention was called to the subject.

Though I had become thoroughly disgusted with the man, I married him-very reluctantly-to a fine widow, who had remained silent all the evening.

In six months from that time he fullfilled my predictions, and his wife left him, not being able to endure his abuse any longer. Those who marry for a home rarely get one.

New Advertisements.

#### THE CAUSE AND CURE OF ONSUMPTION:

THE primary cause of Consumption is de-rangement of the digestive organs. This derangement produces deficient nutrition and assimilation. By assimilation, I mean that process by which the nutriment of the food is converted into blood, and thence into the solids of the body. Persons with digestion thus im-paired, having the slightest predisposition to pulmonary disease, or if they take cold, will be very liable to have Consumption of the Lungs in some of its forms; and I hold that it wil be impossible to cure any case of Consumption very liable to have Consumption of the Lungs in some of its forms; and I hold that it wil be impossible to cure any case of Consumption without first restoring a good digestion and healthy assimilation. The very first thing to be done is to cleanse the stomach and bowels from all diseased mucus and slime, which is clogging these organs as that they cannot perform their functions, and then rouse up and restore the liverto a healthy action. For this purpose the surest and best remedy is Schenck's Mandrake Pills. These Pills clean the stomach and bowels of all the dead and morbid slime that is causing disease and decay in the whole system. They will clear out the liver of all diseased bile that has accumulated there, and rouse it up to a new and healthy action, by which natural and healthy bile is secreted.

The stomach, bowels, and liver are thus cleansed by the use of Schenck's Mandrake Pills; but there remains in the stomach an excess of acid, the organ is torpid and the appetite poor. In the bowels the lacteals are weak, and requiring strength and support. It is in a condition like this that Schenck's Scaweed Tonic proves to be the most valuable remedy ever discovered. It is alkaline, and its use

and requiring strength and support. It is in a condition like this that Scheuck's Seaweed Tonic proves to be the most valuable remedy ever discovered. It is alkaline, and its use will neutralize all excess of acid, making the stomach sweet and fresh; it will give permanent tone to this important organ, and create a good, hearty appetite, and prepare the system for the first process of good digestion, and, ultimately make good, healthy, living blood—After this preparatory treatment, what remains to cure most case of Consumption is the free and persevereing use of Schank's Polmonie Syrup. The Pulmonie Syrup nourishes the system, purifies the blood, and is readily absorbed into the circulation, and thence distributed to the diseased lungs. There it ripens all morbid matters, whether in the form of abscesses or tabercles, and then assists Nature to expel all the diseased matter, in the form of free expectoration, when once it ripens. It is then by the great healing and paryfying properties of Schenk's Pulmonic Syrup, that all ulcers and cavities are healed up sound, and my patient is cured.

The essential thing to be done in curing Consumption is to get up a good appetite and a good divestion, so that the loady will grow in good divestion, so that the loady will grow in good divestion, so that the loady will grow in good divestion, so that the loady will grow in good divestion, so that the loady will grow in good divestion, so that the loady will grow in

The essential thing to be done in curing Consumption is to get up a good appetite and a good digestion, so that the body will grow in flesh and get strong. If a person has diseased lungs—a cavity or abscess there—rhe cavity cannot heal, the matter cannot ripen so long as the system is below par. What is necessary to care is a new order of things—a good appetite, a good nutrition, the body to grow in flesh and get fat; then Nature is helped, the cavities will heal, the matter will ripen and be thrown off in large quanties, and the person will regalu health and strength. This is the true and a ly plan to cure Consumption, and if a ner case ly plan to cure Consumption, and if a per can is not entirely destroyed, or even if one lung is entirely gone, if there is enough vitality left in

entirely gone, if there is enough vitality left in the other to heal up, there is hope.

I have seen many persons cured with only one sound lung, live and enjoy life to a good old age. This is what Scheneck's Medicines will do to cure Consumption. They will clean out the stomach, sweeten and strengthen it, get up a good digestion, and give Nature the system of all the diseases she needs to clear the system of all the diseases that is in the lungs, whatever the form may be.

It is important that while using Schenek's Medicines, care should be exercised not to take cold: keep in-doors in cold and damp weather; avoid uight air, and take out-door exercise only

avoid vight air, and take out-door exercise only in a genial and warm sunshine.

I wish it distinctly understood thet when I recommend a patient to be careful in regard to taking cold, while using my Medicines. I do so for a special reason. A man who has but partially recovered from the effects of a bad cold is far more liable to a relapse than one who has been cutirely cured; and it is precisely the same in regard to Consumption. So long as the lungs in regard to Consumption. So long as the lungs are not perfectly healed, just so long is there imminent danger of a full return of the disease. Hence it is that I so strenuously caution pulmonary patients against exposing themselves to an atmosphere that is not genial and pleasant. Confirmed Consumptives' lungs are a mass of sores, which the least change of atmosphere will inflame. The grand secret of my success with my Medicines consists in my ability to subdue inflammation instead of provokity to subdue inflammation instead of provoking it, as many of the faculty do. An inflamed lung cannot, with safety to the patient be exsed to the biting blasts of Winter or the chilling winds of Spring or Autumn. It should be carefully shielded from all irritating influnces. The utmost caution should be observed in this particular, as without it a cure under almost

particular, as without it a cure under almost any circumstances is an impossibility.

The person should be kept on wholesome and nutritious diet, and all the Medicines continued until the body has restored to it the natural quantity of flesh and strength.

I was myself cured by this treatment of the I was myself cired by this treatment of the worst kind of Consumption, and have lived to get fat and hearty these many years, with one lung mostly gone. I have cured thousands since, and very many have been cured by this treatment whom I have never seen.

About the First of October I expect to take research of my new building at the North

possession of my new building, at the North-east Corner of Sixth and Arch Streets, where I shall be pleased to give advice to all who may

require it.

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