## MEN OF MUSCLE.

# FEATS THAT STRONG MEN HAVE PERFORMED.

Athletes Who Pulled Against Horse -Tricks by Which Strength is Pretended-Electro-Magnetic Girls.

Many stories have been told of the strength of certain characters among the ancients. Of this number one was of a Roman tribune who went by the name of the Second Achilles, who is said to have killed at different times three hundred of the enemy, and who, when treacherously set upon by twenty-five of his countrymen, although then past his sixtieth year, killed fourteen of them before he was slain. Milo, of Crotona, is said to have lifted an ox weighing one thousand pounds, and when he stood upright a number of men could not force him out of his place. Pliny tells of one Athanatus who walked across the stage loaded with a breast plate weighing 500 pounds and buskins of the same weight. But of all the men of prodigious strength of whom we have any account in history is Maximin, the Emperor of Rome, is to be reckoned the foremost. He was by birth a Thracian and a simple herdsman. He was nearly nine feet in height, and said to be the best proportioned man in the Empire. He used the bracelet of his wife as a ring for his thumb. In the theatre, in the presence of all the citizens, he overthrew twelve of the strong est men in wrestling, and outstripped two of the swiftest horses in running all in one day. He could draw a loaded chariot which two strong horses could not move. He could break a horse's jaw with a blow of his fist and his ribs with a kick. This giant gradually rose through all the gradations of office until he came to be Emperor. He reigned for some years, hated by everybody, but so feared on account of his brutality and his physical strength that no one dared to put him to death. He conspired against Alexander Severus and caused him to be murdered in his tent. He also put to death a Roman Senator with four thousand other persons for an alleged conspiracy. Finally the soldiers mutinied and killed him A. D. 238.

Fumus, a native of Seleucia, who was executed by the Emperor Aurelian for espousing the cause of Zenobia, was celebrated for his strength. It is said that he could suffer iron to be forged upon an anvil which was placed upon his breast. This he did by lying on his back, resting his feet and shoulders against some sup port, thus forming an arch with his body.

In 1578 there lived in Lancashire, England, a man by the name of John Middle ton, who was remarkable for the largeness of his stature and for his remarkable strength. His hand was seventeen inches long and his height nine feet three inches. A story is told of an English miner in the eighteenth century, whose finger being caught in a chain at the bottom of a mine, by keeping it forcibly bent he supported by that means the whole weight of his body (150 pounds) until he was drawn up to the surface, a height of six hundred feet. About the year 1703 a native of Kent, England, by the name of Joyce exhibited such feats of strength in London that he received the name of the second Samson. His own personal strength was very great, but he also discovered various positions of the body in which men even of common strength could perform very surprising feats. He drew against horses and raised tremendous weights, and exhibited himself successfully for eight or ten years, but his methods were eventually discovered, and many individuals of ordinary strength exhibited a number of his principal per- who did some remarkable feats of apparformances. traveled through Europe in the early part of the eighteenth century under the appellation of "Samson," which then as now, was a favorite name for strong men. This man was of middle size and of sitting on chairs, absolutely discomfiting ordinary strength, but by certain methods all efforts to lift them, etc. At length and devices he was able to perform the Pennsylvania broke out with a similar most extraordinary feats. For instance, sitting upon an inclined board, with his feet a little higher than his hips, the latter being placed Pittsburg. This young woman would against an upright board, well secured, a twist a stick two feet long held by a strong girdle with an iron ring in front stout young man, brought up from the was placed around his loins; to this ring audience, quite out of his hands, no mata rope was fastened; the rope passed between his legs through a hole in the upright board, against which his teet were stick, but held the palms of her hands braced, and several men or two horses against the ends. Two young men pulling on the rope were unable to draw him out of his place. Again, he fast-ened a rope to a high post, having passed down to the floor, but the little miss, by it through an iron eye fixed in the side placing the palms of her hands against of the post lower down, and secured it the chair, forced them all over the stage. to his girdle; he then, planted his feet Three men, weighing in the aggregate against the post near the iron eye, with 533 pounds, then mounted a chair, but his legs contracted, and suddenly stretch- she forced them around the stage with ing out his legs broke the rope and fell apparent ease, though the chair broke backward on a feather bed. He would with their weight. Four men were then lie on the ground while a stone of huge placed upon it, but she did the same dimensions was laid upon his breast and broken with a blow from a great ham-mer. He would lie down upon the over the performance.—New York Herald.

ground, and, a man being placed on his knees, would draw his heels toward his body, and raising his knees lift the man gradually, till, having brought his knees perpendiculary under him, he raised his own body up, and placing his arms around the man's legs, rose with him and set him down on a low table. Finally he was elevated on a framework and a rope fastened to a scale which hung below was attached to his girdle, a heavy cannon resting on the scale which lay upon rollers upon the floor. When all was ready

cannon remained supported by the strength of his loins. It is said that the porters of Constantinople will carry burgens of six hundred and nine hundred jounds weight with ease. Feats of strength have always, whether in real life or in fiction, great attraction and interest for the human mind; and one of the most strikingly sensational scenes in any novel is that in Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables, where Joan Valjean lifts the weight of a wagon under which a man is being crushed to death.

the rollers were knocked away and the

Washington possessed great strength and was a noted athlete, especially in leaping. Perhaps it is not as well known that the late General George B. McClellan possessed also unusual strength, remarkable, particularly, for a man who, though compact, wiry and well built, was rather under size. General McClellan could bend a big old-fashioned cent double between his thumb and forefinger. Standing on a table he could lift a man weighing 160 pounds from the floor by his coat collar and hold him at arm's length, and it is related of him from the best authority that on one occasion when riding a powerful charger in battle, the horse got maddened with excitement and undertook to run away with him, when the General stopped him still in his tracks by the terrible pressure which he exerted on the animal's ribs by simply pressing against them with his knees. One of the oldest and at the same time

most remarkable exhibitions of mechanical strength and dexterity is that of supporting pyramids. It is described by the Roman poet Claudian, and has been known in Europe ever since. The celebrated Egyptian traveler, Belzoni, before he began his career as an explorer in Egypt performed this feat in various parts of Great Britain. After all, one of the most extraordinary feats of this nature, seeming to be an exercise of strength, and which is really nothing of the sort, is that in which a heavy man is raised from the floor with the greatest facility by several persons placing each one or two fingers under him. The way

this is done is as follows. The heaviest person in the party lies down, say upon two chairs, his legs being supported by one and his head by the other. Four persons-each at one leg and one at each shoulder-then lift the body, and they find the dead weight to be very great, from the difficulty which they find in supporting him. Now let the four persons take hold of his body as before, responding to two signals, to be given by the person to be lifted, by clapping his hands. At the first signal he himself and the four lifters begin to draw a long and full breath, and when the inhalation is completed the second signal is given for raising the person from the chair. To his own surprise and that of his bearers, he rises with the greatest facility as if he were no heavier than a feather. When one of the bearers performs his part illy by making the inhalation out of time the part of the body which he tries to lift, is left, as it were, behind. This is a trick easily tried and very amusing.

A few years ago a great deal of excitement was created by the exhibition of a young Georgia girl alleged to be electromagnetic or otherwise specially gifted, ent strength. This young woman inau A German named Van Eckeberg gurated an epidemic of Georgia girls, who frolicked over the country doing all manner of curious feats and tricks of strength, pulling averaged sized young dudes and mashers around the stage, disorder, the principal instance being a Miss Flora Coyle, a pretty young girl of fifteen, who went to the public school in ter how much effort he might make to keep hold of it. She did not clasp the weighing 190 and 178 pounds respecwith them as with the three, and then

Statisties show that eighty per were killed by cars in New York city la year

It is estimated that the wealth of the United States now exceeds the wealth of the whole world at any period prior to the middle of the eighteenth century.

Few people are aware of the immense extent of the traffic in live cattle and dressed beef that is now carried on between this country and England. In one week recently there arrived at Liverpool seventeen steamers, each of which had in the neighborhood of 700 beef cattle and from 1000 to 2000 quarters of beef, besides large numbers of mutton carcasses. Large imports of cattle and beef are also made at other ports in the United Kingdom.

It is estimated that the expense of maintaining the prisons of the United States amounts to \$75,000,000 a year; but this is only a small part of the cost entailed upon the people at large by the existence of the criminal class. The maintenance of the police departments, it is calculated, costs another \$75,000. 000. Then there are in the United States more than 2000 courts possessing criminal jurisdiction, to say nothing of more than 80,000 justices of the peace, a majority of whom have a limited criminal jurisdiction.

The fact that Vice-President Morton breeds fine cattle, and sometimes conde scends to take prizes with them at snows in the vicinity of Rhinecliff, N. Y., does not seem, says Harper's Weekly, to have roused granger jealousy to any marked degree. On the other side of the water, however, things are different. Queen Victoria, who has a penchant for fat short-horns, has recently been awarded first prizes at Birmingham and Smithfield, besides receiving fancy prices for some of her choice stock; but instead of rejoicing with her over her good luck, Tories and Radicals alike are grumbling at what they are pleased to term her unfair competition. They do not seem to think common farmers and breeders have much of a chance where royal prestige weighs heavily in the opposing scale.

China must indeed be the land of topsy-turveydom. In an article on the customs of the celestial race, the North China Herald, a trustworthy newspaper not addicted to jocularity, asserts that when a pig-tailed gentleman desires a friend to dine with him he does not ask him to do so. While on the other hand if he says: "Won't you stay and dine with me?" one may be sure that he does not mean it. Happily the former custom is not likely to become popular here, says the New York Tribune. Fancy silence being accepted as a polite invitation to dinner! From the same authority we learn that "when a Chinaman meets another he shakes and squeezes his own hands." This is a form which might be introduced into this country and especially at the White House with advantage. Likewise, in the opinion of the Tribune, "there is much to approve in the Chinese habit of beginning the courtship three days before the wedding of the parties. The less lovemaking before marriage, the more there is likely to be afterward."

The British and Foreign Bible Society has, during the eighty-one years of its existence, issued from its London house alone 29,000,000 complete Bibles, nearly 32,000,000 New Testaments and 11. 845,000 portions of the Bible. This makes a total of 72,500,000 books 1-s sued from the London headquarters.

Oldest and best-"Tansill's Punch" Cigar.

A Quail Extinguishes a Headlight. On the Kanawha & Ohio Railroad a quail flew against the headlight of a locomotive one evening, breaking the glass and extinguishing the light. The quail was picked up for dead and given to the baggagemaster, who revived it. Soon it was as chipper as ever, and was turned loose to go on its way rejoicing, while the train ran the remainder of the way in darkne

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All are entitled to the best that their money will buy, so every family should have, at once a bottle of the best family remedy, Syrup of Figs, to cleanse the system when costive or bilous. For sale in 50c. and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists.

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of cocoanuls. Would You Belleve The Proprietor of Kemp's Balsam gives Thou-sands of Bottles away yearly? This mode of advertising would prove ruinous if the Balsam was not a perfect cure of Coughs and all Throat and Lung troubles. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose Don't hesitate! Procure a bottle to-day to keep in your home or room for immediate or ruture use. Trial bottle free at all druggists. Large size 50c. and \$1.

THE general depth of the Suez Canal is twenty-six feet.

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F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, price 75c. THE oldest inhabited town in the world is said to be Damascus.

When the summer's rose has faded What shall make it fair again?

When the summer's rose has faded What shall make it fair agala? When the face with pain is shaded What shall drive away the pain? Never shall a bosom brighten After blighted by the frost, But the load of pain may lighten, And we need not count as lost all the pleasure of life when the wife and mother, upon whom the happiness cho elicate because of the when the state of the state of the please of the state of the state because of the prevalence of these diseases. It is high time that all women should know that there is one sure remedy for all female com-plaints, and that is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Pre-scription. Do not allow ill-health to fasten it-self upon you. Ward it off by the use of the 'standard remedy. But if it has already crept in, put it to rout. You can do it, by the use of the "Favorite Prescription." It is guaranteed to give satisfaction in every case, or money paid for it will be returned. For biliousness, sick headache, indigestion nd constipation, take Dr. Pierce's Pellets.

IN New York city last year there were 39,589 deaths, and 14,400 marriages.

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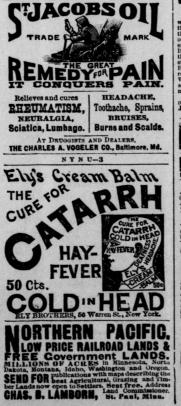


## "THE KING'S TOUCH " SUPERSTITION.

in England, two centuries ago, popular superstition credited the "Royal Touch" with curing scrofula; and although for scoffing at the idea in 1691 the King was declared to be an "infidel," even his "faithless" touch was credited with a cure. These superstitious practices have now become obsolete, and in their place we have a scientific remedy in Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. which eliminates the impurities from the blood by the natural channels, thereby cleansing the system of all taints and impurities from whatever cause arising. It is truly a royal remedy, world-famed and guaranteed to benefit or cure imevery case, or money paid for it will be refunded. The only blood-purifier ever Bowels, "Golden Medical Discovery" cures all bilious attacks, Indigestion and Dyspepsia, Chronic Diarrhea and kindred ailments. For all derangements caused by malaria, as Fever and Ague, Chills and Fever, and Bilious Fever, it is specific. As an alterative or blood-purifier, it manifests its marvelous properties in the cure of the worst Skin and Scalp Diseases, Salt-rheum, Tetter, Eczema, and Scrofulous Sores and Swellings, as well as Lung-scrofula, com-monly known as Pulmonary Consumption, if taken in time and given a fair WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Proprietors, No. 663 trial. Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

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