A STRANGE BUT INDISPENSABLE LITTLE CREATURE.

It Has a Deer's Body, Camel's Head, Sheep's Wool, Mule's Hoofs and Horse's Neigh—Its Great Value.

One who has never seen a llama can hardly form an idea of how the strange hardly form an idea of how the strange little creature looks, with the head of a camel, the body of a deer, the wool of a sheep, the hoofs of a mule and the neigh of a horse. It is found nowhere but in the Andes, and, says Fannie B. Ward in the Washington Star, is the more interesting because it is the only native domesticated animal in South America, the ox. horse, sheep, hog and all others the ox, horse, sheep, hog and all others useful to man having been brought originally from some other country. It is the only beast of burden used in the higher altitudes, where mules and horses cannot eudure the thin air, as it alone is exempt from sirroche, its natural home being 9000 feet and upward. Though domesticated in Peru, Bolivia and Chili and not able to live below a certain eleand not able to live below a certain elevation unless the weather is very cold, great numbers of them run wild on the foot-hills and sandy plains of Patogonia, even near the level of the sea so far from the equator.

A full grown llama is about the size of a year-old colt, standing from four to six feet high, and is covered with a long and surprisingly thick coat of wool, which, however, is seldom sheared, as the animal is used only for purposes of transportation. Its usual color is muddy portation. Its usual color is muddy brown, while a few are light yellow or nearly white. The Indians paint the latter with liquid dyes and very odd it looks to see a troop of them in all the colors of the rainbow, red, blue, purple, pink and green, with gay tassels dangling from their ears. Many of the most valu-able mines of Peru and Bolivia could hardly be carried on without these hardy and sure-footed little animals, though not one of them can be made to bear more than a hundred pounds weight, while the average load of a mule is 300 pounds. On all the mountain roads leading from the mines hundreds of llamas may be seen with bags of barilla, as the powdered ore is called, fastened to pack saddles on their backs by ropes made from their own wool, which the Indians pull, spin and weave as they walk along. Where the trails are dangerously narrow each troop is led by one having a bell attached to his neck, so that travelers coming from the other direction may be warned by the ringing to wait in some place where there is room enough to pass.

None but Indians, shy as themselves and unhampered by the ways of civilization, can manage llamas, and white men never attempt it. If an ounce more than 100 pounds be added to his burden the beast will lie down and refuse to stir until the surplus is removed, and when-ever he is tired, burden or no burden, he is bound to stretch out until well rested. Meanwhile the patient driver will halt all the rest of the flock and lie down too, waiting by the roadside until the refrac-tory animal is ready to move on. An Indian never strikes his llamas, the utmost coercion he uses under any circumstances being a gentle push. Indeed, he takes better care of them than he does stances being a general stances being a general stance being a general stance of his own children; perhaps with good of his own children; perhaps with good reason, since the four-footed animals are of more value commercially. The latter are worth alive about seven dollars are worth alive and worth alive are worth alive about seven dollars are worth ali the shape of hides, meat and tallow. The natives prefer llama flesh, after it has been frozen to any other kind of meat, and make great account of the tallow, which is called sabo, using it for many

Male llamas only carry freight, the females being kept in corral for breeding purposes. Soon as the young male is ready to stand he is trained to bear burdens, and at two years old is put into an alquila, the usual drove of twenty animails. To drive this number easily two persons are required. An Indian will take his alquila, with 100 pounds piled on the back of each, and, assisted by his wife and child, will drive them a distance of 150 miles in eighteen or twenty days. For this service he charges at the rate of eighty cents per diem to each beast, Bolivian cents, worth about half as much as ours. At this price he feeds himself and the animals and furnishes the necessary ropes, sacks and other equipments, reckoning forty cents a day for the llamas, twenty cents for the wear and tear of sacks and ropes and twenty cents for the food of himself and companero. The sack in which he carries grain, ore, etc., but will last for a long time. Under this contract he will sometimes make a journey of two or three months' duration and and save money out of it.

The llama subsists upon a mountain

shrub or a species of tough, coarse grass mixed with the sand in which it grows. He drinks almost no water and can travel without food for a week, if given a square meal at both ends of the jour-If too well fed, he is subject to a skin disease, which invariably proves fatal. Some years ago, in 1857, I be-lieve, an effort was made to introduce llamas into the United States, but it could not be carried out, principally because the food was too good for them. Seventy-two llamas were taken from Peru to New York. Only thirty-eight Peru to New York. Only thirty-eight of that number survived the sea voyage and those were wintered on a Long Island farm—which certainly must have been cold enough for the most fastidious animal of the Andes. In the spring scarcely a dozen of these were left alive; these were sold to museums and menageries and died at the first approach of warm weather.

A Pirate Bird.

Ex-Governor William G. Sterett, of Dallas, Texas, says: While on a fishing and hunting expedition on the Atlantic cost in North Carolina a few days since my attention was attracted by a shrill and frantic cries of the sea gull. As I looked upward I saw a bird resembling a hawk strike the gull under its claws, when down came the fish and the

Llamas have a queer but effective way Liamas have a queer but effective way of defending themselves when teased or made angry. Stamping the forefeet and turning suddenly upon the object of rage, they will eject between the teeth a pint or more of saliva, throwing it with great force a distance of several feet. The salava produces a stinging sensation on the skin, and if it gets into the mouth or eyes or on any place where the skin is broken violent inflammation is immediate—

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

ly caused and deathly blood-poisoning has been known to ensue. Therefore, those who are acquainted with the peculiarities of the beast are very careful to keep on the right side of his temper and a respectful distance from his nose.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

The latest fad in Parisian society is the decorated skirt front.

Claude Lorraine, the Italian painter, was bred a pastry cook.

Executions are public in Ecuador, and the musket is the instrument of death. An orange measuring a foot in circumferance has been found in Starke, Fla.

Within a distance of five or six squares in Philadelphia, near Chestnut and Wal-nut streets, 200 physicians have been

A fox loosed for a chase at Pottstown, Penn., got the better of sixteen horse-men and several packs of hounds and escaped.

A service of carrier pigeons is to be established between Zanzibar and Lake Nyassa, in Africa. The stations will be thirty miles apart.

Australian cannibals show a great pre-ference for Chinamen, whose rice diet is supposed to make their flesh especially et and tender.

St. Louis, Mo., has a Dress Suit Club, the members of which pay \$5 a month and decide by lot who shall purchase a dress suit out of the funds.

In Ireland, before St. Patrick introduced Christianity, there was a temple at Tara, where fire burned ever, and was on no account suffered to go out.

Of the original thirteen States, Dela ware was the first to ratify the Constitu-tion, doing so on December 7, 1787. Rhode Island was the last, on May 29, 1790.

Two fig trees in California are thirty feet high and bear 1000 pounds of fruit each year. The man who owns them very naturally think there is money in the fig

Take in your hand a crystal of quartz, a stick of deal, a daisy and an acorn and you will not find in them a single ele-ment of matter that is not also found in your physical frame.

A line of railway through Alaska to Cape Prince of Wales to connect with the Russian railway system through Siberia is said to be perfectly feasible and the future is sure to see it accomplished.

The alligator is one of those animals which, like the parrot and tortoise, live for an indefinite term. It is never fullgrown at less than twenty years, and may grow after that. It is not known how long it may live, but it commonly attains

long it may live, but it commonly attains the age of 100 years.

"Boston cockles," which are famous over a very large area of England, are gathered from the sands, parboiled, shelled, and in this half-cocked condition are sent by railway in bags, chiefly to Bristol and the west of England at large, where they are sold and consumed as delicacies by the masses.

"Nephplogogouppin" is a Greek word.

"Nephelococcuquia" is a Greek word, and means translated into English, "cloud-cuckoo-town," built by the birds, and found in Aristophanes on "The Birds." This town was

A Strike by the Executioner.

Senor Valentin, the public executioner of Havana, Cuba, has had his claims for services rendered the city settled by the Treasury, and recently he acted in his official capacity in the city of Jovenlupes, assisting five murderers out of the world in the most approved style.

in the most approved style.

The five condemned men were all executed between the hours of 6 and 8 o'clock. There were some 20,000 persons present at the execution and great interest was shown in the case, owing to the fact that the executioner recently refused to do any more work unless he was

paid for previous services.

The men were accused of committing wholesale murders for the purpose of robbery, but as there was some doubt as to the actual guilt of at least two of them an appeal for commutation of sentence was made. The day before the execution Valentin had the scaffold and garrote removed from Havana to Joven-

When the scaffold and its grim furnishings were half way between the two cities the executioner announced the fact the following day, and the scaffold might remain in the middle of the road between Havana and Jovenlupes until the country people stole it, so far as the executioner personal efforts were concerned.

The executioner was obstinate, and a hasty message to the Treasury Depart-ment of Havana resulted in the payment of \$85 to Valentin. The money was handed to him by a messenger. The progress of the scaffold and the garrote was then resumed, and the following day there were five funerals in Jovenlupes.

—San Francisco Chronicle.

prrate bird after it. The fish had not gone ten feet before the pirate bird had it in its stomach. Then he sourced claws, when down came the fish and the pirate bird after it. The fish had not

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

DOING UP FINE LACE.

To give a slight firmness to the fabric
—as starch must never be used—the least
bit of arabic water or a lump of sugar
will, if added to the rinsing water, impart the required consistency. Handsome
lace ought never to be plunged into hot
suds, but folded over and over, dipped
lightly into soft water into which has
been dissolved a small piece of white
castile soap and a pinch of borax, the lace
squeezed hard again and again until perfectly clean, then dipped again into hot
soft water. Lace should never be ironed,
but taken carefully in the hands, the but taken carefully in the hands, the damp edges and meshes drawn perfectly into shape, then pressed under a heavy weight for several hours between the folds of a piece of soft muslin.—Brooklyn Citizen.

Very large sofa cushions are now in the height of fashion, stuffed with down, and covered with embroidered black or colored satin, or with Turkey twill, worked in scattered small designs with coarse cream flourishing thread. The width of the satin is that of the cushion, and the length averages from three-quar and the length averages from the requal-ters of a yard to one and a quarter yards. Many cushions are stuffed with the down of two ordinary sized ones taken to pieces and well shaken up, or with a dis-carded eider-down quilt. There is a frill of folded soft silk all round of about four inches in death

inches in depth.

For instance, if a cushion is worked in contrasting color to the foundation, the frill matches the embroidery. Black satin, with light terra cotta; and olive green, with a darker shade, are favorite mixtures. Some dinner-table centres of brocade are square, but have a length of soft silk, put on rather full, at each end, which lies down the rest of the table, which lies down the rest of the table, terminating where the dish is placed. Sometimes this length is puffed up, according to fancy. The sides of the brocade square are finished off with a silk cord. The brocade table covers, with frill of soft silk, are pretty on small tables about a room.—New York Ob-

HINTS FROM A FAMOUS MANICURE.

The care of the hands and nails should form a very important part of every one's toilet. By spending a little time every day it is possible to keep them in nice order. The popular method of treating the nails is all wrong. Steel should never be used beneath the nail or on the tender skip surrounding it. Small. tender skin surrounding it. Small, pointed instruments of tortoise shell or ivory should be used to clean the nails. The nippers specially prepared for cut-ting and the file for smoothing and The nippers specially prepared for cutting and the file for smoothing and shaping are the only steel utensils allowable. At first it may be necessary, with sharp scissors, to clip off loose bits of skin or troublesome hang-nails, but if the proper care is taken and the proper plan pursued one can soon dispense with even these. Every day rub well into the flesh around the nails some salve. Then with around the nails some salve. Then with warm water, soap and a soft linen cloth remove all grease, gently pressing back the skin and working off the cuticle which adheres to the nail, and in some cases obliterates the half-moon. Polishing powder should be used but once a week, as its tendency is to due the skill. around the nails some salve. Then with ing powder should be used but once a week, as its tendency is to dry the skin and make it liable to crack. The best polisher is the outer edge of one's palm. If the nails are well cared for, a hand, even if far from beautiful in shape, will always look well. We are indebted for these hints to one of the most celebrated manicures in Paris, and, if followed, the results will be invariably successful. results will be invariably successful.—
New York World.

Stewed Potatoes—Peel the four potatoes and cut them into dice; throw them into boiling water and boil ten minutes; drain, turn them into a heated dish. Put one ounce of butter into a saucepan; when melted add a tablespoonful of flour; mix until smooth; add the half pint of milk; stir continually until it boils; add a half teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper and pour over the potatoes. pour over the potatoes.

pour over the potatoes.

Sugar Gingerbread—Take two pounds of brown sugar, dry, put it in three quarts of flour, add a cupful of powdered ginger and sift the mixture. Wash the salt out of a pound of butter and cream it, have twelve eggs well beaten; work into the butter, first the mixture, then the froth from the eggs until all are in, and it is quite light; butter shallow molds, put it in and bake quickly.

Pilaff of Mutton—Cut the mutton into

molds, put it in and bake quickly.

Pilaff of Mutton—Cut the mutton into small pieces, put it into a kettle with one and a half quarts of water, a tablespoonful of chopped onion, cover and simmer gently for one hour. Wash the rice, add it to the mutton, then peel the tomatoes, cut them into pieces, and add them also, add a teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepeer, cover the kettle, and simmer slowly for thirty-five or forty minutes. Serve with the meat in the middle of the dish, and the rice over and around it. and the rice over and around it.

Pennsylvania farmers find profit in sowing rye for the straw.



Highly concentrated. Doss small, in quantity costs in the concentrated of the control of the con

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And save the girls—from their intense sufferings from scrofula and other foul humors in the blood by giving them Hood's Sarsaparilla. Thousands of parents are unspeakably happy and thousands of children enjoy good health because of what this great blood purifier has done for them. It thoroughly eradicates all trace of scrofula, salt rheum, etc., and vitaliass and enriches the blood. "Scrofula bunches in my neck disappeared when Itook Hood's Sarsaparilla."—A. R. Kelley, Parkersburg, W. Va.

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Birth of Icebergs

While encamped near the Muir Glacier for seven weeks of last summer, Mr. H. B. Loomis and Professor Muir watched the formation of icebergs. The dropping of the blocks from the terminal wall occurred at very irregular intervals of five minutes to an hour, the fall of no less than 199 having been heard one day in twelve hours. At times, especially in heavy rains, the reports sounded in camp at a distance of a mile, like those of a thunder storm or cannonade. Somethunder storm or cannonade. Some-times the detached block bursts into fragments and falls like a cascade. At another time a block sinks unbroken into the water, rises, perhaps 250 feet, even with the top of the glacier, then topples over on its side with a heavy roar, throwing spray in all directions and wallows among the other icebergs like a gigantic animal.

Mrr. John D. Rockefeller, wife of the richest man in America, enjoys being her own housekeeper. She keeps a set of books accounting for all her household expenses.

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Arab Wrestlers.

There was a fine exhibition of strength of the Arabs at a wrestling match in a valley around which the mountains rose gradually, forming a natural amphitheagradually, forming a natural amphithea-ter, says a recent writer. Here a large audience sat on the rocks overlooking the space below. The rival tribes were seated at each end of the valley, while their chiefs walked proudly up and down in front of them. Then one of the chiefs would call out a champion and challenge a rival. The two would throw off their cloaks and rush at each other, and wrestle until one would get his head and wrestle until one would get his head under the body of the other, and with great force, throw his adversary in the air over his back. Sometimes after a desperate struggle the chiefs would have to separate them; they being equal, neither one being able to throw the other.

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the most popular remedy known.

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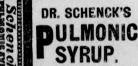
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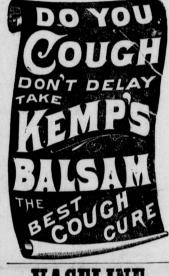
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