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### **CURIOUS BITS** OF HISTORY

PILLAR SAINTS.

By A. W. MACY. things men have done in the name of religion, but none are more curious than the practices of the Stylites, sometimes called Air Martyrs, but usually known as Pillar Saints. The founder of the sect, and its most conspicuous example, was a shepherd of Cilicia named Simeon, now known in church history as St. Simeon Stylites. With the idea of gaining the favor of heaven and attaining saintship on earth he took up his residence on a pillar, or column, said to have been sixty feet high. The top of this pillar was about three feet in diameter, and was inclosed by an iron railing. It seems incredible, but he is said to have lived here for thirty years, never descending, eating very sparingly of food sent up to him, always standing or bowing in prayer, and exposed to all kinds of weather. He wore the skins of animals, and always kept an Iron band about his neck. At a certain hour every day he addressed those gathered at the foot of his pillar, exhorting them to lives of holiness. He died on top of his pillar, and his body was taken to Antioch and buried with imposing ceremonies. The practice of this extreme form of Christian asceticism was taken up by others, and "Pillar Saints" became guite numerous in eastern countries. The sect did not

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twelfth century.

BRUSH CREEK.

entirely disappear till the

and Mrs. W. H. Williams. The Xmas entertainment at

Akersville last Wednesday evening was well attended and reporta success.

Miss Pearl Barkman, who is employed in the "Home", in Phil. of a large carbuncle on his neck. son. Miss Varnes has been abadelphia, and Troy Barkman, who Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Barkman.

Ada B. Hixon and Carrie Bankman spent Sunday with Mr. and township. Mrs. T. H. Akers.

Quite a number of young peo-

at Akersville. Mr. and Mrs. John Bottomfield and children and "Grandmother" Kearney, spent Christmas and Seiling, spent Christmas with part of Friday at his home in this Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lamberson township.

and family. Blaine Hixon spent Christmas folks have been attending the pro

tracted meetings at Gapsville. Russell Akers spent Christmas with friends in Hopewell.

Ira Duvall, of Dickinson Seminary, is spending his New Year vacation with his father, W. H

Miss Lizzie Hixon spent X mas with Olive Hixon.

O. A. Barton and wife attend ed the entertainment at Breezewood, and spent Saturday evening at the home of Mrs. Bryson.

Dr. A. Lee McKibbin, of Salem W. Va., is spending his holiday vacation with his mother, Mrs. L E. McKibbin.

Listen for the tinkle of those bells, -belles, sleigh bells, then wedding bells, then rebels (?)

Spriggs living west of town, went parents, Mr. and Mrs. James W. to Chambersburg last Saturday Cutchall. to attend the funeral of her father Jacob S. Swingler, who was poor sledding. killed in an accident at Hotel Carrolton, Easton, Pa. He was Mount Tabor, at this time. sitting by the elevator one day to the fact that the elevator had 8 feet and 2 inches in length. risen a foot or more above the stepped into the cage to lower it. home of Jesse B. Heefner's. As he did so it started upward and caught him in the door across ill, but is better now. the chest killing him instantly. Jake was the porter at the National Hotel Chambersburg, for many years and was known to Springs. many Fulton county people.

Subscribe for the NEWS.

A little more snow, please! Robert Diehl's Canadian friends came en masse to spend the Sabbath with him. Will Diehl con-

tinues very much indisposed. Alfred Layton, who had been slightly "under the weather" for some time, was able to get out and join in the chase of a sly old

Lem Kirk of Pigeon Cove has purchased a tract of timber land from Will Diehl, and will soon be gin operating a sawmill upon it.

Henry Sharpe will cut and saw the timber on the old Ringel

Benny Morris has located his mill near that of Mr. Sharp's and

will saw for Simon Garland. Jacob Schultz is drilling a well on Simon Garland's farm.

A few of the Cove people attended the Christmas services at Pleasant Grove last Saturday evening. The program was well rendered.

The services at Bedford Chapel conducted by Rev. Funkhouser, of Hancock last Sunday evening were much enjoyed by a half doz en of us from the Cove. A large congregation were present, and we believe were well repaid for their trouble in attending.

John Clevenger has a crippled

Christmas was a quiet day in the Cove The schools were clos ed and the teachers were away.

The Sunday school at the Whips Cove church has been clos is home for the holidays. ed until spring.

Aaron Hess continues very much indisposed.

D. C. Mallott killed a gad-about dog last week, which was afterward found to belong to Will Mar-

Roy Rice and wife passed through the Cove last Saturday evening enroute to Sideling Hill. This neck-o'-woods was represented at the Christmas services at McKendree last Saturday

We greet you, New Year, with evening. Mr. and Mrs.N. B. dixon and in the Whips Cove church Satur. J. where she will visit her daugh son spent Christmas with Mr. day evening January third at 7:30 ter, Nora (Mrs. A. J. Dohner). o'clock.

#### WEST DUBLIN.

ment at Kearney has been unable to town yesterday, where she to work for some time on account | will visit the family of Frank Ma-

13 employed at Everett, spent who have employment at Kear- years. Her home has been at ney, spent the time from Wednesday evening until Sunday at their respective homes in this

Ralph Laidig came home from Kearney to spend Christmas and ple of Crystal Springs and Gaps. to help his father Martin Laidig ville attended the entertainment cut logs for the saw-mill. the re-

mainder of last week. George King, coke foreman at

William Deaver of Hustontown has sawed some lumber for J. F. with friends near Warfordsburg. Johnson and expects later to saw Quite a number of our young for Reichley Bros. The saw mill is at the foot of King's Knob.

Mrs. Sarah Shaw and sons Rus sell and Bruce spent Christmas with the family of Mrs. Eliza

The snow and rain of Christmas made the roads, which were already bad for traviling, still

Samuel Hockensmith is helping his son L. J. Hockensmith at the sawmill on Broadtop mountain. They are furnishing lumber for a lot of new houses to be built at Robertsdale.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Berkstresser visited at the home of Isaac McClain's last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cutchall of Robertsdale, have been visit-Jane Spriggs, wife of Thomas ing at the home of the latter's

Snow is here at last; but very

Meeting is in progress at

Isaac McClain killed a very when a lady came to ride in the nice hog one day last week that lift. She called Jake's attention weighed 508 lbs. and measured

Mrs. Minta Miller, and son level of the floor and Swingler Gienn visited a few days in the George Heefner has been quite

> Miss Lillian Gracey was home for Christmas and left again to take up her work at Three

Mr. and Mrs Charles Black spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Black.

James M. Brown spent the time from Wednesday of last week until Monday in Waynes-

Robert Fleming, of the County Seat, came to this place on Wednesday and spent Christmas with

his mother, brother and sister. Clair Baker, of Altoona, spent sometime with his parents Mr.

and Mrs. Calvin Baker. A. G. Kerlin is busy sawing wood for the community.

David D. Fleming, of Waynes boro, spent the time from Wednesday until Monday with his home folks at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Levi P. Morton, of Dudley, Pa., were recent guests of Mrs. Morton's home

Harry N. Henry, travelling salesman, recently spent a day with his father John A. Henry.

THOMPSON.

Roy Gregory is home for the holidays.

The Xmas entertainment at Antioch Christian church was very successful.

Mary Kellner, of Hancock, 18 spending the holidays with her cousin Mrs. John Yeakle. James Funk and son Arnold,

of Tiffin, Ohio, are spending some time in this vicinity visiting friends and relatives. M. J. Pittman, who holds a lu-

crative position with the B. & O. railroad people at Cumberland Mr. and Mrs. Moses Gordon

entertained their children and grand children at dinner on Christmas.

Infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Denton Everts departed this life Sunday, Dec. 21st. Interment at Antioch Christian church on Monday.

Mrs. Sadie Fisher left yesterday morning to spend a well deserved vacation with her son Ben at Port Treverton, Pa. From Rev. A. R. Garland will preach there she will go to Millville, N. We wish her a very nice trip.

Mr. Urner Truax, of Pleasant Frank Rice who has employ- Ridge brought Miss Annie Varnes Lloyd Price and Samuel Laidig sent from the county about six Republic, O., for some time,

The Attraction.

A rather eccentric man, calling on a family blessed by an observant little son, wore kid gloves that had been cleaned. The little boy, seeming to be much attracted by the visitor, stayed close at his side. "You like to stand by Mr. Blank and hear his funny stories, don't you, Jimmie?" presently asked Jimmie's father. "I don't care about his stories," replied the honest youngster, "but his hands smell just like our automobile."

About the Human Eye. Greenish, hazel and spotted eyes are accompanied usually with shrewd, quick, nervous, restless temperaments. According to Professor Hudson, Asiatics with hazel eyes are cunning and weasel-like. Contrary to the popular notion, persons with green eyes are too indifferent in passion to be at all

jealous of the opposite sex; they are,

however, frequently envious of their

Lambasted. A new trainer was engaged for the circus and was told to put a lion and a lamb through an act. He seemed nervous, and the next his boss asked him how he got along with the savage lion. "Sure, the lion didn't bother me much," he said, "but that durned lamb butted the daylights out of me!"

Possible Solution.

"Why do you suppose it is," she asked, "that nearly all the great men of this world have been married?" "I suppose," replied the old bachelor. "It's because they had to do something to get their minds off the troubles they had at home."-Chicago Record-Herald.

How Cat Caused Fire. A cat caused a fire in a dwelling house at Port Glasgow, (Renfrew), recently. A hot cinder fell on the cat lying in front of the hearth. The animal darted under the bed, and the cinder fell among some clothing and set the place on fire.

Appropriate Present.

Mrs. Pozozzle is discouraged in her efforts to teach polite table manners to her husband. "I think," she said to Mr. Pozozzle at breakfast the other morning, "I shall give you a nose-bag for your birthday."

Something to Break. "This article says we should keep our servants interested and amused. I believe I'll get our cook a set of

books." "I think a set of new china

would amuse her more." Hard to Satisfy. "Some men are not even satisfied when they marry and are supported in the style to which they have been accustomed," caustically remarked a

Fdreigner Criticizes the Desire for Haste Characteristic of the United States.

One day in New York I was complimenting an example of American architecture to an American architect of great talent. "Yes, yes," he answered with a touch of satire, "my fellow countrymen would willingly spend a hundred millions of dollars to build a church as beautiful as St. Mark's in Venice, but they would command me, as a condition of the work to finish it within eighteen months." That is a significant phrase. How is it possible to beautify a world which is incessantly in transformation, wherein nothing is stable, and which wishes to multiply everything it pos sesses-buildings, as it would furniture? To create beautiful palaces, to construct beautiful furniture, to attain the distant ideal of perfection, time is essential-time and wise deliberation, reasonable limitation of the multiplicity of human demands, and a certain stability in taste. No one could have built St. Mark's or Notre Dame in 18 months, and France could not have created her famous decorative styles of the eighteenth century if public taste had been so fickle as ours, and if everybody at that time had wished to change his furniture every ten years.-Guglielmo Ferrero, in the Atlantic.

LITERATURE NEW OR OLD?

Matter of Reading Has Long Been a Point of Dispute Between Authorities.

An author was asked how his new est book was selling. "I am afraid it isn't a very good book," he replied dubiously, "It is selling pretty well." Emerson is credited with the advice not to read a book until it is ten years old. Whether the dictum is held to flatter that sage or slander him, it'is a safe rule for fiction. What reader who chews a mental cud has not felt a sinking of the heart on overhearing some misguided soul profess to be "keeping up with the current fiction?" But the rule is not so safe in other kinds of reading. The clergyman who reads only theology ten years old is known by his sermons; the scholar who reads only criticism ten years old is back with the dust; the journalist or politician who read only history ten years old would soon be promoted to the job of sweeping out the office. Some men lose their selfrespect unless they are at least 20 years ahead of their time; these are they who think new books faster than authors can write them. men find it all they can do to keep up with the procession; these are they who read the significant books as fast as they appear. And some have no faith in a book unless it is

The Pope Remembered. In that distant time when he was only a humble priest at Tombolo, Plus X., then Giuseppo Sarto, dispensed in charity all the meager emoluments of his office. It once happened that when his purse was empty he borrowed from his vicar some sums to meet a pressing need. Then Giuseppe Sarto, called suddenly to another charge, forgot to pay to three lires that he owed to him. Time passed, Gluseppe Sarto was named pope. He had forgotten his debt. Recently an old priest came to kneel at the feet of the holy father. It was the old vicar of Tombolo. The pope recognized his voice, and at the same moment he remembered the three lires so obligingly lent him. The pope then caused to be given to the old man from his private purse 500 lires, and named him for an important curacy. Only sovereign pontiffs can pay such interest!--Le Cri de Paris.

Due Warning.

As illustrating the remarkable results sometimes obtained by the mode of expression so much in vogue by a certain class of darkles in the south Senator John Sharp Williams tells of a bandbill, announcing that a "colored picnic" would be held in a grove near Mobile

After the preliminary statement as to the delights in store for the subscribers to this entertainment, the bill concluded with this notice:

"Proper behavior will be strictly and reservedly enjoined upon all present, and nothing will be left undone which will tend to mar the pleasure of the gathering."

Soon Turn to Dust. What becomes of the millions of millions of pins that are turned out annually by the factories? They "get lost." Yes, but if they merely "got lost" our floors and streets would be littered by them. They not only "get lost," but they vanish by rusting away to dust.

Dr. Xavier, a Paris scientist, has been keeping tabs on individual specimens. He finds that an ordinary hairpin took only 154 days to blow away in dust. A steel pen nib lasted just under 15 months. A common pin took 18 months, while a polished steel needle took 21/2 years to disappear.

The old man with the rosy nose had

become cheerfully communicative. "My father," said he, "was an innkeeper. He accustomed me to wine while I was being taught my a b c's." "Wasn't that early?" said the prim individual in the next seat. "Early, do you say? Why early?

Didn't I learn my letters off a wine list?"-New York Evening Post.

People Worth Watching. There are certain persons whom physiognomists say should be avoided by certain other persons. Thus, the talker is warned to keep away from the person with the overhanging forchead, for he will prove exceedingly deep in argument. The business man is advised to watch carefully when dealing with the man with the receding forehead and chin, the large, curved and prominent nose, for he will prove shrewd in business.

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