

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

Queer Facts and Thrilling Adventures which Show that Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

WHAT has been known for half a century as the old Freeland residence, six miles from Jackson, Miss., was recently torn down after having been a ruin for many years, says a correspondent of the Philadelphia Times. Beneath it was discovered what had been an old curbed well, and on clearing this out there was brought up a small steel casket containing several articles of old-fashioned jewelry. These numbered among them a watch of the style worn during the last part of the last century and a comb such as was affected by ladies of continental times. These were set with large pearls, which must have been valuable, but which are ruined by the action of the water. A tiara of small diamonds bore the device of "D" in small German characters, but beyond this there is no clew as to the owner of the jewels. The family to whom the house belonged has long been extinct and the place for some years until recently has been inhabited by negroes. Some of the older citizens remember that this mansion replaced another far handsomer, which was destroyed by fire and which was one of the oldest places in the State. At the time of the war the house was rented to a poor family named Lucey, who would hardly have possessed such jewels, so their presence in the well can scarcely be accounted for on the theory that they were hidden there for safety. The present value of the articles is not more than \$100, but when next they must have been worth something over \$1,000, according to the valuation of a jeweler. They are now in the possession of the gentleman who owns the land on which the old place stood. The watch is curious for its antique workmanship, though most of the works have been eaten away by rust,

In many places in the tules lands in the vicinity of Suisan, Cal., wild hogs, as ferocious and as tenacious of life as the boar of the German forests, may be encountered by the sportsman who likes a spice of danger in his hunting. One of these beasts, shot recently, measured from the tip of the tail more than six feet, and had tusks fourteen inches in length. Its weight, although it had no supine flesh, was 820 pounds. The skin at the shoulders was three inches thick and as tough as leather. It was reported that hogs had been running wild in the marshes for a long time, and that they were savage enough to furnish better sport than other animals that are supposed to be dangerous. A party was formed to kill a particular boar that had been roaming the tules land for several years, in spite of the efforts of local hunters to bring him to bay. The tracks of the boar were found and he was traced to a patch of dense red grass. The hunters invaded it from different points, and one of them suddenly came upon the animal. His companions heard the report of his gun, and the next instant saw the man's body thrown into the air fully ten feet. Going to his rescue, a second hunter was charged by the boar. One shot brought him to his knees, but even then he rose and rushed on his assailant again. A second ball penetrated the brain and he rolled over dead. The man who was thrown into the air was not seriously injured, but received bruises which laid him up for a considerable time.

THE recent report that a citizen of the United States has discovered among the mountains of the Mexican State of Sinola a long forgotten city tallies with a curious local tradition of that region. Adjoining the State of Sinola on the south is the State of Jalisco, and of this State Guadalajara is the capital. Living in the mountains of Jalisco, part of the same great Sierra Madre or "Mother Range" which extends through Sinola and thence northward, are the unconquered Yaquis, a brown-haired people with light eyes and almost fair complexions. Guadalajara is the only civilized town that these Yaquis visit, and it has long been believed there that the Yaqui fastnesses of the Sierra Madre range conceal not only rich mines of silver, but as well the lost city of the Aztec race. No one has hitherto pierced the mountain wilderness, because the naked Yaquis have an effective system of passive resistance that has hitherto successfully closed the sole line of approach. The only human beings other than the Yaquis themselves admitted to the mountains of Jalisco are a few renegade Apaches, murderous wretches, vastly more dangerous to would-be explorers than the peaceful but persistent Yaquis.

THIRTY-SEVEN years ago Clarence Morton sold out his farm in Berlin, Vt., and went to California to dig for gold. Failing there he went to Arizona, and for thirty years nothing was heard from him by his wife, who had remained behind in the Vermont town until he should save enough to send for her. Twelve years ago, believing him dead, she remarried. A month ago her second husband died. Three days later she was astonished beyond measure by receiving a letter from the long lost Clarence. He wrote that he had "struck luck" within the last few years, and that he had at the time of writing \$40,000 in gold secreted in his Arizona hut. He enclosed two money orders for her fare and other expenses.

THE most unusual profession for a gentle-woman has been taken up because of necessity by Mrs. Coleman, an English woman, as a means of supporting her invalid husband. The name of the profession is pavement artist, which is one of the commonest street sights of London, though but little known here. There are 800 or more persons in the English metropolis earning a living at this trade of drawing pictures on the pavement and collecting pennies from the crowds that gather. Colored chalks are used and realistic scenes are sketched of the exciting events of the day. On fair days Mrs. Coleman earns on an average \$1.25 a day, and when it rains she stays at home and prepares her chalks.

THE mania of giving a large number of Christian names to one and the same person is particularly prevalent in Italy. An Italian gentleman named Campagna, who has just been naturalized a Frenchman, has given some little trouble to the French Foreign Office clerks in registering his full designation. Here it is: Vincenzo Salvatore Maria Gennaro Francesco-Sales Francesco-d'Assisi Francesco de Paolo Rocco Michele Crociatti Emidio Pasquale Giovan Giuseppe Geltrude Cario Gaetano Alfonso Ciro Andrea Luigi Gioran Gerardo Antonio-di-Para Antonio-Abate Campagna.

OKLAHOMA continues to comport itself as if she had been open to settlement a hundred years instead of only four. Her latest statistics show nearly 2,400,000 acres of farm land in use, with a cash value of more than \$18,000,000. Her farm implements are worth \$340,000, and she has growing 688,000 apple trees, 648,000 peach trees, 69,000 cherry trees,

51,000 pear trees, and a great variety of other fruit trees and of vines. The whole Territory is adapted to fruit raising, and Oklahoma fruit will doubtless soon appear in the New York market.

SOMEbody is poorer and the State of North Carolina is richer \$2,100 a year by the accidental loss of \$36,000 of an old 6 per cent. bond issue. The State Treasurer has never been able to hear from the missing bonds, and it is supposed that they were destroyed during the civil war. They are probably safe bonds, too, as the whole issue is guaranteed by a pledge of the State stock in the North Carolina Railroad Company. The dividends from this stock are nearly \$17,000 in excess of the interest on the bonds.

WYN MOLESFORTH has invented and constructed a very ingenious "celestial clock," which was exhibited at the first Winter meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society, says London Truth. The entire face of the clock rotates under a wire bar representing the equatorial horizon and is regulated to perform one revolution in 28 hours 56 minutes 4 seconds, this being the time in which the earth turns once upon its axis. The apparent annual motion of sun, moon and planets in the opposite direction is effected by movable pins, while the north and south polar stars, that do not rise or set for us, revolve simultaneously with the rest by a separate movement. Thus may be seen the entire heavens, with sun, moon, planets and constellations in their actual places, ever rising and setting as they rise and set in the heavens.

WILLIAM A. ASHLEY, of Long Plain, near New Bedford, Mass., had a thrilling experience with an eagle recently. He had just returned from meeting when he started out to look at some of his trees. He had scarcely gone twenty yards when his dog, which was with him, started in pursuit of something on the other side of a wire fence inclosing a pear orchard. Mr. Ashley jumped over the fence and to his surprise saw a large eagle. The dog barked fiercely and as Mr. Ashley approached the eagle spread its wings and attempted to fly. But Mr. Ashley was too quick for the bird and caught it by the neck and wings. He used no weapon, for he had none, and received no injury save a slight scratch. The eagle is a large one, the wings measuring eight feet seven and a half inches from tip to tip.

THE London Telegraph tells a marvelous story from Vienna about a lady forty-two years old and suffering from a peculiar form of asthma, which ten months' treatment has been powerless to cure. Her story is that she constantly hears music from her heart, and is so maddened by the ceaseless tones that she has to keep her ears filled with wadding, like Ulysses during the siren's song. The medical experts who have had the case under consideration confirm the statement of the lady—a continuous noise composed of musical tones in a high pitch was to be heard during the medical diagnosis, which runs: "Diastolic musical heart." The lady has as strong a dislike to internal music as to asthma, and unless she can be cured, she avers, it will drive her mad.

The Clever Cracksman.

I was leaving the prison inclosure one day, writes Arthur Griffiths in "Secrets of the Prison House," when in charge of the new works at Wormwood Scrubs, and on handing over my keys to the gatekeeper for consignment to the prison safe, he, through some mischance, hampered the safe lock, and could not open the safe. I waited some time impatiently, as I was expected elsewhere, but to no purpose. The safe could not be opened, and until it was not only must I remain on the spot, but must every other official. It is a strict rule that no one can leave the prison until the keys are collected and safely put away.

At last, in despair, I turned to the Chief Warden and asked: "Have you any especially good cracksman in custody?" "There is K. sir," he replied, promptly, "one of the most noted housebreakers in London; doing fifteen years. He is employed at this moment in the carpenter's shop." "Send for him," I said, and presently K. appeared, under escort, carrying his bag of tools like any workman arrived to execute repairs.

He was a tall, very dark-haired, rather good-looking man, clean, industrious, and an excellent prisoner. "Can you open that safe, K.?" I asked, quietly, when he was marching into the lodge. Do you mean it, sir?" he replied, looking at me with an intelligent and irrepressible smile. "Certainly I do. Examine the door. If you can manage it, go ahead." K. made only a short inspection, and then picked up a couple of tools. "I think I can do it, sir; shall I try?" I nodded assent and in less than three minutes the safe door swung open; the lock was completely conquered. I will not risk mentioning the names of the makers of the safe, which, indeed, I do not remember. But it was a patent and presumably first-class safe which thus succumbed so easily to the skilful housebreaker.

Fortunately there was an inner smaller safe, which answered all our purposes of security until the outer safe could be properly repaired. As for K., I thanked him, and the next time he came with a request for one of the small privileges so coveted by prisoners, I think it was not denied him.

The Canary's Mirror.

Not long ago my wife purchased a canary at a bird store. It had been accustomed to companions of its kind at the store, but at our house it was entirely alone. The pretty little songster was evidently homesick. It would not sing, it would not eat, but drooped and seemed to be pining away. We talked to it, and tried by every means in our power to cheer the bird up, but all in vain. My wife was on the point of carrying the bird back to the store when one day a friend said, "Get him a piece of looking-glass." Acting on this suggestion, she tied a piece of a broken mirror about the size of a man's hand on the outside of the cage. The little fellow hopped down from his perch almost immediately, and going up close looked in, seeming delighted. He chirped and hopped about, singing all the pretty airs he was master of. He never was homesick after that. He spends most of his time before the glass, and when he goes to sleep at night he will cuddle down as close to the glass as he can, thinking very likely, that he is getting near to the pretty bird he seen so often.—[St. Louis Globe-Democrat]

A SPECIMEN of huge vegetable growth resembling a mammoth rutabaga was on exhibition in Tacoma, Wash. The curiosity is of undoubtedly vegetable nature and is shaped like a turnip, root and all. It was found on the beach near the water on McNeil's Island, by Robert Longmire, one of theentiary guards. An express wagon

had to be secured to bring it to town from the wharf. The curious find is two feet ten inches long from the end of the roots, which appear to be broken off close to the body of the object. The circumference around the "turnip" is four feet three inches, while the major circumference is six feet six inches. The diameter is eighteen inches and the weight is fully 100 pounds. The flesh of the "turnip" cuts easily with a knife and resembles exactly a rutabaga. The taste is slightly bitter, probably caused by salt water.

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A JACKET IN MANY FORMS.



A tailor jacket imported from London is a novelty which can be worn in many ways—open, displaying a natty waistcoat, the long revers being kept open by a button at the waist or either side; closed to the waist, or partly open to show the necktie.

CAPES AND CLOAKS.

NEXT SEASON WILL BRING MANY NEW STYLES.

In Buying Now a Fur Cape or Cloak There's Risk, Fit Being Out of Date Next Winter—With Cloth Wraps It Will Be Different.

Gotham Fashion Gossip.
New York correspondent:



BEFORE there will again be need of very heavy outside garments, there will be plenty of time for styles to change. Yet, if a good chance comes to buy furs for next season, it should be taken advantage of, only don't get a cloak nor a cape. Soft figured silks will be combined with lace and ribbon, skirts will be prettily flaring and there will be just the right balancing fullness about the shoulders to make the whole graceful. As for organdies, dimities, lawn and muslin wraps may have all the frills, puffs and details you want, as the only rule seems to be that you must look as fresh as a bunch of posies just out of the garden. Bertha effects

disapproval howl and rage as it will, the possessor of such a collar can reasonably be as calm as the reflected face appears in this picture, for she will know that she has a new and handsome addition to her toilet and one which will be much admired. This one is composed of heliotrope velvet and consists of a yoke richly embroidered with silver and a double velvet ruff which is laid in pleats on the shoulders and reaches to the waist in front. In the back the ruff is ranged in revers and also reaches the waist, with a plain velvet piece in the center that is sewed to the yoke and fastened to the revers with invisible stitching. The high Stuart collar is also embroidered with silver on the outside and faced with shaded white, pink and heliotrope feathers on the inside. The feathers continue down either side of the fronts, which close with large hooks and eyes.

There is every promise of the daintiest gowns in the world the coming seasons. While there will be a tendency toward severity on the street, dresses for other occasions will be as sweetly frivolous and dainty as any one could wish. Soft figured silks will be combined with lace and ribbon, skirts will be prettily flaring and there will be just the right balancing fullness about the shoulders to make the whole graceful. As for organdies, dimities, lawn and muslin wraps may have all the frills, puffs and details you want, as the only rule seems to be that you must look as fresh as a bunch of posies just out of the garden. Bertha effects



will be much made use of, yokes will be cut round about the throat, and white pointed vents let in and outlined with cascades of dainty lace will be characteristic of many of the prettiest gowns. The prettiest fashion of guimpes is to be revived, the guimpes amounting to a sort of underwaist, over which the bodice seems to be draped, the guimpes showing from a point at the waist to over the round of the shoulder. For slender figures exquisite little bodices are designed in muslin, that are drawn in to fit the figure by row after row of ribbon, inserted under lace and drawn tight to tie in a series of pretty bows in front, or, more girlish still, at the back.

It looks as if the girls are having all their jewels unfastened to put into buttons, the craze for costly buttons having all of a sudden been revived in a really virulent form. Almost every girl has been coaching up a fad in some particular stone, and has a collection of her favorite stone. Happy she who has enough of them to give her a matched set of buttons. Turquoises are lovely, and a set of six matched and as big as peas set as buttons in dead gold rims, may be put on any cloth gown and make the wearer the envy of all her friends. Opals are mounted in silver and worn on velvet or brocade. Sapphires are just right on velvet, and amethysts go on silk. If you cannot match your stones in size, it is just as well to make the set a graduated one, a double-breasted coat for the front and one on each cuff. Such a coat is,



protection than the jaunty little cape of the next illustration. This is of equally thin cloth, and is made of gray cloth with a square yoke and standing collar of brown velvet. It is shorter in back than in front, and is lined with white silk and bordered with feather galloon. The epaulettes are faced with brown velvet and extend across the back, forming a finial for the yoke. Their ends are of oddly unequal length in front to give the appearance of a careless drapery held in place by a rosette on the left shoulder. The woman whose light purse sharpens her looks for a time which, though fashionable, are not lasting, will bounce upon this cape. For, even if epaulettes of different lengths are going to have a "run," which is very doubtful—the device will look well so long as the garment is agreeably new. With a bit of crumple, stain or fray, the beauty of the whole will vanish. Herein is a chance for the scoffers, who are wont to decry what they consider, on the part of the designers of women's apparel, encouragement to feminine extravagance. But let such a critice come for a moment the vast variety of cape shapes which prevailed last winter, and bear in mind that new ones were positively demanded for this spring, and excuse will appear for such creations as that just described. After all, women needn't buy such, and if they don't purchase, the designers will very soon learn the obvious lesson.

There may be still greater risk of offending those who persistently advise—for others—the strictly sensible in clothing by presenting the theater collarlette of the third picture. Though more an accessory than a garment, its cost is greater than either the coat or cape described. But let