

NEW SLAVERY AT CAPE TOWN.

Bechuana Prisoners Are Bought by the Farmers. The "slave mart," judging from an article in the Cape Times, appears to be definitely established in Cape Town, says the London Chronicle. The slaves, of course, are the Bechuana prisoners, and although there is no suggestion that these wretched creatures are treated with harshness while in the government care, they are clearly considered and disposed of precisely as if they were mere bales of goods or cattle. Careful watch and ward is kept over them and the writer says that "it is not easy to pass the strict guard at the gate unless you are a farmer coming to pick your labor."

Round three sides of the square courtyard men and women are squatting passively or standing chattering in knots. They are ill-clad and exceedingly ill-favored, but not ill-nourished, like the first batch of skeletons that came down to town. A child here and there is even bonny. There is no very obvious dejection. The nearest to it is a moody, passive look.

THEIR FOR 500 YEARS.

From its Norway Owned by One Family Since 1881. J. E. Sogard received a remarkable interesting document from Christiania, Norway, and one which he prizes very highly. It came from the government museum at Christiania, and is an exact copy of two deeds of very ancient date, the original deeds having been preserved and placed on exhibition in the museum. The deeds are for a certain farm which the Sogard family has possessed for centuries and upon which two of his brothers—Simon, of Webster City, and John, of Iowa City—were born. The first deed is dated July 1, 1881, or more than 600 years ago. A better realization of the age of this deed is had when it is remembered that the Sogard family was in possession of the farm more than 100 years before Columbus discovered America, and it is probable that their ownership dates much farther back than is shown by this deed. The later instrument was executed in 1548, nearly 75 years before the landing of the pilgrim fathers at Plymouth. A gentleman from a neighboring town tells the Troy Times that he has seen the ancient document alluded to, but was unable to read it, as it is written in the Norwegian language. He adds that the property is in the town of Oalen, near the town of Hamar, and that the largest city near the place is Christiania, and that the document states it is given in the reign of King Hakon, by the grace of God king of Norway and Sweden.

Stonehenge, who is considered one of the greatest of canine scientists, claims that the bulldog's brain is relatively larger than that of the spaniel, which dog is generally considered to be the most intelligent of the canine race, while the bulldog's affection is never to be doubted.

JUDGED BY THEIR WALK. Face Sometimes Indicates the Character of the Gait. You have seen the woman who jerks her head as she walks, I suppose? The habit is not uncommon, and on close acquaintance you will find that a woman so afflicted is given to fickleness. She trifles a little too much with love, and is just the woman to miss a good husband and be sorry afterward, says the Boston Traveler.

THE TALK OF FISHES. Sounds Recorded by the Phonograph in the Under Water. When you see a lot of bubbles rising to the surface of a tank in which there are a number of fish you will know that the fish are talking. It is not possible, of course, to converse with fish, but a well-known professor has succeeded in getting a sufficient number of sounds in a phonograph to prove that a fish language really exists, says Loudon Answey.

THIS IS CORN. So Thick That It Trapped Even a Hungry Coon. The Little Rock Democrat is the authority for the kind of corn lands they have in that particularly blessed region. It says: Eight or ten years or so ago there was a lake near Morrilton covering about 10,000 acres. When the big floods came two years ago, an opening was made by the surging waters which carried off all the water of this lake when the floods subsided. The bed of the lake dried up and left the richest soil the world ever saw. It is ten feet deep, and nothing the River Nile ever produced could excel it. This year Mills & Halley have a crop of corn on about 1,000 acres of this land. They sowed the corn broadcast like wheat, and the stalks are as strong as saplings, and scores of "shoots" are also loaded down. "It is the most remarkable corn crop ever produced in the world," declared Prof. Cox, and to make the story even more interesting, he ended it by declaring that a "coon" was caught between the stalks, and, being unable to extricate itself because they were so thick, was killed by those who came upon it.

Comparative Fertility. A Yorkshire man and a Leicestershire man were arguing as to the superior fertility of their respective counties. The Leicestershire man declared that he could turn a horse into a newly-mown field in his county and the next morning the grass would have grown above his hoofs. "Pooh! that's nothing," cried the Yorkshire man. "You may turn a horse into a field in Yorkshire and not be able to find him the next morning."

Money for Somebody. The Belgian government offers a prize of \$10,000 to anyone who will discover a chemical that will take the place of white phosphorus in match-making.

MAKING WAX LIFELIKE.

How Display Figures for Stores Are Made.

"How long does it take to make one of these?" said the manufacturer in response to an inquiry, reports the Boston Transcript. "Well, it depends entirely upon circumstances. It is not a mechanical operation, the finishing off of a wax model as true to life as this," and he pointed to the bust of a laughing child, whose rosy neck and bright eyes were framed by clustering curls. "To make these one must have studied anatomy, as well as drawing and modeling. We begin, in the same way as a sculptor would to make a statue. After the wax has cooled the eyes are put in, the face is 'made up,' as theatrical folks say, and the wig is fastened on, and the wooden body is shaped. We make all our hands and feet from life, and they cost about ten dollars. If we have an order for an entire figure we always model it from life. The life-size wax figures of infants are among the finest things we manufacture, and they add much to the attractiveness of a show window, as was illustrated last winter, when a Washington street retail dealer displayed one during the holiday season. The head and shoulders, such as are seen in the milliner's windows, cost from \$40 to \$45. The wig makes considerable difference in the price, as we use the best hair, and it is expensive, especially the natural blond, which is scarce. The children's heads cost \$20, or thereabouts. "All the finishing off imaginable," he continued, "would not make a figure stand the test of a season behind the glare of a glass unless the wax has a natural pink tinge. The reason some of the models look so deathly is because the wax is bad and not properly colored, and fresh tints are put on in addition."

NO OLD MAIDS THERE.

An Everlasting Diagraee to Grecian Girls. In Greece it is considered an everlasting diagraee to remain an old maid. Girls are betrothed often when still tiny babies. Marriages of love are absolutely unknown—even more so than in France. And the father is most particular that the intended husband must have an ample provision to support a wife and family. For the girl a dowry is not so important as in France, but a certain amount of linen and household furniture is required. The whole training and education of a Greek girl is simply a preparation to render her brilliant in the society of the great world. Her toilet is a subject of constant anxiety. Although most Greek girls are naturally very pretty, they begin to paint and powder from a very early age—cheeks bright red, eyebrows and lashes deep black and veins delicately blue. The result is that she is a withered old woman at 40, and nowhere are uglier women to be found than beneath the blue skies of lovely Greece.

Next in importance to beauty comes languages. Every Greek family who can afford it keeps a French nurse or maid, and French is universally spoken in society. Painting and music are quite unnecessary, but girls are carefully trained in dancing and drilled to enter a room and sit down with elegance. Lastly, household duties are taught—how to make rose jam, Turkish coffee and various delicate sweetmeats.

SAVING TIME. More and More Work Carried Forward by Night as Well as by Day. The electric light on the lofty framework of great modern buildings under construction is now a familiar sight, says the New York Sun. The work goes on at night as well as by day, so that, with its new building completed, the valuable land shall as soon as possible again be made productive.

It is common now in busy streets to do work that involves tearing up the street pavements, on underground pipes, wires, and so on, at night, so that the work may be done with the least interruption to traffic, and with the greatest facility, as far as the work itself is concerned.

And nowadays work on new pavements is carried on at night, to hurry it to completion; simply to save time. It may be, for example, that in a residence street two shifts of men are employed in laying an asphalt pavement, and the work goes right on continuously, day and night. One might look down this quiet street at three o'clock in the morning and see the men at work by the flaring naphtha torches, and the steam roller moving back and forth just the same as at three o'clock in the afternoon.

On occasion work on gas trenches and other street work is nowadays kept right on at night. And all these things are in keeping with the great modern tendency to save time; to utilize every minute and to waste nothing.

Acropolis Built Before Christ.

On a stone of the temple of "Winged Victory" on the Acropolis at Athens an inscription has been found stating that the monument was built by Kallikrates, who was one of the architects of the Parthenon at the beginning of Pericles' government. This fixes its date at about 450 years before Christ. The Athens Archaeological society is about to undertake the restoration and strengthening of the Parthenon. Marble from Pentelicos will be furnished free for this by the company working the quarries.

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING.

The "Pleasure" Mapped Out in Boston to a Western Girl.

Not long ago while a young woman hailing from a western state was residing in the east she had a slight attack of the grip and was much in need of something to cheer her up. With a view of securing the needed amusement she wrote accepting the standing invitation of a Boston girl to come and spend a few days at the Hub. When the time was near for her to leave home she received a letter from her Boston friend which ran like this: "I think I have planned as pleasant a program for you, my dear, as will be possible. You will arrive Monday morning; that afternoon we shall have a luncheon at the Quiet Hour club in your honor, at which 20 literary women will be present. Monday evening we shall attend a lecture by Prof. Foreman on 'The Semitic Races.' Tuesday forenoon we are going to a meeting of the Browning club, and in the afternoon we are booked for a musicale in behalf of the colored old ladies' home. Tuesday evening we shall wind up the two days with a lecture by Prof. on 'Esoteric Buddhism,' which I am sure will be the greatest treat of the whole two days."

As soon after the receipt of this letter as she could recover strength enough to hold a pen the western girl wrote her friend as follows: "I am afraid, my dear girl, that you will have to modify your programme, or else I can't come to you. What little intellect the grip has left me I don't propose to wreck in any such manner as you have arranged for."

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET.

Table with columns for various stock categories like 'New York Stock Market', 'Gold', 'Silver', 'Cotton', etc. and their respective prices.

Table with columns for 'New York Stock Market' and 'Gold', listing various stock prices and gold values.

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Bulletin Financier.

Jedi, 13 janvier 1898.

Table with columns for 'COMPTOIR D'EXCHANGES', 'BOURSE DE LA NOUVELLE ORLEANS', and 'MARCHÉ MONÉTAIRE'.

Table with columns for 'MARCHÉ MONÉTAIRE', listing various financial instruments and their prices.

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Bulletin Commercial.

Jedi, 13 janvier 1898.

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WORLD MARKET.

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