

NOTHING ABOUT CHINAMEN

Book of Law Had No Mention of Them, So It Was No Crime to Kill Them.

For many years there was a primitive justice of the peace who administered law, equity and tradition among the half-breeds in the cactus regions along the Rio Grande in Texas west of the Pecos river.

Mexicans predominated in that section and among the Mexicans he was known as the alcalde, a Spanish name for a dispenser of justice.

Neither the alcalde nor his constituents were sticklers about legal formalities. Documents and processes were not insisted upon as essentials in his court.

Soon the owner of the appropriated broncho made his appearance, searching for his steed, and naturally, with high indignation, sought the alcalde for some process of retri.

In his earlier judicial career the alcalde was unable to read. Whenever reading was a necessary element in adjudication his scribe or clerk officiated.

NEW USE FOR INCUBATORS
Manager of Alligator Farm in Arkansas Has Adopted Them in His Business.

Hatching alligators is the latest use to which incubators have been put. Beginning with chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys, the use of incubators was extended to ostriches and babies, and now a manager of an alligator farm in Arkansas has adopted the use of incubators there, reports the New York World.

As an alligator is in its propagating habits similar to a fish and a hen. It swims in the water like a fish and lays eggs, but instead of laying them in the water it goes out and makes its nest on the land like a hen.

Most of the alligators hatched at the alligator farms are sold in infancy for one dollar apiece to visitors from the north. As many alligators are raised to maturity as the inclosed swamps and streams of the alligator farm will permit. They are valuable for their hides, which are used for bags, belts, purses and like purposes.

MANY FISH IN ONE POOL

Sharks, Big Drumfish, Great Turtles and Sturgeon All in Constant Motion.

The great central pool at the aquarium now contains a greater number of large specimens of marine life than was at any time ever before shown in it, says the New York Sun.

There are in the pool besides four dog-fish, 30 or 40 sea bass, a lot of blackfish and some other smaller fishes, while swimming about in the surface water may be seen shoals of little killies, in striking contrast to their larger flabby brothers in captivity.

The water in the pool is kept at a temperature of about 75 degrees, which makes it comfortable for all of its inhabitants and these are all the time in motion. The sharks swim coastward, as is their habit, and often near the surface, their dorsal fins dividing the water. In fact, and rising above it. Frequently a shark whose body cannot be seen in the distance can be followed by its dorsal fin, seen rising above and steadily and noticeably cutting the water as it swims.

The sharks are most likely to circle the pool continuously, but the big drumfish, moving more lumberingly, take all sorts of courses around and across lots. The big sturgeon goes everywhere in various directions, too, but it has a sturdy grace in its movements.

In nature the sturgeon is a great jumper, and it is an able and powerful swimmer. It has great strength in its long, hard, spare body, and when it throws its tail over to one side or the other in changing its course, it almost seems as though it must have running through its body a flexible but stout steel spring.

The big loggerhead turtles are interesting in another way, and they are certain to be surprising to anybody who has never seen great turtles anywhere except in pens or in pools not big enough for them to swim in. Here the big turtles swim about freely, and they are far from clumsy in movement, and they make good headway, using their great flippers as fins.

Being an air-breathing animal, the turtle when in the water must occasionally thrust its head above the surface for air, as these two big loggerheads do here. It is a striking, almost a startling sight when, like a big coconut, the head of the larger of the two great loggerheads comes up, the little body of displaced water falling away from it on either side as it rises. Keeping it up so for a moment, the big turtle then drops its head again into line with its body and keeps moving on its course.

MOST DEADLY OF POISONS.

Certain Kinds That Are But Little Known and Their Manufacture Forbidden.

"The most deadly poisons," said a chemist, "are only known to a few chemists. Mercury methide, for instance, the inhalation of whose fumes produces incurable idioy, can be manufactured by two Indians, and by no one else in the world.

"Dhatooza is a poison used in India. It, too, produces incurable idioy. A British army officer told me of a sad case—a case of two rival tailors, one of whom gave the other a small dose of dhatooza. The victim of the drug remained an idiot all the rest of his life. He sat and moved his empty hands as though he were sewing. He was a formidable rival no longer.

"Mercurian produces a melancholy so great as to terminate nearly always in suicide. No government would permit the manufacture and sale of this poison.

"Dhatooza, mercury methide, mercurian and some 20 other poisons are neither made nor sold in any public way. They are only experimented with. Such poisons would be formidable weapons in unscrupulous hands. Driving their victims to suicide or to insanity, they leave behind them nothing suspicious or untoward. The giver of these poisons is secure from any fear of punishment.

"Hence it is no wonder, is it, that the learned men who know such poisons keep their knowledge to themselves? If dhatooza, for instance, were obtainable, think how our opera singers, our painters, our dressmakers and our money kings might fill the lunatic asylums with their rivals."

Diamonds in Borneo.
For more than 100 years it has been thought that extensive diamond deposits are hidden in the island of Borneo, and recent rumors have given the old suspicion new life. A diamond of 367 carats, found on the west coast in 1787 and named the Matan, was, after a brilliant but brief career, denounced as a mere block of rock crystal. Should it now prove that Borneo can yield diamonds in paying quantity the British empire will be in possession of practically every diamond field of any importance in the world—South Africa, Australia, India and Borneo.

Japan's Christian Advance.
The following is from an essay on the Japanese written in the recent grammar school examinations by a lower school boy: "Until recently the Japanese used to fight with bows and arrows, but now they are equipped with the complete arms of a Christian."—St. James' Gazette.

REAL "SMOOTH ARTICLE."

Heat Little Scheme That Secured Some of a Smart Hotel Man's Money.

A countryman whose general appearance branded him as of the wayback type stepped into a State street hotel at 9:15 o'clock Saturday morning, and going up to the proprietor, who was at the desk, asked if a man named Charley McCarthy boarded there.

The hotel keeper scanned the list of regular boarders and replied in the negative, releasing the Hartford (Conn.) Coarant.

"That's funny," remarked the countryman, a half-frightened expression coming into his face, "the man I'm talking about told me he had boarded here for years."

"I guess he was stringing you," remarked the proprietor, "for I don't know anyone who has boarded here for any length of time."

The stranger then told the following story: "I live out near Willimantic, and I met this fellow, who said he was out buying cattle for the Hartford markets. He had bought quite a lot and wanted to buy two or three more, and he wanted to borrow \$100. He had an honest face, and I let him have the money. He promised to meet me here at ten o'clock."

"Well, I guess you had better give up hopes of seeing McCarthy. In all probability he was a crook," said the hotel man.

Then an argument ensued, the stranger reiterating his ability to read an honest face and the hotel man insisting on the probability of McCarthy being a crook. The upshot of it all was that a lot of \$100 was made on the appearance of McCarthy.

The money was stated about ten minutes of ten o'clock, and two minutes before the hour a man rushed in, greeted the countryman cordially and handed him \$100, thanking him for the loan.

"Well," said the countryman, "I guess I will. I thought I could read human nature."

The hotel man realized that he had been trapped, but he handed the money over to the winner with this injunction: "You're slick, but just get out of here quick as you can, or I'll break every bone in your bodies."

HER HUNGRY CHILDREN.

Grave Constitutional Taints and Disorders Prevalent in the Great City of Glasgow.

"In Glasgow recently," writes Dr. Andrew Wilson, according to a London paper, "600 children from four selected schools were examined. Of these, 19 per cent. suffered from diseased glands, mostly of a tubercular character, and therefore indicating a grave constitutional taint. Four per cent. showed dental caries, and heart disease prevailed in five per cent. of those examined. The throat and nose suffered to the extent of 61 per cent. of the children, and skin troubles were reckoned at nearly nine per cent. The deformed chest, which is the result of poor bone nourishment, was found in 16 per cent. Glasgow has always had a reputation for the prevalence of rickets and allied bone disorders. With regard to defective ears, the proportion was 27 per cent.

"Now these records can, of course, be paralleled in most other big centers of population. We may legitimately assume that to-day a terrible amount of physical deficiency prevails among children and social reformers are naturally inquiring regarding the means to be adopted by way of relief, cure and prevention of such crying evils. One phase of the remedy is undoubtedly found in the question of feeding and clothing. The Poor Children's Dinner Table society in Glasgow gives to about 12,000 children one meal daily during the winter months, and other agencies on a smaller scale supplement this work.

"It is all philanthropic, all admirable, but it only touches the fringe of the case, and every year requires a repetition of the effort. We get no forerunner in the matter, and when we read of children whose midday hunger is appeased by a bowl of tea (which is not a food), un-sweetened and destitute of milk, taken with bread without butter, we may well cease to wonder that child life goes to the wall in this terrible struggle for existence."

O'Brien and Obliterated.
Congressman George D. McCrary, of Philadelphia, tells a story of something that happened to him while he was traveling in Ireland. An Irishman came down a hill driving a cart, the side of which had been lettered with the word "O'Brien." The letters, however, had been displaced, and the visitor, seeing this, said to the driver jestingly: "What is your name?" "O'Brien is my name," was the ready response.

"Ah," replied the other, "is that so? There is nothing to show it." "Yes," was the reply, "it's on my cart." "It might have been," answered the other, "but it's obliterated now." "It isn't obliterated," rejoined the indignant Irishman, "it's O'Brien."

What We Owe the Shark.
The smiling shark may eat a man now and then—though scientists doubt it—but if he does, man gets even. He makes tinned soap and jelly of the smiling shark's fins, extracts fine machinery oil from his liver, makes hand-kerchiefs from his skin, walking sticks from his backbone and many useful articles from his jaw-bones and teeth. Do you wonder that the shark takes a nip at a man's leg now and then?—Duluth News-Tribune.

SLUMP IN MEDAL MARKET.

It Is Stated That English Decorations Are Now Being Sold at Cut Rates Prices.

All markets are liable to fluctuation, and that for war medals is just now experiencing a violent swing back of back of the pendulum. That these souvenirs will eventually recover their former value scarcely admits of doubt, says the Kansas City Journal. For one thing, they grow older and historically more important. For another, there is always the possibility that a drop in prices may induce a fresh lot of collectors to enter the arena. For the moment, however, the market is somewhat upset by the death of a great collector, who spent freely. Dealers with an eye to the main chance bought considerable quantities of medals, and for a time turned them over again at a good margin of profit. Now they find a slackened demand, and themselves the holders of goods on which they cannot realize anything like the prices at which they acquired them. There is nothing for it, apparently, but patience.

Unique examples are probably quite worth their money to-day, but they must possess exceptional associations. Of this type are the bugle and four medals of Trumpet Major J. J. who sounded the charge at Balaclava. They were sold in 1898 for £731. As much as £1,081 has been given for the peninsular gold cross, but that was probably exceptional, and £560 is a later figure. When Nelson won the battle of the Nile, Alexander Davidson was so annoyed that no medal was presented to England's naval hero that he had one struck on his own account, in gold, silver, bronze and pewter. The gold specimen which he gave to Nelson was sold three years ago at the King street rooms and brought £130. For the Victorian cross the highest price obtained at the same mart was 100 guineas. This was given to a member of the Shannan naval brigade, and is doubtless more valuable on account of the exceptional character of the act of gallantry which is recorded. The trophy, it is interesting to record, was once pawned for five shillings. To-day a Victorian cross is worth from £40 to £50.

South African war medals have been dumped on the market. When they were first issued they were worth £5 at auction. Now a medal with six bars can be got for ten shillings. Crimean medals with four bars are to-day 30 per cent. cheaper than they were five years ago. The highest price paid for a private soldier's Peninsular medal was for one with 13 bars. This brought 50 guineas, and afterward "escaped" in the post. Old Indian medals are highly esteemed, and an officer's worth intrinsically something like half a crown, has been known to fetch £64. The fall at the present time, as has been suggested, is among the more mediocre class of decorations. Collectors of medals are numbered by the hundreds, and, therefore, there is a level of values beyond which descent is practically impossible. Perhaps the kindest way of putting the present position is to say that there has been a pause in the upward movement, and a sagging which was inevitable, pending the entry of some new Richmond into the field.

STRANGER TO THE FLAG.

Backwoodsman of Alabama Who Had Never Seen the National Emblem.

"A man was discovered in Coosa county, Ala., last winter who had never seen the American flag. What is more, he had not the least perception of what it meant and was much astonished when this was explained to him.

The incident happened in the loggia pine country in which the Kaul lumber company is operating, near the little backwoods town of Junata. A party of the government foresters was encamped in the woods beside the road. A large flag tied to a sapling pine announced the site as a government camp.

One evening a little old man came down the road driving a yoke of steers, and stopped to inquire whether the party would like to buy some pork. He got out of his cart, set down on a stump, and after a moment's conversation, his eye caught sight of the flag on the sapling. He looked at it in a puzzled way, then asked what it was. The men thought at first that he was joking, but it was soon apparent the question was in good faith.

"That's the American flag, man. Haven't you ever seen the flag before?" No, he had never seen a flag of any kind before. He had heard there were such things, and once he had seen a picture of a flag on a poster, but that was a long time ago, and he had almost forgotten about it. He had lived in the woods all his life, and had never been more than 13 miles from home. He wanted to know what the flag meant, and listened in silence when this was explained to him. He did not know how to read or write, and had never heard that the Fourth of July was any different from any other day.—Collier's Weekly.

Wax Figure Surgeon.
A Minneapolis woman, Mrs. Zimmerman, is surgeon in chief to many of the wax figures in that city. She thoroughly understands the construction of these dapper inhabitants of the show windows, and when any of them meet with accidents or receive scars or disfigurements of any kind, Mrs. Zimmerman can put them to rights again, making a comfortable living out of their misfortunes.

Skill of Heber's Wife.
Jael had just driven the nail into Sisera. "And I didn't hit my thumb once," she boasted. Herein we see the true reason why the incident became history.—N. Y. Sun.

MR. BRUIN IS CORRECTED.

Gets Too Attentive to the Lady Next Door and Mrs. Bruin Protests.

"Wouf! W-o-o-o-ouf!" Mrs. Pike's Peak Rocky Grizzly opened her eyes warily and looked at her mate, Mr. P. P. R. Grizzly, the champion bear of the bear dens at the New York zoological park. The ribald old sinner was standing up against the iron fence rubbing noses with Mrs. Northwest Territory Grizzly, who, with her mahogany mate, occupied the next den to the north, relates the New York World.

There has been a scandal brewing at the park for several weeks, and it has delighted everyone, from the elephant to the crocodiles. No one of the visitors has noticed it, but the keepers have smiled ominously when they have noticed the gay old Mr. Pike's Peak Grizzly making eyes at the mate of his neighbor. The keepers know what happens when such things are done. They know the terrible jealousy of a female bear, and they have been looking for an outbreak for some time.

Mrs. Pike's Peak is more lovely than Mrs. Northwest Territory, but every man knows that because his wife is attractive that does not blind him to the beauty of other females.

Mrs. Pike's Peak has been sulking for weeks. She has eaten very little, and has lain in a corner of the yard watching her better half's love-making through the iron bars.

While her mate rubbed noses through the fence the other afternoon, Mrs. Pike's Peak crept toward him. The keepers held their breath, because they knew the psychological moment had come. The fascinating Mr. Pike's Peak continued to whisper through the fence. Mrs. Pike's Peak stood up behind him. Mrs. Northwest Territory edged away blinking. She could see the terrible fire in the eyes of the indignant she bear.

Quickly, and with the force of a battering ram, the great arm of Mrs. Pike's Peak landed on the ear of her unsuspecting mate. His great bulk toppled over, like a meal sack on the ground. Then he jumped up whistling: "Wouf! W-o-o-o-ouf!"

His mate was close at his heels, however, and rained blow upon blow on his offending head, and finally tipped him over bodily into the tank of ice water. There he stuck his nose out of the water and took in respiration. The female bear stood ready to bite him another one the minute he came out. There was a long and angry dispute in bear language, from the whines and grunts of which the keepers guessed that the male was supplicating and the female denouncing. Finally Mrs. Pike's Peak wheeled around and went to her corner. Mr. Pike's Peak scrambled out of the water and hustled into the stone cave. He didn't come out again all day.

"I guess there won't be any more fighting," said a keeper.

CAUSES INFANT MORTALITY

Children of the Poor Improperly Fed and Have Insufficient Nourishment.

One of the causes of infant mortality is the ignorance existing among the poor concerning the feeding of children. The matter of a child's diet is a very important one. Too great care cannot be exercised as to what articles of food are given a child in the first few years of its existence, says Medical Talk for the Home.

The children of the poor are often given beer or gin to drink, and this cannot fall but be detrimental to the growing body of the child. Some mothers who are addicted to the tea habit give it to their children freely. These drinks are given to the children in place of milk. They furnish no nourishment for the child, and of course retard its growth, weaken it, and render it very liable to sickness. When milk is given the child it is often of the poorest quality, and perhaps contains some preservative, as boracic acid, or some other equally harmful addition.

The foodstuffs used, meat, vegetables, fruits, bread, etc., are generally of the cheapest and poorest—tainted meat, decomposing fruit and vegetables, things wholly unfit for food.

If the doctor who visits among the poor, instead of simply leaving a bottle of medicine or a few powders, would make some inquiry as to the food the child is given to eat and what it has to drink, he would doubtless find that what the child needs is not a drug or a powder, but some good, wholesome food, pure milk, and sanitary surroundings. If ever there was a place the doctor can be of use it is here, in teaching these mothers the kind of food to procure for their children, how to prepare it, and so on. Good food, properly cooked and well masticated, will do more to prevent sickness and death among the children of the poor than anything the doctor can concoct or prescribe in the way of powders, pills, or bottled medicines.

Fried Sweetbreads.
Parboli, and when cold dip them in beaten egg and cracker crumbs, sprinkle salt over them and fry in hot fat, take one tablespoonful of this fat, and then stir into it one tablespoonful of flour, then set the pan back a little and add gradually one cupful of milk, stir until smooth; season with salt and pepper, a little very finely chopped celery, and cook about two minutes. Pour over the sweetbreads.—Good Literature.

SAVED BY THE REINDEER.

Animals Brought from Siberia by Our Government Feed Starving Eskimos.

The government has now given out the details of the experiment made by Uncle Sam in Alaska with importing reindeer to take the place of the native animals which had begun to die out. This has enabled the Eskimos who still live in Alaska to preserve their tribes.

Owing to the diminishing numbers of the moose and caribou the natives had begun to lack both food and the only method of traveling over their frozen country.

It was Dr. Sheldon Jackson, the government agent of the United States bureau of education for the territory, who as far back as 1890 noticed that the natives were losing their source of their food supply. The whales had retreated northward; the walrus had disappeared almost entirely; the seals were nearly exterminated, and even the caribou had died out.

It was evident that famine faced the Alaskans, and so in 1901 Dr. Jackson brought over from Siberia the first herd of reindeer, 16 in all. The experiment was thought to be somewhat useless and expensive, but later it has been proved that the government aid has proved a good means of living and that the investment will pay well in the long run.

The reindeer were brought from northwest Siberia, where nature is very severe, and in which the czar's government takes no part to aid them. When the importation by Uncle Sam was first attempted were made to stop it. It was then too late, as the first herd was already taking well to the native moose of Alaska.

This moose grows wild and is found in sufficient quantity to support myriads of reindeer. At the regular rate of natural increase, even if no more animals are brought over here, there will be plenty of reindeer in Alaska by natural increase of the imported herds.

GIRL MESSIAH IN EUROPE.

New Religious Sect in Germany That Believes Christ Is Reincarnated in Maid of Fifteen.

A strange religious sect has been founded at Annaberg, in the district of Erzgebirge, by the superstitious and ignorant working people who have come to believe that Christ has become reincarnated in the person of a fair-haired, blue-eyed girl of 15, says the Pittsburg Gazette. The fact that this girl quoted Scripture in her sleep was considered a miracle by her relatives, and she is now fully convinced of her mission herself, and often goes into a trance, during which she makes symbolical utterances.

The news of this sect recently reached the police, who appeared at one of their services. The believers were seated on a hill just outside the town and on the summit, on a green velvet cushion was the girl. After the police had heard enough blasphemy they proceeded to arrest her, but were attacked by her adherents, and a fight followed, which kept the local court busy with assault cases for several days. The girl was placed under observation in a hospital, but was declared sane and sent home, where she was welcomed as a martyr by her believers, who held a rousing meeting.

A Berlin journalist who was present says that the audience was in a state bordering on frenzy. The girl fell into a trance and then a strange voice said: "Peace be with you, I am Christ." As she spoke all the hearers removed strange coverings, which they had placed upon their heads. The voice went on to say that it had chosen this poor girl to speak through because she was honest.

Then followed a strange jargon of religious phrases, and when the voice faltered people were sobbing and writhing on the floor in religious ecstasy.

FINE WOODEN MILLINERY.

Many Handsome Hats, Unknown to Their Wearers, Are Made of Shavings.

It is not generally known that many of the handsome summer hats worn by the ladies of this country are literally made from wood shavings, says the Scientific American. The finest examples of this industry are produced in Japan, these wooden dainties appearing in many forms, some of which have almost the delicacy and sheen of satin, while others resemble soft and dainty crepes. Only about 15 per cent. of the shavings is exported in the form of wood shavings, the remainder being worked into what is commercially known as chip board, and which is employed in the same manner as straw braid, that is, for hats, baskets and other fancy articles.

The exports in a single year from Japan have amounted to over \$550,000, the United States being a large buyer. The trade is steadily increasing, with a constantly growing demand, as the industry is comparatively new. White willow is considerably used in Germany; the Japanese manufacturers employ European poplar, spruce, Chinese cypress, cherry, burke, paulownia, false hickory and some other kinds of wood. The chips are produced by planing with special tools, the shavings being about 15 inches long and 1/2 inch and a half in width. The leading forms are known as crepe, net-crepe, striped crepe, scalloped crepe, net-crepe, relief figures, pushed, undulated, etc. The product takes dyes readily, and is so soft and flexible that the dearest effects in millinery goods can be secured.

Poultry Culture in England.
In spite of strong efforts made to increase poultry culture in England, the importation of eggs has again increased during the last year, amounting in value to \$22,054,900, as against \$20,420,000 during the year 1902.