

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN BELIEFS

Influence of Magic on the Lives of the People—Ideas of Heaven and Hell.

No nation in the world devoted so much attention to the subject of the future life as the ancient Egyptians, and yet, strangely enough, with so little effect upon their daily life in this world.

The greatest work on the future state was that known as the "Book of the Dead"—a marvelous compendium of magic, religion and folklore.

The Egyptian ideas of future life were the outcome of his magical belief that everything material or immaterial had its immortal double.

Here he lived, an ideal form of his life upon earth. He plowed his fields and grew the grain which supplied him with bread that grew not stale and beer that never became sour.

The belief in ancestor worship, no doubt, was an important element in the religion of the Egyptians.

As he truly remarks, it is an exact picture of the return of a long absent wanderer to his native village, such as may be seen any day in the Nile valley.

The underworld was a region of fire, lakes of fire, rivers of fire, and the damned were treated as captives, bound, beheaded, and each day brought to life to undergo fresh torture.

NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES.

Enormous Catch of Last Year Estimated at a Value of \$15,000,000.

The result of the New England fisheries in 1905 broke all records. According to the Scrap Book Maine contributed to the food supply of the world 1,000,000,000 packed sardines, valued at \$5,000,000, and in fresh fish alone Boston sold \$4,000,000 worth.

The great "T wharf" in Boston handled 100,000,000 pounds of fresh fish, valued at \$2,500,000. At this wharf as many as 50 fishing vessels have been moored at one time.

Gloucester, the home of the Grand Banks fishing fleet, provided for the world's consumption 125,000,000 pounds of salt fish, valued at \$3,750,000, and handled fresh fish to the value of \$2,000,000.

In the latter part of 1905 a revolution was promised in fishing methods by the addition of a new steam trawler to the fleet. Since fishing began on the Banks the work has been done by sailing vessels, which sailed out dorries on the fishing grounds and which, in their voyages back and forth between Boston and the Banks, are at the mercy of storms.

There are now more than 500 vessels of all sizes in the fishing fleet, ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$15,000, the entire fleet being valued at about \$3,000,000. If the spray, the new steam trawler, does the work expected of her it may mean the passing of the old-time sailing fleet.

The new steamer cost her owners \$60,000. She is equipped to permit of all fishing operations being carried on from her deck without the use of dorries and the consequent loss of life attendant upon the old methods of fishing, when boats were frequently lost in the fog or run down by Atlantic steamers. The spray drags her own trawl nets and is expected to make huge hauls and fast time between the fishing grounds and the home port.

ANCHORS THAT FOLD.

MODERN MUDHOOKS THAT OCCUPY LITTLE SPACE.

Constantly Increasing Demand for Them Occasioned by the Growing Numbers of Pleasure Craft.

"Folding beds are not the only things made to shut up," said the marine hardware man. "There is, for instance, the folding anchor."

"Originally all anchors were made with the stock stationary, and as the stock, at one end of the shank, was set at right angles to the shank and in effect parallel with the arms and flukes at the other end—the object of the stock, of course, being to tilt the anchor and make one of the flukes engage—a big anchor would take up a lot of space."

"The fixed stock of the old anchors were made of wood. Later they came to make them of iron, and these iron stocks they made movable so as to occupy less space when not in use. This was the first folding anchor."

"In these anchors, while the stock folds down, the arms, with flukes attached, still extend rigidly from either side at the foot of the shank. Then came the patent anchor, without a stock, and with flukes in line at the end of an arm pivoted through the end of the shank."

"Thus pivoted the flukes can swing to either side of the shank, and the flukes are forged in such shape that when the anchor is dragged on the bottom their points are inclined downward and made to bury. With no stock attached, the shank of this anchor is pulled right in through the hawsehole, the flat flukes lying snug against the side of the vessel."

"And now we have for smaller vessels folding anchors, anchors that actually fold up—of which there are a number of styles."

"One sort has no stock, but has four arms, somewhat like a grapple, so that one or more arms will engage on whatever side the anchor may fall. These four arms are each hinged where they are joined to the shank. They are held outward in place by a collar that slips down the shank upon them and locks them at the base."

"When the anchor is not in use the collar is slid back and the arms fold up against the shank, the collar being then slid down over their points to hold the arms there. So the anchor can be folded up completely."

"Another folding anchor is of the typical anchor form, with two arms terminating in flukes and with a stock in the regulation manner at right angles to the arms, where they join the shank. A pin holds the arms in place when extended and in like manner another pin holds the stock."

"When the arms are folded up against the shank their pin holds them in place there, and when the hinged stock is folded down against the shank the stock pin holds that there."

"Folding anchors all of galvanized iron are made in sizes ranging in weight from six pounds to 200 pounds. A six-pound folding anchor, folded, you could carry in your pocket easily. It might make your pocket sag a little, but there would be plenty of room for it there."

"How much of a boat an anchor will hold depends of course on the kind of boat and on the waters in which it is used, but that little six-pound folding anchor would do for a rowboat."

"Folding anchors are, of course, so made in order to save space. They are used on small boats, launches, power boats, yachts, pleasure craft of various sorts and often as spare anchors. Folded they can be stowed in a locker or in any convenient place. In this form they occupy but very little space."

"We have been selling folding anchors for some years, but now we sell more than ever, what with the constantly and greatly increasing numbers of pleasure craft in use."

Somewhat Fishy.

The best fishermen in the world are preachers, doctors and actors. And some of them are mighty hunters. Dr. Rainford was without a peer. Good old Dr. Robert Collier once said: "I think a trout really loves to be caught by a nimble angler and breathe out its life on the beautiful green grass." Bishop Dudley, of Kentucky, lived in the mountains a part of each year and was regarded as the crack shot of the blue grass state. Joseph Jefferson was one of the most expert anglers President Cleveland ever knew. It used to be said of Jefferson: "The fish held a meeting one day while Joe and Grover were wetting their lines and the spokesman said: 'Fellows, I want the first nibble at the old man's bait. All of you stand back. He may be smarter than I am, but I don't believe it. However, accidents happen in the best regulated families. If Rip lands me don't worry. It is always an honor to be a straphanger on his line.'"

Not Important.

"Here is a letter for you. I've carried around in my pocket for two weeks," said the trembling husband. "That's all right," said his wife, with a smile. "It's only my dressmaker's bill."—Detroit Free Press.

Some Mistake.

Miller—Jack, I hear you can't meet your creditors. Jack—Mistake, dear, really, I meet one about every five minutes.—Illustrated Bits.

RUSSIA BUILDING NAVY.

Fleet of Torpedo Boats Has Been Built with Extraordinary Rapidity.

After having lost practically the whole of her navy in the war with Japan, Russia is now making strenuous efforts to renew her vanished fighting strength on sea. Already the government of the czar has obtained a complete fleet of torpedo boats, no less than ten of these formidable craft having been recently completed and handed over to the government in full working order.

This information comes from the constructor himself, a prominent American shipbuilder. These were all built in the government navy yards at Sebastopol, where this man was given full control of a large section of the yards for the purpose. The construction of the ten torpedo boats was only commenced a year ago, and the last one has only just left the stocks. They are all of American design fitted with American machinery, their power being obtained from gas engines. All the boats are swift and they successfully exceeded the contract requirements in this respect. They are also heavily armed. The contract stipulated that they should be so constructed as to be easily transported by rail, with the result that Russia now possesses a fleet of gunboats which she can take up from the waters from any part of her empire and transport overland to any other part. The advantage of this is obvious, and it shows that the Russian government has taken to heart the lesson of the war with Japan. The new boats are now all in the Black sea. The construction of these vessels was carried out with extraordinary rapidity and every record in building was broken. For instance the first boat built was turned over to the government for use in five weeks and five days from the laying of her keel, which means that she was completed in about one-sixth of the previous fastest time for any similar work.

LETTER FROM APACHE GIRL

Application for Employment That Would Be a Credit to a White Woman.

W. J. McDermith, of Avon, Col., recently inserted in an Arizona newspaper the following advertisement, says the Tombstone (Ariz.) Epitaph:

"Wanted—A dishwasher; no objection to age or color; lady preferred." A short time afterward the following reply, which may or may not be genuine, was received:

"My Dear Sir: I saw your ad in a paper. Would not have dared answer it if it had not stated positively that there was no objection to color. You may be able to judge from my photograph, which I am sending you, that I am an Indian. I belong to the Apache tribe and live at the San Carlos reservation. Have lived some time in the civilized world and am no longer satisfied to associate with the members of my tribe, so I am willing to link my fate with a white man's. No doubt you are the man I am looking for."

"I am well educated for an Indian. This picture shows me in the native costume. I am considered good looking. I will gladly become your dishwasher if only you will learn my language so we can converse in it, for even yet the English seems a cold, harsh language for me. I hope you have a good wigwam, as I am a chief's daughter and am used to the best our tribe could furnish. No doubt you can furnish plenty of 'frivolous' and 'torillas.' Feeling sure from what you said in the paper that you are not overly particular, I am hoping I may come up to your ideas of a dishwasher. Adios, mi amigo, adios. Ever yours, "MICHACHA BONITA, "San Carlos, Ariz."

WOMEN AS HOUSE-BUILDERS

Many Begin as Decorators and Later Direct Construction of Entire Houses.

The number of women who practice the profession of architecture is very much greater than the number of women architects, anomalous as this may seem, says the New York Sun.

Most of the women who make a business of building houses have men in their offices to do the architectural part of the work for them. Usually they begin as decorators, and if they prosper they soon find that orders to build houses also come to them.

Usually they have previously added an architect to their office staff, or simple efforts at decoration frequently demand the skill of a trained architect. After while the architect builds the houses when the orders begin to come in.

There are many women decorators now prosperous enough to have architects in their employ. One of these now occupies a four-story building in a side street of Fifth avenue merely for her own business. She began in one room downtown only a few years ago.

Mountain as a Tomb.

Martin Evans, a Tennessee millionaire, has bought Government Peak, in the Colorado range, near Pueblo, and has named it the Evans mausoleum. He has decided to reserve it as the monumental burial-ground of his family.

Just So.

Stone—I spoke to the chemist, and he advised me that I should— Doctor (interrupting)—O, he gave you some idiotic advice. I suppose he advised me to see you."—Stray Stories.

GIRLS' SCHOOL IN CHINA.

An Event Which Marks the Progress of Education in That Country.

Consul Haynes, of Nanking, writes as follows about female education in China:

"The viceroy of the Liang Kiang provinces, Chou-fu, one of the most progressive of the higher Chinese officials, has recently founded a school for girls in Nanking. At the opening exercises, which were largely attended, the viceroy delivered an address, which impressed the people that this girl school was no ordinary institution. It is supported by subscriptions from a number of leading families of Nanking, who have raised \$1,432, annually. The school is located in a quiet place with spacious buildings. Six lady teachers have been engaged, three to teach English and three Chinese."

"The opening of this school is an important event in Nanking, as it is really the birth of female education in this ancient city, for, as has been remarked, 'in every new undertaking for the advancement of China, unless the Chinese themselves feel the need, and assume the responsibility, it can hardly be said to have taken root in Chinese soil.' The interest taken in this school by the leading officials of Nanking indicates the dawn of freedom for China's girls and women. For the last few years the missionary girl schools have been doing good work, but this is the first school established under the patronage of the viceroy. China is awakening to realize that a nation's strength and prosperity lie in the education of her daughters."

USED MAP FOR A WEAPON.

Unrolled with a Quick Flip, It Frightened a Tiger Into the Jungle.

While a well-known local surveyor, who had been kept out late at work at night, was driving in a rikisha along Tampanis road, his rikisha coolie suddenly dropped the shafts and ran for his life into the edge of the jungle, relates the Straits Budget.

On peering into the darkness (the vehicle was not carrying a light) the gentleman saw a large creature standing in the middle of the road. He got out of the rikisha and went toward the beast, thinking it some large dog that had frightened the coolie. When within six or seven yards away he perceived that the obstructor of the path was a large tiger.

He had no weapon except a large district survey map rolled up. He saw the futility of attempting to disable the tiger with the rolled-up map, but a thought struck him that he might manage to frighten it by means of his roll. Suddenly he unrolled it with a quick flip, spreading it to its full area of four or five feet square. With a single bound the tiger cleared off into the jungle.

The next thing was to find the coolie, who eventually was discovered in a state of collapse in the ditch. He was quite unable to pull his fare back, and it was not until three or four miles had been traversed that he recovered sufficiently to drive the European home.

JAPANESE AS SERVANTS.

Are Willing to Do Half the Work of Others Employed with Them.

Japanese servants long ago won, by their industry and efficiency, the respect of their American employers, else they would not be able to get salaries that range from \$30 to \$75 a month. Their yellow servants of other races are just as appreciative of their abilities. They know that they can be relied on to do their own work and all that the other servants neglect.

It is surprising to see how much a Japanese will do of the work that five or six maids are hired to accomplish in a house. He will help the parlor maid at her duties one minute and the next will find him assisting the waitress to set the table. He is not above helping a chamber maid to clean the rooms and he loves to help the laundress to carry the bundles of clothes upstairs. He is delighted to run errands for the cook and is amiable enough to help the kitchen maid to peel potatoes when she is late at her work.

All this aid and comfort to his fellow servants is given with no neglect of his master's business. So there is nothing for the housekeeper to say against his varied efficiencies. He does, however, have the effect of making servants more lazy and careless than before. He usually does about half their work.

Norway in Scotland.

Few people are aware of the fact that the Orkney and Shetland islands, strictly speaking, belong to the kingdom of Norway, a circumstance which has been recalled by the recent events at Christiania. Towards the close of the fifteenth century King Christian of Norway pledged the Orkneys and the Shetlands, over which his rule was undisputed, to King James III. of Scotland for the payment of the dowry of his daughter Margaret, who became queen of Scotland. The pledge has not yet been redeemed.

Had Not Soaked In.

A negro boy had been converted and joined the church the Sunday before was up in police court for stealing coal. The boy pleaded guilty, but attributed his fall from grace to the fact that he had not yet been baptized. Upon the advice of the city attorney sentence was suspended until the prisoner could be baptized.—Chickasha (I. T.) Express.

HOW CHOCTAWS HUNT DEER

Hounds Run Animal to Cover and the Indians Kill It with a Stone.

A better illustration of the primitive methods of the Choctaw Indian hunters could not be given than the following story, as told by eye witnesses of the feat:

A squad of hunters had been hunting nearly six hours one day, just before the first fall of snow. The mountains and valleys were covered by a heavy frost. A deer which had evidently been shot had just passed down the mountain and headed for the creek half a mile below. The hunters followed the scent as fast as possible.

Reaching the heavy growth of brush and trees which swept the bank of the stream, they saw a young Indian riding right toward the creek. Several hounds were baying, and when they approached closer they saw that the dogs had run the deer to cover. He was a beauty, and presented a grand sight as he backed into the creek from the great red rocks, with the pack of hungry Indian dogs following him and barking loudly. The Indian quickly sprang from his pony and picked up a stone about the size of a baseball. He drew back deliberately, just like a crack baseball pitcher, and then hurled the stone through the air.

He struck the deer squarely between the eyes and down the animal fell in a foot of water. Like a cat, Quick Eye, as the Indian was called, rushed to its side and pulled the dogs off. The stone had done its work. As though it was a usual occurrence, the Indian picked up the carcass, tossed it over his shoulder and carried it over to his horse, after which he rode toward his home.

CAPITALISTIC PAUPERS.

Many Who Have Posed as Beggars Found at Death to Have Been Possessed of Riches.

If a census of the people in the metropolis who possessed comfortable fortunes, but lived practically as beggars, were compiled, it is probable that these misers would number several thousands. But these people lived in obscure byways of the city, and only death reveals their curious lives to the public eye, says a New York letter. Within the last week two of these eccentrics have died whose cases attracted more than usual attention. One of them, Miss Mary Coras, was found dead from starvation at her home in a dilapidated old mansion in the upper part of the city, with some \$200,000 in cash and debts for several hundred thousand dollars' worth of property bequeathed stowed away in her garret. The other eccentric was an old ragpicker, Thomas McNally, who was found dead in the streets, clothed in mean rags, with 29 bank books, aggregating deposits of \$45,000, strapped about his body. McNally's father, a junkman, died 20 years ago and left him and his two sisters, Mary and Bridget, \$30,000. McNally put the money in various banks, took a back room in a squalid tenement for himself and another for his sisters, and became a ragpicker. His sisters also were sent out to deliver among ash cans. The three never spoke to any of their neighbors. They lived on two bags of rolls a day. Last summer Bridget died, and when Thomas saw the undertaker putting a cheap black rag on the door he growled: "Take it away; it costs too much." Now that he, in turn, is dead, Mary is leaving the money in the bank, and still goes out with her rag sack every morning.

TIPPING SYSTEM IN INDIA.

There Is Always a Multitude of Servants with the Eager Extended Hand.

In the first place, when we arrive in a town, our baggage is carried from the train to a carriage by four coolies. I have seen no baggage wagons here, the custom is for a second-class carriage to handle the baggage, on top, relates E. W. Howe, in Atchison Globe.

Arrived at the hotel, the baggage is carried to our room by four coolies. Then there is the table waiter, the room man, the scavenger, the man who brings hot water, and the man who does this, that and the other. Of course, the driver of your carriage expects a tip, in addition to his fee, as does the footman who rides behind. I have said nothing of the men who are constantly in front of your room offering to sell you a snake, tell your fortunes, make a tree grow out of the ground, make music or perform athletics. Nor have I mentioned the man who appears and presents you with flowers, to reappear with a demand for pay when you are ready to depart.

When I settled my bill at the Benares hotel the clerk and the manager sat side by side. The clerk made out the bill and I paid it, whereupon the clerk gave it to a servant to carry to the manager, who receipted it and sent it back to me by the servant. The clerk might have handed the bill to the manager; the manager might have handed it to me. But that is the custom over here, and as it has been the custom thousands of years, I won't attempt to change it on this hurried trip.

Will Written on Ice.

The strangest will on record is that of a Connecticut clergyman who broke through the ice of a certain pond. Finding that he was unable to get out upon the ice and realizing that he had but a short time to live because of the bitter cold, he took his knife and wrote his will on the smooth surface of the ice. It was found, duly sworn to and recorded, as his last will and testament.

INDIANS IN NEW YORK.

About Five Thousand in the State, Most of Whom Get Government Aid.

The state of New York has had for more than a century "an Indian question," but so judiciously has New York handled it that few persons are aware of the fact that there are more than 5,000 Indians living on reservations in this state, maintaining tribal relations without controversy, dispute or disorder. The new census shows the number of such Indians on reservations to be exactly 5,000, of whom 1,472 are in the Cattaraugus reservation in the western part of the state, 1,200 are on the St. Regis reservation in Franklin county, fronting on the St. Lawrence river, and 225 in the Onondaga reservation of 7,300 acres near the city of Syracuse.

Twenty years ago the number of Indians on reservations in New York state was 4,800. Thirty years ago it was 4,707. Forty years ago it was 4,129. Fifty years ago it was 3,934. Instead of New York Indians on reservations dying out they appear to be increasing.

The Indians on the Cattaraugus and Allegheny reservations receive an annuity from both the state and federal governments. The Indians on the St. Regis reservation get an annuity from the state only. The Tonawanda Indians, who number 500 and who have a reservation of 7,500 acres not far from Buffalo, receive for their support what is known as the "wood tax," which is paid by those who occupy any of their lands. The Onondaga Indians get an annuity from the United States government under a treaty made with it, and they get an annuity also from the state, in addition to which they receive a certain amount of salt each year—in part compensation for their surrender to the state of lands now in use for salt works near Syracuse.

The state of New York pays to Indians on reservations about \$3,000 a year in annuities, in addition to such amounts as come to them for relief or for the maintenance of Indian schools.

WHEN LAW WAS IN THE BUD

The Bar of Justice and the Barroom Were Very Closely Related.

When men want to do a thing they legalize it, and the things they do not want to do they place a penalty on. We do not refrain from doing a thing because it is against the law, but we pass a law against the thing we refrain from doing, says the New York American.

In England, during the reign of the barons, it was a crime for a lawyer to accept a fee. The lawyer was a clerk or interpreter for the court, and his business was simply to assist the claimant in presenting his case to the judge in an expeditious and intelligent form, it having been discovered that most claimants were louts and lubbers, with no definite idea as to what they wanted or what they were entitled to. To save the time of the court, clerks were employed, called barristers, to examine each case and see if the man had any real grounds for grievance, and if he had, help him explain it to the court.

A bar ran across the room to separate the claimants from the judge or judge, for the judge often called in friends to sit with him on the woolsack.

The late Irving Browne, in a paper called "The Curiosities of the Law," tells how at the close of court the English magistrate in the twelfth century ordered a portion of frog to be given to every person present, this being passed over the bar by the barristers, the desire being to send everyone away happy and to prove to all parties that the judge acted without prejudice. It will thus be seen that the barroom and the bar of justice are nearly related. In fact, the first barroom was a courtroom.

When a young man was admitted to the bar it meant that he could go on either side of the bar at will.

CLUBWOMEN TO RESCUE.

They Have Supplied a New Field to the Teacher of Eloquence.

The occupation of the woman eloquentist might be gone altogether but for a new field for her labors that has recently come into existence. The day of speaking pieces is past. Young ladies no longer rise in the drawing room to recite: "Of all the oparats the Verdi wrote," or to intone "Lorraine, Lorraine, Loree." Even at school commencements there is no place on the programme for the old-fashioned recitations.

The elocutionists, therefore, might have been very hard up for work had there not arisen a new demand for their services. It was created by the women's clubs.

When women want to deliver a speech with great effectiveness they learn it by heart and the teacher of elocution does the rest. She teaches them how to deliver its periods in the most effective way and how to hurl its peroration at the bonnets of the assembly in manner certain to arouse enthusiasm.

Elocution was a declining art until the clubwomen came to its rescue.

Halley's Comet in Four Years.

The next important comet to be expected within our range of vision will appear in 1910. It is known as Halley's comet and its first recorded appearance was in 11 B. C., since when it has appeared regularly every 76 years. Prof. Pickering, of Harvard, explains that the earth has a cometary tail of its own at certain times. This tail is composed of those great auroras that sometimes envelop the earth's polar regions.