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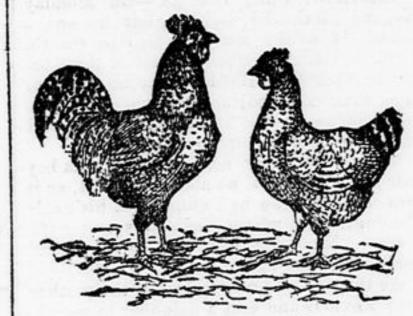
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GREEK PIRATES

of Their Bold Ancestors.

They Still Exist, but as Humble Imitators

Recent declarations of the Greek newspapers that a regular piratical organization still survives in some of the more outof-the-way parts of the Mediterranean receive a certain amount of confirmation from the confessions of two men arrested in the Piræus on charges of piracy not long ago. The headquarters of the band is said to be Alvali, and two dozen ships are said to be engaged in the business. The scene of their operations, it is further stated, is the coast of Asia Minor and the Islands of the Archipelago, and by means of false papers the booty is landed in Greece duty free. Cattle stealing is the chief part of the enterprise, but it is said that vessels are also attached. Indeed, the prisoners admit that a short time ago they, in company with others, attacked a Greek vessel on the coast of Ephesus, whose crew had gone ashore for water, killed the cap-tain, who had remained on board, carried off the cargo consisting of fifteen oxen, and sold the beasts on the high seas.

The plan of the pirates was to rob outside of Greek waters, and within them to pose as honest merchants. This is why they have been able for so long to practice their trade in security under the very eyes of the authorities. The alleged piracy evidently has been on a small scale and of a most unromantic character, but the existence of it was unsuspected and a thorough investigation has been set on foot.

Vans and Racehorses.

It is difficult for owners and trainers of the present day, when a valuable horse, trained to the hour, can be sent anywhere to meet an engagement within twenty-four hours, to appreciate the difficulties felt by their predecessors before railways were introduced. In those days horses were marched over the country at the rate of ten miles a day, and a winner of the Oaks in 1836 was despatched at once from Epsom to take part in the Newcastle Plate, with a full month spent on the journey. Lord George Bentick's enterprise devised a plan by which racehorses were placed in a van, a sort of travelling stable, and taken by post-

norses all over the kingdom. The first occasion on which this new machine was employed was when Elis was sent from Goodwood to take part in the St. Leger in 1836, when the horse had been left temporarily in charge of John Kent's father. His successes at Goodwood and Lewes had induced Lord George to back him heavily for the Leger; but just before the race he found that some parties were helping themselves largely on his horse, and he made it known that unless his commissioner was accommodated with a bet of £12,000 to £1,000 he would not start him. The bet was laid, as John Kent suggests, because it was believed at that period to be impossible to get Elis to Dorchester in time

However, Lord George's newly-invented van was brought into requisition, and on the Friday before the race was started, laden by Elis and his schoolmaster, the Drummer. The distance of 250 miles was divided into three sections of about eighty miles each, and on the Sunday morning the two horses were galloping on the Lichfield racecourse. On the Monday evening Elis was safely stabled in Doncaster, the cost of the journey having been about £100. On the Wednesday he won the Leger, and Lord George was well repaid for this expenditure. When he finally joined the Good-wood Stable, Lord George had six such vans employed by John Kent and his father, and doubtless the invention had much to do with the success of the stable. -The Academy.

Fascination.

The London Queen discussing the subject of fascination, asks : What is it that attracts us in one face and repels us in another? We might say the plain impress of the spirit within if we were all attracted by the same person, and repelled by the same. But, as with that homely old adage which Orders filled as received. His McSWEYN & ANDERSON, BAR- sets forth how "one man's meat is another passionately loathes. The cause lies deep-er than this. It has its beginning in some secret source-some strange, undetected science of which we have not got the key. These subtle harmonies and no less subtle discords have their own "Ursprung," and we have to go farther yet into the mysteries of psycho-physiology before we come upon that well-concealed original cause. "Magnetic," some call it, which is merely resting the elephant on the back of the tortoise-and the tortoise on what? When we say "magnetic," how much nearer to the absolute cause of this harmony—this discord-are we ? We have given a name, but the name wants its definition; and then -that definition must be reduced to its elements. For, after all, what is this "magnetism" which we say we see because we feel? Is it a chemical affinity or a geometrical harmony? And in any case how is it, that one person can fascinate many, and so prove an indefinite amount of chemical affinity or a strangely complex geometrical arrangement of atoms?

Argenical Poisoning.

The danger through arsenical poisoning in our homes is not confined to the wall papers, having been found often present in cretonnes and imitation Indian muslin in poisonous quantities. "A curious case came under my notice lately which, I think, is of public value. A children's party and Christmas tree resulted in most of the little people and many of the older ones being seized with symptoms of mineral poisoning. The fact of several who were present who had not partaken of food or liquid of any kind being in the number of those affected directed my attention to the colored candles on the tree. These I had examined by the county analyst, Mr. Lowe, of Chester, whose report is to the effect that the green candles were colored with arsenical green, to the extent that every eight candles would contain one grain of arsenious anhydrite. He further reports that the red candles were colored with vermilion. There is no doubt, therefore, that we have not further to seek for an explanation of the symptoms—a crowded room, with the atmosphere charged with arsenical and mercurial fumes sufficiently accounting for it. It is only fair to state that I learn the candles were not of English manufacture, and were bought with the toys."-Chambers' Journal.

National Quarantine Law.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce a resolution requesting Congress to pass a national quarantine law was unanimously adopted.