

**A MUMMY PIT**

Last Winter's Discovery in the Necropolis of Thebes.

On Feb. 6 a discovery was made in the necropolis of Thebes second only in importance to the discovery of the royal mummies at Deir-el-Bahari by M. Maspero in 1881. About half a mile from Deir-el-Bahari a pit has been found containing several hundred magnificent mummies. These, like the royal mummies, had evidently been removed from the tomb and concealed in this receptacle, as a precaution, by the servants of the priests, probably at the same time and for the same reason which caused the royal mummies to be placed in the receptacle where they were found by M. Maspero. This removal is believed by M. Maspero to have taken place in the reign of Aaputh, son of Shasaag, of the twenty-second dynasty (circa 966 B. C.).

The coffins hitherto found all belong to the twenty-first dynasty and are those of the priests of Ra-Amun and their families. The pit is about forty-five feet in depth, at the bottom of which are two corridors filled with coffins and treasures of every description. In the lower corner—which as yet has only been explored—it is computed that there are some two hundred coffins, and the second corridor is believed to be not less extensive.

The shaft is forty-five feet deep, its mouth is about twelve feet in diameter, and its sides are of rough limestone. One of M. Grebaut's native assistants, who was superintending the work of hauling up the mummy cases, told me that he had been the first actually to enter the corridor where the mummies and treasures lie. The shaft had then been excavated only as deep as the mouth of the corridor, and he crept in on his hands and knees and stood on what he describes as being like a place of enchantment.

The corridor, he said, is some ten or twelve feet high and 250 feet long. It runs in a northerly direction from the shaft toward the Theban hill. At the end there is a short corridor branching from it at right angles, and at some height above the floor at the end is the entrance to a second very long corridor full of treasures, which has been sealed up for the present by M. Grebaut. Groups of mummies are placed at intervals in families. The number in each group varies from two to six or seven—father, mother and children—and around them exquisitely arranged, are vases, models of houses, models of dahabiehs, cases and boxes full of ushabtis, statuettes and every conceivable treasure of ancient Egypt. Without even a speck of dust upon them, this profusion of treasures had remained unlooked at by any eye for nearly 3,000 years. He said that photographs had been taken of the place in its undisturbed state, which he declared to be that of a perfectly kept and well arranged museum.

**SINGING SANDS.**

People Mystified Until the Music was Traced to Its Source.

One of the most remarkable natural curiosities ever heard of has just been discovered in Flint Hills, Kan. A long reach of country in that section is composed of sand beds and hills covered with small particles of flint interspersed with some larger rocks. It is utterly barren. A road passes through the desolate tract, but it is travelled only when the people are in a hurry, for it is hard on man and beast.

About two months ago the people were surprised by several slight earthquake shocks. The tremblings continued for several days. A few nights after the earthquake people at the farm of Jasper Newton, on the edge of Flint Hills, thought they heard the sound of music, and got up to see who was playing at that time of night. The sound rose and fell in regular cadence, but they could distinguish no time. It had more of the sound of an aolian harp than of any other instrument. They listened for some time, but as the music neither advanced nor retreated they concluded that it must be at some neighbor's, and the sound was carried by a peculiar condition of the atmosphere.

The next night the music came again, only it seemed to be louder and nearer. So loud was it that Mr. Newton could distinguish the fact that it came from the direction of the sand hills. The next night there was a heavy rain-storm, and the music did not sound for several nights afterward. Then came a dry spell of a week, and one evening as the family was sitting in front of the house the sweet strains were heard again, only they were not so loud as formerly and appeared to be at a much greater distance. As the dry weather continued the sounds became louder and nearer every night.

At last it was determined to solve the mystery if possible, and a party of young people set out for the Flint Hills determined to camp out all night and see what it was that caused the sounds. The first night they camped about the centre of the waste spot. After darkness came they quieted down and soon the sweet sounds were heard faintly in the direction of Newton's house. They thought at first that a trick was being played upon them by some one at Newton's, but the same strain continued with no variation of strength all night long. Then they moved their camp nearer to the edge of the barren place, and that night the music appeared to come from a spot about a hundred yards from them. The sound did not seem any louder than when heard at the house of Newton, but it was clearer and more distinct.

One of the party went out to investigate, and as he was walking about the music suddenly stopped. He stood still for some time, but not a sound came. Then he walked away, and had gone but a short distance when he heard the music behind him. Retracing his steps, it stopped again, but as he walked on it started up. He then marked the sand with a stick and went back to the tent. Next morning they investigated the place where the stick had been placed and found that it was almost gone. At the spot where it had been placed the sand was working as if something underneath was boiling. It bubbled and worked in concentric circles and evidently caused the music by the rubbing together of the particles during the curious phenomena. When it rained the wet sand would emit no sound.

A living barometer dwells in Centerville, Iowa. It is a boy, whose hair indicates the coming of a storm. A day or two before the storm his hair begins to curl.

**Extraordinary Precautions Against Diamond Robberies.**

Lord Randolph Churchill says the annual loss sustained by the De Beer's Company, through their diamonds being stolen by natives and others, is from 10 to 15 per cent. "To check this loss extraordinary precautions have been resorted to. The natives are engaged for a period of three months, during which time they are confined in a compound surrounded by a high wall. On returning from their day's work they have to strip off their clothes, which they hang on pegs in a shed. Stark naked they then proceed to the searching room, where their mouths, their hair, their toes, their armpits, and every portion of their body are subjected to an elaborate examination. White men would never submit to such a process, but the native sustains the indignity with cheerful equanimity, considering only the high wages which he earns. After passing through the searching-room they pass, still in a state of nudity, to their apartments in the compound, where they find blankets in which to wrap themselves for the night. During the evening the clothes which they have left behind them are carefully and minutely searched, and are restored to their owners in the morning. The precautions which are taken a few days before the natives leave the compound, their engagement being terminated, to recover diamonds which they may have swallowed, are more easily imagined than described. In addition to these arrangements, a law of exceptional rigour punishes with great severity illicit diamond buying, known in the slang of South Africa as I. D. B.-ism. Under this statute the ordinary presumption of law in favour of the accused disappears, and an accused person has to prove his innocence in the clearest manner instead of the accuser having to prove his guilt. Sentences are constantly passed on persons convicted of this offence ranging from five to fifteen years. It must be admitted that this tremendous law is in thorough conformity with South African sentiment, which elevates I. D. B.-ism almost to the level, if not above the level, of actual homicide. If a man, walking in the streets or in the precincts of Kimberley, were to find a diamond, and were not immediately to take it to the registrar, restore it to him, and to have the fact of its restoration registered, he would be liable to a punishment of fifteen years' penal servitude."

**A HOME FOR MONKEYS.**

Where These Connecting Links May Be Cared For and Bred.

A man of large means who resides in Washington has recently declared his intention, privately, to devote \$100,000 to a very original purpose.

His idea is that no satisfactory opportunity has ever been afforded for the development of the intellect of the brute. Intelligence, like bodily qualities, is susceptible of improvement through breeding, as every one knows who has thought about the evolution of the dog from the wolf by artificial selection. This rich man proposes that monkeys or apes shall be taken as subjects for experiments simply because man understands these animals better than he does others. Let fifty of them, males and half females, be placed in a paddock, suitably provided with separate quarters for the sexes. Then have them breed, pair by pair, as shall be directed by those who superintend. Some of them will develop certain abilities more conspicuously than others. For example, certain individuals will exhibit a superior understanding of the commands addressed to them, or will show a greater dexterity in the handling of objects. Those which appear stupid are to be expelled from the colony their places being filled by fresh recruits. When a male and a female are found who exhibit the same sort of aptitude in any direction, they are to be mated. This process, carried on for generations, would necessarily result in the development of superior characters, until finally, after the lapse of twenty-five years perhaps, there would almost certainly be had apes or monkeys far higher in the scale of reason than any known up to the present time.

**Worth Ten Dollars a Bottle.**

Any person who has used Polson's Nerviline, the great pain cure, would not be without it if it cost ten dollars a bottle. A good thing is worth its weight in gold, and Nerviline is the best remedy in the world for all kinds of pain. It cures neuralgia in five minutes; toothache in one minute; lame back at one application; headache in a few moments; and all pains just as rapidly. Why not try it to-day? Large bottles 25 cents, sold by all druggists and country dealers. Use Polson's nerve pain cure—Nerviline.

An invigorating and healthful confection, that cleans and preserves the teeth, Adams' Tutti Frutti Gum. Sold by all druggists and confectioners. 5 cents.

Enamelled jewelry is again fashionable, and set only flower pins, but the fine enamelled lockets, brooches, and pendants that were once so popular.

The sudden changes liable at this season result in cold in head, followed by catarrh and perhaps consumption and death if not speedily treated. Nasal Balm almost instantly relieves cold in head, and never fails to cure catarrh in its worst form. It has cured thousands and will cure others. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail on receipt of price (50c. or \$1 a bottle). G. T. Fulford & Co., Brockville, Ont.

Glace mohairs in plain and striped effects are shown for traveling gowns and dust cloaks.

**GIBBONS' TOOTHACHE GUM** For sale by Druggists. Price 15c.

Four-cornered hats are held by a rosette of velvet ribbon on each upturned point, and they should only be worn over a youthful face.

**Dr. T. A. Slocum's.**

**OXYGENIZED EMULSION OF PURE COD LIVER OIL.** If you have a wasting away of Flesh—Use it. For sale by all druggists.

Steel wagon wheels, with hollow fellos and spokes, are coming to the front. Detroit is manufacturing them to a large extent.

The Manitoba Pacific route of the Great Northern has opened up a new and picturesque route to Spokane, Washington. The route from St. Paul and Minneapolis runs via Neche, N. D., Winnipeg, Manitoba, to Revelstoke, B. C., thence by steamer on the Columbia River to Little Dalles and then rail to Spokane.

**Thrashed a Man Twice His Size.**

The other day a small, harmless looking man entered New York street car, and accidentally trod on the toes of a six-footer. He apologized, but the six-footer wasn't satisfied. He talked for some time, and finally invited the little man to leave the car and settle the matter on the sidewalk. Greatly to his astonishment, the latter accepted. Those who witnessed the contest say it didn't last long, but that the big fellow had to be carried home in an ambulance, while his diminutive antagonist walked away with a cheerful smile. And so it is with Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. They're not half as big as most of their rivals, but they do their work quietly and thoroughly. For sick headache, biliousness, dyspepsia, etc., there is nothing like them. They are the only Liver Pills absolutely sold on trial! Your money back, if they don't give satisfaction.

The youngest pupil in a school at Homer, Mich., is the teacher's aunt.

**Man or Woman Ghost or Human.**

We cannot say what will cure ghosts, but many men and many women who look like ghosts rather than human beings, through sickness, would regain health and happiness, if they would try the virtue of the world-renowned remedy, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Torpid liver, or "biliousness," impure blood, skin eruptions, scrofulous sores and swellings, Consumption (which is scrofula of the lungs), all yield to this wonderful medicine. It is both tonic and strength-restoring, and alterative or blood-cleansing.

The greatest scholars are not the wisest men.

**A Good Reason for Living.**

"She lives to love and she loves to live. She loves to live because she lives to love." Many think it is a sin to be sick; being so, one cannot bestow their affections on others as the Creator intended; being so, it certainly is a duty to cure yourself. Most women, these days, need an invigorating tonic. Worn-out teachers, "shop-girls," dress-makers, milliners, and those subjects to tire some labor, have found a boon in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is a soothing and strengthening nerve, inducing refreshing sleep relieves despondency and restores to full use all the appetites and affections of one's nature. It is sold, by druggists, under a guarantee from its makers that it will, in every case, give satisfaction, or price (\$1.00) will be promptly refunded.

A huge elm tree is the centre of a railroad station in Soho, West Virginia. The roof is shaped like an umbrella.

**All the Druggists sell**

that well-known preparation T. A. SLOCUM'S OXYGENIZED EMULSION OF PURE COD LIVER OIL, and no preparation for lung troubles, etc., deserves to be better spoken of. Consumptives can now take heart, for at the general office in Toronto, Canada, can be seen the highest testimonials that were ever given a similar medicine.

Cobweb veiling is the latest fancy, and is more novel than becoming. The veils show the lines of a cobweb on each cheek and on the forehead.

A cat in Chico, Cal., pounced upon a sparrow, and was about to make a meal of it, when a dozen other sparrows flew to the relief of its captured associate. They so terrified the cat that the latter hurriedly dropped the captive and ran away.

A. P. 573.

**Children always Enjoy It.**

**SCOTT'S EMULSION**

of pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites of Lime and Soda is almost as palatable as milk. A MARVELLOUS FLESH PRODUCER it is indeed, and the little lads and lassies who take cold easily, may be fortified against a cough that might prove serious, by taking Scott's Emulsion after their meals during the winter season. Beware of substitutions and imitations. SCOTT & BOWNE, Belleville.

**CARFIELD TEA** cures Constipation and sick-headache. Get free sample at Toronto Fair, or GARFIELD TEA AGENCY, 37 Church St., Toronto.

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**EVERY MAN** Who finds his mental faculties dull or failing, or his physical powers flagging, should take these PILLS. They will restore his lost energies, both physical and mental.

**EVERY WOMAN** should take these PILLS. They cure all suppressions and irregularities, which inevitably entail sickness when neglected.

**YOUNG MEN** should take these PILLS. They will cure the results of youthful bad habits, and strengthen the system.

**YOUNG WOMEN** should take them. These PILLS will make them regular.

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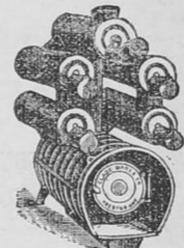
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