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### THE RIVER THAMES

London's Great Artery, With Its Crimes and Mysteries.

TRAPS FOR UNWARY VICTIMS.

Waterside Houses With Floors Opening at the Push of a Lever to Drop Its Fleeced Occupant Into a Watery Grave-Ghost Boats of the River.

· London's great artery, the river Thames, hides many a grim story under its murky waters, some of them centuries old, some of them merely incidents of yesterday. Just as no other river has quite the same wonder as be longs to the Thames, so no other river is so wrapped in mystery, so surround ed with stories of tragedy and crime. Many of the old waterside houses

which rise sheer with the bank, contain rooms in which the floor is built directly over the water-floors upon which one could stand in apparently perfect safety while some one in an adjacent room worked a lever which caused the floor to open and his vic tim to drop into the river.

A gambling club is said to have met in such a room once a year to play for tremendous stakes. The party played on until one of their members was ruined. Then the rest of the men wen away in silence, while the ruined man went down into the dark waters.

One of the old waterside houses a Wapping, too, is among the bits of the Thames with a reputation for being haunted. A flight of steps leads from the house to the river, but these steps are disused, and the door at the top of them is walled up. Despite this, often people passing by on the river at night time swear to baving seen two men come through the walled door and down the steps. Then, after lowering same bundle into the waters, they return to the house. The identity of the men and the contents of their bundle remain among the in-Boluble stories of the Thames.

The Thames police force of about 300 men is employed to guard against all sorts of additions to the mysteries of the Thames, and their task is of far greater magnitude than might be casually imagined. Most imperative is i that each member of this force shall be an expert swimmer and understand the right methods for dealing with persons rescued from the water.

A very large number of persons are saved from intentional and accidental drowning in the river every year, an average number somewhere between seventy and a bundred. But the number of persons who are "found drowned" strikes a still greater average-it is never less and often more than 100 in a year-besides which it is well known that the waters of the river close above many persons of whom

nothing more is ever seen or heard. But if stones could speak the bridges across the Thames could tell many pitiful and grim life stories, especially Waterloo bridge, which has such sad associations as to have gained it the sobriquet of "The Bridge of Sighs."

Incidentally, Waterloo bridge is another part of the Thames which is said to be haunted. It is not so very long since a more than usually clear sighted man went to the police with the information that he had seen a woman jump from the parapet of Waterloo bridge. He had been crossing the bridge late one night, when he had noticed a woman in black walking in front of him. Suddenly he saw her make an appealing gesture, but before he could reach the woman she had disappeared.

That was ail. There was no splash following her disappearance, and no resuit came from the search which was made. Those who are familiar with the history of the river said that the man had seen the ghost of Waterloo bridge -the tragic woman in black, of whom nothing is known save that she haunts the London "Bridge of Sighs."

Another mysterious thing about the Thames, which no amount of police supervision will destroy, is the "ghost" boats which have been and are frequently seen in various parts of the river. It is a fact that river police pasubstantial to be found on reaching the | cause they were "engrossers," monopplace where the ships had seemed to be. olizers.-London Chronicle. One of the most curious stories of this kind is that of the mysterious boat which was seen making its way along the water toward London bridge one day, about a quarter of a century ago. As she neared the bridge there was a tremendous explosion, a vivid burst of lost her temper. light, and then-nothing! Not so much as a splinter of wood remained of the boat which had been, and the story of it lingers from that day to this as one of the hundreds of tragic unknown

river of mystery.-London Answers. Talent Required. "If you go about it in a diplomatic

things which form the secrets of the

way I believe you can get a good sized loan from Scadsworth." "How do you mean?" "Well, tell him two or three rattling good stories that, will make him laugh | you make a remark to him. - Farm Life. uproariously and then recite the history of your misfortunes in such a way that he will shed tears." "Umph! If I could do all that I'd go

nto vaudeville and be a monologist."-

He Needed It. The Aviator-I've been five months completing and learning to control in machine. Mister B .- And what have you got for your pains? The Aviator-Embrocation.-London Telegraph.

Successful minds work like a gimlet -to a single point - Boree.

A Silk Revival. Gros de Londres is a rich, fashioned silk, which is vived for many uses pears among blouses.

THE ROPES OF MAUL

An Ancient Legend of the Sun From It Lies In Preper Use of the Club and One of the most picturesque legends connected with the solar beams is that told in the islands of the south Pacific. where sunbeams are known as "the ropes of Maui." It is related that in former times the sun god Ra was not

so regular in his habits as he is today. in fact, he caused the south sea Island ers much annoyance by setting in the morning or at poon or at other inopportune times, just when his light was needed for the daily tasks of mankind. The great hero Maul undertook to the first step was to make the sun god prisoner. This was accomplished by

laying a series of six snares made of strong coconnut fiber along the sun's path in the sky. When the deity next rost from Avaiki, or the land of ghosts, the first poose encircled him, but slipped down and only caught his feet; the second slipped, too, but caught the sun god's knees; the third caught around

Still Ra pressed on, scarcely hamby these contrivances. The noose tightened around waist, the fifth under his arms, and finally the sixth and last caught him around the neck and almost strangled him. Then the sun god confessed himself vanquished and in fear of his life promised Maul that he would in future adjust his daily journeys more in accordance with the comfort and convenience of mortal men.

Ra was then allowed to proceed on his way, but Maui prudently declined to take off the ropes, which may still be seen hanging from the sun at dawn and when he descends into the ocean at night. Hence the islanders say, when they behold the beams radiating from the sun, "Tena te Taura a Maui"-"See the ropes of Maui."

Ancient Trade Unions. Seven thousand years ago there were trade unions in Nineveh and Babylon and so strict were their rules that in some cases the penalty of death was inflicted for infringing them. Each man's work was strictly defined, and even the number of hours that he was allowed to work was stated in the charter of his guild or union. Later exactly the same state of affairs existed in Pompell, and inscriptions have been discovered stating specific appointments of officials to trade unions.

Bees and Ants. Bees will place their honeycombs any place regularly or irregularly shaped, and when they come to corners and angles they seem to stop and consider. Then they vary the shape of the cell, so that the space is exactly filled. It could not be done more satisfactorily if the whole thing had been worked out on paper beforeband. Ants make hard and smooth roads and drive tunnels compared to which man's efforts in making such things are insig-

Teeth on Their Tongues. The biggest of fresh water fishes, the "arapaima" of the Amazon, South America, which grows to six feet in length, has teeth on its tongue that the latter resembles the file is used as such. Some kinds of also have the same peculiarity. Fishes that swallow their prey entire not forward, in order that their vic- | ment, it is a complete outfit for making tims shall not escape after they have | photometric measurements.-Technical been once seized:

The Stationer. "Stationery," has etymologically as much to do with standing as has "stationary." The original stationers, or stationarli, were so called because they sold their books upon stalls or "stations"-in London round about old Paul's cathedral, in some cases against the walls of the cathedral itself. This is one of the many trades the names of which have no direct allusion to the commodities sold. "Grocers," for introls have actually given chase to such stance, were so called either because ghost ships, to find there is nothing they sold "en gros," wholesale, or be-

Always. Time haunted her. She laughed at him, she resorted to a thousand devices whereby to discomfort bim, but he was not to be shaken off. At length sh

"Can't you see," she flared out reluctantly, "that there's no room for you where beauty dwells?"

"There is always," Time rejoined, touching his scythe significantly, "room

A Hard Job. One of the hardest jobs I know of is to take a ride, when you're feeling nice and sociable, in a left hand drive machine with a fellow who is deaf in the right ear and has to stop the car and turn his head toward you every time

Youthful Observer. The New Parson-Well, I'm glad to hear you come to church twice every Sunday, Tommy-Yes, I'm not old enough to stay away yet.-London Oninion.

Right at Home. Sometimes it is hard to find the city of happiness, but it will usrrow the search if you remember that it is in the state of mind.

The foundations of justice are that no one shall suffer wrong; then that the public good shall be promoted.—Cicero | foriorn."

Gowns Without Wraps. Lots of cloth dresses are made in SECRET OF STEADY GOLF.

Nerve Central There is no such thing for any man as elernal steadiness, but there is no reason why most golfers shouldn't develop a much greater steadiness than is shown. It is all a matter of practicing two things-the proper use of the club and concentration, or nerve

Remember at each practice or during each friendly round to try to make rour brain work as well as your arms and legs. Remember, above all other factors, that it is vital to the success of the shot that you keep your head still, often referred to as 'looking at the Make it a point to school your brain as well as your muscles, for the brain is in control of the muscles. The golfer who can't concentrate, who doesn't practice concentration, will never be able to develop steadiness, although he may be a fine shot maker

and may be capable of some wonderful rounds. compact, concrete form, the following are offered to those who desire a change

First.-Practice concentration-keeping your mind on the ball as well as your eye.

Second.-Make up your mind to acpart of the game and to be expected. Third.-Play each shot as it comes, without regret over past mistakes or many words: "My mind is made up worry over future troubles.

Fourth.-Practice the short game, shots around the green, at every possible chance. It is here that scores are reduced.

Fifth.-Practice with the brain well as with the arms and legs. Cultivate brain control over muscle.-Je rome D. Travers

#### LIGHTING OUR LIVES.

Lines Along Which Physicians of Future May Work.

Some day there will be a new physician who will be part engineer and part medical student. He will ask you no personal questions, and his prescriptions will be filled by a dealer in lamps and lighting fixtures; yet he is a man who can cure the world of half its grouchiness and ill temper.

The new doctor will investigate you home from the standpoint of lighting efficiency. Have you enough or too much light? Is the wall paper soothing to your eyes, yet economical from the standpoint of lighting efficiency, or does the color of it and its figures cut

your nerves like a ragged-edged knife Medical men have said that many murder has been the result of a glar ing incandescent light and red wall pa per. When the denizen of a flat building curses the planist across the wa his ill temper may be caused by hi desk light and not by the piano at all The eye can stand less abuse than the ear, and were it in repose the grouel would probably fail to notice doubtful music. The lighting doctor probably will find the cause of that grouch and remove it.

Instead of a stethoscope he will use an illuminometer. The illuminometer is a device to tell in figures just how bright the light on your book is as you sit and read. It is used by lighting engineers, municipal lighting depart ments, building inspectors and others for determining the brightness of nat ural or artificial-illumination. Portahave their teeth so supported on flexi- ble. easily and quickly used and utilizble bases as to bend backward, but ing the familiar methods of measure-

World Was Ruskin Conceited? In one of Ruskin's lectures, though ! cannet quote it exactly, he says in effect this, and it is said with great earnestness: "Because I have done barm to no one and good to all, because I have loved truth and hated falsehood, because I have regarded the happiness of ethers more than my own, you can trust what I say to you, and you will be glad in later years that you have trusted me."

I have heard it quoted as an example of Ruskin's great conceit, but to me it has never seemed to be that. It has seemed to me, rather, a just and vain measuring of his powers.-Anne Bryan McCall

Hazy Ideas. "I have been promised a job in

forest service," said the politician. "What are your duties to be?" "I don't know much about the proposition. I have been told that I may be sent out to inspect government pre-

"For what purpose?" "To see if they comply with the pure food laws, I suppose."-

Danger Signals.

It takes a cheerful philosophy to find tue in the sulphurous odor of a bad But if all bad water and bad milk were blessed by a like beneficent danger signal what a bost of dead and dying human beings would have been saved!-Exchange.

A Straight Tip. "Colonel, please gize me a little advice on racing matters. I understand you are an excellent judge of pace." "I am, son, and the one you are go ing will last about two years."

An Extreme Case. "My cousin is a true pessimist." "How's that?"

5. Million ... 4 1 Russian Coats. Russian evening coats of rich broAN EVENING WITH DUMAS.

Was a Cosmopolitan Crowd That Flecked to His Shrine. Dumas sat like some brouze of

Buddhist remple, while his gueststood or moved about, conversing with him or among themselves, writes Fran cis Grierson in the Century, describing an evening with the great novelists A famous comedian from the Gymnase exchanged jokes with a tragedian from the Theatre Francais, a witty journal ist was conversing with a gifted singer from the Theatre Lyric, an artist with flowing hair and a huge pince nez was begging a professional beauty to give him a series of sittings for her por trait, a novelist on the qui vive for copy seemed to see, hear and appropriate everything and everybody all at

A young poetess and an aged drama. tist were discussing the latest plays. A Russian countess, tall, slender, insinu ating, clad all in black, made me thin of a character I had seen in a fantastic pantomime. She glided about mysteriously and, stopping at Dumas' chair, So, to put a few suggestions into placed her long, thin hand on as shoulder for some moments, like a ghostly visitor with a fatal message, and then for the better in their golfing steadi- glided away. Austrians, Italians, Germans, mingled their accent with the accent of the true Parisian. But Dumas was more than a Parisian; he was a cosmopolitan at a time when there were no cosmopolitan Frenchmen, and he gave me the impression of a man

who had seen life in every aspect, He might as well have said in so Do not give yourself the trouble to tell me what is going on in England or America or in the country of the Grand Turk or among the nabobs of India. I know as much as they know. You see me sitting here contented enough as things are. All these charming women of talent are my friends' as a matter of fact, there was not an old woman in the room). "A man is not the author of books like 'Monte Cristo' without some recompense."

No one would have taken him for a celebrated author. He had the air of a man who had done nothing all his life but invent, taste and prepare luxurious dishes at a restaurant patronized by wealthy gourmets.

#### NUNOBIKI WATERFALLS.

Bewitching Night Scene at a Popular Japanese Resort.

A sight in the summer life of Japan not easily forgotten is procured in a night visit to the Nunobiki waterfall, just outside Kobe on the northeast. There are two falls, the lower or female fall of forty-three feet and the upper or male fall of eighty feet, the water gushing in each case out of the hill above and falling down the gorge to a whirling pool below. It is reached by an easy, winding climb up the cliffs of the "Million Fireflies"-tiny electric bulbs in thousands among the treesand the thousands and thousands of gayly clad women and children visitors shepherded by the more somber clad men give the traveler two distinctly delightful sensations before reaching

the illuminated falls themselves. The tiny lights come and go among the trees in a bewitching way. The single light, says the Kobe Chronicle, which illuminates the higher fall will perhaps appeal to many rather than the colored lights thrown on the lower fall, and the lamp rays giving the fountain the hues of the rainbow may be regarded as artificial. Nevertheless the general effect is attractive.

To any one who knows China it is impossible not to draw a comparison favorable to the Japanese in viewing the crowd. Entrance to the gorge is perfectly free, yet thousands flocking there every evening are neatly dressed in summer garments, every one clean and respectable, while the conduct of the great crowd is orderly and marked by a sense of quiet enjoyment. Such a scene would be almost impossible in China, and until the idea of personal cleanliness can be introduced among the swarming millions of that country we are afraid the Japanese will continue to look down upon their neigh bors as inferior.

The Heat of Australia. Australia is the hottest country on record. I have ridden for miles astride the equator, but I have never found heat to compare with this. Out in the country in the dry times there appears to be little more than a sheet of brown paper between you and the lower regions, and the people facetiously say that they have to feed their hens on

cracked ice to keep them from laying boiled eggs. -Sydney Telegraph. Her Hard Task. "That's a beautiful girl you have in your store," said the man acquaintance. "I've seen her in the window sev-

eral days as I passed." "She isn't an employee," the milliaer answered wearily. "She's a woman trying to decide on a new hat."

Weather Note. "Looks like rain for our outing to-"Just our luck! How would it do to telephone the weather bureau?" ... "No good. But you might make an

appeal to the clearing house."

Those Funny Stories. A well known trouble with conversation is that you can't talk to some men half a minute without reminding them of a funny story that isn't very funny.

Inquisitive. Edgar, aged six, was recently sent to school for the first time, and upon his Even the brand of hope he uses is return home he asked, "Papa, who taught Adam the alphabet?"

Nick Bawlf of Ottawa, who figured on the Wanderer team in Monday being re- styles which permit their being worn cade with immense borders of fur overseas service, and will join his. even ap- for the street without any outer are delightful and picturesque gar- battalion, the 154th at Cornwall. He has been given a commission.

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