

A SMUGGLERS' REFUGE.

THE RENDEZVOUS FOR NORTH AMERICA IS ON FRENCH ST. PIERRE.

The Isle Off the Southern Coast of Newfoundland is the meeting place for the Boldest Contrabandists on Earth—Some of Their Ruses.

Twelve miles off the southern coast of Newfoundland is the smugglers' rendezvous of North America. St. Pierre and Miquelon, little islands, the largest of which is not more than three by five miles, long ago ceded to the French by the British, are as completely different from the rest of the world as if they were in Mars.

INTELLIGENT PACK MULES.

During Their Army Experience They Learn Many Things.

"In the government service," said a pack mule, "the pack train is led by a bell mare and the mules learn to follow her with a blind confidence that is astonishing. After the surrender of Santiago the army of occupation had several pack trains that were kept in a big corral near the camp. One day General Breckinridge came to visit General Shafter, who at that time had shifted his headquarters to a point near San Juan Hill, and how to provide him with a saddle animal was a serious question. The climate of both Cuba had proven very hard on the horses and they were nearly all dead or disabled. In fact, the only respectable looking beast we could scrape up was a bell mare belonging to one of the trains, and the order was accordingly given to saddle her up.

"The general mounted and was riding away toward headquarters, when suddenly a most hideous and unearthly tumult broke loose from the corral. The mules had caught sight of their carrier with maliciously endeavoring to get out and follow, each one braying at the top of his lungs and every bray in a different key. It was the most horrible roar ever heard in the province since the bombardment of Morro Castle, and for the time being it looked as if the crazy mules were going to tear down the stockade. General Breckinridge was startled and reined up to investigate, but meanwhile a dozen packers had jumped into the corral and went to the work of packing the mules, trying to get them running around in a circle so as to distract their attention. At last they succeeded, and the general fortunately disappeared down the road before the drove came to a standstill again. He would have out a unique figure if he had ridden up to Shafter's tent leading a solemn cavalcade of 64 government mules, and that is exactly what would have happened had it not been for the presence of mind of the packers.

"A pack-mule that has seen service gets very cunning. I remember we had one old fellow who had been in the army for 12 or 15 years and he knew as much as most of the men. He was occasionally used as leader and was very fond of the job, because in that case he had no load to carry. To see him maneuvering to get to the front was very comical. The regulation pack weighs 200 pounds, and the mules soon size it up to a nicety, refusing to carry anything more. For that reason they are blindfolded while being loaded, otherwise they would be continually looking around to see whether the pack was inside the limit.

"On one occasion we received a coffin to be sent to Siboney and the old mule I referred to was selected to carry it. The coffin weighed about 25 pounds, but the mule must have concluded from its size that it weighed a ton, and he immediately began to groan in the most pitiful manner, exactly like a human being. When the coffin was put on his back he pre- tended to stagger and sagged down as if he was carrying a 10-inch gun. At the same time he turned his head and looked at me with a mournful expression that was as easily read as so much print: 'Good heavens! he seemed to say, 'are you going to allow me to be crushed by this enormous burden?' We were all shrieking with laughter and tried to make him take his place in line, but not an inch would he budge. Finally he deliberately rolled over and knocked the coffin off. That settled it. We let the old mule lead the bell, and I could almost hear him chuckling as he looped around his neck. Another mule was then blindfolded and took on the coffin without trouble."

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

The good man's life is like the spark that is brightest at the close.

The door of mercy has hinges, and it may be shut, and then locked with the adamant key of justice.

Idleness is a craven's goal. No man of worth wants to be free from work. 'Tis not work life is not worth the living.

Difficulties of thought, acceptance of what is without full comprehension, belong to every system of thinking.

When interest is at variance with conscience, any pretence that seems to reconcile them satisfies the hollow-hearted.

If you want knowledge, you must toil for it; if food, you must toil for it; and if pleasure, you must toil for it; toil is the law.

To let a man know that you recognize and rejoice in some good quality of his, is to bless him with a new heart and stimulus.

Courtesy is the passport to success. We double the power of our life when we add to its gifts unflinching courtesy. The world always begrudges room to a boor.

The habit of blaming others when things go wrong is an insidious and dangerous one. Far more is it the purpose to inquire within whether the fault, or much of it, may not lie at home.

Benevolence should never be exercised at random, nor upon irrational impulse, but should be the outcome and expression of a disposition trained and nourished in the atmosphere of human fellowship.

Cheerfulness upbuilds, uplifts, attracts. If cheerfulness is not the habit, cultivate it. Grumbling, whining, complaining, are so much capital taken from your vital, mental stock, and put to the bad use of helping to make others miserably.

The Golf Home Trainer. The old man was telling his son, who wanted to play golf for exercise, that chopping wood would answer the purpose just as well. "Oh, no, father," said the boy, "it is the walking between strokes that makes golf so valuable as exercise; that equalizes matters and gives the legs a chance as well as the arms."

"That's it, is it?" said the old man, so he went into the yard and placed sticks of wood at intervals all around it; then he handed the boy an axe and said: "Now, play the full course."

The Michigan Lyre.

Agents Wanted. Everywhere for the Memorial Volume of the National Geographic Society. Book published. Write your nearest agent. Terms liberal. Best money from a home company on better terms, and save time and money on orders. Address: D. E. LUTHER PUB. CO., 509 English American Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

STOPPED FREE. Permanently Cured. Recently Cured by DR. KLINE'S GREAT NERVE RESTORER.

HERITING FASHION. Mrs. Ida Thornton, who is confined in the county jail awaiting trial for the murder of her husband, John Thornton, at Prosperity, was out shopping in company with Deputy Sheriff Smith.—Carthage (Mo.) Review.

POTATOES \$1.20. CLOVER.

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY. PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

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Talking recently to some interested American, he said: "I think the time has come when the prejudice so long standing against my race is beginning to die away. This is especially so in places where the Chinese are more numerous. For instance, there is much less feeling in California than there is in the East—our cities, where there are fewer Chinamen. As we gradually work into the public ways, and are more met with, we become a part of the country, and of late there have been more rapid strides than ever before in the advancement of good feeling for us.

"This good feeling reached its height last year, when the Chinese people were invited to participate in the Fourth of July celebration in San Francisco. They responded so well that the public press came out the day afterward and said the Chinese had given the best display of any part of the programme. We are an easy people to get along with when we are understood, and the American people are beginning to understand us. In San Francisco we are a necessity, and I do not know how that city could get along without us now.

"Of course, in religious matters the Chinese are hard to change. We are a race that sticks to tradition very closely, but when we do change we are firm in our beliefs and can be depended upon. I think those who are not prejudiced, and who have lived among us in this country, will say that on the average we make good citizens. Of course we like this country, else we would not remain here. That speaks louder than any words could of our liking for the United States. Perhaps we progress slowly, but when we do there are no people who can show as much progress as we do. The history of our own country proves that."

OUR FEET GROWING LARGER. Shoemakers and haphazarders who cater to the wants of the elite assert that their patrons this season demand shoes and are averaging from one-half to one and a half sizes larger than they did five years ago. The majority of the dealers believe that the average length and breadth of men's feet have been steadily increasing since the wane of the fashion which demanded a pointed toe and tight fitting shoe.

This they explain by saying that the effect of the style in vogue six years ago was to cramp and distort the natural development of the feet. When the style changed and comfort became the criterion of fashion, again distorted feet which had become distorted during the reign of the narrow shoe and pointed toe slowly began to broaden and adapt themselves to their new surroundings. The change, being gradual, went for a long time unnoticed, and not until the merchants recently began to compare their sales of five years ago with those of today was it found that the average increase has been approximately one size.—New York Herald.

Electric Ticket Selling Machine. There is at present under construction in the workshop of George Kirkwood an electric machine which will be used on the elevated stations for selling tickets. The machine referred to is to be constructed in such a way that when you drop your nickel in the slot you will receive a ticket in exchange. There will be four of these on each of the larger stations. The reason why this system has been adopted by the railroad trustees is to do away with the expense of having an agent on each station. It is believed that the machines in under construction will be put into use within a few weeks. This machine was patented by M. Menges of Sheepshead Bay.—New York Herald.

ODD THINGS IN CUBA. The Way Natives Plant Fences and American Soldiers Planted Tables.

Some odd things happen in Cuba. When a man wishes a fence around his yard or field, he doesn't build it, he plants it—and it grows, too. First he cuts a great bundle of pinon twigs, then he scratches a little trench where he wants his fence to run and finally he sticks in the twigs in a row a few inches apart. The soil of Cuba is so rich, and the weather so warm and moist that directly the twigs take root, throw out branches and leaves and presently there is a dense hedge of pinon trees enclosing the field. And there are no nails to drop out here nor boards to fall down and let in the cattle and the fence is good for a hundred years.

Nor is that the most curious thing that one may see in Cuba. What would you think of a camp table that grew? While the American soldiers were camped back at Santiago they made great numbers of little tables by driving forked sticks in the ground for legs and using a top of boards. Of course the legs took root and some of these tables are now nicely shaded by leafy branches, and in two or three years four nice trees will be growing there, and no one will ever dream that they were once table legs. Another curious thing at Guantanamo an old tin can was fastened around the branch of a big Cuban laurel tree some four or five feet from its leafy end. It was packed full of earth, and Americans wondered what would be the purpose of it.

"That's simple enough," said the Cuban householder. "In a few weeks roots will grow in the earth inside the tin can. Then we can cut off the limb just back of the can, stick it in the ground, take away the can and it will grow into a tree."

Plant a cauliflower plant in Cuba and instead of spreading out in a big flat head like a cabbage, it sprindles up for all the world like a sunflower, three or four feet high, with big rank