CURIOS FROM BRAZIL

Prof. J. B. Steer Returns from Trip Among Indians Along Amazon.

ddd and Abbreviated Articles of Dress-Their Ornaments and Weaposis-Blowgun 13 Feet Long-Invetorate Suuf-Tukera.

Prof. J. B. Steer, a government scientist, has just returned from a three-months trip to Brazil, having apent almost the entire time upon the Amazon) and its tributaries in search of 6sh and other aquatic specimens. He was at the National museum the other day, busily engaged in unpacking the wardrobe of a famdly of one of the numerous tribes of Indians inhabiting the forests in the vicinity of Pera.

Anvordinary golf beg would hold the clothing wern by an entire famfly of these Indians and leave room for a number of luxuries besides. Prof. Steer calls them the Jammadi tribe, and says they are an interesting lot, of good physique, with untusually offsint customs.

The dress of the women consists of a red cotton fringe, about six inches in depth, worn across the abdomen, and further embellished with a cord and tassel tied about the waist. A string of shells worn through the ears, a necklace of monkey teeth. a bracelet of bark, and a pair of bones worn through the nose completes the toilet. The men are less extravagant, having a smaller dress of fringe without the mash, and no ernaments

save the none bones. The tempers of this tribe live upon the boiled root of the cassava, turtles, fish, game and corn, their mude bodies being well rounded and nourished. They are inveterate snull takers, and the new collection contains a shell filled with the anuff and a pair of hollow bones used for finserting in the nostrila, which is their method of snuffing.

The hunting outfit comprises a bow with poisoned arrows for shooting game that flies or lives low, a buttle of poison, a lance, such as they use in tiger hunting, and a blowgun. The latter weapon is about 12 feet long, made of two hollow pieces of wood, the inside polished by drawing a stone back and forth through the bore, while the outside is wrapped firmly with bark smeared with resin. The gun is used by wrapping a broad belt of bark about the walst as tight as it can be drawn, all the while in-Sating the lungs, and then quickly thrusting in the bore a poisoned dart, blowing with all the force of the Jungs. The mark is seldom missed.

INTERESTING WAR RELICS.

Collection Mementocs of Snonlak-American Conflet.

Relics of the Spanish-American war are being sent constantly to the war department by officers in the various islands, and among the recent acquisitions is a large section of the Spanish diagrams that stood on the walls of the mrsenal at Fort Santiago, Manila. It is of the "dungon" tree, square in shape, and highly polished. It was sent to the war department by Col. W. S. McClaskey, of the army. It has justbeen sent to the National Museum to be placed with the large and interesting collection of Spanish-American trophies in the hall of American history.

There is a collection of silver and copper coins picked up in circulation in Manila, comprising those of the French-Indo, China, Hong-Kong, Sarawak and settlements of India and Borneo, and also an interesting lot of stamps issued by the Philippine revo-Jutionary government in 1898-'99. -

GIVES BACK COSTLY CRADLE.

Eugenic Presents the Municipality of Paris with a Rare Work of Art.

Ex-Empress Eugenie has presented the municipality of Paris with the cradle of Prince Louis Napoleon, who was killed in the Zulu war.

The cradle is a superb work of art. The body, is made of rosewood and is decorated with enamels in antique silver and chiscied bronce. The frames are of silver and a statue holds the imperial crown, in gilt and bronze, over the pillow, which is of white satin ein-

broidered in gold with the letter "N." The cradle was originally a gift from the municipality of Paris to Empress Eugenie and is very coatly. It has been previously kept at Chiselhurst, where the ex-empress resided before she moved to Farnborough.

SURGICAL SCHOOL FOR RUSSIA

Cour to Motablish College Under Ministry of War for Education of Military Surgeons.

It is reported in the press at St. Peteraburg that the ministry for war is contemplating reorganizing the military medical academy, where the students are subjected to military diacipline and are required to serve three years as military surgeons after grad-

ation. It is stated that Gen. Vannovski, the minister of public instruction has made a report to the czar recommend-. ing the pardoning of the soldier stulents and other absentees from the indiversities and permitting them to seturn in August for the examinaions, their military service to condinue until then. The coar consented.

British Beer.

One thousand and forty million galions of beer brewed yearly in the United Kingdom equals the total amount brewed by America, France end Austrie.

CALIFORNIA ORANGES.

Vast Improvement Noted in the Fruit -Millages of the Process in Florida.

Everybody who eats them has probably noticed that New York's supply of California oranges has never before been so plentiful and theap and good as now. You can get big, sweet, juicy navel oranges as low

sa two for a nickel, save the Sun. Florida oranges have practically been out of the market since the big freeze in the fall of 1897. They will find things somewhat changed when they get back. A few years ago the superiority of the Florida orange, particularly the Indian river prodnet, was unquestioned. The California orange was coarse-grained, less julcy than the Floridas, deficient in flavor and full of a stringy pulp that was both disagreeable to the ester and hard upon the digestion.

But a wonderful improvement has been made within a comparatively short time. The California orange today is still coarse-grained and still lacks some of the delicate flavor of the Florida or the Messina fruit, but its flavor has been vastly improved, it is brimming with juice and the tough fiber in the best grade of oranges has almost entirely disap-

peared. It is not generally known that this; horticultural device for doing away with the seeds in the ripened fruit was introduced in this country by an observant American woman who called the attention of the department of agriculture to it. This woman, while traveling in the province of. Bahia, Brazil, in 1868, observed that the oranges of that province were much superior to those raised in the United States, and seedless as well. She communicated with the commissioner of agriculture, and as a result 12 young plants were sent from Brasil to Washington.

QUEER WAX CROP.

Insects in China That Produce a Valnable Commodity in a Curious Manner.

The white wax crop exported from Thins is made by the curious method of using minute insects in its production. These insects are found in brown, pea-shaped excréscences de galls attached to an evergreen tree called the "insect tree." The galls are gathered in May and carried in headlong flight to the market towns by bearers, who travel at night, so that the heat may not force the insects to emerge during the journey, says a London exchange.

They are then placed in a "wax tree," which is a stump varying from three to twelve feet in height, with numerous branches rising from the p, similar to the pollard willow.

The wax insects are made into small packets of 20 or 30 galls, which are inclosed in a leaf of the wood oil tree, fastened together with rice straw. These packets are auspended close to the branches under which they hang. On emerging from the galls the insects creep rapidly up the branches, to which they attache themselves, and begin forming a wax that in about three months attains a thickness of almost a quarter of an inch.

The branches are then cut off, and after removing as much of the wax as possible by hand they are put in a kettle of hot water, when the remaining wax floats on the surface, and the insects finish their usefulness by going to the bottom.

JAPAN'S IMPREGNABILITY.

Bold Crass and Bluffs of the Seacolot Are Protected by the Most Medern Gune.

The coast of Japan, not withstanding its long shore line and numerous harbors, offers scant allurement to an invading army. There is very little beach; the bold crags and bluffs overlooking every spot where a modern war vessel can ride at anchor are protected by strong fortifications defended by the most modern guns.

Yeddo bay, the most feasible bight for invading purposes, needs careful navigation, even by steamers of moderate draught. When torpedoes are planted it is simply impregnable, says a writer in Collier's Weekly. When the war with China broke out a small steamer was selected to pilot merchant steamers up and flown the bay. I remember perfectly the unexpected curves made by this steamer, showing plainly the countless dangers besetting a hostile fleet, regardless of the care that may be used in feeling its way. No invading army could possibly land; and even if it succeeded in doing so, the rice fields, readily submerged as they are, would aid materially in thwarting the advance and in isolating the enemy. A successful invasion of Japan is simply impossible.

Bricks from Coke Ashes. A European scientific journal reports that the coke ashes of gas works are now manufactured into bricks resembling pressed brick, but considerably harder than the latter. Heretofore these ashes were looked upon as absolute waste, and were often piled up on land which might have been profitably cultivated, so that the innovation is doubly profitable. The manufacture of cone ask brick is a very simple one. The nahes are carefully reduced to a fine powder, mixed with one-tenth part of slaked lime, and, after the addition of water, kneaded until the mass forms a stiff paste. Then it is treated like ordinary clay and formed into bricks by the use of suitable presses. The bricks are then stacked, protected from rain and dried in the air. No artificial heat is required. The sir-

dried bricks are very hard and make

excellent building material.

SPOON COLLECTING THE PAD.

Women Have Secords Take Them from Rostaurants-A Propriotor's Ideas.

"I don't object to fade on principle," said the proprietor of a fashionable Broadway restaurant to a reporter for the New York Times the other day, "but there is one in vogue now that I would like to see run its course and give way to one which respects the rights of property. The young women or this town have a crase for collecting restaurant spoons. They don't care for them at all, unless they bear the mark of the house from which they were filehed. No, they won't take them themselves. The average young woman, all reports to the contrary notwithstanding, is timid when in a public diningroom. They simply intimate to their gentlemen acquaintances that they appreciate such things and the men they do the rest.

"I can't say how many I have lost from good customers whom I couldn't call down even if I were to catch them red-handed. The customer of a place like this is likely to be worth several hundred dollars in the course of a year, and .. few spoons more or less would not cut down our profits to any large extent, but the practice is annoying, and for that reason more than any other I would like to see it abandoned.

"Say, I knew one young fellow who couldn't steal even to please his best girl. What do you suppose he did? He went and had a lot of spoons especially stamped with the names of different restaurants and gave them to her one at a time. She undoubtedly has a large collection, but I have often wondered since I heard about it if she would set as much store by them as she does if she were to be informed that the donor came by them honestly."

MODERN CHINA MONOGRAMS. Distinctive Mark Is the Present Style in Marking the Sets of a

Nousehold.

Much of the handsome china used nowadays is marked with the monogram or crest of the owner. It is a distinctive mark that differentiates the china from all other ware, and the lettering is an ornament in itself. It is usually the more simple chins that is ornamented in this way, and an attempt is made always to put the lettering upon the side or wing of a plate, as the professional will say, to prevent wear. Old-time china was frequently marked in the center of the plate, and the marking was worn away by the knife and fork, says the New York Tribune. In some instances entire sets of

china for different courses are marked, and always each piece of a ish—the cover, the dish if a soup tureen, the piece upon which it rests. The letters for the marking are always the initials of the mistress of the house and are, put on in script in preference to the block letters. The lettering is usually in gold, but occasionally one letter will be put in in color and the others in gold.

The gold may be flat or raised, and upon this will depend largely the cost of the lettering. The flat gold will cost six dollars a dozen and upward and the raised gold from \$15 to \$18 a dozen and upward.

BOUNTY FOR TRIPLETS.

Charitable Practice That Cost Queen Victoria About \$1,500 a Year for Forty Years.

"I had once," writes a correspondent of the London News, "the curiosity to write to Windsor castle and ask the origin of the queen's charitable practice of giving a 'bounty' to women who had given birth to triplets. I had a very courteous reply from the queen's private secretary explaining that the first gift to a woman who had three children at a birth was prompted solely by her majesty's sympathetic feeling toward her. The case had happened to come to the knowledge of the oneen, and she sent a sovereign for each of the newly-arrived little Britons as an assistance to the mother in her embarrassment of family treasures. This had happened about 40 years before this correspondence, and quite early in the reign, and had cost the queen's private purse about £300 a year ever since. Of course, it is not in all cases of the kind that this bounty' is sent to the mother. It is only in those who are poor and apply for it, but as the majority of people are poor, and somehow these little surprises seem generally to overtake people who cannot afford them, the queen's bounty for triplets had come to be regarded almost as a matter of course.

Another Tear Dispelled. The South Side club-a Chicago organization composed of 300 womenhas adopted new by-laws so that men can be admitted. This is an encouraging sign of the times, declares the Chicaro Record-Herald. In some quarters it was beginning to be feared that the women might conclude to dispense with the other fellows alto-

gether. Blow at the New Woman, A New York judge has decided that the money a married woman carns helongs to her husband. It is evident, says the Chicago Record-Herald, that they are scheming in New York to have the married women stay at home

and look after the babies. The Order Reversed,

It is a strange fact that the right hand, which is more sensitive to the touch than the left, is less sensitive than the latter to the effects of heat or cold.

CRITICISM IS UNFAIR.

Why England Is Not in Position to Judge American Locemetive.

A. M. Waitt, of New York Central Railread System, Says Narrower and Lower Tannels There Necombtate Restrictions.

"They have no real American locomotives abroad, strictly speaking, and the critica of these engines do not know what they are."

So said A. M. Waitt, auperintendent of motive power and rolling stock for the New York Central railroad system. He was speaking of the cabled reports of the unfavorable criticisms passed by foreign railroad officials upon the American made locomotives with which they have lately been experimenting,

"The locomotives they refer to," Mr. Waitt continued, "are American in make, true enough, but they are English and foreign in dimensions, caliber, and power. Owing to the restrictions made necessary by narrower and lower tunnels and other essential differences which characterize English roads as compared with ours-and the same is largely true. I understand, on the continent-it is simply impossible for them to utilize such a machine as we now regard as a truly American locomotive. The result is they get a sort of hybrid affair built by American skill, but on foreign lines, and to meet forsign requirements, and then if it does not prove to be all they had hoped for, they proceed to criticise the American

Mr. Waitt west on to say that in England the practice is to nurse locomotives and let them grow old, while in this country the practice is to run them hard and use them to their fullest ca-

Angua Sinclair, editor of Railway and Locomotive Engineering, years ago drove locomotives on the Caledonian railroad in Scotland, being a Scotchman by birth. He visits Europe yearly and he has studied the subject of locomotives in every country there except Spain.

"Prejudice, prejudice," he said, then the subject of American loca motives was broached. "Two-thirds of it at least is simply prejudice. It s hard to get a British or a European engine driver to make a favorable report on a Yankee machine or a Yankee invention of env kind. But they will come to it, in spite of their prejudices. The American locomotive will win its way in Great Britain and Europe, that is certain."

OWNED JOHANNESBURG.

Han Who Laid Claim to South Afrionn Town Dies in Poverty in

James Outterson Pratt, who is said to have bought for £350 the site on which the town of Johannesburg now stands, died several weeks ago in the Guilford workhouse, near London. Pratt lost his South African property 25 years ago, when he declined to take the oath of allegiance on the proclamation of the Transvaal republic. When he returned to England he found his relatives dead, while the war and India office authorities refused to recognize him, as he had been registered as dead for 15 years. This shock to an old man brought on paralysis, from which Pratt never recovered, and afterward, his private means being exhausted, he was obliged to enter Guilford workhouse, where he died. Recently Pratt's case was brought to Mr. Chamberlain's notice, and the colonial secretary forwarded the papers connected with the case to the high commissioner a few months ago, but Sir Alfred Milner's reply had not been received when Pauts died.

Stumbles Onto a Fortune. William Warner, traveling man of New Haven, has just unearthed a fortune in a peculiar fashion. While cummaging through an old hair-cloth trunk, the property of a relative, he found a packet of letters. Thinking them a bunch of sentimental effusions, the work of his father. Warner stuffed them into his grip and packed up his sample cases for a trip. While seated in the smoker he untied the package and great was his surprise on finding the documents to be bonds of an early issue of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, with great parcels of stock of both the Adams and United States Express companies: Arriving in Hartford Warner hastened to a brokerage 1rm, where he found he had some \$48,000 of accrued interest coming to him, as well as property valued at \$250,000.

Atrocious Race in England. Public opinion has been outraged by a race held in connection with a gathering of the Ancient Order of Foresters at Birmingham, England, and which was restricted exclusively to horses that were lame or certain to become so before the finish of the race.

In order to increase the atrociously cruel features of the races, it was prowided that the horses should carry not less than 13 stone, and that any animal not actually lame at the start must become so before the finish, failing which it would be disqualified, the owners being thus encouraged to ride their horses in the most merciless fashion.

The race was entitled "the crock sweepstakes," and has been widely and indignantly commented upon by the

"Sleep, Baby, Sleep." Somebody has published an article entitled: "How Long Should Baby Sleep?" There are plenty of people n this country, says the Chicago Record-Herald, who think 24 hours a day

would be about right.

OIL ON WARSHIPS.

Another Effort to De Made by the Navy to Use H as a Substitute for Coni-Will Be More Housemiest.

Another effort is to be made in the navy to use oil as fuel. The yards and dock shop at the Mare island navy yard, San Francisco, will be equipped to use the oil, and instructions for the test have been sent from Washington. The subject has been under investigation by a board of naval officers and it is on the findings of that board that Rear Admiral Endicott has decided to conduct the experiment and endeavor to find a substitute for coal, which is expensive on the Pacific coast.

The government has been paying an average price of \$6.50 per ton for coal at the Mare Island navy yard, and the same class of fuel is obtainable in the east for less than three dollars a ton. The discovery of aumerous and copious oil wells in California has suggested the economy of the use of oil as fuel at Mare Island, provided, of course, that it can be made serviceable to the requirements of the shops. Rear Admiral Endicott estimated that it will result in the saving of 20 per cent.

If this experiment proves successful it is likely the use of oil will extend to other shops at navy yard plants. The order for the construction of the steel tanks to contain a month's supply of oil has been given and a few changes will be necessary in the boiler-rooms to accommodate the new conditions.

TO START SCHOOL IN PARIS.

University of Chicago Planning to Metablish Branches in Different Burepean Cities.

The first of a number of preparatory schools in European centers under the control of the University of Chicago will be established in Paris next fall. The object of installing such schools is that students of school and college age, whose parents are traveling abroad may have the benefit of foreign residence without impeding the progress of their studies in the English language.

The first step in exerying out this olan, which has been in the mind of Dr. W. B. Harper for some time, has been taken by Miss Anice Butts, the principal of the Kenwood institute for zirls, which is one of the oldest of the affiliated academies of the university.

Abranch of Kenwood institute, to be known as the "American Home School for Girls," will be opened at 20 Rue de Longchamp, in Paris, October 15, as a part of-Kenwood institute. Miss Elizabeth Wallace, an instructor of French at the University of Chicago. and Miss Emma Baird, who for many years was a principal of a girls' school Kansas City, will have charg the Paris branch of the academy.

MAKES GREAT DISCOVERY.

Prof. Notschekoff of Pasteur Institate at Paris Finds Conse el . of Most Diseases.

Prof. Metschekoff, of the Pasteur institute, delivered a sensational lecture upon some recent operations in a Paris hospital in which he asserted that the large intestine is not only entirely useless, but perfectly harmful. He said that observation had demonstrated that not less than 45 dangerous microbes were there domiciled and that to them most of our diseases were due. Besides, he said, the small intestine was much too long-a yard'and a half being amply sufficient-as was proved in cases where, after stabs, patients had been reduced to that allowance without discomfort thereafter. Lately, said the lecturer, Dr. Ruggi, the celebrated Italian surgeon, was compelled to open an eight-year-old boy thrice in succession, removing long pieces of intestinal tube each time until 31/2 yards were subtracted, and to-day the child was growing robustly. A severed intestine can be spliced easily. Prof. Metschekoff also cited the case of a woman recently deprived of her stomach by Dr. Pozzi and now healthy and growing fat.

Baldwin Tosto Balloons. Evelyn Baldwin, the arctic explorer, made a balloon ascension from Quincy, Ill., with his cousin, Samuel Baldwin. They ascended to a height of about two miles and landed safely near Hulls, 20 miles south of Quincy. The explorer went on from Hulls to St. Louis, and then out to Kansas to say good-by to his parents. He sailed from New York for Norway to join the expedition. The Baldwin brothers, of Quincy, have made 30 balloons for the aretic explorer, which he will use in the far north for scientific observations in the upper atmosphere. He came to Quincy to get the balloons, and as he had never been up in one before, Sam Baldwin took him up to teach him how to regulate the great gas bag.

Railway Removals.

A bill introduced in the Texas house prohibits railroad companies from removing the offices, shops, etc., from any county where they have been located for the last ten years, or from their location in any county which has aided such railroad companies by a donation of its bonds, exent by consent of the legislature. and providing for infunction to prerent removal.

Female Tax Collector. Miss Mary Kuhn has for three years past been annually elected tax collector of the borough of Mount Joy, Pa. It is declared that since shehas occupied the office every cent of taxes has been collected and prompty turned over to the proper author-

NAMED FOR HEROINE

Large Viaduct in Iswa Called the Kate Shelley Bridge.

Spot Where a Brave Girl Javed a Pacseager Train from Destruction -An Immense Engineering Work,

Four miles west of Boone, In is nearing completion what is said to be the highest double track railroad bridge in the world, says the New York Tribune. For 30 years the Chicago & Northwestern railway has found it necessary to wind around many curves and down steep grades to cross the Des Moines river at Moingona. The section of 11 miles of track between Boone and Ogden has been the most dangerous on the main line of this great transcontinental system. The mainte-nance of "pushers" and the extra expense of hauling heavy loads up difficult grades, besides numerous i accidents that have occurred from time to time, have demonstrated the wisdom of this ent-off between Boone and Ogden. Besides, there will be a saving in the distance of more than three miles and of fully; half time. To obviate these obstacles the Northwestern has constructed a new double track line and is building across the Des Moines rives this wonderful viaduet.

Twenty years ago, between Booms and Moingons, on this same tortuous line, about to be abandoned, an engine went through a bridge at the time of a raging flood. From her widowed mother's cottage near by a maiden of 16 years naw the engine's headlight disappear in the raging torrent. Lighting a lantern, she sped away through the storm to Moingona, told of the diseaser and saved a passenger train from following the ill-fated engine to a watery grave. The state of lows gaye her a medal for her bravery, her name has been celebrated in poetry and proce, and, as a lasting monument to her heroic deed, it has been decided to name this structure the Kate Shelley bridge.

A type of the structure is that commonly known as the viaduct. This type of construction in unually employed for carrying traffic ever a deep and wide chasm in which the question of waterway is only of secondary importance, and in which economy and safety are about the only limits placed upon the designer. This viaduct consists of a number of plate or lattice girder spans supported upon braced towers. The spans forming the top of the newers are 45 feet long, while those spanning the space between two towers are 75 feet long. Not all of this bridge, however, is of the viaduct type, for across the channel of the river is a truss span 300 feet in length. The viaduct proper forms that part of the structure extending from the ends of this truss span across the valley to the adjacent

The length of this structure is 2,665 feet, the height from low water to the base of the rail 185 feet. The width of the deck is 30 feet, ample for the double tracks. More metal is used in the construction of this viaduct than of any similar structure in the world. The approximate weight of the superstructure is 5,686 tons, and of the superstructure 400 tons, making a total of nearly 6,100 tons. The cost will approximate \$600,000 for the bridge and \$500,000 more for the new double track between Boone and Ogden, making a total of \$1,100,000 expended upon this work.

A WONDERFUL CLOCK.

Ingratous Piece of Mechanism That Has Occupied a Chicago Man Nineteen Years.

A wonderful clock has just been finished by rrank Bohacek, of Chicago. The building of the giant instrument occupied his spare time for 19 years and cost \$4,000 in cash, says the Little Chronicle. There are four dials arranged diamond fashion. The lowest is eight feet across, and in the center is a red globe, a foot in diameter, that represents the nun. At the rim of the dial is a map globe of the earth and a ball representing the moon. The earth circles around the sun once in 365 days, and turns on its axis every 24 hours, while the moon makes a revolution once a month. The clock is not embarrassed by leap years in 400 years. Surrounding the disk is a band a foot wide, on which are the signs of the zodiac. The left hand dial has the hours numbered from 1 to 24. The one to the right has three circles of figures and three hands, and shows the day of the week, the day of the month and the month of the year. The top dial is like that of a common clock. Every minute a wooden statue, 18 inches high, appears at a window in the midst of the disks. These figures represent the presidents, Columbus, Uncle Sam, Columbia, Dewey, the liberty hell and the eagle. Each marches, as if to pass the window, but suddenly turns and looks out. The inventor intends to add a giant music box, that will play a dozen patriotic

🐔 Information Always Rendy. 📑 Mrs. Talkly-Here's something in the paper about some town where the surfew is still kept up. What does ourfew mean?

airs, one every two hours. The clock

is operated by five 60-pound weights.

Mr. Talkly-It means a law to limit the number of dogs in the town. Curfew, in short, means fewer curs. Don't bother me any more. Stray Stories.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS