THE SPORT OF MEXICO.

HOW A YOUNG MAN RISES TO THE GLORY OF A MATADOR—A VERY PROFITABLE PROFESSION.

C. E. Gonzales, a member of one of the most prominent families of Mexico and one of the city council of Chihuahua, is now in this city, and in conversation yesterday concerning bull-fighting in his native country said:

"It is still a great sport, but it is gradually dying out. In some States it has been forbidden altogether. It will go on less frequently perhaps, but it is a sport which the Mexicans love too well to be prevented to me out altogether."

Being asked to give an idea of a bull-fight in all its details, Mr. Gonzales replied:

"Well, the President of the City Council where the exhibition is to be given appoints a member of the Council as judge. This judge commands the fight to begin. A bull must first go after a horse three times, before he is allowed to go after the men. If he refuses he is sent back to the pen. Usually he goes after them five or six times, and it tires him a little for the benefit of the footmen. Of the six or seven banderillas, but one only cost the dark. He approaches close to the bull with a banderilla in each hand. These he sends into the hide of the animal. After four pair are in, the matador prepares to kill. His object is to kill the bull with as few strokes as possible. He attempts to send his blade directly into the heart, piercing it from the shoulder. This is a certain stab, the bull tumbles right over. The more gracefully it is done the greater glory to the matador.

"The most prominent of Mexican matadors is Ponciano Diaz. He is a strong, active man about 30 years old. A short time since he went to Lerdo, in Durango, and had a most fortunate season.

HE KILLED TWENTY-TWO

out of twenty-six bulls, each with one stab. He, of course, had brave bulls. A brave bull who will charge straight on the matador is easiest to kill."

"In case of the death of the matador, banderillo or horses, what is done?"

"If the horses are killed others are immediately supplied. If any of the men are killed the exhibition is brought to an end. I saw Sulery, the most renowned banderillo of his time, killed at the city of Puebla. In addition to their cloaks, they may use a pole about eight feet in length. As the bull rushes at them they suddenly plant one end in the earth and spring completely over the maddened animal's back. Sulery had attempted two or three times to vault over a bull, and each time the animal, instead of continuing his rush, stopped short a few feet from him. Finally the bullfighter made his last leap. The bull halted and waited for him. Sulery fell upon the horns and was twirled by the vicious brute for fully five minutes before his body could be recovered. It was his benefit, too, poor fellow, and there were 5,000 people who witnessed his awful death."

"How are the fights managed?"

"Well, the matador supplies all his own assistants, pays the license required by the City Council and engages the pen. The usual charge for admission is from 50 to $1.50. A clever matador usually makes a profit of from $500 to $1,000 for each exhibition. The season is about nine months in the year. In April, May and June there are no fights."

"The public demand good bulls, and if they are not supplied they show their displeasure very openly by tearing up the benches and chairs and flinging them into the pit. I have seen them fire the place in the City of Mexico, the 300 policemen called out being unable to preserve the peace. The courts also impose a fine of $500 on the matador. All money received from bull fighting is devoted to the support of public schools."

"What is required for a young man to become a matador?"

"He must first attach himself to a troupe of bull fighters and

LEAD FORTH THE BULLS.

He will be taught how to familiarize himself with the bull and his ways and will be made a banderillo or footman with the cloak. They become very proficient in dodging and learn to rail an infuriated bull using unlike to preserve the eye. When they are thrown into the dust they lie as if dead. Convinced life is extinct the bull may be tempted away. One movement of the man would bring the bull upon him like a flash and he would be gored to death."

"Is bull-fighting profitable?"

"It certainly must be so. There are three splendid pens in the City of Mexico alone. The Plaza de la Reforma cost $60,000; the Plaza de la Paseo, $40,000, and the Plaza de Buarenli, $40,000. The last place is owned by Ponciano Diaz, the matador. He must be surely worth $150,000. The most celebrated matador in the world, Mazantini of Spain, is also very wealthy. He visited Mexico in 1887, bringing sixteen bulls, valued at $16,000—big, splendid fellows. Each of his exhibitions must have yielded from $10,000 to $12,000. One day he was caught against the wall by a maddened bull and slipped between the wide horns, the crazed animal tearing into the boards. When he rose he had in a fresh Sash Mazantini leaped gracefully over his head, smiling to the people.—*S. F. Examiner.*

A Remarkable Estate Owned by Mr. Ingalls.

In the centre of Senator Ingalls's thirty-five acres truck farm, south of this city, surrounded by trees and covered with blue grass, is a grave which evidently received considerable attention for many years. It is supposed to contain the remains of an Indian girl and her pale-faced lover.

Away back in the early part of the century, when what is now known as Kansas belonged to the territory of Louisiana, there lived in a lonely hut on the bank of the Missouri River an old Indian and his daughter, who had wandered away from some Southern tribe. One day a white hunter stopped at the hut, having been lost in the wilderness. He was taken sick the day he reached the place, and was nursed by the Indian girl for several weeks until he recovered. The girl fell desperately in love with her patient. The man was already married, and so explained to the girl. She was crazed by her love, however, and the night before the day set for his departure she crept to his couch and shot an arrow through his heart and then killed herself. The father found the pair dead, and they were buried together.

The grave on Mr. Ingalls' truck farm is supposed to contain all that is left of this couple. Mr. Ingalls says he will have the grave opened some time and ascertain, if possible, what is really does contain.—*Kansas City Times.*

IF WE COULD KNOW.

Whither do our footsteps tend?
How and when we yearn to know,
As life's shadows longer grow,
And the evening hours descend,
And before us lies the end.

When the dear shall wear white,
And behind us leave only a sign,
What to our expectant eyes
Will the future life disclose?
Shall we see a smiling brow,
Fair and fragrant and serene,
Bending like the blessed dream
Of some mother's cradle we took,
Shall we walk in gladness on,
Under nothing sides of him,
Through an ever-frequency dawn,
Into wide fields, fresh and new,
Blooming those who came before,
Familiar and familiar look,
And each well remembered tone,
Though so many years had flown
Since each other's hands we took,
Saying farewells ere each went
Alone we talk of earthly days,
Breaking low, with bated breath,
Of the awful mystery
Of our human life, and dwelling
Shall we speak to recall
How our hearts were prone to fear,
How we scarcely dared to hope,

In my heaven, so fair, so near?
Ah! if we could know
As the shadows deeper grow,
Whither we with faltering tread,
As they gently wave the end!

—Elizabeth S. Mason in Boston Courier.

PHOTOGRAPHIC VOUCHERS.

Proof Which Big Advertisers Require That Contracts Are Fulfilled.

"Some of the big mercantile firms that rely largely upon liberal advertising for their patronage," said a big bill poster, "go to great expense to attract attention. The cost of advertising with them is not limited to the mere payment of the newspapers, printers, bill posters and others who undertake to display their announcements, but there are a number of necessary expenses incidental to these which are by no means small items in the total expenditure.

"Many employ men to originate striking forms of advertisements, and the demand for men of special genius in that direction is so great that very large salaries are offered them. Some of these firms, especially those who deal in patent medicines, employ a man whose sole duty it is to see that the contracts for displaying before the public their advertisements are carried out as agreed. This man has to do a great deal of traveling.

"One of the forms of advertising, which is extensively indulged in by these firms, is the pasting of signs on the fences and rocks along the lines of the railroads which enter this town. In making a contract with a bill poster, who usually does this work, the firm specifies the style and size of the signs it wants and the places in which it wants them displayed. The bill poster then sends out his men presumably to fulfill the terms of the contract, but these men travel over hundreds of miles of territory, and the question arises, How can the firm be certain that its provisions have been properly carried out? It is impossible for the members of the firm to spend time in going over all these miles personally, and, as a result, they have to employ a man who can do it for them. This man can do little else.

"If the firm would rest content with his assurance his labor would be comparatively light, but one of the first principles of a big mercantile firm seems to be that, as far as possible, the assertions of an employe should be supported by material proof. It would, of course, be possible for the man who undertakes this work to defraud the firm by accepting with the bill poster, and, to prevent this possible collusion, a novel form of proof that the work has been properly done has been devised. The firm's agent follows in the footsteps of the bill poster's workmen.

"He is provided with a camera and he photographs every one of the firm signs. As each photograph takes in not only the sign but the surrounding scenery, the firm is of course convinced that the number of signs contracted for have been duly made, and also that they are in the places designated by it. These photographs are kept until the terms of the contract have expired, and frequently one firm will have a collection of thousands of photographs of a particular sign, in the background of which will be different kinds of scenery."—*New York Sun.*

Diamonds Absorbing Light.

In an article on "Precious Stones" a most beautiful experiment in the absorption of light by diamonds which was carried out in Paris during the exposition was referred to. On this occasion a collection of 120 diamonds was placed in a dark room. In a side of the room was inserted a lens, outside of which an arc lamp was hung. The lens, which was employed to concentrate the light, was covered with violet colored glass, so that only ultra violet rays fell on the gems, of which but three of the entire number proved to be phosphorescent. All the others assumed a beautiful violet tint. The two stones whose phosphorescence was most marked were perfectly transparent white stones, one having a bluish tinge. The phosphorescence exhibited by these stones is described as extremely beautiful, and remained visible, with gradually diminishing intensity, for fifteen minutes after a metallic cap was put over the lens.

Nations May Be Judged by Their Children.

In all climes and upon human nature is essentially the same, yet the conditions under which life develops in various nations often make the habits of different races seem very strange to foreigners. The prevailing idea of a nation may be known by the desires of its children. Some author once remarked that let a French child express his ideal and it would be that he might grow into a famous general, the soldier surrounded with all his military glory being the height of his ambition.

Put the same question to an American boy, and with a toss of his head he will inform you that he intends to be a foreman or a street car conductor when he "grows up to be a man." But the Chinese boy is so differently trained that it would be a most difficult task to fathom his wishes and ambitions.—

Treatment for Poisoning.

The principal narcotic poisons are laudanum, morphine and opium. Of laudanum the fatal dose is at least two drams. Two grains and a half of the extract are said by Tanner to be equal to four grains of Smith opium, while De Quincy could take sixteen ounces of the tincture of opium daily. Infants have been killed by a single drop of laudanum, which is equal to about the twelfth of a grain of opium. No one should use laudanum, opium or morphine without the express orders and daily watchful care of a physician, for all these drugs have an entirely different action in health and sickness.

When an excessive dose of any of these narcotics is suspected, a physician should be immediately called, and, pending his arrival, every effort should be made to keep the patient awake. The symptoms of poisoning are gradually increasing giddiness, drowsiness, stupor, slow, heavy breathing, weak pulse, pallor and final coma. There may be nausea and even convulsions. The first remedial action is to free the stomach by the means of emetics or the stomach pump; then rouse the patient by slapping the chest and neck with a wet towel, dashing cold water about the head and face, walking up and down—out of doors if that is necessary—giving electric shocks, and even artificial respiration when other means fail to rouse from the stupor which precedes death. Strong coffee may be useful as an adjunct. The case should be in the hands of a competent physician. In a word, keep the patient awake until the doctor arrives, loosen the clothing and keep the head cool.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Does the Moon Cause Earthquakes?

With regard to the phases of the moon's motions, M. Brioso found that in four years, 1886 to 1890, the number of earthquakes near new and full moons exceeded the number at the quarters very nearly in the proportion of six to four. In a number of exceedingly elaborate calculations M. Brioso has endeavored to show that, however the figures were handled, they always present the same general conclusions, but there are not as yet sufficient facts to justify more than a passing allusion to this curious speculation.

It does, however, appear to be an ineluctable deduction from these facts, not only that earthquakes occur more frequently at the periods of new and full moon, but that their frequency increases at the time when the moon is nearest the earth and diminish when it is most distant, and, moreover, that earthquake shocks are more frequent when the moon is ninety degrees from it. M. Perrey, the French scientist, tried to figure out some connection between moon phases and earthquakes as long ago as 1844.—*St. Louis Republic.*

Luxurious Life in the Army.

Said a prominent army officer in the Southern hotel to a group of officers and civilians: "Service in the army for the private soldier is a delight to what it used to be before the war. There is not a post scarcely in the country not accessible by railroad and which has not a daily mail. The quarters or barracks to which he is now assigned are simply palatial. At Fort Riley, for instance, the men's barracks are splendidly arranged and handsomely furnished. Each company's quarters is furnished with a library, billiard room, gymnasium, marble tub bathrooms; the squad rooms or dormitories are nicely furnished with iron bedsteads, and the walls are hung with pictures about army life on the march or in battle. The mess hall at Fort Riley seats 1,200 men at each meal. The chief de cuisine is a civilian salaried at $150 a month. A mess hall of a like capacity is to be built at Fort Leavenworth, and the posts, Fort Sheridan, at Chicago, and Fort Logan, near Denver, are being built with every convenience.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

Joke Proof Englishmen.

Why is it that English people can't understand jokes? They are not always stupid, and they are fond of enjoying themselves, but when an American sees a capital joke and goes into fits of laughter the Englishman sits grave as a preacher.

"Here's an account of a singular accident," said an American at the club, reading his paper to an English acquaintance. "A man sat on a buzz saw accidentally and was killed. They buried both of him in the same grave, I suppose."

"Ah! both of him! How's that?" said the other solemnly.

You can't put head and brains into a brass door knob, as Mr. E.'s aunt plaintively expressed it in "Little Dorrit," and you can't make the ordinary Englishman grasp such an extremely American joke as the one just given.—*Washington Star.*

Pleasing His Wife.

Jinks—Why do you offer such a large reward for the return of that contemptible pug dog?

Winks—To please my wife.

Jinks—But such a reward will be sure to bring him back.

"No, it won't. He's dead."—*New York Weekly.*

Have You Ever Noticed It?

Queer thing about the three coal place. You always take it for a dime with your change; but you can never induce any one else to do so.—*Puck.*

A Leading Part.

"I'm going to give you an important part in my next play," said the manager to the supe with large hands.

"Sir!" said the ambitious assistant.

"A leading part!"

"Exactly. I want you to sit out in the audience and start the applause."

Very True.

"Idiots are not universally applicable."

"Which, for instance?"

"Well, a farmer can go to seed and a sore to grass and not be any the worse for it."—*Harper's Bazar.*

Now Is the Time

To purify your blood and fortify your system against the debilitating effects of spring weather. At no other season is the blood more in the mental condition, the tonic so effective, the dreary dullness so extensive, or that extreme tired feeling so prevalent. Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the medicine to purify the blood, cure rich headaches, biliousness and overcome that tired feeling.

Sick Headache

"I have been troubled a great deal with headache, had no appetite, no strength, and felt as mean as any one could, and be about my work. Since taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I have not had the headache, my food has relished, and seemed to do me good, and I have found myself growing stronger every day." M. J. KRIEMAN, 13 Grand Avenue, Grand Rapids, Mich.

My Nerves Are All Right

And I have gained 10 pounds in 6 months, as the result of taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, says Mr. B. H. Ross of the firm of Ross & Eddy, Rochester, N. Y. "I had lost

Chronic Dyspepsia

My digestion being very bad, and I was broken down from overwork so that I could not sleep nights. But my stomach is now in perfect condition, and for all the above benefits my gratitude is due Hood's Sarsaparilla."

"Water-Brash

And dyspepsia troubled me for 10 years, and other trying evils, things I considered to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. The effect is more valuable to me than I can be almost entirely cured." J. M. JOHNSON, 427 10th Street, Toledo, Ohio. If you suffer from

Indigestion

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