THE VEILED HERMIT.

A REMARKABLE RECLUSE IN THE WOODED WILDS OF TEXAS.

Evidence of Artistic Taste in His Secluded Covert Home on the Banks of Willow Creek—Interview with a Man Who Accepted His Hospitality.

Willowpur county, Tex., boasts of a mystery in the form of a hermit, living near Willow Creek in a small secluded hut, well and partly concealed by vine, dried white skin and deerskin. The drawings on the wall, which are said to be the work of an artist of cultivated taste and great talent. Very little is known of the recluse beyond the fact that he is a white man, an Englishman or American by birth, and has lived in his cave for the past fifteen years.

He always wears a close fitting mask of buckskin, which, falling to his breast, completely hides his face, and dresses in skins in the winter, while in summer he is clothed in a loose garment said to be woven of the prairie grass.

This strange being, by some regarded as a myth, is only seen by long intervals, when some traveler runs across him. He never, when he will, makes an attempt to escape, respond pleasantly, if briefly, to any question addressed to him, and then quietly walks away. If followed or molested he first quickly runs, and then, if the attempt is persistent in, has been known to draw a weapon, which has the effect of ridding him of his tormentor.

He carries a small rifle, which, however, he has never been seen to use, but seems all the more to have the instinct of a hunter, or rather along the creek. On peak days he secures in this way and a patch of ground which he cultivates the recluse lives, for he has never been seen to leave his cave, though several attempts have been made to induce him to abandon his solitary life. His cave, though known to a few, is never visited, which is believed that he would resent any intrusion in a very unpleasant manner.

A MAN WHO HAS SEEN HIM.

The only man who has ever entered the cave is Colonel J. Stone, who, on one occasion, was invited there by the mysterious inhabitant. The story is "I had driven out from Hennel to Lloyd's ranch, when I was overtaken by one of our sudden prairie storms. My ponies soon grew unmanageable, and I got out to hold them by the bit, when a tremendous peal and a blinding flash caused the little devils to bend away from me and go tearing across the prairie. After relaying my full heart by the time which subdue for the occasion I trudged on, but soon found the road so heavy for my life shoes that I abandoned it for some of the cattle paths which seemed to run parallel with it. I knew the road well, having traveled it often, but what with the darkening sky, the sheets of rain and the lightning, it did not take me long to lose my bearings. At some point I missed the line of timber marking the course of the creek, and made my way to it, following the stream for a mile or two.

"All at once, as I plodded on, I heard a voice hailing me, and looking cheerfully, saw sitting in the mouth of a dugout or cave in the side of a good sized bluff, a man with something over his face. I halloed in answer, when the stranger called to me to come in out of the rain, so I marched boldly up to him. I knew him in a moment, for I had often heard of the veiled hermit of Willow creek, though up to the time I actually beheld him I had never believed in his existence.

"He led me into his cave and kindling a fire on the hearth, which was in the center, seemed to use a resin which for whiteness I never saw equaled. Pushed as well preserved as to appear alive, in all their fully vulnerness, hung pendant from rafters that supported the clay daubed roof, grinning heads of panthers, cougars, wolves, bears, bignots and every wild beast to be found for hundreds of miles around, added to the novel grotesqueness of the place, while their skins carpeted the floors and made the hermit's bed, which was all the furniture the place afforded, except a few stool before the fire.

CURIOUS ARRANGEMENT.

"The walls of the cave were of clay, evidently hacked out by hook, and were covered with drawings made by some sharp instrument while the clay was yet soft. I am sufficient judge of art to know that the hand which executed the drawings was that of a skilled artist, and they were due to that. They were, for the most part, from the Bible, and represented Christ, Christ, Christ, kneeling his cheek against the disciples asleep in the garden of Gethsemane, but I also remember one or two scenes from the Odyssey and Iliad.

"My host brought out some cold venison and a plate of bread, of which I ate thoroughly, after which he resumed his seat in the door of the cave. I tried to talk to him, but his monosyllabic replies soon silenced me, and when presently the rain ceased, he said, 'You can canoe me, but I am under a vow to hold conversation with no man, so I will leave you.' I took him and prepared to go. I had a late newspaper in my pocket and tendered it to him, but he thanked me and shook his head.

"'No,' he said, 'I do not want to forget the world and be forgotten by it.' Here he hesitated a second, and said, 'I would like, however, to ask you one question. Has Prussia yet taken Alsace and Lorraine?' On receiving an affirmative he bowed and groaned, 'So, too, better and sir, go quickly. I am a wretch who explains deadly sin in solitude and pain.'

"He ran to the back of the cave and fetching an iron knew groaned and added, 'I had some tobacco with me and some other trifles, such as a pocket knife, matches, toilette and a lock of beauty, which I placed on the floor, and then left. I have never seen him since, for I felt sure the greatest kindness to him is to let him alone, and I have carried all my influence that he shall remain undisturbed.'"—Philadelphia Times.

He Who Runs May Read.

In spite of declarations to the contrary, it is possible to turn read and write with comfort while traveling if one knows how. Palm in the best after reading on the cars are due to an unusual strain upon the muscles of the eye, its focus being changed almost incessantly, but with an unusual rest the muscles will and the work too hard. Let the eye of reading for two minutes, and then for five minutes or viewing what you have read. Test it occasionally you wish to look out of the window, for to be the one on the other side of the car, for to look out of the one side you will require quite some change of focus. Bring to the upper reading.—Ladies' Home Journal.

Answered Prayers.

Prayers are not answered according to our mind. The language of our hearts is, "In the day when I call answer me speedily." We would like the fulfillment every day of the promise, "Before they call, I will answer them, and while they are speaking I will hear." Thus we would have our requests in our petitions outrunning the telegraph in immediate answer. We do not know how much discipline we need before our prayers are answered. Much may be required to be done in us before we are fitted to receive the good we crave, and God may delay blessings in order that we may be better prepared to receive and appreciate them.—Exchange.

LIVE STOCK AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Best Magnificent Space Available Ever Seen at an Exposition.

Ample provision will be made at the Columbian exposition for the Colonial sporting South of the splendid live stock interests of the United States. W. I. Buchanan, chief of the department of agriculture for the fair, says of the buildings for live stock:

One of the most desirable and interesting features of the exposition will be the present live stock and agricultural, primarily hall, the exercises of which will be open annual. This building will probably connect machinery hall with the agricultural building, fronting on the main court of the exposition grounds, and will be apparently near one of the stations of the elevated railroad. It will be a very handsome building and will undoubtedly be the common meeting point for all persons interested in live stock and agricultural pursuits.

On the first floor, near the main entrance of the building, will be located a bureau of information, in charge of attaches, who will furnish visitors with all necessary information in regard to the assembly hall and the main agricultural building, as well as other features of the exposition. The first floor will also contain suitable committee and other rooms for the different live stock associations of every character, where such associations can meet and have their secretaries in constant attendance, thus affording this important industry ample headquarters near the live stock exhibit and the agricultural buildings.

On the floor there will also be large and handsomely equipped waiting rooms, with fireplaces for ladies, lounging rooms for gentlemen and luncheon table facilities. Broad stairways will lead from the first floor to the assembly room, which will have a seating capacity of about 1,500. This assembly room will furnish facilities for lectures, which will be delivered by gentlemen eminent in their special fields of work, embracing every interest connected with live stock, agriculture and its allied industries.

When one considers that in this room almost daily there will be lectures delivered, papers read and discussions had, conducted by eminent specialists from all parts of the world, the importance of such a building for educational purposes is apparent. Taken in connection with the exhibits, this feature will make that part of the exposition devoted to live stock, agriculture and horticulture a complete gathering together of all the most advanced theories in regard to producing. In the assembly room the most approved theories will be advanced and explained.

The entire second floor of the assembly building is given up to committee rooms, and there will be a number of such and all of the different farmers' organizations in existence in this country. It will furnish a definite and pleasant home for all such organizations during the entire time of the exposition, where each may have its secretary or other officer constantly in attendance to furnish information and transact other business, and where the members can hold such associations as they may desire.

Such a building was never erected at any exposition, and its construction with a view of affording every desirable facility that they can furnish to all the great live stock and agricultural interests of the country.

A Stone That Is Cherished.

Sitting on one of the plush sofas at the Fifth Avenue the other day was Mr. E. H. Patterson, of Paducah, Ky. On the little finger of his left hand he displayed a uniformly set amethyst ring. It was not an expensive bit of jewelry, but odd enough to attract the attention of a close observer. "That ring has an historic value," said Mr. Patterson. "It was a present to a member of my family from Louis XIV. My wife is a granddaughter of Owens, of Mount Sterling, Ky., with whom the exiled monarch stopped while in this country incognito in the time of the first Napoleon.

"While at her grandfather's house the king one evening just before parting took a glass of wine and dropped half a dozen jewels in it, then, after drinking the wine from off the precious stones, distributed them among the various members of the family as a mark of his personal esteem. This particular stone finally fell to my wife's sister, who died in Ashville, N. C., and by her it was presented to me. It has been all through the war, and has been considered a lucky stone. At any rate, nothing would induce me to part with it."—New York Herald.

A Fashion That Pleases the Youngsters.

The practice of putting boys into knickerbockers at the early age now fashionable is a distinct innovation over that which prevailed a dozen years ago. The kilt suit period nowadays is very short—babies of four strutting about in knee breeches with pockets. Time was, and not so very long ago, when fashionable mothers scanned their sons along for twelve years in hybrid kilts that had vest and waistcoat, a sort of sop to the muscular leanings of the repressed lad. It was considered phthisis to doff skirts at all early; but all this is changed, and the little fellows jump from baby dresses to abbreviated trousers that have no legs to speak of. For some, however, fashion does exactly what the child delights in, and the smallest boy finding entire satisfaction in breeches.—Her Point of View in New York Times.

Bismarck's Love for Trees.

The prince then proceeded to speak of his trees in the Sachsenwald. He described the spots where several of the finest stands of wood of them, he said, were fully 250 years old, or even more. He added—whether with an oblique reference or not to a certain living English statesman whose chief accomplishment to himself is that he is not at present in office Herr Bever does not inform us—"I always give two a piece to have to fell a tree. I never and spare all I can."

He said that a Dutch courier of his once said to him: "I must make a confession. I have cultivated a tree. It was marked for felling, but it was too beautiful, and I have let it stand." "Well," I replied, "if it is so beautiful, certainly let it stand."—London Standard.

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A sea-serpent, 30 feet long, was seen by six people off Ocean Grove on the coast of Florida last month. Unmistakable proofs are said to exist of its reality.

Reader, the sea-serpent is here. If you are a subscriber to the Deseret Evening News, it will be delivered to you every evening, thousands of miles, by the Pioneer Cooling Medical Company, of Salt Lake City, and given a free trial, with absolutely sure cure, consumption of the lungs, which is really a serious disease, and which, if neglected, or improperly treated, may be fatal. Do not let the sea-serpent, which is a harmless creature, frighten you away. Write to the Pioneer Cooling Medical Company, of Salt Lake City, and they will do all we promised. Very truly yours, Deseret Evening News