

# PANTAGONIAN GIANTS.

How the Early Navigators Romanced About Them and The Dwarfs of Tierra Del Fuego.

Special Correspondence.  
PUNTA ARENAS, Patagonia, March 20.—Who has not heard marvelous tales of the giants of Patagonia, and of the dwarfs who live just across the narrow channel on the other side of the world? So much has been written and told about these people, ever since the first white man found them (in the year 1520), that to this day the world possesses few actual facts concerning them. You remember how Don Pigafetta, the champion liar of Magellan's expedition, describes the Patagonians as of that biggeness that our means of stature could reach up to their eyes; and all the early explorers who followed him to see and describe as they found things as their predecessors had done, while a few of them went as far as to make the effort to go even farther in their laudable efforts to keep up European interest in the new world.

Regarding the stature of these giants, there is an amusing discrepancy in the statements of celebrated travelers, ancient and modern. Sir Francis Drake, who came here in 1578, testified that the Patagonians were "not taller than Englishmen." Schouten, the German explorer, declared them to be "living skeletons, ten or eleven feet high." The French scientist, Lapérouse, in 1792, that he "never found any one who measured six feet eleven inches, and saw few of less stature than six feet ten inches." Captain Mery, who made them a careful study not many years ago, says he found one who measured six feet eleven inches, and saw few of less stature than six feet ten inches. Captain Mery, who made them a careful study not many years ago, says he found one who measured six feet eleven inches, and saw few of less stature than six feet ten inches.

Of course the term "Patagonian" is entirely unknown among the Indians. Their true name, collectively and individually, is Tsonacas, and by it all the tribes call themselves. The word "Patagon," meaning "duck-footed," refers to their peculiar foot-gear. The lower limbs are encased in boots without soles, or long gaiters, made of guanaco skins, with the beautiful yellowish fur turned outward. The leg is covered all around from below the knee, the fur passing over the top of the foot and around the heel, leaving the toes sticking out. This trifling circumstance obtained the appellation by which a vast territory and all the people who inhabit it are known to the civilized world. The "uppers" or gaiters, extending loosely over the top of the leg, exaggerated in breadth by the long hair on the edges, give the appearance of having a pair of wings. When Magellan's men first saw these Indians, they were unable to account for the peculiar appearance of their feet and the bright red hair upon their legs, and called them "duck-footed."

The southern Tsonacas—as yet I have seen no others—dress in the rudest fashion. A large, square rug of guanaco hide, sewed together, is fastened over the shoulders, and the body under the arms, and extends about to the knees. Another rug, with a slit in the middle through which to pass the head, falls over the shoulders. The long, place by strips of cloth, which are often large enough to form a kind of cap or tunic. Greater down in the scale of humanity as they look, it appears that they have redeeming qualities. They believe in the immortality of the soul, and you ever notice that the character of a man, whether his skin be black, white, red, brown or yellow, can be pretty accurately told by the sort of god he worships, or rather by the attributes which his own imagination invests a supreme being? The Tehuelche deity is not "an eternal spider weaving webs to catch the souls of men," nor a revengeful being who intends to torment any of his creatures. His name is Cacho, and he is of a very tender, loving and forgiving disposition. He is waiting for his children in happy hunting grounds beyond the farthest rim of hills, where he has prepared all good things necessary to their happiness. The "good things" mean a supply of food and furs, unlimited wines (of which beverage they are inordinately fond) and purchase immense quantities of poor claret from the Chilianas, no storms nor darkness, and above all no more cold weather. On the latter point the missionaries who go among them are obliged to be extremely careful. To their antartetic imaginations the old time hell of actual life that we used to hear about, presents far more attractions than the orthodox heaven.

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SOME SATURDAY STORIES.  
"GUESS 'T WAS GOIN' SOME!"  
By Senator J. M. Kennedy, recently here from Butte: "Two Irishmen were discussing the superstitious tendencies of their race, and exchanging proofs of their justification."  
"Will, nex one uv them, I was walkin' past the graveyard last night when a big white ghost appears at the gate. An' I run. Yis, I run hard. An' he followed me. An' he run hard. I was scared out of me verry wits. Pat, but he kipt on a comin' right behind."

Japanese ARTILLERY LANDING ON THE TATUNG RIVER.  
The Tatung river, a view of which is herewith given, flows through northern Korea and empties into the Yellow sea. Pingyang is situated on the banks of this stream, which is now held by the Japanese. The Tatung is used to transport multitudes of war and troops into the interior. Small boats are employed for the purpose. By such means guns, artillery mules and other ordnance supplies are transported, thus avoiding the Korean rivers, which are practically impassable at this time of the year.

After coverin' sivil miles, I fill down, completely exhausted. The ghost comes rushin' up, an' while I sit there shakin' with fright, it sez, sez he: 'Oh, me fine bo-kow, I had you goin' some that time!'"  
"And Mike, in the name of hivin', what did yez say?" asked Pat, anxiously.  
"Will, I sez, sez I: 'Yis, you did that, an' when I catch me breath, dom it, you'll have me goin' some more!'"

NARROW ESCAPE.  
By Fred T. McGurran: "Two representative Welshmen stood on the corner condemning everything in general when one of them brought up the subject of a neighboring buffet and its somewhat grouchey proprietor."  
"What think you, says one, 'of this hundreds of dollars in his place, an' he never yet has said to me anything like setting up the drinks. Has he to you?'"  
"No, he never did. But he came close to it one day."

"How came he close to it, look you?"  
"Well, sir, I was sitting by the stove warmin' myself, an' he came over an' said, said he to me: 'Jones, what shall we have—rain or snow?'"

HIS COMFORTING REMEDY.  
By Fisher S. Harris: "On one occasion—the last—I had occasion to leave the Commercial club during the lunch hour and by the time I had completed my business was compelled to seek a quick-lunch house on Broker's row for something to eat. A big waiter who was at one time a prize-fighter, I believe, brought in a bowl of soup and deposited it before me with the usual amount of carelessness. As I was about to sail in, I discovered a foreign substance in the broth, and it was—"

"Hey there, waiter, I said, by way of protest, 'there's a fly in this soup!'"  
"The waiter adopted a broad grin and turning serenely to his fellow-helpers, observed: 'Say, fellows, here's a guy what tinkers his winter!'"

INVENTORS TAKE NOTICE.  
By Sam A. King, of Provo: "I have often regretted that I haven't the inventive genius of a school-mate of mine years ago in the Brigham Young Academy, when the iron-hand of dear old Dr. Maeser ruled the institution. There were a few of us who were content with getting into scrapes and it was a favorite mode of punishment with Dr. Maeser to make us write a certain number of lines in our copy books, staying in after hours to do it. The number of lines, by the way, sometimes ran as high as 400 and 500, and it was no joke to do that after school."

"The school mate of whom I speak had more punishment of this kind than anybody else, and he liked it probably less than anybody. One day he came to school with an outfit he had designed during the night. It was an arrangement of four pens in one broad, improvised penholder, and so perfectly put together that every time he made a mark, four appeared on the paper. The four lines for one, every time. In other words, he had contrived to do just one-fourth the work actually prescribed. Dr. Maeser used to compliment him on his rapid penmanship, which it came to copying lines, and insisted that it was the finest practice in the world for him. He wondered that the other boys were so slow."

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Ladies' \$3.50 Walking Skirt in Grey Melton or Blue Twilled for	Ladies' \$4.50 Dress Skirts in Venetian or Granite Cloth trim, with Black Taffeta Silk Bands, folds in Black, Blue, Castor for
\$2.50	\$3.19
Ladies' \$5.00 All Wool Grey Walking Skirts for	
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The SPRING TRIMMED HATS we're showing are the SWELL STYLES, exquisite in design and original in conception. Nowhere is there a gathering more complete. New arrivals are welcomed here daily, and a daily welcome is ready for all who come to see them.

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At 98c Large variety of special good values in White Lawns—also in white and black, or black and white dots, value to \$1.50.

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\$3.50 White Jap. Silk Waists, for \$2.50

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Child's new Gingham Dresses, two to four years for 50c

### 4 Specials in MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

Ladies' Nainsook Drawers, lace embroidered trim, Value \$1.50, for 73c

Ladies' Cambric Chemises, lace insertion, hemstitched, Value 75c, for 57c

Ladies' Cambric Skirts, wide flounce, tuck, emb. trim, Value 95c, for 69c

Ladies' Muslin Gown, Empire style, emb. trim, Value 95c, for 67c

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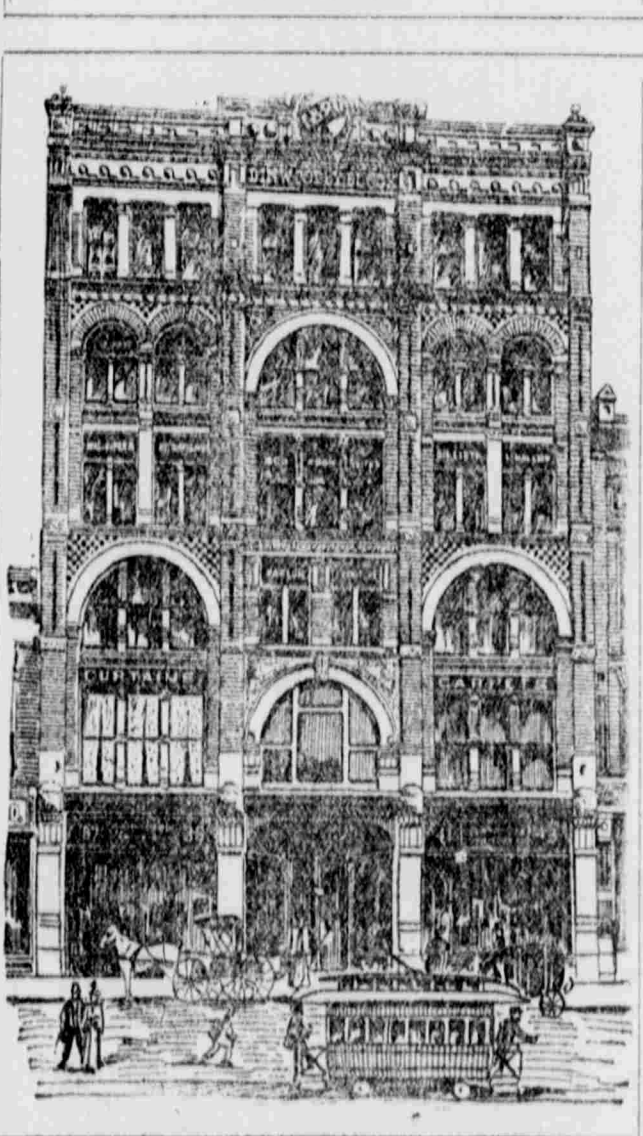
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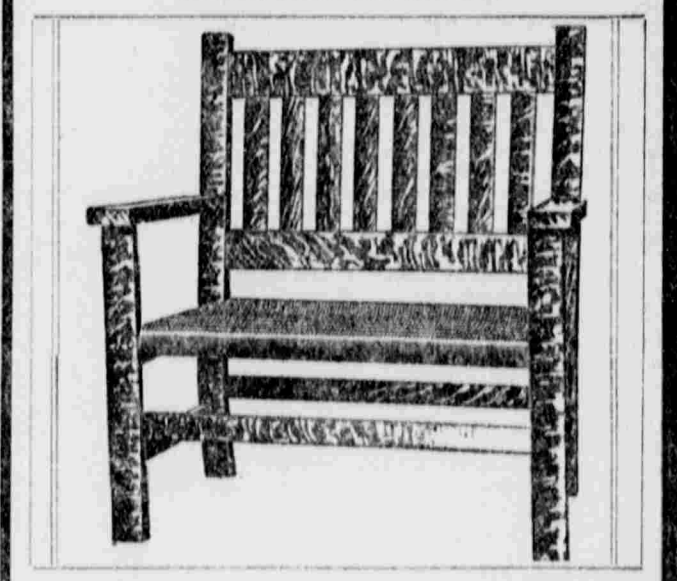


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