HEATHEN CURIOSITIES.

THE VALUABLE COLLECTION IN THE NEW YORK MUSEUM.

It Contains Dancing Masks, Wonderfully Carved War Clubs, Blood Stained Daggers Made from Human Bones, Fetiches and Many-Shaded Tooth Weapons.

The recent sale at the same time the most valuable collection of Indian curiosities in existence, promises to that in Canadian specimens which was never be replaced, may be seen in the American Museum of Natural History of Seventh street and Eighth avenue. It is known as the Sturgis collection, and represents not only an expenditure of $50,000 by the collector, but nearly twenty-five years of work in the United States and a quest of more than thirty years previous to that time among the islands of the South Pacific seas.

Contained in sixteen cases, each 8 feet wide, 10 feet high and 3 feet deep, and ranged along the entire east side of the third floor of the building, are over 6,000 articles, the greater part of them beautiful, others too ugly, but all of them interesting, curious and possessing a particular interest for civilized people.

Any number of these curiosities suggest an epoch in different South Sea islands long passed, each specimen it is impossible to trace days to displayed.

While there is no end to the old and interesting curiosities in the collection, yet a visitor will find his attention directed particularly to the masks from New Ireland, New Guinea and New Hebrides. These were used in former days in religious dances and ceremonies, and were so made that they could be worn over the head. The faces are carved from wood, and handsomely ornamented with red and white paint. The upper part consists of a framework of palm leaves, which is either with native sponge or with shaped made from compact fiber. The eyes are represented by small grass and white pearl shells, which are exposed or hidden at will.

From the Solomon, New Hebrides and New Ireland islands is a large collection of bows and arrows, the former seven or eight and the latter about five feet long. The arrows are tipped with bone or hard wood. No iron is found in the islands, and the wood is hardened by fire to give it the proper degree of strength and endurance.

Two particularly interesting but horrible specimens come from New Guinea in the form of daggers made from the bones of human legs. The bones are about seven inches long, the sockets being used as handles, while the other end is sharpened to a point. These ghastly curiosities were captured by the crew of a whaling ship having a fight with the natives of the island, and are those made by human blood no reality be disarmed.

Specimens of fine carving are very numerous, being especially noticeable in the form of some pendants, one shell and bone used as badges of office on ceremonial occasions. Many are ornamented with mother of pearl or abalone shell. The delicate designs, remarkable for their regularity and finish, are the results of years of slow and careful work, much of the carving having been begun by a father and completed by his son after the death of the former. Them being no metal tools in the islands in those days, the carving had all to be done with pieces of shell or with sharks' teeth.

Two fine war clubs from the island of Santa Cruz, in the Solomon group, are wonderful specimens of the carver's skill. It was in the vicinity of this island that the great French navigator, La Perouse, was wrecked. In 1785 King Louis XVI of France sent him to the South sea on a voyage of discovery. No tidings having been received of the expedition, the king sent a second expedition to the South sea in 1791, with instructions to search for the missing explorer. But beyond the fact obtained from some natives that several French ships were wrecked on the island of Santa Cruz in 1788, this being verified by the finding of relics from the missing ships, no further tidings were ever heard of the great French navigator.

ORNAMENTS AND IDOLS.

The collection of jade ornaments and weapons is especially fine. These come more particularly from New Guinea and the early Maori settlements in New Zealand, while some specimens are produced in Mangaia, in the Hervey group. Beads of jade, used for bottle nose and ear, are quite common, being usually fastened to carved handles by strips of the finest plaited sinnet. The finest specimens of ornamental plaiting come from Mangaia, the island being noted on account of its beauty and in such a variety of designs that the work bears the appearance of being been done by machinery. The handle of the implement is in many instances heavy, the native workman having contrived to cut away the wood through the interstices between the intricate plaits. The carving was all done with a sharp stone or a shark's tooth fastened to a handle.

New Zealand, New Ireland and the Marquesas Islands, the Kingsmill and Pelew islands contribute a number of wooden idols varying in length from twelve inches to three feet, and much resembling in design those in use by the Indians of Alaska. The heads are fashioned with either forbidding or grotesque features. Dogs' teeth are affixed to the mouth, while the eyes are made of mother of pearl, in the center of each being set a black bead to represent the pupil.

Two rolls of armor from Samoa, made of cocoanut fiber, are among the rarest and finest specimens in the collection. Each suit is made of two pieces which corresponds in form to a European coat and pair of trousers. The plaiting is done so finely and closely that it would offer strong resistance to a modern bullet at a considerable distance. These specimens were brought to Nantucket by a whaling ship in 1840, from which source but long been one of duke in Samoa. Not a single arm can be found in the islands today.—John C. Klein in New York World.

Superstitious About Beetles.

In Sweden the chrysalized beetle is regarded as a messenger of misfortune and death, and its appearance is the signal for a general alarm. A person slightly ill is eaten by Egyptian women with a view to acquiring pleurisy. Another insect regarded with superstitious fear in the east is called "death watch," which by the tinkling sound it makes carries a dread and horror of the meddlesome much power to relatives of the sign.—Washington Star.

Yes, They Will.

A fellow around town who had acquired a reputation for being uncertain has solved the problem, and has not lost one place he got his whence into office. He had one made with a "revolving door" and every time he lets the unknown man in takes off the panels. Nobody would mind an umbrella without a handle.—Fall River Herald.

Fill Him Full.

Mrs. Larkin—Here's a paper which says, "The bumper should not be turned away empty."

Larkin—That's right. Fill him with beer.—West Shore.

at the Theater.

"Tom that the name of the person is given on the playbill. What does the gentleman do?"

"I fancy he writes the advance notices of the plays that are produced."—Puck.

THE HIPPOPOTAMUS.

Sir S. Baker Believes That He Fleeth Is Valuable and Tender.

Although the hippopotamus may be less hideous than the crocodile, Sir S. Baker writes that "there is no animal that he dislikes more than the hippopotamus. If he was compelled to travel at night upon an African river in an ordinary boat, I feel sure that the depredations the hippopotamus would be remarkably dangerous. He is fairly safe here in broad daylight a hippopotamus charged the steamer that was coming his direction, and perforated the iron plates of the vessel in two places with its projecting tusks so that it made a considerable leak.

In another occasion, when the steamer passed over a hippopotamus that was walking after the manner of these tusked animals, we were startled by the bump of the steamer of 700 tons given a long time the air, as the water was too shallow to permit the hippopotamus to pass beneath the boat. At last the carcass of the hippopotamus was not ascertained.

On another occasion a bull hippopotamus charged the dahabeah in the middle of the night and sank a small boat that was fastened alongside by biting a large piece out of it. "Not satisfied with this excuse, he then charged the iron boat, and would certainly have sunk her if I had not stopped the boat up a short in the shaft with a 50 x rifle." Sir S. Baker calls the animal "stupidly fearless" when it is in the water, though it is comparatively timorous on land. On one occasion he saw a man in a boat seriously attacked and killed by a hippopotamus.

The Hamran Arabs and some of the tribes attack the hippopotamus with their harpoons, which they use in the pursuit of this animal, which they dread. It is upon these and they it with their spears, while they dodge it by throwing sand into its eyes. But the hippopotamus sometimes goes the better of them and escapes. Sir S. Baker states a curious fact concerning a compound ulcer which has affected the hippopotamus. Formerly its tusks, or large prominent teeth, were in great request by dentists to make artificial teeth. They are superior to ivory in the permanency of their color, and they never turned yellow. But the American invention of porcelain enamel for artificial teeth has destroyed the value of the hippopotamus's tusks, and they are now cheaper than ivory.

Some people may have wondered for what good purpose such an unpaidly and unwieldy mass as the hippopotamus was created. Sir S. Baker writes that "a young calf hippopotamus is delicious eating. The feet when stewed are far superior to those of any other animal, and the skin makes excellent turtle soup. The flesh of the animal is always palatable, and although the meat of an old bull is tough it can be economically treated by pounding and boiling, when it is fed upon until the fiber is totally destroyed. If it is then mixed with chopped onions, pepper and salt and with thyme it will form other meals or substitute the mass by a plastic transformation." What a pity it is that the S. Baker was not at hand to act as cook when Dr. Buckland, the dean of Westminster, unfortunately made the unfortunate of Canterbury anthony II by infusing him to partake of plum roast hippopotamus.—Longman's Magazine.

What You Do When You Sneeze.

When Dr. E. C. Minor was asked just what a sneeze was, and how it was caused physiologically, he had aside his cigar, pondered deeply for a moment and spoke thus: "A sneeze, "A blast is a temporary spasmodic and calculable influence of the physiography established by the perceptive nerves of the sensorium when in a predisposed state of susceptibility from a sense of stasis, anger or other cause, eventuating in a process of the vaso-motor nervous filaments of the facial capillaries, whereby, being directed of their elasticity, are suffused with radical, aerated, compound nutritive stimulating liquid, emanating from an intelligent centre, principle." When the doctor finished a sigh of relief was heard from his audience, and they only recovered their equipoise when the doctor asked them to go over to the Grand hotel and hear him make a speech.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

The Egyptians Used to Eat Fish.

Certain hieroglyphs on ancient Egyptian monuments seem to indicate that the people of that country sometimes resorted to salt fish. Fish for the use of the Chinese do at this day. In the same manner it is known that the old Egyptians found in the sea of Galilee a favorite occupation. Men in flat bottomed boats covered with palm leaves enclosed the water, and in the shallow water and speared them there. The art of drying and curing fish, was discovered in Europe until the Fourteenth century, was known of old in Egypt. Dry fish, salted or not, are still extant representing the various stages of the process, and showing clearly that the fish were cut in pieces before being dessicated.—Washington Star.

A Chinese Joke.

A tich man, living between the forges of two blacksmiths, was continually annoyed by the noise of their hammers, and was in consequence of his inability to sleep in day or by night. At first he tried to intimidate the blacksmiths, but finding that he was the loser in the end, he changed his tactics and pretended that he was very fond of the noise, and would only change their abodes. The two blacksmiths at last fell in with his proposals, and he, transported with joy at the prospect of their departure, entertained them regardless of expense at a farewell banquet. At the end of the feast he asked them where they intended to set up their anvils. "Well," said one of them, "we have tried on your left will go to the smithy on your right, and he who lives on your right will go to that on your left."—Texas Siftings.

The Inadequacy of Criticism.

The critical bodies have not yet been in terrorem there is no little instrument that promises to do the rest in reviewing if you press the button, and in the meantime there is the chance of getting only a glimpse of the work that comes before one. One object is to read and a moment only of that; a few traits are grouped about the general look of an author—a nose here, a mouth there, an eye or two, a chin—and then the whole mind be informed to the intelligence of the reader, with a suggestion that he had better go to the book for a right conception of it.—W. D. Howells in Harper's.

A Waste of Raw Material.

Othello—The death of Miss Sujdeacure was very widely discussed in the newspapers.

Iago—Yes; it's a great pity she isn't alive, so profit by the advertising.—Puck.

Insurmountably Long.

Miss Summit—I heard today that Miss Illory's hair came almost down to her feet.

Miss Palisade—What did she get it so long for?—Cloak Review.

An Attractive Attribute.

A little Brooklyn street girl, struggling with her arithmetic the other day, gazed down her back and then at the end of the table and, with a deep sigh, "Oh, dear, dear, I wish I were an Australian rabbit!" "What on earth do you mean and why an Australian rabbit?" "Because I could do my sums on my shadow!"—Brooklyn Eagle.

Ingenuity Rewarded.

Mr. Jones—Why, Mrs. Jones, I thought you told me that you had made your husband's clothes last for years, and yet I see he has a new suit.

Mrs. Jones—Yes, I made his last for years, and yet he has a new suit.—Texas Siftings.

March April May

Are the best months in which to purify your blood. During the long, cold winter, the blood becomes thin and impure, the body becomes weak and tired, the appetite may be lost, and just now the system creates the use of a reliable medicine. Hood's Sarsaparilla is peculiarly adapted to serve this purpose. It increases in popularity every year, for it is the local spring medicine.

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2. It may always be relied upon as advocating or defending the right side of every question proper for public journals to treat upon.

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5. It is doing its utmost to establish home industries, among which are paper making and type-founding, stereotyping and electrotyping are branches of importance to the development and independence of the community, but which, during their infancy (which in this Territory they have not yet passed), can only be carried on at a pecuniary loss.

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A Warning To Horse-Owners. The Split Nail in this Shoe seriously injured the horse from which it was recently taken in Worcester, Mass. One point of the nail came out in the proper place for clinching, and so deceived the blacksmith who shod the horse. The other point went in the direction shown in the illustration, piercing the tender part of the foot called the "quick," from which the horse was made lame for one nearly two weeks. This is not an unusual case. The same thing is happening almost every day in some part of the country. Many times the results are much more serious than in this instance, and frequently the horse is made lame for life. DANGEROUS! Split Nails are dangerous to life and limb, and should be avoided by all who value their property. The Putnam Nail is the only Nail on the market that is not liable to split, SLIVER OR BREAK. AS YOU VALUE YOUR HORSE Insist on your Blacksmith using the PUTNAM. It is absolutely safe. For sale by all dealers in Horseshoe Nails. Sample free on application. Putnam Nail Co., Neponset, Boston, Mass.

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THE CRY OF MILLIONS OH, MY BACK! STOP IT NOW. SOON IT WILL BE TOO LATE. I have been troubled many years with lame back, sometimes so bad that I could not stand up straight. I have tried many remedies and have spent much money without relief. Some physicians advised rest, others said it was a strained back, others said it was a very violent attack that would soon pass off, but it was so bad that I was laid up for a week at a time. I was so lame that I was bent over. It was I was in so much pain I could not lie down on my back, or to get up or sit down, when I had the DOUGLAS KIDNEY PILLS. I tried one box. I immediately commenced using them. They have done me almost miraculous effect, and to the astonishment of all the people at the hotel, in a few days I was happy to be able to walk about. I was so lame I could not walk. I now feel like recommending the box to all afflicted as I have done. G. A. TUFFER, Proprietor Occidental Hotel, Stein Iron, Ut. NO MORE BACKACHE. Sold Wholesale and Retail by Jenkins, Fox & Co.

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