

# Sierra County Advocate.

### AT THE MORNING SERVICE.

The sermon was long and the preacher was very good. The children were soft and the corner was cozy. And, missing, I know, By my side in the pew, Was a dear little face that dimpled and rosy. A stray bit of lace and the curl of a feather Lay close to my elbow, and I didn't care Whether The service was long, Or flirting was being, In a honey back pew, as we knelt down together. In reading the prayers we had one book between us, So sweet was her smile that, had nobody seen us, While bent on our knees (O how could I tell!) I had stolen a kiss, with the prayerbook to screen us. In the open window the sunlight was gleaming, In my dress old brain I felt love fancies teaming, When my heart gave a thump, By my head got a bump, On the back of the pew—I had only been dreaming. —Life.

### HUNTING THE TIGER.

"Jack" Alger's Stories About the King of Grace and Strength.

A short, thick-set man with a dark mustache, in which the gray hairs were beginning to appear pretty thickly, sat in the rotunda of the Palmer House the other evening. To look at him one would not think that there was anything very remarkable in his appearance, but he was, all the same, one of the best known shikaris of the far East, famous throughout India and Burma as the most deadly tiger shot since the days of Gordon Cumming. Wherever the camp fire is lit and the day's sport is being talked over some molecule of "Jack" Alger is sure to be introduced. He was on his way to the old country via San Francisco and Chicago, and the last time the writer met him was in the hall of the Great Eastern Hotel, at Calcutta, when he was preparing to start on one of his hunting expeditions to the Terai.

"I'll tell you something about tigers which will interest Chicago people. Why, certainly, my boy," and "Jack" settled himself in his chair preparatory to a yarn. "My first acquaintance with the tiger in his natural state," said Mr. Alger, "was made in the jungles of the Terai. There he had bent to tackle, especially the man-eaters, and those who engaged in tiger shooting, either on foot or on elephants, knew full well how many shots the brute sometimes takes. Where the population is exceedingly sparse the tiger loses much of his cunning, hiding disposition, and attacks his prey in the open. I knew once of a lad herding cattle who was pursued over a meadow and through the forest, and was killed by the tiger, who had followed him when he scented away by the villagers. I saw the body; it lay in the midst of an open field, at least two hundred yards from any cover. It was disemboweled, with the chest and lungs wide open, but the face was as that of one who lies in a pleasant sleep.

"The enormous forearm of the tiger has attracted attention. You have seen a cat pat a dead mouse or the face of a dog that has teased her, and it is easy to understand what a tremendous blow a tiger could give in the same manner, but I believe it is a mistake to suppose that he strikes down his prey with his paw. He strikes in self-defense and when fighting, but not when seizing his victim. He will mangle the carcasses of deer, cattle, buffaloes and horses which had been killed by tigers, and they had the same appearance—four deep holes at the back of the neck made by the animal's incisor teeth; no other marks, and if the tiger had begun to feed on the body it was extensively lacerated. And if the prey had struggled much and had succeeded in dragging the tiger a few yards the chest and forelegs would bear the impression of the claws and the tremendous grip, but these, as far as my experience goes, were exceptional cases.

"It is evident that the tiger, in seizing his prey, rushes on to its back, grips the neck with its jaws as with a vise, and with his arms confining the animal's struggles, lies there upon his victim until it is suffocated. With a human being it is different. A tiger has been seen to seize and carry off a man by the neck, or the arm, or thigh, indifferently. In the well-known cases of Major Anderson and Captain Fenton they were both seized by the thigh and carried off, it is said, on the animal's back. I was out once after a tiger on foot, and, having wounded him severely, was searching for him in the jungle. Three times we came upon him, and each time he broke cover by charging through the mob of us. Once he struck a man on the chest, knocking him over and scratching him severely. Next time he seized one of the hunters in his jaws, by the thigh, giving him a rapid shake and passing on. But these are all cases in which the animal was acting in self-defense, or in retaliation. What I have said before refers to its usual mode of capturing food.

"We were told in natural history books that the tiger disdains to touch carrion. This is not so. The same thing is said in regard to the eagle, and is equally erroneous. The lion also, I believe, as little scrupulous as any other cat in this particular. I have told you how the tiger captures and kills his prey. When dead, if the body be convenient to his cover, he lets it remain; if it be too far off in the open it is dragged further in toward the jungle and there left until dawn. Sometimes the body is disemboweled after being removed a little way, and is then drawn away to some hidden spot. A tiger has been seen to disembowel a goat, holding it by the throat, lying on its back underneath the body and ripping it open by repeated kicks with the hind claws. He appears to prefer a rump steak, or a round, to any other portion. These are almost always the first part eaten, then the ribs, rarely the forequarters and never, within my knowledge, the head.

"Here is a good story," continued

### COLUMBUS CENTENARY.

A Mighty Contest Over the Great Navigator's Birthplace.

Seven cities contended for the honor of having claim birth to Homer. There are as many claimants for the glory of Christopher Columbus—Genoa, Oneglia, Boggiasso, Savona and several others. Posterity, however, has not as yet granted definite possession to any of them; but in presence of the discovery of very recent and very authentic titles, it inclines more and more to admit the claim of a newcomer for the inheritance of honor. This new pretender is none other than the town of Calvi, Corsica. Christopher Columbus was not then a Genoese, but a Corsican. It is to the noble Casanova, a learned investigator, that the honor is due of having called a halt to what threatened to soon become the prescription of the ages. This nineteenth century Bénédictine has consecrated his whole life to the accomplishment of this great work; the old archives of the Italian republics, the dusty registers of the libraries of the Renaissance have at last yielded up the secret that race spirit has kept hidden so long. Even the Italian historians, staggered and convinced in spite of themselves, now only ask for a brief delay of grace to make the *amende honorable* to the little country so long robbed of her great son. The origin of this historical error is easily found. Corsica, subjected or rather in a state of rebellion against Genoese domination before, during and after the fifteenth century, sought no other glory than to be found on the battle-field, under its heroes, the Ormanos and Sampieros, while Abbe Casanova of the day taught their countrymen that their highest good was to be bravely. These poor people lived fighting, and so could give no attention to the glory of discovery.

The most serene republic, always on the lookout for gain, appropriated Christopher Columbus. This jewel was an ample compensation for the tribute which little Corsica stoutly refused to pay. The piece of robbery was made under the most favorable conditions as the town of Calvi, to which Genoa had left its magistrature, its customs and a certain autonomy, had ended by contentedly accepting Genoese domination. Whence the famous inscription still carved over its gate, "Civitas Calvi semper fidelis." A citizen of Calvi, especially if he brought any prestige to the republic, was appreciated without ceremony, and the confiscation of the great sailor, by letters patent so to speak, seemed to stride toward the hat, one shoe off and the other on, and hardly conscious of what it did. I remember grasping the revolver, cocking them, and with the barrels leveling through the bushes, which I steadily fired, the assistance of the other people's arms and shoulders. When I got up I fired right into the bush, just as our escort came up with lighted torches, and we returned to our tent in the village.

"Next morning I repaired to the scene of our night's vigil. The cow was gone, and a broad trail showed which way she had been dragged. At about a hundred yards from our mango tree, and near the foot of the rocks, I found the animal's tracks and a pool of blood. Further on was a spot where the tiger had been rolling. The marks were plain, with some of his hair lying where the ground had been pressed down. And on a ledge on the summit of a perpendicular rock lay the carcass of a goat, partly eaten away. The tiger must have jumped upon the ledge with the cow in his mouth; there were no other means of ascent. The prodigious power of the animal may be conceived from such a feat. I didn't get the tiger that day, but I did a few days afterward.

"I can not call to mind having met in any book with an accurate description of the tiger's cries. The snarling and growling of the animal when stirred up with a stick or pole is familiar to all who have visited a menagerie, and appears to be the only noise the creature makes when in a state of captivity; but in his native forest, in the long nights of the cold season when the moonlight is full, and the tiger is on the lookout for food, usually in the evening, he lies silent and motionless in some dense covert close to water, where animals resort to drink, and when one of these approaches near enough he bounds out on his prey in perfect silence, or with an abrupt, nervous grunt, terribly startling, which appears to paralyze the victim and deprive it of all power to fly or resist.

"Of tiger shooting in the orthodox way—that is to say, mounted on howdah elephants—so much has been told and written that I have nothing left to add. Safe as this amusement is it has its dangers. To be on a runaway elephant in a mango grove, or a forest of middle-sized trees, is something like being taken back in a hurricane. And crossing the 'sundul' or quicksands of the Gunduck river has made stout-hearted men turn pale. The tiger is now almost eradicated from the borders of Gurdwara and Pirboot, and may the same fate await him by and by in the Terai." —Chicago Herald.

### ABOUT DRUMMERS.

What It Costs to Maintain the Army of Commercial Travelers.

One of the leading dry-goods salesmen of the United States tells me that there are now about 80,000 traveling salesmen on the road in this country, and that their expense accounts alone will average \$1,500 a year each. This for expenses alone means an outlay of \$120,000,000 a year, and if you will count in an average salary of \$1,000 a year each it will swell the total to \$200,000,000 a year. This immense sum is scattered all over the United States. It keeps up the hotels, and is one of the most important items of railroad passenger receipts. The character of the traveling salesman has changed with the times. You will find very few boys and fewer drunks on the road. The competition is so great and the expense so heavy that firms have to send out their best men, and salaries of \$5,000 and \$10,000 a year are by no means uncommon.

Said this salesman: "These traveling men sell all sorts of goods. Some of them carry a half dozen trunks, and others carry their samples in their overcoat pockets. One man I know carries \$3,000 a year for selling the skins which butchers put around sausages. He dresses like a Broadway swell and carries his samples in a bag no larger than a lady's shopping satchel. The goods he carries are made in Europe, and butchers use them all over the country. Then there is a man I know who travels from Boston to San Francisco and sells nothing but one grade of boot-blacking. Some travelers sell by pictures. Clothing forms the largest class of drummers, and next come those who sell boots and shoes. Then we have the dry goods salesmen, the grocer, hardware man, hats and caps and others, so numerous as there are trades and factories.

"Traveling men," this gentleman continued, "are, as a rule, bright, generous fellows. They spend freely, and many of them, when they become old and leave the road, find themselves one dollar a year for the next three years to such an institution. This will make a total of two hundred and forty thousand dollars, and from this we will buy a farm in Kentucky, or some other good locality, and erect comfortable houses, with reading rooms, parlors and chambers, so that the occupants can have all the comforts of life during their declining years. We will further endow the home by a year or two more of contributions, and the institution for handicraft experts. Dr. Frazier has indicated to me the principle of composite photography. This principle was discovered recently by an Englishman named Galton, and consists in producing a photograph which is an embodiment of a number of originals. It is done by taking photographs of each subject separately, giving each plate, however, only a proportionate amount of the time requisite for its proper development. In this way only the features which are in all of the originals appear distinctly in the composite, while the exceptions and irregularities are lost. The discoverer obtained remarkable results in securing types of criminals, persons afflicted with pulmonary troubles, family likenesses, etc.

Dr. Frazier was given eighteen checks admittedly signed by the deceased, which he divided into three groups, according to the size of the handwriting. Some checks were used in two groups, so that each one of the three composites was made up from about a dozen checks. The result was that in each one of the plates the signature "Clark & Co." was quite distinct, the only indistinct and superfluous lines being about the first two letters. Judge Hanna, before whom the audit took place, said that the plates were certainly trustworthy guides, and that he regarded the discovery as a very important one in connection with the identity of handwriting." —Philadelphia Press.

—Merchants of Western New York propose hereafter to sell uncollected accounts at public auction. It is believed that fewer bills will be uncollectable under this system. —Buffalo Express.

### NAMES OF STATES.

From What They Are Derived, Their Meaning and Their Nicknames.

Alabama—The name is of Greek origin, signifying "Here We Rest." Arizona Territory—An Indian word, meaning "Sand Hills." Arkansas—French and Italian words signifying "Bow of Smoky Waters." The fictitious name of the State is "Bear State," from the number of the animals formerly found there. California—From Spanish words meaning "Hot Furnace." The fictitious name is "Golden State." Colorado—Spanish word meaning "Colored." Connecticut—An Indian name signifying "The Long River." The nicknames are "Frostless State," "Nutmeg State" and "Land of Steady Habits." Dakota—Indian word meaning "Albino." Delaware—Named in honor of Lord De La Warr. It is called "The Diamond State," from its small size and its intrinsic value; also, "Blue Hen State." Florida—From the Spanish, meaning "Flowery," so called from the abundance of flowers and the day (Easter Sunday) upon which it was discovered. From its shape it is sometimes called "The Peninsula State." Georgia—Named in honor of King George II. of England. The nickname is "Empire State of the South."

Illinois—An Indian word signifying "Tribute of men." The sobriquet is "Prairie State," also, "Sucker State." Indiana—Is so called from the Indians. The original meaning of the word Indian is "river." The nickname is "The Hoosier State." Iowa—An Indian word meaning "The Sleepy ones." The fictitious name is "Lakes State." Kansas—An Indian word, signifying "Sandy water." The sobriquet is "Garden of the West." Kentucky—An Indian name, signifying "The Dark and Bloody Ground." The nickname is "The Corn-Cracker State." Louisiana—Named in honor of King Louis XIV. of France. The sobriquet is "Crescent State." Maine—So called from Maine in France. The fictitious name is "The Pine Tree State." Maryland—Named in honor of Queen Henrietta Maria of England. Massachusetts—An Indian name, signifying "Blue Hills." The fanciful name is "The Bay State." Michigan—An Indian word, meaning "The Lake Country." It is nicknamed "The Lake State," also "The Wolverine State." Minnesota—From Indian words meaning "Cloudy Water." It is called "The Gopher State." Mississippi—An Indian word for "Father of Waters." It is nicknamed "The Bayou State." Missouri—An Indian word meaning "Muddy Water." It is called "The Show State." Montana—An Indian word meaning "Shallow River." Nevada—Spanish, signifying "Snow Clad." The fictitious name is "Sage Hen State." New Hampshire—Named from Hampshire County, England. The sobriquet is "The Granite State." New Jersey—Named for the Isle of Jersey. The sobriquet is "The Jersey Lily." New Mexico—Spanish; named from the country of Mexico, meaning "The Place of Aztec—God of War." New York—Named in honor of the Duke of York and Albany. It is called "The Excelsior State" and "The Empire State." North Carolina—Named with South Carolina, in honor of Charles I. of England. The fictitious names are "The Old North State," "The Tar State" and "The Turpentine State." Ohio—An Indian word signifying "Beautiful." It is nicknamed "The Buckeye State." Oregon—Signifies "The River of the West." Pennsylvania—Penn's woodland is the signification. The sobriquet is "The Keystone State." Rhode Island—Named from the Isles of Rhodes in the Mediterranean. Rhoda signifies "A Rose." It is nicknamed "Little Rhody." South Carolina—Named in the same manner as North Carolina, which see. The sobriquet is "The Palmetto State." Tennessee—Derived from Indian words signifying "River of the Big Bend." It is nicknamed "The Big Bend State." Texas—Spanish, said to signify "Friendship." It is nicknamed "The Lone Star State." Utah—Named from the Utes or Utah Indians. Vermont—From the French; signifying "Green Mountains." It is called "The Green Mountain State." Virginia—Named for Elizabeth, Queen of England, the "Virgin Queen." It is nicknamed "The Mother of Presidents," also, "The Old Dominion." Washington Territory—Named for President Washington. It is called "The Evergreen State." West Virginia—See Virginia. It is nicknamed "The Panhandle State." Wisconsin—Named from its principal river, and that from the French; meaning "Flowing Westward." The fictitious name is "The Badger State." Wyoming Territory—An Indian term meaning "Large Plains." Exchange.

The Vintage of France. The vintage returns of France have just been published. They show that the vintage of 1885 was 20 per cent below that of 1884, namely 25,525,000 hectolitres, against 34,780,000 hectolitres, and nearly twice as much below the average of the 10 years 1875-84—namely, 42,399,000 hectolitres. The quality was generally good. The older crop, on the other hand, though not equal to that of 1884, the most bountiful since 1820, amounted to 49,950,000 hectolitres, being 8,128,000 hectolitres higher than that of 1884, and 7,433,900 hectolitres higher than the last decennial average. The 1884 crop was 23,687,000 hectolitres. —N. Y. Post.

### PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—Lotta thinks, or says she thinks, America is far ahead of Europe in culture.

—How to Be Happy Though Married is the alarming title of a volume that has been presented to the Princess Beatrice.

—The judge who passed the first death sentence in California is now pastor of the Baptist Church in Cambridge, Md.—Baltimore Sun.

—Queen Victoria is said to be so fond of children that she keeps a record of all the bright sayings and doings of the little ones that come to her notice.

—The name of the new Swedish Minister to the United States is Kjolt. He isn't as skittish as a young colt, but is said to have a powerful jolt on the English language.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

—The Boston Herald calls J. Montgomery Sears the Astor and Nathaniel Thayer the Vanderbilt of that city. Mr. Sears' wealth is put at \$12,000,000 to \$13,000,000, and Mr. Thayer's somewhat less.

—A man in Danbridge County, Va., not satisfied with being accused of two felonies, two straw bonds, two wives, who were sisters, and with being the father of nineteen children, has run off with a young girl.—Washington Post.

—A man named Spencer settled in North Gainesville, Ga., recently, together with his wife and twenty-four children. Nine of their off-spring traveled in a wagon from their former home in Kentucky, and arrived at their destination looking well.—Atlanta Constitution.

—A Philadelphia girl declined to "kiss the book" before a magistrate because the witness who preceded her had sore lips and the one before that testified could be relied upon without this formula of a forgotten age.—Philadelphia Press.

—The late Mr. J. R. Lippincott, of Philadelphia, is said to have been worth \$20,000,000. He was one of the richest men in Philadelphia, and probably one of the fifty richest men in the United States, as it is doubtful if there are fifty men in the United States worth more than \$20,000,000 each. His two sons succeeded him in his publishing business.—Chicago Sun.

—A Cleveland speculator sent his dog to Wisconsin to buy hops, telling him to keep his eye open for any other speculation. After a few days a dispatch came, saying: "A widow had got a corner on the hop market of this state. Shall I marry her?" "Certainly," was the reply sent over the wires. Twelve hours later the son announced: "Got the hops, the widow and seven step-children, and shall go to Chicago to-morrow to see about a divorce." —Wall Street News.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE." —In Washington—"Mr. Congressman, allow me to introduce my son William. I believe the paper said this was the day for the introduction of Bills." —Louisville Courier-Journal.

—The turkey is, on the whole, a lucky creature. It isn't stuffed with chestnuts until after his demise. A fellow must be a goose who wouldn't like to be a turkey. —Boston Transcript.

—Washington Irving would not stoop to the literary baseness of a pun, which leads us to believe that it was an oversight when he distinguished the writer spoke of "Captain Kidd and others of like kidney." —Arkansas Traveler.

### OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—A Michigan dentist advertises "Laffin Gas Ten cents a Ha Ha!" —Detroit Tribune.

—If every inhabitant of the country gets his share of the year's grain crop he will have to consume or waste fifty-three bushels. —Chicago Herald.

—A snow-melting machine which, it is claimed, will melt snow as fast as fifteen men can shovel it, was tried in New York the other day. —N. Y. Sun.

—From tests made by Dr. Fisher, the German chemist, it appears that in ordinary stoves not more than twenty per cent of the fuel consumed is utilized in warming the rooms.

—A prize entitled "Opium on General Grant" is being offered by the "Lafayette League" of the first line consists of the uncorrupted sentiment, "Du lywht dr yr Unol Dalaethian."

—It may be remarked, for the comfort of honest poverty, that avarice reigns most in those who have but few good qualities to recommend them. The object being to raise six hundred dollars to place a town clock in the city. The other day the box was opened, and was found to contain fifteen cents. —Buffalo Express.

—A man who was sued in Charles County, Md., last summer by a neighbor for killing his dog, paid a penalty of ten dollars, but found his dog alive and well, except having become thin from exposure. Where the dog has been is a mystery. The dog is a beagle, and some of the witnesses at the trial valued it at fifty dollars. —Baltimore Sun.

—A man from New Lisbon, N. Y., mailed two letters at the Onondago post-office the other day. His strange manner in buying the stamps, and his query as to what to do with the stamps after he had bought them, excited curiosity, and inquiry brought out the singular fact that although fifty-five years of age he had never before mailed a letter. —Utica Herald.

—At a dinner of fifty covers, given by a resident of North Broad street, Philadelphia, the other night at the Bellevue Hotel in that city, the curtains at the windows of the banquet hall were removed, and curtains of natural flowers, costing over one hundred dollars each, were hung in their place. The cost of the dinner was called the Young Lion of the West, and was drawn by nine horses gaily caparisoned. Cummings drove until he was seventy-five, when he was drowned at Pendleton. He is buried at Tonawanda, and Erie Canal boatmen are invited to erect a fund to erect a monument over his grave. —Buffalo Courier.

—The friends of a certain man in this city, who occasionally lingers with the wine-cup far too long for his own good or that of his family, are just now having a laugh at his expense. His son, poor little innocent, chanced to hear some older people talking about sleep, and piped in his childish treble after this fashion: "Pa gets awful sleepy sometimes; he come home the other night and was so sleepy that he couldn't get in the house, but just laid down by the wood-pile right out of doors." —Portland Oceanian.

—A new incandescent electric light has been invented by Frederick Schaefer, a young German of Boston. Silk thread carbonized is employed in the globes, and it is found to be as durable and flexible as platinum wire. The invention has been patented and is in use. It is evident that there is abundant field for new inventions in electric lighting. The energy with which American inventors have pursued this subject is quite remarkable. The old world can learn much from the successes of American experimenters. —Boston Journal.

—The small boy who teaches theology to the historian was very bad, indeed, at the table the other day—so naughty, in fact, that his sister said to him seriously: "You seem to get worse every day. Are you ever going to be any better?" "To-morrow," asserted the small boy with engaging certainty. "I'm going to pray to God to-night when I go to bed to please make me good and then I'll get up early in the morning and be good all day." "You'd better pray now, and begin right off. God can hear you just as well as at bedtime." "O, may be He can hear me now, but I ain't going to pray now." "Taint polite to God to pray except at bedtime." —Boston Record.

—The wonderful stories told of grain which had been made to grow after having lain dormant for thousands of years in the hands of mummies do not seem to have any foundation in fact. Mr. H. K. Parks states in the Journal of Science that he has investigated all the cases he can find, and shows that there is not a single authenticated instance of corn found in a mummy having been grown. Some of the seeds found in mummies have germinated, but as they produced plants—often instances not known to the Arabs three thousand years ago, it seems evident that they were systematically put in the hands of the mummies by the avaricious Arabs of modern days.