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The Use of the Cross.

The symbol of the cross is used by both Romanists and Episcopalians. But is it too much to suppose that the use of this symbol is of purely Christain origin? All those people who profess faith in Christ may use it to symbolize that faith, but is true that its use is not confined to those who cling to the Christain religion as the sheet anchor of their hopes. We have been exploring a little this subject that is of interest to every reflecting mind, and we will give briefly the result of our investigations, in the hope that other writers who have more leisure in which to pursue the subject farther.

The cross was long known to the ancient Egyptains. Many genuine crosses have been found among the sculptures of the Egyptians. Their gods are often represented a holding a cross. What the symbol meant is not known to antiquarians. The form of the cross found is what is known as the St. Anthony's cross—in which the part of the beam above the cross is crooked or looped as a handle.

The celebrated Mr. Layard in his interesting explorations among the ruins of Nineveh—that "exceeding great city of three days journey"—found the same mysterious cross among the remains. Among the relics sent to England is a colossal tablet from Nimroud containing a figure of Tiglath Pileser, from the neck of which hangs a cross of the Maltese pattern. So also do the Kings taken from the ruins of Nineveh, and from the hall of Nisrock, wear crosses. The cross also is found among Babylonian bricks, gems, cylinders, &c., of the St. Anthony pattern. Now what these crosses were intended to symbolise we must leave to others to discover. We are merely tracing the evidences of the existence of this symbol among the nations that flourished many hundreds of years before the Master was crucified upon Calvary.

But this is not all. In Tartary, in Thibet and in Bhina the same symbol has been found. How comes it to be used in the distant East? In India too, "in the cave of Elephanta, over the head of figure engaged in massacreing infants," is to be seen this same Christain symbol. Indeed according to judicious travellers there are evidences to show that there are many striking resemblances between the practices and ceremonies of Romanism and Boddism. Father Huck, a Roman Catholic missionary, is the chief authority in in such matters. In his well-known "Recollections, of a Journey in Tartary, Thibet, &c.," he says: "The *cross*, the mitre, the dalmatica, the cope, which the Grand Lamas wear on their journeys, or when they are performing some ceremony out of the temple,—the service with double choirs, the psalmody, the censor suspended from five chains, and which you can open or close at pleasure,—the benedictions given by the Lamas by extending the right hand over the heads of the faithful, etc., * * * are analogies between the Buddhists and ourselves."

How is this? When could Buddism—a religion that existed long before Christianity was heard of, and that "held its third Œcumenical Council" more than two hundred years before the crucifixion, and hundreds of years before Romanism had any existence how could this very ancient religion have copied these things from Christianity? One of the Catholic missionaries, upon visiting for the first time the land of Buddhism, wrote home as follows:

"There is not a piece of dress, one sacerdotal function not a ceremony of the Court of Rome, which the devil has not copied in this country."

We copy the following from Mr. Nevins, long a missionary to China:

"It may be well to refer to a general resemblance between Buddhism and Romanism, so marked that it is recognized and acknowledge by the Romanists themselves, who account for this fact by the supposition that Satan has counterfeited the true religion so as to pre-occupy and satisty the minds of the people with the counterfeit, to the exclusion of what is true and genuine. This correspondence hold in minute particulars. Both have a supreme and infallible head; the celibacy of the priesthood; monasteries and nunneries; prayers in an unknown tongue; prayers to saints and intercessors, and especially to a virgin with a child; also prayers for the dead; repetition of prayers with the use of rosary; works of merit and supererogation; self-imposed austerities and bodily inflictions; a formal daily service, consisting of chants, burning of candles, sprinkling of holy water, bowings, prostrations, marchings and counter-marchings Both have also fast days and feast days; religious processions; images and pictures are revere and worship * * * * relics."

These things are very curious. We have not space or time to pursue the subject farther. We have stopped to consider these points because they are strange and show that much of christian practice was anticipated by heathen nations long before the advent of the Redeemer. Baptism was used as a symbol of purification both by Jews and heathen nations even as early as the Babylonish captivity. We take leave of the subject by saying, that we presume no satisfactory answer can be ever obtained as to the origin and meaning of the symbol of the cross among the heathen nations of antiquity.—*Sentinel.*

According to ex-President Fillmore, the last words spoken to him by Daniel Webster, was a profound regret that he had ever voted for a soldier President. The great statesman said:

"There is no use in saying my friends advised me to do it; I did not believe in it, and therefore there is nothing I can say in that direction to apologize for it.' He referred to Gen. Taylor."

If he had lived to see our day, his regret would have been intensified.

Combat In Mid Air.

Deadly Struggles on a Tight Rrope—One Combatant Hurled to the Ground and Instanly Killed—Savage Triumph of the Victor.

Little did the tens of thousands of men, women and children, who thronged the public square of Agram, Croatia on the 15th of August, anticipate that they were about to witness a spectacle such as was, perhaps never before seen—a mortal struggle in mid air. The occasion of the gathering was a performance on the tight rope. The acrobats, Andreas Kolter and Francis Pergowitch, were to appear on the rope which had been stretched from a window in the court-house to a window in an opposite building, a distance of 250 feet. The acrobats were to meet midway, and then pass each other:

When the clock struck 12 the acrobats emerged from their respective windows dressed in tights and without balance poles. Kolter walked rather cautiously, while Pergowitch came to meet him from the opposite direction with a nervous, quick step. At last they met, and the suspence of the crowd underneath changed the next moment to a feeling of indescribable horror. Pergowitch suddently uttered an angry exclamation, and dealt Kolter a blow on the head, Kolter staggered and fell, but in so doing succeeded in clutching the rope with one hand, while with the other, he grasped the left leg of his assailant. Pergowitch now fell likewise, but passed his right arm around the rope, so that he hung upon it with comparative security. And now began a life and death struggle.—Kolter, with his right hand, tried to drag pergowitch from the rope, while Pergowitch kicked Kolter with his right foot, and with his left hand endeavored to loose his antagonist's hold. No one was able to enterfere, and the result, it was easy to foresee, must be the death of one or both of the acrobats. Many women fainted, while strong men wept like children.—What added most to the general despair was the appearance of Kolter's young wife at the open window from which her husband, a few moments before, had set out upon his fatal walk. Her piteous screams were heard above the din below, and her appeals to Pergowitch to spare the life of her husband would have moved the heart of any Apache. The struggle in mid air lasted, perhaps a minute, when Kolter uttered a loud cry, lost his hold and fell, striking the ground violently, and expired almost instantly While the people gathered around the body of poor Kolter, his murderer on the tight rope managed to get on his fee: again. With a diabolical expression on his face he uttered a loud yell of triumph

The perfect of the Police ordered Pergowitch to surrender. In case he should not do so within five minutes, he would be shot down like a dog. He then ran to the window, where he surrendered himself, begging that he might be protected from violence. There was great danger of his being executed by the people who loudly clamored that the murderer be given up to them; but the military by a bayonet charge, cleared the public square. Pergowich being asked what had caused him to perpetrate this crime, said there had been a grudge between him and Kolter ever since the latter had married young Rosita Sergauoff, a Polish girl of rare beauty. Kolter, in a fit of jealousy, had told him that he knew one of them would have to die on this account Andreas Kolter was the youngest member of the distinguished family of acrobats of that name.

MAKING OF BUTTER WITHOUT MILK.—The latest achievement of practical science is the making of butter without milk. A company with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars—to be called the Olesmargarine Manufacturing company—has been established in Philadelphia for the manufacture of the new product. The process is thus described: The new butter is made from the *same meterial* as ordinary butter, but this material is obtained by a much more simple and natural process than that of milking the cows, &c. In ordinary butter it is not the *cream* that is made into butter, but the *oil* in the cream. The butter when made is composed of oil, mixed with sour milk or butter milk. If the butter is warmed up to a certain point you have nothing but oil. Now, this oil was secreted (and went into the milk from the fatty tissues of the cow. It is a roundabout way—and not always very cleanly—to obtain butter. Now the new process of making butter is to go to the original source of the oil, namely, to the fatty tissues of the animal. This fat taken from any beef creature when killed—cow, steer, etc.—is taken and ground into a fine pulp. It is then warmed up to about 112 degrees Fahrenheit' when it is enveloped in linen cloths and the oil pressed out, large iron presses being used for the purpose. This oil is then cooled down to about 60 degress, an ordinary churn, adding the same quantity of water or milk—though I believe they now us sour milk in preference and a little anato, a vegetable preparation used to color cheese, when the churning commences. In four minutes the operation ceases, and a splendid article of butter is turned out. The water or milk is then "worked out," as the ordinary butter-milk, and an ounce of salt to the pound added. The company are now truning out about a thousand pounds per day, and it is estimated that when the additional machinery is introduced, they will turn out ten thousand pounds daily. All they can make now is taken by a few leading hotels and restaurants.

Captain Jack and companions are to be executed at Fort Klamoth on the 30th inst.

The whole number of granges in the United States is 6,062.

The Nile.

The sources of the Nile are contained in the rain-clouds of the equator, which pour themselves down on the forest-plateau, form into a thousand rivers, and finally collect in enormous lakes, the precise number and importance of which are yet to be determined. From Baker's Albert Nyanza, the most northerly in latitude, and lowest in level, of these inland seas, the Nile runs towards Europe, and plunges into the Sahara. From its great equatorial reservoirs it receives a sufficiency of water to maintain its existence throughout this land of fire, where all other rivers are speedily extinguished. But the Nile not only flows through the Sahara. it also overflows the flat country lying near its mouth, and, casting mud on the surface of the sand, creates that meadow which is called Egypt.

Now this black mud does not come from the equator; the waters of the Nile are clear, or white; and although the lakes can keep the Nile alive in its journey through the desert they cannot make it overflow. Whence then proceed these rich soil laden and redundant waters to the weary Nile?

On the right-hand side of that flowing river, between its waters and the Red sea, a cluster of mountains rises in the air. These are the Highlands of Ethiopia, the romantic Abyssinia, Switzerland of Africa; and down these hilly slopes, at a certain season of the year, rush two noisy streams, the Blue or Black Nile, and the Atbara, which, stripping their country of its black upper soil, fall into the Nile, and bestow upon it such a wealth of water, that, as soon as it escapes from the rocky walls which line its course in the Nubian desert, it is forced to overflow.

Thus the Nile is created by the rainfall of the equator, Egypt by the rainfall of the tropics. If the White Nile did not exist the Black Nile would be nothing, it would perish in the sand. But if the Black Nile did not exist, the White Nile would be merely a baren river in a sandy plain, with some Arab encampments on its banks.

VERY SENSIBLE

We heard Fred Douglass when he "orated" in Raleigh last year and did full justice to his kindly and in eresting remarks. He is a man of intelligence. Not long ago he made a speech at Louisville, Ky., to his colored brethren and his talk was decidedly sensible. The following sample is good—good for any latitude, any nationality or color:

"When I ran away and came North, I worked for nine dollars a month and saved money. For twenty-five years, or nearly so, I worked for $400 per year, and I saved money, and every man in this country who is a man can save money if he will. But he will not save it by walking the streets and smoking cigars. He will not save it by playing billiards on one of your back streets. I dislike a miser, yet a miser is more respectable than a spend-thrift: It is not necessary that every black man should become a rich man, but we must have a representative class at any rate. There must be an actual number of representatives of intelligent and wealthy men."

Compulsory Vaccination.

The benighted Asiatics, says an exchange, find, to their suprise, that Russia has a very summary method of practically enforcing the behests of European civilization. Great Britain's temporizing method of dealing with the Orientials finds no favor in Russian eyes. Recently small-pox made its appearance in one of the Asiatic possessions of the Czar His officers at the post requested the people to come and be vaccinated. Compliance with this invitation being summarily refused, a few medical officers, well supplied with lancets and vaccine virus, were detailed for active service. These surgeons were accompanied by a regiment of Cossacks. The dashing lancers ran down every man, woman, and child in the infected district, and held them each and all until the physicians pronounced them thoroughly vaccinated. This is advancing humanity at the points of the lance and lancet.

The *Mark Lane Express* concedes that England must import 96,000,000 bushels of wheat to make up for the deficiency of this year's crop. Other authorites have placed the deficiency a good deal higher than this; but taking the latest estimate, it is large enough to absorb all the surplus that is likely to be obtained from the wheat-growing countries which export to Great Britain. More especially is this the case when it is estimated that France will need 48,000,000 bushels from abroad this year, and that Russia and Germany will have less to spare than usual. The total exports of wheat and flour from the United States to Europe for the year ending June the 30, 1872, amounted to 24,000,000 bushels. So far the receipts of wheat in Chicago for Eastern shipment exceed but slightly those of last year, and it is quite an open question whether we can spare over 30,000,000 bushels of wheat for export from the crop of this year.

A QUEER TALE.—A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* has discovered that, as a law of Nature, every spotted dog has the end of his tail white, and every spotted cat the end of the tail black. He says he has examined many dogs and cats in Fance, England, and America, and always notiiced the same result. Our former minister to Japan, Mr. Harris first mentioned the fact concerning the dog in a letter published some years since. He has looked at many paintings of dogs in the galleries of Paris and elsewhere in regard to this, and found even there the dogs spotted always in order, proving to him that the artist had invariable copied after Nature.

"I'm Killed"—A Humorous Incident of the War.

[By Capt, R. A. S, in Our Living and Our Dead]

You call for contributions for your columns. I will give you a humorous incident, which is strictly a matter of fact. Lieu. Col. G——, of the —4th N. C., was an English officer, as brave as a lion and a bit of a wag. During the heat of the artillery duello at Gettysburg, on the 3d of July, 1863, when over two hundred pieces in each army were thundering a murderous symphony, a shell struck the earth a few feet in advance of the —4th, and dashed a shower of pebbles in the face of a certain Captain W——. Not a man was hurt, but the aerial visitor caused a slight commotion, resulting in the precipitate flight of Captain W——, who ran with the speed of a deer screaming: "I'm Killed! I'm Killed! I'm Killed!"

At this instant the shrill voice Lieut. Col. G. was heard above the din, calling: "Where are the litter-bearers?" A broad Paddy with a pipe in his mouth promply responded, "Here, Colonel: here's one uv em be Jasus!" "Well," said the Colonel, drily, "I guess you had better go and carry Captain W——— to the rear—*if you can catch him!*"

The roars of laughter with which this sally was received went far to enliven the men for the desperate assault which took place a few minutes later, with so much unvailing valor.

KIDNEY WORMS IN SWINE.—Kidney worms, both in hogs and sheep, are parasitic insects. In sheep it is called fluke Therefore, to cure the animal, some remedy must be given that will operate through the liver and kidneys.

Among the remedies are white lye, from hard-wood ashes, to be repeated daily until the effect is produced. Turpentine thoroughly rubbed upon the loins is a good auxiliary, and it is also used internally, in doses of a tablespoonful every day in the food for three or four days.

Coppers pulverized, in doses of two or four ounces daily, fed in soft boiled food is good; also half-grain doses of arsenic to be increased by one-quater grain each day for three or four days, or until an effect is produced, the animal to be constantly given access to fresh earth during the treatment.

As a preventive allow hogs all the soft (bituminous) coal they will consume. Since using coal we have not been troubled with this difficulty, and it is somewhat surprising how much will be consumed.—*Rural Alabamian.*

The romance of a rich young girl, is told by a correspondent of the *World* from Ottaway, Canada, as follows:

In the cholera season of 1855 a young couple came to Ottawa with an infant, a girl only four months old. The father and mother both died suddently. Leaving the child, who was adopted by a childless woman who had been employed to wash the infected clothing, and grew up in ignorance of her parentage. Now comes in the uncle, rich and heirless. The ordinary novel style, you see. He discovered the young girl, nearly grown to womanhood.—With him she goes to New York, has every advantage of education and society, comes back to her foster mother, on a visit, finds her poor and resolves to stay with her. Her uncle dissuaded her. She persisted. She gave up her easy home in New York with all the accessories of society, dress and prospect, doffed her silks and put on humbler but quite as becoming prints, obtained employment in the Bank Note Printing Company's office, and is there still, living with her old foster mother, to all appearances as happy as when in New York, where she was a budding belle and a probable heiress. Who after this true recital, shall say that there are no romances now-a-days?

HOW TO GET ALONG.—Don't stop to tell stories in business hours.

If you have a place of business, be there when wanted.

No man can get rich by sitting around the stores and saloons.

"Never fool in business matters."

Have order, system, regularity, and also promptness.

Do not meddle with business you know nothing of.

Be sure to pay as you go.

A man of honor respects his word as he does his bond.

Learn to say *No*. No necessity for snapping it out dog-fashion, but say it firmly and respectfully,

Use your brains rather than those of others.

Learn to think and act for yourself.

Young men! cut this out, and if there be any folly in the argument, let us know.

SHOCKING CRIMINALITY.—The St. Louis *Republican* has an account of a most terrible affair which took place near Kingsbury, Missouri, some days ago. It appears that a young girl, whose name is not given, living near the town named, was discovered by her parents to be *enciente*. A few days after the discovery they took their daughter to a cornfield near the house, and forced from her a living child. They then threw the babe into a shallow hole in the ground and deliberately stamped it to death, so frightfully mangling it that when they completed their hellish work, it was difficult to distinguih the flesh and blood from the mud and clay.—The prrents were arrested.

CHIEF-JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.—The Washington correspondent of the New York *Sun* says; "I am able to state positively that president Grant has determined to appoint the Hon. Roscoe Conkling to be Chief-Justice, and that he has received from Mr. Conkling the assurance that he will accept the appointment. It will be officially announced at an early day."

Eight Lives Saved by a Dog.

A number of years ago, a vessel was driven on the beach of Lydd, in Kent, England. The sea was rolling furiously. Eight poor follows were crying for help; but a boat could not be got off, through storm, to their assistance, and they were in constant peril, for any moment the ship was in danger of sinking. At length a gentleman came along the beach accompanied by his Newfoundland dog. He diverted the animal's attention to the vessel, and put a short stick in his mouth. The intelligent and courageous dog at once understood his meaning, sprang into the sea, and fought his way through the angry waves towards the vessel. He could not, however, get close enough to deliver that with which he was charged; but the crew understood what was meant, and they made fast a rope to another piece of wood, and threw it towards him. The noble animal at once dropped his own piece of wood, and immediately seized that which had been thrown to him; and then, with a degree of strength and determination scarcely credible—for he was again and again lost under the waves—he dragged it throught the surge, and delivered it to his master. A line of communication was thus formed with the vessel, and every man on board was rescued.

Postage Stamps.

Small and insignificant as they are individually, collectively they are numbered by billions, and are worth many millions of dollars. There are now in use one hundred and three different classes of postage stamps, and twenty-six thousand sheets of one hundred stamps each are printed each working day. The number of stamps used annually is about 650,000,000, and their average value is $18,000. To prevent error and fraud the sheets of stamps are counted and recounted ten or twelve times. They are distributed by mail to about thirty-five thousand post-offices in the United States, and orders are received daily for about 13,000,000 stamps. A Government agent gives his receipt for the stamps, and obtains corresponding receipts from those to whom they are distributed. They are manufactured by the Continental Bank-note Company and during the month of July the company had a stock on hand of $75,000,000 stamps, valued at $2,303,000. Of these 54,770,300 were three cents stamps, 11,167,500 one cent, and 5,651,700 two cent stamps.

A CHINESE CLAIMANT.—"History tells us," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*," that one day during the reign of the Chinese Emperor Woo a gentlemanly young man, dressed in Imperial yellow and seated in a sedan chair covered with the same material, presented himself at the gate of the capital, and, in reply to the questions of the officers on guard, announced himself to be the eldest son of the late Emperor, whose death had been publicly proclaimed and bewailed some years before. The news of the illustrious stranger spread like wildfire through the city, and the mandarins hastened to seek an audience that they might offer their allegiance to their rightful sovereign. One of their number, however, more astute than the rest, took with him a pair of handcuffs and a detachment of police, and on entering the psendo-Imperial presence walked straight up to the gentlemanly young man, and instead of joining general kotow, fastened the manacles on his wrists and handed him over to his followers. His next proceeding was to introduce him to the torture chamber in his Yamun, and there, we are told, the sight of the various instruments hanging from the wall produced a visible effect on the claimant, who after some slight hesitation acknowledged that, far from having any right to the imperial yellow, he was the son of poor parents, and that he had been induced to personate the heir-apparent by reason of the strong likeness which he bore to him. This confession was duly reported to the Emperor Woo, who, after careful consideration, ordered the adventurous young man to be cut into ten thousand pieces."

An Indiana journal describes a remarkable aerolite which fell in La Fayette county in that State. Most aerolitis are solid metalic substances; this one is quite different. A box of the fragments have been sent to the Smithsonian Institute for examinatoin, classification and exposition in the museum; The mass seems to have been hurled in liquid state through the air. The fragments are curiously honeycomed. The outside presents the appearance of a soft body that has struck upon solid particles, as the indentation of grass blades, straws and sticks are plainly discernible. One of the fragments had fallen on a large stick of wood, and conforms to it exactly. The very texture of the wood can be seen. Little balls of the same material, perfect spheres, were found lying near where the main body fell.

ANOTHER MIRACLE DECLARED.—The Paris *Univers* says the extraordinary favor accorded to a young girl at Blois, who was a deaf mute from her birth, but was made whole at Lourdes, has been the subject of an episcopal inquiry. A commission was appointed to investigate the miracle on the following heads: The past and present state of the child, and the course of cure; whether means or circumstances purely natural might have brought about the result; the condition necessary to make the cure a miracle; whether, in the present case, the result shown should be considered as a miracle proper, or as one of those surprising favors which the church is not accustomed to regard as miracles, and which it ranges among the extraordinary blessings of heaven. After long and minute investigation on oath the commission has given in its opinion that the cure is really a miracle. The bishop, considering all the facts, has declared that it must be so regarded.