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## MANHOOD.

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**TIERRA DEL FUEGO.**

**Conflicting Reports Concerning This Comparatively Unknown Country.**

The group of islands which form the archipelago of Tierra del Fuego have an area of about 80,000 square miles, nearly the same size as England and Scotland. Darwin describes the country as "a mountainous land, partly submerged in the sea, so deep that inlets and bays occupy the place where the valleys should exist. To find an acre of level land in any part of the country is most rare." Don Ramon Lista, however, who has had greater and more recent opportunities of investigation, thinks this description a mistaken one. As reported in *Chambers' Journal*, he describes Argentine Tierra del Fuego as presenting two aspects. In the north there are valleys more or less extensive, covered with splendid groves, and irrigated by large rivers, some of which are navigable; this region enjoying an agreeable temperature, with very little snow during the winter. South of this he reports that the appearance of the country changes and extended forests appear, where the grass is not as abundant or the rivers so large. The face of the land is in this part something like Switzerland, with small lakes, elevated mountains and valuable timber forests. He seems to think the country capable of great development, for he adds: "On the plains there will yet be planted a great pastoral industry, while I believe the mountains will be found to contain valuable mineral deposits."

Travelers' reports as to the inhabitants of Tierra del Fuego have been conflicting. Some visitors have reported the natives to be stalwart, fine-looking men, and others have described them as small and abject beings. Darwin, whose scientific investigations were confined to the south of the country, says that "one can hardly believe them to be fellow creatures and inhabitants of the same world."  
On the other hand, other explorers in the North and Northwest describe the Fuegians as powerful men of large stature and warlike instincts. This apparent discrepancy seems to be due to the fact that the land is inhabited by two very distinct races of Indians. Mr. Brydges, whose long residence in the country enables him to speak with authority on this point, assures us that there are two separate and distinct tribes dwelling in Tierra del Fuego. He calls them, as they call themselves, *Onas* and *Yagans*; the former living in the North and the latter in the South. The *Onas* seem to be almost identical in character, manner and language with the *Tuechele* Indians of Patagonia. Like them, they use bows and arrows in the chase and are muscular, active and well formed. Their number is now much reduced, an epidemic of measles having been very fatal among them a few years ago, and the whole tribe probably does not now number more than five hundred persons. They are nomadic and live principally in portable tents, covered with guanaco skins. Mr. Popper did not form a high opinion of their intellectual faculties, judging from the primitive nature of their implements. He describes their tools as consisting for the most part of pieces of iron taken from some vessel cast on shore, and tied to pieces of wood by leather thongs. They have no canoes and do not fish, though they pick up on the shore such fish as are left behind after heavy tides. Their only water vessels are large shells, but they display some ingenuity in making arrows and baskets.

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**MRS. SHODDY'S LIBRARY.**

**She Wants Gorgeous Bindings and Volumes Made to Fit Her Shelves.**

The Shoddy family, says the *Boston Herald*, purchase books because "it is the thing to do." Mr. Shoddy accosts the salesman with: "I want some books!"  
"Well, sir; what books?"  
"O, I dunno. Give me some handsome ones. I don't care what they cost. That's a fine lot over there; let's have a dozen of 'em."  
Mrs. Shoddy's requirements are more exacting. With her it is "a matter of size" above all things. Her book shelves are only seven inches apart and immovable; she must have "something that fits." She buys many books, but she never buys one that is more than seven inches tall. She has no use for a volume that exceeds that measurement. Her shelves contain half a dozen sets each of Browning, Tennyson, Scott, all put there to "fill up," and to impress her literary friends. It has never occurred to her to change her book-cases for others having adjustable shelves, or if the thought has come to her, she feels that it is not worth putting into execution; therefore, though she has books in plenty, they are all of a size, and the assortment is limited.

The Ornate family buy books for the splendor thereof. The poets, philosophers, wits, novelists of the ages have no charms for them if not decked out in brilliant leather or cloth of gold. The paper must be the heaviest, the type the clearest, the illustrations abundant, the ornamentation exceeding that of the golden filigree work of Zamara. Expense is the only consideration, and the greater the expense the quicker will the Ornate family buy. If they ever look between the covers of their many volumes nobody has yet caught them in the act. They are the targets for the publisher who is getting out an edition de luxe. They never buy a book if it is cheap. Literature is to them a thing with a name, and nothing more. They are of no assistance to authors; the harvests they leave are gleaned by the publishers alone. Rare books delight them not, however expensive, unless it can be said of them: "Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these." They are in high feather at holiday time, for costly volumes then abound. Ignorant of chapter and verse, the Ornate family seek only the tomes that come in gorgeous dress.  
It is one of the most difficult undertakings to attempt to convince the ignorant buyer that there is any virtue in the "gilt top" of a book. He will have it gilded top, bottom and front, or not at all. He regards a "gilt top" as an imposition, a sham or a sly device for cheating his purse. "You must think me a greeny," he says, "if you suppose I'm to be taken in by any thing of that sort. A little gilding won't deceive me, sir. I don't buy a book for that." Nor for rough and uncut edges in the English style can others be induced to part with their dollars. "Those jagged, uneven things" betray to them a book half made. They want their "money's worth." Some there are who deem wide margins a waste of space and good paper, while others will have nothing else.

**COSSACK OR UHLAN.**

**Russia's Light Horsemen Compared with the German Cavalry.**

Following is an extract from Lieutenant Swift's prize essay in the *Public Service*:  
Although it has been customary to speak of all German cavalry as uhlans on account of their success in Prussian wars, these cavalry, as well as those of Austria, are composed of lancers, hussars, cuirassiers and dragoons. The Russian cavalry, with the exception of a few fancy regiments of the guard, may be said to have been completely transformed into dragoons since 1852. The Germans preserve the traditions of the *beau sabreur*, and affect the headlong charge and the use of cold steel. If they have conceded something to the fire-weapon in allowing some carbines and revolvers to be carried, it has been under a certain amount of protest. They do not propose to use these weapons on horseback, "except as a signal." They feel, however, that sometime it may be necessary to dismount to fight on foot, but for this our German cavalier always feels bound to apologize. The Russians, on the contrary, have discarded cold steel for hot lead. They are armed principally with the carbines and revolvers, which they use well on foot and on horseback. They are the first European natives to acknowledge that cavalry can fight on foot without losing the distinctive attributes of cavalry. They will apply to the fullest extent the cavalry lessons taught by Sheridan and Forrest in this country, and will be the first to give to Europe the idea of a cavalry army moving with celerity, crossing rivers and mountains without a base of supplies, attacking infantry, cavalry, breastworks or gun-boats, wherever opportunity occurs. The world may be prepared for a new surprise when the light horsemen of Russia join battle with the ponderous horsemen of Middle Europe.  
The Russians can immediately dispose of nearly a quarter of a million of horsemen—outnumbering the cavalry of Germany and Austria combined by nearly a hundred thousand. \*\*\*  
Imagine 200,000 of such soldiers as Nez Perce Joseph and White Bird, and Ollicut, Joseph's brother, led across mountains and through rivers for fifteen hundred miles, baffling ten times their number, in 1877. Drill them in advance of modern tactics, give them the confidence of a powerful nation, arms of the latest model, artillery of their own, and educate the chiefs in every phase of the modern trade of war, and you will form some idea of the cavalry that now awaits the word of the Czar along the Western border of Russia in Europe.

**About Sleeping Alone.**

It is very much healthier to sleep alone. The unhealthfulness of two persons occupying the same bed very much depends on the physical condition of either or both. If one is diseased, injury to the other is sure to result. The practice is unhealthful because the exhalations from the body of one come in contact with and are absorbed by the skin of the other, and because each one must, of necessity, breathe some of the air which has been breathed by the other, and consequently rendered impure.

**Watching the Heart.**

A novel case has been brought to the notice of the Paris Academy of Medicine. A man's breast bone was nearly all removed, with parts of several ribs, in order to stop the progress of bone disease. The experiment resulted not only in saving the patient's life, but has given several physiologists an opportunity for direct investigation of the living heart and great artery, parts of which have been made readily accessible.  
Woman (to tramp)—"I don't see how you kin eat in such hot weather. I don't swallow enough to keep a bird alive!" Tramp (putting away the last morsel)—"Madam, poor people have to put up with a great deal." Woman—"I s'pose so. Now, can't you saw a little wood?" Tramp (reproachfully)—"Madam, if you think it's too hot to eat, it is, certainly, too hot to saw wood—woman is nothing if not inconsistent."

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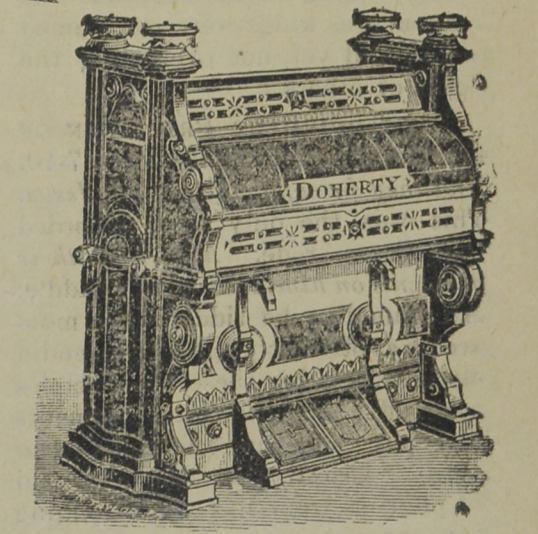
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