DUELLING IN EARNEST.

A CODE THAT WAS INTENDED TO MAKE SURE WORK.

Designed for the Famous Organization of the Knights of Golden Circle - It Provided for a Reconciliation, but After that Somebody Must Die.

The condemnation of Col. Francisco Romero in a Mexican court for the unlawful killing of Jose Verastegui in a duel is not, as it might seem, a judicial reprehension of duelling, but simply evidence of an effort to draw the line between fair fighting under the code and assasination. The Public Prosecutor, it is true, vigorously denounced duelling and duellists, but the conviction was obtained upon proof that the code had been treacheously violated to enable the predetermined murder of the victim with assurance of safety, on the field at least, for the assassin. It is questionable if the outcome of this case will aiminish the practice of duelling among Mexican military men. Legal penalties, of more or less doubtful enforcement generally, have little deterrent effect upon men willing to risk their lives upon what the call they field of honor. One of the most perfect systems for restraint and discouragement of duelling ever devised was that included in the code of the Golden Circle, which recognized the duel as permissible and conditionally proper.

It is a common error to suppose that the Knights of the Golden Circle were simply an engine of secession, organized in the Southwest during the first year of the civil war. That was what the greater part of the order became, after its original purpose was necessarily abandoned, but in its inception and up to the time when it had not fewer than 16,000 active members upon its rolls, prior to the civil war, its aim was the armed colonization of Mexico, and its motto "Peaceably, if we can; forcibly, if we must." Commander Bickley, who devised and directed it, was a daring and brilliant adventurer, who had set his heart upon the conquest of Mexico, not for the tlement in Americans, the development of good government, and its eventual admission as one of the States of the Union. To that end, every thing else was, in his eyes, of secondary importance. When the civil war broke out it put a stop to his enterprise at once, for all his Southern Knights were in demand for the armies of the contederacy. There were then two large "castles" in the North, one in New York small ones, but 90 per cent. of the order were south of Mason and Dixon's line. It is doubtful if Bickley ever cared a button, as between North and South, which whipped, but he, unfortunately for himself, got it into his head that the latter would win. He further imagined that the contest would be short, and that it would eventually greatly strengthen his cherished project with men and resources, when the time again was propitious for him to move on Mexico, if he could meanwhile win prominence and popularity in the Confederate service. So all the original plans of the Knights of the Golden Circle, their splendid code of laws and their admirable system of organization, were pigeonholed and the order was divided. The larger part, retaining the old name, but under a new and much simpler form of organization, declared for the cause of secession; while the Northern minority disbanded their "castles" and renounced Bickley and his schemes forever. And it was not long until the new K. G. C. were exposed and broken up; Bickley was thrown into Fort Latayette and eventually died, and the whole thing was dumped into the bog of vaguely remembered and imperfectly understood facts, out of which so much history is conveniently moulded.

Ti ese remarks upon the real purpose of this order are necessary to explain the singular blending in the organization of the military and civil elements. It was planned, with admirable foresight, primarily to take control of Mexico by force and secondarily, to keep that control by fault less administration of a perfect system of

All members belonged to the first grade, which was that of the soldier; for admission to which it was requisite that a man should have a good character, possess some trace, occupation, or accomplishment rendering him capable of self-support and usefulness in a community, and that he should pass a physical examination at least as strict as that preliminary to enlistment in the United States army. To the second grade belonged those selected for their special capabilities as field and line officers; of course a much smaller number. In the third grade were only general officers and those whose province was to provide and dispose of the resources of money and munitions of war necessary for the enter-Knights of the Golden Cross, a sympathetic and killed him. secret order of Mexican revolutionists which was formed on similar lines. For this army-for such the order was, in all points, and was meant to be until eslablishpossessed the capacity for harmonius combination with a civil code to be in force after the conquest.

that nine-tenths of hls men were reckless, hot-headed Southerners, who had been raised to look upon the duel as a right, manly, and proper mode for the adjustment of grievances, settlement of questions of personal honor, and even mere demonstration of courage and prowess. Personally he regarded it as a barbarism and was opposed to it. And he knew that for an expedition such as his would be, an army amenable to no laws but its own, in a campaign of conquest, the most serious consequences might ensue if his fighting men got to cutting one another's throats for fancied points of honor. At the same time he did not dare to prohibit it. So he due's under certain restrictions. Unauthorized duels were to be reguarded as murders or attempts at murder, according as they turned out, and all concerned in them severly punished, not by civil but by military law. A challenge was not allowed to be sent until it had been approved as upon good grounds in the judgment of a board of officers composed mainly of the challenger's superiors in rank and seniors in service; and the acceptance of it had also to be through this board. Then, if they failed in the endeavors at composition to which they were strictly enjoined, it became their duty to report the fact, and the pendency of the duel, through the proper military channels, to the General in command of the division, and formally to ask his permission for a hostile meeting between the men. It was then his duty to seek to effect a reconciliation between the enemies, and, if they rejected it, to see that they were fully and thoroughly informed of the seriousness of the ordeal they invoked, under the laws to which they had subscribed. It they still persisted, nothing was left for him but to signify to the board of officers his approval of the duel. The board thereupon would proceed to arrange

jected by Bickley himself, intended for the suppression of duelling. Bickley knew

It was required that the duel should take place in presence of the General and his staff, in full view of at least the regiment, and, if possible, the brigade, to which the men belonged, and when the word was given for its commencement, the fight should be to the death. Should both be so disabled that an immediat conclusion of the affair would be impossible, they were to be put under the surgeon's care until to the field, under the same circumstances as before, and resume the fight. If but one was disabled, and the other did not choose to finish the affair by butchering his helpless foe in the presence of a thousand comrades, an adjoinment was to be ordered until the surgeon certified that the wounded man was again able to fight for his life, when the duel was to recommence. No plea of reconciliation removal of misunderstanding, or sufficient satisfaction of wounded honor would suffice to stay the doom they had themselves obstinately invoked. One or the other had

the preliminaries, naming the weapons-

taking care to avoid giving either party an

undue advantage through expertness-sel-

the encounter. All these steps necessarily

would take time, in which hot tempers

might cool and reason interpose, as well as

be no turning back. Death would be the

duel there must be at least one corpse. This is a mere skeleton outline of Bickley's duelling law, which was so elaberate, precise, and careful in its guard of every point, and provision for every possible contingency, that evasion of it would have been impossible. The calculated deliberation and cold-blooded ferocity of the system and its pitiless insistance upon death as an inevitable consequence, were intended to discourage duelling as an amusement, a way of winning notoriety, or—as in the case of Col. Romero-a safe method of

Deserved A Better Fate.

"When I was on the bench," says an exjudge a man named Sam King was brought before me on the charge of stealing some tobacco. I knew Sam; we went to school together, and therefore I was pained and perplexed at the mere idea of his baving committed such a crime. When the evidence against him, which to my mind was far from satisfactory, was all in, and the trial was about closing, he rose up and said, 'I did not do it, Judge; I'm not me so much that I called him up to the bench. When he came near me he hoursely said, 'Honest, Marcus, I did not do it.' I was not inclined to send him to the penitentiary; I knew he had an old mother who was depending upon him for support. In case the mother reached him in time on pay day he gave her all his wages, but it she didn't, he often went on a spree and kept at it until he hadn't a cent. Knowing all this, I said to him, while the sheriff ury and spectators listened in surprise. Prisoner, I know you have an old widow mother. If I allow you to go and bid farewell to her and make such provision for her, will you promise to be back on Monday morning to receive your sentence? He promised and went away. As I entered court on Monday morning I felt rather perplexed and pained to see the Bermudians never repair an old house, but poor fellow inside the rails, tranquilly leave it to crumble to decay because buildawaiting his sentence. When I had taken my seat and court was opened, I said to him, 'I'm going to sentence you to the penitentiary for three years, but I suspend your sentence till the next time you get drunk.' He never touched liquor for about munitions of war necessary for the enter-terprise. These last worked in harmony left the place. Then one night he went on with other officers of like grade in the a tremendous spree and a policeman shot

She proved an Allbi for her Boy.

A witness who says the right thing in the right way is a jewel, and a shining specimen was a Maine mother who was ed in peaceful possession of Mexico-strict specimen was a Maine mother who was household fires never more to be rekindled the market. military law was provided, but that law horse-stealing case. A man testified that and of somebody's heartache in rememberhe had seen the boy at the village on that | ing unreturning days. day, when the woman sprang from her seat and cried:

"He wa'nt out, nuther! His pants was There was one peculiar feature in it, in- hanging on the clothes line all day!"

WHERE THE LILY GROWS.

BLOOMING RERMUDA WITH ITS MANY FAIR FLOWERS.

A Favored Land of Fragrant Cedars-The First Fruits of the Soil Are All Sent to Other Countries-Information About Big Lily Farming.

Fannie B. Ward, in speaking of a country drive in Bermuda, talks as tollows: Everything strikes you as strange and novel-the country people, more black than white, the women courtsying when they meet you, the men bidding you a cheerful good morning; the white-walled cottages peering through shrubberry, the caused the inclusion in the code, to which onnipresent gray pounding wall which all swore obedience, of sections permitting forms part of the natural rock upon which there islands are builded, and above all the vegetation. Of our deciduous trees-oaks, beeches, maples, poplars—there is hardly a trace to be seen, nor is there anything to replace them. All the islands are more or less covered with cedar trees-not at all like the far-famed cedars of Lebanon, not the colossal growth of Central America, nor yet those with which we sometimes adorn (or shall I say deface?) our garand amicable arrangement of the quarrel | dens and cemeteries. These are small and bushy, resembling stunted firs. But the wood, when it can be found large enough, is said to be excellent for ship building. As the building of ships has been, since time out of mind, a prominent industry in these islands the older land owners who are not "up" to the new fangled notion of bulb raising by which the present generation is enriching itself refuse to allow their lands to be cleared except tree by tree as required at the ship yards.

Yuccas or "Spanish" bayonets spring by the wayside, and aloes, occasionally with flower stems rising twenty or thirty feet, and thickets of bamboo sending willowy tufts forty feet into the air. Many species ecting surgeons, and fixing, under orders from the General, the time and place for of cacti abound, some cultivated in the gardens, like the Turk's cap, the melon cactus, and night-blooming cereus. One impress upon the intending duelists the of the latter plants, in front of a h cuse cu purpose of plunder, but to enable the set-tlement in Americans, the development of their going upon the field they were free to fair-sized room, and I counted more than settle their quarrel. After that there could 200 superb flowers upon it. Such sights are calculated to make the Northern tourist | island, and, so far as reptiles are concerndown-hearted, thinking of his own poor ed, you may explore with safety the dense little conservatory, where, with infinite thickets of scrub and palmettos in search Easter season is erroneous. The lilies pains, he may sometimes succeed in nursing into scanty bloom things that are here the commonest weeds. This small mid-ocean world has many characteristics distant from either Europe or America. In place of Northern corn fields you see and the other in Cincinnati, and several they had recovered sufficiently to return long stretches of bananas, growing in almost impenetrable thickets, and in lieu of the vineyards and olive groves of the same latitude on the other side of the Atlantic there are endless fields of onions and Easter lilies. Now and then you' come across charming bits of tropical scenery--sunshiny patches of palm land, overgrown with coarse bracken and bordered with dense jungles of bananas.

> The fruit of the latter, by the way, is an article of food almost as highly prized here to die to terminate the affair. For every as in the rural districts of Bolivia, where I once existed for a month without any bread, boiled bananas being the universal substitute. In the Bermudas bananas do not quite fill the place of the staff of life, but they are always servel at mealsbreakfast, luncheon, dinner and supperraw and cooked in a variety of strange ways. These island bananas are considerably smaller than those we buy in the markets at home but much, sweeter and pleasanter to the taste, probably because fully ripe and eaten fresh from the stalk instead of being picked green for ship-

> ment and allowed to soften. Blue birds, red cardinal, and golden orioles flit numerously before you, and the modest little ground dove, is another frequently met member of the Bermudas bird fauna. Straggling lines of white roofs and chimneys, peeping above and beneath the ragged tringes of banana patches, have an attractive appearance. The country guilty.' His voice and manner impressed | houses are lower than those in town, but long and rambling, and every one of them is roofed with stone and glaringly whitewashed, as the law directs.

It is a government edict that | all householders shall keep the roofs of their dwellings in condition to catch as much rainwater as possible, in order to be independant of the public reservoirs for fear of a water famine in this springless land. Even the fishermen's cottages set in groups in the little coves along the shore, are of stone, washed white as snow, and all with the universal green window shutters, hung at the top so as to act as a screen, admitting light and air at the bottom. The ing material costs almost nothing and it ir easier to construct a new one. Consequently you meet a great many picturesque ruins by the wayside, with roofless walls Bermuda carried on considerable commer- United States market have already flowerand gables, wheather stained and vine ce with the West Indies, the British pro- ed in March. It is only during the last hung. Sometimes it is a large old manorhouse, with gaping windows and weedchoked doorways, though nobody ever comes and goes, unless it be ghosts in the "witching time," or more frequently a solitary chimney, rising from a shapeless mass of moss-grown stones, speaking of

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of queer anguatic plants not to be found elsewhere. But there is some danger, nevertheless, of verdure covered sink-holes, or of a sudden plunge through an opening the pond stands the old parish church of since abandoned for the newer one near by. It is surrounded by ancient cedars—the very gosts of trees, stretching bony, leafless limbs above the graveyard, whose mossy slones bear many quaint inscriptionl. Flatt's Village, just beyond, is the centre place from which to visit some of the lovli. est scenery of the island. Before the abolition of slavery, which put su h a damper upon agriculture, this was one of the principal ports of Bermuda, a thriving town of considerable trade. Then the shores of the pretty inlet were lined with wharves, where vessels received and discharged their cargoes. But now the capacity of its warehouses can only be guessed by the extent of their ruins. Everything wears a look of desolation. The moldering walls, many of them with stately carved portals, are draped with vines and pricky cacti, and overshadowed by plantains and gigantic pawpaws. Over the gateway of one of them leans the largest

mahogany tree in Bermuda. It is an infant of only thirty years' growth, but its "waist" already measures seven feet. Unnumbered branches shoot out about four feet from the ground, cover- | the scales and plants them in September in ed with dark glossy leaves, and its top is shallow boxes of moist sand. From the

Most fruits will grow in the Bermudas, the truth is that while some lemons, oranges, peaches, strawberries, etc., are seen in the for home consumption. So, too, with the better adapted for the raising of potatoes, tomatoes, beets, and onions, and the place

But it is the old story of shoemakers' wives who have to go without shoes, or of taking country board for the sake of cream and new-laid eggs to find that such things York, for they are all exported to that irretrievably. No curing is necessary. city and to Philadelphia and sold at high prices ahead of the Northern season, while others are imported from New York at a any other material. The grower has lower price. In the early days of the colony, when affairs were under the control of the company, large crops of tobacco passed through these holes. You see the were successfully cultivated and became an lily fields covered with plants varying in important article of export to England. height from a few inches to two or three But now there is not a tobacco plantation | teet. The small ones are the stalks of the in the Bermudas. During the seventeenth | young bulb; the tallest ones are sent to | his window. The people who were attendcentury a brisk trade was carried on in the United States for the Easter trade. oranges and lemons, but that, too, dwind- The bulbs are packed in strong wooden but one morning Mrs. Downing in passing led away. Ship building and the manufac- boxes strapped with iron, each box con- the window was startled by seeing the ture of salt at Turk's Island flourished for taining perhaps 400 bulbs of ordinary size. puppy throw back his head and crow. She a time after the decline of agriculture and The bulbs which are dug in June for the vinces, and the United States in ships built of her own cedar. That trade also slipped have hit upon the plan of cutting flowers the neighbors flocked to see the wonderful away and now-adays, beyond the cultivated and shipping them to the United States to dog. He quickly learned to crow at comof arrow-root and lily bulbs and the early compete with the Easter lilies furnished by mand, and each day picked up some new vegetables which are shipped to our ports, there are no industries of account in the said to furnish two crops. The flowers of islands. The Bermudians claim that theirs their first season may be marketed from there are no industries of account in the is the very best arrow-root in the world, and certainly it brings the highest price in

A lily farm is a rare sight, acres of odor- that they may yield a second crop when human.—S. Louis Globe-Democrat. and of somebody's heartache in remembering days.

A finy farm is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of odorous blossoms of waxy whiteness. You do not find them along the shores of these ishem is a fare sight, acres of the shores of the shore

the lilies are grown for the sake of supplying Northern markets with blossoms for the themselves are only a by-product, incidental to the growth of the bulbs, which are the important article of commerce with Europe and America. True, a good many lilies in the roof of some deep cavern, whose | are sent to New York for the Easter week, | of the price from year to year and he usufloor may be the sea, for this coral reet is but at any other time of the year the visitor honeycombed with them. At one edge of is welcome to help himself to all blossoms he can carry. The bulbs are dug and Devonshire, an atiquated structure long shipped early in the summer. Florists in this country get them during the latter part of July, and plant them in pots, which are kept in the shade. As soon as they are sprouted the pots containing them are brought into the green house, so that the plants may be forced into bloom by Christmas. Those intended for Easter are started in the pots a few weeks later. It is very Important to judge accurately of time required because lilies that are worth worth a cent on the following Monday.

The soil and climate of the Bermudas seem to be especially adapted to lily growing and for eighty years past their culture has been an increasing industry. It is easy work, or Bermuda would not indulge in it, merely scratching the ground in the proper places being quite enough. The outer portion of each bulb consists of scales, over-laid one upon the other. These scales represent leaves, but at the base of each of them is a bud. Each bur represents a plant. The Bermuda farmed saves a few of his bulbs every year for seed, as the Northern farmer saves potatoes for the same purpose. He pulls off buds delicate rootlets quickly extend through the sand, seeking for moisture. both those of the North and the tropics, but | As soon as the roots are sufficiently formed the embryo plants are set out. By the peaches, strawberries, etc., are seen in the gardens not nearly enough are produced loped. These the farmer calls his stock. It takes about 60,000 of them to plant an vegetables. No climate in the world is acre. They keep on growing through a the mild winter of this latitude, and in the following June are ready to be dug. An is so circumstanced geographically that it | acre of land ought to produce 40,000 ought to be, and to a certain limited ex- marketable bulbs, with a diameter of from tent is, the market garden of our Eastern four to seven inches. It takes four years and sometimes longer to produce the great bulbs, from nine to fourteen inches in diameter, from which spring the tall stalk crowded with many blossoms. earliest bulbs are dug about the middle of bring too much money to be eaten where | Jnne, though they are not fully ripened they grow and are only to be had in town. until fully three or four weeks later. The If you want to eat Bermuda potatoes and tubers must be picked up as soon as they onions while in Bermuda you must bring a are taken out of the ground because half barrel of them along with you from New an hour of glaring sunshine would ruin them They are merely packed in sand,

which seems to preserve them better than boards with four holes of different sizes in them, and the bulb are "sorted" by being few years that the Bermuda lily farmer American florists. Thus the bulbs may be sound. Bermuda while the roots from which these blossoms were obtained are forwarded three months later to the United States

morass, bordered by some fine cedar trees. at the base of the hills where the soil is rich and the Bermudas, making the trip in price than our own florists can afford to sell them, as those of the latter have been produced indoors at great expense.

Given the proper condition of soil and climate, bulb growing is profitable and certain. The farmer can be reasonably sure ally expects to realize a profit of \$2 per thousand bulbs, sold in lots of 100,000. So hyacinths, tulips, and crocuses are grown in vast quantities on the dikes of Holland, their cultivation being one of the most important industries of that country. Here the work in the lily fields is largely done by negroes, though you sometimes see white men, women and children in the smaller patches. After the gound has been once scratched up with a plow the cultivation is entirely with hand implements, chiefly with a large mattock-like hoe. One who has never seen : Bermuda \$3 the day before Easter Sunday are hardly | lily field cannot be made to realize what it looks like, or what a superabundance of the beautiful blossoms there is here during a portion of the year. Stately flower stalks are much more common here than daisies and dandelions at home, and are given away by the thousands. Children on the roads throw great bunches of them into passing carriages, and actually the number of them at last becomes cloying and visitors tire of the ever-present odor.

WAS A CLEVER DOG. He Could Imitate All Sorts of Animals and Was Self Educated.

While on a trip through Tennessee, recently. I was the guest of Rev. Frank M. Downing, who lives in the neighborhood of a small settlement called County Line. His family consists of himself and wife, and a small yellow dog, which I noticed received an unusual amount of care and attention. As there was nothing particularly attractive about the dog, which was only a mongrel cur, I rather wondered at their manifest affection, and one day inquired the reason of it. Mr. Downing for answer, called "Bench," and placing him in a chair commanded him to "crow." My astonishment was unbouunded when the dog gave a perfect imitation of a Shanghai rooster, and, without further command, followed it with the neigh of a horse, lowing of cows, grunts and squeals of pigs, whining ot cats, and various noises incident to farm life. He could give all the yelps of a pack of hounds in pursuit of a fox, and in so realistic a manner that you could scarcely help believing that a

hnnt was in progress. Mr. Downing said nobody had taught the animal, and his peculiar imitative powers were discovered by accident. The summer previous, when Beach was a mere puppy, Rev. John Malcom, the preacher for their circuit, was ill at Downing's house, and was made extremely nervous at night by a rooster crowing at all hours ben ath ing him could not discover the rooster, husband, who was incredulous, and carefully watched the dog. He quickly corrotorated his wife's story, and for some time

In appearance Bench is not prepossessing, his color being a dirty yellow, his hair coarse and wiry, his legs short, and his body rather unwieldy. In his eyes, however, there, gleams an intelligence almost