

THE M. MOORISH

By R.W. SNEDDON
PHOTOGRAPH BY W.H. LINDEN

THE report that Mr. Perin of Baltimore has discovered during excavations under his recent purchase, the Casa del Rey Moro at Ronda, what almost prove to be a valuable contribution to the history of the Moorish occupation of Spain, in the shape of treasure, mosaics and tombs will no doubt direct attention to the town of Ronda itself. Ronda in the days when the Moors were all-powerful in Andalusia, is a province which was the first and the last to own their sovereignty, was a place of supreme importance from the fact its situation on an almost impregnable rock, and though it does not rank with Granada, which holds that jewel in Spain's crown, the Andalusian, it yet presents sufficient trace of its former greatness to en-



THE OLD CITY OF RONDA, SET WITHIN WALLS AND TOWNS ON THE GORGE

PUEBLO DE SAN MIGUEL, RONDA

able to rank favorably with its sister cities of the province, Seville and Cordova. Ronda has always been a town of horse tamers and smugglers, traitors and doubt derived from the Moor; for the Andalusian has in his blood something of the oriental, which is reflected in his speech, his manner and his inclination. "Treasure" has been stated to have been found, and in a spot where it might reasonably have been expected to be. The "Castle of the Moorish king, in the Calle San Pedro, Ronda, built in 1042 by Mohammed, who had the pleasing habit of converting the skulls of his captured enemies into jeweled-drinking cups, from which he could drink his wine, and which most often gave form to the legend on the platform which leads by a stair of 355 steps one for every day in the year, to a grotto below which was excavated by Christian slaves at their Arab master's bidding, so as to provide the city with water in the event of a siege, which he succeeded in infesting with his "Spanish Prisoner's Treasure" tale many who own to have been bitten. Now, however, it seems as if there was something for the treasure hunter and the antiquarian. "Treasure" has been stated to have been found, and in a spot where it might reasonably have been expected to be.

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THE GREAT BRIDGE WHICH SPANS THE GORGE AT RONDA

Ronda in Major, which in Moorish times was a mosque and still retains some of the familiar cupolas, and going to its right descended to the two lower bridges, the Puente de San Miguel and a specimen of Moorish bridge building, the Puente Viejo, finally descending to the lowest Moorish mill, past which the river dashes in seething rapids and from which the view to the great bridge above, which seems suspended in the clouds, is a sight to be remembered.

When you ascend to the new town and stand upon the public promenade with its walled platforms and look down upon the clustering roofs of the old town, the fertile tilled lands spread out below, the river 600 feet under you and the purple mountains standing out clear and bold against the blue sky, feeling the fresh, exhilarating air blow upon your face, you can well imagine that the dwellers in Ronda cannot help being what they call themselves in their proverb, "En Ronda los hombres se defendan con su polizana."

"In Ronda the man at 90 are chickens," for they have every inducement to preserve their vitality and vivacity, though they take good care not to overwork themselves in their flour-milling, fruit-growing and wine cultivation, the wine from which, an excellent brand, may have something to do with the Andalusian gaily of spirit, so unlike the reservedness of many of their countrymen.

WOMEN OF THE ARCTIC

Every spring hundreds of brides journey to Alaska and fully as many women go north with more or less trepidation, to be married, so that the number of homes in the neighborhood of the Arctic circle grows larger each year. The most trepidation only lasts while the brides are "chasing" or tendered. After they have watched the ice go out and are real "sour doughs," they want no sympathy because fate sent them to a country where coal is \$20 a ton and tennants \$1000 a year.

USE FOR CALCIUM IS FOUND

Can Be Made of Value as an Element of Various Other Possibilities.

Calcium is by no means a new element; it is abundant in nature. In the metallic base of all so-called lime compounds, and therefore forms an important part of all animal skeletons; the shells of shells; the bones of fish, of most of the birds. Until recently, however, no use has been made of it in the pure metallic form. It has been simply a laboratory curiosity—a metal with which silver and the hardness of aluminum.

It often forms, moreover, with impurities compounds in which its presence is less objectionable. In combination with oxygen produces great heat, and this may possibly be utilized in the same way as the property of aluminum, in generating intense local heat for welding and similar operations.

The Sybarites.

The Sybarites were the inhabitants of the ancient city of Sybaris, in southern Italy, founded 720 B.C. They were so greatly addicted to voluptuousness and self-indulgence that their name became a synonym for the people of antiquity. The word "Sybarite" is used, at the present day, to denote a person devoted to luxury and pleasure.

DEGENERATED THROUGH TIME.

Though "Sybarite" as a name is hardly beautiful, its origin is respectable enough. Kindly people picked up a little founding boy at Seven Oaks and started him in life after baptizing him "William Sevenoaks." He became lord mayor of London in the reign of Henry V, was knighted and died in 1422. He left bequests to his native place that were doubtless misused, as was his name, which degenerated to Snooks.

MOTOR CAR CIVILIZATION.

Let our wild people rush against Mr. Auto and they will not want for a lesson. The auto, like war, is rounding up and quieting and soothing our wild Commanches and Mohicans. Around our greatest cross streets one no longer sees ancient jackass stumps, no hollering or shrieking and running; everybody is all attention and, as far as the Lord is the beginning of it, they see a military attention in an army of wild Willies; is the beginning of that blessed discipline which we need.—New York Press.

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Real Estate Exchange

OF WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL
Exchange Bank Birmingham Michigan
The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

- 1. 3/4 acre in Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue. Price \$1,000.
- 2. 1/2 acre in Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue. Price \$1,000.
- 3. 1/2 acre in Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue, near Woodland Avenue. Price \$1,000.
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