

**Extraordinary Peruvian relic : just arrived and now exhibiting at the late Mr. Youngs office High St. Rochester : the entire body of a Peruvian woman, perfect as when in life ; supposed to have been buried alive at the remote period of 500 years ago.**

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[between 1830 and 1840?]

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**EXTRAORDINARY PERUVIAN RELIC.**

JUST ARRIVED AND NOW EXHIBITING AT

The late Mr. Youngs Office High St. Rochester.

**THE ENTIRE BODY OF  
A PERUVIAN WOMAN,  
PERFECT AS WHEN IN LIFE**

*Supposed to have been Buried Alive at the remote period of*  
**500 YEARS AGO.**

DESCRIPTION &c.

This UNPARALLELED CURIOSITY was brought to Liverpool on the 1st of June, 1830, by the Ship PHILIP TAR, & was taken from its place of interment in a valley, about 100 miles from Arica, by Captain Woods, and several other Gentlemen, whilst exploring the country on horseback, at the risk of falling a sacrifice to the resentment of the natives. This PERUVIAN RELIC is the entire body of a female, who is supposed to have been buried alive several hundred years ago. The body being exhumed, it was found to be in a state of the most PERFECT PRESERVATION, although bearing indubitable evidence that it must have been interred at a remote period of time. The body which is that of a full grown woman, was placed in an inclined position, and was covered with a coarse sort of cloth or matting, which immediately fell to pieces on being exposed to the air. The arms appear to have been pinioned by means of broad bandages, the impressions of which still remain. The legs were folded up over the stomach, and bandaged in the same manner. From the distorted state of the muscles of the hands, wrists, ancles &c. which strongly indicates the extreme agony of her death, it is supposed she must have been one of the numerous victims to a cruel superstition, who it is well known were buried alive on the death of the INCAS of PERU, in order as it was blindly imagined that they might be attended in the other world with the same pomp as before death and with the same attendants. The features are perfect and convey a distinct idea of what they were when animated. The hair on the head is abundant, and finely preserved, being ingeniously plaited over the shoulders, it seems to have been originally black but has been changed into an amber hue, probably by the action of the sun. The eye-brows and eye lashes are perfect, the teeth firm in their places, the finger and toe nails entire, the skin whole and the flesh firm and dry. There is no doubt it must have been preserved by the operation of some natural process, and one conjecture is that the soil in which it was deposited, being much impregnated by saltpetre, the body had also become so thoroughly imbued with that mineral as to be able to resist the ravages of time, and the action of the external air. It is well known that it required the Egyptians great length of time, and trouble and expense, to preserve the bodies of their dead, and after all they would not resist the action of the air. The circumstance of this RELIC having been exposed to various climates since its disinterment, and altogether still retaining great perfection after a lapse of several hundred years, renders it a curiosity, unequalled in the annals of history, and well worthy the attention of the curious and philosophical. Several curious Relics were also dug up with the body and have been preserved, one is an imitation of the BALZAS or FLOATS which the natives anciently used in ferrying across rivers, and is formed by three pieces of wood firmly lashed together and a paddle to propel it — Also a peculiarly shaped earthen vessel which contains a fishing Line, a Comb, and some decayed grains of Indian Corn, which no doubt was supposed necessary for her journey to the regions of immortality. There is nothing unpleasant or offensive in the appearance of this curious Relic; producing only sympathy and regret for the dreadful fate of the unhappy victim of Peruvian barbarity, and may be seen without the slightest insult to decency or modesty.

*Open from 9 o'Clock in the Morning till Dusk—Admission Six Pence*

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