

LIFE UP ON GAME OF CARDS.

Veracity Club Hears How Muleteers Amused Themselves During a Trip to South Africa.

They had been speaking of experiences during the trips made to South Africa while the war was going on, and the curious way in which muleteers often amused themselves, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat.

TWO SOURCES OF GERMS.

Maintaining Lead Pencils with Lips and Biting Church Pews Cause Much Trouble.

Great attention should be given to two apparently unimportant things which I assure you can and frequently do cause no end of trouble," said one of Washington's best known physicians one day, according to the Star.

"At the request for the pencil out it comes, and the fastidious lady who dreads the street cars and will ride on the open cars all winter, because she fears close contact with the passengers, will straightway moisten the lead with her lips, and proceed to write in a perfectly contented frame of mind, making repeated trips to her mouth with the pencil.

A Queer Clock.

A naturalist, while visiting one of the Celebes islands, found a curious time recorder lodged at the house of a rajah. Two bottles were firmly lashed together and fixed in a wooden frame.

SOME CURIOUS LAWS.

Where Marriage is a Crime and Killing Equally Illegal—Ordinances That Are Odd.

Last year an officer in an English regiment was arrested for attempting to get married in spite of the fact that he and the bride-elect were eligible for the married state.

A few months ago a young Englishman was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment for kissing his fiancée in the streets of Odessa.

If you are given to political speaking it would be as well to be careful where you hold your meetings, for there is one spot where such actions are considered treason, however loyal you may be at heart.

If you take your family with you on a holiday to France you should be very careful how you feed the baby during your sojourn.

You must be very cautious how you treat your neighbor in Jersey, for he can have you arrested on the slightest pretext, and if he has a grudge against you can bring about such a calamity by simply giving a fictional account of your misconduct to the nearest lawyer.

MARRIAGE AND LONGEVITY.

Figures Support the Theory That Matrimony Makes for Long Life—The Mortality Rates.

Scientific research justifies the rule, "Marry and live to ripe old age." After a long experience with mortality tables, Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman, a writer upon insurance subjects, demonstrates the influence of marriage on longevity.

The record of females gives a result favorable to married women. Although their death rate is greater than that of single women in the period between 15 and 44 years, after that period the proportions are reversed in favor of the married women.

In both sexes, below the age of 40, the deaths among married persons, due to certain specific causes, are slightly in excess of deaths among single persons. The causes are cancer, tumor, nervous diseases, circulatory, digestive, and urinary diseases.

Undoubtedly many factors other than the fact of marriage contribute to decide the question of longevity. The question of regular living and settled habits must be considered as well as that of the human being fulfilling his natural destiny and following natural laws.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

At St. Augustine, Fla., is the only mill in the world that gets its power direct from an artesian well.

The clay products of the United States reached a value of \$96,212,345 in 1900. Ohio led, with \$18,304,628.

An extension table has been invented which can be pulled out to double its length without the use of the usual "leaves."

At the present rate of increase the world's annual consumption of sugar will in about a year reach the enormous figure of 10,000,000 tons.

Lord Kelvin concludes from observations of light waves, capillary attraction and the movement of gaseous molecules that the diameter of a molecule varies between one millionth and one hundred millionth of a millimeter.

An electric lantern is being adopted for automatic signals at street-railway crossings in Leipzig. It consists of two boxes, one above the other, each having two sides fitted with red glass and two with green.

CURES FOR BODILY ILLS.

What to Do for Those Ailments Which Are Bound to Affect Both Young and Old.

Almost all the common and simple ailments of human flesh will yield to the gentle and soothing influence of heat applied intelligently.

In the case of bruises, sprains or cuts, hold the injured member in hot running water at least half an hour or immersed in water as hot as you can bear.

Colic pains in children are relieved by the application of dry heat, which can be secured in several different ways. Some good old-fashioned ways are by warming flannel cloths in the oven, wrapping hot flatirons, bricks or blocks of stone or dry hardwood in flannel.

When the baby cries and draws up its legs with colic is one of the times to apply the dry heat over its abdomen.

A threatened attack of pneumonia or peritonitis may be checked by prompt applications of heat accompanied by rest in a warm room and strict abstinence from solid food.

In severe headache a hot hand and foot bath is often beneficial and a hot foot bath with mustard will give certain check to a throbbing toothache.

In some cases of illness where there are headache, restlessness and cold feet the doctor may recommend a mustard foot bath. This may be given the patient by turning up the bed coverings at the foot, bending the patient's knees up and placing the feet in a pail of water as hot as can be borne.

The value of steam, hot water throat bandages and mustard foot baths should be very well understood by all mothers of "croupy" children.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL

Ronco Cooper, a St. Louis boy of seven years, while eating raw oysters the other day, found a pearl between his teeth which his parents took to a jeweler and sold for \$50.

Gen. Corbin was hurrying around a corner in Washington when he bumped into a small boy. "There now," said the lad's mother, "you have run into that gentleman."

Representative "Dave" Mercer, of Nebraska, big and brawny, sat at a table in the house restaurant with an aesthetic looking New England colleague.

One of Senator Lodge's small stock of stories relates to a member of the Massachusetts legislature who was much impressed with the dignity of his position.

A story of Sir Hiram Maxim is going the rounds in England. It is said that when he and Lady Maxim were staying at a summer resort not long ago the landlord of the hotel was somewhat doubtful about the check offered in payment of their bill.

The majority of the great musical composers had appetites on an equality with their talents. It is told of Handel that when he dined alone at a restaurant he always took the precaution to order the meal for three.

A BIG HORN'S DARING LEAP.

Huge Rocky Mountain Ram Clears a Precipice, Alighting Safely Upon Its Horns.

The man who tells of having been forced to throw an orange peel in order to save himself from being run over by a black tail has been vindicated. Such stories have always been put down as merry jests or an infraction of the game laws, or as fictions inspired by the pipe, says the Denver Post.

But George W. Wilson, a Denver contractor, vouches for an incident that occurred in the mountains a short time ago which shows that fact may be stranger than dreams.

The United States far ahead of other countries in the culture of bees.

OUR HONEY PRODUCT.

Alfalfa, the prize grass, furnishes in the western states a large amount of the honey in June, July or August.

The United States ranks far ahead of all other countries in the amount of honey produced and in the methods of straining, reports the New York Sun.

Western Massachusetts and eastern Kansas are honey-producing regions, and the average yield from a hive, which was 20 pounds a few years ago, has now risen to 35 through superior management.

The demand for honey is not general throughout the United States, but is largest in the rural districts. Much American honey shipped abroad is adulterated by ingredients which, if not unwholesome, are less expensive than the pure honey, and injure the high reputation which American honey has earned.

OWNERS TO BEY GROUND.

The owners of a number of skyscrapers in New York city have been forced to purchase ground adjoining them to prevent their light and air being cut off by other tall buildings.

ISLANDS OF DISCORD.

Hayti and Santo Domingo Constantly in a State of War.

Either Fighting with Other Republics or Stirred Up by Revolutions—Particulars of some of Their Troubles.

Fresh outbreaks in Hayti and Santo Domingo indicate that those republics do not intend to be crowded off the stage by Venezuela, said a gentleman who has traveled in these countries, reports the Washington Star.

"In recent years the attitude is shown in the sentiments of the leaders. The late Heureaux had one sentiment he professed often: 'One island and one republic.' On the other hand a Haytian general, boasting of his army, said, no longer ago than 1899: 'President Sam is the father of the army. He is undertaking reforms which will make our army the equal of the first armies of Europe.'"

"There have been constant disputes over the boundary line, which is somewhere in an impassable mountain. There is constant quarreling over the smuggling which goes on continually over the frontier, probably connived by both governments. Both republics had the same navy, and, no doubt, there was as much boasting as to their merits as in Europe. Santo Domingo had three men-of-war—the El Presidente, Independencia and El Restauracion. In the revolution which swept the Heureaux government in 1889 the commandant of the latter vessel ran it on the reefs at Macoris, rather than fight against the revolutionists, and there it lies today. Hayti had three—the Toussaint, Desalines and Crete-a-Pierrot. The first had all its brass and iron stolen by its own crew and sold for junk, and so is out of service. Killick followed the example of his Santo Domingo predecessor, and put the Crete-a-Pierrot where it will not be of much service, so that Santo Domingo probably now has the better navy. But there has been little law, no justice in the courts, little government, and no progress in a hundred years. Assassination has been the fate of many of the rulers since independence was declared, truly a pleasing picture for a country claiming to be a government."

When Disraeli could find his eyeglasses in a hurry and fix it promptly, it was a sure sign that he was annoyed. In the course of a heated debate the prime minister was once repelling an attack made upon him by Mr. Gladstone. The veteran Liberal leader made some audacious comment upon what Disraeli was saying, which in the excitement of the moment Henry Chaplin took upon himself to answer across the floor of the house. Mr. Chaplin had not understood the point of Mr. Gladstone's criticism, and his interruption gave the old parliamentary hand an opportunity of putting an explanation which the prime minister did not want. When it came to his turn to resume his speech, he firmly placed his eyeglasses, and, turning almost viciously upon Mr. Chaplin (who, of course, sat on the ministerial benches and looked hard at him, exclaimed: "Sir, I am not obliged to my right honorable friend for this interruption."

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HIS FIRST EARNINGS.

Mark Twain Tells How He Became Possessor of Five Dollars in Early Youth.

While traveling recently Mark Twain was asked by a friend and fellow passenger if he remembered the first money he had ever earned.

"Yes," answered Mr. Clemens, puffing meditatively on his cigar. "I have a distinct recollection of it. When I was a youngster I attended school in a place where the use of the birch rod was not an unusual event. It was against the rules to mark the desks in any manner, the penalty being a fine of five dollars or public chastisement.

"Happening to violate the rule on one occasion, I was offered the alternative, I told my father, and, as it seemed to think it would be too bad for me to be publicly punished, he gave me the five dollars. At that period of my existence five dollars was a large sum, while a whipping was of little consequence, and so—here Mr. Clemens reflectively knocked the ashes from his cigar—"well," he finally added, "that was how I earned my first five dollars."

Mathematics of Love.

"Margaret," he began, "I have \$3,750 in the bank. I own half interest in a patent churn company, that clears \$1,700 a year. My salary is \$20 a week, with prospects of a raise to \$22 next April. I have an aunt who will leave me 27 shares of a railway stock now quoted at 53. Tell me, Margaret, will you be mine?"

For she never had been good at mental arithmetic.—Newark News.

Female View of It.

Mrs. Federly—So you have never met the woman you thought you could marry?

Singleton—Never.

"Well, I don't wonder at that. As a rule women are hard to please."—Chicago Daily News.

Something Wrong.

Physician, Madam, I find your husband has pneumonia in its worst form.

Mrs. Newrich—I can't understand that. We are certainly rich enough to afford the very best there is.

PARLIAMENTARY EYEGLASSES.

Lord Beaconsfield a Conjuror with the Articles—By Its Means He Concealed Theatrical Effects.

Few accessories of personal attire have played a more interesting part in parliamentary life than the simple eyeglasses. The silk hat, as we know, is indispensable; a member of the house of commons often moves, and has his being entirely by virtue of his headgear; but the dexterous use of the parliamentary eyeglasses has often produced thrilling impressions, says the Pall Mall Gazette.

The greatest conjuror in the use of this little article the historic legislative chamber ever contained was the late Lord Beaconsfield. It has often been said of him that he was a splendid actor. He certainly contrived by a sort of dumb show with his eyeglasses to create striking theatrical effects, and the manner in which he would manage, when it suited him, to lose the thing in the folds of his clothing, so that he could pause in his speech while he fumbled for the missing article, a momentary reprieve which gave him time to think was a frequent subject of mirth in the smoking-room.

One incident of the kind will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. Mr. Disraeli, then prime minister, was speaking with great solemnity on a question of foreign policy. He had been several times noisily interrupted by a somewhat boisterous Scotch representative, who threw out ironical cheers, without any relevant application. At the third or fourth attempt the great minister stopped abruptly in the middle of a sentence. There was dead silence in the crowded house as members watched the statesman slowly feel for his eyeglasses, mechanically adjust it to his eye, and then, turning to the direction of the interruption, gave the Highland gentleman an expressive look. Having satisfied himself of the identity of the offender, an expression came over the prime minister's face which seemed to say: "Oh, it's you, is it? Poor fellow, you don't know better!"

The eyeglasses dropped with a clink against the watch-chain, and the speaker resumed his remarks at the very point of the broken sentence. That honorable member had good reason to remember the episode throughout his parliamentary career. It's colloquy never allowed him to forget it.

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