

NEVER TOO OLD TO WED.

What Was the Opinion of the Men and Women of Whom This is Related.

Long ago the silly odium that attached to old maidhood disappeared, but even in the days when popular fiction made a spinster of 40 a hopeless old maid records show that there was...

More remarkable was the wedding of John Jackson and Annie Bates, on March 22, 1796. The one hundred and first birthday of the bridegroom, who was three years older than the bride...

A youth of 19, a son of Mr. Graves, of Balcock-on-Herts, married Miss Lane-Lake, spinster, aged 70, April 20, 1831...

More than half a century ago a Yorkshire belle, who had so many suitors she could not choose among them, told one of the most persistent that if he would ask her 50 years later she would marry him...

A celebrated French artist, who fell in love in his student days, was told by the maiden that she would never marry him so long as her mother lived...

Only two years ago a wealthy maidens' lady in a Midland county of England, provided a delightful sensation by marrying the curate of her parish church...

In the evolution of domestic illumination, the story of the race is told again and again. It is repeated in the opening of every new country...

THE LIGHT OF OTHER DAYS.

When American Pioneers Had to Resort to Nature's Stores for Means to Make It.

The evolution of domestic illumination, the story of the race is told again and again. It is repeated in the opening of every new country...

First, as among all primitive peoples, came the torch, for which purpose the pine knot was utilized; then the saving and hoarding of every bit of suet and fat from the wild animals killed for food...

When Kalm, the Scandinavian naturalist, came to this country in the middle of the eighteenth century, he was delighted with these candles and describes very fully the process of boiling the berries and refining the wax...

In the south, still recognizing poetic justice, hemp or the soft white bolls of cotton were used for the making of wicks upon which to form the candles, which were laboriously molded by hand...

The Charitable Americans. The Americans are looked upon by the peoples of Europe as the most wasteful persons in the world...

Fast and Slow. It is better to be fast asleep than slow when awake. Chicago Daily News.

TOMB OF THOTHMES.

Burial Place of One of the Pharaohs Lately Found.

One of the Most Important Archaeological Discoveries of Recent Years--Valuable Historic Relics.

An American archaeologist, Theodore M. Davis, has made one of the most interesting archaeological discoveries of recent years in the ruins of ancient Egypt...

Like the other royal tombs in the same valley, Thothmes' tomb consists of a gallery cut out in the heart of the mountain...

After sloping downward for a considerable distance it is interrupted by a deep square well, on one of the walls of which is a band of paintings...

On either side are smaller chambers, the floor of one of which was found by Mr. Carter to be covered with mummified joints of beef, legs of mutton, and trussed ducks and geese...

As Egyptologists know, there could be little hope of finding a mummy in the tomb, since the mummy of Thothmes IV is already in the Cairo museum...

The floor was literally covered with vases, dishes, symbols of life, and other objects of blue faience. Unfortunately, nearly all of them had been wanting broken, though in some cases the breakage had been repaired...

It is, however, of course, the Pharaoh's chariot which is regarded as the great find. The body of it alone is preserved, but in a perfect condition. The wooden frame was first covered with papier mache made from papyrus...

The reputation of being the driest spot on earth is claimed by many spots in many climes. The latest claimant is Payta, in Peru, a place about five degrees south of the equator...

UP-TO-DATE COURTING.

"Then you will be mine?" "All yours!" "Oh, joy!" "It's getting late, dear, one more kiss, and then good-by. My husband doesn't permit my callers to stay after ten, and besides I must put the children to bed..."

Old Cathedral Windows. The Cathedral of Chartres, in France, is said to contain the most beautiful and the best-preserved twelfth-century windows in the world...

Reduce Weight of Gun. In the manufacturing of cannon the tendency is toward reduced weight of gun and projectile and increased muzzle velocity...

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

The swindler finds it difficult to secure a partner that is trustworthy. Chicago Daily News.

"Time is money." First, New Yorker. "You look happy." Second New Yorker. "I am. I have found a place where I can save a minute on my lunch." Town Topics.

"A Mistake Somewhere." Housekeeper. "The water supplied us from that old reservoir tastes fishy." City Official. "Impossible! Fish can't live in it, ma'am. We've tried 'em!" N. Y. World.

"I think I have met you before. Aren't you timekeeper for the Bloss & Goss company?" "No, sir; I am a singer of topical songs, and know nothing at all about keeping time." Kansas City Journal.

"Puzzled Her." Sam. "Miss Snowball am in a quandry. She has six dawgs." Remus. "What ob dat?" Sam. "Why, she don't know whether it would cost more to support a husband or six dawgs." Chicago Daily News.

"Drop me a line!" cried the excursionist who had fallen overboard. "What's the use?" calmly rejoined the alleged funny man of the party. "There isn't any post office where you are going." American Hebrew.

"Look at the way baby's working his mouth," exclaimed Mrs. Newnan. "Now, he proposes to put his foot in it." "It'll," replied her husband, grumpily. "Hereditary. That's what I did when I proposed." Philadelphia Press.

"Foresight." "You insist on having a man who carries a rifle in every scene?" queried the startled playwright. "That must be in the contract," answered the star. "But it will appear very sensational and artistic." "Can't help it. I play a territory where audiences have a way of getting restless. I want them to see that we've got the drop on them before they start throwing things." Washington Star.

HAD HIS MONEY'S WORTH.

Traveler's Handbag Got a Good Meal as Well as Its Ingenious Owner.

An English tourist arrived at a certain hotel in Switzerland. He sauntered into the dining-room, bag in hand. Being exceedingly tired he sat down as quickly as possible and unthinkingly placed his bag beside him on the nearest chair...

"But why is this?" he demanded. In reply he was told that his bag had occupied the same room as a guest at the table.

A few days afterwards he once more went to the hotel, where, as before, he took his seat at the dinner table and, as before, placed his bag on the adjoining chair. Dinner was again served. The Englishman, once more, took a hearty meal, but now so did his bag...

As may well be imagined, general merriment prevailed among the guests, but the Englishman all the while maintained a grave and silent demeanor. The waiters gazed in blank astonishment as the bag became fuller by steady degrees. At last the landlord, in a towering rage, appeared on the scene.

"Sir, how dare you?" he exclaimed, as never saw anything like it in my life.

"Ah, but," the taciturn tourist observed in his blandest tones, "my traveling bag is in better condition now than it was a few days ago. It deeply regrets that its appetite was none of the best on the former occasion."

QUITE A DIFFERENCE.

Edward's Mother Didn't Follow the Scriptural Instruction to the Letter.

Edward, a very small specimen of the genus boy, is noted for his knowledge of the Good Book, and applies its precepts on all occasions. He is not what could be called a "bad" boy, but is prone to fail to come into the house in time for dinner, or to obey when spoken to, relates the New York Times.

Edward's mother does not believe in corporal punishment, and after she had "talked" to him, put him to bed, and sat him in chairs without effect, was in despair. Finally she said to her little son...

"Beat me," said the small man. "I prefer to secure your obedience without resorting to that mode of punishment," replied his mother.

"The Bible says: 'Spare the rod and spoil the child,'" quoted Edward. She thought the matter over and decided to follow her son's advice. One afternoon Edward minded not, and his mother gave him a sharp, hard blow with her hand across his shoulders...

Edward lowered his fist, the angry light faded from his eyes, and he stood abashed. Finally a relieved look dawned on his face, as he said: "The Bible says: 'Spare the rod, and you struck me with your hand!'"

AN OFFENSIVE COIN.

Natives of India Object to King Edward's Bald Head.

An Uncovered pate in Public is Regarded as an Immodest and at Variance with the Rules of Etiquette.

King Edward's bald head is seriously threatening the stability of British rule in India. It seems that on the new rupee, just issued by the Indian mint, the profile bust of the king appears bald and uncrowned. Therefore native feeling is stirred to its profoundest depths...

In India every respectable person would no more think of uncovering his head in public than he would in his own home. The head of honor son, not only uncrowned, but bald. It is as if some Indian rajah had built a statue of the king in Hyde Park and represented the monarch in a suit of pyjamas...

England governs many millions of people in India, and has about 200,000 white people there to do it. That she is able to accomplish this remarkable feat in the governmental way is owing to the fact that she has been studiously careful, since the Victoria the queen appeared crowned, and all was well, but the Indian mint, with singular disregard of native feeling on the subject, has placed on the new rupees the head of her son, not only uncrowned, but bald...

It was a little thing that precipitated the great Sepoy rebellion. The Sepoys were Mohammedans, and, therefore, forbidden to taste of the flesh of the swine, but the cartridges served out to these soldiers were greased with the grease of the unclean animal. In those days the soldier had to tear the cartridge with his teeth before he rammed it into his gun, and thus was obliged to violate the law of "him who sleeps in Medina" by polluting his lips with the fat of the hog.

The rebellion which followed the insistence upon the use of the greased cartridges was a terrible lesson to England, and taught her so well the danger of running counter to native prejudices that until the new rupee came out the other day it was thought the lesson was not forgotten. That the imperial crown is on the rupee does not alter the case in the minds of India's millions. It is stamped on the reverse of the coin, and that does not count. The crown should be on King Edward's head, to save him from indecency.

Again, millions of Hindus have their heads and the baldness of the king will be taken in the bazaars—in fact, is taken—as an evidence that the king is a shaved head who goes about without his turban. This complicates matters and makes him appear more indecent. It is not, of course, probable that the new coin will cause a popular outbreak, but in that strange land of India no one knows what such a little thing may lead to.

In a land where fakirs throw a rope into the circumambient air and then climb up the rope and disappear; where the mahatmas roam about unbathed, where even Mm. Bhavatsky was able to materialize a teacup at an afternoon picnic, and where one of the bloodiest wars in history was caused by the use of greased cartridges, who can tell what will happen? From Calcutta to Peshawar, and from Madras to Bombay all India is disturbed by the bald and uncrowned head on the rupee. The native is a simple child of nature who will stand many things, but a bald and beheaded emperor is a little too much.

The punka walla will stand flogging, but he rebels at the new rupee. You can tan the hide of Dinga Din with impunity, but don't ask him to obey a king who appears uncrowned in public or he is apt to draw his knife.

Batch of Centenarians. Ceylon, according to its recent census returns, has no fewer than 145 inhabitants over 100 years of age. Seventy-one of these are males and 74 females. Of these, 43 men and 52 women claimed to be exactly 100, while the highest age returned was 120. One hundred is a good round age, and no doubt a very indolent octogenarian who could not be bothered to remember the year of his birth put down 100 to save time. London Express.

Penalty for Russian Students. By a law recently enacted in Russia any university or high school student who creates or causes disorder shall be drafted into the army for a period of from one to three years. This is to curb the rashness and fondness for mischief of college students who imagine they have the privilege to annoy all creation. N. Y. World.

LAUGHING GAS AND MUSIC.

Dentist in Chicago Puffs and Plays Tunes to the Merry Faces of Popular Songs.

"Laughing gas with music" is the latest combination of science effected by an enterprising Chicago dentist, reports The Teller.

Tooth pulling a pleasure—a hard concert with each extraction, is the motto of this dentist. Street pianos avoid the block in which his office is situated, for out of the windows float the strains of "Mr. Doodle," "The Holy City," and rollicking airs from "The Prince of Posen," instead of the shrieks and groans of patients.

"Which tooth?" asks the dentist of a prospective patient. "Ah, this one? Looks like a stubborn one. Oh, no, it won't hurt a bit. What did you say your favorite opera was?" At this point the new patient gets restless, and, with the rubber dam in his mouth, gurgles something about "looking for a dentist, not a theater."

"There's Only One Girl" begins to be ground out and the patient passes away, and when he awakes the tooth is out and there is surprise at seeing the blazing sun instead of the falling curtain of an opera.

"It's great," said the dentist, "but it sometimes causes strange fancies among my vic or patients. I mean, one man attempted to throw violins on the stage when he heard 'The March of the Fugate.'" It takes only a few gulps of the gas and the soothing influence of "The Palmis" to put the most nervous patient in shape for operation.

"No, I can't say that Gottschalk's 'Last Hope' or the Swan Song is popular. Take a sweet, impressionable young woman, with dreamy blue eyes, and fluffy hair, and I turn on 'There's Nobody Just Like You.' Effect? Well, I should say so. Just a gulp or two and I can pull every tooth in a month. Sometimes they even want extracts and are willing to sacrifice another tooth just for the concert and the gas effect."

"For the youngsters, I have some lively catches. After I pulled four molars for a boy the other day he woke up and asked me which way the circus parade had gone. 'The music soothes the patients and they are more readily affected by the gas. They do not hear the noise of the street, and, fixing their thoughts on the music, they do not fight against the gas and become unconscious more quickly. The therapeutic value of music in dentistry is now recognized.'"

IT WAS YEARLING MEAT.

The Animal Was Much Older, But He Had Taken on Flesh in the Last Year.

Old John Early, a Dalton Georgia negro, is quite a character in his way, and well known to every man, woman and child for miles about the country. After serving his master in war times, he was given a strip of land whereon he built a cabin and settled down contentedly, relates the New York Times. He does odd chores for the townsfolk and raises chickens and small fruit with which he supplies his regular customers, among them Major Brown, who has been his staunch friend for years. One day not long ago John appeared at the major's domicile with a fine-looking head of beef which he offered for sale at \$16. As a customer thereabout for private individuals to slaughter and dress their winter provision of beef on the premises, the major looked upon the deal with favor.

"Where did you get him, John?" he asked. "Raised him, sur. His meat is tender as butter, sur, not month a year old." "A better one? Why, John, he's the biggest yearling I ever saw." Then the major took a nearer view at John's wares.

"John," he said, solemnly, "you can't fool me. That's the very same old ox that you've been hauling wood with for the last 15 years. I know him as well as I know the seat on my hand. I didn't think you'd try to beat your best friend," he chided.

"No moah I wouldn't, nuther," John protested, resolutely. "I told you dat truff about dat beef, sur. I really did. Dat meat is plum like a yearling's. Hit's oberaged to be. You recollect dat crittur like he was last year, sur?"

"Yes, What of it?" "He wasn't much fat, was he?" "Lean as a rail. Nothing but hide and hair on him." "No meat?"

"Not a pound. Don't you remember I used to get after you about working him too hard?" "Yes, sur. Well, sur, you own words prove jest what I'm telling you. Dat meat's all young an' tender, 'case it been raised in less dan a year, every pound ob hit. When I put him in de stall he didn't hab a pound ob meat on him, an' what he's got now ain't a year old. Dat so, emel." "The colonel declared himself beaten. 'Better not try to sell him up here, John,' he laughed; every one knows him too well. Take him down to Gainesville, and if you don't make \$16 out of him, just stop at my house on your way back."

Winn at Printer. In Wadsworth, England, there is a printing department run entirely by nuns. It is used principally for the printing of sacred books for the use of choirs, such as hymnals, psalters, missals and the like. The productions do not bear the stamp of the amateur in the least, and the high standard of excellence is particularly shown in the music-printing. Albany Argus.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

With the aid of the factory girls' country holiday fund, 4200 London girls and women were last year enabled to take a holiday.

An electric railway is projected between Paris and Brussels upon which there will be two hours.

The process of sterilizing meat is much practiced in Belgium. It returns to the trade, under the form of a wholesome product, meat which otherwise would be unfit for consumption.

In a recent work on wild animals Gamber Bolton points out that when wild lions as a rule carry little mane, constant fighting and jungle growth keeping down the massive ornaments seen in captivity.

Platinum, which is indispensable in some instruments of precision, and is useful in the arts particularly because when included in glass it does not crack it by unequal expansion, is still much more valuable than gold. Nineteen-tenths of the world's platinum (about 8,800 pounds) comes from the Ural mountains, which enables Russia to control the price.

Sixty mustelids have been found in New York, mostly along certain well-marked belts. Outside these belts the state is barren. They, however, had distinct feeding grounds, and that, too, in a not very remote time. They are usually found resting on the bowlers of old streams and in a comparatively thin layer of peat.

Scientists seemed probable that natural diamonds have been formed by crystallization from silicate magma, it occurred to Haslinger that they might be prepared artificially in this way. A mixture corresponding to the analysis of a diamond-bearing breccia with carbon added was subjected to intense heat. When the mass had cooled absolutely colorless and transparent octahedrons were found, having an average diameter of 95 millimeters. They scratched ruby and were combustible when heated with oxygen. The results appear to strengthen the theory that natural diamonds have been formed by crystallization from silicates.

SAVED BY A HAIR.

How the Village Druggist Got One on the Smart Drummer from the City.

"I suppose you make a mistake now and then in spite of all your care," queried the traveling man of the village druggist, as he lingered on, after buying a bottle of soda mints, relates the Detroit Free Press. "Oh, of course," was the ready reply, "but it has always seemed to me that providence kept his eye on a drug store and intervened at just the right time."

"How?" "Well, take that case two or three years ago when I sold strychnine for Epson salts. A farmer comes in and asks for salts. They were within three feet of where I was standing, and yet I go to a drawer, get the key of the poison case, and cunningly put him up ten grains of strychnine. I remembered later on that he seemed surprised at not getting more talk for his money, but he made no kick. He had been gone an hour when I suddenly flashed across my brain that I had made a mistake. For a minute I was like one frozen stiff. Then I flew to a lively stable, hired a horse and buggy, and for five miles I kept the poor animal under the whip. It was 12 o'clock at night when I reached the farmhouse and pounded on the door. The farmer opened it himself, and in one hand he held that dose mixed up in a tea cup. He was about to swallow it when my arrival prevented. I knocked the cup from his hand and then sank down in a swoon, and I dimly remember of hearing him call out to his wife: 'Say, Martha, come here and see what in thunder ails this fellow. I guess them drugstore smells have got into his head and set him crazy.'"

"But farmers generally go to bed at 9 o'clock," protested the interviewer, "and you were three hours behind time." "Yes, I know," replied the druggist, "but you haven't heard all. He'd have been in bed at nine, after taking the dose, but a barrel of new cider he had in the cellar exploded and wrecked things, and he had just got through looking for the bung-hole to preserve as a curiosity. Should you ever see fit to write this incident up for the paper, I would suggest that you head it: 'Saved by a Bung-hole, or The Careless Druggist and the Busted Cider Barrel.'"

Russia's Commercial Schools. Commercial schools in Russia are founded by the state wherever they are thought to be necessary. The initiative is always taken by commercial organizations—that is, chambers of commerce and similar bodies, the members of which have previously examined the question. Russian commercial schools are state institutions and are under the control of the minister of finance. There are 43 commercial schools in the Russian empire under the control of the state, and 20 private schools, similarly organized, with state supervision. Educational Journal.

Correcting a Maxim. "A man is known by the company he keeps," said the person whose talk is made up mostly of stock quotations. "Not necessarily," rejoined the party who is ever ready to start something, "if some men were known by the company they keep, they wouldn't be able to keep it long." Cincinnati Enquirer.