

KICKER'S WRATH DISARMED

Answer of the Man on the Floor Above With Musical Daughters Was Enough.

"Once," said the flat dweller with musical daughters, "our neighbors living in the flat under us complained; the man of the house down there came up to see me about it."

"How do you suppose we can live down there," he said, "with your daughters forever pounding on the piano in minor, medium and major keys, but mostly in the major, and forever singing at all hours of the day and night songs that seem to be mostly in a high pitch? Your daughters are most estimable young ladies, both, I know, for I have seen them; but I wish you would come down into my flat some time and listen, listen, to that continuous pounding and singing. If it didn't drive you plumb out of your senses I miss my guess."

"My dear sir," I said to him, "I appreciate your situation, and I thank you for the candid but at the same time kindly courtesy with which you have stated your grievance, but consider."

"You," I said to him, "have between the music and yourself a floor and a ceiling, which must deaden the sound somewhat; but I have to sit here and hear it right in the same apartment with it!"

"He understood," he knew that mine was the greater cross, and he looked at me sympathetically and went away quite mollified."

MOTHER-IN-LAW FOR HIRE

Real One Demanded Carriage, So Groom Rented Another and Got Himself Into Trouble.

In Marseilles the hire of a mother-in-law for a few hours is quoted at one shilling eight pence, which seems quite cheap. The parents of one of a future happy pair were separated. When asked to the wedding to give her consent, the future mother-in-law said: "I will go if a carriage is sent to fetch me; if not, I will stay at home." The carriage was promised, but the day and the hour came, and the carriage did not, and the future mother-in-law stayed at home. "Very well," said the bridegroom-to-be, when he saw that she was not turning up. "I will find another mother-in-law." So he went out into the street and found one for one shilling eight pence. She came to the wedding and duly gave away her "daughter," whom she had never in her life seen before, and the bridegroom and bride were made one.

But they let themselves in for more than they bargained for. A complaint has been lodged and the bride, bridegroom and witnesses are liable to severe penalties for procuring, aiding and abetting, impersonation, forgery in a public deed, and other crimes, while it seems likely that the marriage in French law is null and void, the consent of one of the parents having been given by a sham mother. The one shilling eight pence hired mother-in-law is being looked for by the police.—London Telegraph.

Mexican Rurales

The corps of Mexican rurales was created in the time of President Benito Juarez. The law which created the rurales fixed the number of seven battalions of 125 men each and a company to be located at Matamoros. The pay of each of the rural police was fixed at \$1.13 per day, each to furnish his horse and equipment with no classification as to the character of the mount or the arms which each man was to bear. As a result they were decidedly a body of irregulars with some five per cent. wearing the uniform of the cavalry of that day. Each battalion was divided into two companies, one of seventy and the other of sixty-five men. Their commanders and other officers held the same rating that they do today. Just as at the present time, the rurales were attached to the interior department, but at the same time they were at the disposition of the department of war for service in campaigns.

His Light Didn't Shine

There was an accident at a railway crossing at night, in which a farmer's cart was struck and demolished and the farmer injured. Counsel for the railway won the case for the defense on account of the testimony of an old colored man, who was summoned at the crossing. When asked if he had swung his lantern as a warning, the old man swore positively: "I surely did." After the trial the lawyer called on the old negro, and complimented him upon his testimony. He said: "Thankee, Marse Jawn, I not along all right; but I was awfully scared, 'cause I was 'traid dat lawyer man was gettin' ter ask me was my lantern lit. De oil done give out befo' de accident."

Speaking on Maxims

The speaker, with an ill-concealed sneer, handed this maxim to the sewer: "Some people are so stingy that they are dishonest."

"And by the same token," responded the sewer, with a raw laugh, "some people are so liberal that they are dishonest. Count them up, please, and see, in these days of liberal spending, which side has the majority."—Judge.

What a Guide's For

"Come up to our winter camp for a few days. The shooting is excellent. Plenty of guides."

"Really, old chap, I couldn't shoot a guide."

LAKE BAIKAL A BIG PUZZLE

Varied and Peculiar Animal Life Found in Body of Water in Central Asia.

The riddle of Lake Baikal, in central Asia, is similar to that of Lake Tanganyika, in central Africa. In both cases a large body of fresh water remote from the ocean contains organisms apparently marine. Both lakes, again, contain a very large number of species not found elsewhere. Lake Baikal contains numerous salmon and seals, as well as three species of herring. It also contains a few mollusca of apparently marine forms.

One of the most remarkable features of the lake, perhaps, is that although it is frozen over for about five months in the year the animal life is extremely abundant and varied. This may be partly accounted for perhaps by the existence of hot springs.

One of the latest attempts to answer the riddle of Lake Baikal is that of the Russian investigator, M. Berg. Of the thirty-three species of fish found in the lake he finds that fourteen are peculiar to it, while nineteen have a wide distribution in Siberia and Europe. Many of these peculiar species are without near relations anywhere. Of the mollusca 90 per cent. are peculiar.

M. Berg does not think the facts demand the hypothesis that the lake was once marine. He believes that it has always been fresh and that the fauna peculiar to it has had a twofold origin. A part has originated in the lake itself during the long ages of its existence, and the rest is a portion of the prehistoric fresh water fauna of Siberia which it has preserved.—Japan Advertiser.

DALMATIAN ANTS ARE COOKS

They Make Dough From Seeds, Form Cakes and Bake Them in the Sun.

The remarkable habits of the harvester ant have long been known to naturalists. Certain species not only harvest and store in granaries the seeds upon which they feed but actually plant and cultivate an annual crop of their food seeds.

But now a still more wonderful story is told of an ant which is common in Dalmatia, Messor barbarus. According to Professor Neger of the well known forestry school near Dresden, this ant not only cuts leaves and gathers seeds but actually makes bread or biscuit.

The seeds are first sprouted, then carried into the sun and dried, then taken back to the underground chambers, where they are chewed into a dough. The dough is then finally made into tiny cakes, which are baked in the sun, then carefully stored for future use.

From these observations it appears that the art of cookery is not wholly confined to the human race. All cooking is done by the sun, whether in the ripening of fruit or in the baking of bread in a stove. The heat obtained from fuel is simply stored up sunlight set free.

The Arab and the native Mexican speak of ripe fruit as fruit which has been cooked in the sun. The ant has somehow learned the art of sun cookery, the saliva with which it moistens the grain probably taking the place of yeast and sweetening through changes set up by its influence upon starch.—American Medicine.

The Scientific Butler

Science in its more awful forms is not confined to schoolboy bewlows. One of the witty Canon Alinger's stories—quoted in Mr. E. V. Lucas' delightful anthology of letters, entitled "The Second Post"—proves it.

At a country house party a maid was dressing a guest's hair.

"I hope, Parker," said the lady, "you are comfortable in your place?"

"Oh, yes, ma'am," the maid replied, with great warmth. "The society down stairs is so superior. The butler leads the conversation."

"He is a refined man," she continued, with rising enthusiasm. "Indeed, quite scientific. He has been telling us all about evolution, and we quite understand it now."

"He says," the maid concluded, earnestly, "that we are all descended from Darwin."—Youth's Companion.

Question Pertinent

Doctor Scott, joint parent with Liddell of the well-known Greek Lexicon, was at one time master of Balliol college, Oxford university, and master at all times of quiet sarcasm. A noble lord who had rooms in the buildings which adjoined the master's house and who, contrary to regulations, kept a dog in college, went to complain of the noise made by cats. After he had expatiated for some little time on this grievance, Doctor Scott said, with the gentle, slow drawl which lent additional force to his sallies: "Is that a cat, Lord Doneguburn, that I hear barking on your staircase every night?"

What She Wanted

Father (to his daughter)—I've brought you a sither for your birthday, my dear, and a book by which you can teach yourself to play on it in a month.

Daughter—But it was the sither teacher I wanted most.

Consolation of an Ex-Champion. Sameon sought consolation.

"At least she didn't ask me if I shaved myself," he mused.

However, he resolved to stick to regular barbers for the future.

GREEKS WHO ARE GERMANS

Many of the Descendants of the Followers of King Otho I. Are Found In and Near Athens.

A visitor to Athens who goes to the neighboring village of Heraclea is surprised to see children with blue eyes and light hair playing in the streets; in fact they are little folk who resemble but remotely the descendants of Pericles.

These children on the Greek soil are descendants of the suite and followers of King Otho I. When the prince of Bavaria was called to the throne of Greece in 1832 he was accompanied by soldiers, officials, professional men, workmen and shopkeepers. In plain language a good part of the contingent was a motley crowd of adventurers.

Most of these remained behind after the fall of the dynasty, and occupying good positions today in Athens are the bearers of names unquestionably German, for instance Hoesslin, Rlenck and Schaurath.

The Bavarian king and queen encouraged the settlement of their countrymen in Greece. Queen Amelia created a model farm in Pyros Amalias, but the land uncultivated has now returned to a state of nature. The king founded a village upon which he bestowed the ancient title of Heraclea, and in view of the brigandage he surrounded it with walls and gates. At the four corners he erected small forts. It had new town houses for 60 families specially reserved for Bavarian artisans, but only forty were ever occupied.

After the troubles of 1843 13 families quitted the township, and the German population has since then continued to decrease, but those who have remained do not seem to have contracted Greek marriages.—Munchner Nachrichten.

ADHESIVE PLASTER USEFUL

It is Invaluable to Mend Rubber Goods, Cover Cuts and Bruises and for Other Purposes.

A spool of good adhesive plaster is worth its weight in gold in the home, both as a means of saving the housekeeper's time and as a general repairer. Secure the best grade of non-irritating adhesive used for surgical purposes. It is comparatively inexpensive and comes in different widths. Either warm it before applying or pass a warm iron over it after it is in place.

I have found it invaluable to mend rubber goods of all kinds, hot water bags, garden hose, mackintoshes, gloves, handbags, and to replace the worn heel linings of my shoes, thus saving both pain and money. It furnishes an ever ready waterproof covering for cuts and bruises, and may be used to hold dressings in place. It is an ideal substance with which to mend corsets, repairing breaks or holding protruding steels back in place. It may also be used to stop cracks and to exclude light and air to make fumigation more thorough. A light bandage of it will mend a splintered handle or chair leg. Apply it to the under side of a rug that curls or is torn and see how nicely it remedies the trouble. It makes excellent labels for fruit or jelly, as the back may be lettered with ink and it is the finest thing imaginable with which to fasten a mail or express package, and this isn't a title of its uses, either.—Woman's Home Companion.

Dubious Work. More than thirty years ago, when Colonel Frobol of Atlanta was called on to gage the water in a neighboring stream, he one day had an amusing encounter with an old farmer who came along on a wood cart, drawn by an ox.

When he reached the colonel, he stopped the cart, and inquired, promptly: "What on 'arth are them men doin' thar?"

"They are trying to find out how many bucketfuls of water run down this creek in 24 hours," said the colonel.

"Mister, are that a true fact?" asked the farmer.

"Yes, that's just what it is," said the colonel.

"Well, mister," said the old man, in a tone of much disapproval and anxiety, "it might be all right, but it do appear to me such doin's are unconstititional!"—Youth's Companion.

Rhodes' Art Fad

Although Cecil Rhodes was a busy man he got time for a certain amount of reading. He made it a rule, although very fond of good pictures, never to buy any for fear of developing a craze for collecting works of art, for with all his wealth he felt that he could not afford to spend so much money on a fad. The only famous painting that he owned was one by Sir Joshua Reynolds, supposed to represent a young married woman, which hung in the dining-room over the fireplace. As a boy he had taken a great fancy to the picture, and when he grew up and became rich he bought it.

Tit for Tat

"Dear Clara," wrote the young man: "I garden me, but I'm getting so forgetful, I proposed to you last night, but really forget whether you said yes or no?"

"Dear Will," she replied by note: "So glad to hear from you. I knew I said yes to some one last night, but I had forgotten just who it was."—Red Hen.

CHRIST-LIKE COMMON SENSE

Mutual Service the Basis of Confidence and Means Justice, Peace, Plenty and Virtue.

Mutual service is the basis of mutual confidence. Mutual service means justice, peace, plenty, virtue. It means the beginning at least of that mutual love which is the crown and glory of the divine life of a perfect humanity. If we are committed to that we are on our way to the realization of the Christian ideal. If not, no belief will save us. We may fast and pray and humiliate ourselves before we can put the message of Jesus into such form as to reach the mind, the conscience, the heart of this generation; we must get at the spirit in which he, being what he was, spoke and acted. If, by sympathy, we share the spirit that moved him we begin to know not what he said and did then so much as what we ought to say and do now and here. What he said about the rich and the poor, the scribes and the Pharisees, the Gentile publicans and Jewish sinners he might not say today if he were dealing with the problems of modern society. What he did at any moment depended upon the peculiar circumstances of the time and place. He might act differently now and here. If, however, we can discover the spirit in which he used the gifts of his nature and the power of God that was in him we may in the spirit know how we ought to apply ourselves to the needs of our time and what will help us in our work today.—Christian Register.

CORONATIONS OF OLD DAYS

Quaint Ceremonials That Formerly Were Observed at the Banquet in Westminster Hall.

Westminster hall saw some picturesque pageants at old-time coronations. Among these, according to a writer in the Queen, was a coronation banquet, at which were observed some quaint ceremonials. The first course was brought into the hall with much courtly splendor. At the crowning of George IV. Lord Anglesier, as lord high steward, rode in the center wearing his robes and coronet, and with a plume of white feathers on his horse's head. The duke of Wellington as lord high constable rode on his right on a white charger most richly caparisoned, and on the left rode Lord Howard of Effingham as deputy earl marshal of England.

These three, with many other attendants, escorted the gentlemen pensioners, who bore the hot dishes for the king's own eating. At this banquet cups of wine were offered by the lord mayor of London and by the mayor of Oxford; the lord of the manor of Lynton presented a plate of wafers, and another lord of a manor gave three cups of maple upon his sovereign. These cups of maple were presented and accepted by King Edward at his coronation in 1902. Westminster hall is no longer used on the occasion of this solemn service.

Ancient Discourse

The vicar was a very old man, he had been in the parish forty-two years. During his last year the curate was practically in charge of the services, but now and then, when he was able, he occupied the pulpit. His eyesight was bad, and he was altogether unfit to compose fresh sermons, so had to fall back on old ones. One Sunday morning his hearers were alarmed with a discourse such as follows: "We are standing today," he said, "face to face with a great power in the east. We are on the verge of war. (Long pause.) We are—we are—er—we are on the brink of war with Russia. I—er—we, I mean—we will now proceed to consider the next point." In the vestry, after service, the curate asked him about the projected war, as he had seen nothing about it in the papers. "That sermon," he said, with a very far-off look in his eyes, and a slight suspicion of a smile—"that sermon I wrote forty years ago!"

The Man in the Stocks

Thomas Hardy lived to see many changes in his native Wessex. "I have seen with my own eyes things that many people believe to have been extinct for centuries. I have seen men in the stocks. I remember one perfectly when I was very young. I can see him now, sitting in the scorching sunshine with the flies crawling over him." Incidents like this were used in "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" and "The Return of the Native." Max Gate, the house in which he lives, is built on what was formerly crown land belonging to the duchy of Cornwall. When Hardy's offer to purchase was received the late King Edward, then prince of Wales, remarked: "Let him have the land he wants; he has set his heart on it, and we must do all we can to make our authors contented."

The Main Requisite

A pale, intellectual looking chap, wearing eyeglasses and unshorn hair, visited an athletic instructor not long ago and asked questions until the diplomatic athlete finally became weary. "If I take boxing and wrestling lessons from you, will it require any particular applications?" he asked. "No," answered the instructor, "but a little arnica will come in handy."

This Commercial Age

"Are you acquainted with him at all?"

"Only in a business way. I married his daughter."—Spokesman-Review.

Something to Follow

Statistical Boarder—An aeroplane can be built for \$150.

Practical Boarder—Cheap enough, but it's the funeral that costs.

HORSE OF THE GOBI DESERT

Animal Discovered by Prjevalsky Never Has Been Famed and May Be a Distinct Species.

It is more difficult to domesticate the wild horse than it is to bring other species of wild animals under subjection.

Some years ago Prjevalsky, a Russian explorer, discovered a distinct wild horse in the Gobi desert, in the south of Mongolia. A herd of 30 colts were captured and landed in Europe. Most of them were sent to Russia, but a few were shipped to the estate of the duke of Bedford, in England.

They were ragged of coat and of awkward gait. All efforts to tame them have failed. They will not submit to man's rule and are therefore unserviceable. They become badly frightened when a man approaches nearer than two or three rods of them.

The Russians claim that by methods of comparative anatomy and in other ways they have proved that the Gobi desert horse is a distinct species of the genus horse. Most naturalists have until now believed that the true wild horses with an unbroken line of wild ancestry were extinct.

It is the general opinion that the domestic horse of today was mainly derived from three wild species, which have been named the steppe, forest and plateau varieties. The Gobi horse is a representative of the steppe variety. This horse in its wild state lives in the level districts and goes at night to the pasture lands and drinking places. At break of day it returns to the desert, where it rests until sunset.—New York Herald.

ANCIENT ISRAEL USED INK

Writings of Bible Times Inscribed on Potshards Have Been Found in Samaria.

"That the ancient Israelites had a cheap and easy method of sending written messages which was in fairly common use is now an established fact," said George A. Reisner, assistant professor of Egyptology at Harvard, who for the last fourteen years has been conducting excavations in Egypt and Palestine. Professor Reisner just returned on the Campania.

"We were excavating in Samaria, once capital of the northern kingdom of Israel, in 1908, when we came upon the palace of the Israelite kings. Last summer we found on the floor of one of the chambers of the palace a number of potshards and on these shards were written messages; they related to tithes or taxes paid to the king, and were written in an ink made of pure carbon or lampblack. These, perhaps, are the earliest specimens of Israelite work contemporaneous with the Bible. They were written in the reign of King Ahab."—New York Evening Post.

Precocious Infant

William Lyon Phelps tells this story about Robert Louis Stevenson, as illustrating the cosmopolitanism of Russian character, which Professor Phelps says is accountable, in a measure, for the international effect and influence of Russian novels. Stevenson, writing from Mentone to his mother, 7 January, 1874, said: "We have two little Russian girls, with the youngest of whom, a little polyglot button of a three-year-old, I had the most laughable scene at lunch today. She said something in Italian which made everybody laugh very much. After some examination, she announced emphatically to the whole table, in German, that I was a madchen. This hasty conclusion as to my sex she was led afterward to revise, but her opinion was announced in a language quite unknown to me, and probably Russian. To complete the scroll of her accomplishments she said good-by to me in very commendable English." Three days later, Stevenson added, "The little Russian kid is only two and a half; she speaks six languages."

Economy in Smoke Prevention. After remarking that there can be no hope of the general adoption of means to prevent the fouling of the air of great cities with factory smoke unless it can be demonstrated that the adoption of such means will result in the saving of money to the makers of the smoke, Prof. J. A. Switzer of the University of Tennessee records the result of experiments which he has made with smoke consumers based on the principle of injecting, with steam-jets, fresh air into the furnaces whenever fresh fuel is put upon the fires. He finds that the claim that such apparatus increases the efficiency of the boilers by increasing the evaporation of the water is well founded, and that there is a real economy in their use.—Youth's Companion.

"Noble's Oblige"

In Mrs. Wallford's story of Lord Mansfield, in her recent book, entitled "Recollections of a Scottish Novelist," the top note of propriety is reached.

The noble lord's young nephew, seeing him annoyed at a railway station, at having no servant at hand to get his newspapers, ran post-haste and procured them. Lord Mansfield showed no gratitude whatever.

"Edward," was all he would say, "recollect, Edward, that a gentleman should never hurry himself in public."

After Dinner Speaker

London.—Sir Frederick Young, who is 93 years old, spoke at a luncheon at the Hotel Metropole to celebrate the reopening of the Royal Colonial Institute.

Paris Freak Ad Makes Hit

Curious Scheme to Attract Patrons to Music Hall in French Metropolis is Success.

Paris.—The story of "The Beautiful Lady," by Booth Tarkington, has been recalled by the antics of a gentleman on the boulevards. He is dressed in severe mourning, top hat, and all, and would be quite inconspicuous were it not that he wears an American flag fashioned into a waistcoat, and talks and sings to himself or gesticulates frantically as he walks along.

"Drunk," "lunatic," "an Englishman," "an American," are some of the expressions heard in the gathering crowd that rapidly accumulates in his walk. After half an hour of promiscuous promenade the supposed lunatic makes his way to a well-known music hall.

At the box office he staggers in more demonstratively eccentric than ever and buys a seat. Ten per cent of his followers, hoping for some fun, buy seats, too. Once inside the hall the lunatic sobers down instantly, and the anticipated fun in the house does not come off, whatever there may be on the stage. The lunatic is only a walking advertisement for the music hall.

He is the latest improvement on the gentleman who used to sit quietly down at a cafe, and then shout suddenly at the top of his voice: "Go all of you up to the Lutetia Cafe concert, if you have any sense or taste and really want to be amused;" or that other variant who would politely stop you in the street, bow, and instead of asking you, as you expected, for a light or his way, whispered courteously and earnestly in your ear: "Monsieur, I urge you to spend your evening at the Blue Windmill. It is the best show in the world."

Atlantic City Domestic Science Class Fear Edict of Young Men—May Scare Suitors.

Atlantic City, N. J.—The girl members of the domestic science class of the Atlantic City high school are pointing over the announcement that they will be forced, among other things, to learn how to make hash.

The girls fear that public announcement of their proficiency in hash-making may scare off possible suitors among young men who are forced to indulge in the boarding house staple too often during their bachelorhood.

The scare started when the best young man of one of the girls informed her that he and his fellow-boarders had formed an anti-hash society with the following motto: Remember this motto when spending your only day of turkey there's six days of hash.

Instructors of the new class declare they will compel the young women to learn the mysteries of hash despite the protest.

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