

MEAN TRICK ON OPPONENT

How a Western Lawyer Won a Case by Making the Court Think It Had Been Insulted.

Joseph H. Choate, at a dinner at the Lawyers' club in New York, said of a piece of legal chicanery: "It was mean, too mean. It reminded me of a sneak of a lawyer in practice in the far west. This chap was defending a man in a promissory note case, and he knew he was going to lose. But in the lunch hour, in his tricky way he changed the markers in all the prosecuting counsel's reference books. The judge, after consulting all these reference books two hours later, pronounced, sternly: "I should certainly have decreed for the plaintiff, but, on referring to the citations quoted by plaintiff's counsel, I find that they none of them bear even remotely on the case before us, and I decline to think that a gross insult has been perpetrated on this court. Counsel, with idiotic levity, has referred me to the action of a Frenchman who sued a zoological society for having been bitten by a bear. The second reference is to a case of slander. Next, I am directed to an infanticide, a forged will and a safe-robbing. What have these things to do with an action to recover on a promissory note? But, perhaps, the most shameful insult to this court lies in counsel's final reference to the notorious Lippman vs. Henshaw case—the silliest and most ribald breach of promise suit in all the annals of western jurisprudence. Judgment for defendants, with costs."

THEY LEARN BY EXPERIENCE

Data Collected by German Naturalist Show That Animals Often Become Wiser Than Their Parents.

A German naturalist has been collecting data to show that animals learn by experience, and thus, in some instances, become wiser than their uninstructed parents. Game animals of all kinds, it appears, have learned the range of modern rifles. Greyhounds quickly learn to let rabbits alone, and fowls learn to pay no attention to either rabbits or hares. Killer whales and gulls follow whaling vessels, just as vultures follow an army. Crows begin to accompany the chamois hunter as soon as they have seen the result of his first successful shot, and rough-legged buzzards follow the sportsmen after winged game. The number of birds that kill or injure themselves by flying against telegraph wires is much smaller than it used to be. The fact is also brought out that birds and quadrupeds have learned to disregard passing railway trains, as horses quickly cease to be frightened by automobiles. Instances of the intelligent selection exercised by sheep dogs are familiar to all.

Still Worrying.

The experts are now dealing in an unscrupulous spirit with the signatures supposed to be Shakespeare's. Sir E. Durning-Lawrence disputes the genuineness of all five. What he has to say on the occurrence of the name in the will is curious. He finds the three very dissimilar. The "W" are all three differently shaped; the "S" — there are only two — are different also; the "H" in one case begins at the top and in the other at the bottom, which is also the case with the following "a," while the "K" and the "r" are as widely unlike as possible. "What," he asks, "could have induced a man who really signed his name to his last testament to play tricks with the first letter of his Christian name?" And his contention is that the clerk who drafted the will wrote the names and varied the forms of the letters to indicate they were not autographs. The argument seems not unreasonable, for it is more likely that a clerk writing another man's name should vary in the writing of it than one should who was writing his own.

He Didn't Have It.

Miss Merrill, a teacher in a grade school, had trouble with Johnnie last week. Johnnie had trouble doing his work and the authorities finally discovered that his sight was defective. Miss Merrill told Johnnie and sent him home with a note to his mother. He gazed at the note in horror when at the teacher and burst into tears. The note read: "Johnnie has astigmatism, do not let him return to school until he has been attended to."

What She Needed.

Just at the busy hour in the evening on the "L," a woman rushed madly into the station. She had just a minute to buy a copy of Life and catch her train.

Always Something to Miss.

"I see that a man has succeeded in flying from a ship to shore." "When they get so that they can fly from shore to a ship there may be some chance for the man who always misses the boat."

Microscope.

"You'll not find a snail like this in a hurry," boasted the tall waiter. And the guest looked up with an icy smile. "I should say not. It is so securely hidden under these few chips of potatoes it is doubtful if I find it at all."

HOW PHAROAH WAS DROWNED

Colored Minister Insisted Egyptians Broke Through Ice After Children of Israel Had Crossed.

There is a story of an old colored minister, which I am fond of telling, that illustrates what I mean. The old fellow was trying to explain to a Sunday school class how it was and why it was that Pharoah and his party were drowned when they were trying to cross the Red sea, and how it was and why it was that the Children of Israel crossed over dry shod. The old minister explained it in this wise: "When the first party came along it was early in the morning and the ice was hard and thick, and the first party had no trouble crossing over on the ice, but when Pharoah and his party came along it was 12 o'clock in the day and the sun was shining hot on the ice, and when they got on the ice it broke, and they went in and were drowned."

NEW FRENCH THEATER PLAN

Perambulating House Seating 1,500 Will Travel by Aid of Automobile Train.

Paris.—A perambulating theater fitted with the latest scenic appliances and seating 1,500 persons will take the road in France next April. As in the days of Moliere, performances will be given where there is a favored spot, but instead of the chariots and horses there will be a train of eight automobiles, drawing 21 cars. The idea originated with Firmin Gémier, a well-known Parisian theater director, and it became public through the fine arts report of Deputy Paul Goncourt. The following details of the scheme were given by M. Gémier: "Local and provincial theaters usually are insufficient for fine dramatic productions. Moreover, many communities have no theaters. The whole idea is based on decentralization and the wish to carry culture to the provinces. I intend to give the classics and the best modern plays. When I arrive at a town I shall erect a tent with a stage, boxes, orchestra seats, drops, wing, scenery—everything complete, including a central lighting and heating plant. Thanks to a new system the lighting will be as good as in the best theaters. "Special new scenery will be prepared for every play. There will be 20 actors, directed by myself, and I shall employ 40 machinists. We will sell seats from 20 to 60 cents apiece and will spare no pains to make the productions perfect in every way. We shall remain on the road until November. We cannot travel fast—perhaps only six miles an hour—but we shall at least travel surely. We expect a great success. "Do you believe the scheme would be practicable in America?" asked the correspondent. "I am afraid not," answered M. Gémier, hesitatingly. "Your roads are too bad."

SHE TRIMMED HER OWN HAT

Pretty Girl Designed Neat Piece of Headgear but Left the Price Tag on the Feather.

Half a dozen pretty girls were discussing millinery. Said one of them, in reference to an absent friend: "Her hats certainly are stunning and she trims all of them herself." Said another: "I hope she may never have such an experience as I had recently. My sense of humor enabled me to live through it, but I'd not like to see any one else have it. I, also, trim my own hats. "This fall I designed one that I thought was about the most effective I ever had, though it was extremely simple. It consisted only of a feather and a twist of velvet around the crown of a big stylish shape. The first time I wore it was to church. I felt gratified to think that the eyes of the whole congregation were resting, at one time or another, on that hat, because the style was one to challenge attention and nobody could avoid seeing it. That is, nobody within a radius of a mile or so. When I returned home and removed the hat there was a large white ticket dangling from almost the tip of the feather, and on it was marked in large figures "5c." The ticket had been cunningly concealed underneath the feather, so that all the time I was trimming the hat I never had seen it, but wearing the hat had jarred the ticket into sight. I had picked up the feather at a bargain counter. It was a showy one and really looked as if it might have cost two or three dollars. Of course, I had the pleasure of knowing that the whole congregation had read the price."

EXPLORE BIG AUSTRIAN CAVE

Party Runs Short of Food Before Completing Examination of Subterranean Wonder.

Vienna.—The "mammoth cave of Europe," as the newly discovered series of subterranean chambers near Obertraun in Austria is now called, is described for the first time by Hermann Boch, an engineer, who with a small party of Alpine climbers explored the cave, which is situated under the Dachstein, a mountain in upper Austria 9,800 feet high. The entrance to the cave is at an elevation of some 4,500 feet. Italian road menders knew of the existence of a small grotto here, where they had been looking around for gold. Behind a great boulder at the end of this grotto the party discovered a natural tunnel which a powerful stream in earlier ages had followed out of the rock. At the bottom of this tunnel there was a six-foot deep river bed, formed by what remained of the earlier stream. Here and there pools of crystal clear water continued for 1,000 feet and led to an apparently bottomless abyss. The party crawled along the edge of the precipice and up a gallery 150 feet high, also sealed with the action of dried up mountain torrents. At the top a narrow hole was found which led upward to a series of stalactite caverns and then narrowed down again to a turreted passage leading downward for 1,500 feet. Suddenly the party came upon a vast hall larger than any other in the cave. Here a cavern had piled up a cone-like heap of debris 350 feet high. From here radiated a series of other halls, passages and galleries, many of which ended precipitately in dark abysses. As food was running short the party had to return.

MAN FLIES IN GEESE PLANE

Most Remarkable Flying Machine Designed by Orlean—Mile in 2 Minutes, 13 Seconds.

Sandusky, O.—A most remarkable flying machine has been devised here by John Ward, who lives on the marsh east of this city. Ward, who has for years bred geese from wild stock, some time ago conceived the idea of training young geese as carriers, like homing pigeons. He divided a flock of 12, putting six in a stockade a mile from his home and retaining the other six at his residence. Frequent flights were made by the geese, carrying notes and packages. When the birds reached maturity Ward began increasing their burdens, sometimes making a single bird carry a 50-pound weight. Later he conceived the idea of hitching them to a home-made flying machine consisting of a light platform, one goose being fastened to each corner and one at each end. A harness was rigged for each goose, leaving his wings and legs free, so that the birds can rise about six feet in the air above the platform. The first flight was made the other day, with Ward, who weighs 119 pounds, seated on the platform. The birds rose well together and were off like a shot, making the mile from the starting point to their stockade in 2 minutes and 13 seconds, without mishap.

Bad for Sure-Shot Johnny.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Sure-shot Johnny Petris, a celebrated man-hunter, who has captured more than 1,000 desperate criminals and who has figured in fiction and history, has been admitted to the "Soldiers' home practically penniless.

IGNORANCE OF LAWS

Much Money Lost Through Carelessness in Using Coins.

Jewelers Guilty Every Day of Committing Criminal Offense in Filling One Side of Coin Smooth—Other Offenses. Chicago.—Thousands of dollars are lost yearly by big firms through ignorance or carelessness in observing the federal laws governing abuse of coins. Just lately in Chicago a piano company came to grief in this way. Had they asked the proper authorities (the information would have been furnished gratis) or had they looked up the law they would have found in Section 165, public act No. 350, these words: "Whoever fraudulently, by any art, way or means shall deface, mutilate, impair, diminish, falsify or lighten the gold or silver coins which have been or which may hereafter be coined in the mint of the United States shall be fined not more than \$2,000 and imprisoned not more than five years."

Much trouble and expense would have been saved the firm and the government had the law only been read. It all happened in this way: Some clever advertiser conceived the idea of an "ad" of metal just the size of a dime, with the wording and printing placed in such a way that at first glance it would appear as a dime. The idea was cleverly executed. A fair-imitation of the head of Liberty was on one side and the advertisement on the other. The number was placed where the date on a dime is and the first glance certainly impressed one as the real coin. The other side had a sheaf of wheat and in the center the words "On Time." The firm had no desire to defraud the public. But unscrupulous people who had access to them did. Several waiters at a summer park lost money by accepting the advertisement for real money, chewing gum machines were filled with them and at last the secret service learned how matters were and began an investigation. There were 166,900 of the metals confiscated. Some stray ones, however, were in circulation and it took almost a year to "hunt them down." Jewelers are guilty every day of committing a criminal offense. Every day some one of them lays himself liable to the law. According to the ordinance quoted above, to mutilate money is an offense in the eyes of the law. Jewelers file one side of a coin smooth and monogram it. The other side is perfectly good. Pins, bracelets, lockets and numerous other things are made. The owner never means to use the article for money. But some one gets hold of the pin or locket. He thinks the money would be more useful and so passes the coin with the pin or ring pulled off and the good side up. To "change the complexion" of a coin also is an offense. That means to dip silver in gold. Only a few days ago a "lot" of shirt sets were confiscated and sent to Washington. The sets were made of Panama halpennies gilded. Carelessness of the law again.

COWS IN HILARIOUS FROLIC

Make Bacchanalian Raid on Cider Mill, Easily Accumulating Joyous Old Jug.

Rockburg, N. J.—When the workers at the Warren county cider mill, near here, went home the other day at noon they left the trough of apple wash uncovered, with the result that a herd of ten cows from an adjoining farm, wandering in from the inclosure, ate most of it. Paraphrased among the bovines, and found the yard of the mill in an uproar. The cows were frisking about, kicking into the air and assuming attitudes that in a human being would have been described as hilarious. Puzzled at these antics, the farmers became worried when one after another of the cows sank to the ground. Behaving the prevalent epidemic of hog cholera had reached the supposed immune cows, they summoned a veterinarian, whose diagnosis relieved the anxiety of the situation. "Just a Jersey cider jug of untoward proportions," was his verdict. The cows' heads were bathed in ice water and in a short time they recovered, since which time they have refused all food, subsisting on copious draughts from the pasture spring. All have now recovered. None have been near the cider mill since, and to prevent future bacchanalian raids on the part of the herd a new cover for the trough is in place.

MANY VICTIMS OF PARALYSIS

Infantile Spinal Epidemic Strikes Down 20,000 in Last Few Years, Says Expert.

New York.—Statistics gathered from various sources by a New York medical journal show that infantile spinal paralysis has attacked 20,000 persons in the United States during the several epidemics of the last few years. Although the mortality seldom exceeds 16 per cent, at least 75 per cent of the little victims are crippled for life. Dr. Simon Flexner, head of the Rockefeller institute, who has been studying the disease, is authority for the statement that no means to ameliorate its results or prevent its development is yet known. "Those of us who have had to deal with this malady, or who have studied its unchecked progress," he says, "have come to realize how helpless we are. We know it to be epidemic. We believe it to be contagious, or at least highly communicable. We have learned that there are abortive forms without paralysis. Its age incidence and seasonal occurrence are known to us. We are acquainted with its terrible results. Nothing more. "There is so little known about the means of transmission of the disease that all possible measures of isolation should be adopted both in sporadic cases and in epidemics."

Two New Popular Games.

London.—Two new games are popular at country house parties this season. One is called fantasia, and is a sort of table bowls on which heavy bats are made. The other is roulette with cards. Four packs are used, the players placing stakes on cards instead of ordinary numbers. Hostesses are delighted with these two games, which serve to amuse visitors unable to play bridge.

CHINESE SAILORS FEED FISH

Crew of Steamer Chatham Throw Food Overboard for Member Lost by Drowning.

Boston.—So that their drowned brother might not feel the pangs of hunger while on the spiritual high-road to the other world, 23 Chinese sailors, comprising the crew of the British steamer Chatham, which reached Boston the other day from the west coast of South America, threw rice and other foodstuffs into the sea all the way from off the coast of Brazil to Boston lightship. Li Chow was the late lamented. Chow fell overboard while engaged in boat drill when the steamer was off the coast of Brazil. The Chatham was stopped and lifeboats launched, but before the speediest of them got within twenty feet of Chow he disappeared beneath the waves. Almost immediately after the steamer resumed her way the rest of the Chinese on board began stunting themselves and casting overboard what they saved from their own fare so that Chow might not go hungry. That the Chatham encountered severe weather in her 10,000-mile journey was amply testified to by damaged deck fittings and smashed deck houses. The steamer was very hard hit when passing through the Straits of Michigan, sustaining most of the damage at that period. She was caught in a blizzard that kicked up her decks to up steamships and washed all movable objects overboard. The steamer's hospital was smashed in by one comber and several of the crew had to cling with all their might lest they be carried overboard by the receding water. Throughout most of the passage from Chile to Montevideo the steamer was covered with ice and snow, winter weather prevailing. The Chatham started from Junin, Chile, on August 22, and called at five ports while en route. At Antofagasta she took on 3,010 tons of silver ore, valued at \$500,000, and thus her cargo was one of the most valuable ever brought to Boston from South America.

FINALLY SECURES A MATCH

Man Pleads in Ten Languages Before Obtaining Desired Light for His Cigar.

Chicago.—A young man in the garb of a laborer, his hands roughened by work, entered a shoe-shining parlor at 93 Clark street. The place was filled with customers and he was compelled to await his turn while some ten youths of various nationalities imparted a mirror-like luster to the coverings of the customers' feet. The young man, who was M. Levinson, twenty-six years old, 1000 Loomis street, wished a match. He made his wish known, but the busy bootblacks paid no attention to the request. It was then that the shoe-shining shop developed an atmosphere that was not dissimilar to that which prevailed when confusion fell upon the workmen on the tower of Babel. "Avez-vous un allumette?" inquired Levinson, politely. One of the bootblacks, replied to the query in French, informing the young man that he had no match; he was very sorry. Levinson was not discouraged. He proved it by trying again. "Haben sie eine licht?" inquired Levinson, politely. One of the bootblacks, replied to the query in French, informing the young man that he had no match; he was very sorry. Levinson was not discouraged. He proved it by trying again. "Haben sie eine licht?" inquired Levinson, politely. One of the bootblacks, replied to the query in French, informing the young man that he had no match; he was very sorry. Levinson was not discouraged. He proved it by trying again.

SILK FARM STARTED IN U. S.

Syrian is Raising Worms and Will Erect Looms in Louisiana—First in South.

New Orleans.—An experiment in silk culture which is watched with interest by the United States department of agriculture as well as the silk industry at large has been started by a Syrian, Kallil Joseph, near Pica-yune, La., about 93 miles from New Orleans. Mr. Joseph has raised many thousands of silk worms from eggs hatched on a farm two miles from Pica-yune. He says Pica-yune is an ideal section for silk culture on account of the numbers of wild mulberry trees there. The silk made from the cocoons is as fine a quality as any made in Syria, which is famous for its silk worm farms. Mr. Joseph has formed a company capitalised at \$100,000 and will erect looms and handle the silk in much the same way as it is manufactured in the great silk centers. The officers of the company are: Kallil Joseph, president; Elias Balk, vice-president; W. A. Stockstill, secretary; and Charles Marcell, treasurer. The Kallil plant will be the first bonafide silk farm in the south, and the factory will be the first in the country where the raw silk is transformed into the finished product at the same place where the silk is spun from the cocoons.

Raise Black Cats.

Woodbury, N. J.—The fact that some one unloaded about two score of black cats in this city aroused W. T. Cosen, an agent of the S. P. C. A. The cats, however, all found good homes. They are of jet black variety, and as a whole look as though they had come from a cat farm.

STUDY OF CRIMINALS

Bavarian State's Attorney Writes Article on Juvenile Courts.

Munich Prosecutor Finds Less Than 500 Youthful Offenses in One Year Among More Than 600,000 People.

New York.—States Attorney Rupprecht of Munich, Bavaria, has written an article for the Munchener Medizinische Wochenschrift on juvenile courts and the study of the juvenile delinquent as the result of his experiences as a practitioner in the children's court in Munich, concerning which the Medical Record says: "One result of the establishment of children's courts should be a more intelligent study of the juvenile delinquent. The boy criminal differs radically from the girl offender. Youthful offenders differ from adults. The children also differ, as to the relative frequency of offenses, according as they dwell in agricultural, manufacturing or commercial communities. "In that city (Munich) the children's court takes cognizance of all offenders between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, inclusive. The lad or girl of healthy stock must at this period be regarded as potentially a criminal, because character and will are undeveloped, and experience has not yet had its innings. Such must not be confounded with defectives. "Munich has but a small contingent of youthful criminals. In a population of nearly 600,000 there are less than five hundred serious offenses a year committed by juveniles. Petty offenses multiply this five fold, but with these we are not concerned. "Theft is the great offense of youth. It overshadows all others so far that the latter appear almost freakish. The boy steals in an unpremeditated fashion, while the girl has a plan. Boys tend to steal 'junk'—not to sell, but for making playthings. Girls tend to appropriate cosmetic articles. "We have heard much as to mooring picture shows tempting boys to pattern after burglars and highwaymen. This theoretical position may be quite offset by the actual knowledge that in Munich boys steal to be able to visit these entertainments, which, for all we know, may be highly moral. The temptation is so strong that even a 'good' boy may pilfer the price of the entertainment. He will do as much to get hold of a Nick Carter or Sherlock Holmes story. "The boys in Munich also steal in connection with deep laid plans for visiting the frontier and fighting savages. But the Bavarian youth must be much more long headed than the Anglo-Saxon in this respect, for he usually steals a horse and firearms before sailing forth. He robs the family strong box for the sinews of war. "Girls sometimes steal to make a present to a favorite school teacher. One took the flowers of a grave for this purpose. "When caught in the act of a theft a boy usually confesses, repents and refuses to betray his associates. A girl lies until the last minute, and then endeavors to throw the blame on some one else. Boys almost always rob in bands; girls usually act alone. "A boy seldom robs his employer, but some outsider; the reverse is the case with girls, who, since they pilfer cosmetics, ornaments, etc., must almost necessarily rob their mistresses. "The chief value of Rupprecht's study is that it deals with normal subjects, the policies advisable in dealing with whom have hitherto received comparatively little attention."