

SIMPLY WASTE TIME

Mistakes That Mr. Wilkinson Will Not Repeat.

Has Practically Given Up Idea That Telephone Girl Can Be Induced to Acknowledge That She Has Made Mistake.

Mr. Wilkinson had just fallen into a sound sleep when at 11:45 his wife shook him, saying: "William, William! Hurry—get up. The telephone's ringing."

"Let it ring," Mr. Wilkinson sleepily replied. "No, no! Hurry and answer it. It may be long distance. I'm so afraid mother may be worse—she might be dead. Please hurry! I'm so frightened I don't know what to do."

Mr. Wilkinson reluctantly crawled out of bed and stumbled through the darkness to the electric switch. While he was turning on the light the telephone bell rang again.

"Please hurry," Mrs. Wilkinson implored. "They may not wait."

"I am hurrying," Wilkinson grumbled. "If they don't want to wait let 'em go to the dickens."

At last he got down into the hall and took the receiver from the fork. "Well?" he asked, "what is it?"

There was no immediate reply. "Hello!" he exclaimed. "Still there was no response. Then he jiggled the arm a few times and presently a sweet voice asked:

"Number, please." "Number nothin'," replied William Wilkinson. "Who's calling us?"

"Number, please." "I say, who's calling us?" "Nobody is calling you."

"This bell has been ringing." "Nobody is calling you."

"Well, what do you mean by getting people out of bed at this time of night?" "Number, please."

"I say, what do you mean by ringing us up at this time of night if nobody wants us?" "Did you wish to call anybody?"

"Didn't you ring this phone just now?" "Number, please."

"Has anybody been trying to get us?" "Nobody is calling you."

"The bell has been ringing for the past ten minutes."

"Has it? The wires must be crossed."

While he was lying awake during the next two hours William Wilkinson arrived at the philosophical conclusion that it was useless to try to get a telephone girl to acknowledge a mistake.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Vandal. Senator Dewey was deprecating at Saratoga certain contemplated changes in the Constitution.

"To break up the venerable Constitution like that," he said with a smile, "smacks of vandalism, and recalls Tom Tunkin to my mind."

"Tom, traveling in Italy with a friend, said one day in Naples: 'Well, we've done Naples thoroughly—Aquarium and Arcade, Pompeii and Vesuvius. Let's get on to Florence.'"

"Oh, the deuce with Florence," his friend growled. "There's no cafe life there, nor nothin'."

"Look here," said Tom Tunkin sternly, "a man tours Europe for something a little bit more elevating than cafe life. I'm going on to Florence if I go alone. I've got to get a chunk off of Michael Angelo's famous statue of David for my souvenir collection."

Two Thrusts. Congressman Henry was deprecating in Washington an international "marriage de convenance."

"Two men were talking about this marriage cynically but truthfully," he said. "The first man remarked: 'Of course the earl won't be able to support Miss Lotta Golde in the style she's been accustomed to.'"

"Oh, yes," said the other, "her father will make allowances for that." Congressman Henry gave a grim laugh and resumed.

"The first man looked thoughtful for a moment. Then he said: 'Despite the stories about the earl's past, it does seem to me that he's Miss Golde's devoted slave.'"

"Oh, yes," was the other man's reply, "he's eager for the bonds, all right."

Child Labor and Health. "Child labor predisposes to tuberculosis. This does not apply exclusively to child labor in the factory. In many cases child labor in the home is as bad as in the factory, and the danger from tuberculosis is just as great."

These are among the statements made in a paper before the recent Congress on Hygiene and Demography in Washington by Dr. E. Adolphus Knopf of New York. "Tuberculosis is a social disease in the final analysis. It cannot be eradicated until we have social justice."

Of Course He Doesn't. "Do you find your husband much of a help?" asked the lady who was a candidate for the legislature.

MRS. DAVID HUME GUEST OF SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR

Mrs. David T. Hume, wife of Commissioner Hume of the Killarney district of British Africa, recently visited the harem of the sultan of Zanzibar. The young sultan, Ali bin Hamoud, has a splendid English education, being a graduate of Eton.

Mrs. Hume, in an article in the Chicago Sunday Tribune, after describing her reception at the palace, and the splendor of the sultan's home, has this to say regarding the harem proper:

"The harem is in a building connected with the palace by a bridge. As we entered the long court (the sultan) pointed to some rooms with the doors closed, or half open, and said these were unimportant, as they belonged to the lowest class of women, who are practically slaves."

"In one of these rooms I noticed two Arab girls wearing masks in semimolemm fashion. They were squatting on the floor, just as do the higher types of monkeys. Their faces were protected by bright yellow masks that reached the mouth and were slit so the eyes showed through. Their dresses were even more ridiculous. The one had a large black and white shawl wound to protect the lower part of her body. Her chief upper covering was a long strand of shell beads."

"We walked on some paces and entered a more spacious apartment. The first room was a large reception room. The floors were covered with splendid rugs from Persia and India, and about the room were scattered great quantities of ebony, ivory, and lacquer work."

"The adjoining room was a bedroom crowded with furniture, including a handsome Turkish couch, costly silk draperies, and a handsome ebony dresser, piled high with toilet articles of solid gold."

"On the couch was a slight, graceful Zanzibar maiden. She was fairer than most of the women in the harem, and when she smiled she showed a double row of handsome pearls."

"Close by were the sultan's room, the favorite wife of the sultan. As we passed the sultan pointed out the suite and said that he was sorry he was not able to show me his favorite wife and her handsome rooms, but it was the rule of the harem that he was the only one, other than her slaves, who had the right to enter her apartments."

"As we retraced our steps we passed a room with the doors wide open, and I saw a beautiful girl with rosy cheeks, reddish hair, and large blue eyes seated on a couch doing some beautiful English embroidery."

"She had been brought to the place when she was not much more than a child, and was the daughter of a San Francisco carpenter, but he could not find out from her or from anybody in the harem how she had been brought there."

"As we left the harem I remarked to the young sultan: 'You are fortunate to have so many wives.'"

"It is all the way you regard these things," he replied. "If I had my way, I should choose an American or English girl for my wife, and love her and her alone."

"The couple were united in marriage at the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul in Chicago by Dean Walter T. Sumner and Rev. Oscar De Wolf Randolph of Lee Memorial Church, Lexington, Va."

The wedding is the sequel of a romance begun when the groom was rejected by a daughter of his bride. Announcement of the engagement of Miss Dorothy McLean, daughter of the bride, to Mr. Randolph, the bridegroom, was made in August, 1908, and was later canceled.

Harold Hellyer, next door neighbor and childhood sweetheart, had become a constant caller on Miss McLean and within a year she married Hellyer.

The jilted man continued calling at the McLean home, and the fact that he is in the early thirties while Mrs. McLean is nearly forty-five, served to allay notice. The wedding came as a surprise.

Another General Rule. Gen. Sir John French of the British army talked to a reporter on the L'Estimans about aviation.

"Its mortality is dreadful," he said. "Such sacrifices, however, attend every human advance."

With a grim smile he added: "On an aviation field an aeroplane inventor said one day to 'me completely: 'See the aeroplanes looking down on the plodding motor cars! That is the general rule now. Aeroplanes everywhere are looking down on motor cars.'"

"Yes, and falling down on them, too," said L.

WEDS THE MAN HER DAUGHTER REJECTED

Mrs. George A. McLean of Riverside, Ill., is the bride of George Isham Randolph, son of Isham Randolph, the well-known civil engineer of Chicago.

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MARK'S LOST SOCK

Humorous Incident Not Creature of Writer's Brain.

Declared in After Years That It Was a True Story of His Search in Dark for His Lost Article of Apparel.

Readers of "A Tramp Abroad," who recall the incident of the finding of the lost sock in the vast hotel bedroom in Heilsbronn may be interested to compare the story as thus told with what really happened. In his installment of the Mark Twain biography in the August Harper's, Albert Bigelow Paine quotes a letter from Mr. Clemens to his friend, Rev. J. H. Twichell, dated from Munich, in which we are given the earliest version of this incident. In the letter the account runs as follows:

"Last night I awoke at three this morning, and after raving at myself for two interminable hours I gave it up. I rose, assumed a cat-like stealthiness, to keep from waking Livy, and proceeded to dress in the pitch dark. Slowly but surely I got on garment after garment—all down to one sock; I had one slipper on and the other in my hand. Well, on my hands and knees I crept softly around; pawing and feeling and scooping along the carpet and among chair legs for that missing sock. I kept that up, and still kept it up, and kept it up. At first I only said to myself, 'Blame that sock,' but that soon passed to anger."

"My expletives grew steadily stronger and stronger, and at last, when I found I was lost, I had to sit down on the floor and take hold of something to keep from lifting the roof off with the profane expletive that was trying to get out of me. I could see the dim blur of the window, but, of course, it was in the wrong place and could give me no information as to where I was. But I had one comfort—I had not waked Livy; I believed I could find that sock in silence if the night lasted long enough. So I started again and softly pawed all over the place; and sure enough, at the end of half an hour I laid my hand on the missing article. I rose joyfully up and butted the wash-bowl and pitcher off the stand, and simply raised —, so to speak. Livy screamed, then said: 'Who is it? What is the matter?' I said: 'There ain't anything the matter. I'm hunting for my sock.' She said: 'Are you hunting for it with a club?'"

"I went in the parlor and lit the lamp, and gradually the fury subsided and the ridiculous features of the thing began to suggest themselves. So I lay on a sofa with a notebook and pencil, and transferred the adventure to our big room in the hotel at Heilsbronn, and got it on a paper a good deal to my satisfaction."—Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

Dangerous Story. A Yale undergraduate had been having a fairly lively time of it during his summer vacation. He was invited out to dinner with his mother, and he was seen to get a bit nervous when she began one of her favorite stories. This concerned the burning of the watch, on which occasion the son's watch, left on a bureau, was found ticking in the ruins after the house had been destroyed.

At the conclusion of the story the college boy jumped up abruptly and left the room with his handkerchief over his face as if suddenly seized with nose bleed. He did not return for several minutes, by which time the conversation had drifted.

After dinner the "undergrad" chum asked the significance of the move. "I'll tell you, but nobody else," said he. "When mother told that story I was afraid she was going to ask me to show the watch."

His Idea of Sunday. Albert was a solemn-eyed, spiritual-looking child. "Nurse," he said one day, leaving his blocks and laying his hand gently on her knee, "nurse, is this God's day?"

"No, dear," said the nurse, "this is not Sunday; it is Thursday."

"I'm so sorry," he said, sadly, and went back to his blocks. The next day and the next, in his serious manner, he asked the same question and the nurse tearfully said to the cook:

"That child is too good for this world."

On Sunday the question was repeated, and the nurse, with a sob in her voice, said: "Yes, Lambie, this is God's day."

"Then where is the funny paper?" he demanded.

Embarrassing. A tramp knocked at the door of a lonely spinster's home. "Kind lady, arst yer 'usband if 'e ain't got a old pair 'o trousers to give away."

The spinster, not wishing to expose her solitude, replied: "Sorry, my good man, he—er—never wears such things."—Harper's Magazine.

You'd Think So. "He's a brute."

"How so?" "When she promised to be his wife he said he would do everything in his power to make her happy."

"Well?" "He spends all of his time at the club."

"Well, if he is really a brute that ought to help some."

REV. F. C. EISELEN DECIPHERS OLD LETTERS

Four thousand years ago in Babylon a young man wrote a love letter to his sweetheart.

He wrote it on a chunk of damp clay with a stylus in cuneiform characters. Then he baked the missive and turned it into a brick, which has preserved the message to this day. The baked love letter was deciphered recently by the Rev. F. C. Eiselen, professor of Old Testament Interpretation, in an address upon "The Recovery of a Lost Civilization," at the commencement of the fall term of the Garrett Biblical Institute of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

In addition to this cuneiform romance, Prof. Eiselen read inscriptions on other bricks setting forth marriage contracts of Babylon and Nineveh; contracts relating to alimony; complaint from a lodger in a boarding house against the fare; a prescription for toothache; business and government records; and messages relating to the daily life of those ancient peoples whose capitals have been dust for centuries.

These bricks were unearthed by savants of the German Oriental society (Deutscher Oriental Gesellschaft), who are now making extensive excavations on the sites of Nineveh, Babylon and Ashur, which antedate Nineveh as the capital of the Assyrian empire. The Northwestern university recently has obtained 60 of these bricks. Many of the bricks are inscribed with temple records. Others are engraved with messages to the kings, official records of government, and letters of the common people.

The bricks vary in size. The largest are three inches long, two inches wide, and one-half inch thick. The smallest are not more than an inch long, half an inch wide, and one-fourth of an inch thick. The average is about an inch and a half long, an inch wide, and one-fourth inch thick. The temple records and the bricks which may be termed "official documents" are kiln baked. The love letter is likewise kiln baked. But most of the private letters are on sundried bricks. The bricks vary as greatly in value as in size. The temple records and the bricks setting forth official minutiae are valued at five dollars apiece. Others, especially those of historical significance, are valued at hundreds, and even thousands of dollars. The cuneiform writings cover both sides of the bricks.

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MAKE CHEAP LOANS

German Co-Operative Credit System for Workers and Farmers.

United States Ambassador Reports on System of Banks Which Serves the Artisan, the Workman, and the Small Business Man.

Washington.—The German artisan, as well as the German farmer, has provided himself with financial machinery to assist him in the conduct of his business. As with the farmer, co-operation is the basis of his banking scheme—cheap credit and quick credit is obtained for him by offering