

TO BE SUPERIOR TO CHANCE

Man of Necessity is Made of Right Material When He Can Rise Above Depression.

Some people are thrown off their balance the moment anything goes wrong with them. They do not seem to have the ability to overcome impediments and to do their work in spite of annoyance.

LEFT MRS. SMITH THINKING

Boarder's Remark May, or It May Not, Have Been Meant as a Snub on Furnished Beverage.

"I have been reading a very interesting article on coffee," said Mrs. Small, as Mr. Hunker passed up his cup for refilling.

Billiards in the Country.

While Hoppe, the billiard player, was discussing in New York the question of summer vacations.

Man's Narrow Escape.

Two young girls, aged respectively, seven and twelve, entered a butcher's shop in Edinburgh, Scotland, the other day, and during the brief absence of the proprietor abstracted the sum of \$45 from the till.

Why He Chose It.

"Do I understand that your son wants to be a doctor?" "Yes."

DICKENS' METHOD OF LABOR

Breat Nevelist Evolved Plots as He Walked, According to Testimony of Old Friend.

Marcus Stone, the veteran painter whose old-fashioned young men and maidens meetings or parting in old-fashioned gardens have for so many years delighted the British public, celebrated his 72nd birthday last week.

Every Christmas and every summer for 30 years Marcus Stone used to visit Charles Dickens at his various homes, especially at Gad's Hill, near Rochester.

"Dickens," says Stone, "was one of the greatest and kindest men I ever met. He was imbued with the true Christian spirit.

"At 8 o'clock every afternoon we used to have a 20-mile walk in the country round. Dickens spoke but little while walking, and this after a time led me to discover the secret of his amazing industry.

"Well, owing to his taciturnity in our country walks I began to suspect that it was then he evolved most of the plots of his novels.

NOT LIKELY TO SPOIL SCENE

Astor Willing to Guarantee He Would Make Decent Corpse as the Dead Julius Caesar.

Speculation is rife along the New York Rialto as to whether or not in William Faversham's production of "Julius Caesar" Fuller Mellish, who has been cast for the part of Caesar, will actually appear in the oration scene.

Tree is quite a stickler for detail, and although it is generally customary for the dead Caesar to be represented in the oration scene by a dummy, Tree, in his recent revival of the Roman drama, insisted that the actor cast for Caesar should actually appear upon the bier.

The Caesar of the play demurred, averring that he was subject to colds and that the drafts upon the stage might cause him to sneeze, thus spoiling the effect of the scene, to which Tree quickly and dryly retorted, "Never mind; in that case you'd be playing 'Julius Caesar'."

Earning College Expenses.

Miss Florence McArdle, a senior at Boston university, is in charge of the girls' department of the students' employment bureau. This year about one hundred women students have been supplied with work.

Miss McArdle says that one of the best ways for girls to work their way through college is to get into a family where in return for performing certain household duties they get room, board, laundry and car fares.

Vermonters' Failure.

"The inefficient are necessarily the disorganizing," said A. Munsey, apropos of a political leader who had failed.

Gift of Dances to Native Land.

Americans of Danish descent have purchased a tract of 300 acres of typical and virgin Danish heather landscape in the province of Jutland and have presented it to the Danish nation as a memorial of their love and good will.

Frightened.

The young man wanted an understanding before he proposed. "Can you wash dishes?" he asked.

Serious Subject.

"Can't you give us a few real little epigrams on aviation?" asked the editor of the comic weekly.

WAY OF MODERN SALESMAN

Typically Up to Date Was This Boomer of a New Brand of the Cigarette.

The two of them were sitting in the dairy lunch smoking cigarettes. A young man well-dressed and of fine appearance generally, passed and smiled.

"Why, very well," said the man who had waved at him. "Why?"

"Oh! Why, you're not, are you?" exclaimed the stranger. "You're not smoking one—haven't you tried them? No? Well, I'll declare!" and so, in the best of humor, he discussed the merits of the cigarette he was advertising and selling.

The two watched him stand for a moment in front of the lunchroom, then made a bee line for a young man who took a package of a rival brand out of his pocket as he passed.

"Strike as a muckrat," said the first dairy lunch.

"Yes, if he ever gets out of a job there's the making of a wonderful confidence man in him," said the other.

FAILED TO CARRY OFF DOG

But Eagle Likely Would Have Conquered If Farmer Had Not Taken Part of Pet.

From Shiduko comes a graphic account of a bloody combat between an eagle and a dog. A few days ago, at about 8 a. m., while one Aro was engaged in farming at the foot of a hill called Awagatabe in a suburb of Shiduko, he saw his favorite dog scamper away in unusual excitement.

On closer scrutiny he found the dog was waging a savage battle with a large eagle nearly five feet in height. The bird would descend upon the dog and attack it with its powerful talons, while the dog would spring away alertly, trying to bite its enemy.

The farmer fetched a hatchet and rushed to the succor of his pet, raining upon the eagle repeated blows. The dog, encouraged by this help, attacked its antagonist with redoubled vigor and after a while the eagle fell to the ground quite exhausted and covered with blood.

The eagle proved to be of enormous size and is said to be attracting great curiosity among the villagers.—Japan Advertiser.

Horticulturist Honored.

Harry James Veitch, on whom the king of England has just conferred the honor of knighthood, is one of the most prominent men in the world of horticulture. His pre-eminence was obtained by exploration and scientific knowledge.

"View" in New York.

I heard some one decanting about her view. She said one thing she'd always hated in New York was having a view, and now she had one. She took me up to see it. "Well, where is it?" I asked, looking out of the window. "Why, there and there and there!" she said. "Don't you see how I see over the roof of the next one, and down in the street to the mail box and overhead to that bit of sky?" I said, oh, yes, and how nice it was that she had it. It's really pathetic what New York can do to us. It's pathetic when somebody thinks that what she showed me was a view. A view!—Jane Stone in New York Press.

Church Bars Telephone User.

Henry Yoder, who is a member of the Mennonite religious clan here, has been requested by a committee of the sect to have the telephone removed from his home, otherwise he will be excommunicated.

In Customary Parlor.

"There's only one fault I have to find with that financial backer," said the candidate in a tone of annoyance.

French People Eat Horse Flesh.

Horse flesh is rapidly becoming one of the staple foods of France, according to recent estimates of its consumption. In the last decade this consumption has increased from 11,000,000 to 20,000,000 pounds, while the number of cattle killed in 1910 was more than 60,000 less than in 1900.

STRANGE CLAIMS IN COURT

Law Suits of Peculiar Origin That Have Been Placed on the Records by Lawyers.

The recent claim for damages brought against a great London (England) shop by a consumptive clerk, on the ground that the insanitary state of the office had brought on his disease, drew from the judge the remark that this was the first case of the sort that had ever come before the courts.

Cases even more remarkable keep cropping up at intervals, though, fortunately, they are seldom of so grave a nature.

Some ten years ago, for instance, a Birmingham commercial traveler sued a chemist for compensation for the damages done by a special hair dye which the chemist, its inventor, had guaranteed would turn his customer's hair an enduring brown.

What it really did was to turn his hair a curious bluish tinge, with patches of gray. The chemist had offered to compromise by supplying his indignant customer with any recognized make of dye he wished for the rest of his life. But an action followed, and the plebeian traveler secured damages.

One of the funniest cases ever brought into a court of law was surely that which tickled all Australia toward the end of the last century. A young Sydney business woman had mixed a secret drink cure with her brother's breakfast coffee.

The brother found the effect extremely unwellcome, and when he realized who was responsible for his fading interest in strong drink, he was ungrateful enough to sue his sister for \$3,000 damages for "consequent loss of throat." But an unsympathetic jury took the sister's side.

A case that roused great interest in medical circles, as well as a good deal of amusement, was an action brought a good many years ago by a surgeon at a London hospital against a colleague for the loss of an ear.

A diseased ear was to be amputated. The patient, struggling under chloroform, was being held down. Just then the lights went out. The patient fell off the edge of the table in his struggles and the junior surgeon leant over after him. The operator felt an ear in his hand, and thinking he might not get another opportunity, the patient being so abnormally restless made one swift, neat slash. The operation was successful, but the ear was the wrong man's.

MYSTERY IN CONTINUAL CROW

Rooster's Seemingly Eternal Optimism Something That Had Got on the Nerves of Hinks.

Hinks stared at a dilapidated chattering with a greatly puzzled expression.

"It fair beats me," he said. "What does?" his friend asked, curiously.

"That there rooster. He's a bloomin' mystery, blow me if he ain't," he intimated.

"Well, the beggar's always crowing! You wouldn't think it, perhaps, but that blighter there gets up at three every morning lookin' for worms what ain't there. Then 'e crows as if he'd got a cropful. A bit later in the day the farm-girl comes out to feed 'im along with the rest, but a whoppin', big black game-cock drives 'im away breakfastless every time. Then, though it seems 'ard to believe, the beggar crows some more! After breakfast 'e goes off to mash some of the stuck-up hens, but then another rooster comes along and chews what's left of his moth-eaten comb, and generally makes a gory mess of 'im. Then 'e crows again."

"What about it?" "Well, about it? 'I'm hanged if I can see what the Josses' got to crow about! Can you?"—London Tit-Bits.

Forerunner of Revolution.

Furious driving was one of the charges brought against the French aristocracy at the revolution. Said Mercer: "In Paris the people are weak, pallid, stunted, a class apart from other classes in the state. The rich and the great who possess equipages enjoy the privilege of crushing them or of mutilating them in the streets. Hundreds of victims die annually under the carriage wheels."

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WORTHY OF GREAT FATHER

Miss Helen Gladstone a Leader of Her Sex, as William Ewart Was in His Day.

Miss Helen Gladstone, who is the youngest daughter of the famous statesman, has always been recognized by her friends as a decided chip of the old block. She came into the limelight recently by denouncing one of England's most cherished institutions, the bazar, and her words have been quoted from one end of the country to the other.

Miss Gladstone makes her home at Haxford now, but until very lately she has lived at the Woman's University Settlement in Southwark and worked among the poor.

Once Miss Gladstone had an offer of marriage from an old man who was an inmate of a common lodging house. "I shall be only too glad to do it," he said, "provided you can satisfy me that you have sufficient means."

Another joke Miss Gladstone tells upon herself is that in the course of her visiting she was asked by a burton housewife how many children she had. Miss Gladstone replied that she was not married. "Well," was the candid reply, "it is time you were."

As a public speaker Miss Gladstone is the greatest sort of a success and frantic efforts have been made to persuade her to work for the suffrage, but so far they have been unavailing.

OWED SUCCESS TO LAZINESS

And If Truth Were Known, Many Other Patents Have Had Much the Same Origin.

An Indianapolis lawyer who knew the late Tom L. Johnson of Cleveland, and formerly of Indianapolis, said the other day that Mr. Johnson really owed his success to "laziness."

"He made his money in the street car business," said this man, who, as a lawyer practicing here while Mr. Johnson was in charge of the local street car company a few years ago, knew him intimately. "His first street car connection was in Louisville, Ky. There he had the job of taking the nickels out of the cars on each trip. The cars had no conductors and the passengers were required to drop their nickels in a box. It was the boy Tom's job to take the nickels out at the end of each run.

"He concluded this was a good deal of trouble, so he invented a carfare box with sliding traps in it so that the nickels could not be removed when once in and that would also register the number of fares. This made it possible to take the fares up twice a day in place of on every trip, and, more important a little later, it gave the young Johnson his start, for he patented the device and made enough money out of the patent to get a start in the street car business. He said he thought of the box because it was so much trouble to walk out into the street and empty the fare box every trip a car made, so his patent was born of 'laziness.'—Indianapolis Star.

Gnat's Bite Causes Loss of Leg.

How dangerous the bite of an ordinary gnat may be under special circumstances even when the best medical assistance is at hand is shown by the case of the wife of one of the leading surgeons of Vienna. This lady was bitten on the ankle while taking tea on the terrace of her suburban villa a few days ago. Inflammation began on the next day, and despite local treatment increased so rapidly that one day later a surgical incision was made. This had to be repeated on the next day under chloroform. General blood poisoning had, however, set in, and a consultation of doctors finally decided that the only chance of saving the lady's life was to amputate the leg above the knee. The operation was performed six days after the bite, but the lady is still in considerable danger. It is supposed that the gnat must have been infected with some putrid matter.

City Vs. Country.

"I'm glad spring's coming, so I can live out in the country again," remarked a man on the car. "Now I'll get a chance to read the papers and magazines again and know what's going on in the world. I feel ashamed of myself for being as poorly informed as I am."

Indelicate.

Washington's cosmopolitan society contains many members whose dollars came too late to supply the advantages of early education. An illustration of this occurred last winter, at a dance given by one of the capital's most opulent dowagers. The lady's debutante daughter appeared in the ball room in an ultra décollete gown.

"Isn't it rather imprudent for your daughter to wear so low a gown on so cold a night?" remarked a "catty" young matron. "She's quite delicate, isn't she?"

"Mercy, no!" exclaimed the mother of the fair bed. "She's one of the most indelicate girls you ever saw."

"Yes; I observe she's dancing the grisly bear," said the young matron with incisive awesiveness.

AWAY WITH THE MULBERRY!

Sage of Emporia Savagely Asserts that the Tree is Not What It Once Was.

"There are scores of mulberry trees in Emporia, and through most of the year they do the part of well behaved trees, spreading their grateful shade and adding to the beauty of streets and parkings.

But at this season the mulberry tree is a nuisance, says the Emporia Gazette, for its ripening fruit, no longer esteemed as food for man for the reason that it is alive with bugs, drops thousands of flies to feast on the juicy sweetness. The birds enjoy the berries, too, and friends of the birds like to see them help themselves, but the fly pest is so much greater than any possible good that can come from the trees that the Gazette would like to see every mulberry tree in Emporia converted into stove wood.

Mulberry trees bordering the sidewalks drop their fruit on to the walks and people must walk through the sticky, juicy mass—it soon becomes a mess—and the popular white shoes of women and girls are stained and soiled. The walks are discolored, too, and more than one scrubbing is required to remove the stain of crushed mulberries.

Whether the bugs that now infest mulberries were in them in the early days when the berries, combined with gooseberries or other acid fruit, furnished much of the "pie timber" and "sauce" for the old sets is not known. But if the bugs were in the berries then, think of the millions of harmless bugs those people in the early days must have consumed.

And the berries were eaten raw as well as cooked, so there is no consolation in thinking that perhaps the bugs were dead before eating. Probably no one eats mulberries now, and while to cut down the trees would in some cases deprive people of shade they could soon be replaced by elms and the fly pest would be done away with so far as the mulberry is concerned.

GRADING THE SINS OF MEN

Women of Paris Submit a Long List Beginning With Egoism as the Root of All.

A Paris newspaper, the Femina, put the following question to its women readers recently: "What do you think—grading the sins in order of importance—were the ten principal failings of men?"

The majority of the women said egoism was man's most besetting sin. And what is egoism? It is simple and unadulterated selfishness; and that is man's chief fault, according to the women. And then these faults come next in the answers—infidelity, jealousy, impatience, cowardice. That is so—selfishness is the taproot of them all. They are all logically connected.

Following these five leading sins, come, in the women's answers, immorality, despotism, temper, stupidity and idleness. It will be interesting to follow these answers in grading the sins, and pursuing the gradual descent from egoism to laziness.

It will be found that they preserve a natural order. For instance, infidelity follows egoism; cowardice follows impatience; despotism follows immorality, and idleness is just behind stupidity. The answers are interesting and just. The women know more about men's failings than men do. They know more than they let on.

Beginning of Big Industry.

The Pietermaritzburg (Natal) Corporation have just embarked on an enterprise which is being watched with interest. The enormous extent of town lands in the Zwartkop direction have been shown to be well adapted for wattle tree growing. The authorities have therefore decided to turn this land to account, for which purpose they have already cultivated about 1,000 acres under cultivation, and from all accounts the young trees are doing splendidly. The wattle tree is principally grown in Natal for its bark, the tannic properties of which are very valuable. Of late years a very big industry has been created in connection with this tree, and if Pietermaritzburg experiment is a success it should result in a considerable reduction of the city rates.

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