

MORGAN, JR., WELL EQUIPPED

Has Had Hard Training Under Father's Guidance, and is Showing Himself Worthy.

No boy, in being forced through the hard mill of apprenticeship, ever underwent more severe training than J. Pierpont Morgan, Jr., received at the hands of his father and his father's friends.

NOW "BIG SISTER" MOVEMENT

New York's Young Working Girls to Be Entertained, Helped and Wisely Advised.

Working on the theory that prevention is better than cure, the big sisters committee, which has just been appointed by the New York Mothers' club, will interest itself in the entertainments and amusements of working girls on their holidays and in young girls in the public schools.

The Big Sister movement has been patterned after the Big Brothers, though it cannot work along the same lines. Annually there are about 10,000 boys brought before the children's court to a scant thousand girls.

Trouble for Bachelor.

One of the firms that sell mailing lists to commercial houses in New York is causing a certain unmarried man no end of trouble. In some way they secured his name and got the impression that he had a wife.

Jew High in Catholic Church.

Cardinal Kohn certainly sounds odd. Still, it may be reserved to the twentieth century to bring us such a novelty," says the American Israelite.

Sure Flight of Blind Pigeon.

A flock of pigeons making headquarters in a court house is nothing unusual, but when a pigeon that is stone blind can find its way home to the cupola of a court house it is decidedly unusual.

Nevertheless it flits back and forth, as safe as you please, and it has never been known to miss getting in the right crack. It is stated that when flying for the cupola it flies up fifty or seventy-five feet in the air, circles around several times and then makes a bee line for the orifice as accurately as its mate that can see.

WINDING UP LITTLE DINNER

Decidedly "Unpleasant Detail" Which Most Had to Discuss with the Proprietor.

Two friends, one a prosperous-looking business man, and the other at least well-dressed, chanced to meet not long ago and the second gentleman remembered that it was his turn to "buy the dinner," so they were soon repairing to a fashionable restaurant.

When they felt that they really had to leave, or else pay rent, the host showed a bit of fidgetiness, and requested that the other go outside and wait for him, that there was an "unpleasant little detail" he wished to discuss with the proprietor and could not think of embarrassing his friend by having him overhear it.

He had been waiting only about five minutes, when of a sudden the door of the restaurant flew open, and his erstwhile host shot through it as from a catapult, followed by some most uncomplimentary terms.

"What's wrong?" was the first inquiry of the waiting friend.

"O, nothing much," was the answer, "except that the 'unpleasant little detail,' I had to discuss with the proprietor was that I had no money to pay for the dinners."

ABOVE HER MARKET VALUE

Husband's Decision Left Parisian Restaurateur Out the Price of One Good Dinner.

Paris is laughing at a well-known restaurateur.

Two men asked two ladies to lunch, and entertained them royally at his place. But when the lunch was over the men retired and were not seen again. The landlord arrived and asked about his bill. Until the gentlemen returned and settled, he declared, the ladies must remain in pawn.

The gentlemen showed no signs of returning. The bill for the royal entertainment was produced and amounted to \$12. One of the ladies had exactly \$6, paid up and was released. The other had not a penny and remained in pawn. But the landlord discovered that she was a married woman, the wife of a man who was not one of the two absconding entertainers, and he went to fetch the husband.

"Hullo! What are you doing here?" "Madam is in pawn," explained the landlord.

"In pawn! For how much?" "Six dollars."

"Too much; she's not worth it," said her husband. "Good-day." Thereupon the despairing restaurateur gave up all hope of his money and let the lady go.

Chess.

Football has its strenuous merits, golf its serene absorption, baseball its intricate charm, billiards its test of eye and wrist; and some games of cards test the memory and relax the spirits.

"Chess play is a good and witty exercise of the mind for some kind of men, and fit for such melancholy (ones), Rhais holds, as are idle and have extravagant, impudent thoughts, or (are) troubled with cares, nothing better to distract their mind, and alter their meditations, invented (some say) by the general of an army in a famine, to keep soldiers from musing; but if it proceed from overmuch study, in such a case it may do more harm than good; it is a game too troublesome for some men's brains, too full of anxiety, all out as bad as study; besides, it is a testy choleric game and very offensive to him that loatheth the mate."

Old Burton, we think, is too severe on the moral delinquencies of chess, but even he would not deny that its intelligence it is first with no competitor, in spite of the fact that Poe gave the first place to checkers. Intellectually it is king, and apparently will ever be.—Collier's.

A Robin and Its Home.

A correspondent whose home is an Ayrshire, Scotland rectory gives some interesting particulars of a robin which made a temporary home in an ivy plant at the entrance to the house. Visitors to the house had to pass within a few feet of his perch, but he took little or no notice. Next winter he returned to his old quarters. He arrived in December and left about the beginning of March.

He did not come this winter," says the writer, "in spite of hard weather, though he was frequently seen in the church and hall when doors and windows were opened on fine days. Last week, when the frost was at its keenest, I was returning home one evening at sunset, and on approaching the front door of the rectory a robin fluted round toward me and then perched on the church porch a few yards away. I purposely left the front door open, and on returning a little later great was my joy to find that robin had come back to us."

Fine Work.

"Note this exquisite Chinese carving!" said the man with a taste for oriental art. "Imagine the patience and digital dexterity it required."

ARE SMALL, BUT INTELLIGENT

Pygmies of Northwestern Rhodesia Surely May Be Called a Class Unto Themselves.

Of the pygmies of northwestern Rhodesia a modern traveler writes: "The Batwa stand about four feet high and are long-armed, short-legged and ugly, being usually prognathous. The legs are disproportionately short, the feet large and the body is covered with a sort of down. Both sexes affect a state of complete nudity. They have their own tongue, but usually know a little of the languages of their big neighbors. No attempt is made to till the open forest glades they depend for food on game and what they steal from the fields and plantations of the surrounding tribes."

Though there are seven different tribes of pygmies they appear to have no tribal organization. It is the custom for a group of families to attach themselves to a negro chief and in return for food to assist him to fight his enemies. The standard of morality of these little people is high and, strange to say, they are remarkably intelligent.

"The wild beasts living in this forest are killed for food, even the elephant. Pitfalls, snares and heavily weighted spears are used, but their favorite way of hunting an elephant appears to be with bow and arrow. Poisoned arrows are shot into him and the great beast is followed until he falls, when the little hunters camp round the body and feast on the carcass until it is finished."

COINAGE WITHOUT A FLAW

Assay Commission Finds Work of the Various Mints to Be Beyond Criticism.

The government of the United States no longer tests its coinage by having a congressman bite a silver dollar and then ring it on a bar, according to William B. McKinley, of the house of representatives for Illinois, who is in the city as a member of the annual assay commission, which began its work at the Philadelphia mint yesterday, says the Philadelphia Ledger.

The commission for the examination of the currency is appointed yearly by the president, and meets in this city. Among those on the committee is Dr. G. L. Shinn, of this city.

One coin selected at random is taken from every 1,000 issued by any of the four mints of the country and forwarded in a sealed envelope to the Philadelphia mint for examination by the assay commission in the second week of February of each year. The commission takes specimens at random, carefully weighs them and then assays them to get the fineness.

Asked if the commission was "finding many bad ones," Congressman McKinley replied, "not many." None that fell short from the permitted variations in weight or in fineness, which are infinitesimal, has been discovered in years.

Influence on Environment.

The parrot which belonged to the rich manufacturer sat in its gilded cage, contemplating a price-mark which had not yet been removed. Presently the magnate approached, and the bird looked at him. He had been on the witness stand that day in an important case, and was feeling rather elated over his successful testimony.

"Hello, Polly!" he greeted the bird, sticking his finger through the bars. "Hello!" responded Polly, ignoring the finger.

"Does Polly want a cracker?" The bird cocked its head to one side inquiringly. The magnate laughed at its manner. Possibly the bird had not quite understood the question.

"Does Polly want a cracker?" he repeated.

The bird still looked at him with slanting vision, but made no reply.

"Oh!" he laughed. "You're not hungry. Have you had your dinner?" "I don't remember," croaked the bird, and the magnate ordered the butler to remove it from the premises forthwith.—Lippincott's.

Aluminum in Textiles.

The increased facilities for extracting aluminum from clay have brought the price of that metal, which was once \$40 a pound, down to about 20 cents. Naturally it is being used more and in more various things than it was when the price was so high. One of the latest uses to which it has been put being the warp in textiles. These are used for evening cloaks and theatrical costumes. It makes the figure of a woman look as if it had been dipped in silver. Of course, the metal is drawn into very fine threads and is then used in the textile smooth or twisted.

Other things into which it is woven are neckcloths, pompadours, shoes, belts, neck ties, shawls, hats, etc. Aluminum yarn is now being woven into shoe strings for ladies' shoes.—The Pathfinder.

When He Shakes Off the Chains. "McGoosler, the first baseman, is puttin' up a big huller because baseball players are slaves."

"Is he? What's his salary?" "Thirty-five hundred."

"Well, if he quits being a slave he has his old profession to fall back on."

"What's that?" "Washing bottles in a pop factory at seven a week."

Fooling the Barber. "You didn't tell the barber you were in a hurry?" "No; I didn't want him to know it."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

PROPER CARE OF OLD GLASS

A Little Ammonia in Water is Good—Potato Skins Excellent to Clean Decanters.

Antique glass which does not require mending but is dim and lusterless may be made to shine and sparkle once more if it is washed in water to which a little ammonia has been added.

Soap-suds spell ruination to crystal-ware, while drying it with a duster only serves to dim it more. After having rinsed and left it to soak in ammonia water, using a soft brush if the glass is cut into facets and the dirt has caught in the squares, the article should be placed in a box and covered with sawdust. After an hour it will be found that the wood dust has dried the glass and given it a bright luster.

The old-fashioned cut crystal decanters which are so much used nowadays become almost hopelessly discolored when they have held old port or any wine which leaves a deposit. To clean them an old-fashioned remedy is that of finely chopped potato skins with which the decanter should be filled, and a cork inserted in the mouth in place of the stopper. This should be left for three days for the skins to ferment, when it should be well shaken, emptied and rinsed with clear water. The decanter should either be reversed and left to drain for a day or two or may be dried more expeditiously at the side of the stove.

BOTHWELL AND QUEEN MARY

Document, Had It Been Made Public, Would Have Changed Course of Three Lives.

Dunrobin castle, in Scotland, was the scene of a discovery a few years ago of a document relating to Mary Queen of Scots, which, had it seen the light when poor Mary Stuart was about to commit the crowning act of folly in marrying Bothwell, would have changed the whole aftercourse of her life. The document was the original dispensation granted by the Vatican to Lady Jane Gordon to enable her to marry her cousin, the earl of Bothwell. When the latter wanted to espouse his sovereign he declared his union with Lady Jane Gordon null and void on the ground of their relationship and obtained a divorce. The assumption is that Lady Bothwell was only too glad to get rid of the aristocratic background she called husband, for she must have had the dispensation, the production of which would have made her marriage valid and prevented Mary's taking place. That she had it is proved by its being found in the charter room at Dunrobin, where it had lain for three centuries and whither she doubtless brought it on her second marriage in 1573 to Alexander, earl of Sutherland, ancestor of the dukes of Sutherland.

Name of Clothes.

"Funny, isn't it," said the observant woman, "how our clothes are named. In some of them there is a sort of pretense that may please others, but it seems absurd to me. For instance, I have had a woman show me a coat and tell me how fine it would be for driving when neither I nor one in a hundred of her customers would ever get into a carriage. Then the motor veils: Just see how every woman rushes to get them. I suppose they will be selling thousands of aviation hats next. But if you don't realize how our clothes are named and the foolishness of it, just consider that at the same time a woman may wear a so-called tennis blouse, a sailor collar, walking shoes, a riding hat, a motor veil, a trotting shirt, a golf vest and a driving coat. And in spite of the complexity of sports she wouldn't look particularly incongruous, either."

Achieved Her Ambition.

Mary Ann had been Mrs. Gunther's cook and had left her service to marry Pat Mahone. A year later Mrs. Gunther heard that Mary Ann had not only become a widow, but was for the second time a joyful bride. It was therefore with a sense of shocked surprise that she met her former landlady in the deepest and darkest of widows' weeds.

"Why, Mary Ann!" exclaimed the lady, "I am sorry to see this—I thought that you were happily married again."

"'Tis true, I am," responded Mary Ann with great cheerfulness, "and the present husband is a fine man. But you see 'twas this way: When Pat died, I couldn't, but I says to myself, if ever I can I will—and now I am!"

Before the Drug Act.

"Before we had governmental inspection of drugs," said a chemist of Washington, "queer things used to happen. Here is one: 'A Washington man was taken violently ill, and his wife got him a box of six pills. He took three and recovered. The remainder of the box was put away in a damp closet. 'Some time later, going to the closet, the man found that two of the six pills left in the box had sprouted. A healthy green shoot had sprung from each. Instead, you see, of being six pills they were nothing but peas covered with a coat of flour.'"

Drawbacks in Politics. "Do you advise me to take up diplomacy as a career?" asked the young man who is politically ambitious.

"I don't believe I should," answered Senator Borghum; "the silence imposed is likely to spoil the statesman's form as a popular lecturer."

MIRACLE NOT TO BE DENIED

Rabbi Enjoyed Laugh on Skeptic Who Had Thought to Put Him "In a Hole."

A story is told of Rabbi Widrowitz, who is well known on the East side. A recently arrived skeptic and cynic came to see him once with a "case" intended to put the reverend gentleman "up a tree." He called on the rabbi at his residence on Henry street and begged to be healed and consoled.

"I suffer," said the skeptic, "from two maladies. I have a great weakness—I cannot tell the truth, and that burts my soul terribly. And I have lost the sense of taste in my mouth; something is wrong with my tongue."

Mr. Widrowitz studied the man a moment, seemed to be perplexed, and said: "Come again to-morrow. It is a difficult case. I shall have to reflect upon it. If God wills, I shall be able to help you."

When the patient returned next day the rabbi brought forth a pill he had prepared, told the doubly afflicted man to open his mouth and showed it in. The pill was of considerable size. Scarcely had the patient allowed it to dissolve somewhat in his mouth than he began to spit, with an expression of the greatest disgust and exclaimed: "What do you mean? That's tar and sulphur and kerosene you gave me. Do you want to poison me? Phui!"

"Well, what are you making so much noise about?" laughed the rabbi, with great heartiness. "Hasn't God performed a miracle? You have told the truth—it is really tar and sulphur and kerosene. And you have actually recovered the sense of taste in your mouth!"—New York Press.

NOT ALWAYS IN A MAJORITY

Superfluous Women "Conspicuous by Their Absence" in Many Cities of England.

According to the estimates of the census statisticians the superfluous women for whom the delegates to the national conference of women workers at Southsea tried to plan a happy future numbered 1,244,583 at the middle of the present year.

The problem of the superfluous woman by no means troubles every town. In Devonport, for instance, there are 881 women for every 1,000 men. In Barrow-in-Furness 828, and in Rhondda only 825, while the feminine element is in a minority in other important centers of industry—the city of London, Southwark, Woolwich, Poplar, Stepney, West Bromwich, St. Helen's, etc.

The superfluous woman makes her home in pleasant places—in health resorts on the south coast, in Bath, the city of fashion, and in the royal borough of Kensington, where there are 1,557 women to every 1,000 men. In Bournemouth the disparity between the sexes is even greater, the women numbering 1,799 to each 1,000 men.—London Daily Mail.

Free from Sin.

Among the many excuses for drinking one of the most convincing is that noted by Lord John Russell in the journal kept by his youthful travels in Spain. When visiting Plasencia he met a convivial ecclesiastic who expressed his astonishment that a scion of the aristocracy noted throughout Europe for their drinking prowess should prove so moderate in his potations. Lord John retorted that he had no desire to reach the six bottle standard set by some of his peers. His boon companion proceeded to rebuke him for his departure from sane tradition and concluded by remarking that "even on religious grounds you are wrong. For he who drinks well sleeps well. He who sleeps well sins not. And he who sins not shall be saved."

Within the Car.

"Fare." The passenger gave no heed. "Fare, please." "Still was the passenger oblivious." "By the ejaculatory term 'fare,'" said the conductor. "I imply no reference to the state of the weather, the complexion of the admirable blonde you observe in the contiguous seat, nor even to the quality of service vouchsafed by this philanthropic corporation. I merely allude, in a manner perhaps lacking in delicacy, but not in consciousness, to the monetary obligation set up by your presence in this car, a subject that without contemplating your celebrity with eulogistic you liquidate."

At this point the passenger emerged from his trance.—Tit-Bits.

Starting a Rubber Plant.

Rubber plants are usually started by a method known as mossing. A cut is made in a young branch and a wedge put in it to keep the surfaces apart. A bunch of sphagnum moss is then fastened around the stem over the cut, the moss being kept wet. As soon as the young roots appear on the outside of the moss the young branch is cut off and potted up.

Ficus elastica, the rubber plant of our houses, must produce seed in its home, tropical Asia, but it does not attain a size sufficient under cultivation in greenhouses to do so often.—St. Nicholas.

Ah, There, Munchausen!

Returned Explorer.—Yes, the cold was so intense at the pole we had to be very careful not to get our dogs. Miss Youngthing.—Indeed? Why was that?

Returned Explorer.—You see, their tails were frozen stiff, and if they wagged they would break off.

WOMEN OF THE REVOLUTION

Their Character and Intelligence Shown by the Way They Filled Their New Position.

"Taking them all in all, the revolutionary women grasped fully the ideas of her time, saw its vision and rose valiantly to meet its needs. She is a splendid type—a gallant lady from whom it is an honor to have descended. But after all is said, there is no truer test of her character and intelligence than the way she met the new ideas about her own position and rights which were born with the revolution. That upheaval, like the French revolution, gave a great impulse toward bigger living. The nation had taken a full breath and felt the stir of it in its veins. Everybody saw clearer, stepped higher, felt braver and dared more. Women, as men, shared the emotion and began to strain at their bonds. These bonds were real enough. Noble and understanding as this lady of '76 was in fact and recognized by the men of her day as being, in theory she was anything but that. She was a person of inferior mind, unable to master the strong meat of education without dangerous results to her reason, unfit to be trusted with the guardianship of her property or her children, lest both suffer, not to be allowed free speech in public lest her tongue run away with her and disorder and false doctrine be encouraged, not to be allowed to mix in the gatherings or deliberations of men lest her household, her manners and public morals suffer. The greatest men of New England are on record on these points, and the church and the law uphold them. Humility, charity, obedience, modesty, truthfulness, godliness—these were the qualities they demanded; and they got them. How weak human nature could attain these highest of virtues as perfectly as their wives did and still be as weak and untrustworthy in mind as they theoretically were never explained."—American Magazine.

WANTED A DIFFERENT KIND

"Eatin' Aigs" This Time, the Request Made by Boy to the Mortified Grocer.

The following good story, which illustrates the fact that fools and children tell the truth no matter how painful the consequences, is told by George A. Markham, probation officer in the Buffalo police court.

A dull-looking boy came into a small grocery store and stood in the middle of the floor awkwardly twisting his fingers until the attention of the grocer was attracted to him. The vendor of cabbage and canned goods finally approached him and rubbing his hands, inquired:

"Well, my good fellow, what can I do for you?"

"Ma sent me down to get some aigs."

"What kind of eggs do you wish?" inquired the grocer.

"I want eatin' aigs," exploded the lad.

"You don't quite understand what I mean," said the grocer as those present smiled. "What I meant was this—What priced eggs do you wish, the 32-cent kind or the 35 kind?"

"I knowed what you meant," responded the little fellow, "but the last aigs we got wa'n't eatin' aigs."

A Novel Thief Catcher.

The mystery surrounding many petty thefts in a Richmond (Ind.) power works was solved recently in a novel manner. For weeks employees had been missing money from their pockets, some person having rifled their clothing in the dressing room while the men were at work.

One of the men hit on a clever scheme to detect the thief. A high-tension electric light wire was connected with a bunch of keys and fastened to a pocket-book. This was placed in the pocket of one of the coats that hung on the wall. Several days passed before development, but one night the men heard a loud cry in the dressing room and on investigation found young man unconscious on the floor. He had touched the live wire in the pocket of the coat. There have been no thefts at the works since.

King Edward's Favorite Horse.

The report that Lord Marcus Beresford, who has long had charge of the king's racing stud, will shortly retire from that position recalls the fact when a favorite horse of the king's queen died its hoofs are cut off at polished and the horse's name is inscribed on each hoof.

How It Happened.

"Good for you, old chap! That's the first time I ever saw you make a ho run."

"Yes, it's the first hit for four ba I ever made. I'll tell you about it. I know I'm subject to Saint Vitus' dan Well, I had made up my mind not to strike at that ball, but one of paroxysms came on just then, and fore I knew what I was doing I lammed the ball to kingdom come."

New Geographical Distinction.

"Father," said little Rolio, "what the arctic circle?" "The arctic circle, my son, is to be had to keep to his room, but, if uncorroborated evidence."