

IN A LEGAL SENSE.

SQUIRE RENDERS AN OPINION AT LENGTH.

Hypothetical Question Looked at from Many Points of View and Finally Made Clear to the Mind.

Squire Aspinwall, who had been a justice of the peace so long that the wisest inhabitant could not remember the date of his appointment, was a man who always deliberated well before answering a question. He believed in weighing his words and looking at the matter from every standpoint before expressing a positive opinion for or against. It once took him 20 minutes to answer a man who had asked him how far it was from Pumpkin Center to New Brussels. The judgeboards gave the distance as four miles, but the squire was not willing to say offhand that they were right, although he admitted that four miles ought to be said to be approximately correct. One day somebody put this question to the squire:

"If you owned an apple tree which stood so near the line between your lot and your neighbor's that some of the limbs hung over the fence, would your neighbor have the right to pick the fruit which grew on the limbs that projected above his property?"

"Well," replied the squire, "that's a question that has to be considered in a great many ways, not sayin' that the legal standin' of the tree ain't clearly fixed by statute made and provided, but as for right and wrong there's some things to be said for and some against. Supposin' it wasn't the apple tree, but a horse belongin' to me that walked up to the line fence and stuck his head over. Would my neighbor have a right to claim the horse's head belongin' to him? If so, an' he got drest feedin' the head for nothin' he might put poison or somethin' in the grass and by killin' the head kill my part of the horse, too, whereas I couldn't do nothin' to him because he could claim that he only wanted to fill his part of the horse and didn't have nothin' agin my end, therefore, there would natchally be some doubts

when he comes over into my barn and lays his ears do the eggs aforesaid belong to me or have you the right to send before mentioned to come into my barn aforesaid and gather the said eggs to have and to hold for your heirs and assigns forever? Or if you owned a cow and she broke into my meadow and her calf was born there in the meadow aforesaid, would the calf belong to me or to you? and, furthermore, if the law decided that the calf belonged to me and you came and drove your cow home, lettin' my calf starve, could I sue you for damages? Which brings us back to the fruit tree. Sposin' the law said the fruit growin' on the limbs that hung over the fence into your yard belonged to you, and I done somethin' to the tree that would kill it, or sawed off the limbs that reached across the fence, could you get damages from me for destroyin' your property?"

"Or we might even put it another way, if the same bein' that you planted a watermelon seed in your garden and the vine grew through the fence into my yard and a melon grew on that end of it, and you seen that it was goin' to be mine when it got ripe and refused to hoe around the roots, and the vine there commenced to die could I get out mandamus to make you keep the weeds pulled and hoe around the vine so my melon would grow the nourishment it needed to grow big and git ripe? Or we might go even further and say that I owned a sheep and that my sheep aforesaid tried to break into your field and got stuck half way through the fence. Would you have the right to clip that part of the sheep aforesaid and sell the wool for your own profit? Therefore, we can only say that there are circumstances which being unforeseen leads to hypotheses that ain't strictly in accordance with the jurisprudence laid down for the cases that might, as it were, be held in abeyance."

Prayer. I have seen a lark rise from his bed of grass, and soaring upwards, sing as he rises, and hopes to get to heaven, and climb above the clouds; but the poor bird was beaten back by the loud sighings of an eastern wind, and his motion made irregular the inconsistent, descending more at every breath of the tempest, than it could recover by the vibration and frequent weightings of his wings, till the little creature was forced to sit down and pant, and stay till the storm was over, and then it made a prosperous flight, and did rise and sing, as if it had leaved mud and motion from an angel as he passed, sometimes through the air, about his ministrations here below. So is the prayer of a good man, Joseph Taylor.

Unwelcome Rice Throwing. Friend Mother, What are you doing with that rice? Mabel, We are playing at all weddings and Tommy knows rice all over here. Friend Mother, Oh, you needin' my eye that it's to bein' back to the bride. Mabel, But what he use to do was to be ridin' from.

A Way to Raise Money. Physician's Wife, I need a new evening dress. Physician, All right, my dear, I'll give you one, but I had some time how you can afford an operation on your feet.

OSTRICH FARMS DO WELL.

Dry Climate of the Southwest Favorable to the Industry.

El Paso, Tex.—Some of the accounts of ostrich farming in this country have been so glowing that the reader was left much in doubt as to their accuracy. The ostrich business is fairly prosperous, especially in the Salt River valley, Arizona, where 1,500 of the 2,200 ostriches in the country are now owned. This is a new line of animal industry for Americans and there is much to learn.

We have not thus far produced such fancy birds as have some of the more experienced breeders in South Africa, but the size seems to be increasing and the health of the birds is all that could be desired. So far serious ostrich diseases have not troubled the American raiser, even the so-called barring of the feathers has not been observed. Ostriches need a hot, dry climate, such as is found in the southwest. The rainy portion of the south is far less desirable, although this is sometimes mentioned as suitable for ostrich raising.

Alfalfa pasture is also essential, an acre of alfalfa will carry four ostriches, and which is of far more importance, will keep them in good health. Our American ostriches are now worth \$800 a pair at four years of age. No one should imagine that ostrich farming is a get-rich-quick scheme, for the birds are not ready for mating until they become four years old.

FORTUNE PAID FOR LUXURIES.

Goods Worth \$100,000,000 Purchased Abroad During 1906.

Washington.—Luxuries costing \$100,000,000 were purchased by the United States from abroad during the fiscal year 1906, according to tabulations of the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. These luxuries are classified as diamonds and other precious stones, of which \$41,000,000 worth were imported; lace, edgings, embroideries and ribbons, \$10,000,000; furs, natural and artificial, \$7,000,000; champagne, such as sparkling, white and black, \$6,000,000; cigars and cigarettes of the value of \$25,000,000 were imported.

This is more than double the amount spent abroad for such articles a decade ago. The largest increase in the list is said to be in diamonds, as the value in 1896 did not reach \$8,000,000. Opium for smoking of the value of \$1,250,000 was imported in the fiscal year just ended, compared with \$75,000 in 1896.

The bulk of things classed as luxuries, other than tobacco, came from Europe and the diamonds from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and France. Ninety-five per cent of the imported tobacco for cigar wrappers grew in Sumatra.

PLAN WORLD'S HORSE SHOW.

International Exhibition at London Projected for 1927.

New York.—A meeting of prominent horsemen called together by James T. Hyde, assistant secretary of the National Horse Show Association of America, to discuss the question of a proposed international horse show to be held in London June 7 to 13, inclusive, next year, took place here, the other day.

A committee consisting of Alfred G. Vanderbilt, John Gerken and James T. Hyde was appointed to select a suitable committee which will have charge of the arrangements so far as American exhibitors are concerned.

Mr. Hyde said that the American directors of the international horse show syndicate were Clarence H. Mackay, Alfred G. Vanderbilt and Reginald Vanderbilt, with Adam Beck, M. P., as the Canadian director.

The show will be held at the Olympia, which is in the West Kensington part of London and which Mr. Hyde described as being "twice as big as Madison Square garden."

SOLDIER LOVES HIS RIFLE.

Negro Sheds Tears as He Gives Up Gun Carried Twenty-Two Years.

El Reno, Okla.—"All right, sir, all right, sir," Lieut. Higgins, here it is," Charles Dade, an old negro soldier of company D of the Twenty-fifth infantry, made this remark as he turned in his rifle at Fort Reno after the general order to disarm the three disgraced companies of negro soldiers had been read by Maj. Charles W. Penrose. Dade handled the rifle carelessly, and as he passed it over to the officer he turned his face to hide his tears which fell upon the shining barrel of the gun.

"I can't just help it," he muttered apologetically to a comrade as he turned away. "I've been in the service 22 years, and it's hard to give up a gun that's almost like my own kin-folks."

WILL BREED ZEBROIDS

NEW YORKER TO EXPERIMENT ON A LARGE SCALE.

Financier Claims Cross Between Horse and Zebra Greatly Superior to Animal Now in Domestic Use.—His Purpose Explained.

New York.—From zebras which he has imported at great expense Warner M. Van Norden, president of the Van Norden Trust company of this city, entertains great hopes that the zebroid (as the hybrid offspring of the horse and zebra is called), will come to be generally and favorably known in this country.

"The zebroid," explained Mr. Van Norden the other day, "makes an excellent all around animal for domestic use and I hope to introduce it in this country. It is already used in South Africa, where it has given satisfaction. I cannot say just how speedy the zebroid will be but those I shall raise will be from the finest stock, especially suited for driving purposes. These animals are much more strong and vigorous than the horse and live about twice as long. They will rank with any of the horses in general use to-day and in value will range from \$800 to \$1,000. They will be very tough and able to endure twice the hardship the average horse can stand."

The parents, perhaps, of generations of American zebroids yet unborn are now contentedly munching hay in the barn at Mr. Van Norden's country place at Rye, N. Y., all unconscious of the weight of the responsibility resting upon their carefully groomed backs.

In temporary quarters in one barn are three zebras, said to be among the finest of their species ever brought to this country. One of them is declared to be a genuine Grevy's zebra from Abyssinia and this animal alone is valued by Mr. Van Norden at \$5,000. The other two zebras belong to what is known as the Bohmil class. Two more, equally as valuable as those now in Rye, have been captured for

Mr. Van Norden and will be shipped to this country early next spring. These animals are about six years old and, inasmuch as the life of the average zebra is about 50 years, they are as yet mere babies and are full of more life and tricks than young colts.

So much for the zebra parents of the zebroids. Their parents on the other side will range from a full-blooded Arabian mare down to little burro jennets, through a list of horse-flesh including plebeian, hackney and mustang.

The zebroids will owe their appearance in this country, however, not so much to Mr. Van Norden's desire to raise them for themselves alone as to his determination to solve the problem of telegony.

He is determined to demonstrate whether it is real, as breeders of blood stock assert, or whether it is a vagary of the breeder's mind, as scientists declare. Explaining the object of his undertaking, Mr. Van Norden said:

"All breeders believe in telegony. It has always been their claim that if a female animal is bred to one of a different species but of the same family and is afterward bred to one of her own species the second offspring will show resemblance to the first size." Opposed to the claim of the breeders is that of the scientists, who say there is no such thing as telegony and that the breeders are mistaken in their diagnosis.

"A man who stands near the head of the scientists in their contention that there is nothing in the breeders' fear of telegony is Prof. W. Ewart, of Edinburgh university, and for years he has conducted experiments to support the correctness of his theories. Prof. Ewart is now experimenting with pigeons and rabbits. He asserts that no one has ever gone into the subject of telegony in such a manner as clearly to demonstrate the truth or falsity of the many claims made concerning it. The experiments of Prof. Ewart and others have thrown some light on the subject, but there is still much to be learned."

Pays for Hole in Carpet. Jefferson City, Mo.—The state supreme court affirmed the decision of the trial court in awarding Mrs. Sallie Nephler, of Kansas City, \$5,000 for injuries received in a fall caused by catching her foot in a hole in a Kansas City theater carpet. The decision says: "This is a somewhat unusual case. A hole in a carpet is not ordinarily such a menace to either life or limb as would justify the court in assuming it to be dangerous to persons passing over it. The question of such character that the proprietors of the theater ought to have recognized it as a danger to their patrons and have guarded against it was a question of fact for the jury."

Order Girls from Matrimonial Club. Sterling, Ill.—"Please send us 20 marriageable girls from your club. We can place them to their advantage." While these are not the exact words, they express the spirit of a proposition received by the Girls' Matrimonial Club of Rock Falls from the Men's Club of Merry club of Nettlinger, Idaho. The girls' club was organized to vote on whom each member should marry. They maintain they did not form the club with a view to furnishing wives for the whole sale and to ship them out of the state. Similar propositions have been received from other western states, although this is the first job lot order sent to the club.

NEW TONGUE DUE TO PRAYER.

Lincoln Woman Speaks in Apparently Unknown Language.

Lincoln, Neb.—The gift of tongues promised in the scriptures has been granted to three members of the First Advent Christian church of Lincoln, according to the firm belief of the three persons so endowed, the pastor sent the congregation, which included about 100 members.

Mrs. C. C. Shumate is positive that the gift for which she has been praying for a number of weeks has been granted her. She arose in the meeting the other night and testified and sang hymns in the new language.

She does not understand the words which she utters, and university professors have been unable as yet to recognize it, though several intimate that it may be Sanskrit. It is noticed that the same sounds frequently recur and seem to be used consistently to express the same thought.

"I don't attempt to explain it," said Mrs. Shumate, "I only know that heaven has sent it upon me in answer to my earnest prayer of weeks. I was converted only a little more than a year ago, but ever since then I have longed to have the gift and I knew that I would get it if I was earnest enough and faithful enough."

Evangelistic services have been in progress in the little church and the pastor has encouraged his followers to pray for the gift that they desired, assuring them that an answer from heaven would be vouchsafed if they were earnest and faithful in their petitions.

The scripture verses on which the prayers were based are as follows: Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit—1 Corinthians, xii 4. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal—1 Corinthians, xii 7.

Another is given the working of miracles to another prophet to another discerning of spirits to another divers kinds of tongues, to another interpretation of tongues—1 Corinthians, xii 7.

Two persons besides Mrs. Shumate claim to have received the gift of additional languages.

MECHANICAL EAR INVENTED.

London Street Noises May Be Stopped in Near Future.

London.—Sir Edward Henry, commissioner of police, was recently chaffed at a dinner of automobilists the other evening regarding his inability to put a stop to street noises, particularly what has been described by angry motorists as the nerve racking whoop and whirr of London's automobiles. In reply he referred to the "mechanical ear" which would be completed shortly and put into use for recording the exact difference between the shriek of a siren and the chirp of a grasshopper.

The phonometer, or sound measurer, as it will probably be named, has been called into being by the autolub. It is the invention of an eminent scientist, who has appreciated the necessity of deciding definitely what are "undue street noises." This scientist has made a series of experiments after consultation with Sir Edward and Lord Rayleigh, at one time professor of experimental physics at Cambridge and author of works on the theory of sound.

An expert on acoustics on being asked what he thought about the matter said:

"Vibrations of air which carry sound have long been the subject of careful experiment. Many attempts have been made to standardize noise, but scientists have been baffled till now, when a mechanical ear, or phonometer, has been put in use. Information thus will be available so that a definite status of permissible noise will be set up."

CREMATES IN MORGUE FURNACE.

Coroner Says City Saves \$10 Burial Charge in Each Instance.

Columbus, O.—The announcement by Coroner Murphy that he probably will ask the county commissioners for a small crematory for the purpose of disposing of the bodies of unidentified infants, has brought to light that for some time the coroner has been cremating many infants in the furnace at the morgue.

Where it is necessary to bury an infant the county is charged \$10 for the service, and as there are about 25 such bodies in the course of a year this would mean an annual saving of upward of \$250.

A body found recently in Grant avenue proved too large for the furnace door, and it was necessary to bury it. It is believed by Dr. Murphy that the county could have a small crematory suitable for the purpose named built for a reasonable sum and that it would soon pay for itself in the saving to the county for burial expenses.

Windmill Chokes Farmer.

Newman Grove, Neb.—Merritt B. Otis, a farmer near here, was choked to death by a windmill. He mounted the tower to shut off the mill. When he started there was no wind and apparently no danger. He had barely reached the platform 53 feet above the ground when a breeze came, started the wheel. The collar of his coat was caught in the machinery, and he was drawn up. He shouted for assistance, and his wife, responding to his call, mounted the tower, but was unable to extricate him. Descending, she attempted to shut off the power. Falling again, she rushed to a telephone and summoned help. When neighbors reached the mill Otis was dead.

VERY LIKE THE ICE TRUST.

Attitude of Grasping Corporation and Thieving Waiter.

Mayor Brush, of Mount Vernon, had been describing to a visitor the municipal ice plant that, thanks chiefly to his work, Mount Vernon had set up. "Reproachful," said Mayor Brush, "Yes, it is a fact, the ice trust is reproaching sorrowfully the cities that, sick of its extortions, have at last set out to make their own ice."

"In this respect the ice trust reminds me of a certain waiter in a Parisian cafe."

"An American ordered at this cafe an hors d'oeuvre, agneau pre sale, artichoke salad, peche Melba, and so on, and when the waiter brought him a bill of 30 francs, he paid it like a man."

"After his change was brought, he counted it, and pushed a franc toward the waiter for a tip."

"But the man, pushing back the franc, said in gentle reproach: 'Pardon, monsieur, but that is the counterfeit franc.'"

LARGE RANCHES IN MEXICO.

Foreigners as Well as Natives Have Immense Holdings.

Ranches in Mexico are of no mean size. Ex-Gov. Terrazas of Chihuahua has 17,000,000 acres. The Zuloaga family is said to hold 5,000,000. Properties of 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 acres are not uncommon. Among the Americans who have large ranches may be mentioned Fleming & Ross, the Riverside Cattle company with 2,000,000 acres and a fine herd of Herefords; Phoebe Hagar, of California, who has a magnificent place west of Minaca, the Millers and three Mormon colonies. Gordon, Ironside & Ferriss, a Canadian company, have 1,000,000 acres. Lord Herford, a relative of the admiral, has a large ranch where he raises the horses, another Englishman named Ironside, owns a large property. Smaller places of from 50,000 acres upward are numerous. The price of land now runs from 50 to 75 cents gold per acre, with a strong tendency to rise.—Modern Mexico.

Waste Treasures.

"I have in my employ," said a dealer in autographs, "a number of celebrities' housemaids. Thanks to these young women I secure at nominal cost many an autographic gem. All I ask of the maids is that they ship me weekly the contents of their masters' waste baskets. They bale the stuff up in burlap and every Monday or Tuesday it comes to me by freight."

"I go over it carefully, making many finds. Here will be a begging letter from a famous author in hard luck. Here, in a brief note, a great actor will boast of his last success. Here will be a dinner invitation from a celebrated millionaire."

"Some celebrities, of course, save their valuable letters, and some read them. But the majority throw into the waste basket most of the mail they receive, and I, searching the baskets, contents every Monday morning, find my reward in many a letter worth \$10 or \$20."

Charting River Bottoms.

An ingenious apparatus for drawing the profile of a river bottom is used by Italian engineers. It consists of a wheel affixed to the bottom of a camera and rod, which is fastened vertically at the side of a boat in such a manner that as the boat advances up or down or across stream the wheel at the end of the rod runs continually upon the bottom of the river, and taking with variations of the level, by noting the depth at chosen intervals of time, the elements are obtained for tracing an accurate representation of all the sinuosities of the bottom of the river, and the variations of depth. In the saying of time this simple apparatus possesses an enormous advantage over the ordinary method of soundings.

Was Seesick for Home.

The sensation of homesickness has been variously described, but never more graphically than by a little girl who, miles away from home and mamma, sat heavily-eyed and silent at a hotel table.

"Aren't you hungry, dear?" asked her aunt, with whom she was traveling.

"No'm."

"Does your head ache?"

"No'm."

"What is the matter?"

The child's lip quivered as she replied in a tremulous tone: "I'm seasick for home."

The Changing Rose.

The changing rose is a plant to the cultivation of which the Japanese devote much attention. It produces a tiny but beautifully formed flower. On being taken suddenly out of a dark place into a sunny room it slowly assumes a pale pink hue, which gradually grows in intensity until it becomes of the deepest red shade. The color vanishes again at night or when the rose is replaced in a dark room.

Fond Recollections.

He—When I was going down the Rhine I promised that every time I drank a glass of wine I would think of you.

She (tenderly)—And how often you must have thought of me, Fritz, I can see by your nose! Die Muskatete.

Pretty Theater.

Friend—Well, did you have a good house last night? Manager—Oh, fine, but— Friend—Well, what more do you want? Manager—There wasn't any audience.—Cleveland Leader.

TESLA'S STRENGTH OF WILL.

Early Proved Possession of It to Remarkable Degree.

Nikola Tesla, the inventor, whose electrical apparatus is used in the transmission of power from Niagara falls, is a strikingly handsome man of 40—tall, dark, and typically Greek in features. His possesses strength of will to a remarkable degree, and in proof of the forcefulness of his nature the following story is told:

When a lad between nine and ten, his father, a priest of the Greek church, one day entertained Nikola and his sister with the story of how a martyr held his right hand in the fire and unflinchingly watched it until it was consumed.

The priest was full of admiration for the bishop's courageous act, but his son appeared unable to see anything particularly wonderful in such a performance. His father laughed good humoredly, whereupon the boy ran out of the room and returned with a small lamp. This he lighted, and then, holding his index finger in the flame, kept it there until the flesh began to burn. His audience begged him to desist, but it was not until the finger was almost charred that he withdrew it and blew out the light.

WHY THE SCARF PIN GIFTS?

The Hotel Clerk Laments a Lack of Human Ingenuity.

"I wonder why," mused the hotel clerk, as he dickered with his tie in front of a mirror fixed in the office. "I wonder why whenever anybody wants to give me a present he sends me a scarf pin? If I never wore a pin I could understand it. But I always wear one and sometimes when I look at the collection I have at home, I get desperate and want to wear half a dozen at a time. Guests who come here and receive courtesies always show their gratitude by sending me a scarf pin and, in a way, it's becoming embarrassing."

"For instance, one man gave me a wolf's head pin made of oxidized silver with rubies for the eyes. It was a beautiful pin. I could see people looking at it as I walk away when I was out, but one day I wore another and the man who gave me the wolf's head blew in from Chicago and was quite blunt. Now I never know what pin to wear. It just shows how wealth has its responsibilities."

Ancient European Universities.

While Harvard was dedicating its new medical school buildings the University of Aberdeen was celebrating the four hundredth anniversary of its foundation. Four hundred years, seems a very respectable antiquity to Americans, but in reality Aberdeen is among the younger of the distinguished European universities. Just when Cambridge was founded is a question for antiquarians to settle, but even if we doubt the accuracy of the statement that it dates as an organized seat of learning from the year 638, we know that it was the resort of scholars in those dim, dark days whose records are scanty chronicles. Oxford claims more than 1,000 years of authentic history and the University of Paris asserts seniority over Oxford. Bologna is almost twice the age of Aberdeen.

Needed No Opera Glasses.

The man employed under Superintendent Kirkland in removing the brown tail moths and nests from trees are furnished with cans of crescent, the cans in turn very much resembling a pair of field glasses, says the Boston Herald. One day Mr. Kirkland was accosted by a stranger who asked if he was the man who had charge of the work. Mr. Kirkland replied that he was.

"Well, don't you want to hire a man?" the stranger asked.

Mr. Kirkland replied that he did, asking him to give his references.

"Well," was the answer, "I can see them 'bugs' without them opera glasses."

A Printer's Pranks.

"I have played many a practical joke on writers in my time," said the veteran compositor. "My last joke was on a bishop. Studying the Russian revolution, he wrote from Moscow to a church paper a descriptive letter that ended:

"But I can write no more. The gorgeous domes of the city beckon me, and I go."

"I," said the veteran, with a loud laugh, "made 'domes' read 'dames'."

One Man's Wisdom.

Green—Who was it that said: "Let me make the songs of a nation, and I care not who makes its laws?"

Brown—I don't know the man's name, but he was a wise guy, all right.

Green—Because why?

Brown—Because it is possible to evade the laws, but one can't get away from the songs—especially when they become popular.

A Difference.

"The people I lived with before, ma'am," said the new cook, "wuz very plain."

"Well," asked her new employer, "are we not plain here?"

"Yes, ma'am, but in a different way. The others wuz plain in their way of livin', not in their looks, ma'am."

Not a Beauty.

Knox—Blinker's fiancée must have all kinds of money.

Hox—Are you acquainted with her?

Knox—No, but a friend of his pointed her out to me today.