DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS.

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Devil's River News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

MIKE MURPHY, Proprietor.

STEVE MURPHY Publisher.

Advertising Medium of the Stockman's Paradise.

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SONORA, TEXAS, January 11, 1913

BOOTH AS A BILLPOSTER.

An Engagement the Great Actor Once Played In Honolulu.

Edwin Booth once told a little company of his intimates that the most romantic, memorable and delightful engagement that he ever played in his life was one in which he was obliged to paste his own bills.

It was in the early years of his career, long before his famous hundred nights' run of "Hamlet" at the Winter Garden in New York and at a time when romance and enthusiasm were still young in his heart. He had played with varying success in many parts of the country, journeying even to San Francisco and the few camps in the gold bearing country that were large enough to supply him with audiences. Here he had done so well that he felt encouraged to try his fortune in still remoter climes and accordingly embarked from the Golden Gate for the Hawaiian Islands, where, in the Honolulu theater and under the direct patronage of the dark brown royalty that then held sway, he played an engagement to which he looked back in after years with much pleasure and satisfaction.

"But after the play was over," said Booth, "I found it necessary to climb down from the high plane of art to common ground and take steps to announce my repertory to the public. This was done almost entirely by way of posters, and I could not trust the job to the native boys, because they always ate the paste and threw away the bills. My actors would not do it because they were such eminent artists and thoroughbred gentlemen, so I had to do it myself. Many a time have I taken off the costume of Iago or Hamlet or Othello and gone out with a bucket of paste and a roll of paper to 'bill the town,' as we say here in America, for my next appearance."

Saved by a Cool Head.

Sir Andrew Clarke while traveling in Italy ascended a high tower one evening and found at the top another tourist, an Englishman. They chatted pleasantly for a few minutes when suddenly the stranger seized Sir Andrew by the shoulders and said quietly, "I am going to throw you over." The man was a maniac. The physician had only a moment in which to gather his thoughts, but that moment saved him. "Pooh!" he replied unconcernedly. "Anybody can throw a man off a tower. If we were on the ground you could not throw me up. That would be too difficult." "Yes, I could," retorted the maniac. "I could easily throw you up here from the ground. Let us go down, and I will do it." The descent was accordingly made, during which Sir Andrew managed to secure help and release himself from his perilous situation.

The Editor and the Tramp.

Bret Harte's first stories appeared in the San Francisco Overland Monthly. Then he was appointed editor of this magazine. That was in 1869. About this same period two or three weekly newspapers were struggling for existence.

One day the office boy went to the editor of the Soaring Eagle and said:

"There is a tramp at the door, and he says he has had nothing to eat for six days."

"Fetch him in," said the editor. "If we can find out how he does it we can run this blamed paper for another week!"

It Would Be Useless.

Mrs. Black's servant girl had been in the habit of going out to meet the grocer's boy when he came to the back door with goods. Observing this, Mrs. Black watched and saw the boy kiss Norah heartily. When the girl came in Mrs. Black said severely:

"Norah, I saw the grocer's boy kiss you this morning when you went out for the groceries. Hereafter I shall go myself."

"All right, mum," said Norah, "but 'twill do yez no good. He sez he won't kiss nobody but me."

Faith Cure Elephants.

The temple elephant in southern India is the object of great respect, for physical contact with him is supposed to do more good to the human body than the best medicine. Adult men and women warily feel his legs with their finger tips and press them reverently to their eyes, and ailing children are for a small consideration carried on his back the distance of a few strides that they may be cured.—Madras Mail.

He Understood.

"Walk right in, dear. Your supper's ready, your slippers are right where you can find them easily, and your pipe and tobacco are on the writing desk, handy for you."

"All right, Molly," groaned the tired, suspicious husband. "You can get that new dress tomorrow."

FARAWAY JUPITER.

There Are Practically No Seasons In That Distant Planet.

Taking the earth's mean distance from the sun at 92,796,950 miles, the mean distance of Jupiter from the sun will be 482,803,970 miles. The eccentricity of its elliptical orbit being .04825, its distance from the sun at perihelion is 459,507,760 miles and at aphelion 506,100,180 miles. Between its greatest and least distances, therefore, there is a difference of 46,592,420 miles, or about one-half the earth's mean distance from the sun. The inclination of Jupiter's orbit to the plane of the ecliptic being only 1 degree 18 minutes 41 seconds, or less than that of any of the other larger planets excepting Uranus, the planet never departs much from the ecliptic, and hence it was called by the ancients the "ecliptic planet." Its period of revolution round the sun is 11 years 314.8 days.

The inclination of its axis of rotation being nearly at right angles to the plane of its orbit, there are practically no seasons in this distant world, and the only variation in the heat and light at any point on its surface would be that due to the comparatively small variation in its distance from the sun referred to above. Its mean distance from the sun being 5.2028 times the earth's mean distance from the sun, it follows that the heat and light received by Jupiter are 27 times (5.2 squared) less than the earth receives. The amount of heat received from the sun by this planet is very small, and were it constituted like the earth its surface should be perpetually covered by frost and snow. Far from this being the case, the telescope shows its atmosphere to be in a state of constant and wonderful change.

These extraordinary changes cannot possibly be due to the solar heat, and they have suggested the idea that the planet may perhaps be in a redhot state, a miniature sun—in fact, glowing with inherent heat. The great brilliancy of its surface, the "albedo," as it is called, and its small density—less than that of the sun—are facts in favor of this hypothesis. As the attraction of Jupiter's enormous mass would render the materials near its center of much greater density than those near its surface, the latter must be considerably lighter than water and may possibly be in the gaseous state.

Insect Digestion.

Some insects digest their food first and eat it afterward. These insects are so built as to be able to take only liquid food, and they inject a digestive fluid into their prey and thus gradually dissolve it, sucking in the liquid so formed until nothing remains but the dry skin

PEPYS' FISH STORY.

And the Origin of the Expression "Tell It to the Marines."

The saying, "Tell it to the marines," is traced to Pepys, the author of the famous "Diary," and it is said by him to have originated with Charles II. of England.

'It so befell," as the story goes, "that his light hearted majesty, with an exceedingly bored expression on his swarthy face, was strolling in the shade with the ingenious Mr. Pepys, secretary to the admiralty. 'I had speech yester'en at Deptford,' said Mr. Pepys, 'with the captain of the Defryance, who hath lately returned from the Indies and told me the two most wonderful things that ever, I think, I did hear in my life.' Among the stories told were of fish flying in the air.

"'Fish flying in the air!' exclaimed his majesty. 'Ha, ha! A quaint conceit, which 'twere too good to spoil wi' keeping. What ho, sir'—he turned and beckoned the colonel, Sir William Killigrew of the newly raised maritime regiment of foot, who was following in close conversation with the Duke of York—'we would discourse with you on a matter touching your own element. What say you, colonel, to a man who swears he hath seen fishes to fly in the air?'

"'I should say, sire,' returned the sea soldier simply, 'that the man hath sailed in southern seas, for when your majesty's business carried me thither of late I did frequently observe more flying fish in one hour than the hairs of my head in number.'

"Old Rowley glanced narrowly at the colonel's frank, weather beaten face. Then, with a laugh, he turned to the secretary.

"'Mr. Pepys,' said he, 'from the very nature of their calling no class of our subjects can have so wide a knowledge of seas and lands as the officers and men of our loyal maritime regiment. Henceforth ere ever we cast doubts upon a tale that lacketh likelihood we will first tell it to the marines.'"

Why There Are So Many Smiths.

At the time of the adoption of surnames every artisan whose work required the striking blows on metal was known as a smiter or smith, and the community therefore had its blacksmith, whitesmith, goldsmith, silversmith, arrowsmith and several others of the same character. The number of Smiths of the present day may therefore be readily accounted for when we remember that each of the different kinds of smiths was as much entitled to the use of his trade name for a cognomen as any other artisan. John the blacksmith and John the coppersmith were both known as John the smith, an appellation which naturally resolved itself into the family name of John Smith.

A Tongue Twister.

Try it yourself, very slowly and carefully until you can say it easily; then pass it along to your friends. Here it is:

"She stood at the gate, welcoming him in."

Ten to one a person trying to pronounce the sentence for the first time will fumble it laughably. Tongue twisting sentences, however, are good elocutionary exercises. They give you control of your vocal organs so that you can enunciate properly, just as finger exercises on the piano or organ give control of the fingers. What an immense amount of mechanical practice does it require to establish anything like a close sympathy between the brain and the physical organs!

Mixed Metaphors.

Sir Robert Purvis, addressing his old constituents at Peterborough in defense of an act of parliament under whose operation some of them had gone to prison for a week, said: "That, gentlemen, is the marrow of the education act, and it will not be taken out by Dr. Clifford or anybody else. It is founded on a granite foundation, and it speaks in a voice not to be drowned by sectarian clamor." In an address to the Kaiser Wilhelm's father a Rhinelander mayor said, "No Austria, no Prussia, one only Germany. Such were the words the mouth of your imperial majesty has always had in its eye."

The Speed of Light.

Just think of it! Eleven times around this globe of ours in the space of sixty seconds! Can you imagine anything that moves with such remarkable speed? Sound travels only twelve and a half miles per minute and a rifle ball (if its speed were not diminished by resistance) sixteen and a half revolu- Light passes through a distance equal to seven and a half revolutions of the earth in one minute, but electricity travels so astonishingly fast that it is able to complete the circuit of the earth eleven and a half times in sixty seconds.

SPIRAL NEBULAE STUDIES.

They Point to Another Universe Beyond the Stars.

Since 1907 the writer has devoted a considerable part of his time to the spectroscopic observation of the spiral nebula, writes Dr. Edwin Arthur Fath in the Century. One result of this work was the discovery of fourteen absorption lines in the spectrum of the Andromeda nebula which corresponded, line for line, with absorption lines in the solar spectrum. A photograph of the spectrum of the sun taken with the same instrument looks precisely like that of this particular nebula.

This implies that the Andromeda nebula has the physical characteristics of the sun. The nebula is four times the apparent diameter of the sun. Its distance is not known, but a conservative estimate would place it among the nearer stars. If we make this assumption it places the nebula at least 10,000,000 times as far away as the sun is from the earth. Consequently its real dimensions are at least 40,000,000 times those of the sun. Since the diameter of the latter is 866,000 miles we obtain nearly 35,000,000,000,000 miles as the diameter of the nebula.

Now, this great body gives a solar spectrum. What does this mean? The simplest assumption considering its enormous size, appears to be that it is a vast assemblage of suns so far from us that no telescope has been able to show the suns separately. If it be true, however, that the nebula is so far away that its component stars cannot be distinguished, then it must be at a much greater distance than we first assumed. In other words, we must place it not among the stars, for these can be seen separately in the telescopes, but beyond the stars. This would make it another universe. Our own universe we shall call the Milky way, for there is good reason to believe that the stars which make up the Milky way as we see it, together with the other stars, form a single system.

What form has the Milky way? For many years there has been a theory that it, too, has a spiral arrangement, but not until very recently has there been much evidence in support of it. Recently, however, Professor Kapteyn, the great European astronomer, has brought forward evidence which points in this direction. Without going into the matter further, it can be said that we must at least recognize the possibility of our being a part of a vast spiral stellar system and having the privilege when we look at the Andromeda nebula, "to see oursel's as ithers see us."

Badly Placed.

Lawley (expert shorthand reporter)—I say, James, the boy from the newspaper office has called for the report of that lecture. Is it finished?

James (a novice)—All but a short sentence in the middle of it, and I can't for the life of me make out from my notes what it is.

Lawley—Oh, just put in "great applause" and let it go.

James acts on the suggestion, and the lecture is sent for publication with the doctored part reading, "Friends, I will detain you but a few moments longer." (Great applause.)—London Express.

Worth Having.

"Sir, I have a very personal business proposition to make to you, but before approaching that, would you care to make a statement of your financial condition?"

"Certainly. I have been established in this business for more than twenty-five years, my yearly income is well into the hundreds of thousands and constantly increasing, I have unlimited credit and also have real estate valued at a couple of millions. Go ahead!"

"That is quite satisfactory. Now may I ask for the hand of your daughter?"

The Marriage Knot.

A good deal is heard of the "marriage knot," but very few of us realize that the knot was ever anything more than a figure of speech. Among the Babylonians tying the knot was part of the marriage ceremony. The priest took a thread from the garment of the bride and another from that of the bridegroom and tied them into a knot, which he gave to the bride, thus symbolizing the binding nature of the union which now existed between herself and her husband.

Fixing Her Face.

She started, recoiled and then bent anxiously nearer her mirror.

"A wrinkle, as I'm alive!" she exclaimed.

She was of a buoyant temper, however.

"I suppose I'll have to put a good face on it," she said, reaching forthwith for the necessary materials.—Puck.

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MENINGITIS PREVENTION

Cleanliness Necessary as Precautionary Measure.

The following article on meningitis is published at the request of Mrs. O. B. Colquitt, president Texas Antituberculosis Association:

Because of its recent outbreaks in the Southern and Southwestern States epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis is a disease of a peculiar and vital interest to the general public.

The specific cause of epidemic meningitis is known to be the meningococcus, a very small "biscuit shaped" organism which is found in pairs. Although meningitis (which is, essentially an inflammation of the membrans surrounding the brain and spinal cord) may be caused by other bacteria, the epidemic form of the disease is always due to the meningococcus. This organism probably invades the human body by way of the nasopharynx. It is found in practically all cases in the cerebro-spinal fluid. Lumbar puncture or the withdrawal of fluid from the spinal canal by means of a needle introduced for this purpose, is used to obtain fluid for microscopic examination as well as for the relief of pressure and the introduction of serum.

The portal of entry of the meningococcus into the body is through the mucous membrane of the nasopharynx. From this location it probably enters the blood and lymph streams direct. Careful examination of the nose and throat of patients have shown the meningococcus present in a considerable proportion of cases. Since this is true it may be seen that the secretions of the nose and throat of meningitis patients may be highly infectious and the disease may be transmitted to other individuals directly by these secretions.

Coughing, sneezing and forced expirations cause the expulsion of small particles of mucous which may be inhaled by others and through the infection of their nose and throat meningitis may result.

In recent years it has been discovered that in epidemics of meningitis, as has been found true in diptheria epidemics, many individuals will be found who do not show any evidence of the disease yet show many of the bacteria in the secretions of the nose and throat. We speak of these individuals as "carriers" because, while they themselves are not ill, they may be the means of carrying the germ to others whose lowered bodily resistance, etc., may develop the disease. The patient is a source of danger because of the presence of the germs in the secretions; the carrier is much more dangerous because the radius of activity is greater. He is not confined to his bed, seen by only a few, but goes about his daily business and spreads the organisms as he goes. Many individuals who come in direct contact with the patient become carriers. They may not themselves contract the disease, but they may disseminate it. Also it has been shown that many who have not at any time come in contact, directly or indirectly, with patients show the meningococcus, in the nasopharynx. The number of carriers, then, is not restricted to those in the community who are in attendance upon or members of families in which cases of meningitis occur.

While meningitis is not an "air borne" disease and does not require possibly, the same restriction as some of the most contagious diseases, it is certainly desirable that definite steps be taken by the health authorities to see that all those who may contribute to the spread of the disease be under control. This would mean the reporting of all cases which are even suggestive to the local authorities. Rigid isolation of the patient and attendance should use throat sprays and gargles. Nurse should be placarded and all visitors excluded. Children of the family should not be sent to school unless they can be found to be free from the organisms and can change their residence.

If the number of cases in a given locality is sufficient to justify such measures, schools should be closed, public gatherings such as church services and theaters should be prohibited, every effort should be made toward thorough cleanliness both general and personal. It is scarcely necessary to say that the public drinking cup should be avoided. In this manner the direct transmission of organisms which occure so readily in places of public gatherings could be largely prevented.

Personal prophylaxis is of equal importance. That is, cleanliness of person as well as premises. The intestinal tract should be kept clean; constipation should be avoided. An infection of the nose or throat—an acute "cold"—may be the means of allowing the meningococcus entrance through a mucous membrane which had been resistant.

A drug which may be of much value is hexamethylenamin. This drug has been shown to be excreted, when taken in large doses, into the cerebro-spinal fluid. Wherever it is excreted it excrets a more or less definite germicidal action because of the fact that it is broken up in the body and formaldehyde is liberated. Since the organisms earley localize themselves in the covering of the brain and cord and the cerebro-spinal fluid, if sufficient formaldehyde can be gotten there to destroy them early, the disease might be aborted. The objection to this is that hexamethlenamine, given in sufficient dosage to excrete appreciable amount of formaldehyde in the cerebro-spinal fluid (the amount necessary being from one to three drams daily), often excites a violent irritation of the bladder and actual hemorrhage may even occur. On this account these large doses are out of the question for many individuals. In fact, the amount of hexamethylenamine which can be taken before this bladder irritation occur varies markedly in different individuals. Some show marked irritation on small doses while others take larger ones over long periods of time with seeming impunity. It should be remembered that the drug should be discontinued, at least temporarily, whenever frequent, painful urination occurs.

Fortunately, hexamethylenamin is not only excreted into the spinal fluid, but also through the nasal mucous membrane. This is true even when moderately small doses are taken, that is, from five to 10 grains three times daily, since the organisms gain entrance to the body through the nasal mucos membrane—the taking of hexamethylenamin should be of considerable service in liberating formaldehyde at this point and aiding in the destruction of the organisms.

A most important factor in personal prophylaxis is the nasal spray and the gargle. In this way direct application of antiseptic solution is made to the mucous membrane of the nose and throat. These applications to be effective must be thorough and must be done at frequent intervals. Alkaline sprays are probably the best, the ordinarly Dobell's solution being very satisfactory. A dilute peroxide of hydrogen solution and weak solution of carbolic acid are often used. Any of these should be followed by an oil spray as the frequent application of the watery solution leaves the mucous membrane bare of its normal thin coat of mucous and irritation occurs. Especially before going out in the cold air should the oil spray be used. The efficiency of the spray as a prophylactic measure is undoubted.

The use of antimeningitis serum in the treatment of the disease was first elaborated in this country by Flexner and his associates of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

The use of this serum consists of its introduction through a hollow needle into the spinal canal. The needle is introduced between the vertebrae in the "small of the back" and the fluid in the spinal canal which contains the organisms is drained off. After sufficient fluid is withdrawn the serum is introduced through the same needle. Here the serum comes in contact with the organisms and, by the "immune bodies" which it contains, destroys them.

Of the value of serum in the treatment of meningitis there can no longer be any question. All cases are not cured. In some the disease is so violent and so rapid in its course that no treament is of benefit. Upon former methods of treatment, however the proportion of cases; with the proper use of serum the death rate has dropped until in the recent epidemic in Dallas, the mortality rate was little above 25 per cent. Under former methods of treatment we could not expect over 25 per cent of recoveries; now we get 75 per cent.

Before the general use of serum deafness, paralysis, impaired intellect were all too frequent. With the use of serum these diseases are almost averted; their deaths was about 75 out of every 100 ocurrence is relatively rare.

A young lady arrived at the home of her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Martin of this city. She will remain there for a few weeks and then go with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Baker, to their ranch near Owensville where she will make her future home. Mother and son doing well.—Junction Citizen.

The Belligerent Critic's Revolt In London Theater.

George Bernard Shaw, writer cynical critic, Socialist and mischief making Irishman, was always unconventional in his dress, first from necessity and afterward from choice. He says that at one time "my clothes turned green, and I trimmed my cuffs to the quick with a scissors and wore my tall hat with the back part in front, so that the brim should not bend double when I took it off to an acquaintance."

Archibald Henderson in his "George Bernard Shaw" writes: "Despite the loyal protest of the secretary of the Fabian society, who once wrote me vehemently, asserting that Shaw always wore perfectly normal and conventional clothes, it must be admitted that Shaw has been associated throughout his life with queer sartorial tastes. The notorious velvet jacket which he wore during the days of his activity as a critic of the drama furnished the casus belli in Shaw's war with the theater managers. Shaw refused point blank to obey the ironclad regulation that occupants of stalls must wear evening clothes. The irrepressible conflict was precipitated one night when Shaw was stopped at the door of the theater by the attendant.

"'What do you object to?' asked Shaw; 'the velvet jacket?' The attendant nodded assent.

"'Very well,' exclaimed Shaw, no whit abashed, 'I will remove it.' And the next instant he was striding up the aisle in his shirt sleeves.

"'Here, that won't do!' shouted the attendant in great alarm, hurrying after Shaw and stopping him with great difficulty.

"'Won't do?' cried Shaw, with fine assumption of indignation. 'Do you think I am going to take off any more?'

"And with that he promptly redonned his velvet jacket and, turning on his heel, left the house. Shaw finally won the battle and enjoyed his triumph in face of the objection of managers and the indignation of the fashionable and wealthy theater goers."

Artist Ziem's Queer House.

Ziem, the artist, was a queer character. He lived in a house at the top of the Rue Lepic, on Montmartre. His house was his castle in the literal sense of the word. It was difficult to obtain admission, for the painter had an upper window out of which he always looked when the bell rang and interrogated his would be visitors. He had a basket which he let down by a cord to receive packages or messages, and he slept in a wonderful swinging bed. His house was a veritable museum, illuminated Persian manuscripts being part of his collection. Some of these were worth thousands of francs, but it was impossible to persuade him to sell any of them. In place of a newel post on his stairway stood the prow of a gilded gondola, and, closely immured in his studio, he painted pictures of Venice and bade defiance to all who came to disturb his peace.

A SURGICAL PROBLEM.

By the Aid of Wireless Telegraphy It Was Happily Solved.

A perplexing medical problem was picked up one day by the wireless man of the steamship Parismina while crossing the gulf of Mexico. A bad accident had befallen the patient and only a surgical operation could save his life.

The wireless call came from the island of Suma, well out of the path of regular ships and hopelessly far from any shore station. Here lived a small colony, Crusoe fashion, engaged in mining phosphates. An occasional tramp steamer was their only means of traveling to and from the mainland, and there was no doctor in less than a week's sail. A narrow gauge railway carried the phosphates from the mines to the coast, and one of the workmen, the wireless message ran, had been run over and his foot almost severed from his leg. Suma, luckily, had one modern convenience—a powerful wireless station—and this had flung the call for help far and wide across the gulf. The patient meanwhile was rapidly growing weaker from loss of blood.

The officers of the Parismina held a hasty consultation. The island was just 110 miles away and off the course, and it would mean loss of time and money to turn about.

"Leave this case to the wireless operator and me," said the ship's doctor.

A wireless message was thereupon sent out, signed by Dr. C. S. Carter of the Parismina, asking for all the details of the patient's condition. The commander of the ship, Captain Mader, added that he would call at the island if it proved absolutely necessary. All this was the work of but a few minutes. The doctor transferred his office to the wireless room in order to save time in communicating with his case. The reply came back directly. The toes were held only by a few ligaments, and the patient was weaker. His pulse was given and his temperature, then the doctor set to work.

A long wireless message told the amateur surgeons just how to prepare a strong antiseptic and wash the wound. This was done, and the island station "stood by" for further orders. A still longer message was then clicked off, describing just how to cut away the injured part and to bind the arteries with a ligature to prevent loss of blood. There was an anxious interval in the wireless booth awaiting the reply from Suma. The next message to the ship told that the hemorrhage had ceased and immediate danger was over.

There remained, however, the danger of infection, and the doctor of the Parismina directed that regular readings be made of the patient's temperature and his condition reported at frequent intervals. He was thus able to watch his patient closely for any symptoms of blood poisoning. The wireless treatment went on continuously until the steamer was 420 miles away, when Dr. Carter was able to dismiss the case.—Francis A. Collins in "The Wireless Man."

The Unexpected.

The automobilist had stopped at the humble cottage for a drink. On the table lay a penciled sketch. The stranger looked at it with interest.

"Why, that's quite good," he said.

"Our son drew it," the woman told him.

"Indeed! It certainly shows promise. The little fellow should be encouraged. I'd like to talk with him. Where is he? At school?"

"No, sir. He's in New York."

"In New York?"

"Yes, sir. He's been a magazine illustrator for ten years."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Her Suggestion.

Mamma—Well, Margie, what shall we call the baby?

Little Margie—Suppose we call her "Early," mamma.

Mamma—Why, dear, I never heard of such a name for a girl.

Little Margie—Well, I did. I read in a book about a little girl who wanted her mother to call her Early so she could be queen of the May.—Exchange.

Intimations.

No member of the British parliament is permitted to say bluntly and directly that another is drunk, but he may hint at the fact in periphrase, as when Mr. Gladstone, replying to an unconventional speech of Disraeli's, remarked, "The right honorable gentleman has evidently had access to sources of inspiration that are not open to me." A violent scene was caused in the parliament of Victoria, Australia, by a labor member saying of a legal colleague, "The honorable and learned gentleman was once called to the bar, and he has since gone frequently without being called." The angry barrister retorted, "You tea drinking skunk!" Eventually both withdrew and apologized.

Superstition of the Turks.

The superstition of the Turks is nowhere so apparent as in their fear of the "evil eye." Jugs placed around the edge of the roof or an old shoe filled with garlic and blue beets (blue glass balls or rings) is a sure guard against the illusion. Whenever a pretty child is playing upon the street the passersby will say, "Oh, what an ugly child!" for fear of inciting the evil spirit against its beauty. The peasant classes in Turkey are of course the most superstitious because they are the most ignorant. They have no education whatever and can neither read nor write.

His Last Name.

A gentleman once asked a lad what was his last name.

"Johnny," replied the boy.

"Well, what is your full name?"

"Johnny Brown, sir."

"Well, how can Johnny be your last name?"

"Because, sir, when I was born by name was Brown, and Johnny wasn't given to me until I was a month old."

Residence For Sale

Four roomed house and hall. Two galleries. Lot 100 x 140 near school house.

Apply to
G. G. Stephenson
40-tf. Sonora Texas.

For Sale.

A four roomed house corner lot 50 & 140 near school house. Price $750. Apply at news office.
31-tf

Notice to Trespassers

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on the Tyrrell Bros. ranch, also called the Bell Mayer ranch west of Sonora for the purpose of hunting, cutting timber, hauling wood, without our permission will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

I W Ellis & Sons
Means & Wilkinson
47 12 Sonora, Texas

Service Car

Ready any time day or night.
Phone 138.
John Clendenen.

For Service

Jersey bull Rolly Roseland Reg No. 101223. Terms $5.
J. A. Ward,
Phone 96 Sonora, Texas.

Lost Goats.

About Nov. 1 thirty head of goats from the Sparks ranch 18 miles southeast of Sonora. Marked; muttons half over crop right or left. Nannies swallow-fork either right or left. Branded reversed S on left jaw.

Sparks Bros.

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Edward T. Stringfellow.

Died at the G W Whitehead & Bro ranch in Val Verde county 30 miles south of Sonora on Wednesday, January 8, 1913, Edward T Stringfellow in his 75th year Interment was had in the Sonora Cemetery and was attended by a large number of friends.

Deceased was born in England, (place not known) March 16, 1838 He was a man of education and refinement and for many years traveled over West Texas as a photographer, before making the Whitehead ranch his home about 25 years ago. Unfortunately nothing is known of his family but all that could be done for him in his decline was administered to him in his last serious illness May his soul Rest in Peace.

Mrs John Sims returned Friday from a few days visit to relatives in Menard.

Bert DeWitt returned Saturday from a visit to friends in Fort Worth.

Miss Sadie Tillman returned Friday of last week from a visit to friends in Fort Worth.

Do you know that fully nine out of every ten cases of rheumatism are simply rheumatism of the muscles due to cold or damp, or chronic rheumatism, and require no internal treatment whatever? Apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely and see how quickly it gives relief For sale by all dealers Adv

W B Silliman lawyer, and banker of Eldorado was in Sonora a few days this week.

Oscar Latta of San Angelo and H. L Christaeen of Weatherford, were in Sonora Friday for a few hours on cattle business.

When given as soon as the croupy cough appears Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will ward off an attack of croup and prevent all danger and cause of anxiety. Thousands of mothers use it successfully. Sold by all dealers. Adv

Curt Mayfield and T. J Jarrott of the Juno country returned from Clifton Wednesday in Mr. Mayfields Ca land. The ladies and babies will return by train and will be met at Cometock by Mr. Mayfield.

Mrs Laura Decker has again assumed charge of the dining room of the Decker Hotel and her efforts will be offered to keep the service of her Hotel at its usual high standard.

She will continue to be in charge and will not again rent the Hotel to other parties.

Married

At the residence of the bride's parents, Mr and Mrs J C Lynn on West Prong Dec. 24, 1912 Miss Lucille Lynn and Mr. Jerry Ellis were united in marriage Rev Silliman officiating.

Then bride is a handsom young lady and has many friends who wish her all happiness and prosperity.

The groom in the son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W Ellis and was raised in this county where he is highly esteemed by all who know him

The young couple received many handsome presents from relatives and friends —Rocksprings Rustler.

A Farmer Wanted.

Apply to O T. Word, Sonora, Texas.

Subscriptions taken at the News office for all magazines or papers.

John D. Nogness delivered a a bunch of horses at Grandbury last week and on his return took in the New Years hop at Menard.

Mrs. W. D. Jones this week leased her ranch, which is located 14 miles east of Ozona, to Jim Craig, Sheriff of Schleicher county for a term of five years Possession to be taken immediately She also sold to Mr. Craig, 900 head of stock cattle, at $22 50 per head —Ozona Optimist.

Constipation is the caus of many ailments and disorders that make life miserable. Take Chamberlains Stomach and Liver Tablets, keep your bowels regular and you will avoid these diseases. For sale by all dealers.
Advertisement

Claude Keen of San Angelo was in Sonora this week in the interest of the C B Henderson Co.

J. M. Green of Mount Enterprise, has taken a position with the First National Bank.

Miss Ethel Williams of Schleicher county was the guest of Mrs. Cornell a few days this week.

Miss Harell of San Angelo is here on a visit to her sister Mrs Cornelius who is ill.

Notice to Trespassers.

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch 21 miles south of Sonora for the purpose of cutting timber, hauling wood, working live stock, hunting hogs or injurying fences, without my permission, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

D. B. CUSENBARY,
91 Sonora, Texas.

For Sale—I offer my house and lot situated in Sonora at a reasonable price for cash, if purchased at once. For further particulars, address.

Mrs. D. B Woodruff
R D 9, Box 20a. Dallas, Texas.
Advertisement

Bookkeeping. Shorthand— all allied subjects, the latest and best. Satisfaction guaranteed or tuition refunded. San Angelo Business College, San Angelo, Texas. 54

Alvin Joy

Alvin the 14 year son of Mr. and Mrs. Dock Joy, died at the home of his parents on the North Llano, Wednesday Jan. 8, 1913 Interment was had at the Cedar Hill Cemetery. The News extends its sympathy to the parents, family and relatives in their sorrow.

$100 Per Plate

was paid at a banquet to Henry Clay in New Orleans in 1842. Mighty costly for those with stomach trouble or indigestion) To day people every where use Dr Kings Life Pills for these troubles as well as liver, kidney and bowel disorders Easy, safe, sure. Only 25 cts. at Nathand Pharmacy—adv

Rev J. H. Adams, of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, by request will give his popular illustrated lecture, "The Light of the Cross", at the Methodist church Sunday 11 a. m. This lecture is calculated to be of interest and profit to both old and young, saved and unsaved, and you should come out and hear it. Everybody cordialy invited.

TILLMAN IS APPOINTED FRISCO LIVE STOCK AGENT.

E F Tillman has been appointed general live stock agent of the St Louis & San Francisco Railroad Co, and live stock headquarters has been moved from St Louis to Fort Worth. This is a wise move. Mr. Tillman has had nearly twenty years' experience in the railroad business and is thoroughly fitted for the new duties that have been assigned him. He came with the Fort Worth & Rio Grande Railroad, which was later absorbed by the Frisco, as station agent in the town of Granbury He remained in this position for only a year, however, after which he was transferred to Brownwood He was made commercial agent for the Frisco, but in a few years was transferred, this time to San Antonio as a live stock agent, and a few years ago he was removed to Fort Worth.—San Antonio Express

The promotion of Mr. Tillman to the General Live Stock Agency is good news to his many friends in the Sonora County. When assistant live stock agent at Brownwood he established the Frisco trail from Sonora to Brownwood which for many years was a source of revenue to the railway and a great benefit to the stockmen of the Sonora and country to the west. As general live stock agent Mr. Tillman will have charge of the work in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico and if will be surprising if he does not attract a large volumn of new business to the Frisco Co.

Mrs. Laura Decker has again assumed charge of the dining room of the Decker Hotel and her efforts will be offered to keep the service of her Hotel at its usual high standard.

She will continue to be in charge and will not again rent the Hotel to other parties.

THE ELECTRIC FUSE.

Its Flash and Smoke and Burning Out Mean Safety, Not Danger.

The flash, smoke and sometimes total darkness which accompany the burning out of an electric fuse are frequently the cause of considerable alarm to persons unfamiliar with the operation of this essential little device, which, like a charge of powder, achieves destruction in the performance of the act for which it is created. In effect the fuse is a safety valve, serving the same end as the steam safety valve—relieving a dangerous pressure—and the flash and smoke are a sign of relief, not of present danger.

The "fuse" is simply a short section of wire of such material and size that it will carry a determined amount of electric current and no more. When the maximum voltage is exceeded the fuse is consumed, the connection broken and the current, of course, cut off, putting a stop to the operation of the system until a new fuse is put in. This is the effective but somewhat primitive form of electric safety valve in general use.

A recently discovered property of some metals, such as aluminium and magnesium, however, makes it possible to construct an electric safety valve which possesses the advantage of that found upon the steam boiler —the ability to perform its functions without self destruction. If two aluminium plates be immersed in any one of various liquids and a current be sent through the combination the flow lasts only for a fraction of a second, for an insulating oxide is formed on the metal surfaces.

An increase in voltage causes a short resumption of flow and another stoppage due to a thickening of the insulating layer. This goes on until the current reaches 400 volts, when the insulation is permanently broken down. By coupling several cells in series this limiting voltage may be increased as desired. Thus a series of ten will not allow the current to pass freely below 4,000 volts. If such a series be connected to a transmission line at one end and to the earth at the other it will divert part of the current to the ground as soon as the voltage exceeds 4,000 and "close up" again when the pressure drops below this limit, thus acting precisely like the safety valve of a steam boiler.

This system is in use on transmission lines of high voltage, but for individual wiring systems the burnout fuse is still the accepted thing, and one or two will be found between every feed wire and the building which uses electric current for light or other purposes. If lightning strikes a feed wire the fuses will all be burned out and so prevent the lightning from passing into the buildings by means of the wires.—Harper's.

A Gentle Wish.

It was their honeymoon. They had moved into a pretty suburban house and were getting settled cozily at last.

"I have something for you," she said when he came home from the office.

"A present?"

"Yes. You have no night key, so I had one made for you. Here it is."

"That was very thoughtful of you. But how did you come to take so much trouble?"

"I wanted it as a kind of barometer. You'll let me look at it now and then, won't you?"

"Certainly."

"I'm not going to say you mustn't go out evenings, and I'm not going to sit up until you come home when you are out late. I only hope," she said coaxingly, "that every time I look at it the key will be a little bit rustier, and then I will know that home pleases you more than any other place."

A Phenomenal Appetite.

A Cardiffian who boasts a phenomenal appetite was offered a challenge and won it. The terms of the wager were that he must not leave a vestige of any food placed on the table. He swallowed three pounds of fat pork chops, two pounds of potatoes, two pounds of bread, a whole blackberry tart two feet in circumferance, one-half pound of cheese, a plate of watercress, four Spanish onions, and then asked for more! The meal was consumed without drink of any kind.—Cardiff Western Mail.

Java's Population.

Java is very thickly populated, and cultivation is pushed to an extraordinary distance up the steep slopes of the hills. The plain of Leles in the month of July "is one sea of ripe golden rice, with here and there a village of brown thatch roofs nestling in a group of green cocoanut trees." In the middle of the island white chimneys of sugar mills peep above miles and miles of sugarcane fields.

Mrs. Victoria E. A. Miers.

Mrs Victoria Evalyn Adelaid Miers, widow of the late Isaac Miers died at the home of her daughter Mrs. Theo Savell in Sonora Thursday night.

Interment was had at the Sonora Cemetery Friday evening.

Deceased was born in Painesville Ohio, December 11, 1841, and is survived by seven children Mrs Geo. Jackson of Oregon, Mrs. Chas. Markwood, Rodt, Wilburn and George Miers of Val Verde county. W. A Miers and Mrs. Theo Savell of Sutton county.

The pall bearers were E S. Briant, J. J North, Max Vander Stucken. R H. Martin, J. D. Lowrey.

The services were conducted by Rev. J. D. Worrell at the Methodist church.

The News extends its sympathy to the sorrowing family in their bereavement.

SOUND WAVES.

They Are Noiseless Until They Reach the Auditory Nerves.

All sound is noiseless. Deaf mutes live in a soundless world, because they have not the mechanical apparatus to register sound waves on the brain. Sound is only the vibration of the air, and these air waves are soundless in themselves.

Sound traveling through the air may be likened to a set of moving spheres all centered at the source of the sound. Of course these spheres are distorted more or less by various objects. When they strike the normal ear they are transmitted to the auditory nerve by the eardrum and a series of small bones and we "hear," or rather "read," the vibration.

Sound waves travel very slowly through the air, moving along at the rate of only 1,090 feet a second. They travel best through light and dry air, such as a cold winter morning. As light travels so much faster than sound (186,000 miles a second), one often sees a woodchopper raise his ax to his shoulder before the sound of the previous blow reaches the ears.

Sound may be reflected, the same as light. Echoes are produced in this way. The megaphone is a device to give direction to sound waves. When sound waves reach the ear at irregular intervals we call them "noise." When they arrive in regular order it is known as "music."

The human ear recognizes as sound any number of vibrations from sixteen to twenty per second to about 38,000 a second. Animals have keener ears, and some can detect as low as six vibrations a second. By this same rule all sounds exceeding 38,000 vibrations, and there are many, we cannot hear. High A of the tenor voice gives about 427 vibrations a second. The intensity of sound depends upon the violence of the waves beating upon the ear. Vibrations from cannon discharges are very slow, yet they crash against the ear with considerable force, producing a great volume of noise.

The telephone, as we know it, does not transmit sound. It would take sound waves one hour and eighteen minutes to travel between New York and Chicago, but as the sound waves are changed into electrical waves for transportation they travel with the same speed as light —186,000 miles a second. The speaking tube actually transmits sound waves.—New York Press.

One Woman's Way.

"Have you heard that Clara Brown was awfully deceived in her husband?"

"Good gracious, no! Well, I'm not surprised. I guess you'll remember I said I never liked his looks."

"That's funny. Why, you said you were sure he was much too good for her."

"Mercy! How could you have misunderstood me? I said she was much too good for him."

"Well, Clara married him supposing he was a bookkeeper, and now he turns out to be"—

"A bigamist?"

"A millionaire!"

"Land sakes!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Acting Naturally.

It often requires courage to be natural—a higher form of courage than that which marches behind the safe end of a gun. Moral courage which is not dependent on appearance or intimidated by custom is a finer quality than the daring of the speculator or the unflinching nerve of the soldier exposed to the fire of an enemy. It takes the best stamp of bravery to be true to oneself, and he who is loyal to the inner voice, who keeps faith with himself and maintains self respect, wins a victory in the battle of life. To live undaunted by the demands of unworthy conventionaliam is not to live in vain.

Notice to Trespassers.

Notice is hereby given that all trespassers on my ranch 6 miles south of Sonora, for the purpose of cutting timber, hauling wood or hunting hogs without my permission, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

56-tf J. T. Evans, Sr.

G W. Stephenson bought 300 head of mixed cattle from J. L Davis at private terms. Mr Stephenson expects to sell this bunch with in a few days.

C. B. Wardlaw and Chas White head bought from Fred Wilkens a 66 section ranch 27 miles west of Juno The ranch is improved with seven wells and the Oppenheimer springs. The individual land has all been bought and the school land prooved up. The consideration is in the neighborhood of $90,000. Wardlaw & Whitehead get possession June 1

H. H. Sparks former live stock agent for the Orient who now has a ranch 18 miles southeast of Sonora borght 1,150 three and four year old muttons in New Mexico They are big fellows, fat and with the wool on. They will be wintered on the ranch in the Sonora country.

Dock Simmons of Sonora sold cows fours and up, between 200 and 300 head to Bartholemew & Barfield at $26 This was a nice price but Mr. Simmons has been grading his stuff upward for many years and blood tells when selling time comes.

H. H. Sparks is back from Kansas City where he has been buying and selling in the stock yrads. This was Mr. Sparks occupation before becoming live stock agent for the Orient and while the scenes were familiar it took him some time to get accustomed to the first figure. He says he paid more and sold for higher prices than ever before in his experience on the K. C. market.

A. B. Cauthorn sold to [illegible] Smith 100 steer calves at $15.

J. T. Shurley of Sonora sold 2 mule colts to C. A. Bowie of Eldorado at $45

Holcomb & Gilbert of Sonora sold 23 mule colts to C. A. Bowie of Eldorado at $45

Medicines that aid nature are always most effectual. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy acts on this plan. It allays the cough, relieves the lungs, opeans the secretions and aids nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. Thousands have testified to its superior excellence. Sold by all dealers.—Adv.

Notice To Members Sonora Club.

The regular monthly Hop will be given by the Sonora Club in the club Hall on Friday night Jan. 24th 1913.

Admission cards will be mailed members before that date.

Please bring these cards with you. Fred Simmons, Sec't.

J. E Grimland bought H. [illegible] Allison's interest in the Grimland & Allison dry goods clothing and shoe business. Mr. Grimland may be found ready to serve you at the same old stand.

When buying a cough medicine for children bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is most effectual for colds, croup and whooping cough and that it contains no harmful drugs. For sale by all dealers.
Advertisement

Devil's River News

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

MIKE MURPHY, Proprietor.
STEVE MURPHY, Publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION $2 A YEAR IN ADVANCE
Entered at the Postoffice at Sonora, as second-class matter.

Sonora, Texas. - January 11, 1913.

TEXAS A DOUBLE TRACK STATE.

Commission Pleads for Better Railroad Service. Some Radical Improvements in Texas Roads are Needed.

Houston, Texas.—The Texas Welfare Commission in its report on Railroads and Railroad Securities makes the following plea for higher standards of service. Those who have suffered inconveniences in travel or have endured delays in movement of freight will readily appreciate the statement of the Commission:

"We are pleased to declare that the time has come in Texas when some of our most important railroads should construct second tracks.

"The passing of Texas out of the list of states characterized as capable of sustaining only single track lines will mark an epoch in her history. That time has come.

"And further the time has come when our public is entitled to and should demand higher standards in railroad service. The day for passenger trains that jogged and bumped along over high and low joint at a leisurely gait of fifteen miles an hour has passed; the day for interminable and unexplained delays while weary people sit in dusty stations hour after hour waiting, wondering and swearing, has passed. The day of lethargic freight handling has passed—Texas dare not content herself with a transportation system characterized by such defects while beyond her boundaries in every direction modern methods of transportation conducted on standards of efficiency, safety and speed such as the untravelled Texan never dreamed of on rates equally favorable to our own are affording to our sister states advantages in life and business that nothing in our situation otherwise will enable us to compete with.

"It is the opinion of your commission that the hour has come when in the name and behalf of Texas and for her prosperity and further progress radical changes for the better must be brought about in our Texas railroad situation. New lines must be constructed; old lines must be improved; additional yards, terminals, sidings and depots must be constructed. Safety signal devices should be installed particularly on side track lines; second track should be built; grades should be revised; wooden bridges should be superseded by steel and masonry; heavier rails should be laid.

WATER MOST VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL ASSET.

Enough Wasted Annually to Supply 6,000,000 Acres. Conservation Urged.

The cry of water arising from the arid regions of Texas has caused the Texas Welfare Commission to investigate the subject of irrigation.

The report of the commission shows that we now have 425,000 acres of land under irrigation in Texas today, and of this area 275,000 acres are in rice and 150,000 in general crops and the land is the most valuable in the state.

The report further states that ater is our most valuable agricultural asset. According to the report of the division of irrigation investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture, there is wasted into the Gulf of Mexico through the ordinary flow of the Trinity river each year upwards of four million acre feet of water, through the Brazos two million acre feet; through the Colorado one and one-half million acre feet through the Rio Grande five million acre feet, one-half of which we claim. Through these four streams at least ten million acre feet of water is each year lost to Texas which, if conserved, would serve as a supplemental supply of water to at least six million acres of land.

The commission finds millions of acres of fertile soil in southwest and west Texas land without an artificial supply of water that has very little value, and there is no section of the state in which the productive power of the soil will not be immensely increased if, when periods of scant rainfall occur, a supplementary water supply is available and applied. The area to be irrigated is only limited by the extent of the water supply. This supply may be drawn from the natural flow of streams, from their flood discharges by impounding in reservoirs, from artestian and from shallow wells.

The commission suggests a unity of effort between the federal and state governments in the solution of our irrigation problems. The federal government stands ready to spend dollar for dollar in this co-operative work with the state. It is hoped that a co-opcrative bill along this line may be enacted at the coming session of the legislature.

CAMERA PRIZES.

Negatives That Proved to Be Worth Thousands of Dollars.

Some photograph negatives have netted as much as $1,000 or even $2,000 each. These were backed, of course, by the enterprise and selling facilities of the photographic companies.

One Easter Sunday in New York a coterie of photographers maneuvered patiently in front of fashionable St. Bartholomew's to get views of various notables as they entered and left the church. The particular prize sought for was a photograph of the Vanderbilts, but while other people were easily recognized and freely snapshotted it seemed impossible even to identify the Vanderbilt carriage.

At last, long after the service had ended, only three carriages remained before the church—very modest ones, all of them—and several discouraged photographers picked up their cameras and walked away. One of them, looking back, saw the sole remaining man rapidly snapping views of an elderly lady and a girl, both quietly garbed, who were hastening from the church to one of the carriages.

"Who are they?" he shouted back as the carriage rolled away.

"I don't know," said the photographer, "but I got a 'hunch.'"

His 'hunch' proved correct. The girl was Gladys Vanderbilt, and when, only a few weeks later, he engagement to Count Szechenyi was announced this chance photograph, the only one available, was sold to leading dailies and illustrated weeklies the world over. It was worth more than a thousand dollars.

At the time of the Jamaica earthquake an American firm of photographers went to extraordinary expense to have a steamer change its course and land one of their men who happened to be aboard, at the scene of the great fatality. But even so the representative arrived too late to get the best views. An American magazine writer of an enterprising and commercial turn of mind, who also chanced to be on the spot, had gone about the ruined city and purchased every procurable negative that showed the effects of the earthquake. These he afterward sold for several thousand dollars.—Munsey's Magazine.

The Connection.

"The late Professor Corson of Cornell," said a Cornell instructor, "had little sympathy with the freakish philologists of the modern school.

"I once quoted to Professor Corson an extremely interesting and odd analogy that had just been suggested for a Celtic word. He smiled and said that the analogy was about as probable as that which linked fish scales to shingles.

"A little girl, he explained, once asked her mother:

"'Are scales fastened on fish like shingles on a roof?'

"'Yes, dear,' the mother answered.

"'They're put on that way, of course,' said the little girl, 'to keep the fish from leaking.'"—New York Tribune.

Calmed Her Fears.

A Paris contemporary recalls a story of Mme. Victor Hugo and her three children. One day she had bought them some fruit, but when the time came to distribute it Mme. Hugo discovered that some one had raided the dish considerably. She taxed the children with the peculation, but each stoutly denied the imputaion. The mother said, "Well, my dears, I don't mind your eating the apricots, but each has a stone, and if by chance either of you should have swallowed one you will be ill and perhaps die." "Oh, mamma, dear," said the youngest child, Adele, "don't be frightened. I have saved all the stones. They are in my pocket."

Just a Human Being.

Zeke was on trial for stealing Colonel Todd's chickens, and overwhelming testimony had been introduced by the prosecution. Called upon for his defense, Zeke said:

"Well, suh, jedge, y' see, it dissaway: Ef Colonel Todd wull keep dem coach an' chiny pullets, what has yaller laigs an' fedders down dey laigs, an' he keep dem in dat henhouse, which is smack on de alley, an' de henges jes' droppin' frum de do', an' he done fergit where is de padlock, y' can't blame me—I's jes' a hooman bein'!"—St. Paul Dispatch.

Her Interpretation.

"And he said he was willing to die for me?"

"Not exactly in those words, but that was the impression he was evidently trying to convey.

"What did he say?"

"He said he was ready to eat your cooking any time you said the word."—Houston Post.

GOOD NATURE IN JAPAN.

They Laugh at Things There That Would Irritate Us Here.

Japan has been called the Third Kingdom of Merry Dreams. Amusement is universal here, and, so far from its being true that "laughter is man's property alone," everybody laughs, except the solemn policeman. Men, women and children, even the very dogs, have a twinkle in their eyes as they stretch themselves out over the middle of the streets and seem to smile as the coolies pulling jinrikishas run around them, for a man would no more think of running over a dog's tail, if the dog did not move, than he would think of pinching his grandfather, and I have been almost jerked out of my jinrikisha by the sudden twist my men have made round the long tail which some lazy cur had stretched across the street. I saw a schoolboy steal up behind another schoolboy and hit him a tremendous thwack over the head with a heavy roll of paper he was carrying. Did the first one angrily threaten or attempt to "punch his head?" Not a bit. He turned round, and they both laughed heartily. Many a time my heart has been in my mouth as my two coolies have plunged headlong into a crowd intent on some street performance and it seemed impossible to avoid knocking down men and women and running over little children. But, no; the coolies raise a great shout, shove half the people one way and half the other, and, as the spokes of the wheels graze their shins and almost take the topknots off the little people, do they turn and hurl curses after us, as a crowd responds to such treatment anywhere else? Not they. They just burst out laughing.—Henry Norman, "The Real Japan."

Daddy Longlegs.

Most people are acquainted with the insect called "daddy longlegs" but not everybody knows that there is evidence to show that this strange little creature, towering high above its fellows on its thread-like stilts, is probably a more ancient inhabitant of America than any representative of the human species. Far back in tertiary time, at the very dawn of the modern world, its ancestors lived, we are told, in great numbers in that part of the continent which we call Colorado. The fossil remains of these insects show the characteristic features that mark them today, although new species have taken the place of the old. Even daddy longlegs knows what evolution is.

Willie's Sensible Answer.

The schoolmaster wanted to know whether the boys had an understanding of the functions of a British consulate. "Supposing," he began, framing his question in the likeliest way to arouse the interest of his hearers—"supposing some one took you up in an aeroplane and after a long, exciting flight dropped you down thousands of miles from home in a country quite foreign, what place would you seek out first of all?"

An eager hand was instantly uplifted.

"Well, Willie, what do you say?"

"Please, sir, the hospital."—London Tit-Bits.

Still In the Fifteenth Century.

In a little town in Bavaria there exists one of the most curious charitable foundations in the world. One of the burghers, Christopher Wanner, died in 1451, leaving his fortune to be devoted to the establishment of a home for aged poor. He stipulated in his will, however, that every old man who was taken in must wear his beard and the same cut of clothes and cap as he himself used to wear. Consequently, after the lapse of 460 years, the ancient pensioners are still to be seen wandering about the streets in the costumes of the fifteenth century.—New York Tribune.

Pertinent Advice.

A student noted for his carelessness in dress once approached Professor Simon Newcomb of Johns Hopkins university for advice. He was thinking of leaving college and going into business, having had a flattering offer.

"Now you know my case, professor," he said, "and if you were in my shoes what would you do?"

The professor looked very serious and replied:

"Black them, of course!"

The Way He Said It.

"I don't think my husband loves me any more."

"Why not?"

"The other day I said to him, John, if I should die would you get married again?' and he said he wouldn't."

"Isn't that all right?"

"Yes, but I wish you could have heard the positive way he said it."—Newark News.

THE TERROR OF THE TERROR.

He Was Very Agreeable In Society. Was M. de Robespierre.

Robespierre made the career for which he is infamous in a short space of five years. It was in 1789 that he arrived in Paris as deputy from Arras. It was in 1794 that he was guillotined.

When an enterprising spirit in Arras set up a Franklin lightning conductor there arose a popular outcry against the impiety. "What! Shall we rend the very lightnings from the hand of God?" exclaimed the terrified people. Robespierre defended science against superstition and won a verdict for the innovator. He was appointed a judge of the criminal court of Arras, but actually resigned his office rather than sentence a murderer to death.

His wants were few and his habits simple. He drank nothing but water. His only excess was in oranges. These he ate with strange voracity. His recreation was a solitary walk with his colossal mastiff, Brount, that nightly kept guard on the mat at his master's door.

A Monsieur Legrand, who was living in Paris in 1849 at an advanced age, boasted of his acquaintance with Robespierre. "He was very merry in society," said M. Legrand, speaking of the bilious patriot who died at the age of thirty-five. "He came into the parlor. I go up to him and say, 'Citizen Robespierre, you know, or you ought to know, that my kinsman—alas, he is condemned and tomorrow morning' (here a significant gesture imitative of the guillotine). 'A man, citizen, whose innocence is certain, for whom I can answer as for myself. And the life of an innocent man, citizen, is of some account.'

"Then he answers me: 'Let us see, let us see—what is your business?' (for he was very agreeable in society, was M. de Robespierre). I tell him the tale. Then he asks me, 'At what hour does your friend die?' (for he was very agreeable in society, was M. de Robespierre). 'Citizen,' I reply, 'at 9 o'clock precisely.' 'At 9 o'clock! That is unfortunate, for you know I work late, and as I go to bed late I rise late. I am much afraid I shall not be able to be up in time to save your friend, but we shall see' (for he was very agreeable in society, was M. de Robespierre."

After a short pause the old gentleman continued: "It appeared that M. de Robespierre had worked very hard that night, for my poor friend (here the guillotine again). But it is all the same. I am sure that if he had not worked so late he would have saved my poor friend, for he was very agreeable in society, was M. de Robespierre."—Indianapolis News.

The Mixture In Roumania.

Roumania is inhabited by a bewildering variety of races, but whether of Greek, Slav or Teutonic lineage the modern Roumanian makes it a point of honor to claim descent from the colonists whom Trajan planted in the conquered province of Dacia A. D. 107. Calling themselves Romuni and their language Romunic, the proud citizens seldom draw out a legal document without some allusion to their founder, whom they style "the divine Trajan." The Roumanian language reflects the composition of the race and now but faintly suggests the language which Trajan spoke.

Wooden Spoons.

A curious industry in Russia and one which nevertheless finds employment for thousands of men is that of making wooden spoons. In the district of Semenovsk, where they chiefly come from, no fewer than 7,000 men make a living at the trade. The spoons are generally made from birchwood, and a skilled workman can turn out several hundred a day. No fewer than 12,000,000 spoons are manufactured during the course of the year, which are sold at 6 to 8 rubles per thousand. They find a ready market, and penetrate as far as Persia, Khiva, Bokhara and Khokand.

Where the Argument Closed.

The discussion on the Darwinian theory had waxed pretty warm, and finally little Binks turned on the genial philosopher.

"Look me squarely in the eye and tell me if you really think we are descended from the ape!" he cried.

"What would be the use?" asked the genial philosopher. "It isn't your eye, but the shape of your head, that suggests the idea in your case, Binks."—Harper's.

An Infallible Sign.

A student in one of the colleges was writing on a paper in medical jurisprudence in which he was asked to enumerate the signs of death by drowning. After some more or less futile guesses he added: "But the surest sign of all is crape on the door!"—Short Stories.

HANNAH MORE.

The Unfortunate Love Story of a Famous English Writer.

Hannah More was born on Feb. 2, 1745, at Stapleton, in Gloucestershire, her father being the master of a school in the neighborhood. In 1757 her eldest sister, Mary, who was then twenty-one, with her sisters Elizabeth and Sarah, opened a ladies' school in Trinity street, Bristol, taking Hannah and her younger sister, Patty, who were then respectively twelve and ten years of age, as pupils. The school was a great success, and Hannah became a highly cultivated girl. Somewhere about the year 1767 she made the acquaintance of a Mr. Turner of Belmont. He was a wealthy bachelor, considerably older than herself and the owner of a fine estate near Flax Bourton, in Somersetshire. She is described as being at this time an exceedingly pretty girl, with delicate features and beautiful eyes. These characteristics she retained to the end of her life, as the portrait of her by Pickersgill in the national portrait gallery clearly shows. She became a constant visitor at Belmont and in due course of time received from Mr. Turner a proposal of marriage, which she accepted. She withdrew from her connection with the school and made all preparations for her wedding.

This, however, never took place. Three times was the day fixed and as often for some unintelligible reason postponed by Mr. Turner. His affection for her seems to have been sincere, but he was a man of a curious and rather gloomy disposition, and his strange conduct may possibly be referred to some mental perversity. At last her friends interfered and insisted on the engagement being broken off. Mr. Turner was very anxious to make a settlement upon her, and, though for some time she declined to entertain the proposal, she was finally persuaded by Sir James Stonehouse to accept an annuity of £200 a year. This unfortunate affair did not interfere with the friendship and respect which Mr. Turner continued to feel for her, and at his death he left her a legacy of £1,000. But it probably left its mark on her, and, though she subsequently received two offers of marriage, she declined them both.

The Advice of Experience.

It has sometimes been remarked by the student of child life that the only child learns to read sooner than the child belonging to a large family. There may or may not be psychological reasons for this, but the story of the small boy of five who was struggling with his alphabet blocks for the first time may be enlightening to those who wish for reasons. The small boy was really rather interested than otherwise in the large A that fulfilled its usual function of standing for an apple tree, but he had a brother who was nearly eight. "You leave 'em alone," advised the brother; "if you once begin to read you can never leave off."—London Chronicle.

The Opinion of an Expert.

Archibald, aged six, son of a south side family, newly arrived from a small town, is against automobiles first, last and all the time. He much prefers wagons. He explained his point of view to his mother the other day. It appeared that he had found motorcars useless for "hitchin' on" his little red cart. Said Archie:

"They ain't no good. They ain't no good place to hitch on and if you do hitch on they go so fast it pulls your hair an' if you stay on till it pulls yer hair they squirt stuff on you that makes yer clothes smell second handed." — Kansas City Journal.

Breaking It Gently.

Two very great friends, a Scotchman and an Englishman, met in the smoking room of a hotel, and the Englishman at once proceeded to monopolize the conversation, as he usually did.

The Scotchman bore it for a long time, then he broke in quietly:

"I say, old chap, I'll back you and me to tell more and bigger lies in half an hour than any other six men I know!"

He paused and then went on gently:

"And I wouldn't speak a single word the whole time!"—London Answers.

Tennyson's Gruffness.

Apropos of Tennyson's gruffness is a story repeated by the London Chronicle. Tennyson in his last days gave audience to an American, a friend of Longfellow and Lowell, who came armed with credentials. "I hope you don't write," was the cautious old poet's first remark. "No, my lord, and I don't talk," was the swift reply. This response set Tennyson at his ease, and he at least "talked" to his guest's vast contentment.