

Bellefonte, Pa., March 9, 1906.

PEPYS AS A PLAYGOER.

The Time When Women First Appeared on the English Stage. In the methods of producing plays Pepys' period of playgoing was coeval with many most important innovations which seriously affected the presentation of Shakespeare on the stage. The thief was the substitution of women for boys in female roles. During the first few months of Pepys' theatrical experience boys were still taking the womca's parts. That the practice survived in the first days of Charles II.'s reign we know from the well worn anecdote that when the king sent behind the scenes to inquire why the play of "Hamlet," which he had come to see, was so late in commencing he was answered that the queen was not yet shaved. But in the opening month of 1661, within five months of his first visit to a theater, the reign of the boys ended. On Jan. 3 of that year Pepys writes that he "first saw women come upon the stage." Next night he makes entry of a boy's performance of a woman's part, and that is the final record of boys masquerading as women in the English theater. I believe the practice now survives nowhere except in Japan. This mode of representation has always been a great puzzle to students of Elizabethan drama. It is difficult to imagine what boys in Shakespeare's day, if they were anything like boys of our own day, made of such parts as Lady Macbeth or Cleopatra. Before, however, Pepys saw Shakespeare's work on the stage

the usurpation of the boys was over. It was after the Restoration, too, that scenery, rich costume and scenic machinery became, to Pepys' delight, regular features of the theater. When the diarist saw "Hamlet" "done with scenes" for the first time he was most favorably impressed. Musical accompaniment was known to prerestora tion days, but the orchestra was now for the first time placed on the floor of the house in front of the stage instead of in a side gallery. The musical accompaniment of plays developed very rapidly, and the methods of opera were applied to many of Shakespeare's pieces, notably to "The Tempest" and "Macbeth."-From "Pepys and Shakespeare." by Sidney Lee, in Fortnightly

Review. POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

How soon we learn that the average man's bark is about al! there is to him. When people say anything good about you, ever notice what a few are pres-

We all of us claim to be natural, but we all of us know that the only time en we are not putting on is when we are asleep.

Somehow the hundred dollars some other man has always looks larger and as if it should go further than the hundred dollars you have.

There are not many sights more de pressing than to meet a farmer's wagon on a country road going out from

town with a coffin in it. When a man says he got up nine times with the baby six nights in succession it means that one night he woke up and heard his wife get up .-Atchison Globe.

Hawaiian Huckleberry. On the island of Hawaii are great thickets of the ohelo, or Hawailan huckleberry (Vaccinium reticulatum), which the natives consider sacred to Pele, the goddess who is supposed to preside over the famous crater of Kilauea, and which, together with white pigs and chickens, are thrown by them into the boiling red lake during an eruption to appease the wrath of the aggressive dame and thus cause the rivers of lava to cease flowing on their destructive course. These berries grow in clusters on low bushes right on the very brink of the brimstone beds and are so numerous that a bushel may be easily gathered in half an hour. In appear ance they somewhat resemble a cranberry, and the flavor is pleasantly suggestive of grapes.

The Word "Expire." "Expire" in its literal sense is breathing out. Inspiration and expiration to gether constitute respiration. Izaak Walton observed that "if the inspiring or expiring organ of any animal be stopt it suddenly dies." The Romans spoke of "breathing out" the breath of life instead of "dying," by way of euphemism, just as they said "Vixit" (he has lived) instead of "he is dead." In all languages the reluctance frankly to say "dead" or "die" appears; hence such words and phrases as "pass away," "decease," "demise," "the departed," "defunct," "the late," "no more," "if anything should happen to

Perpetuating the Species. There is a stringent law in Japan that when one camphor laurel is cut down another must be planted in its place. The tree is hardy and long lived, attaining to an enormous size. It is covered with a small leaf of a vivid green color. The seed, or berries, grow in clusters, resembling the black currant in size and appearance. And the wood is employed for every purpose, from cabinetmaking to shipbuilding.

He Guessed Right. "Ah, me," exclaimed Mrs. Nagget, "my shopping was most unsatisfactory today!"

"Huh," grunted Nagget; "trying to get something for nothing, I suppose!" "Yes, dear. I was after a birthday gift for you."-Philadelphia Press.

CLOTHES IN KOREA.

Changed According to the Calendar

and Not the Weather. A characteristic of the Koreans which has helped to their undoing as a nation was the fact that they were guided wholly by precedent. When a new situation presented they did not cope with it in the light of the day they were living, but were guided entirely by the old saws and the ancient maxims of wise men who had been dead a thousand years or so. A striking illustration of this national trait was furnished in the matter of their wearing apparel, which was changed according to an ancient calendar and without any regard to the temperature of the day.

Korea is a land of great extremes heat and cold, and the man who drafted the calendar by which all clothing is changed, though a Chinese sage, it is said, was not a success as a weather prophet, unless, as some maintain, the climate in the course of the hundreds of years which have elapsed has changed. When the calendar announces now begins the period of greatest cold the conservative Korean, although the air may be soft and balmy, pads out his white garments with six or seven thicknesses of cotton wadding, until the thin man becomes a fat man and the stout party swells up to such enormous size as to block up the streets when he walks, or, rather, rolls, abroad. Again, though spring and early summer may have come and the heat prevailing be almost tropical, the Korean swelters about in his wadded clothing in perspiring veneration of his hereditary calendar.-New York Herald.

TREACHEROUS RIVER BEDS.

mesteader's Outfit When Caught

In the Quicksands. The "mover's" wagon, canvas covered all their worldly goods, from furniture to poultry, is still a familiar sight on tolerate a horde of professional idlers." that jurks under that broad brimmed hat is a spark of the same fire that has been the theme of our history. By some stream under the cottonwoods of an evening you may sometimes see this own. Many of their words have taken half gypsy, and the fire, with its ac firm hold in a half slang, half permis or the song and accordion, will suggest as you drive by why the roving has always its fascinations

There are, however, the long dusty days of travel and sore backed horses, the occasional swollen fords, and always present, though seldom encountered, are the quicksands of the dry bottom streams. They are indistinguishable and silent. The shallow ribbons of water flow over them as over all the rest of the river bed, but once fairly in their grasp there is a remorseless, certain settling, which a struggle only hastens and which ends in an everlasting disappearance. Cattle and horses are caught in it oftenest, and, if seen in time, can be pulled out with a rope and horse, but into its hungry maw have gone horses, wagons and men, and even a locomotive, going through a bridge, has been known to disappear in this bottomless mystery .-Allen True in Outing.

Royal Gamblers.

The fascination which games of chance have exercised over gentle and simple is well illustrated in the description by Stow of the entertainment given by Henry Picard, mayor of London, in 1357, when the kings of France and Scotland, being prisoners in England, and the king of Cyprus on a visit to Edward III., the mayor "kept his hall against all comers that were willing to play at dice and hazard. The Lady Margaret, his wife, did keepe her chamber to the same intent." The mayor, having won 50 marks from the king of Cyprus, returned him the money, saying, "My lord and king, be not aggrieved, for I covet not your gold, but your play."-Chambers' Journal.

A Divided Sentiment. Little Agnes is twelve years old. She is a poetess. She has, maybe, a sense of humor and, positively, she did not like her stepmother. On the latter's birthday the youthful rhymer put forth all her powers to please the lady who had usurped her own mother's place. The quatrain ran as follows:

I thank you for your kindness, I thank you for your love And hope God will reward you By taking you above.

Her stepmother hardly knew whether this was to be taken prematurely or not. She supposed not.-New York Press.

Battles In the Sea. Fights between sharks and porpoises are said to be common in the waters around the Florida keys, and the fishermen thereabout declare that the porpoise always wins and sends the shark which usually begins the fight, scurrying away. The shark has to turn on its side to bite, and the nimble porpoise easily keeps out of reach of its snapping jaws and then jumps in and deals the shark tremendous slaps with its tail.

Worst Ever. "Yes, indeed; he's the homeliest man in public life today. Haven't you ever seen him?"

"No, but I've seen caricatures of "Oh, they flatter him. You should see him." - Catholic Standard and

Times.

A Great Detective. "You say he has grown whiskers since last you saw him?"

"How did you recognize him?" "By my umbrella."-Milwaukee Sen THE GYPSIES.

They Are a Separate People, a Tribe Quite by Themselves.

"Such as wake on the night and sleep on the day and haunt taverns and ale houses and no man wot from whence they come nor whither they go." So quaintly describes an old English statute against the gypsies. Ever since the year 1530, says a writer in the London Standard, Great Britain has tried to get rid of this strange people without appreciable success. Every year or so some county is up in arms against them, yet they persist in returning and apparently thrive under persecution.

The gypsies are popularly support to come originally from Egypt, as their name indicates, but their origin is traced farther east than the land of the Nile. Wherever they come from, they are a separate people, a tribe quite by

They appeared in England about 1505, and twenty-six years later Henry VIII. ordered them to leave the country in sixteen days, taking all their goods with them. "An outlandish people," he called them. The act was ineffectual, and in 1562 Elizabeth framed a still more stringent law, and many were hanged.

"But what numbers were executed." says one old writer, "yet notwithstanding, all would not prevaile, but they wandered as before, uppe and downe." They got into Scotland and became an intolerable nuisance. Both in that country and in England legislation proved quite ineffectual. The acts gradually fell into desuetude. Under George IV. all that was left of the ban against the gypsies was the mild law that any person "telling fortunes shall be deemed a rogue and a vagabond."

"Gypsies are no longer a proscribed class," says a recent writer. "Probably the modern gypsy does little evil beyond begging and petty theft, but his and travel worn, is always picturesque. determination not to work is as strong The traveling home for a family and as ever, and it seems curious that an western roads. The spirit of dissatis- How numerous the horde is may be faction and longing for newer fields gathered from the fact that the number who wintered in Surrey one year was

estimated at 10,000. The language as well as the life of the gypsy tribe has a tenacity of its companying smell of bacon and beans sibly way. Shaver is the gypsy word for child. Pal is pure gypsy. Codger means a man. Cutting up is gypsy for quarreling, and cove stands for "that fellow."

NOTES.

A note given by a minor is void. Notes bear interest only when so stated.

Altering a note in any manner by the holder makes it void. It is not legally necessary to say on

a note "for value received." If a note is lost or stolen it does not release the maker. He must pay If the time of payment of a note is not inserted it is held to be payable on demand.

Notes falling due Sunday or on a legal holiday must be paid on the day previous. A note obtained by fraud or from a

person in a state of intoxication cannot be collected. An indorser has a right of action

against all whose names were previously on a note indorsed by him. An indorser of a note is exempt from liability if not served with notice of its dishonor within twenty-four hours of its nonpayment.

"Yes, the Die Is Cast," has a romantic history. It was written by Colonel Paul Pestel of the Russian army, who, with others, conspired against the Russian government in 1826. The plot was discovered, he was arrested, imprisoned, tried and on July 11, 1826, was hanged. During the interval between his trial and execution he composed the words and music of this song and with a bit of iron scratched them on the wall of his cell, where the song was found some years after his death.

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Funeral Customs In Greece. Many funeral customs in Greece are unique. The body of an unmarried girl is always dressed as a bride, the commone saying being, "She is married to death." The body of a boy is always dressed as a sailor. Women never accompany funerals to church or to the graves. Processions are always on foot, the priest leading, accompanied by acolytes bearing the cross and lanterns. The body of the deceased is invariably exposed to view, and at the close of the service in the church, which concludes with the words, "Take the last kiss," both friends and strangers press about the body and give this token of fare-

The Test. We never know what we can do until we are put to the test by some great emergency or tremendous responsibility. When we feel that we are cut off from outside resources and must depend absolutely upon ourselves we can fight with all the force of desperation. -Success Magazine.

A Race of Genealogists. Some one said of the Welsh in the eighteenth century every old woman was a genealogist. This is still true. for no race is truer to type, more retentive of national characteristics.—London Outlook.

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