

RAISING CHURCH FUNDS.

The Kaffirs Mix in a Lot of Fun With Their Generosity.

The gentle Kaffir when he does become Christianized has his own ideas of the best method of raising funds for the support of the "cause."

"Recently I attended a native tea meeting, at which more than £12 was raised by this very poor congregation. Their way of doing it was characteristic and amusing."

THE SACRED CODFISH.

Famous Emblem That Adorns the Massachusetts Statehouse.

A codfish carved in wood hangs on the white mahogany wall of the Massachusetts hall of representatives in the statehouse in Boston.

The following account of its origin is given in a Boston paper: "Captain John Welch of Boston was the creator and carver of the celebrated fish."

A Fool's Identity.

Some of the best known people pass unrecognized by those to whom they should be known.

Sagacity of the Ancients.

Many quotations came from the works of Thales, the Greek philosopher and one of the seven wise men.

Where the Relief Would Be.

Dr. Story, the late principal of Glasgow university, taking a holiday in the country once, was met by the minister of the district, who remarked: "Hello, principal! You here? Why, you must come and relieve me for a day."

Coming and Going.

"What kick have you against married life?" "Well, if I don't keep my wife dressed in the height of fashion I have trouble with her, and if I do keep her dressed in the height of fashion I have trouble with her dressmaker."

Her Loss.

Glady's—Edith is so sorry she took Herbert's ring back to price it. Penelope—Why so? Gladys—Why, the jeweler said seeing Herbert hadn't been in to settle for it, as he promised, he

THE JAPANESE.

He is Child, Fanatic and Emotional Savage All in One.

He is a bundle of contradictions, and, measured by American standards, he is a bedlamite, straight from topsy turvy land.

We westerners have been taught to regard the little Jap as an amusing and precocious child given to obstructing sidewalk traffic with his pouting contests in kowtowing, to suspending from the branches of the cherry tree his dainty poems addressed to his friends and to dawdling for hours over the ceremonial tea, and when we see him under the tent flap, bowing and laughing and playing checkers, he seems a velvet pawed kitten in khaki.

We never know a character until we have seen it put to the test under stress—least of all the combination of sphinx and Janus known as the Japanese. So studied, the embattled brown boy strikes me as a strange compound of Little Lord Fauntleroy, Peter the Hermit and Sitting Bull—child, fanatic and emotionless savage, all in one.—Appleton's Magazine.

OLD VIOLINS.

Reasons Why Ancient Fiddles Are Better Than New.

Fabulous prices are sometimes paid for old violins, and many an enthusiastic musician would part with his last dollar to possess one of the masterpieces of Stradivarius or Guarneri—

The questioned superiority of these old and often battered instruments has been variously ascribed to the peculiar quality of the varnish used in their construction, to the elasticity of the wood employed and to the ripening and improving effects of age and long use.

It might at first thought be supposed that the same effect could be produced by giving an equal arching to a new instrument, but the effect, if attained, is not permanent, because with age the arching increases until too great a degree of rigidity is the result.—Philadelphia Record.

"Plugging" a Hotel Guest.

The hotel detective stepped out of the elevator and walked over to the counter.

"Well, I plugged him," he said. "Plugged him? Who? What for? Where did you hit him?" quickly asked a friend who was standing by.

"Didn't hit him anywhere. Just plugged the keyhole of his door. Never hear of plugging before? When we have a guest whom we suspect is getting ready to leave without settling or whose credit is exhausted and fails to settle up, we just wait till he leaves his room and plug the keyhole in his door. Then he has to settle up or leave his baggage. The plug fits over the end of a key. It is placed in the lock and turned. The key is then withdrawn, leaving the plug in the door."

An Oversight.

When Chapple got up the other morning he wandered around his apartments in his pretty pink pajamas, the very picture of woe.

"What's the matter, sir?" inquired his valet. "I don't know, Alphonse," he groaned. "I passed a most unhappy night."

"Oh, sir," he exclaimed, "I know what was the matter! The trouserlines of your pajamas were not creased. You must be more careful, sir. Those I had prepared for you were hanging across the foot of the bed."—Bohemian Magazine.

Cannae.

Cannae, where Hannibal won his greatest victory over the Romans, is situated on the opposite side of the peninsula from the city of Rome, on the river Aufidus and about six miles from its mouth.

The Worm Turned.

"Am I to understand, then," asked a disappointed poet as the editor handed back his latest productions, "that you do not like my verses?" "Yes, I don't think much."

World Regeneration.

The world will only be regenerated by degrees and by reform of human character, a task that will always and of necessity remain the task of each and every member of the human race.—Saturday Review.

Vanity.

Little Fred—Why is it that women are always complaining about their servants? Little Elsie—Oh, that's just to let people know they can afford to have 'em.—Chicago News.

Covetousness swells the principal to no purpose and lessens the use to all purposes.—Taylor.

BOOKS AND BINDINGS.

A Critic's Comparison of the Modern With the Ancient.

"One of the strangest things about the early printing is the fact that the paper and binding were so much better than we have nowadays," said a St. Louis collector.

"I have books on my shelves printed and bound by presumably reputable firms, and yet after six or eight years of careful use the paper is coming to pieces and the bindings are gone, while side by side with them are books 300 years old with paper intact and the bindings as good as new."

It was thought fit for use. Paper was hand-made of real linen rags. Now book leather is ready two or three weeks after the calf has been skinned. Paper is machine made of heaven knows what. Of course there may be honestly made paper and strong binding now, as there were then, but a couple of hundred years ago good binding and paper were the rule. Now they are the rare, also the costly, exceptions.

A COINCIDENCE.

Peculiar Combination of Events Related by Andrew Lang.

As to "the long arm of coincidence," it may be as long as is necessary. Nothing is impossible to coincidence. An instance of my own experience, said Andrew Lang, convinces me of this fact.

Bury Bartholomew out in the woods in a beautiful hole in the ground. In the afternoon I drove with a party of friends, and we took the refreshment of tea at a house where there were several other guests, all unknown to me even by name.

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