

One Man Who Thought Twenty Years Was Just a Starter.

"There's romance for you," said little Blinks, putting aside his morning paper. "This paper has a story of a college professor who met a beautiful girl twenty years ago, fell in love with her at first sight and then lost sight of her altogether. Now, after waiting for twenty years, he is rewarded by leading her to the altar as his bride. Just think of it, waiting twenty years for a wife!"

"What of it?" asked the genial philosopher. "There's nothing extraordinary about that. I've waited thirty-five years for mine."

"You? Waited thirty-five years? Why, I thought you'd been married that long!" said little Blinks.

"I have," said the genial philosopher. "That's how I know how long I've waited. I've waited for her to get her gloves on about three years. I've waited for her to change her hat about four years. I've waited while she said just one last word to the cook for at least five years. I've waited upstairs, I've waited downstairs, I've waited at church, I've waited at the theater, and I have waited in cabs, omnibuses, taxis, motorcars and the Lord knows what else besides. Fact is, Blinksy, I've waited so long, so often and so regularly that between you and me that little college professor of yours, with only one wait of twenty years, strikes me as a miserable little piker."

—Harper's Weekly.

The Word "Woebegone."

The word "woebegone" is an interesting survival of the far past. "Begone" here represents the past participle of the Anglo-Saxon verb "begin," to go around about, a word which has otherwise entirely disappeared from our vocabulary, but which has its analogies in such verbs as "beset" and "be-gird," in which the prefix "be" represents the modern preposition "by." A woebegone countenance is thus that of a man compassed about with woe, though perhaps it is most generally used in a somewhat slighting manner to imply that the appearance of grief is greater than the circumstances warrant. Thus it has partially undergone the same process of degeneration which has made "maudlin tears"—original tears of penitence from Mary Magdalene—bear a contemptuous meaning.—London Standard

The Admirable Korean.

With all his languor, the Korean is a particularly agreeable person. He is the polished gentleman in the setting of the savage. He is one of nature's cheerful spirits—a Mark Tapley who goes whistling through life despite the multiplication of his misfortunes. He is the victim of his own good nature and is content to sit unconcerned on his boundary fence and witness the robbery of his estates. It is a pleasure to visit Korea if only to meet the Korean himself, says the Japan Weekly Chronicle, for he is the happy-go-lucky, good tempered simpleton who unconsciously contributes to the pleasure of others.

Vanished Mountains.

It has been observed that in the neighborhood of great ranges of mountains the force of gravity is slighter than elsewhere, and the explanation is that the earth's crust is less dense beneath the places where it has been heaved up. Assuming this to be a general law, one authority points out that it is possible to discover where ancient mountains now worn away and leveled by the action of the elements once existed, because the density of the underlying rocks has not changed. France, it is thought, possessed one of these vanished ranges, running along the parallel of Bordeaux, for on that line there is a lessening of the force of gravity. A similar phenomenon occurs on the plains of southern Russia.—Harper's Weekly.

Unconscious Self Criticism.

Mr. X., the subeditor, was asked to write an article on superstition and imbecility. When the article was printed the opening sentence was found to be as follows: "That imbecility is not on the wane perusal of the following lines will amply demonstrate."—Paris Figaro.

No Encouragement.

The family had stood the long strain of Uncle Hobart's illness well, but the peculiarities of the physician chosen by Uncle Hobart himself had been, to say the least, trying. "Do you really think he will recover, Dr. Shaw?" asked the oldest sister of the invalid, who had borne with his vagaries patiently for years.

"I know how you feel, with Thanksgiving coming on, and all," said the doctor, peering at her from under his shaggy eyebrows, "but it's too soon to tell. He may get well, and then again he may not. I can't encourage you yet either way."—Youth's Companion.

A Model.

"Oh, no," declared the younger one, "my husband never goes to clubs or any other places of amusement unless he can take me with him." "Dear me! What a splendid man! How long have you been married?" "It'll be seven weeks next Tuesday."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A Reasonable Preference.

First Fair Invalid—Which kind of doctor do you prefer, the allopathic or the homeopathic? Second Fair Invalid—I prefer the sympathetic.—Pittsburgh Blatter.

The Explorers Forced Him to Lead Them to Water.

A party of explorers, four in number, were traveling across the sandy plains of Western Australia. They had been struggling on for weeks and were now greatly in need of water. Their two camels had not had any water to drink for nearly a fortnight.

After a time they came to a deserted camp hidden among some trees.

While they were looking at the still smoldering campfires they were startled by some dreadful yells, and a shower of spears, thrown by a number of black savages, came flying about them.

This made the travelers so angry that they rushed after the blacks, who fled in all directions. After a stern chase they found one of the savages up a tree. As he would not come down, one of the travelers climbed the tree after him.

Presently a branch of the tree gave way, and they both came tumbling down, but without hurting themselves much.

The travelers asked the black man where they could find some water, but he would not say.

Then they tried to get friendly with him and gave him some food. But, although he enjoyed the food, he would not tell them where water was to be found.

Then one of them had an idea.

He took some tinned meat, mixed into it a handful of salt and gave it to the hungry savage. The black soon cleared it up and seemed to enjoy it, much to the amusement of the travelers. Then they sat down and waited.

In about an hour the savage began to get fidgety and wanted to leave them, but they would not let him go. Presently he began to wail: "Water! Water!"

Jumping up, he ran to the denser part of the scrub, followed by the white men.

Clearing away some twigs, he revealed a hidden pool of clear water. That is the way the spring was discovered.

Ampere Dabbled in Mathematics at the Age of Three.

Ampere, who left his name to the science of electricity, was a child genius. At the age of three he had taught himself to count with the aid of pebbles and had found out for himself a good many of the theories of arithmetic. At this age he became very ill and was for three days denied food. At the end of the fast he was given a biscuit, but instead of eating it he broke it up into pieces to count with, an operation he considered more interesting.

He read everything with avidity. His mind did not run in one channel, and he welcomed every volume that came in his way. When he was ten or twelve years old he went to a library to ask for the works of a certain author. The librarian told him in amusement that the books were in Latin. The boy went home chagrined, for he did not know Latin, being a sickly child and held back from books as far as possible, but after six weeks he appeared again and told the librarian he had learned to read the books now.

Ampere is one of the few child prodigies who seems to have been sickly. He had fits from time to time, while most child wonders appear to have been physically normal in every respect.—Exchange.

Freaks of Language.

A peculiar kind of blundering known as "folk etymology" is responsible for some of the queerest freaks of language. An easy example will make this clear. Our American word "carryall" for a kind of vehicle is a compound of "carry" and "all," but a slight distortion of the French "carriole," a diminutive car. The change was made in obedience to the universal tendency to assimilate the unknown to the known, to make words mean something by associating them with others which they resemble in sound. Often there is no etymological relation between the words associated, as when sparrowgrass is made out of asparagus. This particular corruption was once in such good colloquial use that Walker, the lexicographer, wrote, "Sparrowgrass is so general that asparagus has an air of stiffness and pedantry."

His Critic.

What astonishes the visiting Briton most is the manner in which every kind of immigrant to the United States adapts himself to the prevailing ideas about Englishmen. In the course of conversation with the noble Italian who condescends to brighten shoes the visitor informed the bootblack that he was an Englishman—and Englishmen had a great respect for Italians and had entertained Garibaldi in grand style.

"Inglees! Ha, ha! Inglees!" said Diego in soft, musical tones. "Ha! They spic no good. Dey dropa da blatch!"—Exchange.

The Aged and Infirm One.

The Haldane family has always been noted in England for its famous walkers, and the present head of the family tells this story of one of his ancestors:

"This old gentleman, having been prayed for by a clergyman as 'thine aged and infirm servant,' immediately suggested a little walk with his surprised clerical friend. The latter consented, and the 'aged and infirm' Mr. Haldane took him for such a tremendously long walk that when the clergyman returned, utterly exhausted, he fell asleep and could only with difficulty be awakened to conduct a religious service.—London M. A. P.

Fate of the Resolution Instructing Him How to Vote.

Adlai Stevenson in "Something of Men I Have Known," commenting on Henry Clay, tells this anecdote:

Possibly since the foundation of the government no statesman has been so completely idolized by his friends and party as was Henry Clay. Words are meaningless when the attempt is made to express the idolatry of the Whigs of his own state for their great chieftain. For a lifetime he knew no rival. His wish was law to his followers. In the realm of party leadership a greater than he hath not appeared. At his last defeat for the presidency strong men wept bitter tears. When

his star set it was felt to be the signal for the dissolution of the great party of which he was the founder. In words worthy to be recalled, "when the tidings came like wailing over the state that Harry Percy's spur was cold the chivalrous felt somehow the world had grown commonplace."

The following incident along the line indicated may be considered characteristic. While Mr. Clay was a senator a resolution, in accordance with a some time custom, was introduced into the Kentucky house of representatives instructing the senators from that state to vote in favor of a certain bill then pending in congress. The resolution was in the act of passing

without opposition when a hitherto silent member from one of the mountain counties, springing to his feet, exclaimed, "Mr. Speaker, am I to understand that this legislature is undertaking to tell Henry Clay how to vote?" The speaker answered that such was the purport of the resolution. At which the member from the mountains, throwing up his arms, exclaimed, "Great heaven!" and sank into his seat. It is needless to add that the resolution was immediately rejected by unanimous vote.

The Better Part.

Mr. McNabber, says the London Mail, had just told his pastor that he was planning a trip to the Holy Land. "And whiles I'm there," he continued, "I'll read the Ten Commandments aloud frae the top o' Mount Sinai." "McNabber," replied the minister gravely, "tak my advice. Bide at hame an' keep them."

Helping Him On.

The Man—No; I don't suppose that I shall ever marry. I'm too shy, don't you know, and faint heart ne'er won fair lady." The Girl (helping him on)—But I'm not fair; I'm dark.—Illustrated Bits.

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READ DOWN STATIONS READ UP.

No 1 No 2 No 3 No 4 No 5 No 6 No 7 No 8

a. m. p. m. a. m. p. m. a. m. p. m. a. m. p. m. a. m. p. m. a. m. p. m.

17 05 6 55 9 20 BELLEFONTE 9 10 5 05 9 40

7 15 7 06 2 30 High 8 57 4 52 9 27

7 20 7 11 2 37 Lion 8 51 4 47 9 21

7 27 7 18 2 45 HECLA PARK 8 45 4 41 9 15

7 32 7 23 2 51 Dunkles 8 43 4 38 9 13

7 37 7 28 2 58 Hubersburg 8 39 4 34 9 09

7 40 7 30 2 58 Nittany 8 34 4 27 9 02

7 42 7 33 3 01 Huston 8 32 4 24 8 59

7 46 7 38 3 05 Lamar 8 29 4 21 8 57

7 48 7 40 3 08 Clintondale 8 26 4 18 8 54

7 52 7 44 3 12 Krider's Siding 8 22 4 14 8 50

7 56 7 48 3 16 Mackeyville 8 18 4 09 8 48

8 02 7 54 3 22 Cedar Spring 8 12 4 03 8 43

8 05 7 57 3 25 Sabersville 8 10 4 01 8 41

8 10 8 02 3 30 MILL HALL 8 05 3 56 8 36

(N. Y. Central & Hudson River R. R.)

11 49 8 53 Jersey Shore 3 09 7 52

12 15 9 30 Arr. WM'PORT Lve. 2 30 7 20

12 28 11 30 Lve. (Phila. & Reading Ry. PHILADELPHIA. 18 36 11 30

10 10 9 00 NEW YORK Lve. a. m. p. m.

p. m. a. m. Arr. (Via Phila.) Lve. a. m. p. m.

↑ Week Days. WALLACE H. GEPHART, General Superintendent.

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Schedule to take effect Monday, Jan. 6, 1910

WESTWARD Read down STATIONS EASTWARD Read up.

↑ No 1 ↑ No 3 No 1 ↓ No 2 ↓ No 4 No 6

p. m. a. m. p. m. Lve. Ar. a. m. p. m. p. m.

2 00 10 15 6 30 Bellefonte 8 50 12 50 6 00

2 07 10 22 6 35 Coleville 8 40 12 40 5 55

2 17 10 32 6 43 Morris 8 27 12 27 5 47

2 21 10 36 6 46 Hunter's Park 8 21 12 21 5 40

2 22 10 37 6 47 Fillmore 8 20 12 20 5 39

2 25 10 40 6 50 Waddles 8 20 12 20 5 35

2 50 10 57 7 12 Krumrine 8 07 12 07 5 07

3 20 11 10 7 25 State College 8 00 12 00 5 00

7 21 Strules 8 45

7 21 Bloomsdorf 7 40

3 40 7 35 Pine Grove Mt. 7 35

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