

Trick That Makes a Yellow Stone Appear Clear Blue White.

Let me show you a little trick that I would advise you not to put into practice, said a jewel fancier to a number of friends the other day.

The conversation had turned to diamonds during the midday luncheon, and the expert had been holding forth on his favorite subject. The little group of St. Louisans were interested still more when the speaker drew a big solitaire from his finger and beckoned a waiter across the cafe.

"Bring me a glass of water and an indelible pencil," said he when the servant came over to the table.

"This is a trick that is essentially crooked," said the jewel fancier, "and will get by nine times out of ten even when the examiner is an expert at judging precious stones and detecting trickery. It will make a yellow 'off color' diamond look like a stone of the very first water. Pawnbrokers innumerable have been fooled by this same trick, as it is extremely difficult to detect even with a powerful glass."

The expert took the pencil and allowed the indelible lead to dissolve in the glass of water. In a couple of minutes the water was as blue as indigo water.

"Now watch," said the man who knew the lore of jewels.

He took the ring and dropped it into the glass. Its brilliancy was dimmed by the hazy, bluish water until it looked like a dead stone.

"Now, you noted," said the demonstrator, "that the diamond I placed in there was a bit yellow. It will be a clear bluish white when it comes out of its bath."

At the end of a minute the stone was taken out. The top of the gem was dried with a soft handkerchief and then the ring was waved to and fro for a few moments. It was held up for inspection. Not a gleam of yellow was to be seen. The stone was apparently a magnificent blue white gem that any one would be proud to own and loathe to pledge.

"It is the blue pigment deposited on the back of the stone that has made the difference," said the jewel expert. "The deposit is so filmy that a strong glass cannot detect it. You cannot see it from the rear of the mounting and only a bath of alcohol will remove it. It will stay on the gem for weeks if it is not removed in that way. It used to be a favorite trick of many folks who now and again had to put a diamond into the hands of a pawnbroker."

"The trick is called 'doctoring a stone,' but, as I said in the beginning, I would not advise you to try it. I don't know what the law on such matters is in Missouri, but there are states where a person convicted of such an offense would serve a long penitentiary term for his cleverness."—St. Louis Republic.

How Artificial Furs Are Made. The raw pieces of pelt are frozen and the skin carefully shaved off, thawed and sent to the tanneries to be made into leather. The frozen fur which remains is allowed to thaw slightly at the bottom, so that a small part of the hair is freed from ice. This thawed portion is then covered with a solution of rubber, which is allowed to set.

The result is that large seamless pieces of fur are obtained much cheaper than those which come with the natural skin. These same artificial furs are said to be more lasting than the real, because they are immune from the attacks of moths.—Paris Nature.

Values. We have just got the market price of wives doped out, not to a penny, but close enough. The research work came to an end when we put the subject of marriage up to a prominent bachelor. "I wouldn't give 50 cents for a wife," he asserted.

"But," we asked, "you'd give a counterfeit half dollar for a better half, wouldn't you?"

He acknowledged that he would. So, you see, were getting right down to cases.—New York Journal.

The Point of View. "I suppose your clerks are all Republicans?" "No," said the merchant. "I hire the best men, irrespective of their politics."

"What a queer way to run a business!" commented the politician.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Only a Decey. "I think she will make a very domestic wife. I have been calling on her for several months now and always find her darning one of her father's socks."

"But have you noticed that it is always the same old sock?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

High Finance. "Why do you keep asking people for change for a dollar and then asking other people to give you a dollar for your change?"

"Well, somebody may make a mistake in change some time. And, believe me, it won't be me!"—New York Journal.

Wonderful Kindness. Hatters—Is Givers good pay? Hatters—Good pay? Why, once when his assets were twice as much as his liabilities, he went into bankruptcy so his creditors would get 200 cents on the dollar.—Puck.

SECOND SIGHT.

An Apparition That Was a Messenger of Death.

The third Lord Compton used to tell of an extraordinary and really authentic case of second sight. His brother, Henry Upton, the second viscount, was with his regiment abroad when he and several brother officers saw an old friend wearing trousers and shirt only pass through the mess room to another room from which there was no outlet. They followed and saw nobody, and the sentry persisted that no person had entered.

Henry Upton wrote to his brother, afterward third viscount, to request him to go to their friend's lodgings in London and find out what he was doing at such and such an hour on a certain day. The brother in London complied and found that their friend had died, but not on the day he had been seen abroad.

Later the landlady was asked on oath as to the date and hour of death and whether he had died in a white shirt with a blue check. After some demur she confessed that her lodger did not die when she first stated, but on the day when his friends had seen him pass through the mess room.

It seems the date of demise had been falsified on account of his pension, which was almost all his family had to depend upon. And he died in a white shirt with a blue check, his landlady having lent one of her husband's to him on the morning of his death.—London Court Journal.

SHE WANTED LIGHT.

And So She Had the Windows Fixed Exactly to Her Taste.

The architectural feature of the new house that caused a decided domestic rupture was the windows. The man was in favor of medium sized windows, with small panes to match the rest of the house, but his wife insisted upon enormous sheets of plate glass.

"You are away all day and do not know whether I can see my hand before me at noontime or not," she said, "but I am in the house most of the time and must have plenty of light and sunshine."

So they had big windows. Before the carpenter left she ordered inside shutters put up. The family's first night in their new home was celebrated by adjusting two sets of window shades, one white, the other dark green, which served as a background for two pairs of curtains, one of silk, the other of lace. On the third day the man helped his wife to hang additional sash curtains, and on the fourth day he found a man tinkering with the outside of the window ledge.

"He is just getting ready to put up the awnings," she explained. Her husband looked at the shutters, the two shades, the two curtains and the sash curtains and the arrangements for the awnings at each window, and then he laughed, but she could not understand why.—New York Times.

Superfluous Verbiage.

It was Sunday evening and likewise his first call. She was entertaining him at the piano, and he was not fond of music. Of course she couldn't be expected to know that, poor girl! She was not particularly accomplished, but she didn't know what else to do, and he hadn't suggested anything. So she played on and on, occasionally skipping a few bars that she didn't remember and trusting to luck. Finally from sheer weariness and to make conversation she turned to him and said:

"Papa thinks it is wicked for me to play the piano on Sunday."

"Papa is certainly right," he replied wearily. "But why does he—specify Sunday?"

It is perhaps needless to record that he was never again invited to that little flat.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Absinth.

Dr. R. Herod of Lonsanne in a special contribution to the Alliance Temperance Almanac points out that the absinth liquor, which is now prohibited in three European countries—Belgium, Holland and Switzerland—owes its peculiar noxiousness to the fact that it is prepared with several essences, among them wormwood, which have marked toxic properties. Added to the action of the alcohol (a strong absinth contains 65 per cent) these essences have a most deleterious effect on the organisms, especially on the nervous system. Even small doses provoke a great irritability, which may easily lead heavy drinkers to crime. Epilepsy is more quickly developed among absinth drinkers than among the drinkers of the commoner kinds of alcoholic liquors.—Dundee Advertiser.

A Quaint Inscription.

An old churchyard near London is famous for the inscriptions on its tombstones. There is one on the memorial of Susannah Barford, died 1652, aged ten years and thirteen weeks. The concluding lines beneath the skull and crossbones on her monument are: Her stage was short, her thread was quickly spun, Drawn out and cut, got heaven, her works was done. This world to her was but a traged play, Shee came and saw't, dislik't and passed away.

When Dining Out.

"Pop!" "Yes, my son." "What is an ultimate consumer?" "Why, he's the one who usually has to pay the check for the dinners, my boy."—Yonkers Statesman.

The concessions of the weak are the concessions of fear.—Burke.

BORDER TOWNS.

Many That Are Partly in One State and Partly in Another.

A number of towns and villages in the United States are situated on state boundary lines. The names of some of these are formed on the model of what Lewis Carroll called "portmanteau" words. Delmar and Maryland, for example, are on the line between Maryland and Delaware. Pen Mar is on the Pennsylvania and Maryland line. Morark is named from Missouri (Mo.) and Arkansas (Ark.). Texarkana is partly in Texas and partly in Arkansas. Illinois is on or near the Indiana line. State Line, which is half in Connecticut and half in New York, with numerous instances of the sort in other states, is a self explanatory name.

Other border towns whose names do not indicate their position are Port Chester (New York and Connecticut), Blackstone (Massachusetts and Rhode Island), Westery (Rhode Island and Connecticut), Kansas City (Missouri and Kansas), Guthrie and Fulton (each partly in Kentucky and partly in Tennessee), Harrison and Union City (in Indiana and Ohio), and Great Falls (New Hampshire and Maine). What is virtually one town on the border boundary of Tennessee and Virginia is legally known as Bristol on the Tennessee side and Goodson on the Virginia side. A number of smaller towns might be added to the list.—New York Tribune.

POSTED ON RUBBER.

He Couldn't Be Fooled About the Growth of the Trees.

A promoter for a rubber company was trying to persuade Mr. Spangler to invest some of his savings in the company's stock. The demand for rubber, he said, was worldwide and constantly increasing. The company owned immense forests of rubber trees and kept an army of workers employed all the time in gathering the crude rubber. The output was enormous, and the profits—well, the scheme was certainly better than a gold mine.

"I have heard," said Mr. Spangler suspiciously, "that the forests are being exhausted."

"That's true to some extent," answered the other, "but we are not depending on the existing trees. We are planting hundreds of square miles with new trees."

"How long does it take for a tree to grow big enough to tap?" "Only six or eight years." "That won't go down with me," said Mr. Spangler, with emphasis. "My wife has had a rubber plant in the front parlor for six years, where it's warm all the time, winter and summer, and it hasn't grown a foot in all that time. No, sir; you can't fool me on that!"—Youth's Companion.

Man Eating Wild Men.

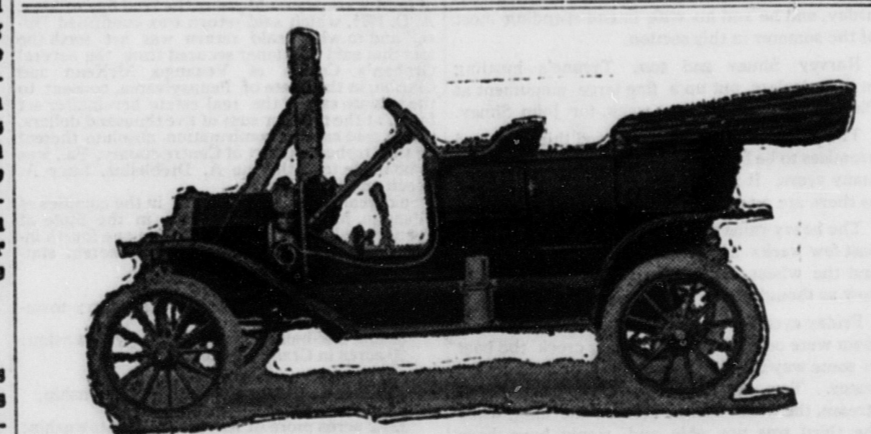
In the celebrated "Traveller" of Edward Webb (1890) are dozens of stories that would make Munchausen turn green with envy. One of the most celebrated of these is his story of the wild men of Prester John, which is as follows:

"In the court of Prester John there is a wild man and another in the high street of Constantinople whose allowance is every day a quarter of raw mutton, and when any man dyeth for some notorious offence then they are allowed every day a quarter of man's flesh. These wild men are chained fast to a post every day, the one in Prester John's court, the other in the high street of Constantinople, each of them having a mantel about their shoulders, and all over their bodies they have wonderful long hair. They are chained by the neck lest they speedily devour all that cometh within their reach."

England's Uncrowned King.

Of the long line of kings which have ruled England since the days of William the Conqueror, nearly 900 years ago, there has been only one uncrowned king. King Edward V, the boy king, who met an untoward fate in the Tower of London in 1483, is the only monarch who reigned without receiving the church's blessing or the formal homage of his subjects. Some

Automobiles.



The "FORD" AUTOMOBILE

Needs no boosting. It's smooth-running motor, ample power and durability tells the tale. Every car sold helps to sell others. It is the one car that speaks for itself and the prices commend it to would-be purchasers: Read the list.

- Touring Car, fully equipped, like above picture \$ 730.00
Torpedo Body, fully equipped 725.00
Runabout, fully equipped 680.00

W. W. KEICHLINE & Co., Agent Centre County Branch Bellefonte, Pa.

Shoes. Shoes.

Yeagers Shoe Store advertisement featuring 'Fitzezy' shoes, 'The Ladies' Shoe that Cures Corns', and 'Yeager's Shoe Store, Bush Arcade Building, BELLEFONTE, PA.' It includes a testimonial from Mrs. B. N. Dietrich about Doan's Kidney Pills.

LYON & CO. advertisement for a 'Reduction Sale of all Summer Goods'. It lists various items like Long Gloves, Dutch Collars, and Laces, and includes a testimonial about the quality and price of their goods.