

THE LOST VOICE.

Seated one day in the office... Distraught, and ill at ease... I wildly jiggled the phone-hook...

MEDDLESOME MATTIE'S ROMANCE.

Mattie Mayfield was the village spinster, and, strange as it may seem, she had in a manner elected or appointed herself to that post, though she did it unwittingly.

One evening as she sat in her room, beside her tiny stove, she said the name to herself, but in a new tone, a determined, respectful tone.

She was going to write a fiction of her life. She would tell Bonnie and her mother how she had planned to run away with the sweetheart of her youth, but that her courage had failed her and he had gone away never to return.

She blushed at the revelation (she was in the habit of telling the truth) and added many details. It was a changed Bonnie who smiled her a goodbye.

Mattie, cheered by the vast improvement in Bonnie, kept up the farce day after day, dropping in with a bit of news, a flower or a poem that reminded her of Lochie, till it was the seventh wonder of the village that

Bonnie Bennington had discharged her doctor and was taking long walks about the country with her old teacher.

Then one day two overseas letters came to Miss Mattie Mayfield. The one from Bonnie's soldier husband, which she opened first, left her flushed and happy by its ardent thanks.

Of course, love can come "sight unseen," as the boys say when they swap jackknives, for letters often disclose real hearts. So Ben was chaperon to the romance which culminated when he and Scotty were allowed to come home on sick leave.

Forward Movement of the Reformed Church in the United States.

The Reformed church of the United States, through its Forward Movement Commission, will this spring ask its members for \$10,874,425, for the work of the church for a five-year period of growth and effort never before equaled by the church.

The figures of the budget were arrived at through a comprehensive and exhaustive study of the situation by a Survey Committee, of which Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer is the chairman.

Thought He Was a Methodist.

Smart "city fellers" are prone to sneer at what they are pleased to call "small town stuff," but out of the small town of Philipsburg, in Centre county, by way of the weekly Ledger of that place, comes a bit of humor that seems to us good enough to have been born in the city.

Not Surprising.

ONE OF WAR'S MASTER MINDS

Britain Owes Deep Debt of Gratitude to Patrick Quinan, of Whom Little is Known.

One of the most vital and at the same time mysterious figures in the war on the British side was Patrick Quinan, an American of Irish descent.

Quinan is just over 40 years of age, and since the close of the war has disappeared. His name was never in any "honor list"—which is rather a distinction these times.

WAR TAUGHT HIM SOMETHING

Returned Doughboy Convinced, Among Other Things, That There is Little Gained in Kicking.

"There are thousands of returned soldiers to whom the war was a spiritual university," says Maude Radford Warren, in Everybody's.

"At home," Sid said, "I used to kick if things didn't go right. Well, sitting around in the mud over here I have begun to think a lot about some of the older people I know. They take things just as they come, I notice; don't kick much. Life seems to teach them that. Well, the war strikes me as just a lot of concentrated life. It's been that to me, anyhow. If ever I kick, it's sort of from force of habit. I honestly don't want to very much. I let the bad luck go with a grin, and if not, with set teeth, and I try not to count it at all. The good luck I count as clear velvet. It may not be a logical way of looking at life, but it's a practical way. Sitting here in the mud and getting old myself, I figure that is about the way the nice middle-aged people I know at home look at things. Being a good sport is about as good a thing as anyone can contribute to the world."

Mauritius. Mauritius, the home of the dodo, is in the political limelight, or so it would appear from the announcement that the Bordeaux chamber of commerce has requested the French government to enter into parleys with Britain with a view to restoring former French supremacy. Since the dodo is extinct, it will be more accurate to speak of Mauritius as once the home of that now almost fabulous creature. Mauritius was once known as Cerne, a name which it is said to have derived from cénas—the dodo, or, more unromantically, the ground-pigeon. Portuguese, French, Dutch, and British have all been connected with the history of Mauritius. It was discovered by the Portuguese. It was French for 100 years and then British. It became British in 1814 but during the French Revolution it had served as a refuge for many emigres to whom the Emerald Isle of the Indian ocean was known as the scene of Bernadine de St. Pierre's "Paul et Virginie. In size it equals about the eighteenth part of the area of England and Wales.

Was Variety the Spice of Her Life?

It is commonly thought that a very long series of names is reserved for kings and the sons and daughters of kings. We have frequently exclaimed over the seven names with which King George's eldest son is afflicted, or the former crown prince, for that matter. But probably the longest name in the world is attached to a mere laundryman's daughter. She was born in 1883, and her parents, surely from a sense of the ludicrous, gave her a name for every letter in the alphabet, to-wit: Anna Bertha Cecelia Diana Emily Fanny Gertrude Hypatia Inez Jane Katherine Louisa Maud Nora Ophelia Patience Quince Rebecca Sarah Teresa Ulysses Venus Winifred Xenophon Yetty Zeus Pepper. What will Miss Pepper do when it comes to finding new names for her own future family?—Boston Post.

Machine Does Work Quickly.

A piece of drudgery that has been assigned to machine labor is applying stucco. A new electric machine, with blades making 1,500 revolutions per minute puts on the material, and the operator and an assistant feeding the hopper cover the space rapidly and efficiently. The plastic substance is projected with such force that a thin film of moisture is squeezed out behind it, causing a waterproof protective coat of enamel to form upon the surface.

Where to Dodge Tips.

In India a native barber can shave a person while asleep without awaking him, so gentle is his touch.

NEWSPAPERS DON'T TELL ALL

As a Matter of Fact, World Must Not Be Judged by What One May See in Print.

Through all civilized countries folks spend a lot of their time just reading the papers. And it is all right, too. Everybody reads the papers.

But one must be careful to keep one's equilibrium at the same time. We must not make the mistake of supposing that there is nothing else going on in the world except that which the papers print.

The papers publish only the news that is startling or sensational. Naturally, that's all they publish. Whatever is unusual, out of the ordinary, something that astonishes one—these things are what the papers print.

If you were to go into a newspaper office with an item, say, about a man who had reared his family carefully, sent them to school and had paid the mortgage off his home, the editor wouldn't put that piece in the paper because there is nothing unusual about it.

But if the item were about a man who refused to work to support his family, and who beat his wife over the head with a club, and who chased them all out in the middle of the night in the rain, then the editor would say it was "news."

So, you see, it is mostly the troubles of the world, its seamy side, its crime and suffering and squalor that get into the papers.

Yet, there is the world's other side, thank God—its bright side, its love and gladness and charity and the help that one man gives another.

WINGS FOR MRS. VANDERBILT

Soldier Admired Spirit of His Entertainer, but Couldn't Quite Credit the Rest.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt tells this story on herself:

She was doing canteen work in France during the recent misunderstanding in that vicinity, and devoted considerable time to entertaining American soldiers in one of the hostess houses. Being an excellent dancer and attractive, she was in much demand among the boys. One evening she danced several times with a tall tow-haired doughboy who showed symptoms of great loneliness and talked volubly about things in Michigan.

When the evening was ended, the tow-haired one came over to Mrs. Vanderbilt.

"I've had a bully time," he said, "and I want to keep track of you. We're moving out of here tomorrow, for the front. But if we get back, I'd like to look you up over in the States. My name is Albert Bridgeman, from Grand Rapids. What's yours?"

"I'm Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt," she replied.

The doughboy scanned her from head to foot.

"That's right, chicken," he said, "fly high!"

Treasure-Trove.

Tobermory Bay is becoming seriously interesting. The salvaging operations in connection with the Spanish galleon, supposedly the Florencia, which for three and a half centuries has lain a wreck off the coast of the Isle of Mull, are being brought to the surface—among them a beautifully chased silver plate and the ornamented handle of a silver flagon. Interest in the operations has brought crowds to this part of the Scottish coast and neither bed nor board is to be obtained by late comers. The divers have not performed their work without some sign of protest from sea dwellers. One of them disturbed recently a huge conger measuring some 15 feet. The annoyance of the animal was unmistakable. Treasure-trove is undoubtedly now within grasp, but difficulty is experienced in bringing the finds whole and uninjured to the surface.

The Flying Era.

Mail-carrying airplanes are already an old story, writes A. Russell Bond, in "Inventions of the Great War." In Europe the big bombing machines are being used for passenger service between cities. There is an air line between Paris and London. The airplanes carry from a dozen to as many as 50 passengers on a single trip. In some cities here, as well as abroad, the police are being trained to fly, so that they can police the heavens when the public takes to wings. Evidently, the flying era is here.

Thing of the Past.

"An old gentleman from the country visited Washington the other day and set the capital in an uproar. In fact, he was hailed as one of the nation's leading humorists."

"What did he do or say to make such an impression?"

"He said he'd 'come to Washington, by heck, to see a specimen of that there senatorial dignity.'"—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Merely Thinking.

"Yes," said Mr. Brown, "my wife and I are thinking of chartering a yacht for the year."

"But won't that be pretty expensive?" asked Mr. Hughes.

"Not so long as we confine ourselves to thinking about it," replied Mr. Brown.

MORE THAN USUALLY WARM

Sailors Declare the Gulf Stream is Outdoing Itself at This Season, for Some Reason.

Marine men blame the Gulf stream for the summer weather prevailing along the Atlantic coast. They say the water of the Gulf stream is almost boiling.

In Norfolk, Va., the temperature was 86 degrees. A hundred miles out to sea just before the Gulf stream is reached the temperature was 101, according to information brought there by marine men. Within one day's run from Norfolk by water there was a difference of nearly 40 degrees in the temperature. It was so hot in the Gulf stream, marine men said, it was almost unbearable to remain on deck during the day.

Vessels passing through the peculiar water during the day say the weather is hotter than they have ever experienced before. A difference in the temperature of the water dipped from the Gulf stream with buckets from ships with that of the ocean itself is the difference, marine men report, between moderately cool water and that warm enough almost to poach an egg. The Gulf stream water is lighter than the remainder of the ocean and when first dipped foams and bubbles like water just on the point of boiling.

It was reported that an American destroyer would go out to the Gulf stream with a party of experts for the purpose of making observations for use by the government and to ascertain if reports brought in by merchant ships are authentic.

COULD FEEL FOR AFFLICTION

Man Had Not Forgotten How It Felt to Be Deprived of the Blessing of Sight.

He looked as if he owned a bank. And he was talking to a man who looked as if he owned two.

And while they confabbed in front of a hotel a wrinkled woman came up to them leading a wrinkled man. She was selling matches—5 cents a box, three for—

The one-bank man waved aside the matches, but put some money in the woman's hands, and asked her unlucky companion how he came to lose his sight.

The blind man said that he had never had any sight to lose. He was born that way.

The man of the two banks chipped in with a donation, then the couple moved on, the blind man, philosophically serene and the woman shrilling her slogan—"Matches! Five cents a box, three for—"

And the one-bank man said to the one who owned two:

"I had my eyes bandaged for a week once. Blindness is a tragic thing."

Which showed that, in his case anyhow, a little knowledge was not a dangerous thing.—Washington Star.

Dolls in Literature.

A London writer has recently introduced the subject of dolls in literature. Almost anyone who will trouble to search his memory, can discover a doll somewhere between the covers of many a book which he has read. Beginning with a "slighting reference to them under the name of babies," in Sydney's "Arcadia," and noting the mention of a doll by Charlotte Bronte, this writer concludes that, until the nineteenth century, dolls were neglected by English authors and that they appear more frequently in French than in English fiction. Dickens seems to have had more to say about dolls than any other English author; but the doll Nobby is an important personage in Mr. Wells' "Peter and John," and the dolls' house in "Tono-Bungay" contained 85 dolls, although with none of them does the reader become personally acquainted. Jerry and Rosa, in "The Golden Age," are also remembered.

German Farming Methods.

Germany may have led the world in some branches of technical skill but her farming methods left much to be desired if the bitter contempt poured upon them by a Bunyip soldier can serve as a standard. Bunyip, Victoria, Australia, is proud of its knowledge of soil culture, and 17 months spent as a prisoner of war at threepeace a day on a farm in Silesia, Germany, made one of its finest citizens more convinced than ever that Bunyip is always best. When he returned to Australia and applied for a farm he was asked, as a joke, if he could give a reference from his previous employer. His reply would have been gall and wormwood to the Silesian.

United States Sex Statistics.

The census of 1910 showed 2,691,978 more males than females in the United States. In all but Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and the District of Columbia, the males are in excess. In all the world females are a little in excess. The reverse in America is evidently due to the excess in male immigration.

Breaking It Gently.

"You were discharged?"

"No, indeed!"

"But you lost your job."

"It happened this way: The boss informed me in the kindest possible manner that there would be no limit set for my vacation this year."

Airplane Service in Australia.

A company has been formed in Australia to conduct an airplane passenger and freight service among the principal cities of the commonwealth.

FARM NOTES.

—Vegetable Varieties Listed for the Back-Yard Garden.—The gardener who desires prompt attention from the seedsmen should not delay his seed orders until planting time is upon him. The choicest and best selected seeds are sold first, and those who lag behind with their orders may find that choice varieties will be exhausted in the latter part of the season.

Varieties of vegetables differ considerably in quality. In the production of a supply for the home table (the best market in the world) it pays to have a regard for quality. Such matter as palatability, tenderness and keeping qualities should have consideration. For the inexperienced gardener, unfamiliar with the different varieties The Pennsylvania State College department of horticulture appends a list especially for the home garden:

Asparagus—Palmetto (use large one-year-old crowns or roots, rust-resistant strains).

Beans, bush—Green podded, Stringless Green Pod, Fordhook Favorite; wax or yellow—Brittle Wax Pencil Pod Black, Kidney Wax.

Beans, shell—Dwarf Horticultural, White Marrowfat (soup), Improved Goddard.

Beans, pole—Green pod, Kentucky Wonder, Burgers, McCasland; wax pod—Golden Cluster.

Beans, lima—bush, Fordhook Bush, Henderson's Bush.

Beans, lima—Pole, Early Leviathan, King of the Garden, Carolina Sieva, (small seeded).

Beets, early—Early Model, Crosby Egyptian; 2nd early or main crop—Improved Blood Turnip, Dark Red Detroit.

Brussels Sprouts—Long Island Improved.

Cabbage, early—Jersey Wakefield, Charleston Wakefield (one week later than Jersey); midsummer—Enkhuzen Glory, Succession; late—Danish Baldford (for winter storing).

Carrots—French Forcing (early), Chantenay or Model, Danvers Half Long.

Cauliflower—Snowball, Erfurt.

Celery, summer and fall—Golden Self-Blanching, Easy Blanching; winter storing—Winter Queen.

Sweet corn, extra early—Early Fordhook; second early—Golden Bantam, White Cob and Cory, Howling Mob; late—Country Gentleman, Stowell's Evergreen.

To insure a continuous supply of highest quality corn plant Golden Bantam in succession every ten days, May 1 to July 1.

Cucumbers—White Spine.

Kohl-Rabi—White Vienna.

Lettuce, head—Early May King, Sensation, Big Boston, Hanson; loose leaf—Grand Rapids, Prize Head, Fordhook, Osage.

Watermelon—Fordhook Early, Kleckley's Sweets.

Onions, yellow—Southport Yellow is a large mild onion of the Spanish type. Start plants in hotbed or greenhouse February 1 or use sets.

Onions, red—Red Weathersfield, Southport Red.

Onions, white—White Portugal, Southport White.

Parsnips—Hollow Crown, Offenham Market.

Peas, extra early—Best Extra Early, Surprise; early and wrinkled—Gradus, Thomas Laxton, Little Marvel, Laxtonia.

Peas, main crop—Alderman (tall) Stratagem and British Wonder (dwarf).

Pepper—Ruby King, Neapolitan Early.

Radish, globe varieties—extra early—Scarlet Globe, Scarlet Turnip White Tip; second early—Crimson King; long varieties—early—White Icicle, Long Cardinal; summer—Strassburg, Chartier, Lady Finger.

Squash, summer—White Bush, Giant Crookneck; winter—True Hubbard, Boston Marrow, Delicious.

Turnips—Extra Early Purple Top, White Milan, Petrowski.

Tomatoes, early—Bonny Best or Chalk's Jewel; late—Matchless, Stone Egg Plant—Black Beauty.

Although all of these varieties are good, no one is advised to substitute any of them for a variety which has given full satisfaction, unless he is convinced the change is an improvement. In buying seeds the best plan is to secure a catalogue from a reliable seedhouse and purchase by mail.

The list of varieties in the average seed catalogue is very long and confusing. Descriptions and colored pictures are sometimes misleading. Just how much seed of the various kinds to order is also a problem. Some seeds are not good when more than a year old, and it is advisable to buy each year's supply as needed. Be sure to purchase sufficient quantities. The following quantities of seed will be sufficient for each 100 feet of row:

Bush beans, one pint; Pole beans, one pint; Beets, one ounce; Cabbage, one packet; Carrots, one-fourth ounce, Cauliflower, one packet; Celery, one packet; Sweet corn, one-half pint; Cucumbers, one-half ounce; Endive, one-fourth ounce; Kale, one-half ounce; Muskmelon, one-half ounce; Kohl Rabi, one-half ounce; Leek, one ounce; Onion sets, two and one-half quarts; Onion seed, one ounce; Parsley, one-half ounce; Parsnips, one-half ounce; Peas, one quart; Radishes, one ounce; Rutabaga, one-half ounce; Salsify, one ounce; Spinach, one ounce; Squash, one-half ounce; Swiss Chard, one ounce; Tomato, one packet; Turnip, one-half ounce.

—Good digestion is the result of feeding enough to sustain the animal and repair waste, but not enough to keep the stomach in an overloaded condition all the time. It will do the horses good to have sufficient appetite to relish a meal when it is given them.

—The triple profits derived from the flock—wool, lambs and mutton—come in at different seasons; and for this reason sheep are better suited to the farmer of small means than any other stock.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."