

AN UNLUCKY TOSS.

STORY OF A NEW YEAR'S GIFT THAT WAS NEVER ENJOYED.

The Old Adage, "There's Many a Slip Betwixt the Cup and the Lip," illustrated in the Case of a Beggar and His Coin.

He was a tramp. A miserable, ragged, rum-sodden apology for a man, without one redeeming feature. He had not worked for ten years. His was a hang-dog appearance, and now and then he furtively glanced around as if expecting a policeman to arrest him for living.

He stood in the postoffice corridor and gazed out of the window through the darkness at Newspaper row opposite, and pondered. It was the last day of the year. He hadn't a friend, but then he did not want one. All he knew was that he was hungry, and his chronic thirst consumed him still.

He thought of the morrow. The new year caused him no remorse for his wretched life. He never was of high estate, so that his fall had not been mighty. He wondered if he should go through the day, as he had at Christmas, without a dinner. The postoffice clock pointed to 11. He leaned on the broad window sill and dozed.

Through the corridor from the Broadway side came brisk footsteps timed to a cheery whistle. Our tramp roused himself from his lethargic gloom and looked around. It was a young man, bright and breezy. Joy shone in his eyes. He may have just received a letter from Miranda; maybe he had collected a bad debt. More probably he had just made a lucky strike on the races. At all events he was happy. His audience did not appreciate this, however. He only saw in the well-dressed chap a possible victim. So mechanically he stepped forward, held out a dirty paw and mumbled the well-worn refrain in which the words "hunger-sick wife-five children" could be distinguished.

Imagine his astonishment when the young man paused, after a cursory glance, pulled out a coin, handed it to the beggar, and was off still whistling. The recipient hurried to the light to inspect his treasure; he fairly gasped—it was a dollar. He did not pursue the philanthropist to put the traditional query, "Did you mean to give me this, sir?" Not he! Out of the postoffice he ambled toward the Bowery, that Mecca of all such as he, at a faster gait than he had known for many a month.

A short distance beyond the bridge a thought occurred to him. What should he do with his money? The sudden gleam of paradise had scattered his wits. Undecided, wavering, he sat down on the walk under a street lamp with his feet in the gutter and mused. He thought of turkey, but the word was a mockery—he had not tasted any for years. He now sketched rapidly an ideal bill of fare: bean soup, pork and beans, and—ye gods!—plum pudding to top off! He figured the cost. Why, he would have enough left to take him to a theatre, and even to t down stairs, for once, like a lord. But now a disturbing thought crept in. He had forgotten something—rum. His programme was accordingly amended by the substitution of rum for theatre.

But another question now arose to perplex him. Should he eat first or drink first? He drew out the precious money. Now the old sporting instinct asserted itself. He would let chance decide, as any gentleman should. The coin was to pay the bills, and it should guide his choice. If head came uppermost, the rum first; if tail, the meal.

Up he tossed it, high and straight; down it came in the same path, but missing the outstretched palm it struck the sidewalk on its milled edge. Impish, glittering, exultant, it rolled off the sidewalk into the gutter, jumped two or three little furrows of dirt, dodged an old cigar stump and disappeared into the sewer at the corner.

"Come, move on out o' that," said a policeman as he whacked his club close to the man on the curb.—New York Sun.

Resolutions.

I will wear easier shoes than I did last year.

If I find that I have to wear spectacles I will.

I will not read one-half of the advertisements in the Sunday papers.

I will think less about money and reach out after more of it.—Bardette.

A New Year's Reverie.

'Twas a New Year's eve, quite long ago, And slumber was the weather, When Jess and I sat all alone Before the fire together. The wooden clock ticked slowly on In measured tones and broken, And all the while we two sat there Not one of us had spoken.

And as the freight softly streamed Upon her form so slender, And played about her slippers feet, Which rested on the fender, I could not help but think and dream Of how I loved her dearly, But lacked the wit to tell her so, For I was bashful merely.

Just then a noise came to our ears That sounded grim and ghostly, And she was timid, women are (O! I will venture naught). She hastened quickly to my side And cried, "Oh, do not leave me, For left alone in this old place I fear 't will sadly grieve me."

My courage soon returned at last, I suddenly grew bolder, And in a choked and fainting voice I spoke up then and told her: My place was always by her side, That I'd forsake her never, But link my troubled heart with hers And shield her now forever.

I took her gently to my arms And kissed her drooping lashes, Which hid those eyes that shone as bright As lightning's deepest flashes. A crimson blush o'erspread her face And dyed her pretty dimples, Which made her seem a school girl then, So sweet she looked and simple.

And many times when I'm alone And sinking in the gloaming I see the past within the clouds Which rest my thoughts to roaming, The night I won dear Jessie's heart, With deep and tender footing, And all the while that frightened her Was rats between the ceiling.

—F. Parker, Jr.

YES, MY DEAR, IS THE STAFF OF LIFE.



AND YET ONE CAN EAT TOO MUCH OF IT. An overload of bread may not injure you but will make you very uncomfortable; so will overloading of...

Wolf's ACME Blacking not injure your shoes, but make them look brightly until cleaned. To prevent shoe following directions...

FAMOUS YET UNKNOWN. WIVES WHO ARE HIDDEN BY THEIR HUSBAND'S FAME, YET WHO ARE WONDERFUL WOMEN.

The wife of a famous man will oft-times be completely hidden by the dazzle of her husband's fame, and it is astonishing how little is known of those women whose husband's names are household words throughout the country. While the newspapers teem with the name of Thomas A. Edison, nothing is comparatively known or heard of Mrs. Edison. Every newspaper reader knows the name of Chauncey M. Depew, but of Mrs. Depew only the most casual reference is made. Even in England, no one ever hears of Lady Tennyson, or of Mrs. Gladstone. And the same is true of the wives of such men as P. T. Barnum, Will Carleton, John Wanamaker, Spurgeon, W. D. Howells, Dr. Talmadge, "Mark Twain," and James G. Blaine. Often these very wives have been the makers of their husbands' careers. Their portraits are even less known than their lives. In a splendid series to be called "Unknown Wives of Well-known Men," The Ladies' Home Journal, of Philadelphia, will during next year, sketch all these women and others, presenting their portraits, in many cases, for the first time in public.

Do You Cough?

Don't delay. Take Kemp's Balsam, the best cough cure. It will cure your coughs and colds. It will cure sore throat and a tickling in the throat. It will cure pains in the chest. It will cure influenza and bronchitis, and all diseases pertaining to the lungs because it is a pure Balsam. Hold it to the light and see how clear and thick it is. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Large bottles 50c and \$1.

The following letters are advertised Dec. 30, 1890.

Miss Sadie Boone, Miss Emma Dasher; Mr. J. M. Hess; Ed Lerch; Miss Cora Miller; Mr. Harvey Sporchberg; Chris Shotz; Miss M. E. Somers; Mr. Harry Van Kirk; Miss Mary Wolverton.

Will be sent to the dead letter office Jan. 13, 1891.

A. B. CATHCART P. M.

Deeds, single or double acknowledgments, 60 cents a dozen at the COLUMBIAN office. tf.

The State Capitol.

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The Harrisburg Daily Patriot, in addition to the general news of the day, will contain full reports of the proceedings of the Legislature during the session of that body. Send one dollar and twenty-five cents to the publisher and get a copy every day during the session.

The Weekly Patriot is an excellent family journal and will also contain a report of the legislative proceedings. Terms: \$1.00 per copy per annum; to clubs of ten or more, 75 per copy per annum, with an additional copy to the get-up of the club. Postage on daily and Weekly prepaid by the publisher.

THE DAILY PATRIOT and the COLUMBIAN both for \$5.00 per annum. The WEEKLY PATRIOT and the COLUMBIAN both for \$7.50 per annum. 12 19 21.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

We have made arrangements with Dr. B. J. Kendall Co. publishers of A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases, which will enable all our subscribers to obtain a copy of that valuable work free by sending their address (enclosing a 2 cent stamp for mailing same) to Dr. B. J. Kendall Co., Ennsburgh Falls, Vt. This book is now recognized as standard authority upon all diseases of the horse, as its phenomenal sale attests, over four million copies having been sold in the past ten years, a sale never before reached by any publication in the same period of time. We feel confident that our patrons will appreciate the work, and be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity of obtaining a valuable book.

It is necessary that you mention this paper in sending for the "Treatise." This offer will remain open for only a short time. 12-12-6t

Children's Faults.

PARENTS OFTEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THEM.

Parents have proudly told me of sickening battles with their children, will pitted against will, till at last the strongest physique gained the mastery and the child's "will was broken." Such victories are worse than defeats. I have seen a father and his little boy stand pitted against each other, with a look in each face that I could call nothing but hatred; and when I thought of the power of the one and the helplessness of the other, I could not but admire the boy's pluck. There should be no such occasions. The parent stands convicted of utter stupidity in finding himself in any such situation.

There are times when it is wiser for the parent to ignore some mood on the child's part. The part of the parent should be in ever seeking the wise opportunity to impress the child with the virtue that is the reverse of some fault it falls into. Children pass through various phases, and some dragon of a fault that one has been worrying over and planning against suddenly vanishes into thin air, and is no more. Sometimes one fixes a fault by noticing it too much. The child repeats the fault through an ability to pass over it. It becomes like a hard word in the spelling-book that he has met before. He recognizes the word without knowing its name, and at the same moment remembers his struggles with it, and the painful impression fills him with nervousness; his mind becomes confused, and he cannot control his thought. It is wise with a fault, as with the hard word, to let it go to escape it. Omit the hard word; avoid anything to excite the habitual fault. Presently the child forgets the fault. It may be said that injudicious parents often create their children's faults.—Harper's Bazar.

A Real Balsam is Kemp's Balsam.

The dictionary says, "A balsam is a thick, pure aromatic substance flowing from trees." Kemp's Balsam for the throat and lungs is the only cough medicine that is a real balsam. Many thin, watery cough remedies are called balsams, but such are not. Look through a bottle of Kemp's Balsam and notice what a pure, thick preparation it is. If you cough use Kemp's Balsam. At all druggists'. Large bottles 50 cents and \$1.

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By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us, ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame.—Coca-Cola Co. Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in half pound tins, by grocers, labelled thus:—JAMES EPPS & CO., Homeopathic Chemists, London, England.

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Traveling or local, to sell choice Nursery stock. Fast-selling specialties in hardy fruits, etc. Splendid outfit free. Steady employment guaranteed. Your weekly. Write for terms. GERMANIA NURSERY CO., ROCHESTER, N. Y. 1-5-91

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Absorb all disease in the Kidneys and restore them to a healthy condition. Old chronic kidney sufferers say they get no relief until they tried MITCHELL'S KIDNEY PLASTER.

Sold by Druggists everywhere, or sent by mail for 50c. Novelty Plaster Works, Lowell, Mass.

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Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never fails to restore Gray Hair to its youthful color. Cures scalp diseases and hair falling. Sells and cleans the scalp.

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The Parker's Ginger Tonic. It cures the worst Cough, Bronchitis, Indigestion, Pain, Take in time. Sixty HINDERCORNS. The only cure cure for Consumption and all its kind. Sold at Druggists, or HISCOX & CO., N. Y.

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"I was rapidly becoming bald and gray; but after using two or three bottles of Ayer's Hair Vigor my hair grew thick and glossy and the original color was restored."—Melvin Aldrich, Canaan Centre, N. H.

"Some time ago I lost all my hair in consequence of measles. After due waiting, no new growth appeared. I then used Ayer's Hair Vigor and my hair grew

Thick and Strong. It has apparently come to stay. The Vigor is evidently a great aid to nature."—J. B. Williams, Floresville, Texas.

"I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor for the past four or five years and find it a most satisfactory dressing for the hair. It is all I could desire, being harmless, causing the hair to retain its natural color, and requiring but a small quantity to render the hair easy to arrange."—Mrs. M. A. Bailey, 9 Charles street, Haverhill, Mass.

"I have been using Ayer's Hair Vigor for several years, and believe that it has caused my hair to retain its natural color."—Mrs. H. J. King, Dealer in Dry Goods, &c., Bishopville, Md.

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