

HUMOR OF LUNATICS.

ASANE MAN'S EXPERIENCE IN AN INSANE ASYLUM.

By the Time He Got Through Being Fooled by the Lunatics He Was Ready to Distrust Even the Superintendent of the Institution.

"I never knew until I went out to California this time that insane people have a powerful sense of humor," said a Washingtonian who recently returned from a trip to the coast.

"Yes," I said. "I only arrived here a few minutes ago, and I'm taking the liberty of nosing about without any official guidance."

"Well," the tall young man said, pleasantly. "I don't suppose I fall out of the classification 'official guidance,' seeing that I am the assistant superintendent here, yet I should be pleased to show you about and at the same time try not to place any restraint upon you by my awe inspiring presence."

"Well, the young chap's manner was so pleasant and winning that I could only thank him for his kindness, and we started over the grounds. We hadn't gone far before a middle aged man, also well dressed and well groomed, appeared some distance in front of us down the gravel walk, and he beckoned to my companion. The young man excused himself courteously and went up to the middle aged man. The two conversed earnestly together for a few minutes, and then, linking arms, what do they do but coolly walk off, leaving me standing there in the middle of the gravel path, a good deal nonplused.

"Surprised over the way they deserted you?" said a voice right back of me. "You mustn't mind a little thing like that, though. Both of those men are as crazy as loons."

"I turned around, and there, standing behind a hedge about ten feet to my rear, was a little old gentleman, neatly dressed in black, and with a quizzical smile on his features.

"Surely," I said, "you cannot mean that that rational speaking, pleasant mannered young man who was conducting me about the grounds is bereft of his wits?"

"Mad as a March hare," repeated the old gentleman flatly. "Incurable case. Harmless, but incurable. The man that he went off with is also a very sad case—very. Think he is the Maharajah of Bludbid, or something like that. But you mustn't mind 'em. Lots of visitors are taken in the same way. If you care to, I'll just show you around. I am one of the board of visitors of this institution and just happen to be here in my unofficial capacity today."

"Much marveling over what the old gentleman told me, I fell in with him, and we rambled around the huge geranium arbors, and finally entered the enormous glass building where the cultivation of violets is carried on.

"Nice array of flowers, isn't it?" the old gentleman inquired of me, waving his hand at the beautiful beds of violets in bloom. "I am not inordinately vain, my friend, I hope you will understand, and yet I cannot but congratulate myself upon the introduction of this violet raising feature here, for I myself was responsible for it and only succeeded in having this hothouse constructed after enormous exertions with the authorities of the institution."

"I congratulated the old gentleman upon the result of his labors and was just about to ask him to take me into the main building and introduce me to the superintendent when he suddenly excused himself, saying that he had left his spectacles on a bench in the gardens and would be back directly. I waited for him for fully ten minutes, but as he did not return I started on out of the glass building.

"You didn't really expect him back?" I heard a voice say, and then a pleasant faced man, dressed as a laborer and carrying a watering pot, came from behind a group of palms. He spoke with a Scotch brogue.

"The old gentleman you were with is very bad up here," said the man with the watering pot, touching his forehead. "He's been here for 20 years, and he fancies he owns the place. I am the head gardener here, and he tries his best to run me. But he don't—no, sir, he don't. He can't. No crazy man can run me." And the Scotchman went down the length of the raised violet beds, watering the plants.

"I passed out of the glass building and started for the entrance to the main building, there to present my letters. As I was about to walk up the steps to the entrance a man with side whiskers and rather a sharp, piercing eye walked up to me.

MYSTERIOUS LIGHT AT SEA.

Three Steamers Didn't Understand It, but the Prince of Monaco Knew.

The Prince of Monaco has been known since 1885 as an enthusiastic student of the sea and its various forms of life. He usually spends his summers in the study of oceanographic problems, and his cruises have on some occasions been extended almost to the coasts of America. He delivered a lecture before the Royal Geographical society in London in which he told this incident:

One afternoon, while in the bay of Biscay, he sank the trap in which he collected specimens of sea life. It went to the bottom in over 12,000 feet of water, and as night approached he fastened to the wire attached to it an electric buoy and then stood off a mile or so. It did not happen to occur to him that he was right in the track of steamers plying between northern Europe and the Mediterranean, but he was reminded of the fact later.

As he and his 14 sailors were watching with a good deal of satisfaction the swaying buoy with its brilliant illumination a steamer's lights came into view. It was soon evident that the steamer was curious to know the meaning of the illumination, for she altered her course and made for the light. She knew that no fishing boats came out so far from land and so determined to solve the mystery. Up she came to within a quarter of a mile of the buoy, slowed up for a minute, and then started ahead, perhaps a little disgusted at the incident that had lured her several miles out of her course.

She had hardly got away when a second steamer came into view, and she, too, bore down upon the lighted buoy. The marines on the prince's vessel understood by this time that the illumination was probably believed to be evidence of a disaster. Just as the prince's steamer was moving up to explain matters she was nearly run down by one of the large liners in the oriental trade, which had also left her course to render what assistance she could.

The swell was very heavy, and the prince feared a collision as the three vessels approached the light like moths around a candle. He therefore veered off and the other vessels, after standing by for a few minutes, went on their way and probably never learned the cause of that night's illumination at sea.

But the incident gave the prince a pointer. He carefully refrained thereafter from exhibiting his electric buoy on any of the much traveled ocean routes.—New York Sun.

FOOLED IN A HORSE TRADE.

This Animal Possessed Several Remarkable Traits.

A prominent English landlord was one day riding across a common adjacent to his preserves when he overtook one of his tenants, who was also mounted. After the usual salutations they rode on in silence for some minutes, when the tenant slightly spurred his horse, a balking animal, whereupon it dropped to its knees.

"What's the matter with your horse?" asked his lordship. The embarrassed tenant remarked by way of explanation that his steed always acted that way when there was game to be found.

A moment later, to the tenant's satisfaction and surprise, a frightened hare jumped out of some bushes near by. This so impressed the landlord that he at once drove a bargain by which he secured the tenant's barebacked beast in exchange for his own fine mount, perfectly saddled. With much agility the tenant leaped to his new horse, and all went well until they came to a small stream, whereat the landlord's new nag immediately balked. A drive home with the spurs brought it again to its knees.

"Hello, what's up now? There's no game here," said his lordship. "True, my lord," was the ready reply. "But I forgot to tell you 'ee's as good for fish as 'ee is for game."—San Francisco Argonaut.

The Audience Got Angry.

There was a scene of wild excitement during the last week of May, 1892, at the Gaiety, London, and all owing to the singular behavior of a policeman. Two popular entertainers were on the stage, and one of them asked the audience a little conundrum. "Why is a policeman an utter scoundrel?"

A gentleman in blue who was apparently on duty in the body of the theater at once took offense. He jumped on to the stage and, seizing the offender, attempted to drag him off.

The audience rose in indignation. Men shook their fists and shouted, "What has he done?" One frenzied young lady in the front of the gallery seized a tumbler and would have thrown it at the policeman if her arm had not been arrested.

The policeman then dragged his captive off the stage amid the hisses and shouts of the audience. But anger was speedily changed to laughter when Mr. Policeman reappeared with his victim and stood revealed as one of the Cosmo trio. I never saw an audience so completely taken in.—London Correspondence.

WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13, 1899.

The bill for the increase of the regular army is believed to be as dead as it deserves to be. It is understood that notice has been served upon the administration Senators that they will not be allowed to pass the Hull bill, or any other bill proposing to give the President authority to maintain a standing army of 100,000 men, at the present session. If a vote could be had, the administration might get its bill through, although it is by no means certain that it could; but the minority has the power to prevent a vote, and will not hesitate to exercise it. An informal offer has been made to agree to an amendment to the regular Army appropriation bill, authorizing the maintenance of the war strength of the regular army—62,000, for one year from the first of next July, and, unless there are decided changes of opinion, that is about all the army legislation that will get through at this session of Congress.

Mr. McKinley has given out an edited edition of the report of the War Investigating Commission, which contains no surprises and will not convince a single individual that Alger has not been a misfit from the beginning of the war, and that beet, unfit for use, was not issued to the army; nor that Miles deserves censure for calling public attention to the bad meat. Great stress is laid by the administration and the friends of the gentlemen who served on the Commission on the fact that the report is in keeping with the evidence, and that it was signed by them all, except Col. Sexton, who died last week. Such a claim is unnecessary, because the facts are generally admitted. What is objected to and what makes the report so much waste paper, is that no evidence was sought, although it might have been had in abundance, except that which would conduce to a whitewashing report. The money that the Commission has cost, and it is a considerable sum, has been absolutely wasted; not one single good purpose has been served by its expenditure.

The sentence of six years suspension from rank and duty, which was put upon Gen. Egan by the President, isn't half so bad as it sounds. During the next six years, or until he reaches the age for retirement, in January, 1905, Egan may engage in any occupation that may please his fancy, go wherever the notion strikes him to go, and continue to draw the salary of a brigadier general. Had the sentence been suspension from rank, duty and pay, it might be considered a hard one, but Egan ought to consider himself lucky, as it is, and he doubtless does, although, of course, he and his friends may be expected to let out a few yowls about how severely he has been treated—given six years leave on full pay, \$5,500 a year.

That men of the most economical tendencies can be kept quiet by giving their districts a slice of the public "pork" it is proposed to distribute has been often demonstrated before, but never more strikingly than when the House, in two days passed, without serious objection from a dozen members, seventy-eight bills, providing for public buildings in thirty-eight States. Quite a number of those bills provide for the erection of public buildings in places where it is known that there is neither business enough to warrant such an expenditure, nor prospect that there will be for years to come. No wonder Representative Dockery referred to the proceedings as a "hog combine."

There are a number of Senators who regard Aguinaldo as about as many kinds of a fool as the late W. E. Vanderbilt did one of his sons-in-law. By his first foot attack on Manila he got his army destroyed, and has been compelled to beg a conference to make terms for himself, which Gen. Otis naturally declined to have anything to do with. And that is not

all he has done. If he had not made a fool of himself, the Senate would have accompanied the ratification of the treaty with a resolution declaring against permanent retention of the Philippines. The sentiment of the Senate is still against permanent retention of the Philippines, but, owing to the situation on the islands, it will hardly be deemed advisable to do anything now, except to leave the whole business in the hands of Dewey and Otis. It is altogether likely that the Philippines will be given a Government of their own inside of a year or two, but it is certain that fool, Aguinaldo, will not be connected with it. Had Aguinaldo been the tool of the imperialists in this country he would have earned his pay.

Czar Reed has allowed it to become known that he intends to prevent the House passing a Nicaragua Canal bill. The friends of the Canal, among whom are about four-fifths of Congress, have set their wits to work to beat the Czar. One way to do it, which is now being considered, is for the Senate to put the Hepburn bill, which has been reported to the House as a substitute for the Morgan bill, passed by the Senate, in the River and Harbor bill, as an amendment.

Facts About February.

February, the second month of the year, is also the shortest, numbering twenty-eight days in ordinary years, but in leap year it has an intercalary day. Among the Romans it had originally twenty-nine days, but when the Senate decreed that the eighth month should bear the name Augustus, a day was taken from February and given to August, which had then only thirty in order that it might not be inferior to July. The name is derived from the circumstances that during this month occurred the Roman festival called the Lupercalia, and also February from februa, meaning "to purify."

MORNING AND EVENING STARS.

MERCURY will be Morning Star about May 9, September 5 and December 25; and Evening Star about March 24, July 22 and November 16.

Venus will be Morning Star till September 15; and then Evening Star till April 25; then Morning Star again till the rest of the year.

Jupiter will be Morning Star till April 25; then Evening Star till November 12, and then Morning Star again till the rest of the year.

STORIES OF RELIEF.

Two Letters to Mrs. Pinkham.

Mrs. JOHN WILLIAMS, Englishtown, N. J., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I cannot begin to tell you how I suffered before taking your remedies. I was so weak that I could hardly walk across the floor without falling. I had womb trouble and such a bearing-down feeling; also suffered with my back and limbs, pain in womb, inflammation of the bladder, piles and indigestion. Before I had taken one bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I felt a great deal better, and after taking two and one-half bottles and half a box of your Liver Pills I was cured. If more would take your medicine they would not have to suffer so much."

Mrs. JOSEPH PETERSON, 513 East St., Warren, Pa., writes:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have suffered with womb trouble over fifteen years. I had inflammation, enlargement and displacement of the womb. I had the backache constantly, also headache, and was so dizzy. I had heart trouble, it seemed as though my heart was in my throat at times choking me. I could not walk around and I could not lie down, for then my heart would beat so fast I would feel as though I was smothering. I had to sit up in bed nights in order to breathe. I was so weak I could not do anything."

"I have now taken several bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and used three packages of Sensitive Wash, and can say I am perfectly cured. I do not think I could have lived long if Mrs. Pinkham's medicine had not helped me."

There are a number of Senators who regard Aguinaldo as about as many kinds of a fool as the late W. E. Vanderbilt did one of his sons-in-law. By his first foot attack on Manila he got his army destroyed, and has been compelled to beg a conference to make terms for himself, which Gen. Otis naturally declined to have anything to do with. And that is not

all he has done. If he had not made a fool of himself, the Senate would have accompanied the ratification of the treaty with a resolution declaring against permanent retention of the Philippines. The sentiment of the Senate is still against permanent retention of the Philippines, but, owing to the situation on the islands, it will hardly be deemed advisable to do anything now, except to leave the whole business in the hands of Dewey and Otis. It is altogether likely that the Philippines will be given a Government of their own inside of a year or two, but it is certain that fool, Aguinaldo, will not be connected with it. Had Aguinaldo been the tool of the imperialists in this country he would have earned his pay.

Constipation, Headache, Biliousness, Heartburn, Indigestion, Dizziness, Indicate that your liver is out of order. The best medicine to rouse the liver and cure all these ills, is found in Hood's Pills. 25 cents. Sold by all medicine dealers.

HUMPHREYS' VETERINARY SPECIFICS. A. A. FEVERS, Lung Fever, Milk Fever. B. C. SPRAINS, Lameness, Rheumatism. C. C. EPIZOOTIC, Diptemper. D. D. WORMS, Bots, Grubs. E. E. COUGHS, Colds, Influenza. F. F. COLIC, Biliary, Diarrhea. G. G. PREVENTS MISARRIAGE. H. H. KIDNEY & BLADDER DISORDERS. I. I. MANGE, Skin Diseases. J. K. BAD CONDITION, Starving Coat. L. L. STABLE CASE, Ten Specifics, Book, 50c. M. M. DRUGGISTS OF SOLE PREPARED ON RECEIPT OF PRICE. N. N. HUMPHREYS' MED. CO., Cor. William & John Sts., New York. VETERINARY MANUAL BEST FREE.

NERVOUS DEBILITY, VITAL WEAKNESS and Prostration from Overwork or other causes. Humphreys' Homeopathic Specific No. 22, in use over 40 years, the only successful remedy. \$1 per bottle, or 6 bottles and large trial powder, for \$5. Sold by all druggists, or sent post paid on receipt of price. HUMPHREYS' MED. CO., Cor. William & John Sts., New York.

Shadow and Light. Blend most softly and play most effectively over a festive scene when thrown by waxen candles. The light that heightens beauty's charm, that gives the finished touch to the drawing room or dining room, is the mellow glow of BANQUET WAX CANDLES. Sold in all colors and shades to harmonize with any interior hangings or decorations. Manufactured by STANDARD OIL CO. For sale everywhere.

RAILROAD TIME TABLE. DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA & WESTERN RAILROAD. BLOOMSBURG DIVISION. In Effect August 1st, 1898.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

STOP SMOKING. Treats with you whether you continue the nerve-dulling tobacco habit, or quit it. ELY'S CREAM BALM. COLD IN HEAD. SUBSCRIBE FOR THE COLUMBIAN.

Constipation, Headache, Biliousness, Heartburn, Indigestion, Dizziness, Indicate that your liver is out of order. The best medicine to rouse the liver and cure all these ills, is found in Hood's Pills. 25 cents. Sold by all medicine dealers.

Hood's Pills. 25 cents. Sold by all medicine dealers.

HUMPHREYS' VETERINARY SPECIFICS. A. A. FEVERS, Lung Fever, Milk Fever. B. C. SPRAINS, Lameness, Rheumatism. C. C. EPIZOOTIC, Diptemper. D. D. WORMS, Bots, Grubs. E. E. COUGHS, Colds, Influenza. F. F. COLIC, Biliary, Diarrhea. G. G. PREVENTS MISARRIAGE. H. H. KIDNEY & BLADDER DISORDERS. I. I. MANGE, Skin Diseases. J. K. BAD CONDITION, Starving Coat. L. L. STABLE CASE, Ten Specifics, Book, 50c. M. M. DRUGGISTS OF SOLE PREPARED ON RECEIPT OF PRICE. N. N. HUMPHREYS' MED. CO., Cor. William & John Sts., New York. VETERINARY MANUAL BEST FREE.

NERVOUS DEBILITY, VITAL WEAKNESS and Prostration from Overwork or other causes. Humphreys' Homeopathic Specific No. 22, in use over 40 years, the only successful remedy. \$1 per bottle, or 6 bottles and large trial powder, for \$5. Sold by all druggists, or sent post paid on receipt of price. HUMPHREYS' MED. CO., Cor. William & John Sts., New York.

Shadow and Light. Blend most softly and play most effectively over a festive scene when thrown by waxen candles. The light that heightens beauty's charm, that gives the finished touch to the drawing room or dining room, is the mellow glow of BANQUET WAX CANDLES. Sold in all colors and shades to harmonize with any interior hangings or decorations. Manufactured by STANDARD OIL CO. For sale everywhere.

RAILROAD TIME TABLE. DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA & WESTERN RAILROAD. BLOOMSBURG DIVISION. In Effect August 1st, 1898.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

STOP SMOKING. Treats with you whether you continue the nerve-dulling tobacco habit, or quit it. ELY'S CREAM BALM. COLD IN HEAD. SUBSCRIBE FOR THE COLUMBIAN.

Pennsylvania Railroad.

Time Table in effect Nov. 20, 1898.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

Table with columns for stations (Scranton, Pottsville, etc.) and times for various routes.

GET YOUR JOB PRINTING DONE AT THE COLUMBIAN OFFICE.