

AFRAID OF BANKS. A Deceased Wife's Estate Attorney, Victim in Her Own.

Why is it that the majority of women are afraid of a bank? asks the New York Star. They are only satisfied with money checks, bank-books, or other evidence of money do not please them.

When I read about the woman a few days ago who put her husband in jail for the want of her dress and then lost it, I was reminded of a similar loss, only of a larger amount, which occurred in this city a few years ago.

The husband's lawyer had a certified check for the amount, but the wife wouldn't touch it; she wanted money. In vain did her own counsel assure her that the check was better than money.

She and her mother left the court-house and took the Sixth avenue elevated for Forty-second street. When they got home the money was gone.

The wife explained to her mother the case was closed; that final judgment had been rendered and complied with, that they had resumed upon taking the money.

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THE FAREJON CHILDREN. How They Amused Joseph Jefferson, Their Beloved Grandfather.

R. L. Farjeon, the novelist, is Joseph Jefferson's son-in-law; he lives in London, has a lovely home, a charming family, and he entertains delightfully.

From all I hear, writes Eugene Field in the Chicago News, I judge that his three little children are destined to be the youngest named after his grandpa and he seems to have inherited his grandpa's fondness and facility for art.

Curiously enough, the name of Jefferson—having the same bright blue eyes, delicate features and characteristic smile. This oldest boy—I think his name is Frank—is always saying and doing bright things.

Not long ago the Farjeon children went with their mother to service in one of the neighboring churches where the rector was an extreme ritualist. Worried by all the ceremony, the rector was so shocked by the children's behavior that he asked them to leave.

When we had climbed the bluff at Convent Hill and a heavy fog had settled over the shanty, our ardor began to diminish. We knocked at the door and a woman opened it, looked at us awhile, and then said: "Want to see the house Jesse James was shot in?"

"Well, this is it. Just come right in. There isn't no shooting around here now." We came into a miserably furnished room, and passing through she showed us a perfectly bare room.

"That is it. Just as it was the day they shot 'im. Right there's where he was shot. Jesse James, the robber, the desperado, the man who was shot in the back of the head by a Union soldier." We looked at each other and then she said: "That's where you are to see, grandpa." "That's where you are to see, grandpa," explained the child. "We left it blank on purpose, because we knew you could do it better than we could."

FULL OF BUSINESS. A Woman Who Knows How to Make a Money Windfall on the Train. There was a party of us on the train going to the Rocky mountains, says a correspondent of the St. Joseph (Mo.) News, and one of the passengers was a woman who was a very successful business woman.

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THE KING OF TRAMPS. How Wilson Becker Earned This Questionable Title. He is Only a Lad of Twenty but the Most Expert Knight of the Road in the Country—Story of His Trans-Continental Expedition.

Wilson Becker, alias "Sailor Kid," the regularly elected king of the tramps, has just completed a trip which gives him a perpetual claim on the throne of American vagrancy, says the Baltimore Herald. In May, the young man, whose proud boast is that he "never done a lick of work less I had to" in his life, was made the subject of a wager at Boston.

Becker now offers to venture his sum—the most money he ever had in his life—on the proposition that he can beat his way around the world under the same conditions as those of his transcontinental trip, in 102 days. Meanwhile he backs in the homage of his ragged subjects, who declare that "king king" can't be done by any man who works for a day.

It may be interesting to note how this lad, not yet twenty years old, has solved the problem of living without labor and gained the names by which he is known. He was born in Demaria, British Guiana, and was christened Wilson Becker. At the age of nine he ran away. Working on the sailing ship, he sailed by romantic but unprofitable tales of woe, he made voyages to California, Hong Kong, Honolulu, England, and Australia.

Organization seems to be the keynote of modern civilization, and the tramps are, perhaps, the only organized body of peaceable, industrious, sober artisans. The "Knights of the Road," as they call themselves, hold yearly conventions and keep up a regular communication with each other by means of a sign language unobtainable save to the initiated. These signs, which are where to go, what place to avoid and the route taken by the maker. They appear cut or chalked on fences, are displayed in paint or pencil along the route, and are used by the tramps to avoid the police and to find their way.

It is estimated by King Wilson I that he has 30,000 subjects throughout the United States. He doesn't comprise in this number the honest poor, who are looking for employment, or the capitalistic greys who own horses and wagons and journey from place to place, tinkering broken pots and pans, making sharp trades and devastating hen roosts and melon patches. His lieges are those only who "don't have to work" and who would do a woodpile or a job quicker than they would a pest house. The ever present nuisance of this great army of leeches has become so intolerable that many States carry on their statute books laws that might seem harsh and uncharitable to the theoretic philanthropist, but which, with all their severity, seem obvious in their checking the growth of voluntary idleness.

TALK OF INFANTS. When Does the Language of Babies Become Intelligent? The Listener of the Boston Transcript mentions the case of a fond mother of his acquaintance who had a remarkable baby, who, the mother insists, says "Mamma's little" and distinctly that anybody in the world could make it out. And this is the way, exactly, that the baby pronounced it: "Mamma's little, Mamma's little." This is not nearly such plain English as that used by a friend of the Listener's, now a man and an honest and able one, who when he was two years old, mystified the members of his family by calling out in the imperative mood: "Biscuit, biscuit, biscuit!"

The Bonnet Wouldn't Fit. While waiting for a train at Yokohama station not many years ago, a tourist observed a Japanese gentleman familiarly attired in European style. Theropment a Japanese lady (also dressed after the manner of civilized nations) and left his hat with a pretty bow made in the orthodox Western style. Theropment Mrs. Chrysanthem, looking a trifle embarrassed, essayed to return the compliment by lifting her bonnet. Finding, however, that this transaction failed, she declined to yield, the poor, little lady tugged at it hard with both hands; but as all her exertions were unavailing, she ultimately slid her hands down the front of her dress and inclined her body after the manner of uncivilized Japanese when they meet each other in the street naturally clothed.

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