

PRINCE AND PAUPER.

The Prince passed by. A careless boy... As he watched him ride away... Thought, "Oh, for a taste of the boundless joy... Where the Prince must feast each day..."

To sometime play a Prince's part... The Prince passed by; his heart was sad... With a thousand cares oppressed...

A HAPPY MAN.

The doctor did not have an easy time of it in the East End parish... where he had bought a cheap practice and settled down with his youth...

He had the remembrance of a happy country home where his boyhood had been passed... he had thoughts of another woman—her letters, sometimes—the promise of herself before long...

"Oh!" she said, "I'm sorry the fire's out, sir..." "Never mind," said Murray, "I shall have to go out again after dinner, I expect..."

"Why, she is, sir, so to speak. I wouldn't leave her if I could help it... But I always commend her to the Lord before I go out, and He ain't never failed us yet..."

"She says, 'God bless you,' sir... 'God bless you, sir, take a woman's blessing, it's a solemn fact... It's a solemn fact, sir, take a woman's blessing, it's a solemn fact...'"

He told the story of his gross unselfish life without any idea that it was either the one or the other... Indeed, he would have been surprised

"Sir," he said, "I take this kind of you..." Dr. Murray could not at first discern his face, but the tone of the voice struck him pleasantly...

There was a small fire in the grate... A lamp was on the round table... There was a chair—only one chair—

When Mr. Temple said there wasn't much the matter, it has to be borne in mind that he had been wont to see her for five-and-twenty years like this...

"She had a stroke, and she has been paralyzed ever since," said Mr. Temple simply...

It would have been difficult to say what her age might have been... she was as much a wreck of a woman... as a matter of fact ten years younger than her husband...

"I fancy," said Mr. Temple, "she's had a bit of a chill... Do what I will this room's draughty, and she naturally feels the cold..."

"Yes," said Mr. Temple, "she does... You may be sure if she owns to it there's reason... The only thing we ever quarrel about is that she won't ever say what ails her, unless I worry it out..."

"Who attends to her?" he inquired, when he had asked Temple a few questions and written a prescription...

"Do you mean you do everything?" "Why, yes, sir... Who should I not be? She is my wife... I used to be a bit clumsy at first, but I've had time to learn..."

"Again the grateful, devoted eyes shone upon him... The doctor had seen how a woman could look when she loves... There were times when the remembrance of shining, long-lashed, upturned eyes thrilled him...

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"I get up early of a morning, you see, sir," said Temple, "and make our breakfasts and attend to her... Then before I start for work—I'm in an engineer's employ—I just board her up in bed so as she can't fall out..."

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He told the story of his gross unselfish life without any idea that it was either the one or the other... Indeed, he would have been surprised

if the doctor had followed his inclination to wring his hand and tell him he was proud to make his acquaintance... And the doctor did not know the extent of his self-sacrifice...

When Dr. Murray had gone, the old man got ready for the night... He was obliged to retire early whenever possible... He brought warm water to the bedside and washed the hands...

"I am going off for a month," he said to John... "When I come back I hope to bring another friend to see you..."

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From the bed there came a strange sound... It was something between a laugh and a sob... And the doctor turning, looked away again...

Natal Natives Burn the Forest and Drive the Reptiles in a Pit... The colony of Natal, South Africa, abounds in boa constrictors and pythons...

HUNTING PYTHONS.

Some of the soldiers at Pietermaritzburg were recently informed by a party of neighboring Zulus of the whereabouts of a huge python...

An enormous cage with iron bars half way down the front having been constructed the snake was got out of the pit and taken into Macitzburg in the cage...

A gentleman in Maritzburg owns a python that has been confined in a cage for over thirteen months... During this period the snake has not eaten a mouthful of food...

Curiosities About Wood.

The strongest wood which grows within the limits of the United States is that known as "nutmeg" hickory...

The weight in pounds per square foot (without fractions) of the well-known woods (dry) is as follows:

Butternut, 25; cedar, 35; cherry, 44; chestnut, 58; cork, 15; dogwood, 47; ebony, 83; box elder, 43; elm, 41; blue gum, 52; water gum, 62; white hickory, 49; shellbark hickory, 43; holly, 47; juniper, 35; lancewood, 45; larch, 34; basswood or linn, 37; mahogany, 66; hard maple, 46; white maple, 34; mulberry, 35; white oak, 53; persimmon, 44; pear, 41; pitch pine, 41; red pine, 36; white pine, 34; yellow pine, 33; plum, 49; poplar, 33; spruce, 31; sycamore, 38; tamarack, 23; black walnut, 41; white walnut, 32; the willows, from 30 to 36, and the yew, 49.

Four hundred and thirteen different species of trees grow in the different States and Territories...

The great fortifications at Quebec, which first and last have cost \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000, are crumbling down, and no effort will be made to restore them...

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

INTERESTING NOTES AND MATTERS OF MOMENT.

Queer Facts and Thrilling Adventures Which Show that Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

A GEORGIA grower has succeeded in raising a seedless watermelon.

TWO-THIRDS of the flotsam and jetsam carried by the Gulf Stream sooner or later finds its way into the Saratoga Sea.

THE Congo has twice the extent of the navigable waters of the Mississippi and its tributaries, and three times its population.

CHARLES McILVAINE, the American expert on fungi, claims to have eaten full meals of over 400 species of toadstools without ever having been poisoned.

NEWARK, N. J., is a great place for cork-screws. One firm in that city made last year 150,000,000, enough, if they were placed end to end, to half encircle the globe.

MR. ED. C. HILL, of Hart county, Kentucky, has a pair of steelyards, which have been in active use 125 years in Kentucky, and were possibly in use many years previous in Virginia...

A SUSPENDED city has been discovered of Glacier Bay, Alaska, by a party of excursionists. This curious phenomenon is seen regularly after full moon in June, and in no other time...

THE Hindoos have a queer way of emphasizing what they have got to say. In most villages is a sacred tree, a pipal tree, and the gods are supposed to delight to sit among its leaves and listen to the music of their rustling...

ONE of the experiments made by those whose business it is to test the strength of dynamite, gun cotton and other explosives, is to place fresh plucked leaves between two plates of panel steel and explode cartridges on the upper plate...

A PECULIAR incident happened while the Sixth Regiment were engaged in rifle practice at the New Jersey State camp at Sea Girt. Lieutenant R. B. Albertson was trying to qualify on the 300 yard range...

THE British Central African Gazette says that nearly 3,000 hunters leave Tete and Zumbo annually to shoot elephants in the territory north of Zambesi...

IT is a remarkable fact that the deepest parts of the sea are in all cases very near the land. The deepest sounding known, 4,665 fathoms, or 27,999 feet, was obtained 110 miles from the Kurile Islands...

HARVEY Carpenter, of Grassy, Morgan county, Kentucky, raised a gourd, which, cleaned and dried, held twenty-one gallons and one quart of water. A gentleman of Mt. Sterling came into possession of the gourd...

THERE'S a romance in Forepaugh's show that isn't apparent to the

careless eye, says the Lewiston Journal. Becky, the elephant, is deeply in love with one of the camels, who doesn't seem to respond as ardently as could be desired...

A PARIS correspondent describes one of the oddest industries of that city to be found in a little shop in the Rue des Ecoles, which deals exclusively with the second-hand boots of the men who work in the sewers...

A WONDERFUL child, who, at the age of two years, can read with fluency any writing or printing in German or Latin characters, pronouncing correctly the most difficult words, is described in the columns of the Magdeburger Zeitung...

RECENTLY a remarkable phenomenon occurred at Pocatello, Idaho, which, though not unprecedented, has evoked much interest. During the afternoon of a fine, balmy spring day, a light, drizzling rain set in with a brisk breeze from the south...

THEIR explanation is that it must have originated in the Great Salt Lake in Utah, nearly three hundred miles away. A strong south wind had probably swept across the Great Lake on a warm day and, catching up the salt vapor from the water, had carried it away northward, to deposit it in Pocatello.

DUNMOW, in Essex County, England, has been bringing itself before the public again by a revival of its fitch-of-bacon ceremony. Dunmow ought to be able to furnish some answers to the great question of how to be happy though married...

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THE state with the greatest railroad mileage is Illinois—10,428 miles. Next come Pennsylvania, with 9,435; Texas, with 9,184; Kansas, with 8,934; Ohio, with 8,538; Iowa, with 8,513; and New York, with 8,110.