

SUMMUM BONUM.

How blest is he that can but love and do. And has no skill of speech nor trick of art...

The Silver Dollar.

BY EDWARD BOLTWOOD.

"Oh, it's bound to turn out all right," said Ormiston to himself, for perhaps the twentieth time that evening. "I'll strike the story to-night, and write it to-morrow, and get the check for it Wednesday morning. A dollar is enough to keep me until then."

"You got it, ain't you, Barney?" "Naw—McPhee's got it." "He ain't neither—it rolled away off."

He had been watching her with a good deal of curiosity. She was dressed in brown linen and her coppery hair was twisted severely below the brim of her straw sailor hat.

"You are a blackguardly insulter of women," she said. "Oh, no, I'm not," returned the young Southerner. "That is, I don't think I am. What other reason is there for keeping you here like a statue? If I'm wrong, I'll make every amend which you and I can suggest that I ought to make."

"You can do so, of course," said Ormiston, "but that would be a pretty poor ending for the story. You're from Georgia, aren't you?"

"I'm from Richmond County," he went on. "Mighty strange the way the old Georgian tongue sticks to us, isn't it? It comes out strongest in folks when they're homesick, I reckon. And I knew quick off where you were raised, Miss. My name is Ormiston."

"Kia to the Colquits of Lexington?" "They're my cousins." "Do you like visiting North, Miss Colquitt?"

"There, that's right," said she with a smile. "But your purse—" "It's my pride that has kept it empty. Mr. Ormiston, and now, thanks to you my pride has been taught a lesson. Perhaps I shall see you again. Good night."

He stopped short, staring blankly at his own image in a shop window. "The story!" he gasped. "I wonder if that's enough—but it doesn't end. What should become of the heroine?"

SOURCES OF GUTTA-PERCHA.

Efforts Now Making to Extend the Cultivation of This Useful Tree.

Two years ago Mr. Leonard Weiller of France sounded an alarm with regard to the future supply of gutta-percha. This gum has been utilized for insulating purposes for over sixty years and is considered a necessity for submarine cables.

The Malay Archipelago, Borneo and Sumatra have always been the largest sources of supply. Within the past two years naturalists have been sent out from France, England and Holland to make studies of the conditions under which the plant grows best and report upon the best means of increasing the production.

The Dutch Government is now planting the trees in various parts of the Dutch East Indies. It is asserted, however, by French experts, that the Dutch are using inferior qualities of the plant. The British authorities in the East Indies have thus far limited their efforts to regulations making it a misdemeanor to destroy immature trees.

In a pamphlet published in Germany last year the writer asserted that the Philippines are among the few places in the world in which the gutta percha tree reaches its best development. It is well worth while to ascertain whether this statement in regard to our new possessions is accurate. If these trees may be successfully cultivated in the Philippines a new source of wealth open to American enterprise will be available.

The prospect is that within the next half century more ocean cable will be laid than is now in service if the supply of gutta percha is adequate for the protection of all the submarine wires needed. Up to the present time nothing has been found which will supplant gutta percha for this purpose. The demand for gutta percha is, therefore, almost unlimited and the price it commands makes it a very profitable commodity to handle.

At present the supply is so short that the mere laying of an American cable some time ago raised the price nearly 50 per cent.—New York Sun.

It is said to have cost Sir Thomas Lipton \$462,085 to attempt to lift the America cup this year. The building of Shamrock II cost \$325,000. The rest was spent in bringing her across the ocean and in defraying the expenses of her crew.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN PERU.

The Final Distinction Between Men There is Founded Upon Riches.

The most interesting feature of an article on "Social Conditions in Peru," by Charles E. George, in Quinton's Magazine, is the paragraph relating to what constitutes aristocracy in Peru. Mr. George says that "the don, living in Peru in his casa de hacienda like a lord in his castle, having a numerous vassalry at his beck—planting, rearing, distilling his aguardiente, tending his flocks of cattle—far though he be above them, frequently betrays in his swart skin the same blood as that which flows in the veins of those he rules."

Mr. Proctor, the sculptor, tells of an encounter with a truly Dickensian female during a sojourn in London. She was the true "Mrs. Raddle" of Lant street; but since Mr. Proctor was in the habit of more or less paying his rent she was Bob Sawyer's "Mrs. Raddle" in good humor.

After a time this female appeared at the door with the breakfast service. She stood with the tray in her hands and made a peculiar squat courtesy before him, and, dropping her eyes, remarked, deprecatively:

"Ho! Mr. Proctor. If honly yer'd a ad' on a stockin', ye know!" This formula never varied while the sculptor occupied the "Chambers."

A writer in the London Standard, declares the idea that genius is usually modest to be a popular delusion. On the contrary, he alleges egotism to be the very essence of true genius, and quotes many amusing examples.

When Wordsworth, Southey and Coleridge were walking together and Coleridge remarked that the day was so fine "it might have been ordered for three poets," the gentle Wordsworth promptly exclaimed "Three poets! Who are the other two?"

Disraeli, then a mere youth, wrote to his sister that he had heard Macaulay, Sheil and Grant speak, "but between ourselves I could floor them all." And again he said, "When I want to read a good book I write one."

Our own Joaquin Miller wrote Walt Whitman: "You and I are over the head of the rabble. We know we are great, and if other people don't know it it is their own fault."

"Do dogs like cheese? Well, I should say so," exclaimed a waiter in a lunch cafe. "I imagine that dogs prefer cheese to any other food that is going. I didn't know this myself till two or three months ago. Then, one afternoon, a man happened in here with a very nice fox terrier, and I tossed the animal a lump of cheese from a plate which a pie-eater had just abandoned. 'Oh, he won't eat that,' said the owner of the dog. 'Very likely not,' said I. But by the time the terrier had hopped with a grunt of joy on the morsel, and he swallowed it with such a blissful look as I never saw on a dog's face before. And—would you believe it—the next morning, bright and early, that fox terrier came in here alone, and ran to me, and looked up in my face, wagging his tail. I thought I knew what he wanted, but to make sure, I threw him a bit of meat. He turned away from it in disgust. Then I threw him a bit of cheese, and he was happy. He hung around two days. His owner located him at last and took him home. I'll keep a stock of cheese on hand for him hereafter," said the owner. 'or otherwise I knew he'll return to you again.'—Philadelphia Record.

Not six per cent of all the women in America spend as much money as \$50 a year on their clothes.

WEST POINT FREE FROM HAZING.

Improved Conditions at the Military Academy Reported by Colonel Mills.

The most important feature of the annual report of Col. A. L. Mills, Superintendent of the Military Academy, West Point, relates to the measures taken for the suppression of hazing. Treating of discipline, he says: "The discipline of the corps of cadets has greatly improved during the year, and is now in an excellent state. It is believed no military body of its size exists which excels it in soldierly appearance and in the perfection of drill and military exercises, as well as in the higher requirements of devotion to duty."

Throughout the past summer's encampment, which is the time when new cadets are being initiated into their new life and when hazing is ordinarily practiced, it is a fact that the great majority of cadets have obeyed the new order of affairs and the regulations loyally and willingly. Not one case of maltreatment of a new cadet is believed to have occurred; none have been required to perform services of a menial nature for old cadets; there has been a prearranged fighting, and new-cadet training has made exceptional progress. One cadet was severely punished for giving an unauthorized and absurd order to a new cadet, and another for exceeding his authority as a drill-master over them. The action of the latter arose, I believe, through excessive zeal rather than a hazing spirit.

"Another reform has also been accomplished—the abolition of what is known as official hazing, or the harsh and nagging tones of the cadet instructors over new cadets and cadet officers exercising authority, and the substitution thereof of methods more appropriate for the training and education of young men to command in an American army."

"The reforms that have been indicated mark an important era in the history of discipline and military instruction at the Academy. Diligence and discretion on the part of the responsible officers will make these reforms permanent without in the slightest degree marring the perfection of drill, appearance, and discipline. The custom among cadets of settling disputes or difficulties among themselves by pre-arranged and often brutal fist-fights is over, and there need be no apprehension that the stoppage of such affairs will in any way impair a proper habit of manly self-defense against personal assaults or insults."

Cocoa, Cacao, Au Cocos.

"Speaking of confusion in the use of words," said a visitor to the city from Nicaragua, "I read a story some time ago which was credited to a physician, and I was impressed with the belief that he was either misquoted or that he had gotten slightly mixed in his botany. He was talking about cocoa, cocaine, coccolas and things of that sort, and he attempted to straighten out some of the popular errors, but instead of doing so he made matters worse."

"Now, I am engaged in the business of a cocoa planter, near San Carlos, and I believe I ought to know something about the business. Cacao is one thing, cocoa is another, and coca is still another. Cocoa is made from the seed of the chocolate tree, but chocolate is made from the seed of the cacao, the broma cacao. It is a rather curious fact that this word cacao is invariably spelled incorrectly in nearly all advertisements. Any good botanical dictionary will show you the difference between cocoa, the cocoanut palm; cacao, the broma cacao and coca, the cocaine shrub. Yet these words are commonly confused and misspelled in newspapers and other advertising mediums, and the members of the medical profession, it seems, are not exempt from the same mistakes. They are separate things, with separate properties, and are put to separate use, and any good botanist will indorse this statement."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Unlucky Names For Ships.

Nothing is ever likely to shake the naval superstition that ships named after things that sting are doomed to loss. Besides the Viper and Cobra, the Serpent was lost with nearly all her crew, the Wasp was wrecked with heavy loss off Tory Island, and a second Wasp, a gunboat, disappeared in a typhoon, never to be heard of again. In consequence of this double disaster to ships named Wasp that name has been struck out of the admiralty list of available names. In the past we have lost a Rattlesnake, Gadfly and Hornet. Probably a new Viper and a new cobra will be built, but should anything happen to either of them the name of the other is almost certain to be changed by the authorities in deference to the sentiment that prevails abroad concerning unlucky names. The only exception that obtains is the Resolution. The present ship is the tenth. No less than eight of them have had tragic fates, and the present one some years since very nearly met disaster at sea. Most of the old Resolutions, however, earned glory first in battle, hence the perpetuation of the name.—London Chronicle.

Last Acts of Operas.

A laughable suggestion has been made for next opera season. A musical correspondent proposes to have a night set apart occasionally for representing the last acts of famous operas, as, owing to their frequently commencing at or near midnight, there are thousands who have never heard the final acts of many famous operas.

LATEST HAPPENINGS ALL OVER THE STATE.

The Latest News Gleaned From All Over the State.

A \$150,000 FIRE IN BRADFORD.

City Hall Among the Dozen Buildings Burned—Carnegie Men Receive Stock—Pittsburg Woman Entertained Friends on Her 107th Birthday—\$700 Found With a Corpse—Corapolis Oil Plant Damaged by Fire.

These pensions were granted: Pennsylvania—Henry J. Westerman, Allegheny, \$6; Frederick M. Atkinson, Pittsburg, \$6; Charles Matz, Pittsburg, \$6; John Stauffer, Pittsburg, \$6; John Ashman, Greenview Furnace, \$12; Harmon Moser, Waynesboro, \$8; Jones Shell, Millburg, \$8; John F. Householder, McConnellstown, \$24; Andrew Harsberger, Mattawana, \$8; Henry C. Connelville, \$8; Aggie A. Groscope, Pittsairn, \$8; Sarah A. McKeown, Pittsburg, \$12; Margaret Moodie, Fisher, \$12; Eliza J. Irwin, Barnards, \$12; William B. Weston, East McKeesport, \$6; Curtis D. Cross, Parthenia, \$6; Daniel Ringer, State Line, \$6; Loth Mader, Erie, \$6; Henry Peoples, Allegheny, \$8; Samuel Humer, Newburg, \$8; Henry C. Carmon, Huntingdon, \$8; Martin Wortse, Tyrone, \$8; George Wigner, Lewistown, \$10; Justus Routh, Altoona, \$8; Henry C. Huhn, Smithfield, \$8; Daniel Haas, Mt. Pleasant Mills, \$10; William B. Krape, Johnstown, \$8; Rebecca Risheberger, Johnstown, \$8; Caroline Kellogg, Sayre, \$8.

Fire in the livery stable of F. Kocheuner, in the upper end of Harrisburg, destroyed the stable, with ten horses and many carriages, and also three dwelling-houses, were burned, and two dwellings were badly damaged. The loss is estimated at \$10,000.

The members of the Farmers' Union of North Coventry attended services in the Parkersford Baptist Church, Pottstown, and listened to a sermon by Rev. William T. Johnston, the pastor. His text was "Behold a sower went forth to sow."

Mrs. Mary Neiman, of North Coventry, who spent Sunday sitting her son, Milton Neiman, of Pottstown, fell dead on her return home as she was about to enter her gate.

William Stebbins, a two-year-old boy, fell into a sewer at Berwick and was unconscious from the effects of gas when rescued by Mrs. Robert Good.

Milton N. Bernhart, member of the State House of Representatives from Lehigh county from 1891 to 1894, died at his home in Allentown, aged 55 years.

The barn of Andrew Porter, of Pine Grove Township, was burned together with the season's crops, three horses, four cows and farming implements.

Melvin F. Weisenale, son of Amos Weisenale, of Midway, a suburb of Hanover, who was shot by the accidental discharge of a revolver in the hands of his cousin, Harry Miller, died of his injuries, after suffering for about ten hours. An inquest was held. After hearing the testimony, a verdict was rendered that young Weisenale caused his death by a gunshot wound, caused by the handling of a shotgun by Harry Miller, without any intention or forethought of discharging the gun, and without any intention of voluntarily taking life. Miller was afterwards arrested, to appear before the Adams County Court.

Twenty-one department heads at the Edgar Thomson Steel Works, of the Carnegie Company, at Braddock, have received blocks of company stock ranging from \$30,000 to \$50,000 each. In each case the 5 per cent interest guaranteed on the bonds will produce an amount equal to the recipient's salary. At other plants it is said similar awards "this purpose as rapidly as the department heads are thought to deserve it. The beneficiaries at Braddock have their pay doubled by this arrangement, and in addition will have the principal of the bonds when they are due. Camille Merzader, chief draughtsman of the company, who is said to be a Hungarian count, was given \$75,000 worth of bonds.

One of the worst fires in the history of Bradford occurred Friday morning. It originated in the livery stable of Frank P. Beamer and consumed a dozen buildings, including the \$35,000 city hall. Thirty-seven horses in one livery stable perished in the flames, and the \$10,000 library of Brown & Schoonmaker, city attorneys, was totally destroyed, together with valuable maps. The fire was discovered at 3.30 A. M., and it burned fiercely until 5.30, when the firemen gained control of the flames. The fire burned buildings on three streets, Kennedy and Boylston streets and Patent avenue. The loss is estimated at \$150,000. The city records were in fireproof vaults and were not damaged.

While driving from Factoryville to Scranton, John McNulty had an exciting experience with a bear which rushed from the woods adjoining the road. McNulty had a quantity of meat in the wagon and this first attracted the attention of brui. While the bear was munching the meat, McNulty left his horse and wagon and fled to a house some distance away for help and a gun. A crowd of hunters was organized, but when they arrived on the scene brui had finished his meal and disappeared again in the woods.

Miss Elizabeth Huey, of Reading, fell dead in the drug store of John B. Raser & Son. After the body had been removed to the morgue three purses were found on her person. Two of them were sewed into the lining of her skirt. In addition, gold and greenbacks were concealed in various parts of her clothing. The money aggregated \$700. Of this \$450 was in gold. Death was said to have been caused by heart disease.

Mrs. Sarah Kelly, of Pittsburg, Friday evening gave a party to celebrate her 107th birthday. She was born in Ireland in 1794. Mrs. Kelly is able to read the daily papers regularly without the use of glasses, and her memory is good as to events which occurred in the early part of the last century.

A fire in the plant of the Pittsburg Oil Refining Company, at Corapolis, destroyed the main refining building, the waxhouse, compound houses, filtering houses and boiler house and spread to the tanks, 100 in number. The buildings destroyed covered four acres and the loss may be \$70,000.