

PEBBLES.

—Hi-tory of the Middle Ages—the biography of old maids.

—Why is an unsteady man like an unsteady light? Because he is apt to go out nights.

—Some things a woman doesn't know, of course; but one of them isn't what she thinks of some other woman.

—An expert clergyman, at marriage, could make about four knots an hour with favorable wind.

—He: "Dear Alice, give me a kiss—just one." She: "I care not; I have never kissed a man." He: "Neither have I. I swear it."

—Polite burglar: "Madam, you are too young to wear such unattractive jewelry. You must really permit me to recommend a new set."

—When Artemus Ward was exhibiting his show in Salt Lake City, his complimentary tickets to the city officials read: "Admit bearer and one wife."

—"Young man," said the temperance reformer, "do you drink?" "Yes," replied the youth; "but you'll have to excuse me. I've just had two treats."

—Dawdle: "Aw—bawkeeper, give me—aw—a new drink; something I've nevaw had befaw." Barkeeper: "Yes, sir." Passes out a glass of ice-water.

—She: "Are you going to the picnic on Tuesday, George?" He: "Oh, yes!" She, with indifference: "Alone, George?" He: "No; I shall take an umbrella."

—Ada: "Why, one of your cheeks is red as fire, and the other pale as a ghost." Ella: "Yes. Harry was on one side, and I was afraid mamma would see us on the other."

—"I tell you, Susan, that I will commit suicide if you won't have me." "Well, Thomas, as soon as you have given me that proof of your affection, I will believe that you love me."

—At a concert a vocalist began to sing "Should auld Acquaintance be Forgot," when the house was set in a roar by somebody who squeaked out, in a piping voice: "Not if they've got money!"

—"You want a keepsake that will always remind you of me?" she said. "I do, darling," he said tenderly. "What's the matter with myself?" she whispered. There will be a wedding shortly.

—"I suppose you must be tired of my talking," said his girl, after she had been talking about fifteen minutes without his being able to get in a word. "Oh, no," he replied; "I get shaved at a barber's."

—Wife (reading paper): "Here is an account of a man who sold his wife for twenty-five dollars. Isn't it dreadful?" Husband (thoughtfully): "Well, I dunno twenty-five dollars is a good deal of money."

—A timid young man has married a lady whose weight verges closely upon two hundred pounds. "My dear," he says to her, "shall I help you over the fence?" "No," says she to him; "help the fence."

—Mrs. Blank is generally of a very amiable disposition, but she said a bitter thing to her domestic the other day. She expressed the awful wish that Bridget might one day be well enough off to engage a servant herself. The poor girl was quite broken down, and cried like a baby.

—Young wife: "John, dear, have you decided what name to give our dear, precious sweet little baby?" Young husband: "Yes; I have found a very appropriate one." Young wife: "What is it?" Young husband (who has paced the floor with "precious" o' nights): "Inagompa."

A BAD STORY.

About the Awful Experience of a Monk.

It was a dark and cold night in winter; the clock of Saint-Nizier-de-Marcigny had just struck nine; the Church of the Convent of the Recolets was illuminated only by the flickering lamp; and the silence was broken only by the whistling of a gusty wind that blew the flying snow against the window panes. In a fit of the rigor of the season and the advanced hour, a woman was piously kneeling on the stone floor not far from the principal altar. All at once she seemed to hear distant groans mingling with the tumult of the tempest. She listened; the plaints seemed to be repeated. She was seized with trembling; but, in spite of it, she went forward some steps in the direction of the sound, and distinguished a hollow voice calling at intervals an "I with great effort, "Help, brother Recolets, help! O God, help me!"

A prey to unspeakable terror, the woman rushed from the church, rang at the convent gate and demanded to see the prior instantly. The latter, being her spiritual director, and knowing the austere life of his penitent, thought that she had been the victim of an aberration of the senses, caused by excessive fasting and attended no importance to the fact of which he saw no other plausible explanation. He therefore reassured her as well as he could and dismissed her as soon as he saw she was more calm.

A month later one of the Recolets Fathers died. His body, followed by all the religious and by a large multitude of laymen, was taken to the church. The service ended, the cortege moved toward the vault of the convent. It was situated beneath the church, and was reached by means of a flight of steps communicating with one of the side chapels and the entrance was closed with a heavy stone. When they reached the chapel, some of those present united their forces to remove the stone. As soon as a ray of light had illuminated the entrance to the vault, they beheld a spectacle which they gazed at with cries of horror. A corpse in the habit of a monk was kneeling on the upper steps, with face turned toward the ground. The features preserved the expression of acute agony; deep bites in the hands and the lower arms attested that the unfortunate being had fought for long hours against the torture of hunger. His habit, his shoulders and the skin on the crown of his head had been worn by rubbing against the unyielding stone, which he had vainly struggled to lift; and his contracted muscles, which still showed themselves in bold relief against the skin, proved that death alone had put an end to his desperate efforts. It was the body of a young brother who had been laid in the tomb the month before. M. Lenormand says that this took place a few years before the great French Revolution, at Marcigny (Saone-et-Loire) and that at the time he wrote there were some few old people still living there who recollected the facts.

Last Dollar of Debt Paid.

NO MORE INTEREST FOR THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR OF THE BOROUGH TO PAY.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE TAX-PAYERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Twenty months ago I was elected to the important office of Overseer of the Poor. Upon assuming the duties of my office in March, 1886, I found a debt of over \$2,000 remaining unpaid. "This debt I said must be paid and at the same time the poor must be well kept." In this I was stimulated by the excellent record made by Mr. Keichline my predecessor.

The debts paid by me are as follows:

Judgment Centre county vs. Boro. Overseer...\$1066.66
Judgment E. J. Pruner, vs. Boro. Overseer...1048.30

Total debt paid...\$2114.96

During the year ending March 1887 I have aided, maintained and assisted in keeping sixty three persons outside of the Poor House at a cost to the public of twenty-six hundred and twenty-nine dollars and thirteen cents (\$2629.13) my information is that this is the largest number of persons, outside of the Poor House, that has ever been furnished relief by the overseer of the borough. It is to be remembered that as our population increases the number of people to be relieved necessarily increases. The expenses for the year ending first Monday of March, 1888, will be about the same as they were for the year previous.

I have been very frequently asked if it paid to keep a Poor House. I answer it certainly does. It cost the borough Overseer for the year ending in March 1887, six hundred and twenty-two dollars and forty-two cents (\$622.42). During the time mentioned I lodged and fed at the House, thirty-eight persons for longer or shorter periods While I supported and maintained at the Poor House during the year eight persons and of this number three or four were sick for months at a time. Some of the sick, at least, could not have been kept and cared for in private families short of \$25 to \$30 per month. Very few families want to keep and care for a sick stranger or poor person at any cost, and the fact that they are kept and well cared for, and attended at this house for very much less demonstrates not only the necessity, but the benefits of the Poor House. There is another view of it. The people at this house feel at home and are perfectly contented and are company for each other.

The family in charge of the Poor House deserves and are entitled to much credit for the faithful manner in which they cared for the sick, and managed the house aiding much in keeping down unnecessary expense.

And now that the debt has been paid with a reduction of one mill in the amount of millage laid for Poor tax for 1887, I am perfectly safe in saying that for 1888 three mills will be all that is needed for poor purposes. During the first year I served it was five, this year four and because we have faithfully applied the funds collected, and paid the debt, we are able to still further reduce the amount of the levy one mill.

Very Respectfully,
JAMES SCHOFIELD.

SUFFERING WOMEN MARRIED OR SINGLE.

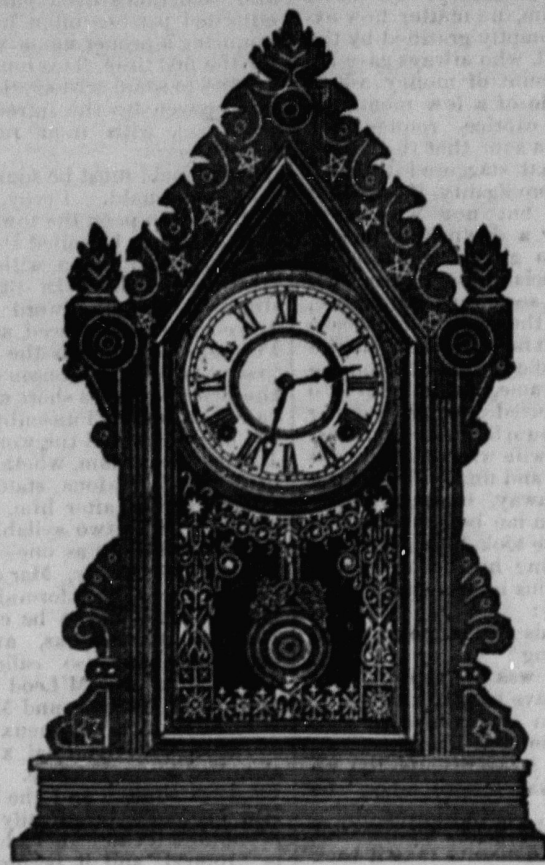
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