

The Patience Of Job.

Let the unbelievers, the doubting Thomases, who refused to accept the reformation theory, spend their time with the man in the Bureau of Information at the Reading Terminal and be convinced.

I spent half of a busy day behind the rail with him and when I left I vowed solemnly I should never leave the Bureau of Information man again.

After considerable experimenting I have found that the best question to test a bureau man's temper is to ask him innocently if your hat is on straight.

Once I asked this question with a terrible result. The man had been a valued employe of the road for years and was regarded by all as the personification of patience. I had a few minutes to spare, and I asked the bureau man this harmless little question.

"Oh, this is too much," and the bureau man tried to spring through the small window at me.

It was a terrible moment. I ran, of course, and from a safe distance watched seven strong men try to hold him. Then they took him away in iron, a gibbering idiot.

And so it was that I stood at a respectful distance when I asked this question of the Reading Terminal man just to try him. He put his head on one side, shut one eye and then said slowly and thoughtfully, "Swing her a little to the north-west."

He stood the test well, and I went inside.

The next one to arrive after myself was a man who came in with a white beard like the giant in the seven-league boots. His hat was on the back of his head, he was breathless, drops of perspiration stood on his forehead.

"Papers, papers," he gasped, "valuable papers; had 'em in my hand; left 'em in the car—gone, gone; been downstairs; not there; been upstairs; not there; been—"

"What are those papers sticking out of your overcoat pocket?" interrupted the bureau man. The man thrust his hand in his pocket, and his look of wild excitement changed to one of foolishness. He went out saying something about an expected visit from the fool-killer.

He closed the door in a Chinaman's face, the Chinaman opened it and came in. He was a fat Chinaman in a purple shirt and he had a face as round and expressionless as a Mary-laud biscuit.

"Face straight!" he said.

The bureau man directed him almost entirely with gestures. When he had finished, the Chinaman, with the same blank expression on his countenance, turned and started out of the building exactly as he had been told. "Or all right," said the bureau man, "most exciting the Americans, the Chinese and the Hungarians are the most difficult. They are the torment of my life."

An up-country woman came in with four children forming a procession behind her. The children sat down on the floor. Each produced a raisin "cookie" and began to eat.

"Give me a table time," said the woman.

"Where to?" asked Mr. Bureau Man.

"Youst a little way up de road."

"How far up the road?"

"Bout dirty miles."

"What station—what town?" he asked, with a groan.

"Elkton town," she answered, sharply. "Dat's no place," he groaned. She snatched the time table out of his hand and jerked each arch in turn on its feet, then the procession fled out.

A suave little man, with a suave little voice, wanted to know when he could go to Reading. After receiving his information he asked: "Don't you get tired of answering questions?"

"Sometimes," replied the man. When the door was closed he said: "I got more tired of answering that question than any other in my business. I do it three times a day. The man who asks, 'Is it hot enough for you?' is a positive relief."

A jolly, good-natured looking Swede, twenty-two or three years of age, wandered in.

"I haf been lost already," he announced, and then stood waiting, as though he had exploded a bombshell.

"Well?" asked the man inquiringly.

"I come this morning already from White Haven (Haven) to say my brother. I haf where he haf in my neck, and I lose him. I pay \$5.00 for my ticket, and now I must go back. I haf no place to sleep, and I haf not seen my brother already. His name is You Anderson. You know him?"

"The inquiry man said he did not."

Two hours later the Swede was still walking up and down the platform with the same cheerful expression on his face, waiting for the train for "White Haven."

An excited man, a Jew, rushed in. "Has the 10:19 train gone?" he asked in an agonized face.

"Yes," was the reply.

"Mine Gott! mine Gott! I lose \$200," and the excited man ture down the platform with the evident intention of running to his destination.

A young man of nervous eighteen walked in briskly. The impression was among the by-standers that he had had an encounter with the noble animal that always makes it a point to die in the ceiling.

"Can you tell me whether it is raining in Hattboro or not?" he asked.

"This is not a weather bureau, neither am I a weather prophet; but as it is raining here, and Hattboro is only about

twenty miles away, the chances are it is."

"I thought you got telegrams about the weather," said the young man as he walked briskly out.

"Crowds come and went. A pretty girl came in to see if she had time to go home and dress before the train left for Lethlehem.

"The bureau man thought she had if she could accomplish the feat in twenty minutes.

The girl decided she could not, and then she asked him if he thought she looked well enough to go to a tea. The bureau man was equal to the emergency. He looked her over critically, and gave it as his opinion that if she got some of the mud off from her boots and brushed her hair a bit she was all right.

A prominent business man in the city came to see if he really had missed his train, to call the officials on the outside had told him.

"It's hard luck, but I'm afraid you have," and the bureau man smiled slightly.

The man saw the smile and it was not a smile of condolence.

"You are laughing at me because I lost my train. How dare you laugh, sir! How dare you? Do you think I came down here to be insulted?" He stamped out, banging the door behind him.

A prosperous-looking citizen came in with a steady tread. He took the bureau man by the buttonhole and pulled him over and whispered mysteriously in his ear. I thought he was asking for the most convenient side to get on to New York. He just wanted to know when the first train went to Mahanoy City. He was a City Hall official and he whispered merely from force of habit.

Later in the day a woman of the age of years came in. She left her pocketbook in the car. She could not find it and she knew she was the last one out of the car. The bureau man was sorry, but no pocketbook had been turned in. After she had gone out he said ever so many times that she was the last one to leave the car. There are persons called regular riders who make a practice of going through the train fast and getting in everything that is left on the seats. The railroad men do the best they can to catch them, but it is almost impossible for them, so they say. Undoubtedly one of these persons had this woman's pocketbook. "Women are careless, anyway, about such things," said the bureau man some times or another. "As for umbrellas, there is a regular procession here on a rainy day for umbrellas left in the seats."

Pathos sometimes creeps into the routine of the bureau man's life, and notwithstanding all he has to sour his disposition and harden his heart, there is a good-sized soft spot left in it.

The bureau man would not acknowledge it for the world, but some of the other employes tell how he has wept for the sake of the two, helpless little children clinging to their mother's skirt and crying to go home. They tell many other stories of his weakness for little children, but the bureau man himself would deny it indignantly.

"Creaks," said the bureau man thoughtfully, "seem to run in schools like shad or mackerel. Sometimes I catch it straight along for an hour or two. I feel as though the entire public had a grudge against me. Then suddenly they turn up and brighten up and everything goes smoothly until another school comes."

"How soon can I leave for Chicago?" asked a man in a slow, deliberate voice.

He fixed his eyes suspiciously upon the man who asked the question. Then he told him an untruth, and it was his intention to catch him in it.

The last man I saw was Sverenzell. At least that was the bureau man's supposition, and mine also. He was the image of William Shakespeare with his beard, sunny disposition, sang at his work, sometimes jested, often laughed. That time is past. Now he sits like an animated encyclopaedia, pouring information into the capacious public ear.

A master man, even, than the one at the Reading Terminal is the man in the Bureau of Information at the Broad street station. It is alleged that the man who occupies the office in the afternoon has not smiled for five years. Formerly a sunny disposition, sang at his work, sometimes jested, often laughed. That time is past. Now he sits like an animated encyclopaedia, pouring information into the capacious public ear.

No more songs, or jests, or smiles, it is very sad.

Even now he is not really savage; but he did intimate that his fingers sometimes ached to get hold of a club with knots on the end to bring down just once on the skull of persons who asked when the 10 o'clock train got in, and he knew when they could meet their mothers-in-law. SUZETTE.

BIG DEPARTMENT STORE. It Occupies the Site of the Old Wyoming Hotel.



L. C. HOLDEN, ARCHITECT, 121 UNION SQUARE, N. Y. CITY.

What was formerly the site of the old Wyoming Hotel now stands the most complete department-store structure known to modern architecture; broadened, lengthened, excavated from curb to curb; the new building rising in stately proportions over an area almost double the size of the old land mark once so dear to the hearts of the people of Scranton.

It is an honor distinctive to the city of Scranton to possess a store building of such mammoth proportions. Few cities, if any can boast of such a complete establishment; besides being the handsomest store building in the state, its interior appointments are such as to provide absolute comfort and convenience to its patrons. Every invention and device known to present day mechanics have added to make a most thorough up-to-date trading place.

The design of the magnificent structure in renaissance, carried out in stone and iron, and is treated with special reference to the light, so necessary to store buildings; so perfect is the light that it will be possible to match the most delicate shades and colors; a thing in itself of considerable importance.

The building was erected from the drawing and under the direction of Architect L. C. Holden, of No. 1 Union square, New York city. Conrad Schroeder was the general contractor, and special contractors were John Bonora & Son, for the carpenter work; Gustave K. Porsyth, for the sheet metal work; Milken Bros., of New York, for iron and steel work; and Frank Carbeck for the cut stone work; the Peck Lumber Co., of Green Ridge Lumber Co., C. N. Ford, J. H. Woolsey & Co. and Frank Meyer, all eminent mechanics and artists in their particular lines, were the builders of interior fixtures.

The building is almost 150 feet square, having two frontages; one on Lackawanna avenue the other on Wyoming avenue, and occupies an area of upwards of 125,000 square feet. It is four stories high, with an additional story, having a portion of the area over the center of each front. This is without the basement, which is a magnificent room and occupies space from curb to curb. It is 12 feet high. The first story is 19 feet high; the second story 11 feet, and third and fourth stories 12 feet high; magnificent and spacious entrances which add much to the architectural beauty of the building are provided from each avenue. Poses these grand entrances, there are two smaller entrances; one to be used by the employes of the house. The other as an entrance to the grand cafe.

The grand stair case will be a leading and prominent feature of the building. It is of solid oak, highly polished, having upon each floor landings or galleries from which an uninterrupted view may be had over the entire floor, in the center of the building there is a spacious court, 39 feet by 29 feet extending from the first story to the roof, and covered by a dome sky light. The galleries thus formed are supported by baltic columns with ornamental capitals, when most reached the dollar mark.

The introduction of very artistic chandeliers of electric light, numerous enough to make the entire scene when lighted an illumination of dazzling brilliancy.

A thing entirely unknown heretofore, the introduction of a lighting system of the establishment will be an illumination of the store in a way that will be a thing to be proud of.

In the center of the court on the first floor is located a beautifully designed booth over topped by a circular canopy, ornamented with handsome grill work, the lower part forming a handsome glove department and the upper portion or gallery for the use of an orchestra which the firm proposes having on special and extraordinary occasions. A thing entirely unknown heretofore, the introduction of a lighting system of the establishment will be an illumination of the store in a way that will be a thing to be proud of.

The installation of the various mechanical appliances, is thoroughly up-to-date in all its particulars; nothing having been left undone that would add to the comfort of the store's visitors.

Two handsome hydraulic passenger elevators, designed and erected by the Otis Elevator Co., will supply ample facilities for thousands of shoppers, and will make the fourth floor or basement as easy of access as the first floor. These passenger cars were especially designed for the Jonas Long's store, and are magnificent in every detail of construction.

The building will be heated by steam and thoroughly ventilated; the work having been done by Gaylord & Eitner.

An elaborate system of electric lighting has been introduced and was installed by August Noll of New York. So thorough in its construction is this plant that darkness will be entirely eliminated and will enable shoppers to make purchases at night when the store is open, with as much freedom and care as day light allows.

The plumbing throughout the store is in accordance with the most modern methods of sanitary plumbing, and an expense has been spared in its construction, besides the ordinary fixtures, etc., a perfect system of fire service lines has been erected. These lines are fully equipped with hose that will extend to any portion of the floors, and they are ready at all times for instant use.

The admirable plumbing arrangements of the building was done by P. F. & M. T. Howley.

A commodious brick building has been erected on the lot immediately in the rear of the store which will be used as a power house. In this building is placed all of the boilers, engine, dynamo, pumps, and the other machinery

necessary to run a great mercantile establishment of this kind.

The store will be connected with the power house by a large tunnel running from the rear of the basement.

Immense boilers having capacity of 200-horse power are now in the building, and were erected by Frances Bros. & Jellert, of Philadelphia. They are of most modern construction and probably the safest boilers known today. These great boilers will furnish steam and power for the heating system, the elevator pumps, the electric light, engine, dynamo, the automatic system and the system of ventilation.

All the shelving, counters and cases used in the building are of the most modern construction. The counters are so built as to prevent the accumulation of dust or dirt underneath, and all the fixtures were built with a view to keep them in a thorough clean condition at all times. It is the pride of the firm of Jonas Long's Sons that their establishment in the city of Wilkes-Barre is always as clean as the best regulated home.

A novel feature for this section of the country will be the waiting and reception rooms provided for lady patrons. They are fitted up with a view to every personal comfort and convenience. Here you may rest and make yourself thoroughly at home at all times.

The pneumatic cash carrier system has been placed in every department, centralizing at a point on the second floor where ample cashiers are provided to prevent long waits so commonly complained of by hurried shoppers. Its action is instantaneous.

The transfer system, whereby purchasers will shop from counter to counter and have no thought or care of their goods until every purchase is fully completed has been added. By this system you simply do your shopping at as many counters as you wish and when the last purchase is made, hand your transfer to the sales representative, in a moment your packages and receipts will be delivered to you. The various purchases having all been done up in one package at a separate office provided for that purpose, you will readily appreciate the great saving of time and trouble and the convenience of such a system.

The free delivery system is an important feature introduced by the Jonas Long's Sons, handsome wagons, numerous enough to make several deliveries a day, will carry goods purchased to the homes of customers and every year they have been the successful proprietors of the magnificent establishment in the sister city, Wilkes-Barre, and their fame as liberal, progressive, wide-awake merchants has spread throughout the entire county. In the markets they are known as practical business men with sound judgment, possessing a perfect knowl-

edge of values and qualifications so essential to the perfect conduct of a thorough up-to-date establishment. At home they are known as strong competitors, fully awake to the necessities of the public, and their policy is so liberal as to insure fair treatment of their patrons. Fellowship in all things is their watch word and in every respect they are true to their trust.

With the co-operation of two such extensive plants the firm of Jonas Long's Sons will occupy an enviable position in the market. The enormous outlet for their merchandise will give them an opportunity to purchase in practically unlimited quantities and will insure for them all the discount and rebates known to the trade, which will be to the utmost benefit to their customers, as it will enable them to sell at remarkably low prices.

The firm of Jonas Long's Sons will enter their new establishment prepared to carry on an extensive business on strict business principles.

They will be up-to-date competitors, but will not undersell their neighbors. They will offer no baits to catch the unwary; nor will they charge extortionate prices for unjudgable values; but will make every honorable effort to gain your patronage by offering such values as are apparent to the utmost justice in purchasing and their prices will be the very lowest for cash; upon which basis they expect to run their store.

You will be confronted here by intelligent store service, the best the community affords. Politeness will be the rule.

There will be no forcing of any undesirable goods upon you; but all the assistance we can render to enable you to make a desirable and profitable purchase will be at your command.

Make no mistake, however, that they will not haggle over their adjustment. The firm's representative will meet you as friends and will make satisfactory any differences that arise.

The policy which they have adopted in selling goods makes it a perfectly safe place for purchasing your entire needs.

A special feature of the firm is to extend a cordial invitation to the general public to visit the store at all times. They have no secrets there and they will be only too glad to purchase. It is a pleasure for them to have you go through the various departments and examine without hindrance any article you wish. They request that you make this great store your resting place. You are welcome always.

The store in all its parts is well lighted and ventilated and in all its appointments is the equal of the best stores recently erected in the larger cities of the country.

Ample provision has been provided for the care and comfort of the numerous employees who will be employed in the building.

Comfortable dining rooms, cloak rooms and retiring rooms have been provided in a convenient portion of the basement, which by the way is one of the best lighted and ventilated rooms of any establishment built up to the present date.

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At the Top.

"I wonder," said the pale, blonde one, "if I really is as high in society as she claims."

"I know who she is," said the brunette, with the wealth of raven locks. "She is the only woman in the city who has been recommended by the butler."—Continued Enquirer.

VIOLIN IN TWO PIECES.

Remarkable Instrument Sets at Naught All Rules of Manufacturing.

J. C. Kindig, a violinist and orchestra director of this city, has manufactured a violin by hand that has set at naught all modern theories of violin making. From a log of well-seasoned maple and a strain of express, both picked up in a lumber yard, he has made a violin in two pieces. The back and sides were hewn from one piece, the top from another, and out together; yet the violin is perfect in every way and has a delicious sweet tone. This is very remarkable when the tools used in the construction are taken into consideration—a pocket knife, a piece of sandpaper and some glass and steel graters.

Kindig worked intermittently, sometimes a whole day and other times an hour a week, just as the humor struck him, yet in spite of the derisive laughs of his musical friends, he finished his instrument in three weeks of actual work.

Mr. Kindig claims several advantages for his violin over the common machine-made article. As violins manufactured of many pieces, which must be glued together, Kindig's violin is superior in that there is no opportunity for glued parts to separate. The case, which in all violins is glued to the inside of the cover just before the violin is finished, was cut out of the same piece of wood as the top, and in Mr. Kindig's violin there is no danger of the base bar shifting its position. But the particular point in which most of all Mr. Kindig's violin differs from the accepted theory of violin making is that the back and sides, which are cut from one piece of wood, are of a uniform thickness, instead of being thicker toward the corners of the box.

PROF. COLES FOR DECEMBER.

Relieve and be glad, for High Flood days will rule the month of December. There will be twenty high flood days during the month, which will cause business to boom! The Christmas trade will be momentum. Early sales are solicited; as a break in the gaseous matter now passing over the sun will occur sometime between the 10th and 15th, and another between the 20th and 25th, which will cause fierce and unprecedented storms and floods in many sections of the country and interfere with the late Christmas trade; therefore an early trade is recommended. An excess of High Flood days generally brings exciting scenes in the business, political and the social world. Our "High Flood and Low Ebb Vital Force Chart" shows the rise and fall of the vital forces that rule the stock markets and determine the price of merchandise, etc. The secret of success lies in the practice of using the vital forces when they are at High Flood. There were twenty-one high flood days during the month of Sep-

DISEASE EPIDEMIC.

Earth is now passing through the "House of Sickness," opposed by the "House of Enemies," also by the planets—Mars, Saturn, Uranus, Venus and Jupiter—which will cause disease epidemics to sweep over the Old Country and America like mad! A new and fatal disease epidemic will, we believe, break out in some sections of the country and destroy the sheep, swine and cattle. An epidemic of Lagrippinola will be liable to spread over the Old Country and through the Eastern and Middle states of America and cause great suffering; while diphtheria and other well known diseases will carry thousands away to death. Let all those born under the planet Mars avoid the cold, chilly winds of December during the Low Ebb days. Everybody should know the planet under which they were born, so as to defend themselves against the evil influences of their opposing planet. Every disease epidemic, predicted by us during the year 1897, came just as we predicted they would.

THE STORMS AND SIGNS.

Last month our predictions were read by over three million and two hundred thousand (3,200,000) readers, by actual count of the circulation of the paper that printed them. Ninety-seven and a half per cent of our predictions during the year 1897 have been fulfilled. The three hundred and fifty columns of complimentary matter received by us last month through our dear good newspaper friends, proves that our work is greatly appreciated. We would like to see the High Flood days of this month will give the good forces a chance to overpower the evil forces, and if they do not overpower them, then the evil forces will continue to burn, riot, and outrages of the most diabolical nature will startle and alarm the whole world. While the vital forces are at war, watch out for railroad accidents, fire, mine caves, riots, murders, sudden deaths and disease epidemics, etc. The Vital Force Chart, Storm and Sign Calendar, High Flood and Low Ebb days are all shown in our paper, Storms and Signs. Price 10 cents.

Professor C. Coles, Kingston, Pa., U. S. A., Nov. 23, 1897.

THE VITAL FORCE WILL WAR.

The good forces this month will war with the evil forces! Let the good men and women be ever diligent in their doing! It would seem as if the great pendulum of the moral world has been swinging backward until it has reached that extremity of its arc, and must again from this time vibrate heavenward. The twenty High Flood days this month will give the good forces a chance to overpower the evil forces, and if they do not overpower them, then the evil forces will continue to burn, riot, and outrages of the most diabolical nature will startle and alarm the whole world. While the vital forces are at war, watch out for railroad accidents, fire, mine caves, riots, murders, sudden deaths and disease epidemics, etc. The Vital Force Chart, Storm and Sign Calendar, High Flood and Low Ebb days are all shown in our paper, Storms and Signs. Price 10 cents.

Professor C. Coles, Kingston, Pa., U. S. A., Nov. 23, 1897.

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