



THE WIVES OF THE SHORE

By J. M. W. BROWN

PROLOGUE

"And you are certain of the year he was married in?"
"Perfectly—there is no possibility of my being mistaken. He was married on New Year's Day, '88; he was born in May, '59."

THE WIVES OF THE SHORE

"The lady of the house, who was a widow, had a young son, who was a student at the University of Pennsylvania. He was a very handsome young man, and was very popular among his fellow-students."

FACING A GRIZZLY.

"It was in September—and the Colorado sun had done its duty and made the hills as brown of face and stout of limb as any of us—that the geology class consisting of the professor and ten pupils, made an excursion to the range with the object of taking a practical lesson among the limestone beds at the lack of Lincoln Peak."

THE KING'S PALACE.

"The king's palace was a magnificent structure, and was the pride of the city. It was a large and imposing building, and was the residence of the king and his family."

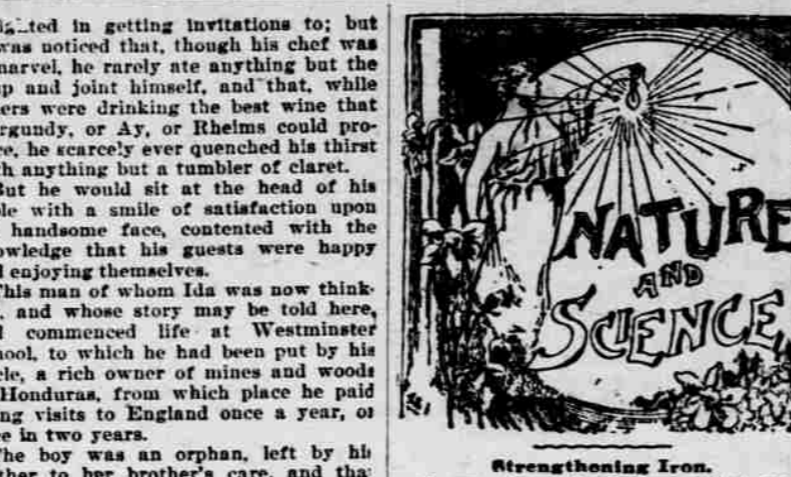


Illustration of a man and a woman.

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Strengthening Iron. It was formerly believed that cast iron, when subjected to long-continued shocks and jarring, became "crystalline" and brittle.

A Ghostly Cat. An invention calculated to terrify mice and rats is described in Popular Science News. It consists of a metallic cat, which, being covered with luminous paint, shines in a dark room with a mysterious radiance which, the inventor thinks, will be more effectual than traps, or even genuine cats, in ridding houses of rodent pests.

Carnivorous Plants. That such plants as "Venus fly-trap" actually catch and squeeze to death flies and other insects alighting on their leaves has long been known, but the discovery is comparatively recent that the plants digest the softer parts of their prey by means of a peptic ferret secreted by the leaves.

Marvelous Measurement. At the Royal Society in London a pendulum instrument was exhibited, intended to record the slightest tilts and pulsations of the crust of the earth. It was asserted that this instrument would record any amount of tilt of less than three hundredths of an arc.

A Beach of Iron Sand. On the western coast of the northern island of New Zealand immense deposits of magnetic iron sand are found. The sand is brought down by many streams from the slopes of Mount Egmont. The cliffs consist of a mixture of ordinary silica sand and iron ore.

Dr. James Wedel, Jr., who has studied strange animals in the Mammoth Cave in Kentucky, says that the celebrated blind fish from that cavern, when placed in illuminated aquaria, seek out the darkest places, and he believes that light is directly fatal to them.

VENTRILOQUIST IN CHINA. A man who witnessed the performance of the following description of what a ventriloquist in China did: The ventriloquist was seated behind a screen, where there were only a chair, a table, a fan and a ruler. The ruler he rapped on the table to entice the audience to listen.

AN AIR TETR. An instrument for measuring the amount of impurity in the air of a room or shop was shown at the Zurich International Exhibition recently. It consisted of a glass bulb containing a liquid which turns white on contact with carbonic acid gas.

OVER FACTS ABOUT COLORED. According to information given by a German officer to the Horse Guards Gazette, an experiment was recently made in a school of officers recently graduated. The first to disappear in the landscape was the light gray, and next, surprising as it may seem, the scarlet!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT. A lie that is half a truth is ever the blackest of lies. To some men a bad reputation is better than none.

WINE UNLOCKS THE DOOR and then throws away the key. A good husband is sometimes spoiled by the making of wine.

MANUSCRIPT IN A TREE. One of the most curious manuscripts in the world was discovered the other day in an orchard at the village of Noelditz, in Saxo-Altenburg. A gigantic oak tree, which a storm had robbed of its crown, was up for public auction.

CHINESE TREATMENT OF CHILDREN. However little liked the Chinaman may be by his white neighbors, I have at all times found that the Chinese had a respect for their children that was rarely, if ever, received corporal punishment. They seem very happy, and apparently enjoy their childhood more than most American children.

THE WOODS OF SHORNE. Leaving the highway by a pretty lane, we are presently in a most magnificent wood, a vast cathedral of nature. The columns are all dark trunks of elm trees supporting lofty, intersecting arches of golden green; its nave and transepts are carpeted with the softest moss, in which a footfall is silent; its screens are of hawthorn and honeysuckle; its chancel is strewn with the growing violets; and its chapels are adorned with rhododendrons and ivy.

CUSHING'S HEROIC DEED. In 1861, at the very beginning of our civil war, a young lad named William Barker Cushing entered the navy as a volunteer officer, though he had not yet completed his studies.

CHINA MAN SEEN A PIANO. A Chinaman, lately returned from a trip to Europe, treated his countrymen to the following description of the piano: "The Europeans keep a four-legged beast, which they can make sing at will. A man, or more frequently a woman, or even a feeble girl, sits down in front of the animal and steps on its tail, at the same time striking its white teeth with his or her fingers, when the creature begins to sing."

ENGLISH POSTAL ORDERS. More than 40,000,000 postal orders were issued annually in England, and the amount thus sent through the post exceeds \$16,000,000.

A SURE TEST. Jones—"Yes, sir, it is mighty hard to collect money just now. I know it." Smith—"Indeed, have you tried to collect and failed?" Jones—"Oh, no."

A LITERARY TASTE. "Ah," he said delightedly, "I see you have my latest book of poems with you." "Yes," she replied; "I keep it here."

EVERY THROUGHT IS ABLE TO MAKE ITS OWN SALAD DRESSING. Every thought is able to make its own salad dressing.

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