

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

The Bull Dog's Break—Had Opinions of His Own—Accounted For—Not Usual, Etc., Etc.

The dog was a beauty in truth. But papa, he killed him one day, because he attacked the wrong youth and drove a rich marriage away. —*New York Herald.*

HAD OPINIONS OF HIS OWN.

"That man makes me sick."
"Why?"
"He always disagrees with me."

ACCOUNTED FOR.

"Bridget, this chair is covered with dust."
"Yessum. Nobody's sat in it lately."

FOR HIS HEALTH.

Mrs. Puggsly—"I am going to Europe this summer."
Mrs. Spannel—"Indeed?"
Mrs. Puggsly—"Yes. The doctor has recommended a sea voyage for Fido."

NOT USUAL.

"What are you reading, dear?"
"A letter from mother, John."
"What does she say?"
"Oh, nothing!"
"That isn't like your mother, is it?" —*Puck.*

THE INDULGENT FRIEND.

Bingham—"Carson, you must excuse my tardiness—just as soon as I can get hold of that hundred you borrowed I can pay you that fifty I owe you."
Carson—"Tut! Tut! Don't mention it." —*Life.*

A SLANDER REFUTED.

Goodman—"Badderly, I'm sorry to hear that you sometimes drink too much."
Badderly—"Quite a mistake. On the contrary, I can never get enough." —*Munsey's Weekly.*

THE MYSTERY UNRAVELED.

Simpson—"I wonder what kind of a line it is that Budkins uses when he goes fishing. It always breaks just as he is landing the 'biggest fish you ever saw.'"
Sniffer—"It's nothing but 'yarn.'" —*Detroit Free Press.*

BAGGY.

Knowles—"The rhinoceros is a native of England, isn't it?"
Towles—"Why, man alive, whatever put such an idea into your head?"
Knowles—"Why, just look how his clothes fit him." —*Scribner's Magazine.*

CONSCIENTIOUS.

Mrs. Nucleo—"Why do you always appear in your worst gown when going out with me, Bridget?"
Bridget—"Sure, I'm always afraid the people might mistake me fer th' mistress if I wore me foine dress." —*Puck.*

EXPENSIVE EMULATION.

Dashaway—"That was a beautiful dress your friend, Mrs. Wickstaff, had on the other night."
Bingo—"Yes. It cost me \$100."
Dashaway—"How so?"
Bingo—"My wife saw it." —*Cloak Review.*

FIXED FOR LIFE.

The Lady—"Jack, why don't you write a book, or paint a picture, or do something clever?"
The Gentleman—"Because I selected a millionaire for a father, and I think that was clever enough to last a lifetime." —*Life.*

HE WAS WILLING.

Miss Scadds (to the minister)—"Mr. Hunker and I are going on a ramble. Will you join us?"
Rev. Dr. Thirly (who caught only the last sentence)—"With pleasure. Do you wish the ceremony performed in the church?" —*Judge.*

OF ONE MIND.

Mr. Peterkin—"Oh, I like to sit by you, Miss Bell."
Miss Bell (who is exclusive)—"And so do I."
Mr. Peterkin (puzzled for the moment)—"But—er—how's that?"
Miss Bell—"I like to sit by myself." —*Puck.*

CAUSE FOR WEARINESS.

Collector—"I tell you this bill is positively tired of coming here."
Deadbroke—"You're tired of bringing it, I suppose you mean."
Collector—"I mean what I say. This bill is tired because it has been standing so long." —*Chicago Saturday Evening Herald.*

ON THE RIO GRANDE.

First Cowboy—"Do you remember Texas Pete, the road agent, who took a vow that he was goin' to reform? Did he stick to it?"
Second Cowboy—"No. For a while he kept straight, but then he went to Santa Fe an' started in as a lawyer." —*Munsey's Weekly.*

NO TIME-LOCK FOR HIM.

A certain official was bothered almost to death by people running in on him at all times of the day and he was expressing himself emphatically on the subject.
"Why don't you put a time-lock on your door so they can get in only at a stated hour?" suggested a friend.
"Time-lock, nothing," he exclaimed, "what I want is an eternity lock." —*Washington Star.*

IN THE SAME NEIGHBORHOOD.

Two wretched looking tramps were brought up before a Texas justice of the peace. Addressing the worst looking one, the justice asked:

"Where do you live?"
"Nowhere."
"And where do you live?" inquired the justice, turning to the other.
"Oh, I've got the room above him." —*Texas Siftings.*

A GIFTED STORY TELLER.

Jack (who has been called in for punishment and regaled with an account of his misdoings)—"Did Dick Van Twiller tell you that, mamma?"
Mamma—"Yes, Jack."
Jack (reproachfully)—"And you believed him?"
Mamma—"Yes, Jack."
Jack—"Well, I don't blame you for believing him, mamma. He's the most beautiful liar in the whole school!" —*Boston Beacon.*

THE MISTAKE CORRECTED.

The ruler of a small German State made his entry into a certain town. Just as the Burgomaster was delivering himself of a speech an ass began to bray most horribly, until the Prince at last exclaimed:
"Will someone make that donkey be quiet!"
The poor Burgomaster made a sudden pause in his speech, and inquired, in evident alarm:
"Does your Highness mean me?"
"No, the other one," the Prince replied. —*Humoristisches.*

The Lizard's Love of Music.

A contributor to the *Spectator* writes with reference to the discussion of animal aesthetics:
"I should like to give you one of my own experiences. When in Switzerland two years ago I made the acquaintance of some lizards, living in the crevices of one of the sunny walls of our garden. As I had somewhere heard that lizards have a good ear for music, I resolved to prove the fact; so one afternoon, armed with a small music-box, I wended my steps to their tomato-covered home. Before I had finished the first tune a considerable audience had collected—an audience it was a pleasure to play to, for the lizards were far more attentive than human beings. Out peered head after head, a little on one side, in a listening attitude. I gave my little friends a musical entertainment, varied by whistling, nearly every day, and before long they got much bolder and would venture right out of their holes and lie motionless on the broad ledge of the wall, their bright black eyes half closed as a rule, but opening now and then to give me a lazy wink of enjoyment."

The Fastest Mile.

The following items will prove of interest:
The fastest mile run by a railroad train was made in 50½ seconds.
The fastest mile made in rowing in a single boat took 5 minutes and 1 second.
The fastest mile ever made by a running horse was run in 1 minute 35½ seconds.
The fastest mile by a man on a tricycle was made in 2 minutes 49.2-5 seconds.
The fastest time on snow shoes for a mile is recorded as 5 minutes 39½ seconds.
The best time for a mile by a man on a bicycle is recorded as 2 minutes 25.3-5 seconds.
The fastest mile ever made by a man swimming was done in 26 minutes and 52 seconds.
The fastest mile ever accomplished by a man walking was made in 6 minutes and 23 seconds.
In running the fastest mile made by a man was accomplished in 4 minutes 12½ seconds. —*Golden Days.*

A Famous Accidental Discovery.

Argand, the inventor of the famous lamp which bears his name, had been experimenting for some time in trying to increase the light given out by his lamp, but all to no purpose. On a table before him one night lay an oil flask which had evidently gotten the bottom broken off, leaving a long-necked, funnel-shaped tube. This Argand took up carefully without thought, and placed, almost without thought, as he afterwards related, over the flame. A brilliant white light was the magical result. It is needless to add that the hint was not lost by the experimenter, who proceeded to put his discovery into practical use by "inventing" the common glass lamp chimney.
Hundreds of discoveries which have been heralded to the world as the acme of human genius have been the results of mere accident, the anger, calico printing, vulcanization of rubber, etc., being among the number. —*St. Louis Republic.*

A Long-Lived Apple Tree.

In 1799 Jonathan Thatcher purchased the farm on which his descendant, Jonathan Thatcher, now resides, a few miles west of Martinsburg. At that time there was growing on it a small apple tree about two inches in circumference, the seed of which must have been wafted and planted by some of the laws of the Almighty. Protection was placed about it, and the tree grew and bore a red apple of delicious flavor.
It was never grafted, but grafts from it are now doing duty in Iowa, Ohio and Missouri. In 1835 Jacob Hoke and Philip Delfenderfer picked from that tree 115 bushels of apples. For ninety-two years it met the winter storms and the summer sunshine and gusts, but last Sunday the tree bowed its aged head to the storm that passed there, being bodily torn up from the roots. This was the end of the famous Thatcher tree. —*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

The Use of Letters.

The ratio in which the different letters are used in the language is shown by the numbers of each letter supplied in a "bill of type" to the printers. The proportion is z 3, x and j 5, q 6, k 8, v 15, b and g 20, p 24, w and y 25, m and f 30, c 40, u 45, d and l 50, h 60, r 70, n, o and s 80, a and i 90, t 100 and e 140. —*Boston Globe.*

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

All sleeves are still very high.

A new trimming is aspic lace.
Yellow appears to be the ruling color.
White cloth costumes grow in favor.
The popularity of the moonstone increases.

Queen Victoria has forty dogs and a dozen cats.

A tendency toward gored skirts is once more manifest.

Lexington (Ky.) ladies have organized an anti-slang society.

The fashionable accumulation at present is souvenir spoons.

Mrs. Leland Stanford has founded five free kindergartens in San Francisco.

Society sanctions falsehood as to the real destination of a wedding journey.

There are sewing women in Boston who get only fifteen cents for making a shirt.

A quite recent fad is to have one's feet photographed in various shoes and slippers.

Governor Fifer, of Illinois, has signed the bill enabling women to vote for all school officers.

Two-thirds of the divorces obtained in this country are granted on the application of wives.

Women of slender figures will accept with pleasure the latest revival—dresses laced at the back.

A woman, Miss Ormerod, is Consulting Etymologist of the Royal British Agricultural Society.

Red comes again to the fore as a favorite color for country costumes, and will be worn all summer.

Sixteen French young ladies are about to start for Copenhagen, the North Cape and the "Midnight Sun."

There is no need for a bonnet or hat to match the color of the dress, but it is otherwise with the sun shade.

Fluffy hair, which was the envy of every girl that did not possess it, has given place to glossy, well-kept locks.

The absence of jewels is marked, except they be utilized on the corsage in the way of strands of pearls or buttons.

An odd little imported hat is of canary-colored tulle, sparkling with gold and bent into the shape of a huge butterfly.

The latest fad from England is for a bride to back up against the trunk of some huge tree and stand for her photograph.

The World's Fair Committee, of Chicago, has chosen Miss Mary Schiller, a grand niece of the poet, as Commissioner to South America.

One of the sights at Springfield, Mass., is a handsomely dressed woman who never walks out, unless accompanied by at least nine dogs.

The establishment of the Jenness-Miller Magazine Company, the dress-reform periodical, is in the hands of the Sheriff of New York.

A pretty sailor hat of gray chip is trimmed with gray ribbon, velvet and a large bow of silk, which is intermixed with dandelions and ox-eyes.

Yellow leather laced boots are the latest dictum in foot gear. They are not pretty, but Paris announces that they are chic, and accordingly stylish.

A housemaid declined to engage with a Newport (R. I.) family the other day until she had been informed whether a party would be given for the help.

A Polish Countess has been graduated from the Geneva University a full-fledged doctor. What makes her case more than commonly interesting is that she intends to treat the poor of her own country gratuitously.

A woman in the Corea has not even a name of her own. In youth she is known as "the daughter of so and so." After marriage she becomes "the wife of so and so;" or, if she has children, "the mother of so and so."

Three young Englishwomen, the Misses Shenat, Selby and Johns, were awarded the degree of M. A., with honor, at the recent Commencement of the University of London. They distanced all their male competitors for the degrees.

There were 250 women painters and sculptors present at the tenth anniversary of the French Association of Women Painters and Sculptors, held in Paris recently. A few gentlemen had been invited, but the toasts were all given by women.

There are two young women students in the law department of the National University of Chili, at Santiago, but as such independence and progressiveness in women is looked upon with disfavor there the position of the senioritas is not entirely enviable.

Eyelashes clipped, five cents; bangs trimmed, ten cents; beach shoes stained, fifteen cents; hair singed, twenty cents; egg shampoo, twenty-five cents—with alcohol spray, thirty cents—is the sign that is pasted across a mirror in a Gotham beauty shop.

The masculine shirt fronts which appeared sporadically on feminine forms last summer have come to the front again. They are worn sometimes neatly tucked and sometimes with the regular box plait; and the standing collar and four in hand scarf, with the smart cut-away coat, produce a jaunty if somewhat manish effect.

Japan Wax.

"Japan wax," as it is called, is obtained from a tree, the *Rhus Succedanea*, which grows in Japan, China and the East Indies. The Japanese call it Haje, or Hazo. The tree commences to bear fruit when five or six years old, and increases its product every year, till, at the age of fifty years, a single tree will produce 350 to 400 pounds of berries, from which seventy to eighty pounds of wax can be obtained. The wax is formed in the middle of the berry, between the skin and the seed, like the pulp of a grape. It is extracted by boiling the berries in water and allowing it to cool, when the wax separates from the skin and seed, sinking to the bottom of the vessel in a solid cake. The specific gravity of the wax is 0.970, and its melting point 131 degrees Fahrenheit. It is largely used, either alone or mixed with tallow, by the Chinese in the manufacture of candles. This tree should not be confounded with the "tallow tree" of China, which has a pith of solid tallow in all trees that have fully matured. —*Picayune.*

Safety Bridges.

Next to mining disasters railway accidents have done most to counterbalance the partiality of nature in exempting large portions of the Temperate Zone from the earthquake and tornadoes of the equatorial regions. In the United States alone the perils of the iron highways have proved more destructive of human life than the wrath of hostile elements in the tropics of the entire Western Hemisphere, and since the invention of air-brakes, no other contrivance has promised to do as much in diminishing those perils as the device by which a French engineer now proposes to insure the safety of railway bridges. This apparatus is founded on the principle that a weak link in the construction of suspension bridges, etc., will betray itself by yielding more readily to a uniform strain, and will greatly lessen the possibility of such disasters as that of the Ashtabula express and the Swiss excursion train. —*New York Voice.*

Five Thousand Years Old.

Mr. Flinders Petrie has made another important discovery in Egypt, at Medinet, where he has unrolled the oldest dated Egyptian temple yet found, and the only pyramid temple known. It was buried under forty feet of rubbish, and belongs to the old Empire. Hieratic inscriptions in black paint within the chambers fix the name of the builder as Sufnu, a King, connecting the third and fourth dynasties, and sometimes placed in one or the other (4000 B. C., or earlier). Mr. Petrie thinks the rubbish choked up the entrance about three hundred years after the erection of the temple, which is situated in front of the eastern face of a pyramid. —*Picayune.*

New York has four coroners receiving \$5000 each, and four deputies, who are also physicians, getting \$3000 each, besides three clerks, a messenger and a stenographer.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., Props. of Hall's Catarrh Cure, offer \$100 reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for testimonials. Dr. E. H. Hall, 121 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

RUSSIA'S harvest, it is said, will be the worst on record.

FTTS STOPPED free by DR. KLINE'S GREAT NERVE RESTORER. No its after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and \$2 trial bottle free. Dr. J. C. Kline, 151 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. J. C. Kline's Eye-water. Druggists sell at 25c. per bottle.

NEW YORK—32

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