

US BITS HISTORY

QUEEN DICK.

By A. W. MACY.

Oliver Cromwell was a strong character, but the same cannot be said of his son Richard. Oliver tried to train his son to be a worthy successor as Protector, but the attempt was a failure. Richard was easy-going and amiable, and more addicted to sports than to statecraft. He was the acknowledged Lord Protector from September 3, 1658, to May 25, 1659, but cut little figure as such. He did not relish official duties, and much preferred having a good time. The Cavaliers called him "Queen Dick," and others, still less respectfully, spoke of him as "Tumble-down Dick." He was glad to quit when parliament told him to get out. After his abdication, however, he conducted himself with credit and even with dignity. He lived in quiet retirement for 53 years, and died July 13, 1712, at the ripe old age of 90.

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HUSTONTOWN.

The sledding is fine and the people seem to be making good use of it.

George Lamberson living near this place, fell on the ice some time ago and injured his hip, and has been in poor health since.

Mrs. Ida Heaton spent Christmas week with her mother and brothers W. E. and J. F. Deavor near this place.

Most of the ice houses are being filled with splendid ice.

Rev. Benson and wife are very grateful to people of Hustontown and vicinity for a donation which he received from them the night before Christmas, a purse full of money, horse feed, dry goods and eatables.

Andrew Stevens, son of Nathaniel Stevens fell on the ice last Thursday at school and became unconscious. Dr. McClain was called and gave him the needed attention. He is better at this writing.

J. F. Deavor and family are spending a week with Mrs. Deavor's parents in Altoona, and other relatives in Huntingdon.

Miss Amy Hess, of Altoona, is spending a few weeks with her parents, A. J. Hess and wife, near this place.

Norman Haton, wife and baby, spent a few days at Christmas with the Deavor families.

Harry Deavor took advantage of the good sleighing, and took his aunt to Woodvale last Thursday. They returned Friday.

Just as we were going to press we learned of the sudden death of a little son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Heeter, of New Grenada. The boy took sick at noon last Saturday and died on the following afternoon, aged about 4 years. Funeral was held yesterday.

JUST THE ONE.

"Yes," he remarked, stretching himself lazily in the one really comfortable chair in the commercial room, "I'm the youngest child of a big family."

"How many of you are there?" asked a fellow knight of the road.

"Well," replied the lazy one, "three of my brothers are dead, but there were ten of us boys, and each of us had a sister."

"What?" gasped his questioner. "Do you mean to say that there were twenty of you?"

"Dear, dear, no—only eleven."

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

Christmas cards are younger than most people imagine, for their age is only about seventy years. According to some, Cuthbert Bede designed the first card when a student at Durham university in England in 1845, and designs of his circulated among his friends for two years before the printers conceived the idea of offering similar cards for sale to the general public. Others claim the invention for Horsley, the artist, who designed one for Sir Henry Cole in 1846. And a specimen of this card has brought as much as \$250.

SUBMISSION.

"You are going out in that gown? I hope you will put something more on!"

"Yes, dear. I am going to put on my gloves."—Paris Le Rire.

NOT LOOKING AHEAD.

"What's your idea of an optimist?"

"A man who talks about the price of ice in winter and the price of coal in summer."

VICTOR HUGO AND HIS DUTY

Desire to See Man Whom He Had Saved From Scaffold Had to Be Set Aside.

A hitherto unpublished story of Victor Hugo is told in Le Cri de Paris. It is generally known and believed in France that Armand Barbes was saved from the scaffold in 1840 by four lines of verse addressed by Hugo to Louis Philippe, king of the French. Yet Barbes had never seen the great man and never saw him during his exile. In 1870, some months before the war between France and Germany, Barbes was dying in The Hague. The exile expressed to M. Claretie, then a young journalist, his regret at never having met the man through whom he had obtained the pardon of the king. Victor Hugo was at Brussels when M. Claretie came to present the desire of the sick man to see him.

Hugo heard the request, and turning to his son Charles said: "Charles, Barbes asks to see me. Duty calls me. We must set out for The Hague this evening."

During the day the great poet and romancer received a pressing letter offering him the presidency of the peace congress at Geneva and begging him to come immediately.

Then said Victor Hugo to his son. "Between one man and humanity I have no right to hesitate. Charles, we shall set out this evening for Switzerland!" And Barbes died without having ever seen Victor Hugo.

NOT WELCOME



Reggy—Every time I—aw—call on her she invites me to sit on a wicket old rocking chair. Why do you—aw—suppose she does that?

Harry—Probably she hopes you will take a tumble.

ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN.

Nearly a thousand girls who went on a strike in a Philadelphia hosiery mill have organized a union.

Never before in England have so many women candidates offered themselves as candidates for town and metropolitan borough councils.

Three women have already applied to Mayor Mitchel of New York city for jobs in the police department.

Women students will be admitted to membership in the new ski club to be organized at the University of Wisconsin.

It is estimated that militant suffragists in England destroyed property to the value of \$2,550,750 during the past year.

One of the hobbies of Queen Mary of England is the collection of a representative group of paintings by modern artists.

The highest wages paid to women shoe workers is to the vamps, who receive 23 cents an hour. The lowest paid are women treers or ironers.

TRIBUTES TO HUMAN VANITY

Graze for Titles Seemingly as Strong Today as in Any Period of History.

Dom Pedro II., who lost the throne of Brazil in 1889, was the last monarch to offer titles for sale. In order to obtain funds for the erection of a hospital in Rio de Janeiro, the emperor announced that he would confer the title of "baron" on every subscriber of 100,000 milreis, and the title of "count" on every subscriber of 250,000 milreis. Many proved willing to become ennobled on these terms, and sufficient money was forthcoming to endow the hospital as well as build it. Over the main entrance may still be seen the inscription suggested by Dom Pedro, "Human Vanity to Human Misery."

Although French titles of nobility were abolished at the time of the revolution by a decree that was revived in 1871, yet the ministry of justice issues certificates of nobility. Members of the French diplomatic service who use titles have to obtain one of these certificates and pay stiffly for the transaction. The fees in the case of a duke amount to \$4,400, a marquis pays \$2,000, a viscount \$1,400, a baron \$300, and a chevalier \$260.

A certificate is to the effect that, the name of the holder having been investigated, his claim to the title has been fully established. The seal of the republic is placed on the patent of nobility.

FIRST TO ILLUSTRATE NEWS

English Periodicals of Centuries Ago Led the Way for Modern Journalism.

It is a little surprising to learn that the first journal to give illustrations with any frequency was the Mercurius Civilis, which came out during the civil war in England with portraits of Charles I. and his queen, Cromwell and his officers and Prince Rupert. More elaborate pictures dealing with the war were, however, left to the pamphlets of that time. The Frost fair on the Thames in 1683 was made the subject of an interesting broadside and so also was the funeral of Queen Mary II. in 1695.

With the eighteenth century the art of illustrating actualities grew. Caricatures abounded, now of the Jacobites, now of the South Sea bubble or similar exciting events. The Daily Post of 1740 afforded an example of a daily paper attempting to illustrate a current event. On March 29 of that year it published a detailed diagram of Admiral Vernon's attack on Porto Bello. The St. James Chronicle in 1765 presented its readers with an illustration of a strange wild animal that had created much excitement in France, but this illustration was obviously imaginary. The Gentlemen's Gazette in 1751 gave a portrait of Edward Bright, a record fat man. In The Town and Country Magazine in 1773 there appeared portraits of the principals in a famous scandal.

MAY BE MADE AUTONOMOUS

Completion of Panama Canal Likely to Cement Group of Islands Belonging to Britain.

Among the more important by-products of the Panama canal we are likely to see the development of another self-governing dominion or commonwealth within the British empire. This will consist of the West India islands, and perhaps also the continental possessions of the British crown in Central and South America.

These various colonies are collectively much larger in population, commerce and wealth than is Newfoundland or even New Zealand. Yet they have no voice in imperial affairs and have little influence because of their lack of unity. Of course their geographical distribution makes it less easy for them to be administered under a common government than a single compact country; less easy, but not impossible nor even gravely difficult.

For a score of years the question of federation has been intermittently considered. Now the impending opening of the Panama canal and the prospect of profound changes in commercial relationships have given to the movement a new impetus and have made its realization seem all but essential.

NO PLACE FOR SPENDTHRIFT.

A spendthrift in the world's busy whirl never makes on real friend or commands the respect of anyone, not even his own particular kind. He is of no practical benefit to the community, and in reality he is but a menace to society. A spendthrift eventually develops into that class who cannot meet their bills. But this is to be expected—they really can't help it; it is the natural order of things; nature will out in everything, and bad habits are the hardest thing in the world from which to break away. The time comes when their money is spent, they can't break the habit of extravagance, and they become a continual credit loss to the grocer, the butcher and the baker, and you, the hard working toiler, must stand the burden of their perfidy.

STARTED THE TROUBLE.

"How long has this restaurant been open?" asked the would-be diner.

"Two years," said the proprietor.

"I am sorry I did not know it," said the guest. "I should be better off if I had not come here then."

"Yes," smiled the proprietor very much pleased. "How is that?"

"I should probably have been served by this time if I had," said the guest, and the entente cordials vanished.—Harper's Weekly.

ENVY.

"My wife was very lonely when we met. You know she was an only child and an orphan when I married her."

"What luck some men have!"

FOR SAFETY IN MINING.

Gold-mining companies of the Rand field, South Africa, have been experimenting with electric blasting with a view of reducing the danger of miner's phthisis, a disease ascribed to the fine dust that results from blasting. By using electric systems the firing can be done from the surface and the air can be cleared of the fine dust before the miners need to enter the mine.

STILL A MYSTERY TO MAN.

Years of Travel Have Not Taught the World What a Japanese Lady is Really Like.

How I admire those two! Aristocrats to the finger tips, cultivated, courteous, refined, with a dignity of manner incomparable.

While I puffed and fanned, in the thinnest of lingerie blouses, the Japanese "grande dame" sat cool and calm in a gray silk kimono, girt around the body with double folds of a heavy satin obi. She was a harmony of soft silver gray and sherry dove colors.

There was a glint of gold in the stiff fabric of her obi, a tiny gold clasp on the cord that bound the obi in place. A single amber in their lines, in the massing and relief of black and ivory, stood out from the surprise folds of the kimono like a superb etching.

As a work of art, she was perfection, a restful, perfectly composed and balanced study; the tones and values true. I gazed at her enchanted, and thought how different was this grande dame before me from the vulgar travesty of the Japanese woman that parades our stage.

Think of those plays we saw in London! the "Madame Butterfly," and "The Darling of the Gods!" What a million miles between this daimio's daughter and that giggling hoyden with frizzled hair and cabbage bunches of flowers over each ear.

No, Europe does not understand Japan. Despite all these years of travel and photography, Europe does not yet know what a Japanese lady looks like, how she dresses, nor least of all how exquisitely smooth and simple is her coiffure.—From Eliza R. Scidmore's "As the Hague Ordains."

THEN HE DIDN'T



Mrs. Benham—Do you believe that odd numbers are lucky?

Benham—Not when I remember that you and I are one.

NO MERCY FOR WIFE KILLER.

Feeling against William Josiah McMeen, convicted in 1886 of the murder of his wife in Port Royal, Juniata county, was declared to be as strong as it was in 1887, when the board of pardons was hanged in effigy for commuting his sentence of death to life imprisonment.

Senator E. E. Beidleman made application for pardon for McMeen, declaring he had been a model prisoner since sent to the Western penitentiary in 1887 and there were grave elements of doubt in the conviction of McMeen.

Senator Beidleman's arguments were attacked by District Attorney Graybill of Juniata county, who declared that the people of the county feared the return of McMeen, whom he declared was still regarded as "a bad man" by men and women who remembered the tragedy in which he figured twenty-eight years ago. The board refused pardon.

GET RID OF NUISANCES.

The New York Edison company has perfected an apparatus for eliminating the smoke and cinder nuisance at its great Waterside station, New York. The smoke from the boiler plant, laden with soot and cinders, is driven at high speed through a sheet of water, by means of which practically all of the material which constitutes a nuisance is deposited in a big water tank. The recent test showed an average efficiency of extraction of 95 per cent.

BURNED CANDLE FOR HER.

Poet Charles Hanson Towne's newest story is about a clever woman playwright he knows. Another woman wrote her: "Burn a candle for me, that my new play succeeds." The clever woman playwright wired back, "Burning candle at both ends for you."—New York World.

MADE HIM SUFFER.

"Influenza is a terrible illness." "Are you subject to it?" "I should say so. My wife's always having it."

LUCKY MISSES.

"Have any luck on your hunting trip?" "Yes, I missed three guides I shot at for deer."

WIND'S WONDERFUL VELOCITY

During Phenomenal Atmospheric Disturbances It is Impossible to Estimate It.

Does anybody know how fast the wind can blow? It is an easy problem, under ordinary conditions, and the weather bureau in Washington gives out daily readings of wind velocity, the reliability of which is universally accepted.

But, in those occasional instances when a hurricane is raging, the delicate instruments which science has devised to measure wind velocities are swept away, just as they begin to record really interesting figures.

In November of last year, just as an anemometer in Jamaica marked 120 miles an hour, it was carried off by the gale. The greatest velocity measured in this country was on January 11 at Mount Washington, where the wind was blowing at the rate of 186 miles an hour. But wind has blown pine boards through telegraph poles or caused them to pierce trees to the depth of several inches, thus indicating a velocity of at least 600 miles an hour, according to scientific calculations.

As it is admitted that there are now no instruments capable of recording such high speed, it is quite evident that we do not know how fast the wind blows, and will not possess this knowledge until an anemometer is constructed that will not be carried away in any velocity.

NEED NOT BE MONOTONOUS

One Bridegroom at the Altar Has Shown That Costume May Be Somewhat Appropriate.

It is hard to escape the conventional black. When a man is going to be married there seems to be little else for him to wear. The bridegroom drops automatically to the old dead level. There are uniforms indeed, but they are seldom put on for a wedding. A soldier or sailor may fall back on this resource; but such favored types as policemen, airmen, chauffeurs, firemen and bellhops are but too inclined to demonstrate, when the hour is at hand, how much alike men are—or want to be. Who, they seem to ask, wants to look at the "happy man," anyhow?

But a brave and resourceful young man in Maine has changed all this. Sockalexis, the Indian runner, has "stood up" in beaded buckskin and eagle feathers. His course seems natural, suitable, justifiable on all grounds, almost inevitable.

He has shown that bridegrooms are not patterned so monotonously as we suppose and are not necessarily doomed to eclipse. Perhaps other intending husbands may now discover legitimate ways to differentiate themselves by introducing suitable variations on a dull and tiresome theme, leaving the conventional and characteristic black to be worn only as a last resort.—Bangor News.

INJUNCTION OBEYED.

Harry was inclined to be selfish, and when he was sick he had some nice oranges given to him and he did not want his sister to have one.

"Why, Harry, dear," said his mother, "don't you want the Lord to love you?"

"Yes, mamma," said Harry.

"Well, my son, 'the Lord loves a cheerful giver,' so don't be selfish."

Later on in the day a little friend came in to see him, and when he had gone his mother came in to give him his medicine and found it gone.

"Why, Harry, did you spill your medicine?" she asked.

"No, mother; I gave it to Johnny. He liked it, and you said, 'the Lord loves a cheerful giver.' Do you think he loves me now?"

NOT AN AMERICAN IDEA.

Berlin has a "theater novelty" in the form of a perfumed program, of which a "patron of the stage of many years' standing" says in one of the papers of that city: "Inasmuch as we must pay for the playbill we might be spared the perfume. It mingles with the other theater odors, it clings to one's coat and suggests tango, and is liable to cause trouble in households where women allow husbands to go to the theater alone. No matter how we rebel, it must be endured. Are we indebted to America for this novelty?"

NO TALK LIST.

"So Kate and Alice are not on speaking terms."

"No; but they more than make up for it by what they say about each other."

MISQUOTED.

Bix—See here, what do you mean by going around telling people I am a first-class idiot?

Dix—I didn't say first class.

THE DIFFERENCE.

"How well the lawyer acquitted himself with that speech!"

"But it's more than he did for his client with the jury."

Irl R. Hicks 1915 Almanac.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac, now ready, grows more popular and useful with each passing year. It is a fixed necessity in homes, shops and commercial establishments all over this continent. This famous and valuable year book on astronomy, storms, weather and earthquakes should be in every home and office. Professor Hicks completes this best issue of his great Almanac at the close of his seventieth year. The Almanac will be mailed for 35cts. The Rev. Irl R. Hicks fine Magazine, Word and Works, is sent one year, with a copy of his Almanac for only a dollar. Send for them to Word and Works Publishing Company, 3401 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo. You will never regret your investment. Try it for 1915. 12-8-4t.

Donation.

The members of the Lutheran church of town surprised their pastor and family on New Year's evening with many baskets and packages containing the good things of life. Along with the material contents of the donation came many greetings and good wishes for the New Year. The pastor and family wish to express their appreciation of this splendid remembrance.

Double Holidays.

Did you notice that this year we get double holidays? Memorial day and July Fourth come on Sunday and Christmas comes on Saturday, giving two days to observe in each case.

If the last two figures appearing on the name tab of your paper are 13, it shows that you are paid up to some time in 1913, and consequently, are from two to three years behind being paid in advance. If the figures are 14, (1914) it indicates that from one to two years subscription is due before we can push the paid date ahead a year in advance. The tab on your paper shows, every week, the date to which the paper is paid.

Franklin county farmers who intend having public sale this winter, or next spring, must first notify the State Veterinarian, C. J. Marshall, Harrisburg. Mr. Marshall will then have the stock and premises examined, at no expense to the owner, and if no disease is found, he will issue a permit to hold the sale. No permits are needed in Fulton county as it is not under quarantine for foot and mouth disease.

Ex-County Commissioner L. K. Cline, residing now at Rockhill Furnace, Huntingdon county, spent a few hours in town yesterday. Lee had his hip broken about three years ago, and has not entirely recovered from the accident.

County Auditors William Wink John Woodcock and Harry Lamberson, with their clerk, M. L. Kirk, are busy this week examining the accounts of the County Treasurer, in making his "annual settlement."

Dwight M. Sipes, of Licking Creek township, returned to Mercersburg Academy yesterday for the remainder of this scholastic year. Dwight missed the fall term on account of ill health.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnston N. Nelson arrived from their home at Huntsville, Ohio, at noon yesterday, having been called here on account of the death of their little grandson, Harold H. Kendall.

Mr. Maria Palmer, Dr. J. J. Palmer, wife, and son Paul of Needmore, and Frank Parker, Paris, Ill., are visiting Mrs. Palmer's daughter, Mrs. Harriet Dixon, Chambersburg, Pa.

John Hoopengardner came down from Riddlesburg Monday on account of the serious illness of his mother Rebecca Woodall, and was with her at the time of her death, Monday night.

Rev. Peterman will preach in the Big Cove Lutheran church next Sunday morning at the usual hour.

Get 1915 license blank for any kind of a machine from M. R. Shaffner. He has a full line.