**** Absentminded Jones By CYRUS DERICKSON Copyright, 1904, by K. M. Whitehead

Hardware, Etc.," but there was no "Co." It was put on by Jones because he thought it would look well and somehow increase his importance. Sa- Trent of the homely and ill shaped old lathiel Jones was Jones & Co., and the bachelor as he returned from prison only Jones, and he was a mystery to all who knew him. He was a successful merchant, and at the same time he | ly replied. was so absentminded that he was daily laughed at by scores of people. His store was by all odds the largest establishment of its kind for miles around, and for many years he had had four male clerks in his employ. Then one day, to keep up with the old and homely-and I never expect to times, he gave a place to a young wom- marry-and-er-well, it's all over an, and Miss Minnie Trent made her with." debut behind the counter at which their purchases.

aided a worthy widow and a smart and the first kiss since he was a baby in good looking daughter to eke out their come, and he deserved all credit for it. True, he called her Minnie or Miss Trent half the time, and there were occasions when he looked at her and wondered where he could possibly have seen her before, but he was a good employer and she a smart salesgirl, and things went along without any trouble.

One of the three male clerks in the store was named James Thomas, and it was generally understood in the village that he was "sweet" on Minnle. Some said that it was through his influence that she secured the place, but that was not true. One of the other clerks was a bachelor of forty-five. Nobody could ever understand how he turned to mercantile life. He seemed to be as slow witted as he was slow footed, and his personal appearance was anything but prepossessing. It was doubtful if any other merchant except Jones would have employed him at any wages, but Jones wanted honest people about him, and he had the highest confidence in Albert Ross.

Things had been running smoothly at the store for months and months. when there came such an interruption as had never been known before. A woman lost a purse containing \$50. There were not half a dozen people in the store at the time, and she was sure she had it in her hand when she sat down at the counter presided over by Miss Trent. Search was made at once and continued for half an hour. Jones had left the store five minutes before the alarm was raised to get an early dinner and attend a funeral, and he did not learn of the loss until several hours after. Then he proceeded to a judicial examination. He called in the constable and the justice of the peace, and the employees were examined and cross examined. The loser was firm in saying that no other person except Miss Minnie was at the counter when she missed her purse, and, although she made no charge, there could be but one inference. She berself was permitted to seach the protesting and indignant girl, and a thorough search was made above and under the counters and all over the store, but nothing was brought to light. Then Jones did the right thing. He handed the woman \$50, with his compliments and regrets, and said nothing further | for instance, is a marvel of adjusted to the clerks. Nothing further would muscle and membrane, while, on the have been said by any one had not the

woman talked. Anything is a sensation in a village. has but little to show, and the common

It was as easy as breaking eggs. Jones had passed the counter while the two women were looking at some garment. He had seen the purse and pick-ed it up to hand it along to its owner. A clerk had called him at the moment. and he had started off. The purse had gone into his coat tail pocket, walked home to dinner with him, and when he The sign on the village store read, changed his coat to go to the funeral "Jones & Co., Dry Goods, Groceries, it was left in the old one. Upon his return he had put on another, and so

run for home, he being a widower,

with a housekeeper. In fifteen minutes he was back at the store with the

purse in his hand.

for weeks the missing money had been hanging in his wardrobe. "Why did you do it?" asked Miss with his character fully cleared. "I-I thought I was guilty," he lame-

"No! You thought I was guilty !" "Not that, Miss Trent. I-I knew that James loved you and that youyou loved him and that-that"-"Then you thought him guilty and

sacrificed yourself for the both of us?" "Well-er-well, you see, I'm getting

And so it was, except that the girl most of the women customers made threw her arms around his neck and kissed him, and her tears dampened In taking in Miss Minnie, Jones had his wrinkled cheeks-the first tears and his mother's arms.

THROWING THE DICE.

The Ancient Germans Were Fucious

The invention of dice has been of old ascribed to Palamedes, the son of Nauplius, king of Euboea, about 1244 B. C., and also to a Greek soldier named Alea, which is the Latin for a die, but Herodotus assigns both dice and chess to the Lydians. The ancient Germans would gamble away at dice all that they were worth and then their liberty, submitting to slavery if they lost, and the Saxons, Danes and Normans were all addicted to the game. Fox Talbot is of opinion that the Latins invented, if not the game, at least the name for the single point, which they called unus.

practice from the Greeks, translated the Greek corruption of unus into ass. which has now become ace. The root of this word lies in the Latin as, the monetary unit. John of Salisbury in the twelfth century mentions ten different uses of the dice. Stow mentions two enter-

don Telegraph.

It Is Produced by a Unique Voice Organ In the Syrinx.

Birds have no vocal chords in the larynx, but they possess a unique voice organ in the syrinx, which is provided with what are really vocal chords of a very effective and complicated kind. This syrinx lies in the lower part of the windpipe and the upper part of the branching bronchi, but varies much in its exact position and details of structure in different birds.

Briefly it consists of a varving number of muscles, as many as from five to seven being found in the best songsters, attached to folds of membrane and the bony half rings, which at this part of the throat form a sort of enlarged Adam's apple. Distinctness of the several muscles

and the mode of their insertion indi-cate a bird's musical capability. The syrinx of the skylark and nightingale, other hand, the ostrich and some vultures have no voice organ, the pigeon MY CHANGEABLE LOVER AN ORDINANCE. Individual, property, or otherwise

[Original.] I have a lover.

My lover's name is Jack. Jack is at times feminine, at times masculine Strange to say, I like my lover best when he is feminine. I suppose, to be strictly grammatical, I should say "when she is feminine," but there is no word in the English language which stands for "he or she." We use "he" at times to stand for both. Therefore whether he is acting like a man or a woman I shall call him "he."

Sometimes Jack pays me compliments, sometimes tells me the truthif it is the truth-blurting it out sud-

Gamblers at This Game.

"Mme. B. has tried three times to fit was the sole owner of all property me and falled every time. She'll not thus abutting on the line of the pro-The Germanic races, adopting this have another chance.' have another chance." This is where Jack is feminine, when the is negative of the only party entitled to statutory

tainments given by the city of London at which dice were in evidence.-Lon-

THE BIRD'S SONG.

sense after Ernest has rapped me over the knuckles. The next time I saw Er-

nest I told him that I was ashamed of my poetic effusion and would not offend again.

misled him.

and took me in his arms.

verse."

O VACATE A PORTION OF CROSS struction and maintenant STREET, IN THE BOROUGH OF extension of "A" street DANVILLE, MONTOUR COUNTY, from all other claims PENNSYLVANIA, WHERE IT whatsoever find may at any CROSSES THE TRACES OF THE made upon the sold Foragh of PHILADELPHIA AND READING ville by the sold Puthad Iphia RAILWAY COMPANY AT GRADE Reading Railway Cempaty AND IN LIEU THEREOF TO EX-TEND "A" STREET IN THE SAID SECTION 5. That the

BOROUGH, UNDER THE TRACKS ville and Bloomsburg Street Railw C. THE SAID RAILWAY COM-NY, TO WALNUT STREET, IN CHE SAID BOROUGH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Intense, some truthe, blurting it out sud-
denly and gruffly. He often criticises
my dressed for a ball the other evening
ind, suddenly looking up, saw Jack re-
gruffly me intensity. As my gaze met-
his an expression of admiration sud-
denly lighted up his face.OTHER PURPOSES."At' street, when thus, preperty condition and re-
pair so that the same shall be preper combined to the Boronge of Mary Street, when these sufficient and upon the proper com-
roge for a way suggestions?"
"It is perfect. You might take that
profe the part or portion of Cross street, in
the said Borongh, which is erossed at
prot it farther back. There; that will
do. It is a great improvement.""OTHER PURPOSES."At' street, when thus, preper yread
to all pedestrians and vehicles at all
to all pedestrians and vehicles at all
the pair so that the same shall be passarbi-
to all pedestrians and vehicles at all
the pair so that the same shall be preper com-
proper com-
bits and expression of admiration sud-
densiting forth, among other things, that
the part or portion of Cross street, in
the said Borough, which is erossed at
properly ccenay and use the said ero
properly ccena

lightful." If Jack would always talk to me like this I would like him better. But he doesn't, Sometimes he looks at me in a

this I would like him better. But he doesn't. Sometimes he looks at me in a most unsatisfactory way and says what he looks. "You're a dowdy looking thing," he said to me the other day. "That dress hangs on you in wrfnkles and makes is name and makes with the tracks of the or contrary to the provisions of the and in the said way. Company he and its successors and assigns. SECTION 9. That all ordinances he or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the southwardly direction, under, and at or contrary to the provisions of the ordinance are hereby repreated. yon appear as old as your grandmoth- right angles with, the tracks of the ordinance are hereby repealed.

said railway company, to Walnut Approved the seventh day of "Well, I can't help it," I replied. "Mme R has tried three times to fit was the sole owner of all property WILLIAM G. PURSEL.

he is prattling about dress. But some times he talks to me about my good the enactment of an ordinance in such Pa., Council Chamber, City

fally requested that the necessary and interest and involving important hit

verses that Jack at first admired, then
called rubbish. He listened respectful-
ly till I got through, then said, "Very-
pretty," in a bored kind of a way.
"Shall we go for a walk?"AND WHEREAS, the said petition-
in a bored kind of a way.
"Shall we go for a walk?"cover damages from the Penusylvania
railroad for the loss of her hushand
ad sou, who were killed on a crossing
a does also was killed
the team they drow also was killed
read as fellows:menuser is hereby
and number of owners of property as
aforesaid, in the said petition therein
expressly waived all statutory notice
preliminary and subsequent to the en-
actment of the ordinance thus request
ed and further asked that such ordin.cover damages from the Penusylvania
real as follows:
the team they drow also was killed
and their rig demoliabled by being tun
prated and given and the same is
hereby granted and given and the same is
hereby granted and given to The Dan-
it will be remembered that at first
ville and Riverside Stroct Railway

ly he is very sensible, but I have no-ticed that I get the benefit of his good any other preliminary or subsequent was carried to the Supreme court and and incorporated adder the laws proceedings as to notice being had in by that body was referred back here the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

AN ORDINACE

"Very pretty," he said. "And your train follows you gracefully. You are sure to have plenty of attention this evening. Your card will be filled be-the said railway at "A" street there.

by a single track electric street pas-engor railway in, through, upon and basis to become grimy and dusty, as is and, Wahnut, Lower Mulberry and anch stretts, respectively, within limits of the Borough of Danville, string the necessary wires, and to do small maids walked out in f hats, looking quite their p

Jack's only rival is Ernest Field. He proper ordinance for the above purpose be at once duly enacted without any wave manly He rarely notices my the rarel

appears that a majority in interest and number of owners of property abut-Cook and William B. Moore baye ally a single track electric street pas-Spouting and Canoral

ting on the line of the proposed im-provement are in favor of the said im-provement and that such improvement Authony township.—William Black, berland, Walnut, Lower Mulberry and

John Campbell, William H. Ammer- said "A" Street so as to pass from

THE EVE A SPECIALT

Hours-10 a. m. to 5 p. m.





of Railway Company (a corp- sea mostly-whale blubber and such

train follows you gracefully. For all of the provision of "A" street as it shall from time to time deem and find necessary and proper. with when the fellows come up and ask for a dance, you will toss your head, hold out your card and note their disappointment. It will be de-lightful."

the daty organized and more provided the Common-action of Pennsylvania) at its own per cost and expense to build, con-nect, maintain and operate perpeta-wore dainty while hats wreathed with flowers got on a train for a short jour-



Stoyes, Heaters, Ranges, Furnaces, etc.

PRICES THE LOWEST !

JOHN HIXSON

NO. 116 E. FRONT ST.

QUALITY THE BEST

is very different from Jack, being al- be at once duly enacted without any is very different from Jack, being al-ways manly. He rarely notices my dress or compliments me, but when he does I prize it far more than Jack's shifting opinions. I read him the verses that Jack at first admired, then the premises, and where the premises, werse that Jack at first admired, then the premises of the said petition-

he premises. AND WHEREAS, it thus clearly for this special term of Court Sherifi proper cost and expense to build, con-

"Your verses are much better than the average," he said, "but only a genius can avoid being commonplace in

provement and that such improvement Yesterday Ernest told me that he would call this evening and would have something very expectal to say to me. It quite took my breath away, for I knew very well what that something Would be Horn with Bloom Street and upon and over Would be Horn with Bloom Street and upon and over Would be Horn with Bloom Street and upon and over would be. How could I give up Jack? |Borough of Danville,

and weak points. He is very change-able. I read him some verses lately that the said petitioner there-behalf; that the said petitioner there-Danville, Pa., Council Chamber, I had just written, and he was in ec-stacles over them. I read them to him again in a week, and he called them erwise legally entitled, and respectrubbish.

Jones & Co.'s was a big sensation, bigger than a circus and a Fourth of July in one. People at once divided off. One half of them were sure that the daughter of the widow had yielded to the sudden temptation and concealed the purse for her future benefit. The other half charitably argued that some one else had picked it up or even that there had been no loss at all. Jones & Co. tried to pass the affair over and bush it up, but the people wouldn't have it that way. It was a good thing to hang on to until some woman eloped or some man stole sheep, and it became a leading and a burning question. It resulted in quarrels between neighbors, and those quarrels finally resulted in Miss Trent being called a thief and having to take legal cognizance of it by bringing a suit for slander. The defendant in that sult swore out a warrant for the girl on a charge of having appropriated the \$50, and there was as pretty a kettle of fish as a town ever saw.

Jones & Co. and the three clerks were placed in an unfortunate posttion. While all of them fully believed in the girl's innocence, their testimony on a suit would hardly favor her. If the purse was lost at her counter, as the loser was ready to swear, then it must be admitted that only the two were there at the time.

Things certainly looked very bad for Miss Trent, and the mental worry had put her under the doctor's care, when a strange thing happened. Albert Ross. the old bachelor clerk, went before the justice of the peace and charged himself with the offense and made a full confession. In this confession he admitted to passing the counter while clerk and customer were busy looking at goods and to have seen the purse and slipped it into his pocket. He had destroyed the purse, but he was ready to restore the money. He asked to be arrested, tried and punished, and in the course of a week he was arraigned and bound over to a higher court for trial.

there was a sensation now. While Miss inns, no shops, no saloons, not even Trent's character was cleared, people proper streets, but only narrow alleys hesitated to believe that Albert Ross that thread their way through the was a thief. However, when a man strange town. As we walked through the reaping big profits. He supplied his says he is a thief, swears that he is a the rules all the rules are the rules and orsays he is a thief, swears that he is a the village all the world came out to dered that all pearls found near Sulu prison as a thief, what are you going the roofs or sat on the ovens-queer that dropped through were to be re

way, except with Jones & Co. Jones did not for one instant believe the girl guilty. Neither did he believe that Ross took the purse. He went about freedom and pleasure of today make scratching his head and talking to him- girls less and less anxious to marry self and trying to remember something, before they are past five and twenty. and it was one day after one of his Perhaps it is better that there should "fits" had lasted him for half an hour be that disinclination, for our modern that he suddenly jumped up and down and used a swear word. Next instant he clapped on his hat and started on a don Opinion.

The fact that \$50 had been lost in fowl has no muscles to modulate its cry.

Old Roman Hairpins.

That deadly implement, the hatpin of modern times, is a descendant of an equally formidable toflet article used by Roman women. The Aspasias and Julias and Claudias who decked themselves a couple of thousand years or more ago, to the undoing of the par ticular Balbus or Marcus they desired to fascinate, wore bone hairpins of prodigious length. Yet, like the wo men of this present time, they seem to have experienced the same difficulty in keeping them in place. This fact came to light during excavations at Silchesof indecision. ter, near Reading, England, a hundred or so of these bone hairpins being und in the Roman bath, collected maybe by the bath attendant, to prove all these centuries later that there is nothing new under the sun and that in all ages the same little folbles have been possessed by women.

ZUNI FAMILY LIFE.

Village Looks Like a Huge Hive of Clay on a Sandy Knoll.

The little half civilized children of Zuni so aroused our curiosity that we drove through forty miles of sand and sagebrush, from the rathroad at Fort mean love. I had not intentionally Wingate, to pay them a visit. As the Indians do not provide for travelers we

took our hotel with us-tents, beds and food-and camped just outside their village. The village looks like a huge beehive made of clay and stuck fast to the top of a sandy knoll. The hive is filled with a mass of cells-300 single rooms, placed side by side and piled in rows one on top of another.

In each of these rooms lives a Zuni family. There are no inside stalrways leading from story to story, but if the boys and girls living in one row wish to pay a visit to a house above them they must go outdoors and climb a lad- mirror. der. On the slope between the village and the Zuni river are a number of If there had been excitement before | small vegetable gardens, each one inclosed by a mud wall. Zuni has no

thief and demands that he be sent to see us. Girls and boys clustered on must be tested in these sleves. Those to do about it? The key to unlock the little cones of mud which seem to grow tained by the fishermen; those that re mystery was kicking around under- up out of the house tops-while fa- mained in the speves were to belong to foot all the time, but nobody could see thers, mothers and bables peered out the sultan for taxes. It nearly ruined from dark doorways to stare at the the pearl fisher tes.

The trial in the higher court came visitors. When we had finished our along in about a month, and Ross tour of the roofs and alleys we were prison for a year. He took the sen-tence meekly and a sent to state the children followed us, and as we really born in Ireland. Bobby - Oh tence meekly and a couple of days glanced up at a hole in the ceiling had disappeared from sight of the peo-ple who had known him for fifteen him face filled the opening. We any red chin withiskers nor a pipe stick long years and believed in his honesty must have looked strange enough in in' in your hatt-Philadelphia Press. every day. Miss Trent returned to the our hats and gloves and long skirts .store, and things went on in the old Maria Brace Kimbali in St. Nicholas.

selated Weddings.

Desperate. Pat?"

meet!"-Town Topics

When Ernest was announced I had AND WHEREAS, the Dauville an been ready and waiting for him half Bloomsburg Street Railway Company an hour. It was the longest half hour its successors and assigns, in consid I had ever known. Jack and I were

eration of certain privileges and fran reading-I was pretending to read-at chises to it and them hereinafter grant the time in the library. I looked up from my book, and Jack looked up at ed by the said Borough of Danville, the same moment. He knew what I have covenanted and agreed with the was waiting for, and I saw him shiver. | said Borough of Danville to make such There was a sharp ring at the bell, a extension of "A" street at its and heavy step in the hall-it seemed as if their own proper cost and expense, and an undertaker had come to measure to fully indemnity and save harmless me-and the maid came in to tell me the said Borough of Danville from that Mr. Field was in the drawing any and all damages, individual, proproom. I gave Jack a half assuring erty, or otherwise whatsoever, that look and went to meet my fate, what ever it might be, for Itwas in a state may accrue in, or be in any wise in-

cidental to, the construction of such I hoped Ernest would lead, up to extension of "A" street as well as to what he had to say gradually, but he keep such extension of "A" street,

didn't. He began by saying that a bet-ter understanding should exist between when thus constructed, in proper condition and repair at all times,

two people who had been so much to-THEREFORE, be it ordained and gether, and he had called to do his part enacted by the Chief Burgess, and by in bringing that understanding about. the Town Conneil of the Borough of That part was to tell me that helloved Danville, in the County of Montour me and wished me to be his wife. Perhaps it was the way he did it. and State of Pennsyltvania, in Coun-

At any rate, I said after a short si lence that he was too late; that I al cil assembled, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the ready had a lover who was the only ame: one to whom I could entirely give my-

SECTION 1. That all that certain self. I was very sorry if he had conpart or portion of Cross street between strued a friendliness on my part to avenue in the Fourth Ward of the case.

The expression that came over his face was one of terrible disappointsaid Borough of Dauville and it; south. eler. "I'll take it." ern intersection with Walnut streat in and after paying fo ment. It was surprising to me after the Third Ward of the said Borough of his very methodical proposition. It Danville be vacated upon the complebroke down my resolution. "I only wish," he said, "that I were tion and acceptance by the said Borough of Danville of the said under- pointing to and in his place. God grant that he may

grade extension of "A" street to be make you happy, as you deserve." constructed in lieu thereof as is in the "Ernest," I said in a comforting tor and freaching for his hand, "my lover next Section of this ordinance more has a fault which may after all kill specifically provided.

my affection for him. He is very SECTION 2. That said ' A'' street,

changeable. Do you wish to see him? in the Fourth Ward of the said Bor. for \$25?" he inquired. Look!" I pointed to my reflection in a ough of Danville, be extended from its intersection with Columbia and "Jaqueline!" 'he exclaimed, radiant Nicholas avenues in a southwardly direction, under, and at right angles ELIZA L. WHITCOMB. Some years ago the sultan of Sulu with, the tracks of the Philadelphia

and Reading Railway Company, to learned that the pearl fishermen were Walnut street, in the Third Ward of watch and went av the said Borough of Danville.

SECTION 3. That the said extension at "A" street shall be made by the said Danville and Bloomsburg for \$50?" he said. the said Danvine and Biobusburg Street Railway Company at its own cost and expense, under the direction and control of the committee of the said Town Council on Streets and Bridges in conjunction with the Street Commissioner of the said Borough of Description of the committee of the said Borough of Description of the said Borough of the said Borough of the said Borough of the same trees.

His) Idea of It. you're in disgraise, then. Caller-In dis

Personal.

old junk man, watching Stabbubs pack-ing his goods on the moving van. SEC "Yes," snapped Subbubst "a bath."-

Exchange. "Can you make both ends meet,

"Shure and I can't make one end.

Danville, Second ward, -- William M. Railroad, (now operated by The Phil Mover, Patrick Kerns, Charles Gib- adalphia and Reading Ra

Danville, Third ward. - Elias Maier, line of the said Danvil Simon Ellenbogen, George Hunlock, Street Railway Company of Jacob Frv.

Danville, Fourth Ward - Thom Neville, William Jordan, Jr., L. G. Little, David Gibson, William G. Evans, Thomas Dempsey, Albert Book

miller, John Quigg. Derry township.--Levi Moser, Frank Courson, Amandus C. Schultz. Limestore township. - Ambrose Cromis, James C. Smith, J. C. Mince-

moyer. Liberty township.-J. H. Diehl.F. M. Millbeim, Clark C. Dyer, Willard Pannebaker.

Mahoning township.-William Bell, James Morrison, William Schram, Jo eph Ritter, J. Lloyd Krumm. Mayberry township.-Joseph Geau hart, Charles A. Schultz.

Mart, Charles A. Schultz.
Valley township.—Samuel Pursel,
William C. Flick.
Washingtonville.—Frank Umstead.
West Hemlock township.—Lloyd
Bomboy, J. W. Andy.

Minimizing the Vain,

part or portion of Cross street between its northern intersection with Nicholas Mr. Kloce, pointing to one in the show-The next day he he said.

"I'll take that instead

A day or two later

"Well, \$25 will get a pretty good timepiece," said the jeweler one out. "Here's one with a gold filled case and full jeweled. The movement is warranted." "I'll take it.

The Orange Tree.

Darville, and in strict conformity with such terms, maps, plans and specifications as shall be provided genus. A peculiarity of this tree is therefor by the said Borough of Dan-ville and that it will falle ville, and that it will fally complete the said extension of "A" street with-and as it grows older it grows b "Is there anything you don't meed in the period of ninety days from the beauty and fruitfulness, its blossom filling the air with its fragrance. It is Indeed a fit emblem of marriage prom effect. SECTION 4. That in thus making the said extension of "A" street the said Dauville and Bloomsburg Street Railway Company shall fully indemn- as every one knows who has exper

ify and save harmless the said Bor- enced it, Cupld's dart causes pain. The ough of Danville from the payment of, orange tree is emblematic of gratitude for liability for, any and all damages, as well as of genius and love.

The Home Paper of Danville.

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