

## MONTOUR AMERICAN

FRANK C. ANGLE, Proprietor.

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### STARTLED CARLYLE.

How Charles Godfrey Leland Brought the Cynic to His Senses.

Charles Godfrey Leland said that on his first meeting with Carlyle the wise man showed himself in a somewhat cynical frame of mind, from which he was aroused only by a bit of whole-some opposition.

"And what kind of an American may you be—German or Irish or what?" Carlyle asked.

"Since it interests you, Mr. Carlyle," replied Leland, "to know the origin of my family I may say that I am descended from Henry Leland, a noted Puritan, who went to America in 1636."

"I doubt whether any of your family have since been equal to your old Puritan great grandfather," growled Carlyle, and this, combined with some slurring remarks which he had previously thrown out in regard to America and her history, roused Leland's spirit.

"Mr. Carlyle," he said deliberately, "I think that my brother, Henry Leland, who got the wound from which he died standing by my side in the war of the rebellion, was worth ten of my old Puritan ancestors. At least he died in a ten times better cause. And allow me to say, Mr. Carlyle, that I think in all matters of historical criticism you are principally influenced by the merely melodramatic and theatrical."

Carlyle looked utterly amazed and started, though not at all angry.

"What's that you say?" he cried in broad Scotch.

Mr. Leland repeated the remark. A grim smile as of admiration came over the stern old face. It was with a deeply reflective and not displeased air that he replied, still in Scotch.

"Na, na, I'm nae that," he said. And he dropped into a milder strain and made the interview an occasion to be treasured long in memory.

### AN ELECTION TRICK.

One Sample of the Dodges to Which They Resort in England.

Canon J. George Tetley tells the following story of the late Justice Denman, who in 1851 ran for election at Tiverton, in England. He was advertised to address the electors on a certain morning. In order to fulfill his engagement it was necessary for him to leave by the 9:15 express. He had taken the precaution of ordering a cab overnight and was quietly eating an early breakfast when attention was called to two or three men who seemed to be hanging about in the neighborhood of his house. That thought little, however, of the matter, but presently sent his servant to put his luggage on the cab, which was due to arrive. The cab approached the door, but before the portmanteau could be located one of the mysterious strangers jumped in and was driven rapidly away.

And when this happened a second time it became evident that something very definite was intended. So Mr. Denman consulted his watch, and directing his luggage to be sent after him, he buttoned his coat and, calling to his aid all his old Cambridge training, took a bee line for the station. He met not one empty cab till near the terminus to be of any service to him. He dashed through the "booking office" on to the platform, seized the handle of a carriage door as the train was actually starting and flung himself into a compartment.

On arriving at Tiverton he found his committee in a state of extreme anxiety which gave place to astonishment and relief on his appearance, for the walls of the town were covered with placards warning the Liberal electors that their candidate would not keep his engagement to address them.

**Virtues of the Swiss.**  
I did not meet a tramp, encounter a beggar or a person the least intoxicated during my stay in Switzerland. Of how few countries in Europe or America can this be truthfully said. There may be a small percentage of drunkenness, but if it exists it is kept out of sight. A thrifter, cleaner, more whole some body of people, who carefully observe sanitary laws in their homes, I have never met in my various travels. They are as tidy and neat as the housewives of Holland or the Pennsylvania Quakers. No wonder Switzerland is a prosperous country. It owes much of its good fortune to the practical intelligence of its law abiding citizens.—London Carter.

### CHEEK, PUSH AND CASH.

Three Essentials, Says a Cynic, to Success in Life.

Fighting for cards, to entertainments, pushing up by hook and by crook, giving dinners and dances (typewritten descriptions of which are given to any journalists who wish for them)—these things are essentially opposed to "that repose which stamps the caste of Vere de Vere."

These influences are very widespread. To "get on" is the great object of every one, and to get on one must drop as many refinements as possible. They "do not pay." This may seem cynical, but it is unfortunately true. Cheek, push and cash are the three essentials to success, and if the last be lacking the two former are necessary for its getting.

This is all false, unworthy. It is only the veneer of a butterfly class. The aristocracy is one with the upper middle classes in its rejection of these influences. Refinement is not dead among us, but it is overshadowed. Sane and serious people are sickened by the frothy life that goes on about them. If it really brought enjoyment to its devotees it would be justified, but that it does not is simply evidenced by the discontented, artificial faces under the horribly pretty hats above the vulgarly elaborate dresses. Better things will come, better things exist now beneath this false surface, but the man who beats the drum can drown the strains of the violin. Just now the drum is very loud. Let us lower our voices and wait.—London Outlook.

**Freedom to Worship God.**  
One of the conditions which promote peace between the states of the United States is that wherever any citizen may be he is free to enjoy whatever form of religion he prefers. He may be a Christian, Mohammedan or pagan, as he pleases; only he must preserve the peace and live a decent life. World peace will be unspeakably promoted if there prevails such a system of world law that when a man goes into any part of the world he will be free to worship God after any form he prefers. Other liberties now not known in all countries may be expected in the growing toleration and homogeneity of the world.—R. L. Bridgeman in Atlantic.

## THE CROWS OF INDIA

THEY ARE THE ARCH VILLAINS OF THE BIRD WORLD.

**Two Species of the Feathered Vandals Exist Side by Side and Ply Their Tricks of Iniquity In Common—Larceny For the Love of It.**

It is quite impossible for any one who has not sojourned in the "Land of Regrets" to appreciate the important part played by crows in the daily life of the Anglo-Indian. India with its crows is unthinkable; it could only be likened to London without its fogs. Wherever human beings have their abodes there are multitudes of corvids to be found, for the Indian corvine is an inseparable appendage of town and village. Two species exist side by side in the black great-billed bird known to Anglo-Indians as the corby and the smaller gray-necked species. Both birds lead lives of aimless vagabondage; both are scoundrels of the most pronounced type; both are slumbers beyond redemption. Did the black crow exist alone, it would be held up as the emblem of all that is evil and mischievous. As things are, its iniquities pale into insignificance beside those of its gray-necked cousin.

The very name of the latter bird is sufficient to raise the ire of the righteous man. To call the arch villain of the bird world "the splendid" is mere mockery of words. Jerdon, the famous Indian naturalist, often regrets that such an inappropriate specific name should have been applied to this species, for it tends to bring into ridicule among the unscientific the system of innumerable crows.

The Indian crow is able to utilize most things. A Calcutta bird has made itself famous for all time by constructing a nest of the wires used to secure the corks of soda water bottles. Bombay is very jealous of Calcutta, and the crows, of course, ape their betters. The Bombay birds determined not to be outdone by the Calcutta corvids. Accordingly one of the former promptly built her nest of gold and silver spectacle frames stolen from Messrs. Lawrence & Mayo's factory. The value of the materials used in the construction of this nest was estimated at \$20. But crows will appropriate anything for which they can have no possible use. They commit larceny for the love of the thing. The Indian crow is the incarnate spirit of mischief. The bird will wantonly tear a leaf out of a book lying open on the table. My gardener, adds Mr. De-war, puts every morning fresh flowers in the vase. This operation is performed on the veranda. One day the man was called away from his work for a couple of minutes. During his absence a crow swooped down and succeeded in taking a beautiful of flowers and breaking the vase in which they were placed. A retired colonel of mine acquainted who lives in the Himalayas is a very enthusiastic gardener, and the crows are the bane of his life. They root up his choicest seedlings, sever the heads of his most superb flowers from the stalk and fly away with the little pieces of paper which he places in cleft sticks to mark where seed have been sown.

But it is in towns that the iniquity of the crows reaches its maximum. The Madras corvids are a byword throughout the length and breadth of India. The hospital is their favorite playground. They are never so happy as when annoying the inmates. The old covenanter, who died yesterday, was a thanksgiving—Youth's Companion.

### The Family Tree.

A pleasant pastime, literally, for those who have no more pressing duties and wish to get outside their environment at least in thought will open up before her who begins to mount a family tree. Tracing one's genealogy may become—probably will become—a matter of absorbing amusement and attention, for it entails a thread gathered up here, dropped there, a letter to write, a book to read, a register to consult.

In the self absorbed, the despondent, the listless, one may recommend this diversion as certain to suit even rather morbid conditions of temperament, and yet as certain to gently force the mind away from itself to other persons and things in refection.—Harper's Bazaar.

### Quaint Prayers.

The chief of the Leslies is said to have prayed before a battle: "Be on our side. An gha ye canna be on our side, ay lay low a bit, an' ye'll see that carles get a-hidin' that must please ye." An old covenanter, who ruled his household with a rod of iron, is said to have prayed in all sincerity and the chestnut, both trees which grow rapidly and are capable of enduring considerable shade, are controlled, the one because much of its seed is barren, the other because many of the nuts are eaten by animals. And the red cedar, of slow growth and sparse distribution, is aided through the forest spring up here and there throughout the forest struggle along under the heavy crowns of the hard woods, where a tree making more insistent demands upon light could not survive.

In the forests of the southern Appalachians the oak is in many localities the characteristic tree. Growing rapidly and exceedingly hardy, it might be expected to increase steadily its proportion in the mixture. The equilibrium is maintained through the fact that the oak can endure but little shade and that its seed is heavy, limiting its reproduction to the immediate vicinity of the parent tree.

In the same region the yellow poplar and the chestnut, both trees which grow rapidly and are capable of enduring considerable shade, are controlled, the one because much of its seed is barren, the other because many of the nuts are eaten by animals. And the red cedar, of slow growth and sparse distribution, is aided through the forest spring up here and there throughout the forest struggle along under the heavy crowns of the hard woods, where a tree making more insistent demands upon light could not survive.

The aspen, short lived and requiring much light, holds its own with longer and shade enduring trees because its downy seed is produced in great quantities and is scattered far and wide by the wind. The ash and the basswood, of rapid growth and bearing an abundance of seed, are withheld by strong demands upon light and by the seed of a fresh and fertile soil. The red fir, enjoyed by few North American trees in rapidity of growth and otherwise well equipped to gain the upper hand in its region, is controlled through the usual failure of its seed to germinate except when accident has removed the top litter and exposed the mineral power to germinate unimpeded.

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The study of trees as living, striving organisms in a world of their own kind, an almost human interest in the forest. Every day spent in the woods will be the pleasure for some insight gained into what is going on within, and an earnest observer can gain knowledge of practical value by an attempt to discover the factors which control the occurrence of trees in mixed growth. Forestry, which deals with the development of the highest utility of forests, means a thorough understanding of the habits of trees.—Overton W. Price in Youth's Companion.

**Carless of Honors.**  
Pastor Kueiip, the famous discoverer of the "barefoot cure," who was appointed chamberlain by the pope, cared little for the honor. He did not even take the trouble to open the letter announcing the appointment and first learned of the honor conferred upon him by the arrival of a delegation at the Woerthofen cloister to congratulate him. He declined to be addressed, however, as "monsignore." It was with difficulty that he was persuaded to leave his retreat to go to Rome to attend the papal conclave.

**Sudden Want of Information.**  
Tommy—Ma, lend me a pen lead. Mother—I just left pen and ink on the table for you. What do you want with a pencil? Tommy—I want to write to the editor of the paper to ask him what'll take ink stains out of the paper carpet. Philadelphia Ledger.

**Mean.**  
Husband—My, but I wish I had your tongue! Wife—So that you could understand yourself intelligently? Husband—No; so that I could stop it when I wanted to.—Detroit Free Press.

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**May Get You Into Trouble.**  
The practice of writing just a few words in a package of papers or of merchandise mailed at a lower rate than letters is said to have become so common that postmasters have been instructed to examine such packages and report to the department officials.

The cost of prosecution in the United States district court and a fine of twenty-five dollars would be as small a penalty as the sender could escape with.

Emerson might well have had store-keeping in mind when he wrote: "No man has learned anything rightly until he knows that every day is Doomsday." In a busy modern store every day is Doomsday—in the respect that Doomsday means day of fruition as well as of judgment. When the clock strikes six every store has closed another chapter, finished another sowing and reaping.

Uncle Sam's department chiefs are unloading their big annual reports these days.

## A CASE OF LUCK.

How the Lack of a Nickel Won a Good Paying Position.

Little Mrs. Tyler sighed as the trolley car whizzed past her.

"To think," she mused, "that I should have come to this—too poor to spend 5 cents for car fare! If I could only get more music scholars!" Then Bob could have the beefsteak and the fruit he needs dear, patient Robert!

Time was when Frederica's piano playing had won her many a social triumph, but that was before she had married the penniless Robert Tyler, to begin life anew across the continent. Now that he was sick they alone had only the pitance her pupils brought her.

Today Mrs. Tyler was very tired. No wonder she had sighed when the car had glided past her, and home was a mile away. Strains of Handel's "Hallelujah! Mass" drew her inside a music store. Music always rested her. A girl was playing upon a grand piano, and several persons stood about. Mrs. Tyler strolled their way.

One after another took a turn at the instrument. The newcomer was too interested in the playing to question whence. Finally a man approached her.

"It's your turn next," he said.

She was about to expire his mistake when the humor of the situation appealed to her, and she seized with a desire to carry out the joke. Accordingly she took her seat and began Paderevski's "Love Song." She did not know for what she was playing, but she vaguely felt that it was a test of some sort, and she threw her soul into her fingers. When she ended there was a little burst of applause, and "something else" was called for. She responded with Liszt's "Schubert's Serenade" and then with Chopin's "Cradle Song."

A sheet of music was placed before her, and a lady came forward to sing. If there was one thing in which Mrs. Tyler excelled it was in accompaniments, and now she did her best. The face of the man who had invited her was one broad smile as he inquired deferentially:

"May I ask whom we have had the honor of hearing? You have distanced them all, my dear madam. The place is easily yours."

Mrs. Tyler looked at him in bewilderment; then she laughed and explained. He explained too.

She had unwittingly taken part in a trial of applicants for the double position of accompanist for a singing master and piano player for the music shop. A salary was named that left the little woman nearly dumb with surprise, so amply it fitted her present needs.

She wanted to dance all night, but she had no possible use. They commit larceny for the love of the thing.

There is a mixed forest occurs wherever a mixed forest occurs. There is an unreeling struggle going on. Let us see how the combatants are armed and why the representation of each species remains unchanged.

The more important of the characteristics which affect the capacity of a tree to hold its own in mixture with trees of other kinds are its demands upon light, its rate of growth and its power of reproduction. Two species require an equal amount of light, grow at the same rate and are identical in their capacity to reproduce themselves.

The endowment of each, with habits differing from those of its neighbors, but with strength and weakness so balanced that all which occur in mixture enter the struggle for existence upon an equal footing, is one of the marvelous feats of nature.

The red spruce of the North woods, through its ability to endure dense shade, has been given the power to hold its own against faster growing competitors, some of which exceed it greatly in their capacity to reproduce themselves. The young spruce which sprang up here and there throughout the forest struggle along under the heavy crowns of the hard woods, where a tree making more insistent demands upon light could not survive.

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**Deputy Revenue Collector.**  
It has been announced upon the best of authority that Henry W. Schottstall, of Sunbury, has been appointed to succeed the late A. G. Haas, as the Deputy Revenue Collector for this district. Mr. Schottstall served as a member of the legislature during the time Senator M. S. Quay was a candidate for re-election and was loyal to the great Republican leader, supporting him on every ballot. The appointment is Mr. Schottstall's reward and Senator Penrose by this appointment is carrying out the desire of Quay, who wanted Mr. Schottstall to be remembered in some substantial manner for his faithfulness.—Sunbury Item.

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