

A DEAL IN DIAMONDS

The True Story of an Ingenious Swindle in London.

A CLEVERLY WORKED GAME.

It Netted an Impecunious Russian Nobleman a Thousand Pounds Sterling. The Easy Manner in Which Count Sacha Got Something For Nothing.

Count Sacha Roubtsevsky was on his beam ends in London. To the world, he was still a dashing young nobleman, son of an immensely wealthy Russian prince, but in point of fact he was financially at his last gasp.

He wanted a thousand or so for nothing. That was the problem he debated as he sat in his lodging smoking cigarette after cigarette. At last he rose with a satisfied smile. Next morning Count Sacha called on Messrs. Sparkle & Shine, the well known Bond Street jewelers. He explained who he was and that he had come to select some jewelry for his sweetheart.

From the glittering tray he selected a beautiful stone, price £500. He then explained that, his remittances being delayed, he was not in a position to complete the purchase at the moment, and, in any case, he wished first to submit the stone to his sweetheart's approval.

He added suavely that as he was unknown to Messrs. Sparkle & Shine he could not expect them to part with the gem without making inquiries, but they were at liberty to apply to the Russian embassy for any information they desired concerning him. He would return the following day and, everything being satisfactory, take the diamond.

To this the jewelers agreed and, inquiring at the Russian embassy, were informed that Count Sacha was unquestionably the son of a wealthy prince and that they would probably be safe in giving him credit for even more than the amount mentioned. They did not know at the embassy that Sacha had been disowned by his father, and they were agreeable to the count's own suggestion that a member of the embassy should attend at the jeweler's next day to identify him. This was done, and Count Sacha received the diamond. The same day he called at a big pawnbroker's and, mentioning airily that he was in temporary difficulties, pledged the diamond for the small sum of £50.

The next day found Count Sacha again at Messrs. Sparkle & Shine's. His sweetheart, he said, was enchanted with the diamond, but nothing would satisfy her now but that she should have another diamond absolutely matching the first.

The jewelers explained that to match such a stone would be a matter of great difficulty and the price of the second gem would be enormously increased—in short, for such a pair of twin diamonds they would have to charge £3,000. Count Sacha shrugged his shoulders. The price was stiff, but he could deny his sweetheart nothing. Would Messrs. Sparkle & Shine please at once set about procuring the second diamond?

The jewelers, being unable to match the diamond themselves, wrote to the leading dealers and pawnbrokers describing the stone they wanted and intimating that they were prepared to go as far as £2,000 for a perfect specimen. Among those they wrote to was the pawnbroker with whom Count Sacha had pledged the original diamond, which was just what that ingenious rascal expected.

A few days later Count Sacha called at the pawnbroker's to redeem his diamond. The pawnbroker had had Messrs. Sparkle & Shine's letter, and, remembering the beautiful diamond pledged with him a day or two before, he had examined it and found that it met all of Sparkle & Shine's requirements.

The count redeemed the stone, and then the pawnbroker inquired whether by any chance he would care to sell it. Oh, no! It was a family heirloom. His customer would not dream of parting with it. That was a pity, said the pawnbroker. He had chanced to show the diamond to his wife, and she had taken a violent fancy to it—so much so that he was prepared to give a fancy price. He offered £800.

Count Sacha laughed and shook his head. One thousand pounds? Oh, no! He really did not want to sell it. An offer of £1,300, however, made him hesitate. At last, after prolonged chaffering, Count Sacha passed back the diamond to the pawnbroker and received £1,500 in exchange. Once outside he jumped into a cab and drove as fast as he could to Messrs. Sparkle & Shine's.

Arrived there, he explained, with many regrets, that his sweetheart had changed her mind. She no longer wanted the second diamond. Had the jewelers yet found it? No? Ah, that was well! Still, he feared he had put them to much trouble. However, he was glad to say his remittances had arrived and he had now much pleasure in handing over £500 in payment for the original diamond, which his sweetheart had decided to keep.

One thousand pounds to the good, Count Sacha left the shop, having "brought off" a most ingenious swindle. Yet can any one say where he came within reach of the law?—Pearson's Weekly.

It is a question which causes a mother the more worry—a boy so sick that he is good or so thoroughly well that he is bad.

The Truth Forced Home. "I'm afraid," she sighed, "that I'm getting old." "Why?" he asked. "When I go to the grocery now the clerks don't nearly break their necks trying to beat one another in getting my orders."—Exchange.

Mis-aken. "He says he's your friend for life; says you lent him \$50." "So I did. But he's not my friend for life. I propose to ask him for it next pay day."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Some Curios Being Talked About

PINCHOT, a settler in the heart of the Bitter Root mountain country on the swift water of the St. Joe river, in northern Idaho, founded by Odebolt Pinchot in 1849, celebrated its sixtieth anniversary recently. The founder was the sole resident of the place and lived there alone more than half a century until two years ago, when the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound Railway company extended its main line westward. He was killed by a falling tree.

While fairly well educated, Pinchot used the figures 49 in signing his name on letters and legal documents, and during the last few years of his life he changed his name to "Forty-nine." One of the interesting things he left is a chicken which will fight dogs and cats or any other animal. The bird was presented to the old man by two women who had rescued it from a hawk's nest near St. Maries, Ida.

While the photographer was making the camera ready the chicken, called "Sullivan" by the railroad men, strutted in front of Pinchot's former home, now a saloon and restaurant, and crowded lustily a half dozen times. The photographer caught it as it was about to attack a dog five times its size and weight.

Pinchot, who trained the chicken, now seven years old, went to the northwest from Massachusetts during the first rush to the California coast. Becoming separated from his party, he lost his way in the dense forest near what is now the town of St. Joe, Ida., thirty-three miles east of which he settled and lived in the woods with only wild things as companions.

The largest ball of string in the world is owned by Mrs. Amos E. Cleaver of Reading, Pa., who has been winding string into a ball day after day for eighteen years until now it weighs twenty-six pounds and has a circumference of forty-nine inches.

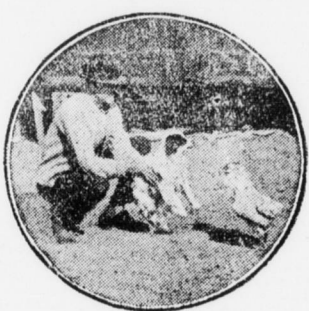
This ball had as its beginning a tiny empty medicine bottle, around which Mrs. Cleaver began to wind all the little odds and ends of string that she accumulated from grocery, dry goods and other packages. Then the children of the neighborhood found out what she was doing and, anxious to see the ball grow, began bringing strings LARGEST BALL OF STRING IN THE WORLD.

tucking them under her door if she happened to be absent. Friends from almost every state in the Union have contributed to this large ball of string. Her purpose was to teach an object lesson to little children by showing them what may be accomplished by saving what otherwise would be thrown away as useless. Mrs. Cleaver has provided that after her death this ball of string shall be sent to Reading's Home for Friendless Children, where her novel idea can be carried out.

One of the best trained bulldogs in this country is Lunatic, a clever canine belonging to Captain Durrant of the United States army veterinary corps, and dressed up as a soldier, the animal goes through a regular course of training. The picture shows him sitting outside his tent dressed in full uniform. He also rides a big white horse.

LUNATIC IN HIS UNIFORM. Captain Durrant has been offered large sums for the dog, but refuses to part with him at any price. **Wrong Diagnosis.** A song with the title "There's a Sigh In the Heart" was sent by a young man to his sweetheart, but the paper fell into the hands of the girl's father, a very unsentimental physician, who exclaimed: "What wretched, unscientific stuff is this! Who ever heard of such a case?" He wrote on the outside: "Mistaken diagnosis; no sigh in the heart possible. Sighs relate almost entirely to the lungs and diaphragm."

Many a young man starts in to work fired with a noble ambition. Then the ambition evaporates, and he gets fired. —Chicago News.



SULLIVAN ON THE JOB.



LARGEST BALL OF STRING IN THE WORLD.



LUNATIC IN HIS UNIFORM.

A CURIOUS CHIMNEY.

One In Wales Two Miles High With a Brook Running Through It. Who ever heard of a chimney two miles high with a brook running through it? Yet such a chimney exists in connection with the copper works at Cwmavon, near Aberavon, in Glamorganshire, south Wales. This is how it came to be built:

About sixty years ago the copper smoke from these works was the plague of the neighboring countryside. It settled upon and destroyed the grass for twenty miles round, while the sulphur and arsenic in the fumes affected the hoofs of cattle, causing gangrene. The owners of the works tried all sorts of devices to remedy the trouble, but in vain. Finally Robert Brenton, who was afterward a successful railway engineer in India, solved the problem.

The copper works are at the foot of a steep hill. Mr. Brenton constructed a flue, or chimney, running continuously from the base to about a hundred feet above the summit, following the natural slope of the ground. The brick which lined it and of which it was largely constructed was burned close by. A small spring gushing out near the summit of the hill was turned into the chimney and allowed to flow through almost its entire length to condense the smoke. Once a year it is swept out and about a ton of precipitated copper obtained. Its top can be seen for between forty and fifty miles.—London Amateurs.

BRAVE MME. ROLAND.

Her Last Request Before Her Death on the Scaffold.

How Mme. Roland bore herself on her journey along the via dolorosa of the revolution which led from the Conciergerie to the Place de la Guillotine the world knows. No recorded pilgrim of the long train that fared that way in those heroic days showed a sublimer indifference to its terrors. A spectator who saw her as she passed the Pont Neuf wrote of her as standing erect and calm in the tumbril, her eyes shining, her color fresh and brilliant, with a smile on her lips as she tried to cheer her companion, an old man overcome by the fear of approaching death.

At the foot of the scaffold she asked for pen and paper to write the strange thoughts that were rising in her. When the executioner grasped her arm to assist her in mounting the steps she drew back and begged that her companion might be allowed to precede her. The custom of the guillotine allowed her, as a woman, the privilege of dying first, but she wished to spare the infirm old man a scene that would augment his fears. Sanson objected.

"Come, citizen," she urged him, with a smile, "you cannot deny a lady her last request!" Her wish was granted.—Editor of "Her Private Memoirs."

The Pitt Diamond.

While Pitt, the grandfather of Lord Chatham, was governor of Fort St. George in 1708 he became acquainted with a jewel merchant named Jamechund, who brought a diamond of great size for sale. He asked \$30,000 for it in the rough. It should, of course, have been bought on behalf of the company, but Pitt, seeing money in it, could not resist the temptation of making a private bargain. He became the possessor of the stone for the sum of £20,400, and he was quite satisfied that he had behaved honorably when he paid the man, who on his part was also content. But the diamond was known to be worth more than Jamechund had received, and the transaction gave rise to a good deal of gossip, which in no way decreased when later on Pitt had the stone cut in England and sold it to the regent of France for £126,000. Even that enormous sum did not represent its true value. The stone was set in the royal crown of France. It weighed 410 carats in the rough, but the cutting reduced it to 130 carats.—Mrs. Penney's "Fort St. George, Madras."

The Touch.

"Shadbolt, did you ever have a touch of anything like the appendicitis?" "Once. Have you forgotten, Dinguss that when you were operated on for it, you touched me for an even hundred?"

PENROSE ACTIVE IN CAMPAIGNING

Senator Knows Necessity of Big Republican Vote.

IMPORTANCE OF TARIFF ISSUE

Pennsylvania Must Give Emphatic Indorsement of Payne Bill and Silence the Western Tariff Tinkers.

No one better than Boies Penrose realizes the importance of the campaign now under way in Pennsylvania. No one better than Boies Penrose appreciates the far-reaching effect of a sweeping Republican victory in this state upon national conditions and national politics, and no one better than he understands how a reduced Republican majority would be heralded as a lack of confidence in the policy of protection which Pennsylvania's representatives in Washington so steadfastly championed at the recent session of congress.

Senator Penrose is therefore taking an unusually active part in the present state campaign.

He has made a number of speeches and he is giving much time to assisting the Republican state organization in the effort to get a large Republican vote to the polls on Nov. 2. He attended the convention of the State League of Republican clubs at Altoona, has made several speeches in Philadelphia, expects to visit Pittsburgh to address a meeting on Oct. 28, and he will then return to Philadelphia to participate in the big Republican rally arranged by the Republican Business Men's association, which is to be held in Hammerstein's Opera House, the great temple of music in the Quaker City, which for the first time will be used for a political gathering. It was only due to the prominence of the members of the Business Men's association and the interest of the merchants and manufacturers of the city in the success of the Republican ticket that the opera house was secured.

Great Tribute to Penrose.

Senator Penrose has missed no opportunity to emphasize the importance of the tariff situation to Pennsylvanians. He has just been the recipient of one of the greatest testimonials ever given an American statesman.

The observation of "Penrose day" in the textile district known as Kensington was an event in the history of Philadelphia. The senior United States senator accepted invitations to visit a number of industrial plants, and he was given ovations at every place he stopped by thousands of mill workers, as well as the proprietors of the various establishments. In recognition of his services in protecting those interests in the framing of the Payne tariff bill. Flags were flying from the homes of many of the wage earners in the mill district and the factories were gallantly decked with bunting. At each stopping place men and women assembled, and after listening to a short address from him upon the subject of the tariff and the benefits that have been derived from protection, they cheered the senator lustily. Employees, both men and women, made speeches thanking him on behalf of their colleagues.

In the evening of the same day over five hundred representative manufacturers, coming from various states of the Union, assembled at the Bellevue-Stratford and lauded Senator Penrose for the part he took in the great fight for protection so recently. Representatives of the wage earners were also heard from at this gathering.

Senator Penrose is making earnest appeals to Republicans of the state to roll up a majority such as will leave no question of Pennsylvania's position on the tariff issue and be a service of notice upon revisionists that further tinkering with the tariff will not be tolerated.

For the Children's Sake Try Foods Shot from Guns

Let us put it up to the children—this question of their breakfast food. Serve them a dish of Puffed Wheat or Puffed Rice, then ask what they want to have next. See if your children, like legions of others, are delighted with these queer foods. There are no other foods in existence which are anywhere near like these. So we cannot compare them with others.

Puffed Wheat—10c **Puffed Rice—15c**

These are the foods invented by Prof. Anderson, and this is his curious process:

The whole wheat or rice kernels are put into sealed guns. Then the guns are revolved for sixty minutes in a heat of 550 degrees.

That fierce heat turns the moisture in the grain to steam, and the pressure becomes tremendous.

Then the guns are unsealed, and the steam explodes. Instantly every starch granule is blasted into a myriad particles.

The kernels of grain are expanded eight times. Yet the coats are unbroken, the shapes are unaltered. We have simply the magnified grain.

One package will tell you why people delight in them. Order it now.

A LESSON IN LOGIC.

Lord Erskine's Way With a Ruffianly Horse Beater.

It is only within the memory of living man that legislation has undertaken to protect domestic animals from the cruelty of their owners. Ownership was held to be absolute by most, but there was one man in England a hundred years ago who could demonstrate the untenable nature of this theory. This man was Thomas Erskine, one of the greatest lawyers and advocates of his age. A tradition survives at Hampstead, the residence of Lord Erskine, which Charles G. Harper has put into his book, "Rural Nooks Round London," and which shows how this legal authority would have administered more recent laws.

It is related that the celebrated Lord Erskine, walking one day on Hampstead Heath, saw a ruffianly driver shamelessly thrashing a miserably ill cared for horse.

My lord remonstrated with the driver on the cruelty of it, whereupon the fellow retorted: "It's my own. Mayn't I use it as I please?" Then he started whacking the wretched animal worse than ever.

Erskine, greatly annoyed, laid his walking stick over the shoulders of the offender, who, crouching and grumbling, asked my lord—this is the drawing room version, not a verbatim report, which would read rather differently—what business he had to touch him with the stick.

"Why," said Erskine, "the stick's my own. Mayn't I use it as I please?"

Clearing House Operations.

A clearing house is an agency established by the banks of a city to which all checks drawn upon one city bank and deposited in another are sent for payment. Every morning there is a clearance, or settlement, of accounts, in which the checks deposited in each bank and the checks drawn upon each bank are separately summed up and compared. If there is more deposited in a bank than there is drawn upon it the bank receives the difference in cash. If the reverse is the case the bank pays the balance instead of receiving it. The term clearance means either the act of settlement or the sum of all the checks presented for payment. The amount of business done by the clearing house is a pretty sure index of the general condition of business.—New York American.

When Lovers Watched the Corpse.

Most curious of the old time superstitions of New England was the custom of requiring lovers to watch the corpse. It associated the hopes of marriage with the silent vigil, was poetic and has only disappeared from the oldest towns within a generation. No obligation of the social conscience was more scrupulously regarded than that a dead body should never be left alone at night. In the earliest days the solemn watchers were old men and women, deacons, selectmen, but as the colonies grew honest lovers with plighted troths were frequently selected for these long vigils.

Safer.

"Your political antagonist is calling you every name he can think of," said the agitated friend. "Don't interrupt him," answered Senator Sorghum. "It is better to have a man searching the dictionary for epithets than going after your record for facts."—Washington Star.

The Way It Seemed.

"The longest days of the year are in June, pa, but when are the shortest?" "Sometimes in July and sometimes in August, depending upon when your mother takes her vacation."—New York Press.

Practical Superstition.

"Are you superstitious?" "In a practical way." "How is that?" "Well, I never walk under a ladder unless I feel sure it won't fall on me, and I always expect bad luck when pursued by a mad bull across a lot in which there are just thirteen acres."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The public man needs but one patron—namely, the lucky moment.—Bulwer.

LAWYERS ARE FOR VON MOSCHZISKER

Splendid Testimonial to the Republican Candidate.

LEADERS OF THE BAR SPEAK

Nominee For Supreme Court Justice Strongly Indorsed by Members of Legal Profession Who Know His Record.

[Special Correspondence.] Philadelphia, Oct. 19.

An unusual tribute has just been paid by members of the Philadelphia bar to Judge Robert von Moschzisker, Republican nominee for the supreme bench.

Fourteen of the most prominent practitioners, headed by the acknowledged leader of the profession, John G. Johnson, and including Attorney General M. Hampton Todd, former Attorney General Hampton L. Carson, former Judge of the Superior Court W. W. Porter, former District Attorney George S. Graham and John C. Bell, Senator Ernest L. Tustin, Alexander Simpson, Jr., George Wharton Pepper, Owen J. Roberts, Joseph DeP. Junkin, Henry P. Brown, Samuel M. Hyneman and Francis Shunk Brown have united in an address to the members of the bar of the state in support of Judge von Moschzisker's candidacy.

It is a purely non-partisan document, as among the signers are Democrats and well-known independent voters, as well as members of the Republican party. It is an unsolicited, genuine and sincere indorsement, prompted solely by a desire to have the citizens of the state recognize the importance of electing a thoroughly competent and absolutely trustworthy man to the highest court in the commonwealth.

Address to Pennsylvania Bar.

The address, which is sent out over the signatures of the lawyers named above, reads as follows:

Irrespective of political affiliations we, as members of the bar of Philadelphia, knowing Judge von Moschzisker as a man, as a lawyer and as a judge, in view of his nomination for the office of associate justice of the supreme court of Pennsylvania, desire to express to the profession throughout the commonwealth, the opinion entertained, we believe, by this bar generally of his entire fitness for that high office.

Intelligent by nature, a close student, fond of research, with an acute, alert and discriminating mind, with an unusually retentive memory and wide experience in legal and other affairs, he is quick to comprehend, though deliberate in the maturing of his judgment. He combines with knowledge of the law, keen logic, sound judgment and clear, forcible expression.

During his six years of service upon the common pleas bench of this county he has displayed thorough conscientiousness, great industry and capacity for work, united with absolute fearlessness, freedom from narrowness or prejudice and the ability to dispatch legal business in the most practical way. Six reversals, with almost 400 written opinions delivered, is a remarkable record, and testifies most strongly to his accuracy and the thoroughness of his grasp of facts and law.

Judge von Moschzisker has the esteem and good will of this bar and this community as a self-reliant and courageous man, as a good citizen and an able, considerate judge.

Judge Von Moschzisker's Strength.

The nomination of Judge von Moschzisker has met with popular support, and his candidacy has been growing stronger every day since the Republican convention adjourned.

The closer his record on the common pleas bench is studied, the better are his admirable qualities appreciated. Known as the "writing judge" among his colleagues on the bench, Judge von Moschzisker has long been looked upon as one of the most industrious and painstaking jurists in the state. He delights in delving into his law books and frequently works way into the night preparing his opinions, which are models of thought and accuracy of expression, and which form an important part of the jurisprudence of recent years.

Judge von Moschzisker has not been seen upon the stump in this campaign nor will he, and he has not even taken occasion to visit other parts of the state since his nomination as he entertains pronounced views regarding the impropriety of a candidate for the supreme court making a canvass for votes or in any way taking part in a political campaign. He is daily engaged in the performance of his duties as a judge on the common pleas court of this city and has declined every invitation to public functions which might in any way be construed to be of a political character.

Weight of Brain.

The average weight of the human brain is forty-nine and a half ounces avoirdupois for males and forty-four ounces for females. In males the minimum weight is about thirty-four ounces and the maximum thirty-five ounces. In females the minimum weight is thirty-one ounces and the maximum fifty-six. In newborn infants the brain weighs about 11.65 ounces for the male and ten ounces for the female.

New Lake Full of Eyeless Fish. Three miles southeast of Silver Lake, Ind., a subterranean lake has burst its confines and has submerged the highway to a depth of twenty feet for a distance of 100 yards. The new-born lake seems to be filled with eyeless fish.

BIG LAND CONGRESS.

Chicago Convention to Settle Many Vital Questions.

BOON TO THE HOME SEEKERS

Conference to Discuss All Kinds of Farming and How to Secure Lands and Profits—How Interest in the Movement Has Spread.

It is the sentiment of the advisory committee having charge of the arrangements for the national farm land congress to be held in Chicago on Nov. 16 that the matters of greatest importance and to which most emphasis should be given in the program of discussion are those of direct interest to the home seeker—those things which directly and pertinently answer the questions naturally in his mind when contemplating migration to any particular section or choosing a locality to which to remove in order to better his condition.

First—He will want to know what are his chances for the creation of a profitable business in any line of agriculture.

Second—The conditions under which he will live while building his fortune or competency. All information bearing on these two points is of first importance.

The kinds of farming most profitably done in any locality, whether grain raising, fruit orchards, cattle raising, truck gardening, etc.

How and from whom shall he secure his land, its cost and terms of payment.

What public lands, if any, are to be had and how got?

Character of soil and climate and conditions as to rainfall.

Labor conditions and transportation facilities.

Average profits based on actual experience and the degree of certainty with which the settler may expect those profits year after year.

What social environment and advantages will surround himself and family and with what kind of people will they come in contact?

What school facilities will be afforded to his children? What church affiliations are available?

In short, what are the problems he must work out in any given locality? Under what conditions are: with what assurance of success?

No congress can be of practical value and benefit that does not gather and disseminate this information, but when this is thoroughly and honestly done no greater work of benefit to the country can be performed.

Heartily Favor Movement.

Congressman J. Harry Covington of Enston, Md., is in entire sympathy with the movement and believes that the development of the resources for agricultural home building in America is one of the greatest problems that make for the future betterment of our people. The successful working out of any such plan will greatly relieve the undoubtedly bad urban conditions, in his opinion.

Senator Samuel H. Piles will lend his aid by selecting a strong delegation to attend the congress from the state of Washington.

Governor Claude A. Swanson of Virginia writes: "The matter which is engaging the attention of the national farm land congress is of the utmost importance and worthy of support from all sources."

From a Traffic Manager.

From the traffic manager of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake railroad, Frederick A. Wann, the secretary of the executive committee is in receipt of the following interesting letter:

"I note with a great deal of pleasure the organization of the national farm land congress movement, and I feel certain that a meeting of this description will bring about an interchange of ideas between those interested in the development of our country which will be of great benefit to every farming section in the United States. In addition, such a meeting is bound to bring about ideas and suggestions which, when given the proper amount of publicity, will attract the attention of thousands of people who are at the present time in a great measure ignorant of the possibilities for health, wealth and happiness in the development of the soil.

"I also note the extremely strong personnel of the advisory committee which has been selected, and with the co-operation of such men the movement is bound to take on features, which will bring about ultimate success."

Cynical.

Sillius—Do you think it is possible for one woman to make another woman perfectly happy? Cynilus—Oh, yes; simply by envying her.—Philadelphia Record.

SOMETHING NEW!

A Reliable TIN SHOP

For all kind of Tin Roofing, Spouting and General Job Work. Stoves, Heaters, Ranges, Furnaces, etc. PRICES THE LOWEST! QUALITY THE BEST!

JOHN HIXSON NO. 119 E. FRONT ST.