

Blossom's Letter.

James Johnson's name does not confer any special distinction upon its owner. Johnson has long since discovered that in emergencies where personal appearance is not a sufficient guaranty his card will not help him.

A letter came addressed to James Johnson in a feminine hand. Johnson opened it when it turned came. He read the words, "Darling Jimmy," at the top of the page, his expression of dignified preoccupation disappeared.

When Johnson had enjoyed the letter to his heart's content he examined the envelope. The name James Johnson was clearly written, as was also the name of the office building.

"I'd give a dollar to see Mrs. Johnson's face if she could read that letter," Johnson remarked to one of the men in the office. Then, his sense of humor being rampant and his guardian angel temporarily off duty, he pocketed the missive.

"It makes people red and positively purple," said Polly, "if they eat too much of it. That was what I was afraid of—that my cheeks were getting an awful purplish red."

"Well, you have a long way ahead of you," said Tom, "before you need be afraid of getting purplish red. Purplish red!"

"Suddenly Polly began to laugh, too. At first she seemed to be laughing with Tom, but after a minute or two that young gentleman sat slowly up and surveyed her in great doubt."

"No!" thundered Tom. "And it hasn't been a bit cold yet, and who ever heard of a purple heart! And I want to know what really and truly went on the other card."

"The card that Jimmy Reynolds's cousin got," admitted Tom, "read as follows: 'I kiss thee blossoms, one by one, for your dear eyes, whose color outshines them as the sun the stars. And if you'll tell me how I'm ever going to put it about those flowers—'"

"Kiss 'em!" said Polly, brutally. "Illustrated Bits." Items of Interest. Opals, when taken from the mines, are quite soft, and can be picked to pieces with the finger nails.

Thirteen life insurance companies in Great Britain refuse to accept risks on unvaccinated persons. The tallest inhabited house in the world is the Park Row building in New York. From the curling to the top of the towers the height is three hundred and ninety feet.

A favorite dish with the Eskimo is an ice cream made of seal oil, into which snow is stirred until the desired consistency has been obtained; then frozen berries of different kinds are added.

A species of natural soap tree is found in Japan, China and India. By using water of alcohol the saponaceous ingredient of the fruit is extracted. The soap possessing no alkaline qualities is claimed to be superior to the ordinary soap of commerce.

Japan has more than two thousand newspapers; ten years ago not one. Japan can boast of a greater number of newspapers than either Austria or Italy, or more than Spain and Russia taken together, and twice as many as are printed on the continent of Asia.

A Mixed Order.

Tom and Polly had been occupying the den in unbroken silence for a little time. Then Polly spoke with the utmost cordiality. "The violets were perfectly lovely, Tommy, darling."

"That's sweet of you, Tommy," remarked Polly, tenderly. "And it's nice to think you don't send flowers to any other girl."

"I've got the one girl," said Tom, with great content in his voice. "It's nice to think you don't send flowers to any other girl," persisted Polly.

"Why should I?" asked Tom, lazily. "When the girl I send them to can use them up faster than any girl I ever knew?"

"But it's nice to think," persisted Polly, softly, "that not another girl in all the world is getting violets—or roses, perhaps. Not from you."

"Tom removed his cigar from his mouth and shot one keen glance at Polly. Then he looked lazily serene once more and sat still. Polly spoke again.

"Do you think I eat too much beef, Tommy, nowadays?" "How often do you eat beef, Polly?" asked Tom.

"Never oftener than once a day, and just one helping then. And not always once a day."

"Then that's not enough," said Tom, promptly. "That accounts for your pale cheeks."

"I thought you said they were lovely, peaches-and-cream and too sweet for anything," said Polly, sternly.

"Well, if you don't eat more beef, it's pure paleness," said Tom, decisively. "Now, Polly, promise me you'll eat beef every lunch time at least, and every night when they have it."

"It makes people red and positively purple," said Polly, "if they eat too much of it. That was what I was afraid of—that my cheeks were getting an awful purplish red."

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SOME INDIAN CHARACTERISTICS.

Hatred Among Different Tribes Conducting Religious Service.

The Kickapoos are considered the Ishmaelites of the Amerindian race by most of the other Amerinds. They are looked down upon with excusable suspicion and contempt by all honest redskins. They are cunning, crafty, craven, cowardly, says a writer in Omaha America. Like the ancient Cretons, they are all liars. It is rather strange that some Kickapoo managers get married to members of other North American Indian tribes.

That, however, does not change their Ishmaelitic disposition. Some relic hunter is trying to buy or steal the rock on which twenty-eight Seminole warriors were sent to death at Wewoka during the last thirty years.

A gentleman who witnessed most of the killing of the criminals says that most of them met death with extraordinary indifference. Several even smoked and laughed until the bullets struck their hearts.

Long Tom Washington, the noted Kickapoo Amerind who has a large and well stocked ranch on Paddydam Creek, Creek Nation, is viewing the street fair. He sold \$900 worth of cattle last week.

Long Tom killed four horses from his yard, about ten years ago. The whole killing of horse-flesh kidnapers caused much courtling, but Mr. Washington finally went clear.

The Seminole Indian camp meeting is an interesting aggregation. All the preachers are American Baptists. They expound the gospel of Christ and denounce the double statehood scheme with remarkable vigor, vim and vinegar. They handle Satan and the Sequoyah tricksters without kid gloves.

Our unsophisticated Indian visitors never quit being charmed with and astonished at the wonderful doings of the phonograph. They will peep at the talking machine from every direction, trying to see that loudly, they shake their heads about the invisible white man hidden inside the little magic talking machine.

Patti's First Appearance. The season of 1859 was remarkable for the first appearance in opera of Adelina Patti. This new and youthful prima donna, the youngest daughter of Catalina Barili, under the direction of her kinsman and master, Maurice Strakosch, came forward at the New York Academy of Music on November 24 in the title role of "Lucia di Lammermoor."

She was then but sixteen years old, but had already learned to manage her voice, a flute-like, flexible soprano, with extraordinary skill and taste, and capable critics at once recognized in the debutante "one of those rare singers who appear at long intervals not only the hopes of managers, but the enthusiasm of the public."

This prediction had quick fulfillment. After a short initial engagement in Philadelphia, Mile. Patti, piloted by Strakosch, embarked on a concert tour which ended at New Orleans, whence she sailed for London, where she may be said to have fairly begun a career which, like her art, must long remain unique in lyric annals.

Thereafter for upward of forty years she had first place, and during the greater part of that time she was not only a sweeter but a better singer than any other woman in the world. Her name lends a golden ending to any record of the early days of opera in America.—R. R. Wilson, in Lippincott's.

Indications of Longevity. In the medical world it is a generally accepted fact that every person bears physical indications of his prospective long life. A long lived person may be distinguished from a short lived person at sight. In many instances a physician may look at the hand of a patient and tell whether he will live or die.

The primary conditions of longevity are that the heart, lungs and digestive organs as well as the brain, should be large. If these organs are large the trunk will be long and the limbs comparatively short. The person will appear tall in sitting and short in standing. The hand will have a long and somewhat heavy palm and short fingers.

The brain will be deeply seated, as shown by the orifice of the ear being low. The blue hazel or brown hazel eye, as showing an intermixture of temperament, is a favorable indication. The nostrils if large, open and free indicate large lungs. A pinched and half closed nostril indicates small or weak lungs.

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES BY STATES.

A new feature of the 1905 number of the volume, "Mineral Resources of the United States," brought out annually by the United States Geological Survey, is a series of tables, compiled by Mr. Wm. Taylor Thom, which shows the value by states of the mineral products of the country.

These products, so listed, include both certain raw materials and also certain derivative materials in their first marketable condition, which do not appear in the table of mineral products of the United States as a whole. For example, both pig iron and iron ores are included as important products entering into the commerce of certain states, and in like manner are included both pig lead and lead paints; both clay products and raw clay; both coal and its immediate derivatives, coke, gas coke, illuminating gas, ammonium sulphate, and coal tar; bauxite and aluminum; and also alum and aluminum sulphate. These derivatives and raw materials are here given, regardless of the consequent duplication of values, in response to a constant demand for this information thus arranged by states.

Study of these tables will afford most people more than one surprise. For example, we think of Colorado and California as our most representative mineral states, and yet, the actual value of Illinois mineral products was far greater than that of either Colorado or California, last year; more than double, in fact, the value of California's output, for although Illinois has neither silver nor gold, it produces great quantities of cement, clay, coal, pig iron, stone and zinc, which are worth much silver and gold in the world's markets.

The sums total of these state outputs for the year run as follows: Alabama \$5 585 288 Alasks 16 483 759 Arizona 41 346 134 Arkansas 4 470 784 California 45 206 258 Colorado 59 280 044 Connecticut 4 008 625 Delaware 762 944 District of Columbia 317 021 Florida 4 828 738 Georgia 6 300 654 Idaho 16 788 855 Illinois 105 095 567 Indiana 41 781 678 Indian Territory 5 763 346 Iowa 16 098 028 Kansas 37 071 198 Kentucky 14 871 811 Louisiana 6 815 480 Maine 5 065 804 Maryland 20 048 257 Massachusetts 14 024 200 Michigan 81 760 141 Minnesota 42 305 375 Mississippi 874 279 Missouri 23 035 899 Montana 65 501 049 Nebraska 1 357 846 Nevada 9 873 885 New Hampshire 2 028 638 New Jersey 31 818 121 New Mexico 4 382 114 New York 65 056 287 North Carolina 2 488 063 North Dakota 665 490 Ohio 169 203 710 Oklahoma 623 333 Oregon 2 441 973 Pennsylvania 569 828 673 Rhode Island 1 327 795 South Carolina 2 494 457 South Dakota 7 571 573 Tennessee 19 641 528 Texas 18 752 846 Utah 28 447 799 Vermont 8 797 534 Virginia 21 751 986 Washington 8 790 544 West Virginia 74 731 376 Wisconsin 16 804 611 Wyoming 8 657 202

The chapter of "Mineral Resources," entitled "Summary of the Mineral Production of the United States in 1905," is issued separately, in pamphlet form. Those desirous of knowing the details of state production should make request for this summary from the Director of the United States Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

AN INTERESTING TREATMENT. E. H. MILLER SAYS HE HAS AT LAST DISCOVERED A POSITIVE CURE FOR INDIGESTION.

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