

DEATH OF FAMOUS \$10,000 BEAUTY.

"Montague, Louise M., died at her residence, 164 Manhattan avenue, New York City."

This simple death notice appeared in the New York papers. It was written by Louise Montague herself a week before her death, the day on which death would come being left blank, to be filled in by the undertaker.

Few who read this notice knew that the Louise Montague, whose death was so simply chronicled, was the woman who once heralded far and wide over the country as the "Ten Thousand Dollar Beauty."

Louise Montague's beauty was for years the talk and wonder of America. Her name was the synonym of beauty, and everywhere she went she was talked of and petted and held court like a queen.

After the first rage over her had subsided she sought the quiet of private life but a few years afterwards went on the stage because it was discovered that she had talents equal to her beauty.

She had a splendid soprano voice and fine dramatic ability and so she appeared with Edward E. Rice's company in the "Corsair" and then became the star of David Henderson's "Sinbad the Sailor," and was perhaps one of the greatest favorites that Broadway ever knew.

But she had no triumph like that of the first few years in which she appeared before the public. She was only a girl then of eighteen or nineteen.

Adam Forepaugh, the showman, discovered her and determined to make her beauty a feature of his show. With his showman's cunning he first determined to lay a foundation that would arouse great interest and expectancy in the public mind, so he advertised in 1878 that he would pay ten thousand dollars to find the most beautiful woman in America.

Interest was aroused all over the country and the public were on tip-toe with excitement. Finally came the announcement that the judges, after considering thousands of beautiful women had decided on Louise Montague, as the loveliest of them all, and that she would go with the circus and take part in every street parade.

A great chariot was especially constructed, on which was an immense globe, and seated on the globe, gorgeously dressed, rode the young woman above a great sign which proclaimed in gold letters: "Forepaugh's Ten Thousand Dollar Prize Beauty."

After a few years on the stage Miss Montague again retired to private life. She lived for a long time in a beautifully furnished house in West Sixty-first street. But investments she had made turned out badly. The money she had earned in riding, perched high on a golden chariot in hot, dusty street parades took wings. She was very sympathetic and generous and was always ready to give liberally to help the unfortunate.

And so her money dwindled, until finally she moved to a tiny flat on the fifth floor of the apartment house in Manhattan avenue, where she died. In her later years the fame that had come to her as a "prize beauty" gave her no joy. She buried herself almost entirely from the friends she had known in her circus and stage career, and very few knew what had become of her.

When she knew a week ago that she would die, she asked the few friends, who still remained faithful to her to say nothing after her death concerning the fact that she had once been known as "The Ten Thousand Dollar Beauty." And so she wrote with her own hand the only notice she wanted published of her death.

"Those who can only remember Forepaugh's Famous Prize Beauty," she said, "I do not wish to come to my funeral. But to those who remember Louise Montague, well, I want them to be around me when I am laid in my grave."

But just before she died she asked

that all the old pictures of herself in the days of her fleeting glory be brought to her, and they stood on the mantle and chairs in the room where Louise Montague lay in her coffin. Pinned on the wall was a glaring, many-colored circus poster—"Forepaugh's Prize Beauty"—and over the mantle was a faded photograph, life-size, of Louise Montague, as "Sinbad the Sailor." The pictures showed the face of a marvelously beautiful woman, but the face in the coffin in spite of the traces of the proud fight made against poverty and disappointment and ambition un-realized, was calm and beautiful, more beautiful than had ever been the face of even "Forepaugh's Ten Thousand Dollar Prize Beauty."

BIBLE DISCOVERY.

Stories of Abraham and the Flood Confirmed.

On a tablet of hardened clay excavated at Nippur, near Babylon, Professor Herman V. Hilprecht of the University of Pennsylvania has found proof of the Bible story that Abraham went forth from Ur of the Chaldees 4,000 years ago to go into the land of Canaan.

Professor Hilprecht offers to the world proof of Abraham as a real historic personage traced in the mystic signs of a language that no tongue has uttered in common speech for more than 3,000 years. He says the evidence is bound to startle the scientific and religious world and to change the whole character of the higher criticism of the Bible.

But Abraham is really only a secondary figure in this new development of ancient history. The chief fact brought out is that the people of Ur, from which Abraham came, the people of the plains of Shinar, the seat of that twilight civilization, had a story of the deluge almost identical with that of the Old Testament.

Among the tablets brought out of Nippur by the last expedition from the University of Pennsylvania was one fragment which is part of a deluge story more ancient by 1,000 years than any that has been found and antedating by at least 200 years the time that Abraham left Ur to go to the land of Canaan. And this fragment has been deciphered by Professor Hilprecht after months of infinite labor and pains and the exercise of his profound knowledge of Assyriology.

It is simply amazing in its coincidence to the Bible story of the deluge to which it tallies in minute details. In this as in the Bible story God says:

"I will loosen the confines of heaven. A deluge I will make, and it shall sweep away all men together."

Even the errors in the translation of the Bible text from Hebrew to English and German mark the striking similarity between the Nippur story of the deluge and that of the ancient Hebrews, for Professor Hilprecht points out that the word which the translators of a few hundred years rendered "window" and which appears in all later versions of the Bible as "window" really meant "roof" in the old Hebrew. Where our Bibles say "a window shall thou make to the ark" it should have read by correct translation "a roof shall thou make to the ark."

The tablet story of the deluge written 2100 B. C. which Professor Hilprecht has translated contains this very comment. The Lord of the Gods says, "With a strong deck (or roof) over it."

This tablet, or, rather, this fragment of a tablet, with the story of the deluge seems destined to be the most famous discovery in all Assyrian research. The history of it is given to the public in the records of the Babylonian expedition of the University of Pennsylvania.

The tablets are made of unbaked clay, hardened by being dried in the sun. The writing is traced on the surface of these tablets in curious characters which greatly resemble the Chinese methods of writing of the present day.

Toward the end of October, 1909,

Professor Hilprecht was unpacking and examining some of the boxes containing tablets from Nippur. His attention was attracted by the peculiarities of certain fragments of tablets in the lot. He examined them closely and was startled to find that one of them was part of a tablet which had been the story of a deluge. By the dialect in which they were written, the earliest of the Semetic languages found in Nippur tablets, he knew that the tablet had laid in the ground more than 4,000 years.

The ancient Sumerians had been conquered by a Semitic people closely akin in racial characteristics to the Jews. These were the progenitors of the Babylonians of the time when Babylon was the capital of the known world. The language of these early Semites is easily identified by Assyriologists. With other characteristics and known facts of history it fixes the date of the tablet as about 2100 before the time of Christ.

HOW WOMAN WAS MADE.

According to a Hindoo legend, this is the proper origin of women: Twashtri, the god Vulcan of the Hindoo mythology, created the world, but on his commencing to create woman he discovered that for man he had exhausted all his creative materials, and that not one solid element had been left. This, of course, greatly perplexed Twashtri, and caused him to fall into a profound meditation. When he arose from it he proceeded as follows. He took:— The roundness of the moon.

The undulating curves of the serpent. The graceful twist of the creeping plant.

The light shivering of the grass blade and the slenderness of the willow. The velvety softness of the flowers. The lightness of the feather. The gentle gaze of the doe. The frolicsomeness of the dancing sunbeam.

The tears of the cloud. The inconstancy of the wind. The timidity of the hare. The vanity of the peacock. The hardness of the diamond. The cruelty of the tiger. The heat of the fire. The chill of the snow. The cackling of the parrot. The cooing of the turtle dove. All these he mixed together and formed a woman.

And he presented her to man.

"BUNK" OR "BUNG."

The Former the Northern, the Latter the Southern Spelling.

"It never occurred to me that there could be any two ways of spelling the word 'bunk,'" said the scholarly appearing person who was studying the sporting section of the newspaper. "But I happened to pick up a Memphis newspaper the other day and as a head to a speech made by Commissioner Loomis in Tokio recently I read: 'Loomis Hands Out the Bunc.'"

"Now, without endeavoring to go into the merits of the case so put I want to say only that the headline meant that Mr. Loomis was accused of soft-soaping the Japanese he addressed. The only other authority for the spelling of the word comes from the sporting cartoonists, whose work I study carefully. They are unanimous in spelling it 'bunk.'"

"It appears to me that the Southern version is based on a belief that the word is a diminutive of 'buncobe.' The Northern spelling may be due to the belief that a person who may be bunked is a person of sleepy or dopy nature, who might as well be lying in a bunk, wrapped in slumber. Therefore when a person is bunked he is rendered sleepy. That is merely sense-twist."

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GIVE CHILD TRAITS DESIRED

Prof. Castle of Harvard Says He Has Succeeded in Experiments with Animals.

Boston.—Asserting it will be possible after a final brief experiment to instill in a child the dominant traits desired before the birth of the offspring, and by chemical process, Professor W. E. Castle of Harvard, astounded those who attended the meeting of the Boston Scientific Society. He added he already has obtained the desired results after experimenting on rabbits, mice and guinea pigs, and said he hopes soon to put his theory into actual practice. That the reproduction of the species is a chemical process in the laboratory to-day, has long been one of Professor Castle's pronouncements.

The breeding of an extra toe on animals, and then breeding it away again, is one of the scientific facts asserted by the professor and proved by photographs taken in the course of the development of reproduction from generation to generation. In his address Professor Castle explained the laws governing reproduction must be mastered before the task of planning what a human being shall be before birth can be undertaken. But he went a step further and said it was but a short step to the mastery of the laws, and then he will demonstrate the truth of his assertion.

The Harvard professor does not hesitate to pronounce the theories of Darwin faulty and in part to uphold the theory of Mendel. The speaker said it is necessary to figure the dominant traits not only of the parents but of the grandparents to determine what the offspring will be. And the next step is the chemical fusing of minor traits to make them major principles. The result of such an experiment is simply a matter of mathematics, Professor Castle asserted. He said it will not be long before the breeding of human beings along scientific lines will be an accomplished fact.

Woman Says Her Sex Drives Men to Poverty.

Boston.—Mrs. Ellen H. Richards of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology faculty lays the present high cost of living directly at the door of her own sex. She asserts that man is driven daily nearer and nearer poverty by woman's extravaganzas.

WEB FEET WON HIM AN ESTATE.

John Bowers, Who Once Proved Kinship by Them, Now Dead.

Washington, N. J.—John Bowers, who years ago was identified as the heir of his brother by means of his web feet, a family peculiarity, is dead in his home here from Bright's disease. He was almost 82 years old.

Bowers' brother died in Yonkers, N. Y., leaving much wealth. It was difficult to establish relationship between the dead man and the one who said he was his heir until he displayed his anatomical peculiarity, corresponding exactly with that of the dead man. He then received the estate.

Bowers formerly manufactured snuff, owning a mill in Changewater, which he afterward sold to the American Tobacco Company. He invested the money in a farm, but he still drew royalties from the company and two of his sons hold good positions there. There are three other children living.

SAYS MEN LIVE LONGER.

Gompers Declares Eight Hour Day Has Added 15 Years to Cigarmakers' Lives.

Chicago.—"Since the introduction of the eight hour day among cigarmakers of the United States within the last few years, the average life of men engaged in the craft has increased fifteen years," said Samuel Gompers, when testifying before the hearing of railroad trainmen in wage arbitration proceedings.

Mr. Gompers supported the contention of the trainmen that long hours of employment were provocative of injury and should be amply recompensed.

ATE THE FAMILY HORSE.

Wife Killed and Cooked Dobbin, Says Man Who Wants Divorce.

Chicago.—Alleging that his wife fed him on horse and goat meat and beat him on the head with a poker, Henry Wittig, 63 years old, filed suit for divorce.

In a bill filed before Judge Chetlain, Wittig, who lives on a farm in West Chicago, says that his wife killed Dobbin the horse, 20 years old, and served the meat for him to eat. When the horse meat was all gone, he says, she killed the family goat and put the meat on the table.

Farragut's Uniform to Museum.

Washington, D. C.—The uniform worn by Admiral Farragut when he lashed himself to the rigging of his flagship, the Hartford, at the battle of Mobile Bay will occupy a conspicuous place in the National Museum here. It was presented by Mrs. Pauline P. Lapidge.

Shenandoah, Pa.—Eight brothers were pallbearers at the funeral of Mrs. Catherine McGonigle, their only sister, daughter of the late County Commissioner John Leahy. Four of her brothers travelled 1,500 miles to attend the obsequies.

COOKING IN A KEG.

It Is the Very Latest Word of the Development of Fireless Stove.

Wireless telegraphy is not accomplished entirely without wires, and fireless cookery is not arrived at without fire. The advantage of the latter system of cookery is that a little fire goes a great way in that the operation of cooking having been started in the regulation manner either on a coal or gas stove, it is continued through the entire process to the end in the improved cooker without the further use of fire. Viands in the course of treatment are thoroughly cooked without the least danger of burning, and demand no watch-



ful care such as is required when the articles are being cooked in the regulation manner on a stove. The latest form of a fireless cooker is that of a keg as shown herewith. The jacket of the cooker is made in the same manner as the heat liquor kegs of quartered white oak, with the grain running crosswise so that they will not seep, soak or absorb. It has a steel lid or top, which is fastened securely by a single turn of the eccentric knuckle. The cooking receptacle is arranged to rest on a steel rim, so that the can does not come in contact with the jacket, thus leaving a vacuum chamber between the outer and inner wall. This affords an insulator, and is a non-conductor of heat or cold.

The cooking in an apparatus of this kind is done by schedule. The cook knows which viands require the longest treatment, and these are subjected to the heat of the gas burner or stove for a slightly longer period than others, and the schedule tells how soon the articles will be ready to be taken from the cooker, although no harm is done by leaving them in a longer period.

TRAIL OF THE PET FERN.

Mr. Man Will Walk Through Six Rooms to Flick Ashes on It.

After supper Mr. Man lights a cigar and sits down for a comfortable smoke. His wife, with a regard for husband and the neatness of her home evenly divided, places an ash tray on the table near him, and a cuspidor on the floor. The man is comfortable and happy, and would get mad if any household disturbance caused him to leave his chair, but he notices ashes on the end of his cigar, and gets up, passes the ash holder and cuspidor, and crosses the room to drop the ashes on his wife's pet fern. The wife has piled as many as ten ash trays near the man, and surrounded him with cuspidors, but he ignores all of them to find his way to the pet fern. The wife objects, and has been known to put the pet fern in another room to save it, but the man passes the ash trays and cuspidors and walks into the next room to flick off the ash on his cigar. The same man will walk through six rooms, if need be, and pass 375 burnt match holders, to drop his match beside the pet fern. It does no good for the woman to object, or to invest all her pin money in more ash trays, burnt match holders and cuspidors, for the man will never see them on his way to the pet fern. And, so far as domestic history relates, this is the only recognition the man ever gives his wife's plants. And he never does give recognition to the ash trays, cuspidors or burnt match holders.

A TREE PUZZLE.

The Puzzle a Landlord Put Up to His Tenants.

A certain landlord had a square plot of land, in one quarter of which stood a house, let to four tenants. In the balance of the ground the landlord planted four apple trees, placed as shown a sketch.

"Now," said the landlord to the tenants, rubbing his hands, "if you can



ARRANGEMENT OF PLOTS.

divide the ground around the house into four equal plots, alike in shape, and each containing one of the four apple trees which I have planted, you shall have the land without any increase in your rent."

The tenants worried over the problem for some time, and then solved it as in the second sketch.

The Suburban Trend.

Real estate agents of New York city estimate that 240,000 persons from the metropolis will find homes in the suburbs this year.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

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