

NEW TALES THAT ARE TOLD

Accelerated Brain Activity.

In the early days of Wisconsin two of the most prominent lawyers of the state were George B. Smith and I. S. Sloan, the latter of whom had a habit of injecting into his remarks to the court the expression, "Your honor, I have an idea." A certain case had been going along through a hot summer



"YOUR HONOR, I HAVE AN IDEA."

when Sloan sprang to his feet and said, "Your honor, I have an idea." Sloan immediately bounded up, assumed an impressive attitude and in a solemnity said: "May it please the court, I move that writ of habeas corpus be issued by the court immediately to take the said gentleman's idea out of solitary confinement."—Popular Magazine.

An Apocryphal Tale.
The propos of John D. Rockefeller's estate of a mine for \$400,000 that sold to the steel trust for \$50,000, a Chicago broker told, rather early perhaps, an apocryphal story at the old king.
When John D. was a baby," he said, "his mother used to sing him to sleep. 'Sing a song of sixpence,' was lullaby she employed.
As soon as little John D. learned to talk his first logical remark was an interruption to this lullaby. 'Sing a song of sixpence,' crooned mother.
The baby, shaking its little head and smiling in a wheedling way, said: 'Make it a quarter, ma, and I'll fight off.'"

THE SONNET WAS WELL PLACED.

With Compliment Paid to a Poet by an Editor.

Robert B. Kelley, an advertising executive of Philadelphia, sat in the Mark Club turning the seventy or eighty pages—mostly advertising matter—of a book.
Advertising is such an art," he said, "that many people actually buy pencils as much for the advertisements as for the reading matter." Mr. Kelley smiled.
"I sat in an editor's office the other day," he continued, "when a poet ended.
"Glad to see you've accepted that net of mine," the poet said, feverishly pushing back his long hair. "I hope it will be widely read."
"It's sure to be," said the editor, "sure to be. I've placed it next to our most striking ads."

"Up" in Any Case.
Mrs. Langtry in an interview in New York urged gay clothes for American women—sky blue trousers, red velvet, golden waistcoats and so forth. She admitted that the "rah-boy" or "trick" hat was as gay as could wish and required no change.
"Gay clothes," said Mrs. Langtry, "encourage gay thoughts, and by gay thoughts I mean wholesome, cheerful thoughts. I am a foe to dissipation or anything of that kind, and I urge every girl to say 'No' to the dissipated man who would marry her."
Mrs. Langtry smiled and added: "The man a girl is obliged to stand for before marriage she will have to stand up for afterward."

Ignatius Donnelly to Caine.
I met Hall Caine in St. Moritz, in Engadine," said a Philadelphian. "He goes to St. Moritz every year, and every year he gets to look more like Shakespeare."
At a dinner at the Kulm hotel I congratulated him on his resemblance to the bard of Avon, and he said that he, in Philadelphia, he ran by chance across Ignatius Donnelly, the Bacon-Shakespeare controversialist.
Donnelly, gazing reverently on Hall Caine's broad white brow, pointed to his beard and flashing eye, and said: "Lord Bacon, I presume!"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

CHRISTMAS TRIFLES.

Make Somebody Happy by Giving Her a Reticule.

Every Christmas needleworker this year is making a reticule for somebody. There is a craze at present for these graceful bags, and styles range from simple affairs of linen for use with next summer's frocks to the most elaborate bags of satin and gold lace to be carried with opera and theater costumes. Such a bag, if it is to be successful must be fashioned with the very best of materials, and a really handsome bag of this sort may easily cost \$4 or \$5 for the materials alone, though the finished models in the shops, especially the imported models, are tremendously expensive. The handsomest reticules are made of heavy, soft satin, veiled with gold lace or metallic net and ornamented with the tiny ribbon flowers which may be bought all ready to apply. Simpler bags of satin, embroidered with silk or chenille and braided with gold or silver cord, are very effective also, and most dainty theater bags may be made of Dresden ribbon, lined with soft, heavy satin in a delicate pastel tint. The large reticule is always perfectly flat in shape and is usually in envelope style, with one side buttoning over the other at the top. A thin strip of whalebone should be inserted inside the lining across the top of such a reticule.

Quaint Effects in Pincushions.
A charmingly quaint little pincushion and one that can easily be made by the girl who can handle a needle, is the Brownie cushion. Hunt up one of your long neglected friends, the ping pong ball, and with watercolors paint a weird looking face upon it. Then take a piece of sateen the color you wish to dress Brownie in and cut it five inches long by three inches wide. Sew this tightly at each end to form ears that stand away from the head and gather the rest up behind to make the little baldheaded cap, then paint in a little fringe of hair to peep



THE HANGING CUSHION.

out underneath the cap, which will improve the looks of Brownie.

A small, tight body is made out of a ball of raw cotton. This is covered with sateen to match the cap and sewed down fast in the back. Arms and legs are made by covering wide ribbon wire with pale pink satin ribbon. These are attached to the cotton body before the dress is put on, and they can be bent into any funny posture you wish. It is cunning to have Mr. Brownie look as if he were sitting down in crossleg fashion like a tiny tailor.

In his two hands he holds a bow of narrow ribbon with a long loop attached. This serves to hang the little fellow up with if you wish to have him at the side of your dressing table.

No one wants to stick cold steel into this dear little fellow, so at his back you sew fast a long narrow cushion in which you may run all the pins and needles you wish without marring the quaint looks of your little friend.

The doll cushion illustrated is a charming trifle made of ribbon and cream satin touched up with watercolors.

A Utility Square.
If you have a friend who lives in a boarding house she will appreciate the gift of a utility square.

This is simply a fifty-four inch square of china silk, cretonne, silk-line, linen or any soft material that will take little room in a suitcase and which is used to throw over a chair on which underclothing has been put to air when it is necessary to open the door to admit a bellboy, maid or any stranger who may knock.

The edges of the square are either finished with a plain hem, hemstitched or fringed. Fringed edges are most graceful. If plain material is chosen a flower or some attractive conventional design is embroidered in each corner.

Manicure Set.
Women who manicure their own nails will enjoy having one of the new



manicure sets with the utensils enclosed in a generous sized buffer. The manicure set pictured is in this novel form carried out in celluloid—polished known as Ivory.

A PARSON'S REMEDY

By M. QUAD

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The widow Goodhue had come east from Michigan and settled in a Connecticut village. She was a childless woman of forty-five, and the villagers liked her looks and gave her welcome. For five or six weeks all went well, and then the widow broke out.

A villager who had done some painting for the widow called for his money. She opened fire on him at once. After tongue lashing him for five minutes she picked up a club and drove him from the premises. She had a garden, and she had given a neighbor permission to cut the grass for his cow. He was cutting away when the woman descended upon him and gave him a cuff on the ear and rushed him out of the yard a much frightened man. The grocer happened to be passing, and he halted at the gate to see the fun. Mrs. Goodhue walked out to him and said:

"See here, you baboon faced son of a gun, you trot right on or I'll break your knees."

The grocer stood with mouth open and wondered if he had heard aright.

"Didn't I tell you to trot?" demanded the widow as she whirled him around and administered a kick that raised his heels six inches from the ground.

Across the street a carpenter was building a fence. As he hammered away a shadow fell across his feet. At the same time a stick fell upon his head.

"What! What's this?" he asked as he whirled around.

"Too much darned noise!" replied the woman.

"Why, lady, I have got to hammer in the nails."

"Then I've got to hammer you with this stick!"

And she sailed in and drove him from his job, and, like the grass cutter and the grocer, he went away to spread the report that the Widow Goodhue had gone plumb crazy. The facts in the matter later reached the ears of Dr. Beazler, the oldest practitioner in the county and an acknowledged authority on mental diseases, and he made a call to see how bad the case was. He found the patient seated on the floor in the middle of the room, with her hair down and a broken chair beside her. At the first glance he decided that she was crazy.

"Well?" she asked after they had stared at each other for half a minute.

"You are not feeling very well?" he half queried.

"You are an infernal liar!" she promptly replied.

Dr. Beazler smiled like the bloom on a bull thistle and sat down. As he sat down the widow jumped up. He read his peril in her eyes and made a bolt for the door and got most of his body outside before her foot hit the rest of it. That settled it. The newcomer was as crazy as a March, April or May hare. She must be restrained. The law must be appealed to. The village was agog over the news, but it had something more coming to it. Next day and before any steps had been taken the smiling and good natured widow was asking the neighbor why he didn't cut more grass for his cow.

She was at the grocery ordering a big bill of eatables. She was bowing to Dr. Beazler across the street, and she repaid three or four social calls. Crazy? Why, the person that said so must be a born fool. She was just lovely, she was.

Five times in one year the widow had those queer spells. Then the good Deacon Watkins came from a distance of nine miles to court her and win her hand and carry her off to Medina. It was all done in six weeks' time, and none of the villagers posted the woe as to those strange spells. He had been a bridegroom for several weeks and was still feeling mushy when one of them came on and gave him the surprise of his life. He was cuffed and kicked down cellar and upstairs and out of the house, and for two days he ate raw turnips and slept in the barn. Then peace and love were restored and all went merrily. There were four outbreaks before the deacon began to think of divorce. Then he went to his pastor to talk things over.

"She doesn't get hold of liquor?" asked the parson.

"Not a drop; not even cider."

"Was there insanity in her family?"

"She says not."

"Deacon, you run the house, don't you?" asked the parson.

"Y-e-s, kinder—that is, I guess I do."

"Which means that your wife does?"

"Um!"

The parson reflected for five minutes, and then for five more he was busy whispering into the deacon's right ear. Then the deacon smiled and nodded and went home. The next day the parson went on his vacation, and it was six weeks before they met again.

"Well?" asked the parson.

"She started in to have another."

"And you?"

"Gave her the gad—kicked her good and stout."

"And she?"

"Cuddled right down; said that was what ailed her—she wanted a strong hand to boss her. She'll have no more spells."

"I'm glad to hear it."

"But, parson," asked the deacon, with a puzzled look on his face, "how did you know the remedy for such cases?"

The parson didn't say. He simply looked at the deacon and almost smiled and winked—almost.

GIFTS FOR THE KIDDIES.

Baby's Mother Will Be Pleased With These Presents.

The doll is no longer considered a mere plaything and is generally making herself useful these days.

They are decorating workbags, concealing spoons of silk or bolts of ribbon in their full skirts; they are made into tea cozies, to place over teapots that they may retain their heat.

The good natured Billikens are used for pincushions, and, although they suffer from the pin pricks, their smiles grow all the broader.

Some of the novelty shops are displaying dainty dolls attired in quaint costumes of 1840.

These dolls attend infidelity when she dresses. The soft puff of the poke-



DOLL PINCUSHION.

bonnet holds pins of all colors and sizes, her reticule contains rings and brooches, and her parasol holds hat-pins.

Sometimes the small daughter's favorite doll meets with an accident which leaves nothing intact but the head. Make one of these attractive dollies in the following manner:

Cut a cone shaped framework of buckram or cardboard. This is formed of a semicircle, with an opening in which to fit the doll's head.

Make a paper pattern first, so that the size may be exact. Fasten the sides together and sew the doll into her stiff skirt.

Sew leaden weights at the bottom of the frame, so that she may stand firmly.

To attractively dress dolly, use scraps of silk, ribbon, lace or figured dainty.

One lovely doll wore a frock of cream silk dotted with pink roses.

The skirt should be very full and the bodice short waisted. Over this make a tiny kerchief of white muslin.

The bonnet should be pink silk and the reticule of the same material, opening and closing with a drawstring of ribbon.

The parasol, also pink, should be plaited silk attached to a crooked handle of wire wound with ribbon.

A large muff may be substituted for the parasol if desired.

This fascinating little maid is a delightful addition to the dresser and at the same time performs a mission in life. The attractive little cushion seen in the illustration is designed for use beside the baby's dressing table or basket. To make the cushion two bisque dolls about five inches long are necessary. The arms are removed from the dolls and the bodies stuffed around with cotton wadding, then attired in suits of pale blue satin. About the necks are collars of lace, and pretty blue satin caps adorn the curly blond heads. Pins are stuck into the cushions in an artistic design, and when loops of ribbon are applied at the back of each doll to act as a support the attractive trifle is ready to be packed in the Christmas box.

Dainty Wicker Washstand.
Very convenient for the baby's mother to own will be the stork basket, which is a graceful tall handled affair fitted with requisites for baby's toilet.



BABY'S WASHSTAND.

The dainty wicker washstand illustrated is a novelty that is finding much favor for Christmas presents. This stand is fitted with decorated china and embroidered linen towels and is just the right height for mother's convenience as she gives baby its morning bath.

Gift For a Child.
A cute little Christmas gift for a child may be made from a small square of bright silk—some such tiny piece of silk as almost any mother will find among her ribbons.

Fill this with new pennies. The size of the bag, of course, depends on the number of pennies one wishes to give.

The child's name may also be written on the bag with pencil and embroidered in a color contrasting with the silk of the bag, though it will give just as much pleasure without this addition.

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