

SHE'S WELL EDUCATED.

A Woman Who Has Learned Entirely by Careful Listening.
The wonderful development of certain faculties in the cases of persons who have lost the use of some of their natural functions, or of others whose faculties have not been fully developed, has long been a matter of remark, but it is not alone the outside observers who appreciate the provisions of nature for the benefit of the unfortunate. The sufferers themselves often appreciate this fully, and in some instances, after years, grow to depend so much upon their acquired faculties as to be afraid of a change, even if they have the chance of one.

An illustration of this is given by a woman in Brooklyn who never has learned to read or write. In no way could one discover this (except by her own admission or by putting her to a direct test, for she is one of the best educated women in the country, conversant with languages, art, literature and all the current topics of the day. She is rich, too, and could afford all the services of the best teachers if she but chose to learn to read, but she refuses to do so.

When this woman was a child, her parents lived far from schools, so she had no chance then to learn to read or write. As a mere child she began to earn her own living, and again the chance for schooling slipped away. Then she married and the cares of a family took up her time. By the time the babies were off her hands, her husband had grown rich, and then she began her real education, and now, as a widow, she continues it. Her companions read to her and talk with her about all the topics which interest her. Years of such work have stored her mind with a rich treasure of knowledge, and there is not a page of a book that has been read to her that she is not familiar with. Her stores of knowledge are at her instant command. Why will she not learn to read? Because, she says, she fears that this wonderful memory, which is now such a treasure house to her, might be impaired if she were to do anything to weaken the demands upon it.

What such a memory can do is well illustrated in the case of a tailor of this city who cannot read or write. He is probably the most widely known man in his business here, as for many years he has done business with New York's firemen and policemen. Almost every man of these two bodies has dealings with this tailor, and each month between the first and the tenth days he visits every station house and engine and truck house in this city to collect his dues. He has acquired considerable wealth, and it is said of him that in all the years he has dealt with the firemen and policemen he never was known to make a mistake of a cent in any man's account, although all his records of transactions have been kept in his head.—New York Sun.

WHEN GRANT WAS POOR.

A Time in His Career When He Needed the Wherewithal.

General W. H. L. Barnes, one of the leaders of the San Francisco bar, at a meeting of the California commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, told the following story about General Grant. It was told years ago to General Barnes by Captain Richard L. Ogden, once a clerk in the office of the United States quartermaster at San Francisco, and General Barnes recently copied it from Captain Ogden's diary.

It was that when Grant resigned his commission as captain, at the age of 32, being then in Oregon, he went to San Francisco on his way home and presented to Captain Ogden a certificate of per diem service on a court martial amounting to about \$40. The certificate was incorrectly drawn, and Grant with a look of despair asked Captain Ogden's permission to sleep on the lounge in the latter's office, saying he had not a cent to his name. He slept on the rickety office lounge, and Ogden agreed to cash the certificate personally and to send it back to Oregon for correction. Grant had expected to buy passage for himself to New York in the steamer, but Ogden went with him to the Pacific Mail steamship office and procured for him a cabin passage pass, or what was the nearest to it the steamship company could give, for Grant had to pay his railroad fare across the isthmus. This, however, left him \$15, and Grant was very grateful.

The diary quotes him as saying to Captain Ogden: "This is a great luxury and what I did not expect, and I am indebted to you for it. The prospect of ever being able to reciprocate is certainly remote, but strange things happen in this world, and there is no knowing."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Size of the Congressional Library.

Founded in the year 1800 by the most important appropriation of \$5,000 for the purchase of such books as may be necessary for the use of congress at the said city of Washington, this collection has grown, notwithstanding the ravages of two fires, to the present aggregate of 740,000 volumes. The acquisition of the Jefferson library in 1815, the Force Historical library in 1865, the Smithsonian library in 1867 and the Tomer collection in 1882, all constituted specially important and valuable accessions to its stores. And by the enactment of the copyright law of 1870, followed by the international copyright act of 1891, this library became entitled to receive two copies of all books, periodicals and other publications claiming the protection of copyright in the United States.—A. R. Spofford in Century.

Deserved Credit.

"I may lead a wild life," said Jiggers, "but I'll tell you one thing—I take care about the people my boys associate with."

"I know you do," said Hawkins. "I've observed that you spend very little time with 'em yourself, old man, and I honor you for it."—Harper's Bazar.

SUBMARINE CABLES.

The Difficulties Encountered in Sending Messages at a Profitable Speed.

While submarine cables can now be made of any length and at comparatively small cost, great difficulties are still encountered in sending messages at a commercially profitable speed, and these difficulties increase with the length of the line. In long cables there is a troublesome retardation of the electric current, due to the fact that the insulating cover of the copper strands becomes itself electrified, and this surface charge delays messages by preventing the current at the beginning of any signal from rising rapidly to its maximum and again from rapidly dying out. The consequence of this is that while from 400 to 600 words a minute can be sent over a land line, the maximum speed on an Atlantic cable is somewhere about 32 words a minute. Before the "siphon recorder" and Lord Kelvin's "curb sender" were invented, the maximum speed was eight or ten words per minute. Curiously enough, the more perfect the cable's insulation may be the greater is this retardation, and slight leaks in this covering often increase for the time the line's working capacity. The corrosive action of the salt water is active at such points, however, and will soon cause a break in the cable.

Professor Silvanus P. Thompson of the Royal society of England has invented a system of cable construction by which he expects not only to increase the capacity of the present lines, but to make practicable the covering of the 3,000 miles which separate Hawaii from North America. His plan is to make a cable with two separate conductors enclosed in the same armor, so as to form a complete circuit, and every 100 or 150 miles he will introduce stretches of cable with three such conductors, the third being a wire of high resistance, the purpose of which is to act as a sort of artificial and protected leak. One end of this third wire will be connected with the positive conductor and the other with the negative one. By this device the static charge on one wire will neutralize that on the other, and all retardation will be avoided. The expectation is to multiply four or five times the number of words now sent over Atlantic cables, to increase to 70 or 80 the 12 words per minute that could be sent over a single core cable to Hawaii, and raise from 15 to 75 the words sent from London to Cape Town.—New York Times.

NO BLOOD SPILLED.

But the Duel Was Fought, and Everybody Was Satisfied.

Every one who knows anything about Major Winton knows that he is without a spark of physical cowardice. That is the reason that he incurred no risk in telling the story that follows:

"Right after the war I went to Texas and formed a business partnership with a rough but brave and big hearted native. We leased and stocked an extensive cattle ranch, hired our cowboys and established a little community of our own. My partner superintended affairs at the ranch while I did the dealing, the purchase of supplies included. This took me to the nearest market, and, as it was too soon for the prejudices between the two great sections of the country to be entirely allayed, I was very careful to talk nothing but business.

"But one day in the hotel an ex-colonel who had taken on extra steam at the bar so persistently attacked my political principles and so clearly aimed his generalities at me that I retorted angrily. This was what he wanted. He handed me his card, and within half an hour two of his friends waited on me, pursuant to the code duello. To gain time I referred them to my partner and hurried back to the ranch. He was delighted at the prospect. It would be a great piece of advertising to bowl the colonel over, and at the same time it would insure me against like trouble in the future. But by principle and training I was irrevocably committed against the duel.

"It was difficult for me to make my partner comprehend any such moral bias, especially as we had fought off cattle thieves together, and he knew that I had nerve and was a dead shot. He himself, when aroused, was recognized as one of the most dangerous men in the southwest. His ultimatum was that we must meet, but with it was a positive assurance that no one should be hurt. The affair came off, and after three exchanges honor was satisfied without a drop of blood. My partner had simply told the colonel's seconds that they must load with blank cartridges or settle with him. They hastened to choose the blank alternative, and in time the colonel and I became fast friends. He confidentially admitted to me afterward that he reckoned he'd lost his shooting eye and must keep out of trouble."—Detroit Free Press.

Realism in Literature.

"The movement for realism in literature has given to the best current fiction a verity and value as a reflection of the times that the novels of no other era possess," writes Droch in The Ladies' Home Journal. "This is not saying, by any means, that our novelists are greater than any of previous epochs. But never before could a reader of fiction accumulate a vivid, true and varied picture of so many sides of human nature, so many conditions of actual life. It therefore broadens the horizon of a judicious reader in a way that books of travel never did. It ought to and often does broaden the sympathies of the reader so that the prejudices of class and nationality are broken down, and there is a more charitable judgment of human nature which can't help being different."

Why His Hat Stuck.

Tommy (inquiringly)—Mamma, is his hair oil in this bottle?
Mamma—No, that's glue.
Tommy (nonchalantly)—Then I expect that's why I can't get my hat off.—Chicago Record.

A Hindoo Made of Rubber.

A Hindoo named Bava Luchman Dass is attracting the interested attention of the London medical profession. Mr. Dass is a Yogi, and if all Yogis are like Mr. Dass the ordinary treatises on anatomy must be subjected to revision. He was exhibited to the Students' Anatomical society of St. George's hospital and introduced by the lecturer as "an unusually complicated specimen of the Indian Yogi—a Brahman, namely, of a very high caste—who goes through certain religious exercises with a view of qualifying himself better for paradise." These religious exercises seem to take a physical form, and Mr. Dass, a little, dark gentleman, sat upon the table and proceeded to exhibit a selection from the 84 abnormal positions which he has put in 40 solid years in learning.

He seemed to have ligaments of the gutta percha persuasion, while his joints evidently work on all bearings. He formed his legs into a cravat and tied them about his neck. He hopped about on one hand and strolled about jauntily on his knees, a position which is said to greatly assist thought, though the thoughts of a white man in such a position would hardly be of a publication. He folded his legs tightly around his body and stood thoughtfully on his finger tips for several minutes, in which posture he declared he was able to remain for seven days. However, as the medical students did not wish to carry out this particular experiment to its bitter end, Mr. Dass proceeded to tie himself up in a knot and to go to sleep on one leg like a flamingo. Then sitting down suddenly he brought the soles of his feet together, his knees being at such an acute angle that nothing short of complete dislocation could have made the performance possible. The lecturer endeavored to follow his movements on an extremely suggestive looking skeleton which he had by his side and finally came to the conclusion that Mr. Dass had no ligaments at all.—London Graphic.

The Pandects of Justinian.

The pandects of Justinian, the most complete body of Roman laws ever collected, were supposed to be lost, but in 1137, when Amalfi was taken and plundered by the Pisans, a private soldier found a copy which he sold to an officer for a few pence. The value of the discovery was soon apparent and the precious volume was taken to Pisa and stored in the city library. When Pisa was stormed by the Florentines, in 1454, the precious volume was captured and taken to Florence, where it was placed in the library of the Medici.

Skilled Nursing.

Skilled nursing is now regarded as of quite as much significance as expert medical attendance. Those whose means will permit of it generally employ trained nurses, and between the professional assistant of the physician in the home and hospital treatment for various ailments the old conditions of the sickroom have almost passed away.—Baltimore Herald.

Shortsightedness.

To waste your money on vile, dirty watery mixtures, compounded by inexperienced persons, when you have the opportunity of testing Otto's Cure free of charge. Why will you continue to irritate your throat and lungs with that terrible hacking cough when the Reynolds drug store will furnish you a free sample bottle of this great guaranteed remedy? Hold a bottle of Otto's Cure to the light and observe its beautiful golden color and thick, heavy syrup. Largest packages and purest goods. Large bottles 50c. and 25c.

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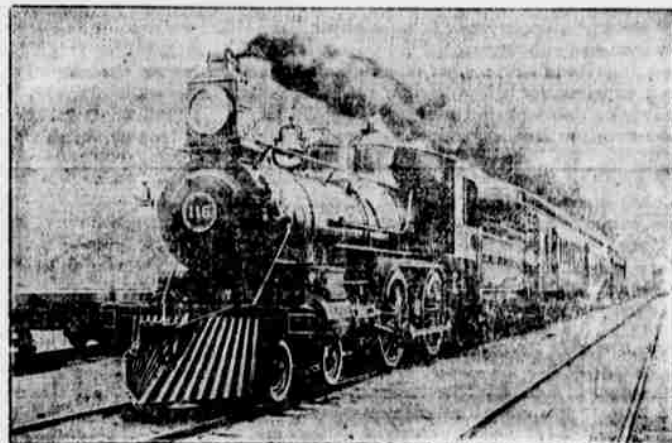
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