

AN OXFORD CUSTOM.

Methods That Enforce an Elaborate System of Bookkeeping.

An American student at Oxford says that in certain of the university colleges a man may go for dessert to the hall store—that is, the room below the dining hall, where the fancy groceries of the college are displayed for sale.

All are spread upon the table like a gorgeous Venetian picture, but at either end of the room stand two Oxford "scouts" with account books in their hands.

A man takes a tangerine and makes a little gesture toward the scout, who silently records. "Brown, orange, two-pence," and looks up to catch the next item.

Some one asks, "How much are chocolate creams, Higgins?" "Three ha'pence for four, sir," and the student urges three neighbors to share his pennyworth.

The minuteness of this bookkeeping is characteristic of precise English ways. The weekly bills always bear a charge of two-pence for salt and the like, and once, when I had not ordered anything for the day, there was an un-specified charge of a penny in the breakfast column. I asked the butler what it meant. He looked at me horrified.

"Why, sir, that is to keep your name on the books!"

I asked if such elaborate bookkeeping were not very expensive. "In America," I said, "we should lump the charges and devote the money saved to hiring a better cook."

He explained that it always had been managed so. That was sufficient. —Youth's Companion.

The Iron Maiden.

The iron maiden is a terror inspiring torture instrument made of strong wood coated with iron. It opens with two doors to allow the prisoner to be placed inside. The entire interior is fitted with long, sharp iron spikes, so that when the doors are pressed to these sharp prongs force their way into various portions of the victim's body.

Two enter his eyes, others pierce his chest and, in fact, impale him alive in such a manner that he dies in the most agonizing torture. Persons were condemned to death by the embraces of the iron maiden for plots against the governing powers, parricide, religious unbelief and murder.

The date of this instrument is the fifteenth century. It is believed that the iron maiden is purely and peculiarly a relic of old Nuremberg, as at that date we do not read of it anywhere else, while the annals of that town contain many allusions to its terrors.

His First Taste of Discipline.

Admiral Joutet, probably one of the jolliest sea-dogs our navy ever knew, once told this amusing story of his early days as a cadet: "I was a sociable youngster," he says, "and when I went to my first assignment, the Independence, and saw the stars and stripes floating over it I remembered my mother had taught me that my first duty was to the flag, so I attempted some conversation on this line with the executive officer who had received me when I came on board and who was one of the strictest disciplinarians in the navy of that day."

"Silence, sir!" he roared at my first question, his face red with anger. "Silence, sir! Who gave you permission to speak? Let me hear only six words from you, sir, while you are on this ship—'port,' 'starboard,' 'yes, sir,' and 'no, sir.'"

"And this was my first discipline in the navy."

Crowns by Wholesale.

It is told of one of the ancient kings of Egypt that his coronation procession occupied a whole day in passing through the city of Alexandria and that 3,200 crowns of gold were carried by the servants. One crown was three feet in height and twenty-four feet in circumference. There were also carried in the procession sixty-four suits of golden armor, two boots of gold four and a half feet in length, twelve golden basins, ten large vases of perfume for the bath, twelve evers, fifty dishes and a large number of tables—all of gold. Twenty-three of the 3,200 crowns were valued at \$334,400, and it is not surprising that the procession was guarded by 50,000 soldiers.—St. James Gazette.

A Joker Among Birds.

The bluejay is a practical joker. It is his habit to conceal himself in a mass of leaves near the spot where small birds are accustomed to gather and when they are enjoying themselves in their own fashion to suddenly frighten them almost to death by screaming out like a hawk. Of course they scatter in every direction, and when they do so the mischievous rascal gives vent to a cackle that sounds very much like a laugh.

Fatal Worry.

Hewitt—It is worry, not work, that kills. Jewett—That's so, especially when a fellow worries himself to death because he cannot get work.—Brooklyn Life.

Oh and On.

"How will you have your hair cut?" queried the talkative barber. "Oh!" snapped the disagreeable patron. And the barber cut on.—Boston Globe.

Was Artificial.

"What would you do if you had my head of hair?" "Stale—Take it back and exchange it."—New York Times.

Try This—Drop a Penny.

Have you ever noticed the interest that money attracts even if it is only a single cent? The next time that you see a copper coin dropped in a street car just observe. Every eye in the car will turn to the spot where it dropped, and there will be manifested a real general concern over its recovery. Two or three heads are likely to come in contact over the point of its disappearance, and then their owners will draw suddenly back and try to appear unconcerned, but in another second they are again leaning forward.

The man who dropped the cent is usually the first who appears to have brushed memory of the trivial occurrence aside, but just as soon as the eyes in the car have turned from him his own are sure to go back to the floor in the hope that the truant coin will be seen.

When he has gone, there is a renewed interest among the passengers, for the stage of "finders keepers" has arrived, and those near the spot of disappearance become quite diligent until they are aware they make a center of attraction. But interest in that little coin is not lost while there is a passenger left, and when the car is empty the conductor takes his turn and resurrects the cent.—New York Herald.

Making Them All One.

An elderly minister is fond of telling of a "break" he once made at a double wedding of two sisters. It was arranged that the two couples should be married with one ceremony, the two brides responding at the same time and the two bridegrooms doing the same. There had not been any previous rehearsal, as the minister had come a long distance and had reached the church but a few minutes before the time for the ceremony.

All went well until it came time for the minister to say, "And now I pronounce you man and wife."

It suddenly became obvious to the minister that the usual formula would not do in the case of two men and two wives, and he could not think of any way of making "man" and "wife" plural in the sentence. In his desperation and confusion he lifted his hands and said solemnly:

"And now I pronounce you, one and all, husband and wife!"

A Bet and Its Odds.

A notorious gambler, who died some time ago, once wagered a thousand dollars to one that six would not be thrown with a pair of dice ten times in succession. His offer was taken up by a fellow clubman. The dice were brought, and his opponent actually threw six six times in succession. The gambler then offered \$750 to be free of the bet. The other man declined, had his tenth throw and failed to get another six.

Just to show how very little the average man knows about the doctrine of chances a well known mathematician has pointed out the real odds about this bet. The chances were no less than 69,466,175 to 1 against six being thrown ten times in succession; therefore the real bet should have been about \$600,000 to 1 cent against such a thing happening.—Pittsburg Gazette.

A Drawback.

"Well, James, how are you feeling today?" said the minister to one of his parishioners, an old man suffering from chronic rheumatism. "You are not looking as brisk as usual."

"Na, sir," replied the old fellow sadly. "I've been gay unfortin the day."

"How, James?"

"Well, sir, I got a letter fra a Glaswegian lawyer body this mornin' tellin' me that my cousin Jock was deid an' that he had left me two hunner pound."

"Two hundred pounds!" repeated the minister. "And you call that hard luck? Why, it is quite a fortune for you, James."

"Aye," said the old man sorrowfully, "but the stipid lawyer body didna pit enuch stamps on his letter, an' I had a hale saxonpce to pay for extra postage."—London Tit-Bits.

Sand Swept Asia.

In the arid lands of central Asia the air is reported as often laden with fine detritus, which drifts like snow around conspicuous objects and tends to bury them in a dust drift. Even when there is no apparent wind the air is described as thick with fine dust, and a yellow sediment covers everything. In Khotan this dust sometimes so obscures the sun that at midday one cannot see to read fine print without a lamp.

Varnish From Seaweed.

A kind of seaweed which is plentiful on the coast of China furnishes an admirable glue and varnish. When dried, it is waterproof, and it is employed to fill up the interstices in bamboo network, which windows are frequently constructed in that country. It is also utilized to strengthen and varnish paper lanterns.

A Cheerful Proposal.

A Scottish bandle one day led the mance housemaid to the churchyard and, pointing with his finger, stammered: "My folk lie there, Jennie. Wad ye like to lie there too?"

It was his way of popping the question.

A Composer.

Hoax—I thought you said that man was a musician! Joak—Nonsense! You certainly told me he wrote melodies. "I told you he was a composer of heirs. He sells soothing syrup."

A Marrying Man.

"Are you a marrying man?" "No, I am a somber looking gentleman at a reception." "Yes," was the prompt reply; "I'm a clergyman."

Sunday In England.

Few people are aware how strict a Sabbath is still legally ordained in England. "The Lord's day observance act forbids not only Sunday trading, but also every possible occupation—walking, riding, rowing or any game—and strictly enjoins upon all subjects over nine years of age attendance at church. At the opening of every assembly the royal proclamation for the preservation of morality is read. People who are then present for the first time are astonished to hear that the monarch forbids and calls upon the magistrates to punish absence from divine service on Sundays, any playing of cards or other games of chance or haunting of public houses on the same day. Everybody found in an inn during service hours is liable to a fine of 20 cents, and for a successful prosecution church warden are entitled to a reward of \$10. As recently as 1864 Isaac Walton, a manservant, was fined \$2.50 for refusing to attend church on Sunday when ordered there by his mistress. About the same time a mother was prosecuted by her son and actually imprisoned for not attending church.

Don't Do It "Just For Now."

Many young people form habits which cripple and handicap them for life by doing things "just for now." They let things drop wherever they happen to be "just for now," thinking that they will put the book, the tool, the letter or the article of clothing later where it belongs. When these young people grow up to manhood and womanhood, they find that the habit of putting things down anywhere "just for now" has become a tyrant that fills their lives with confusion and disorder. It takes no more time or effort to put a thing where it belongs in the first place than it does later, perhaps less, and the chances are that if you do not do so at the proper time you never will. Even if it costs you a little inconvenience at the moment to put everything in its proper place, to do everything at the proper time, the orderly and methodical habits which you cultivate in this way will increase your power and usefulness a hundred-fold and may save you much trouble and mortification in the future.—Success.

Tried Hard.

At a trial at Auburn, Pa., one of the witnesses was a green countryman unused to the ways of the law, but quick, as it proved, to understand its principles. After a severe cross examination, says an exchange, the counsel for the government paused, and then, putting on a look of severity, exclaimed: "Mr. Wilkins, has not an effort been made to induce you to tell a different story?"

"A different story from what I told, sir?"

"That is what I mean."

"Yes, sir; several persons have tried to get me to tell a different story from what I have told, but they couldn't."

"Now, sir, upon your oath, I wish to know who those persons are?"

"Well, I guess you've tried 'bout as hard as any of them."

Displayed Some Strength.

"Pa!" "Well, Willie." "You wouldn't pick sis out for a strong woman, would you?" "Hardly. Your sister is a quiet, gentle girl." "Well, that's all you know about it. She just puts it on. Why, I heard that big man that's been calling here tell his chum last night that she threw him over. I don't know what it was, but if she threw him over anything she's a bird."—Chicago Post.

Prevention of the Flight of Birds.

To prevent birds from flying with the barbarous and injurious system sometimes practiced of cutting their wings it will be found sufficient to tie together with a thread three or four of the largest feathers of one wing. This destroys the balance, the wings do not act symmetrically in the air, and flight is rendered impossible. Fowls, pigeons, etc., may be kept in bounds in this simple fashion.

Merely Misplaced.

"Captain," said the cabin boy, "is a thing lost when you know where it is?"

"No, you fool," answered the captain, who, being a wise man, abhorred frivolous questions.

"Well, sir, your silver teapot is at the bottom of the sea."

Exit cabin boy.—New York Times.

It Wouldn't Work.

"I found," said the man who frequents the races, "that I seemed to win every second day, so I made up my mind to take a fresh start and bet only every second day."

"And how did you come out?"

"Well, I think I must have started the scheme the wrong way."—Chicago Post.

The Kind of Judge He Wanted.

The story is told of an Irishman who tried to console her husband with the remark that he would have a fair trial and an upright judge. "Yerra, woman," replied her spouse, "what'd I want wid an upright judge? What I wants is a judge that'll lean a little."

Opportunity.

Opportunity has all her hair on her forehead, but when she has passed you cannot call her back. She has not tuft whereby you can lay hold on her, for she is bald on the back part of her head and never returns.—Rabelais.

Cruelly Crushed.

William Bliss when president of the Boston and Albany railroad was once called before the railroad committee of the Massachusetts legislature to testify on traffic matters, and a young member who was serving his first term undertook to examine him. "I want you to tell me how much it costs to haul a freight car from Boston to Springfield," said the member. "I don't know," replied Mr. Bliss. "You don't know?" "That was the answer I gave."

"What are you, anyway?" "President."

"Of what?" "The Boston and Albany railroad."

"Well, sir," began the legislator in rising voice, "if you are William Bliss, president of the Boston and Albany railroad, and you don't know what it costs to haul freight from Boston to Springfield, who in the name of heaven does know?"

"No one that I know unless it is a member of the Massachusetts legislature who is serving his first term."

Another member continued the examination.

It is related that an Indian ever once approached General Crook and wanted to borrow a cannon. "Do you expect me to loan you a cannon with which to kill my soldiers?" the old veteran inquired. "No," the chief replied; "kill soldiers with a club. Want cannon to kill cow-boys."

His Greatest Mistake.

"The mistake of my life," said the renitent man, "was when I was selling patent medicines in Housatonic. One day I attended a review of a crack regiment, and suddenly every man in the ranks began sneezing for all he was worth. In a trice I had my ample case open and was trying to sell the commissary a carload of my anti-grip pellets when he rudely informed me that the troops were only battling with delight the arrival of General Alachochobosooki."—Judge.

Unconscious Self Criticism.

Mr. X., the subeditor, was asked to write an article on superstition and lunaticism.

When the article was printed, the opening sentence was found to be as follows: "That lunaticism is not on the wane, perchance of the following lines will amply demonstrate."—Courier du Centre.

Accumulating Wealth.

Could I climb to the highest place in Athens I would lift my voice and proclaim: Fellow citizens, why do ye turn and scrape every stone to gather wealth and take so little care of your children, to whom one day you must relinquish it all?—Socrates.

London is considered a crowded city, yet 94 per cent of its inhabitants occupy one room tenements, whereas in Bombay it is 39 per cent.

REYNOLDSVILLE HARDWARE COM'Y. GRAND CLEARANCE SALE. New War Room. In order to make room to rebuild our war-room we are compelled to reduce our stock of Hardware, &c. During next two weeks we offer special inducements in prices on the following:

Buggies & Plows & Harrows & Stoves Pumps & Wheelbarrows Building Paper Two and Three Ply. Doors & Windows REYNOLDSVILLE HARDWARE COM'Y.

N. HANAU. I am closing out my stock of dry goods and clothing and ladies and gents' furnishings goods at 25 per cent less than cost. Am going to quit business. \$1.00 Dress Goods 85c \$1.25 Ladies' shirt waists 95c \$1.50 Ladies' shirt waists 1.15 \$1.25 Ladies' shirt waists 95c \$1.00 Ladies' shirt waists 80c \$1.50 Ladies' shirt waists 1.15 \$1.50 Ladies' shirt waists 1.15 \$1.50 Ladies' shirt waists 1.15 \$1.50 Ladies' shirt waists 1.15

CLOTHING. In black and blue, clay worsted, square and round cut suits. \$11.00 suits 10.00 \$12.00 suits 11.00 \$13.00 suits 12.00 \$14.00 suits 13.00 \$15.00 suits 14.00 \$16.00 suits 15.00 \$17.00 suits 16.00 \$18.00 suits 17.00 \$19.00 suits 18.00 \$20.00 suits 19.00 \$21.00 suits 20.00 \$22.00 suits 21.00 \$23.00 suits 22.00 \$24.00 suits 23.00 \$25.00 suits 24.00 \$26.00 suits 25.00 \$27.00 suits 26.00 \$28.00 suits 27.00 \$29.00 suits 28.00 \$30.00 suits 29.00 \$31.00 suits 30.00 \$32.00 suits 31.00 \$33.00 suits 32.00 \$34.00 suits 33.00 \$35.00 suits 34.00 \$36.00 suits 35.00 \$37.00 suits 36.00 \$38.00 suits 37.00 \$39.00 suits 38.00 \$40.00 suits 39.00 \$41.00 suits 40.00 \$42.00 suits 41.00 \$43.00 suits 42.00 \$44.00 suits 43.00 \$45.00 suits 44.00 \$46.00 suits 45.00 \$47.00 suits 46.00 \$48.00 suits 47.00 \$49.00 suits 48.00 \$50.00 suits 49.00

THE NEW Pittsburgh Exposition. WITH ITS NEW BUILDINGS AND NEW MUSIC HALL. OPENS SEPTEMBER 3, CLOSES OCTOBER 16. FOUR SUPERB MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS. SOUSA AND HIS BAND, Sept. 3d to Sept. 16th. THE FADETTES WOMEN'S ORCHESTRA, Sept. 17th to Sept. 23d. "CREATORE," THE SVENGLI OF THE MUSIC WORLD, Sept. 24th to Oct. 4th. WALTER DAMROSCH AND THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA, Oct. 6th to Oct. 18th. NEW ATTRACTIONS: THE HAUNTED SWING, MT. PELEE IN ERUPTION, THE DANCING MARIQUETTES, DARKNESS AND DAWN, THE DIZZY TOBOGGAN SLIDE, THE MERRY GO-ROUND, THE CINEMATOGRAPH—ALL NEW PICTURES. ADMISSION 25 CENTS. One Fare for the Round Trip on all Railroads.

PATTON PAINT CO. Buffalo, Pa. I've been shinin' new for ages. In the palace that people see, but my pleasure is to spill them. But methinks I've got the blues! For I struck a kind that shines! That would not grow quickly faint, And I found it every paint. That 'Twas Patton's Non-Frost Paint." Why, I shone and shone open it. It's to make the paint dry fast. And I nearly had a son-burst. Over this stuff that you have made. When I saw my work quite done. Then I called on every paint. But they, too, could not do it. 'Twas your "Patton's Non-Frost Paint." Yours truly, The Man in the Hat.

KEYSTONE HARDWARE COMPANY Reynoldsville, Pa.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD. BUFFALO & ALLEGHENY VALLEY DIVISION. Low Grade Division. In Effect May 25, 1902. [Eastern Standard Time.]

Table of train schedules for the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh R.R. Condensed Time Table, North Bound, Eastward, and Westward directions.

Table of train schedules for the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Division, In effect March 24th, 1902. Trains leave Drifwood as follows:

Table of train schedules for the JOHNSBURG RAILROAD. In effect March 24th, 1902. Daily except Sunday. (Form N. P. 2.)

Table of train schedules for the RIDGWAY & CLEARFIELD RAILROAD and Connections. In effect March 24th, 1902.

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