

## A BARNUM TRICK.

### Getting His Posters into Canada Without Paying Duty.

One of P. T. Barnum's most successful feats of bamboozlement was played upon the Canadian customs authorities. The veteran showman's tours were always planned far in advance, and one winter he made up his mind to take his great circus and menagerie through Canada during the summer after the next. This gave him about two years in which to mature his plans.

One important item of a showman's expenses consists of his advertising placards, and Mr. Barnum was always lavish with these gaudy prints. He was aware that the Canadian government imposed a high duty on this class of imports, and yet he wanted to paint Canada red, yellow, blue and green with a lavishness that no showman had ever displayed in that country before.

Now, there was no printing house anywhere in Canada that could begin to turn out the kind of work that Mr. Barnum required either in size, color or finish. Nevertheless his immense posters came under the same classification as much smaller lithographs and printed colored matter and, he knew that the Dominion custom authorities would not abate one jot of the full toll, but would rather rejoice at the opportunity to mulct the foreigner who would convey so much money out of a country.

So Barnum studied the question awhile and finally sent on at once a great lot of circus posters of the most gorgeous designs whereon yellow lions and clawed striped tigers and brown bears fought with blue hippopotamuses till gore flowed into beautiful crimson backgrounds. No agent appeared when the posters were detained by the Canadian customs officers to pay the duty. They were accordingly held for twelve months, then duly advertised for sale for three months more and finally put up at auction with a lot of other unclaimed parcels and were designated in the catalogue merely as "colored prints."

Nobody took any interest in them when the auctioneer called for a bid, and finally the whole batch was knocked down for a song to a secret agent of the circus who had been sent up by Mr. Barnum for that express purpose.

## THE CROCODILE.

### Terror of the Stealth of the Cunning Brute's Approach.

One of the reasons given by old writers for the crocodile being worshiped in Egypt was the somewhat cryptic one that it "laid threescore eggs and lived for threescore years," but from twenty to thirty is the common number of eggs found in a "clutch." In the reptile's easy code of ethics, however, its parental responsibilities end with the act of oviposition, for, having covered the eggs with a layer of sand, it leaves the sun to do the rest (whence doubtless Shakespeare's "your mud and the operation of your sun") and leaves it also to the ichneumon to do its worst. In some places it seems that water tortoises, too, eat crocodiles' eggs, but the ichneumon is the real desolator of crocodile homes, scratching up the nests and eating or breaking the entire "sitting" at a meal. Crocodiles' eggs, however, are absurdly small, a mother twenty feet long being content with an egg no larger than that of a goose, and the newly hatched young, hardly more formidable than a common newt, are preyed upon by birds, which a little later the rapidly growing crocodile would like nothing better than to get within its reach as well as doubtless by many other things, including old crocodiles themselves.

The real horror of the members of the crocodile tribe lies in their usual noiselessness. "They swim with great silence, making scarcely even a ripple on the water," says M. du Chailou, and the terror of the stealth of their approach is well conveyed in Rudyard Kipling's "Ripple Song":

"Walt, ah, walt," the ripple saith,  
"Maiden, wait, for I am Death!"  
—London Times.

### "The Fault of the Dutch."

It was to Sir Charles Bagot, minister at The Hague, that Canning in the course of a tariff dispute with Falk, the Dutch premier, addressed his famous dispatch in verse, which, as we have seen it wrongly quoted on several occasions, we venture to append: In matters of commerce the fault of the Dutch is giving too little and asking too much. With equal advantage the French are content.

So we'll clap on Dutch bottoms at twenty per cent,  
Twenty per cent,  
Twenty per cent,  
Nous frapperons Falk with twenty per cent.  
—"Links With the Past."

### A Real Consolation.

Little Molly's father can't quite see where Molly got her information. One day when her unmarried aunt was visiting at their house Molly became impressed with her aunt's solitary state. "Haven't you any husband, Aunt Molly?" she asked. Aunt Molly's pretended grief over the fact that she was a spinster was so real to Molly that she undertook the task of consolation. "Never mind, dear Aunt Molly, husbands scold."—Delineator.

### His Neighbor.

"We are told, Tommy," said the Sunday school teacher, "that we should love our neighbor. Now, who is your neighbor, Tommy?"  
But Tommy Tucker merely blushed, hung his head and said nothing. He didn't want to tell the little girl's name.—Chicago Tribune.

### Cutting Red Tapes.

Many amusing stories are told of ways in which postoffice officials, inclined to keep too rigorously to the letter of their regulations, have been thwarted. On one occasion a man asked for 240 penny stamps and tendered payment in copper. The official declined to receive it, whereupon the man began buying and paying for one stamp at a time. Before he had got a dozen in that way the postoffice official had surrendered. It must have been the same man or a near relative who one Sunday went into a postoffice that was open for telegraph business only. He handed in a sixpenny telegram and asked to be supplied with two stamps besides. No, he could not have stamps; telegraph business only was transacted. Innocently he asked if he might have his telegram back for a moment to add something. He added four words to it and tendered the additional twopenny. The form was returned to him with the stamps to affix. Crossing out the four additional words, he affixed the sixpenny stamp, pushed the telegram under the counter rail and walked out with his two stamps.—London Tatler.

### Extremes Absentmindedness.

"The queerest case of absentmindedness that I have ever known of," remarked the night clerk of a certain hotel, "was that which happened at this hotel early yesterday morning. Two fellow boarders, one Jones by name and the other whose name is Brown, occupied a room on the third floor. "Well, Brown requested me to allow him to wake up at 3 o'clock so as to have him to catch the 4 o'clock train. He was awakened at the requested time, and in his hurry to dress himself he put on Jones' clothes by mistake. He did not discover his mistake until he reached the depot, and, would you believe it"—here the speaker paused—"when he found out that he was wearing some one else's clothes he immediately returned to the hotel and went right to bed."

"I don't see any absentmindedness about that," broke in one of the listeners.

"You don't? Why, he thought that I had awakened the wrong man."

### Life at the Pole.

Life at the pole is a perpetual battle with nature, in which man is often worsted. "He was frozen to death" is the end of many biographies. While a man is in health they speak of him as "stronger than death," as if death were a watchful enemy always waiting for his chance. But life is on a large scale up there. Instead of the petty alternations of night and day they have the great seasonal succession, and, whether they are waiting for the long light of summer or the long dark of winter, they enjoy a keen delight in the prospect of a change such as we can never know in the tamer arrangements of our climate. The long dark does not keep them wholly inactive. We read of expeditions after bear and hunting on the ice by torchlight, but in the main their winter is given up to story telling, conversation and contemplation.

### Bored No More.

"Yes," said the famous M. P., "I used to be pestered to death by a bore. My secretary was a good natured, obliging chap, and he could never find it in his heart to turn the bore away. Just as sure as I was in the bore was certain to be admitted."

"One day, after an hour's martyrdom at the man's hands, I determined to end that persecution. So I called my secretary and said to him mysteriously:

"Parton, do you know what makes Smith come here so regularly?"

"No, sir," said Parton, "I can't say I do."

"Well, Parton," said I, "I don't mind telling you in confidence that he's after your job."

"From that day," concluded the M. P., "I saw no more of the bore."—London Scraps.

### Seventeen Year Locusts.

The seventeen year locusts are sometimes called Pharaoh's locusts because they make a sound that resembles the repeating over and over of that historic name. The notes or songs are not what might be termed vocal, as they are produced by the rapid vibrations of two very thin films that cover a small cavity at the base of the abdomen. In some localities the sound produced is somewhat different from that heard in other sections. Along streams, especially along the Ohio river, the notes are more bass, while on the highlands and especially in the mountain regions the sounds produced are more shrill.—Omaha World-Herald.

### An Advantage.

A well known Scottish clergyman got into conversation in a railway carriage with a workingman, who informed him that he had been a coupler on a railway for several years. "Oh," said the minister, "I can beat that! I have been a coupler for over twenty years." "Aye," replied the workman, "but I can uncouple, and you cannot!"

### A Mortal Insult.

Mrs. Dimpleton—I want you to get another doctor right off. Dimpleton—What's the matter with this one? Mrs. Dimpleton—What do you suppose he said about baby? He told me I must treat him like a human being!

### Brotherly Resentment.

Young Mother (proudly)—Everybody says the baby looks like me. Bachelor Brother (amazed)—The spiteful things don't say that to your face, do they?

### Secrets.

"Don't complain of people tellin' yoh secrets," said Uncle Eben. "Dey couldn't do it if yoh hadn't stabled it."—Washington Star.

### The Nature Student's Story.

"In my boyhood I once captured a nest of three young thrushes. I put them in a gilt cage by an open window, and their mother came and fed them regularly with worms and grasshoppers."

The speaker, a nature student, sighed.

"The mother," he resumed, "must have expected her little ones to be soon liberated. She fed them, as I said, regularly for three days on fresh food. Then one evening at sunset she appeared with a sprig of green in her mouth. She thrust the green in through the gilt bars. Then, singing a sweet, sad song, she flew away. And she never came back. Her offspring the next morning lay dead, side by side, on the bottom of the cage. The sprig she had brought them, which was nearly consumed, was a sprig of the deadly larkspur. 'Freedom or death! Death or freedom!' That is what must have been the burden of her farewell song."

The narrator paused, and from his listeners a low murmur arose, a murmur perhaps of sympathy, perhaps of angry disbelief.

### An American Grammar.

Robert R. Hitt, who at the time represented our government in Paris as a secretary of legation, went to Egypt in regard to a matter involving the life of a Greek American subject. He landed in Alexandria and went to the Hotel Europe and found the rooming clerk busy assigning rooms to the newly arrived passengers, a regular polyglot in languages. He heard him speak Arabic, Greek, French, Italian and German. So when it came Mr. Hitt's turn to register he jocosely said, "Do you speak American?" The clerk promptly replied: "A leetle. Der was one American here lately who gave me an American grammar." Mr. Hitt asked to have a look at the book. The clerk promptly told one of the garcons to get the book out of his room, and while the book was being brought the clerk said, "De grammar is phonetic." When the book was brought, lo and behold, it was a copy of Petroleum V. Nasby's letters. D. R. Locke while in Egypt had presented a copy to the clerk, telling him it was an American grammar.

### Telling the Age of a Fish.

The age of a fish can be determined with accuracy by inspection of the otoliths, or bony concretions which are found in the auditory apparatus. These otoliths increase in size during the entire life of the fish, each year adding two layers, a light colored layer formed in summer and a dark layer formed in autumn and winter. The alternate layers are sharply contrasted and very distinct, so that there is no difficulty in counting them. The number of pairs of layers is equal to the number of years the fish has lived.—Scientific American.

## SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of a writ of Fieri Facias, etc., issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Jefferson county, Pa., and to me directed, I will expose to public sale or outcry at the court house in Brookville, Pa., on

Friday, December 10th, 1909,

At 1:00 o'clock p. m., all the following described real estate, to-wit:

All those two certain pieces or lots of land lying and being situated in the borough of Sikesville, county of Jefferson and state of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows:

FIRST. Beginning at a post at corner of Grant street and an alley; thence south seventy degrees east one hundred and fifty feet to a post at an alley; thence north seventy degrees and forty-six minutes east fifty feet to a post; thence north seventy-three degrees west one hundred and fifty feet to a post on Grant street; thence south sixteen degrees and forty-six minutes west fifty feet to a post; place of beginning, containing seven thousand five hundred square feet, and being lot No. 89 of town plot of Sikesville, made from land of B. Sykes, by deed dated August 3rd, 1903 and January 10, 1908, recorded in Deed Book Vol. 121, page 351, and page 353, respectively, and same land conveyed by A. W. Sykes to said Giuseppe Mazza by deed dated October 8th, 1908, recorded in Deed Book Vol. 121, page 350.

SECOND. Beginning at a post on Grant street and at corner of lot No. 89; thence north sixteen degrees and forty-six minutes east along said Grant street ten feet to a post on lot No. 70; thence south seventy-three degrees east through said lot No. 70 one hundred and fifty feet to a post on an alley; thence south sixteen degrees and forty-six minutes west along said alley ten feet to a post at corner of lot No. 89; thence north seventy-three degrees west along line of lot No. 89 one hundred and fifty feet to a post, the place of beginning, containing fifteen hundred square feet. Being the same two pieces of land conveyed to Giuseppe Mazza by Luttia Mansfield and J. B. Sykes, by deeds dated August 3rd, 1903 and January 10, 1908, recorded in Deed Book Vol. 121, page 351, and page 353, respectively, and same land conveyed by A. W. Sykes to said Giuseppe Mazza by deed dated October 8th, 1908, recorded in Deed Book Vol. 121, page 350. Having thereon erected a dwelling house containing six rooms; a good barn; chicken park and necessary outbuildings; all in good repair, and a search well of water with pump. Excepting and reserving all coal and coal rights, and all minerals, oil and gas as fully as same have been excepted and reserved from conveyances for said land by prior owners.

Sold and taken in execution and to be sold as the property of Giuseppe Mazza at the suit of Antonio Cristiano, McDonald, Pl. Fa., No. 48.

### TERMS:

The following must be strictly complied with when property is stricken down:

1. When the plaintiff or other lien creditors become the purchaser, the cost on the writs must be paid, and a list of liens, including mortgage searches on the property sold, together with such lien creditors' receipts for the amount of the proceeds of the sale or such proportion thereof as he may claim must be furnished to the sheriff.  
\*See Purdon's digest, 9th, Ed., page 446.  
\*Smith's form, Page 384.  
2. All bids must be paid in full.  
3. All sales not settled immediately will be continued until two o'clock p. m., of day of sale at which time all property not settled for will again be put up and sold at the expense and risk of the person to whom first bid. All writs staid after being advertised, the cost of advertising must be paid.

A. E. GALBRAITH, Sheriff

November 16, 1909.

## HUGHES & FLEMING.

### FUNERAL DIRECTORS.

Main Street. Reynoldsville, Pa.

## WINDSOR HOTEL

W. T. Brubaker, Mgr.  
Midway between Broad St. Station and Being Terminal on Fifth St.  
European \$1.00 per day and up.  
American \$2.50 per day and up.  
The only moderate priced first class restaurant and consequence in PHILADELPHIA

## These Clothes Look New as Long as they Last

A suit that will look smart and hold shape until it's worn out is worth 100 per cent more than one that looks shabby and out of shape as soon as the newness wears off. Isn't that so?

## Clothcraft All-Wool Clothes

will wear out in time. But until their last day, they will hold their snap and their style.

They are skilfully and honestly made out of nothing but pure wool cloth. That's why they last long and look well as long as they last. Each suit carries a Signed Guarantee that insures you against disappointment.

And they cost no more than common clothes—\$10 to \$25. They are the ONLY guaranteed pure wool clothes at these prices in America.

If every man in this town knew how good these wonderful clothes are, we would have to double the size of our store. You can find out how good they are today.

## BING-STOKE CO.



## It Costs Just a Post Card

to learn how to increase your income on your savings and how to bank by mail and how to insure your bank deposits, without cost, with a fund of ten million dollars.

Write today for Interesting Free Booklet

Capital and Surplus, \$10,000,000.00  
"In Capital and Surplus, there is Strength."

THE COLONIAL TRUST COMPANY  
(SAVINGS BANK)  
317 Fourth Ave.—314 to 318 Diamond St.  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

# GRAND HOLIDAY OPENING Breakey's Racket Store Saturday, November 27th, 1909

## SANTA CLAUS

Has been to our store and made satisfactory arrangements by which we are to furnish all the good people of Reynoldsville and vicinity with his toys and gifts at the lowest possible fees. Santa's choicest Dolls, prettiest Books, dainty China and Glassware from his factory in Toyland, will be on display from November 27th until Christmas Eve at BREAKEY'S RACKET STORE.

DOLLS—All sorts, white, black, rag, kid, sleeping, talking dolls—boy, girl and clown dolls. 5c, 10c, up to price of the fine, fancy, life-like dolls. Every taste, every price is suited. \* Bring the little girls and let them look as long as they like. We have the Stuffed Monkeys that won't bite the girls and the Fur Kitten that pleases the baby. SLEDS, GO-CARTS and BUGGIES—Just what will please the boys and girls. Hobby-Horses for the little tots and Shoe Flies for the baby. Do you like a nice Christmas Tree? We have an unlimited supply of decorations—the finest in the market. All kinds of Rattles and Bell Toys to please baby. Building and A B C blocks, Drawing Slates, Paint Boxes and Kindergarten Helps. DRUMS—All prices, from the 10c toy up to the military. Mechanical Toys, Hill Climbers, Moving Trains of Cars, Switch Engines, Steam Engines and Railways. Beautiful line Xmas Story Books. GAMES—Crokinole Boards, Parchesi, Diabola, Bean Bag and a variety of card games. MUSIC TOPS TOY PIANOS, to make music for doll's party.

TOY FURNITURE—From upholstered parlor suites to the furnishings of Doll Kitchens. Stoves, Tables and Chairs. TRUNKS for Dolly to take a trip to visit friends. Toy Dishes, the kind that makes Dolly's table shine. FANCY GOODS—Toilet Cases, Work Boxes, Hand and Easel Mirrors and many other fancy articles that make a nice present for a friend. CHINA GOODS—Fancy Salads, Celery Trays, Cups and Saucers. A large variety at genuine bargain prices. Fancy Lamps, Lemonade and Wine Sets, and other articles in glassware useful and ornamental. IN JEWELRY we have some nice Rings, Beauty Pins, Cuff Buttons and Cuff Links. GLOVES, MITTENS and Handkerchiefs suitable for a present to a friend. STATIONERY—A nice box of paper will please your friend. You need but see our line of Holiday Postal Cards to select what your friends will like. Our line of staples are clean and up-to-date and at the lowest price considering quality.

## Come Early and Select the Articles You Wish

Remember, we will, upon a part payment hold the goods for you. Thanking our friends for their patronage in the past and requesting a continuance of it, we beg to state that our motto is, "Fair and impartial treatment for all." Come to headquarters for your Holiday Goods and you will be convinced we can furnish you just the kind of presents you are looking for at the lowest price.

## BREAKEY'S RACKET STORE

IN P. O. S. OF A. BUILDING.

REYNOLDSVILLE, PA.