

THE BEAUTY OF A SHIP.

Mrs. Stowe's Fascinating Description of a Vessel Under Sail.

Mrs. Stowe, in 'The Pearl of Orr's Island,' gives this fascinating description of a ship under sail. 'What is there belonging to this wondrous world of ours that has such a fund of never-fading poetry and grace as a ship? A ship is a beauty and a mystery wherever we see it. Its white wings touch the regions of the unknown and the imaginative. They seem to us full of the colors of quaint, strange, foreign shores where life, we fondly dream, moves in brighter currents than the muddy, tranquil tides of every day. Who that sees one bound outward, with her white breasts swelling and heaving, as if with a reaching expectancy, does not feel his own heart swell with a longing impulse to go with her to the far-off shores? Even at duty, crowded wharves, amid the stir and tumult of great cities, the coming in of a ship is an event that never can lose its interest. But on those romantic shores of Maine, where all is so wild and still and the blue sea lies embraced in the arms of dark, solitary forests, the sudden, incoming of a ship from a distant voyage is a sort of romance. Who that has stood by the blue waters of Middle Bay, enfolded as it is by green slopes of fanning land, interchanged here and there with heavy brows of forest trees or rocky, pine-crowned promontories, has not felt that sense of isolation and solitude which is so delightful? And then what a wonder! There comes a ship from China, drifting in like a white cloud, the gallant creature! How the waters hiss and foam before her! With what a great, free, generous splash she throws out her anchors, as if she said a cheerful 'Well done!' to some glowering and accomplished. The very life and spirit of strange, romantic legends come with her. Suggestions of sandalwood and spice breathe through the pine woods. She is an oriental queen, with garments full of mystical gifts. All her garments smell of myrrh and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, where she has made her glaze. No wonder that men have loved ships like birds and that there have been found brave, rough hearts that in fatal wrecks chose rather to go down with their ocean love than to leave her in the last throes of her death agony.'

JEFFERSON WAS THE MAN.

In Castall the Famous Actor Taken For the Original Old Rip.

Joseph Jefferson relates the following interesting incident: 'There is in the village of Castall a Rip Van Winkle club. The society did me the honor to invite me to act the character in their town,' said Mr. Jefferson. 'I accepted, and when I arrived was met by the president and other members of the club, among whom was young Nicholas Tvedder, who claimed to be a lineal descendant of the original Old Rip. I was taking a cup of tea at the table in the hall,' continued Mr. Jefferson, 'when I was attracted to the elegant waiter, who was giving a graphic and detailed account of the legends of the Catskill mountains to one of the boarders who sat nearly opposite me. 'Yes, sah,' said the waiter, 'Rip went up into de mountains, slep' for 20 years, and when he come back here in de berry town his own folks didn't know him. 'Why,' said his listener, 'you don't believe the story's true?' 'True? Oh course it is! Why, getting into de mountains,' said Jefferson, 'dat's de way.' 'When I got to de theater,' said Mr. Jefferson, resuming the story, 'I could scarcely get in, de crowd was so great about de door. During de scene in de last act, when Rip inquires of de innkeeper, 'Is this de village of Falling Water?' I altered de text and substituted de correct name, 'Is this de village of Castall?' The people in de crowded house almost seemed to hold their breath. 'The name of de village seemed to bring home de scene to every man, woman and child that was looking at it. From that time on de interest was at its height. Surely I had never seen so much of a scene struck with de play before. 'There was a reception held at de club after de play, and de president was so nervous dat he introduced me as Washington Irving.'—San Francisco Call.

MAYO AT REHEARSAL.

HOW THE FAMOUS ACTOR TRAINED THE MEMBERS OF HIS COMPANY.

His Fondness For 'Fudd'head Wilson,' Ambitious Attempts as a Manager While Failed, His Fascinating Penchant For Acting Was His Worst Fault. 'The late Frank Mayo, whose sudden death on a train near Omaha was such a painful shock to the whole dramatic profession, was one of the great managers of his time, not least for managers that it has ever been my pleasure to act under,' said Henry Davenport, one of the managers of the Girard Avenue theater of this city. 'He knew how a part should be played and insisted on the actor playing it in that way. It took \$50 rehearsal to perfect the role according to Mr. Mayo's ideas. Mr. Davenport created the role of Judge Driscoll in 'Fudd'head Wilson,' Mayo's last success, and played it during the New York run of the production. 'During the rehearsal preceding the first production of 'Fudd'head Wilson,' continued Mr. Davenport, 'Mr. Mayo acted every role in the play for the purpose of showing the members of the company how he wanted it played. He took infinite pains to see that every line was perfectly read, every accent properly placed, and every bit of business brought out clearly, actively and naturally. I would not have it understood that in this matter Mr. Mayo was a martinet or one who assumed to know it all. No one admired originality more than he. He liked to see an actor give his own conception of a part, but when this was done he demanded a reason for everything. 'This was one of his peculiar traits. If a member of the company made a gesture or a pause or emphasized a word in a new or original manner, Mr. Mayo would say, 'Now, why do you do that?' He would get to the bottom of the idea, and, if a good reason was advanced for it, it found ready acceptance. He was this way in everything. I remember that he taught me fencing when I was a mere boy, and in return I taught him what I knew about boxing. I usually boxed about one minute and explained 15. I would make a lead or a counter or a guard, and Mr. Mayo would say, 'Step, now. Why do you do that?' And when he was teaching me fencing he would make a thrust or a parry and then stop to say, 'Now, you see, I do this because, etc. 'But to come back to 'Fudd'head Wilson.' Mr. Mayo loved that play as he loved his children. I remember some time before the play was produced he became convinced that it needed pruning. 'Something had to be cut out, but he hadn't the heart to do it. So he went to my brother-in-law and said: 'Here is this play of mine. I know it needs cutting down, but I can't do it. It is almost as much to me as one of my children. I have gone over this line or line and said: 'I can't cut this out, nor this, nor this. I can't cut anything out. So I want some disinterested person to do it for me.' And when the play was produced, though he alone was responsible for the dramatization, he gave all the credit for the success to Mark Twain in an address he made before the curtain the first night. That was his nature. 'His great success was very gratifying to Mr. Mayo, and he deserved it. He wasted several fortunes in the effort to give the public first class productions of the classical drama, which they would not receive. Mayo's famous 'Forty' was one of the best equipped companies for the production of Shakespeare and other standard plays that ever left New York. We carried everything, even supper, but the people would have none of us. The same treatment was accorded Mr. Mayo's 'Nord-deck,' his adaptation of 'The Three Guardsmen' and several other classical efforts. But he rose superior to all these setbacks. It was hard that his life should end just as he was once more on the road to fortune. 'Mr. Mayo's county seat at Canton, Pa., adjoined that of my father. It was as his home that the noble man was seen at his best—and his worst. His worst consisted of a penchant for arguing. Mr. Mayo loved to argue, and he would never let up until you acknowledged yourself convinced or fell into silence in admiration of his earnestness, his sincerity and his marvelous command of language and voice. Mr. Mayo had on the grounds of his estate a little French chateau, which he bought at the Centennial exposition in this city. He used it for a study, and there he would sit until 9 o'clock at night, when he would suddenly remember that he ought to have supper and proceed slowly to the house. Most always he would find Mrs. Mayo, my mother, his daughter, now Mrs. Elverson, and myself engaged in a game of whist. Mr. Mayo would enter the room slowly and take a position behind his daughter's chair. Finally she would make a play which her father didn't think was good, and he would break in with, 'Now, Nellie, why did you play that card?' The game would end soon after that, for Mr. Mayo would insist upon arguing the point with Nellie and kill the interest in the game at once. 'Mr. Mayo once told me that he had discovered the secret of true elocution. You must emphasize only those words which could be left out of a sentence without destroying the sense, he argued. Thus, in the sentence, 'Get thee behind me, Satan,' he maintained that 'thee' and 'me' were the words that stress should be laid upon. Manifestly that was wrong, though up to a certain point his theory was correct. But I didn't attempt to argue the point with him. When acting, he was always trying new readings of lines, and we never knew when he was going to spring a new emphasis upon us. He was a lovable friend, an efficient manager and a brilliant actor. To work with him was a pleasure.'—Philadelphia North American.

A SWIFT AT FIGURES.

EDUCATIONAL CIRCLES EXCITED OVER LIGHTNING ARITHMETIC.

An Ohio Man Has a System Which He Thinks Should Be Taught in the Schools. He Gives a Newspaper Man Some Illustrations of His Method. Educational circles are in a pitch of excitement over the introduction in the public schools of Chicago of a system of instruction in what may be termed lightning arithmetic. Many of those interested maintain that the proposition is impracticable on the theory that only such persons as have natural arithmetical genius can be able to use to advantage any sort of rapid calculation. The incident and the attending interest led a representative to make some inquiry into whether or not there is any movement to introduce the new system into the schools of not a little discussion among the teachers of the city, no steps have as yet been taken. One of the most interested in this city is Mr. O. D. Hinkle, who is connected with the M. G. Lilly company. Mr. Hinkle has been in the mercantile business for a number of years, and has been regarded as one of the most rapid calculators in the state. His work has not been on the fancy order, but straightforward use of rapid methods in practical business. Having seen Mr. Hinkle add, subtract, divide and multiply long lists of figures in killing out goods of all sorts as fast as his assistant could call them off to him, and in 500 pages of ledger accounts having made not one single mistake, The Dispatch was interested to know whether the system mentioned in Chicago was related in any way to that which he used. Mr. Hinkle was found most enthusiastically interested in the method, and quickly reappeared, upon being asked, that the supposed new system was essentially the same that he has been using for 25 years. Indeed, Mr. Hinkle has been for a number of years thinking seriously of making an effort to put the method of his school into a part of the course of instruction. Speaking of the new method, Mr. Hinkle said: 'Is the system sound? Is it practical? Yes, most emphatically to both questions. It is natural computation, and it is just as easy to teach a child or grown person the relationship of numbers as it is to teach them the relationship of the parts of a tree or of the family of figures, and it is just as easy and natural to teach a child that 25 per cent of any amount is one-fourth of it, because 25 is one-fourth of 100, as it is to teach him that that old gentleman is his grandfather because he is his mother's father, or that 13 1/2 is one-eighth of 100, as it is to teach him that the curly head over there is his cousin because he is his father's brother's child. 'I'll give you some examples in short mental arithmetic for a change. Say you buy 80 yards of carpet at 62 1/2 cents; 62 1/2 cents is five-eighths of 100; five-eighths of 80 is \$60. Easy number. Take an odd one. Say 86 yards at 52 1/2 cents; five-eighths of 80 is \$60; add three times 62 1/2 cents, which is \$11.87 1/2; total, \$61.87 1/2. Say you buy 167 yards of dress goods at 31 1/2 cents; 25 cents is one-third of 100; one-third of 167 is \$55.66 2/3. Say you sell 350 pounds of wool at 10 1/2 cents; 10 1/2 is one-sixth of 100; one-sixth of 350 is \$58.33 1/3. Say you buy 100 bushels of potatoes at 50 cents, \$50. Easy, isn't it? But if there were 99 bushels at 49 cents you couldn't do it so easily, and yet it is no harder. If you only know it. Say 99 times 50 is \$49.50, less one cent, which is \$48.51, and it is no more difficult than 100 times 50. 'Almost every child can do multiplications up to 12, but how many older people can go higher than 12 easily? Yet it is easy to go to 600 if he is a quick adder. I think my rule for squaring large numbers is simpler than Mr. Spenser's way of doing it. For example, starts at 12. Twelve times 12 is 144. To get the square of 18, add 18 and 13 to square of 12, 18 plus 13 makes 31, 25 to 144 is 169. Square of 14—14 plus 13 equals 27; add to 144, makes 169. To square 15—15 plus 14 equals 29, added to 169 is 225. The square of 20 is 3,500. To get square of 51—51 plus 50 equals 101, added to 2,500 equals 2,601. Subtract from 2,500 is 2,401. The square of 100 is 10,000. To get square of 101—100 plus 100 equals 199; subtract from 10,000 equals 9,801. To square 101—101 plus 100 equals 201, added to 10,000 equals 10,201. 'This may look hard to some, but when one has been drilled in multiplying larger numbers mentally it is as easy as falling off a horse. Some will complain that I have no right to say in 80 yards of carpet at 62 1/2 cents five-eighths of 80 is \$60; that I don't point off according to rules. Well, that's just what I don't want to do, that is where time is lost. With the drilling which a pupil would get prior to doing this work, one of the important things taught him would be to know that 80 yards at 62 1/2 cents would be \$60, and not \$5 or \$50 or \$5,000, which often occurs with pupils who use the old rules for pointing off. One is mechanical and liable to disastrous blunders; the other has become intuitive from good drilling, and is a sane thing always. There are legends of doubling the sum of the most of whom will not look into this closely enough to understand it, who will advance all kinds of arguments against it. One of the first arguments will be that it would be easy enough if people would buy and sell everything in quantities and at prices that were fractional parts of 100.'—Columbus (O.) Dispatch.

One's First Salmon Is an Event.

On a way into the more remote interior.

One's first salmon is an event. I got mine all alone. It was on the Dungarvon, on my way into the more remote interior. In a clear pool we could see the green backs of the fish, big and little, but they were not after our fish. The others went up the stream a considerable distance, and I remained by the pool. It made two men to land a salmon. Presently I began idly casting, just to try my new 18 foot rod, and the first thing I knew a fish was hooked. He galloped around that pool, jumping out, darting back and forth, and I was pretty tired. I had no landing net or gaff, but there was a smooth gravel bar 40 rods below. Then I took the unfortunate fish down there, got him headed for shore and ran straight back on the bar. Out he came, flopping somewhat on the gravel. The gut leader broke, but I threw away the rest of that salmon and clasped my arms around him. He was slippery and strong, and I could not hold him. Finally I got my fingers in his gills, reached for a stone and gave him three or four mercuric whacks over the head. Then he had him. I was a sight to behold, wet and testered with that salmon skin, but I was too weak as well as too nearly out of breath for words.—Frederic Irland in Scribner's.

The Englishman Abroad.

It is astonishing to note with what

It is astonishing to note with what tenacity English travelers on the continent maintain English habits, however unbecoming they may be to their surroundings. Under the broiling sun of Italy or Spain we find English travelers asking for a grilled steak or roast beef. Of course the steak is tough, tasteless and indigestible, the 'roast' raw in the center, though burned outside, thereby constituting the most unwholesome article of diet that could be taken under the circumstances. Then the Englishman will pay 1s. 3d. for a 4d. bottle of English ale, which is far too heavy and alcoholic for the climate, instead of drinking the pure wine of the country that is supplied without stint and gratuitously at all meals. These British peculiarities have done much to destroy the advantages of foreign travel and to render the better known hotels, which are frequented by English families, as expensive as the hotels in England. The experienced continental traveler who has learned to do at Rome as the Romans do very carefully avoids the hotels frequented by the English. He is consequently treated with much greater civility, is fed on dishes which the natives know how to cook and which the experience of centuries has provided to be better suited to the climate and economical something like 50 per cent on the cost of living. On the other hand, he may have to content himself with a very small washing basin—the introduction of English habits in the matter of personal ablution is such needless—and the drainage of the hotels may leave much to be desired. Nevertheless, even in this last particular he is consequently treated with much greater civility, is fed on dishes which the natives know how to cook and which the experience of centuries has provided to be better suited to the climate and economical something like 50 per cent on the cost of living. 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