

HOKE SMITH'S STARE.

It Soon Makes the Unwelcome Visitor Uncomfortable.

How Mr. Cleveland's Secretary of the Interior Subdues and Humiliates Urgent Beggars for the Spots of Office.

The term "Hoke Smith stare" has got to be the familiar designation of a certain expression of countenance with which congressmen have become acquainted through frequent visits to the interior department. Hoke Smith stands next to Mr. Bissell in the number of callers he receives each day and he has a most expeditious way of getting through his business. He has a way of greeting his visitors with a smile, giving them the benefit of the doubt until he knows they are going to bore him. Then he hastens to find out what their business is and to dispose of it as speedily as possible, says the Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser. By being smiling and courteous on the start he opens the way to get through the business without loss of time in suavity during the rest of the interview. If the case in hand proves to be one he does not desire to devote any of his valuable time to, the stare follows quickly in the wake of a smile, and the individual stared at soon acquires an uncomfortable feeling which hastens his departure. If the matters being pressed by the visitor are of a character to command attention, the stare is later in its arrival, but in nine cases out of ten it comes sooner or later during the interview. The stare has individuality, but no character whatever, for it is a mere concentration of expressionlessness. The only qualities it has are penetration and steadfastness. Yes, one other quality, novelty. It is the obliteration of expression and an exodus of intelligence. It indicates an absolute done-ness. It is painful and gives the impression of a demand or an appeal for something to be done. The only time I ever saw anything like it on another countenance than Hoke Smith's was in traveling through the south.

An old dandy, as black as coal, with white hair and sparse white whiskers on his chin, in the threadbare broad-cloth of a house servant of yore befo' the war, and a high hat of the block of forty years ago, stood looking into the windows of a Fallman while the train waited for half an hour at a junction. There were fifty young darkeys begging and selling berries or dancing for money. They were male



SECRETARY HOKE SMITH.

and female, half-clad brethren, and the most impudent set the holder of a copper ever came across. But the old man stood apart from the rest and they kept from him a respectful distance. His dignity was impenetrable. He was too proud to beg. He just stood there and stared. For twenty minutes his face never changed expression, or, rather, never acquired any expression. He just looked and looked and looked away through that coach of comfort to the traveler until every one in the car began to fidget about and to wonder what he wanted them to do. The stare told them that there was something wrong about them individually and collectively. It was the "Hoke Smith stare," or it was from that dandy that Hoke got it. They are the only two who can get it off. One man breaking the spell by the donation of a dime, that old dandy about cleaned up the small change in the car without saying a word or indicating in any ordinary way that he wanted aid. Hoke Smith with the same stare cleared out his room without giving other indication that he would like his visitors to hurry.

A Well-Balanced Head.
Jacob Myers, who was last heard of on the Pacific coast, delights in sealing dizzy heights and performing all sorts of foolhardy tricks. His wonderful feat on the electric light tower at Tip-top, Idaho, is still remembered by most of the people of Cedar county, if not of the entire state. The tower is a pointed affair, 120 feet high, with an iron rod an inch in diameter extending 7 feet above the platform. Myers mounted this tower and stood upright on one foot upon the rod for twenty-one seconds. W. B. Barber, a photographer of Fortuna, Cal., has a photograph of Myers dancing a jig on the saved-off top of a redwood 173 feet from the ground.

The Austro-Hungarian Crown.
The Hungarian crown worn at their accession by the emperors of Austria as kings of Hungary is the identical one made for Stephen and used at his coronation over 800 years ago. The whole is of pure gold (except the settings), and weighs nine marks six ounces (almost exactly 14 pounds). The settings above alluded to consist of 53 sapphires, 50 rubies, 1 emerald and 338 pearls. It will be noticed that there are no diamonds among these precious adornments. This is accounted for by the oft-quoted story of Stephen's aversion to such gems because he considered them "unlucky."

The Mighty Kennebec.
The people of Maine contend that the Kennebec pours into the sea a greater volume of water than any other river on the Atlantic or gulf coast from the St. John to the Mississippi.

CRIME AND CRIMINALS.

SOCRATES was tried and put to death for disbelief in the national religion. The average cost of criminal prosecutions in England at present is £33 each.

THE ROMANS had a jury system, the jury being drawn from the roll of citizens.

THERE are over 5,000 assassinations or attempts at murder every year in Italy.

OVER 68 per cent. of the whole number of English criminals are unable to read.

CAPITAL punishment was abolished in Switzerland in 1874 and restored in 1879.

IN 1881 there were 126 convictions for murder in France and but four executions.

CHILDLESS and unmarried men form 75 per cent. of all the criminals of France.

HANGING in chains was abolished, with many other cruel punishments, in 1854.

ITALY has the greatest proportion of criminals, 5,140, to the million of population.

IRELAND has the least proportion of criminals to the million of population, 350.

IN 1831 the British parliament passed an act punishing poisoners by boiling to death.

UNTIL 1838 an English murderer was hanged on the second day after his conviction.

ONLY 3 per cent. of the murderers of this country have received a higher education.

NINE women were legally executed for murder in England in the ten years ending 1888.

FAMOUS AMERICANS.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND never wears gloves, whether the weather be cold or warm.

VICE PRESIDENT STEVENSON follows the example of the president and pays his hotel and railroad bills wherever he goes.

N. C. CREEDIE, the founder of Creede, Cal., has taken up his residence in Los Angeles, Cal., and bought a residence there for forty thousand dollars. Having amassed a fortune he will devote the rest of his life to taking care of his health.

It is rumored in New York that Miss Helen Gould, eldest daughter of the late financier, is planning the erection of a hospital for women. Miss Gould is probably the richest heiress in America, her fortune being estimated at from ten to fifteen million dollars.

GEORGE VANDERBILT'S purchase of the Paul Cameron estate near Asheville, N. C., for seventy-five thousand dollars, it is thought, will make him the largest land owner in the state. This property is in the immediate vicinity of his great chateau and hunting preserves.

SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS.

By mixing a saturated solution of carbonyl of soda with ordinary carmine ink, red lines may be successfully drawn on blue prints.

On a clear day an object raised one foot above a level can be seen 1.31 miles; one ten feet high, 4.15 miles; one twenty feet high, 5.89 miles; one 100 feet high, 13.1 miles; and one a mile high (as the top of a mountain), almost 95 miles.

The convex side of a watch-glass upon water so as to leave a drop hanging on the glass. Pour a little ether into the concave side and blow upon it. The rapid evaporation of the ether will render the glass so cold that the drop of water will be frozen.

ENTIRE combustion of smoke is secured by a German invention by an entirely new process. The coal is pulverized by machinery and injected into the furnace by an automatically regulated current of air. The carbon is said to be entirely consumed and there is no smoke and no ash. Besides, the fire is under complete control and can be instantly started or cut off.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

It is said that there have been two hundred Christian martyrs in Uganda since the entrance of Protestant missions into that country.

At a recent convention of the synod of China the question of Presbyterian union was thoroughly discussed, and the outlook is said to be hopeful.

The synodical missionaries of the Presbyterian church complain of the lack of well-educated, self-denying and devoted men to preach the Gospel in the southwestern territories and states.

MISS MELTON, a Presbyterian missionary at Mosul, was recently attacked by fanatic Moslems and narrowly escaped death. The Turkish government has promised to punish the assassins.

The Free Church of Scotland claims a total of nine hundred and seventy-five mission workers, Scotch and native, and last year the home contributions amounted to three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

FOR THE HOME NURSE.

ONLY bright, happy, healthy subjects should be discussed in the hearing of a sick or ailing person.

DISTRESSING vomiting may be relieved by applying to the stomach a hot shingle or woolen pad brought from the oven.

The quickest way to treat a burn or scald is to cover it with cotton oil and flour and bandage with linen. In case of prostration from either accident administer a mild stimulant.

WHEN a delicate person is fatigued and has no appetite sponging the body with bathing whisky, diluted alcohol or milk will nourish the system and produce rest or refreshing sleep.

A BUG in the ear may be drowned out with a little warm water. Apply with a sponge or syringe, and after each injection incline the head with jerk so as to dislodge the contents of the cavity.

Why It Was Cheap.

"This is as good lemonade as I want," said the economical citizen from the outskirts, smacking his lips and setting the glass down. "The boy on the other side of the street is selling his lemonade at five cents and this doesn't look any better than yours. I don't see how you can afford it."

"I'm gittin' de trade, ain't I?" said the youthful merchant on Stony Island avenue, with a scowl at his rival across the way.

"Yes, you seem to be doing a good deal better business than he is."

"Betcher life I am! His pup fell in my lemonade tub awhile ago, and I'm gittin' even wid him."—Chicago Tribune.

Traveled Incoog.
First American—Have a good time abroad?

Second American—Fine. I traveled incoog. Went where I pleased and escaped the vulgar curiosity of the gaping crowd.

"Eh? How did you travel?"

"Incoogito, I said. I didn't let 'em know. I was a rich American. Just pretended I wasn't anybody but an ordinary English lord."—N. Y. Weekly.

HEROIC TREATMENT.



Dawson—I shall die if I'm not soon relieved of these hiccoogs. Do something to frighten me.

Mrs. Dawson—Booh! Scat! There's a snake under the chair! There's a mouse!

Dawson (in disgust)—Oh, pshaw! That sort of thing wouldn't frighten a baby.



Mrs. Dawson—Well, here's the bill from the dressmaker, for my new fall dresses!

Dawson (as he recovers from the shock)—Thanks, dear; they're gone!—Puck.

Disenchantment.
She climbed upon a street car
And seemed surpassing sweet
To everybody till she'd stepped
On everybody's feet.
—Detroit Tribune.

Cruelty to a Boy.
Little Boy—Sister isn't sisterly a bit. She don't care how much she makes me suffer.

Auntie—Why, what has she done?
Little Boy—I was awful hungry at breakfast, and enjoyin' my oatmeal like everything, and she went and told me it was scorchid, and after that I'd tasted horrid. If she'd go to Sunday-school reg'lar, maybe she'd get kind enough not to tell me till I was through.—Good News.

Matrimonial Item.
Mr. Morris Parke—How are you and your wife coming on?
Mr. Westside—I can't stand it much longer. She is the boss.

"Well, my wife only demands three things."
"What are they?"
"She insists on having the money, the latchkey and the last word."—Texas Sittings.

A Nearer Relation.
Teddy—Mamma dear, what relation is my new papa going to be to me?
Mamma—He is going to be a good stepfather to you, dear.

Teddy—And are you going to be a step nearer, mamma?
Mamma—Yes, darling. —Harper's Young People.

A Matter of Etiquette.
"Hicks is crazy about etiquette. He saw in the paper the other day that in the best circles the wife ladies out the soup, and he has consequently given up soup."
"Why?"
"He has no wife."—Harper's Bazar.

Solitary Bliss.
First Little Girl—We went to the picnic, and you wasn't even invited.
Second Little Girl—No, but mamma gave me a whole lot of money to buy candy, and cake, and ice-cream, and 'emonaide for myself, and I'll bet I was sicker'n you were.—Good News.

A Parent's Hope.
"What's papa's boy going to be when he grows up?"
"Policeman."
"And what'll he do when he's a great big policeman?"
"Club the stuffin' out of papa."—Texas Sittings.

Carried It a Long Time.
Hotel Clerk—Your face looks familiar, sir.
Uncle Humsted—Likely 'nough, young man. It's the only one I ever had.—Truth.

A Conclusion.
Mr. J. Howard Bragg—Yes, I told him to his face he lied.
She—Did you? Why, I had no idea there was that much difference in your sizes.—Life.

Break It to Him Gently.
The baggage-smasher's joy is gone;
His occupation's sadly shrunk—
A Boston man has patented
A non-resisting rubber trunk.
—Detroit Tribune.

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MISSING LINKS.

A MAN in Wisconsin is the possessor of a curiosity in the shape of a horned hog.

It is estimated that last year 1,285,000,000 bananas were consumed in the United States alone.

THE United States has a lower percentage of blind people than any other country in the world.

NORTHAMPTON (England) people consider it an omen of misfortune if three butterflies are seen together.

FEMALE spiders are much larger and more ferocious than the males, and generally devour their husbands.

THE Lacrymæ Christi is a Portuguese wine made from the juice which first flows without pressure from the grapes.

THERE is a haunted tree at North Searport, Me., which shelters a spot where a murder had been committed. Moss has formed the initials "W. B." on the bark.

IN Westphalia and Saxony the unfortunate mortals who happen to be beaten with a broomstick firmly believe themselves doomed to die of consumption.

THROUGH EUROPE.
SINCE the beginning of the century France has fallen from the second to the fourth place in point of population among European countries.

THE Greek style of building, modified to modern needs, has been most successfully used in Paris, where many palaces are seen of this construction.

LAW in England provides that no person under eighteen years shall be employed about a shop for more than seventy-four hours, including meal times, in any one week.

ACCORDING to the method which is now adopted for reckoning leap years in England December, January and February will be the summer months about 720,000 years hence.

DUELING in Russia has become so common that the government has just decreed a severe code of punishment. Killing an antagonist will cost six years in prison; severe wounding, three years; duel without injury, six months; provoking a duel, six weeks to three months.

PEOPLE ACROSS THE SEA.
JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN expects to visit America again this fall.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S rheumatism is still so acute that he is unable to leave Kissingen.

M. CHAUVIN, the barber of the Theatre Francaise, has been elected to the French assembly by a close shave.

QUEEN VICTORIA is said to be a skillful knitter, and works at it indefatigably. She has knitted, with her ladies, many quilts for the use of the wounded in hospitals during the campaigns of the British forces.

Mrs. GRADSTONE astonished some of his auditors in the house of commons the other night by using the word "gumption," yet who could employ it more appropriately, seeing how much of the quality the G. O. M. possesses himself?

Discouraging.
"How are you getting along with that red-headed wife of yours?" asked Gus De Smith of an intimate friend.
"My wife gives me a heap of trouble. After we have a row and just get through having a monkey and parrot time of it she doesn't give me any piece or quiet until we have started a fresh fuss."—Texas Sittings.

Making It Clear.
Livingston—I didn't know that you and Miss Featherspray were so well acquainted.
Nina—Oh, yes; we are distantly related.
Livingston—How?
Nina—We are both sisters to the same young man.—Vogue.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

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Biliousness, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Diseases of the Kidneys, Torpid Liver, Rheumatism, Dizziness, Sick Headache, Loss of Appetite, Jaundice, Eruptions and Skin Diseases.
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Every Variety.
Best Material.
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NOVELTIES, TOYS, Etc.,
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If you SUFFER FROM HEADACHE, DYSPEPSIA or INDIGESTION, Take RIPANS TABULES
If you are BILIOUS, CONSTIPATED, or have a DISORDERED LIVER, Take RIPANS TABULES
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For OFFENSIVE BREATH and all DISORDERS OF THE STOMACH, Take RIPANS TABULES
Ripans Tabules act gently but promptly upon the liver, stomach and intestines; cleanse the system effectually; cure dyspepsia, habitual constipation, offensive breath and headache. One TABULE taken at the first indication of indigestion, biliousness, dizziness, distress after eating or depression of spirits, will surely and quickly remove the whole difficulty.
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