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FREELAND, PA., JANUARY 28, 1897.

A most unlucky farmer lives in northern Wisconsin. A neighbor set a number of wolf traps around his farm, and while the farmer in question was hunting rabbits, after the first snowfall of the season, he tripped and fell directly on one of the traps. He put out his hand as he fell, and it was caught in the powerful trap. The place was in a valley, nearly half a mile from any house, and after vain efforts to make himself heard and unsuccessful attempts to raise the spring he fired his shotgun until every load was exhausted. This brought help, but before the neighbors arrived he had fainted from the pain. When released he declared that he would never set a trap for any animal so long as he lived.

There is a man living north of Tower, Minn., who is said to employ the Indians of that region to kill partridges. He is known thereabouts as "the Partridge King," since he takes contracts to supply partridges by the thousand. Two contracts for 10,000 and another for 8,000 birds were made and fulfilled recently. Minnesota has a nonexport law, and how the birds are disposed of is a question sportsmen have asked the state game protector to look up. It is believed that the birds go to Chicago.

A McKinley man in Cleveland wagered with a Bryan man $100 to a cent that New York would give over 150,000 plurality for the republican candidate. A condition of this apparently great odds was that if the McKinley man won he should receive an additional cent for every vote in the plurality above 150,000. McKinley's plurality in New York was over 266,000. The man who had offered the odds of $100 to a cent therefore wins by the terms of his wager $1,160.

A recent decision in Pennsylvania is quoted on the following circumstances: A passenger standing on the platform of a street car was requested by the conductor to go inside, there being seats vacant at the time, but he refused to do so on the ground that he was not going far enough to make it worth while, and the car was stopped and he was ejected. Held, that the rule was a reasonable one and the ejected passenger had no ground for action.

Many Berrien county (Mich.) farmers say they have so much corn they hardly know what to do with it, their cribs being full to overflowing, and the husking still going on. The grain is dry and in admirable condition to crib, and the ears are notably large and perfect. It is generally conceded to be the largest and most perfect corn crop ever grown in Berrien county since its settlement.

Oddities and singularities of behavior may attend genius. When they do they are its misfortunes and its blemishes. The man of true genius will be ashamed of them; at least, he will never affect to distinguish himself by whimsical peculiarities.

A woman at the Brooklyn meeting of the Brooklyn Health Culture club said: "This crusade for short skirts is only a fad. It won't last, for women haven't enough courage to follow any style but the prevailing one." She is undoubtedly right.

There is much truth in the assertion that the young man who is anxious to lay the world at the feet of the girl he adores, three months after he marries her isn't willing even to lay the carpet.

Milk tickets have been denounced as carriers of diphtheria by the health officer of South Bend, Ind., where a number of cases of the disease were traced to a patient in the milk peddler's family.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, January 25, 1897.

Senator Morgan has not at any time been over friendly towards the arbitration treaty, and since the Nicaragua canal bill, of which he was an ardent supporter, was given its death-blow by the notice from the minister of the Greater Republic of Central America that Nicaragua, which is a part of that republic, would not allow the concession granted to the canal company to be controlled by the United States, as proposed in the bill, but would be willing to open negotiations on the subject with this government direct, he seems disposed to even up things with England by trying to defeat the arbitration treaty. Senator Morgan says that England is merely making a catspaw out of those little Central American governments, and that one of its reasons for wanting that enforced is to get a hand in the control of the Nicaragua canal. This it would do, if the arbitration treaty were in force, by getting up a dispute with us over the canal and then referring it to arbitration, with the certainty that King Oscar, of Sweden, would name an umpire who would decide in England's favor. Senator Morgan is fighting mad about it, and it isn't going to help the arbitration treaty any.

Senator Gray, of Delaware, will this week present the credentials of Mr. Kenney, who was last week elected senator by the legislature, and whose credentials are properly certified by the governor of that state. A hard fight is going to be made by the Republicans to keep Mr. Kenney out of his seat. Inasmuch as Mr. Kenney, who is a Silver Democrat, will receive the support of all the Silver senators, it is expected that the Republicans will devote their efforts to trying to stave off a vote until after the fourth of March, when they will be stronger in the senate. It is said that "Little Billee" Chandler's scheme of reopening the Dupont application will be abandoned because of the refusal of some of the Republican senators to support it, and that instead the claim of the gas millionaire, Addicks, which has already been presented to the senate by Chandler, will be urged against that of Senator-elect Kenney. Addicks has got plenty of money and if there are any votes in the senate that can be bought he is willing to spend it.

Miss Maud Stalnaker, a young lady of Washington, D. C., was recently an applicant for a position under the civil service rules, and passed probably the most difficult examination that has ever been prepared by the civil service commission. She was the only one who was able to pass the examination, but the war department refuses to appoint her to the vacant clerkship on the ground that she is a woman. The examination required translation into English of technical military works in French, German, Spanish and Italian; typewriting in all of these languages, and ability to do proof-reading and prepare manuscript for the press; a knowledge of modern library methods, cataloguing, indexing and of the English language and literary composition. The salary of the position demanding all these requirements is $1,500 a year.

Senator Turpie called up the Cameron Cuban resolution and made a spirited speech thereon, in which he made it plain that while he was just as strongly in favor of the independence of Cuba as ever, he was even more strongly in favor of action which would declare the senate to be independent of executive authority.

Representative Grosvenor, of Ohio, has alarmed those who are interested in his welfare by stating on the floor of the house that he was not McKinley's representative and could not speak for him. As modesty has never been a part of Grosvenor's make-up, it is feared that his mental faculties are getting disordered. S.

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TATTOOED AND THEN JILTED.

He Suffered Tortures in Order to Gain the Object of His Choice.

John Howard, a Nantucket whaler, has been the victim of a love affair as grotesque as any that could be imagined.

Howard was the son of a Methodist minister, of Massachusetts. He was a wild boy, and after many scrapes ran off and went to sea.

The ship called at the island at Nukahiva, in the Marquesas group, to take in fresh water. Howard was sent ashore, and was captured by the natives, who somehow regarded Howard with sacred interest. The venerable chief of the tribe and his pretty daughter, Taptathui, made much of the young white man, and hence he became the most honored man of the tribe, especially chosen to communicate the will of the tribe's god. Wealth and honors were showered upon him. Taptathui taught him the native language.

By this time Taptathui had gained possession of his heart. He wanted to marry her. At last she consented, on one condition—that he should be tattooed like all the men of the tribe.

To that Howard readily consented, little dreaming of the torture he was to undergo.

Howard was a far different man in apearance than when he first landed on the island. Figures and designs in narrow bands were tattooed diagonally across his face in different colors.

When it was all done Howard was ready to claim his bride. With his decorated body he called at the priest's temple, but the priest waved him aside.

"You have deceived us once," he said. "You have cast ridicule on our god, and it would be blasphemy to let you take the fairest of the god's attendants for your wife."

"You, too," added Taptathui, "have brought famine to our valley. Your race has brought pestilence among us. You white men are deceivers, and besides, any man who would become so subservient to a woman as to consent to undergo the tortures you did while you were being tattooed would not make a fit husband for the daughter of the ruler of the Typees."—New York Journal.

FORT BLUNDER.

Built by Mistake on Canadian Land and Thus Won its Name.

General Miles has recently recommended the fortifying of a number of our seaports and the enlargement of some of the posts along our frontier. One of these is Fort Montgomery, that stands at the outlet of Lake Champlain. The mentioning of this long-forgotten old fort recalls a queer fact connected with its beginning, and long ago forgotten. In 1841 it was decided to build a large post at the entrance to Lake Champlain, and work was begun on Fort Montgomery, as it was called. After a good deal of work had been done it was found that the walls of the fort were over the line dividing the United States from Canada. Work was stopped and a survey made, and part of the work was torn down. Later on it was ascertained that part of the walls of the post were still over the dividing line. An agreement was made with the English Government which gave to the United States that part built upon, and the outline of the old fort was completed, but as these mistakes had caused so much trouble the post was nicknamed "Fort Blunder." Work was stopped on the old post at the breaking out of the late war, and since that time it has been under the charge of an ordnance sergeant.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Some Quibbles of Our Laws.

Why ten-pins? It was originally played with nine, and known as nine-pins, but the Legislature prohibited the vicious game of nine-pins, and the Yankees added a pin.

One or two interesting quibbles have come to this chair through the law journals.

One of them illustrates the small estimation in which dogs are held.

In West Virginia, where it is not larceny to take a dog, a dogtaker was indicted for stealing the chain to which the dog was fastened. The defendant pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to 100 seconds in jail.

In states where it is not larceny to abstract a promissory note, it may be petty larceny to abstract the paper on which it was written.

That was a very serious quibble by which the New Hampshire court, after a defendant had been acquitted on a charge of murder as principal, indicted, convicted and hanged him on a charge of being accessory before the fact.—Green Bag.

"Poor Richard's" Wisdom.

Get what you can, and what you get hold;
God helps them that help themselves.
'Tis the stone that will turn all your lead into gold.
Employ thy time well, if thou meanest to gain leisure.
If you would be wealthy, think of saving as well as getting.
Diligence is the mother of good luck, and God gives all things to industry.
Always taking out of the meal tub, and never putting in, soon comes to the bottom.
And, when you have got the philosopher's stone, sure you will no longer complain of bad times or the difficulty of paying taxes.

Gastronomic Distinction.

"Gimme a piece of apple-pie, quick!" said a traveller at an American restaurant. "Chicago or Boston?" asked the waiter. "What do you mean?" inquired the traveller. "Knife or fork?" answered the waiter.

And They Did.

"Those revenue detectives," said the old moonshiner's daughter,
As she saw them go toward her papa's still,
Where it nestled in the moonlight, by the rippling, rolling water,
Just without the somber shadow of the hill,
"Remind me of Al Raschid, the Caliph old, returning
From his travels in disguise, his chiefest fad,
Because," her cheek with shame at such a break outrageous burning,
"They certainly are going to Bagdad."
—N. O. Times-Democrat.

Merely Guesswork.

The patient was very low and seemed oblivious to all that was going on in the room; but you can't always tell about patients. Sometimes they are very deceptive.

"Doctor," said the trained nurse who was watching by the bedside and was of an inquiring turn of mind, "is medicine considered one of the exact sciences?"

"No," murmured the patient, feebly, before the doctor had a chance to reply. "It's guesswork and experiment. I guess I know."—Chicago Post.

Case Dismissed.

"I charge this man with arson," shouted the excited fat man to the surprised court.

"That's a very grave charge, sir. What evidence have you?"

"Plenty of it, your honor; plenty of it. He fired me bodily down two flights of stairs and out of the building."

"He may have fired you, but you admit his putting you out. Next!"—Detroit Free Press.

A Serious Drawback.

Hungry Dawson—By gee! I sometimes think our profession is jist about the meanest bisness goin'.

Hobo Hank—Huh! Wot's wrong wid it?

Hungry Dawson—Well, wen other fellers is abused, they kin strike; but, durn it all, the only way we could strike would be by goin' to work!—N. Y. Truth.

No Opinions.

Lawyer—Judging from your replies, you do not seem to have any opinions on any subject.

Passible Juror—No, sir; I ain't tried to have no opinion of my own for a good many years.

"Humph! How many years?"

"Oh, I dunno; ever since I married."—N. Y. Weekly.

George Tumbled.

"I don't see any mistletoe hanging in the old-time place," said George, reproachfully.

"Papa could not afford it this year," replied Grace, coyly; "but I've got the ribbon in my hair I used to hang the mistletoe up with."

George fell over himself.—N. Y. World.

The Horrid Brother.

Clara's little brother had heard the barber say something about her beau's beard being a la mode. Running in to her as she was seated with the family at the dinner table he exclaimed:

"Clare, it won't be fun for you to kiss Mr. Mouser any more, 'cause he's had his beard all mowed."—Boston Courier.

She Suspected It.

"Why, Mrs. Parvenu, this is unmistakably an old master," said the enthusiastic caller.

"That's just what I told John. I'll send it back to have it repainted and a new frame put on."—Detroit Free Press.

Surety.

"I do not doubt you," she slowly said,
"But I think it would be better,
To prove that you're in earnest now
To propose to me by letter."
—Bay City Chat.

WELL PUNISHED.

Minnie—Did you sing for Mr. Goodcatch last night, dear?

Winnie—Yes, love, for nearly an hour.

Minnie—Oh, I'm so glad, darling, I always detested that man.—N. Y. Herald.

Romance.

"Did you read about the man who put a love letter in a bottle and set it afloat?"

"No; who got it?"

"A milkman's daughter."—Chicago Record.

Warning Too Late.

She—You looked like a fool when you proposed to me.

He (gloomily)—Well, why didn't you tell me before it was too late?—Detroit Tribune.

In His Head.

Flossie—There's Gussie, he tells me he can carry immense sums in his head.

Maggie—Perhaps so, but he never carries them in his pocket.—Larks.

Retired.

"He used to be a common thief until he got rich and retired."

"What is he now?"

"A kleptomaniac."—N. Y. Truth.

The Best They Could Do.

She—Do you know, I really wish I had lived in the dark ages.

He—I can turn down the gas.—N. Y. Journal.

Terse.

He—Have you ever had your ears pierced?

She—No; but I have often had them bored.—Sketch.

STRANGELY WARNED.

The Supernatural Visitor that Saved Her from the Sting of a Cobra.

The following remarkable occurrence, an absolute fact, is related by a lady visiting friends in Hartford as it was told her by her cousin in Meerat, Northwestern India.

Her cousin, in whose house the occurrence took place, was seated at a lighted table engaged in reading, when, thinking it about time to retire, and happening to lift her eyes from her book, she was astonished to see seated in a chair before her, and between herself and the door to the bathroom a man, a stranger to her, who calmly regarded her.

It gradually dawned upon her that the figure was probably not that of a person of real flesh and blood, but a vision from the unseen world of life. She remembered having once, as a child, seen a similar figure, under circumstances which seemed to preclude the idea that it was any person still in the body. Concluding that this new visitor was not a person of flesh and blood, she sat silently gazing at the silent object, while the intruder, whoever or whatever he was, sat also in silence, steadily regarding her. Just how long this state of things lasted the lady did not accurately know, but it was probably not very long when the mysterious stranger began to vanish into a thinner and thinner personal presence, until in a moment or two he had vanished quite away.

It was the lady's hour for her evening bath, but she thought she would first let out her two pet dogs from their confinement in another room. They came barking furiously and running directly toward the bathroom. There, through the open door, the lady was horrified to see on the floor a monstrous cobra—the snake whose bite is certain and speedy death. Springing forward to save her dogs, she quickly shut the door, but not so instantaneously as to prevent her seeing the reptile turning and escaping down through a hole in the floor where the drain pipes of bathtub and washbowl went, a hole which had been carelessly left larger than was necessary.

If she had gone directly to the bathroom, as she would have done but for the intervention of her mysterious visitant, her life would undoubtedly have been sacrificed in the act.

Fine Cedar for Best Cigars.

"The spicy odor that you notice in the cigar box," said the tobacconist, "comes from the wood of which it is made. It is not because it is impregnated with the tobacco. On the contrary, the tobacco takes the flavor of the wood. That is the reason that a particular wood is used for the boxes of all the best cigars. It is Spanish cedar. It is an expensive wood, porous and spicy, and the only kind which has been found to improve the flavor of the cigar. Tobacco, as you know, quickly absorbs any odor with which it is brought in contact. Cigars packed in a cardboard box, or one made of deal, would soon become very unpleasant to the taste."

WIT AND HUMOR.

Customer—"Are those boots worth soling?"

Bootmaker (thoughtfully)—"Well—yes—the laces appear to be good."

Mildred—"I wouldn't marry the best man in the world!"

Mr. Suitor—"There is no danger, the bride never gets the best man."

Sappy—"I think I shall—aw—nevah have to stwuggle for gweatness. Aw, I was born gweat, doncher know?"

Crusty—"Great Scot! how you must have shrunk!"

Hoax—"Do you believe that thirteen is a fatal number?"

Joax—"Well, all the people who lived in the thirteenth century are dead."

"Harry, how is it your teacher tells me you are stupid?"

Harry—Well, papa, if little boys were not stupid teachers wouldn't have anything to do."

"Been writing?"

"Yes."

"Who to?"

"Oh, dear! Why don't you speak grammatically? The idea—'Who to'! You should say 'To whom to.'"

Bling Beggar—"Please give me a dime?" Old Wads—"I think you are a fraud. I don't believe you are blind at all." Blind Beggar—"If I wasn't do you think I'd stop such an old curmudgeon as you?"

"Did you hear of the snake up at the museum that was trying to get inside of itself?"

"Yes. They call him the dude anaconda, because he's such a swallow-tail."—Harper's Bazar.

Bertha—"Sometimes you appear really manly, and sometimes you are absolutely effeminate. How do you account for it?"

Harold—"I suppose it is hereditary. Half my ancestors were males and the other half females."

Mrs. Creegan—"And how is Tommy getting along at the school?"

Mrs. Shaughnessy—"Splendid. The teacher is that fond of him that she kapes him wid her half an hour after the other boys go home narely every day of the wake."—Boston Transcript

"Poor boy! your father disinherited you, I hear?"

"Yes. Dear old dad; he always looked after me."

"What do you mean?"

"Why, the old man died bend over heels in debt. All that went to my brothers."—Harper's Bazaar.

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