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A MOHAMMEDAN FUNERAL.

Ceremonies With Which a Body is Consigned to the Grave.

When the life of a Mohammedan is ebbing away a distinguished reader of the Koran is summoned to recite aloud its chapter on the resurrection, so that the spirit of the person, on hearing it, may have an easy death. The Mohammedan believes that the vital principles of the whole system are concentrated in the head, when death is the result. The watchers at the bedside also read some passages, and then a drink of sherbet is given to the patient to lessen the pangs of death. As soon as the spark of life has fled, the two great toes are tied together with a thin strip of cloth, the mouth is closed, and incense is burned near the body.

The interment follows a few hours after death. The "washers" are men and women who wash and shroud the body and dig a hole in the earth to hold the water, so that it cannot spread very much, as it is considered unlucky to tread on this water. The washing is a great ceremony, and when finished the body is shrouded with even more ceremony. If there is a widow of the deceased, she returns the dowry her husband had given her. If the deceased's mother is present, she says, "The milk with which I suckled thee I freely bestow upon thee." Thus she resigns the debt of the deceased to her. When flowers have been placed on the body it is carried to the grave on a bier or, if the relatives can afford it, in a coffin. At the grave four creeds are recited, and the body, with the head to the north and the face looking toward Mecca, is laid on its back in its tomb. The grave is about seven feet long for both sexes, but the depth for a man is measured by the distance between his feet and chest; for a woman, between her feet and waist. If the body is too long for the grave, it is believed that the deceased must have been a great sinner.

Before the body is covered the Mohammedan takes a little earth and, throwing it into the grave, says, "We created you of earth, and we return you to the earth, and we shall raise you out of the earth on the day of resurrection." Then a mound is built to keep the earth in the grave from crushing the body, and water is sprinkled on it in three lines. Special prayers for the safe voyage of the deceased are offered after the burial. As in the case of a Hindoo funeral, the poor are not forgotten, both remembering the needy by distributing money, salt, rice and wheat among them after the funeral.

The Prague Clock.

Since the middle of the fifteenth century the city of Prague has possessed a remarkable clock, the machinery of which is most complicated. The dial, which is between six and eight feet across, has a number of hands, which mark not only the minutes and the hours, but also the days, months, years and centuries. Of this clock a poet tells us:

At the left of the dial a skeleton stands,
And aloft hangs a musical bell in the tower,
Which he rings by a rope that he holds in his hands
In his punctual function of striking the hour.
But the funniest sight of the numerous sights
Which the clock has to show to the people below
Is the holy apostles, in tunics and tights,
Who revolve in a ring or proceed in a row.

Wonders About Skin Pores.

Each square inch of the human skin contains no less than 3,500 sweating tubes, or perspiration pores. Each of these tubes, although wonderfully minute, is about one-fourth of an inch in length. Each of these sweat tubes may be likened to a tiny drainpipe. We find that the average adult has about 2,000 square inches of skin on the surface of his body. Each square inch of this outer cuticle is, as we have said, literally permeated with its 3,500 quarter inch perspiration ditches. If we could put each of these little tubes end to end we would find that they would extend a distance of not less than 201,166 feet. Had you ever before stopped to consider the fact that the aggregate length of the tile ditches for draining the human body is almost forty miles?

Schliemann's Luck.

It is told of Schliemann, the exhumed of buried cities of the ancient world, that he was pursued by ill luck in his earlier undertakings. Mentioning the fact to a friend, the latter asked him which leg and arm he first inserted in trousers and coat. Schliemann said he habitually inserted the right. "That is the cause of your misfortunes," said his friend. "You have offended the left hand fairies, and they take out their vengeance on you. Reverse your habit and see." "And," said Schliemann in telling the incident in his later and prosperous years, "you see how it changed my luck."

Nicotiana Affinis.

Nicotiana affinis, the border flower, which opens about 6 o'clock and gives a powerful and pleasant fragrance during the night, takes its name from the botanical term for the tobacco plant, nicotiana, which was named in honor of John Nicot of Nismes, ambassador from the king of France to Portugal, who procured the first seeds from a Dutchman, who had them from Florida.

His Plans.

"Did the architect carry out your plans?"
"Guess he must have. I haven't been able to find any of them about the house."—Cleveland Leader.

We never see the target a man aims at in life; we see only the target he hits.—Jordan.

Cash, Coronets and Dan Cupid In Anna Gould's Case and Others



FRENCH CARICATURE OF COUNT BONI.

That after marriage her husband would settle down to a life of domesticity and quietude, her hopes have been disappointed, for in spite of repeated warnings from her he failed to conduct himself as she desired, and in consequence she recently left him and began proceedings in the French courts to obtain a separation.

The case of the Castellanes is by no means the only one of the kind. But a



COUNT DE CASTELLANE.

short time ago the marital troubles of the Count and Countess de Perigord were aired in the public press. The Countess de Perigord was Miss Helen Morton, and her father, Levi P. Morton, has been minister to France, vice president of the United States and governor of the state of New York. The marriage of Miss Morton to the scion of an ancient and noble French house was one of the chief matrimonial events of the autumn of 1901. The supposed happy pair went to France to live, and with Mr. Morton's money the count purchased the old Chateau de Valenay and assumed the title of Duc de Valenay, his bride becoming a duchess. But if ever true happiness was the lot of this presumably fortunate pair it was short-lived.

The Chateau de Valenay is said to have cost about \$600,000. The demands of the duke upon the fortune of his father-in-law caused the young wife much embarrassment, and finally she found life with him unbearable and returned to her father's home.

Another international match that turned out unhappily was that of Miss Sarah Phelps Stokes, daughter of Anson Phelps Stokes and heiress to \$10,000,000, who married in 1890 Baron Hugh Colin Gustave George Halkett, scion of a Scottish family dating back to the time when Scotland had its own kings and wars with England were the customary thing. She left him in 1898 and obtained a divorce on the ground of cruelty and unfaithfulness and testified in her suit that the baron had kicked her and otherwise subjected her to ill treatment.

The marriage of Miss Mary Wheeler, daughter of the late Charles Wheeler of Philadelphia, to Count Maximilian Pappenheim of Bavaria was a notable function of 1890. The couple were not happy, and three years after their marriage the countess secured a divorce.

On account of the prominence of the Gould family in this country the case

of the Countess Castellane has attracted a great deal of attention.

The count came to this country about a dozen years ago and at once began paying attentions to various members of the Newport set. He was rebuffed by Miss Virginia Fair, who later became Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and by Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt, who is now the Duchess of Marlborough. There were plenty of ambitious mammas who regarded the count and his title with favor, however, and on Christmas eve of 1894 he gave a party to which several members of the Gould family were invited. It was then that he first met Miss Anna, and he was not long in developing an admiration for the daughter of Jay Gould. The courtship was a brief one, and in about six weeks from the time of their first



COUNTRESS DE CASTELLANE.

meeting their engagement was announced. The marriage took place at the residence of the bride's oldest brother, George J. Gould, on Fifth avenue, on March 7, 1895, and the officiating clergyman was the late Archbishop Corrigan. There was also a civil ceremony before a judge. The wedding was one of the most imposing ceremonies of the kind ever witnessed in this country. As soon as the count and his bride reached Paris they began spending the fortune of about \$18,000,000 which Jay Gould left his younger daughter. The income from her share of the estate was \$600,000, but this proved insufficient to pay the bills incurred by the count. For his home in Paris he built a palace reproducing in most respects the famous grand Trianon at Versailles. The ballroom of the palace, considered the most regal apartment in France, is built entirely of Parian marble and is finished in gold. The whole palace is said to have cost about \$3,000,000. The count gave a housewarming that cost \$100,000. He spent several hundred thousand dollars for yachts, bought a \$10,000 coat which he wore once and then threw away, spent about half a million dollars in a canvass for a seat in the chamber of deputies and lost over a million dollars in speculation in stocks.

Five years after his marriage he had spent \$3,000,000 and was over \$4,000,000 in debt. His creditors pressed so hard that the Goulds had to take the matter up, and as a result a settlement with creditors was effected, but the count had to agree that \$400,000 from his wife's income of \$600,000 be applied annually to the extinction of his debts. This left the Castellanes but \$200,000 a year upon which to live. Though the amount would seem ample to many persons, it was not so in the case of this couple, and the count has managed to keep head over heels in debt in spite of the efforts of the



GEORGE J. GOULD.

Goulds to hold the family purse strings tighter and restrain the count's spendthrift propensities.

It is said that the count and countess had many stormy interviews in consequence of his extravagances and that his fondness for favorites in the theatrical world caused her no little annoyance, but no open break between them is known to have occurred until recently, when the countess thought she had discovered that he had been paying altogether more attention than was proper to a woman who was a member of her own set. The count and countess have three children, Boni, George and Jay. If a separation occurs, it is said the count will be left penniless unless his wife chooses to pay him alimony.

THE MAELSTROM.

How It Feels to Be on the Edge of the Great Whirlpool.

Off the coast of Norway, between two islands of the Lofoden group, is the largest whirlpool in the world. Its name, Maelstrom, means "whirling stream," and the title is well earned. The great Maelstrom is no longer held in superstitious fear, and maritime charts have taught the sailors of the world where the danger lies and how to avoid it, so that accidents rarely occur—never except through ignorance or a previous disaster that has rendered a vessel unmanageable.

Several years ago the captain of a sailing vessel, desirous of seeing the famous whirlpool at close quarters, was assured by his Norwegian pilot that he might venture near enough for examination without danger. And here is what the captain saw:

"I went on the main topsail yard with a good glass. I had been seated but a few minutes when my ship entered the dish of the whirlpool. The velocity of the water altered her course three points toward the center. This alarmed me extremely for a moment. I thought destruction was inevitable. But she answered her helm nobly, and we ran along the edge, the waters foaming round us in every form.

"The sensations I experienced are difficult to describe. Imagine an immense circle running round of a diameter of one and a half miles, the velocity increasing as it approximated the center and gradually changing its dark blue color to white, foaming, tumbling, rushing to its vortex, very much concave—as much so as the water in a funnel when half run out. The noise, too, hissing, roaring, dashing, all pressing on the mind at once, presented the most awful, grand and solemn sight I ever beheld. We were near it about eighteen minutes and in sight of it two hours. It is evidently a subterranean passage. From its magnitude I should not doubt that instant destruction would be the fate of a dozen of our largest ships were they drawn in at the same moment. The pilot says that several vessels that had become unmanageable have been sucked down and that whales have also been destroyed."

THE SHOW WINDOW.

Don't neglect the upper part of the window.

Don't stick to one style of trimming. Branch out.

Don't skimp on elbow grease in cleaning the glass.

Don't wait till a trim is fly specked before changing it.

Don't overlook the utility of a certain number of fixtures.

Don't be afraid to try something new in the way of a display.

Don't fill a sunny window with goods that the sun will discolor.

Don't let the window stand too long. A week is about the limit.

Don't be afraid to spend a little money on the trim. It will come back.

Don't fail to call the local newspaper's attention to each nice trim that you make.

Don't prolong the trimming unnecessarily. A quick change will impress the public more.

Don't copy. But you can elaborate or change some one else's ideas without being open to the criticism of copying.—Exchange.

A Wonderful Faculty of the Triton.

The triton, a spotted, lizardlike reptile found in almost every state in the Union, has a most wonderful power of reproducing amputated parts. Bonnot, the great French naturalist, experimented on the little creatures by amputating their legs and tails and by so doing found that their powers of reproduction were almost unlimited. In one instance an amputated leg was reproduced twelve times in three years, and in another an eye was gouged out and reproduced in less than twelve months. The loss of a tail does not appear to discommode a triton except to give him a sort of unbalanced gait. Tails clipped from the specimens Bonnot kept to experiment on were invariably reproduced in from five to nine weeks.

The Donjon.

The donjon, or keep, of the castle was a tower within, much stronger than the rest of the structure and designed as a last resort for the garrison when the walls and other portions of the fortification had fallen into the hands of the enemy. The donjon was generally provided with a secret exit, a tunnel being constructed, often many hundreds of yards in length, leading to some concealed outlet through which the besieged could receive succor or, in time of necessity, escape.

Rather Mixed.

"Say, Jack, what have you that string tied around your finger for?"
"Oh, that is to remind me that I forgot something my wife told me to be sure to remember."—Baltimore American.

A Sure Sign.

The honeymoon may very properly be said to be over when the wife suggests to her husband that he'd better have his trousers pressed by a tailor.—Detroit Free Press.

In Methuselah's Time.

Kind Old Lady—What ails the baby? He looks healthy, I'm sure. The Nurse—Oh, he is, the little dear! But his peevish today on account of cutting his whiskers.—Puck.

A small teaspoonful of powdered gum arabic, with the same amount of glycerin, stirred into a tumblerful of cold water and drunk slowly, will often work wonders in quenching thirst.

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