

THE ODD CORNER



The Little Waves of Breffny.

The grand road from the mountain goes shining to the sea.
And there is traffic in it and many a horse and cart.
But the little roads of Cloonagh are dearer far to me,
And the little roads of Cloonagh go rambling through my heart.
A great storm from the ocean goes shouting o'er the hill,
And there is glory in it and terror on the wind,
But the little roads of Cloonagh are dearer far and still,
And the little winds of twilight are dearer to my mind.
The great waves of the Atlantic sweep storming on their way,
Shining green and silver with the hidden herring shoal,
But the Little Waves of Breffny have drenched my heart in spray,
And the Little Waves of Breffny go stumbling through my soul.
—Eva Gore-Booth.

Ancient Stenography.

Shorthand was known to the ancients, though it is impossible to trace the system to its source.

Ennius, the Roman poet, is said to have improved upon an already existing system. He was a friend of Scipio, and was born B. C. 239. Seneca also made it a hobby.

Origen, the Greek Father and Mystic, who was born about 186, and was a voluminous writer, says, in the course of his commentary on St. John: "The absence of my shorthand writers prevents me from dictating my meditations." We are told, too, that he allowed shorthand writers to take down his extempore homilies.

In the tenth century Greek and Roman stenography gradually died out, and the art did not revive until the beginning of the seventeenth century. During this long interval several systems of quick writing were evolved, such as that of Dr. Timothy Bright in 1588, who had a separate sign for every word, and some of these almost rivaled shorthand in rapidity.

A Mountain Theater.

Probably the most novel theater in the world is that which was recently opened at Thale, in Germany.

The theater is on the summit of a mountain and is surrounded on all sides by steep rocks; the seats for the audience are hewn out of the rock and accommodate 1,000 persons, and the stage, which is also hewn out of the rock, is 80 feet long by 54 feet wide.

No artificial scenery is used, but the background is formed by the dense forest and by the outlines of the mountains in the distance. The dressing room for the actors is close at hand in the forest, but completely hidden from the audience.

The theater is fully protected from the wind, and its acoustic properties are so excellent that every word is heard.—Montreal Herald.

Remarkable Lightning Holes.

It is generally known that lightning striking the ground sometimes forms tubes lined with fused minerals, but comparatively few persons have ever seen these phenomena. Not long ago during a thunder storm in Essex, England, a ball of fire, which seemed to cast darts in all directions, was seen to descend from the clouds. There was a crashing explosion, and afterward, in an out-field, three distinct sets of holes, ranging from nine inches down to one inch in diameter, were found in the ground. They were perfectly circular, diminishing in size as they went deeper, and were cut through the yellow clay as clean as auger holes.

Maine Girl's Good Shot.

There are several girls in Bath who use a rifle to some extent, but perhaps none are so expert with the weapon as Miss Goldie Lord, who demonstrated her skill by shooting a big woodchuck

as he was running past at a distance of 100 feet.

The woodchuck made his appearance on the street and was chased by several people, but they were unsuccessful in trying to hit him with rocks.

Miss Lord went into the house after her rifle and when Mr. Woodchuck made his appearance again she caused his death with a pill of lead. She has received many compliments on her excellent shot.—Kennebec Journal.

Unfortunate Baked to Death.

Mme. Nigen, the wife of a farmer living in the village of Kernon, in Brittany, France, was about to bake her bread in the village brick oven, the other day, when she was astonished to see a man's body inside. She summoned assistance, and the dead body of one of her farm laborers was taken out. The man had been drinking heavily the night before, and it is supposed that he got into the oven and fell asleep. The fire was kindled during the night or early in the morning, and the unfortunate man was literally baked to death.

Attracts Humming Birds.

An aged resident of Bar Harbor, Maine, says that since the gardens of the summer visitors have been planted to nasturtiums, gladioluses, salvias and other bright flowers, the number of humming birds has increased more than ten fold. In the old days the bird with the ruby throat was a rare visitor to the island, while now the birds come early and stay late, and are very common all through the summer.

A Natural Death Trap.

In a remote corner of the Yellowstone park, out of the way of tourists, and rarely visited, there is a little vale, known as Death gulch, which, when the weather is calm, asphyxiates wild animals unlucky enough to wander there. Fissures in the rock emit fumes of bioxide of carbon, and sulphuretted hydrogen, which collect in the bottom. The dead carcasses of bears and other denizens of the surrounding wilderness killed in this way have been observed in it by several travelers and scientists.—Montreal Herald.

Burmah Has Old Sacred Tree.

The oldest sacred tree in the world that has any authentic history is reputed to be the great Bhoo tree in Burmah. It has for the past twenty centuries been sacred to Buddha, the image that nearly all the Burmese worship, and no one is allowed to touch the trunk of this sacred tree. In the fall, when the leaves begin falling, pilgrims and curio hunters gather and carry away the leaves as relics.

Piece of the First Monitor.

In the public library at Lowell, Mass., is a huge piece of iron, about 12x24 in size and an inch in thickness. It has a history, as the following inscription relates: "Piece of the first Monitor, removed after the battle with the rebel steamer Merrimack in Hampton Roads, March 9, 1862. Presented to the City of Lowell by G. V. Fox, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, 1866."

Students Too Fond of Cider.

A farmer living in the vicinity of Waterville, Maine, drove onto the campus at Colby with several barrels of russet cider for sale. While he was delivering a small quantity in one of the students' rooms somebody made off with a full barrel from his stock. Search failed to reveal the plunder and the vender drove away in haste in order to save the remainder of his load.

Her Own Dentist.

A lady living near Campton Village N. H., recently pulled two of her own teeth, one of which was not loose at all. She had to cut around the tooth with her penknife, after sharpening it for that purpose, and with old-fashioned forceps which slipped off three times, she conquered at last.



Before and After Taking.

Askitt—Say, do you believe it is possible for two people to live as cheaply as one?

Knoitt—After reading all the statistics I could find on the subject before I married I was convinced that they could, but—

Askitt—Well?

Knoitt—After I had been married three months I lost all faith in statistics.

Her Preference.

"My dear," asked the kind lady president to the reclaimed wail, "to which would you prefer to be sent—to the Sunday school seminary, or to the Working Girls' home?"

"Please, mum," replied the ignorant maiden, quickly; "I'll choose the cemetery, mum, if it's jes' the same to you."—New Orleans Picayune.

Misunderstanding.

Lawson—Hullo, doc! Glad to see you back! Did you kill anything?

Dr. Carver (with dignity)—I don't know what you mean. I have just returned from New York, where I was called to perform an important surgical operation.

Lawson—Great Scott! I thought you'd been on a hunting trip.

Only One He Ever Had.

"Does your coachman have any perquisites?" asked Mrs. Oldcastle.

"He had one once," replied her hostess, "but the doctor said it was brought on by being out too long in the hot sun. My! I don't know what I'd do with a person around me that had them regularly."—New York Herald.

Plain Everyday Fellow.

"I am really and sincerely proud of the common people," said Mr. Pompous. "I am fond of the plain everyday fellow who can never hope to be great. Call it Quixotism, if you wish—"

"Oh, I wouldn't say that," interrupted Peppery. "I'd call it egotism."

A False Alarm.



Hotel Guest—What's that, boy?

Bell Boy—A clean towel, sir.

Hotel Guest—Oh! all right. I thought it was some reporter sending up his card.

Good Definition.

Little Willie—"Say, pa, what is conceit?"

Pa—"Conceit, my son, is the self esteem belonging to our neighbors."

Husband Had Presence of Mind. herself and her husband in a railway accident. "We were suddenly pitched clear out of the car. John said to me, 'Are you hurt?' 'Not a bit,' said I. Then he up with his fist and gave me a black eye and we claimed \$500 damages. Now I call that real presence of mind."

Pennies Bother Car Companies.

What to do with the copper pennies taken in by street railway companies is getting to be more and more of a problem in English cities. In London many of these coins are disposed of in five-shilling packages to hotels and other places where change is needed, but much remains to be disposed of otherwise.

Monkey of Brilliant Hues.

One of the most brilliant colored of all monkeys is to be found in Tibet. It is known as the orange snub-nosed monkey. It lives in troops among the taller trees. After its color the next conspicuous feature about this animal is its tip-tilted nose.

Best in the World.

Cream, Ark., Nov. 7.—(Special.)—After eighteen months' suffering from Epilepsy, Backache and Kidney Complaint, Mr. W. H. Smith of this place is a well man again and those who have watched his return to health unhesitatingly give all the credit to Dodd's Kidney Pills. In an interview regarding his cure, Mr. Smith says:

"I had been low for eighteen months with my back and kidneys and also Epilepsy. I had taken everything I knew of, and nothing seemed to do me any good till a friend of mine got me to send for Dodd's Kidney Pills. I find that they are the greatest medicine in the world, for now I am able to work and am in fact as stout and strong as before I took sick."

Dodd's Kidney Pills cure the Kidneys. Cured Kidneys cleanse the blood of all impurities. Pure blood means good health.

Improved Milling Facilities.

Flour-making and wheat-raising go hand in hand. During the past twenty years the milling industry has been revolutionized.

Every housekeeper should know that if they will buy Defiance Cold Water Starch for laundry use they will save not only time, because it never sticks to the iron, but because each package contains 16 oz.—one full pound—while all other Cold Water Starches are put up in ¾-pound packages, and the price is the same, 10 cents. Then again because Defiance Starch is free from all injurious chemicals. If your grocer tries to sell you a 12-oz. package it is because he has a stock on hand which he wishes to dispose of before he puts in Defiance. He knows that Defiance Starch has printed on every package in large letters and figures "16 ozs." Demand Defiance and save much time and money and the annoyance of the iron sticking. Defiance never sticks.

When a man introduces himself with flattery you may count on him as a probable foe.

The Wabash is the Only Line Landing You at the World's Fair.

Round trip rates from Omaha are as follows: \$8.50 sold daily except Friday and Saturday, good 7 days. \$13.80 sold daily, good 15 days. The Wabash is the only line that lands passengers at the main entrance of the World's Fair grounds. Also the only line that can check your baggage to the World's Fair station. Think what a saving of time, annoyance and extra car fare.

All agents can sell you through ticket and route you over the Wabash. Very low rates to many points South, Southeast. For beautiful World's Fair folder and all information call at 1601 Farnam St. or address Harry E. Moores, Gen. Agt. Pass. Dept. Wab. R. R., Omaha, Neb.