

"KING BY TRADE"

Francis of Austria Made a Very Frank Reply.

While in Geneva in 1891 Judge T. J. Mackey of South Carolina was selected by the American colony to deliver a Fourth of July oration at a banquet given in honor of the day, says the Youth's Companion. It was attended by all the foreign consuls and among them was the consul-general of Austria-Hungary, who furnished for Judge Mackey's address the following anecdote and vouched for its authenticity:

A number of Americans residing in Vienna in the year 1810 united to celebrate Washington's birthday and invited the Emperor Francis of Austria to honor the occasion by his presence.

That genial monarch, a true gentleman, although "every inch a king," overlooked the disregard of established forms into which his would-be hosts had been betrayed by their patriotic zeal and made this answer in his own handwriting:

"Gentlemen, I thank you for your hospitable invitation and the gratifying terms in which you have expressed your desire that I should attend a banquet which you propose to give in celebration of General Washington's natal day.

"But you must excuse me from uniting with you to honor the memory of your illustrious countryman, since I could not do so with sincerity, for Washington scorned a crown and did more to bring royalty into contempt than all men who have ever lived, and I am a king by trade."

Extraordinary Drinks.

Of the many extraordinary drinks regularly consumed the blood of live horses may be considered the most so. Marco Polo and Carpini were the first to tell the world of the practice of the Tartars and Mongols opening the vein in their horses' necks, taking a drink and closing the wound again. As far as can be seen this has been the practice from time immemorial. There is a wine habitually consumed in China which is made from the flesh of lambs reduced to paste with milk or bruised into pulp with rice and then fermented. It is extremely strong and nutritious and powerfully stimulating to the physical organism. The Laplanders drink a great deal of smoked snow water and one of the national drinks of the Tonquinese is arrack flavored with chickens' blood. The list would scarcely be complete without the mention of absinthe, which may be called the national spirituous drink of France. It is a horrible compound of alcohol, anise, coriander, fennel, wormwood, indigo and sulphate of copper. It is strong, nasty and a moral and physical poison.

No Wonder It's a Craze.

The silver question, as it is understood in some parts of Kentucky, is graphically illustrated by a letter which one of the statesmen at the capitol received from a correspondent in that state. It appears from this epistolary evidence that a controversy was being waged between a sound-money man and a silver champion. The gold man thought he had the best of the argument. He asked his adversary why he thought that the free coinage of silver would make times better.

"Simply because it would put more money in circulation," said the white-metal crank.

"But how will it put more money in circulation?" demanded the gold man.

"How?" asked the silver man, with a smile of contempt at his opponent.

"How? Why, you blamed fool, if you can take one gold dollar to the treasury and get sixteen dollars for it, won't that increase the circulation?"—Pittsburg Dispatch.

It Was Too Bad.

Walter Savage Landor, though he often handled his fellow-men somewhat roughly, hated to see an old tree felled and even shrank from plucking a rose. One morning he collared his man cook and flung him out of the window. Then, suddenly remembering on what "bed" in the garden the man would fall, the flower-loving Landor exclaimed: "Good heavens! I forgot the rose-violet!"

Trail of Slings.

It is astonishing how the children pick up slang. No matter how select the neighborhood nor how careful the parents, the bywords of the street are sure to drop when least expected from infantile lips. A day or two ago a 4-year-old daughter of East End parents was being escorted along East Prospect street by her doting papa when they met a little boy of the same age escorted by his papa. Both papas were well acquainted and they stopped to chat for a moment or two.

"Who is this little boy, Mabel?" asked the first papa.

"It's Edward," promptly answered Miss Mabel.

"And who is this with Edward?" continued the first papa, as he pointed to the second.

"That's Edward's old man," said Miss Mabel.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Try It.

A curious and slightly known fact is that it is impossible to move the eye while looking at its reflection in a mirror. The eye is the most movable part of the face, yet if you try to look at it and move it a thousandth part of an inch you will be balked in your purpose. The moment you endeavor to perceive the motion of the eye it becomes fixed. That is why a person's expression as he sees himself in the glass is entirely different from the one by which his friends recognize him.

Sensible Constance.

Mr. Crimsonbeak—When Constance was younger she used to ride a wheel and I tell you she'd take nobody's dust.

Mrs. Crimsonbeak—You don't say so?

"Yes, but now she has reached the marrying age she's willing to take almost anybody's."—Yonkers Statesman.

Perfectly Flenish.

Husband—Don't you think you are rather unreasonable to expect me to take you to a ball, stay awake until 4 o'clock and then get up at 8 to go to my work?

Wife—I may be a little unreasonable but it's brutal of you to mention it.—Odds and Ends.

The Politician's Visit.

"'Twas just a social call," quoth he  
That phrase is quite enough;  
There's no use going on to say  
He called my little bluff."—Washington Star.

Identified by His Glass Eye.

William Moran, of Wellston, Ohio, was so badly mangled by a railroad train that it was only by a glass eye that the body was identified.

Strange.

He—I can't get my wife to use the telephone. She—That's strange! I thought your wife liked to have a voice in everything.—Whim-Whams.

Legend of the Opal.

There is an ancient legend that says a woman's living heart was once imprisoned in a milk-white stone, and the throb of its passion and its pain shone through the half-opaque surface, and made it dart and flash, and flutter with flame color, and rose and violet and golden tints. Sometimes it beat high with hope, and the surface was radiant with light; frequently sorrow oppressed it, and its rays were fainter and less glowing. There seems no more beautiful or more fitting association for the lovely opal to have. It almost has life in its center, and no matter how small the stone if it be of pure origin the colors are as perfect and as varying as in larger specimens.

Or Send Them to Blind Asylum.

"I think," said the statesman who didn't have any great hopes, anyway, "that it would be a good plan to make these here campaign buttons of mine with eyes to 'em, so that if the demand is smaller than the supply I kin sell 'em to some overhauls factory or something of that kind."—Indianapolis Journal.

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