

URNS BLACK AT DEATH.

Death of Adolph Kessner, Victim of a Snake Bite.
 After living more than two years in agony and gradually turning as black as a negro, Adolph Kessner died recently in San Antonio aged 23 years. He was bitten by a rattlesnake's bite. The boy was of the blonde German type and unusually fair, but at the time of his death his skin was close to ebony in color. His father owns San Pedro's Springs, a suburban resort. It is of hilly and rocky ground and the chaparral throughout is thickly populated with rattlesnakes. From a child young Kessner had shown a peculiar animosity to these reptiles and hunted them industriously. He seemed to have no fear of them whatever. When he got older he took to skinning them when dead and curing their hides and at one time he had some hundreds of the skins in the house. Eight years ago he sold them to a man who wished to make cravats of them. Since then he had disposed of many other skins. He had never before been bitten. His method of killing them was peculiar. He used no weapon. When he found a snake coiled ready for its spring he would throw a stick at it and irritate it into leaping. Then he would coolly mash the reptile's head with his heel. He said that he got no satisfaction from shooting them or slaying them with a club. The rattlesnake goes blind in July for a little while and is at that time especially venomous. In July, 1895, Kessner found a large one near his father's house and stamped it as usual. He seized it by the tail and started into the house to show it to his father. The snake was not quite dead. It twisted in his hand, its mangled head came in contact with his right thigh, near the hip, and it buried its fangs in his flesh. The wound was treated with ammonia, the young man drank a lot of whisky, and apparently was little the worse for the bite. Ten days afterward the skin around the wound began to darken and in a little while was a bluish black. This shade extended over his body and up and down his limbs. It ascended to the neck and thence to his face. For a while the lower part of his face was black and the remainder white. When Kessner died the black shade had ascended to the roots of his hair, and but for his equine features he would have been taken at first glance for a negro. During all this time he was tormented with racking pains in his limbs, similar to rheumatic twinges, and was also troubled with insomnia. The pain grew worse as time went on, and just before his death they were almost unendurable.

THE PARROT IN TRADE.

Used by a Collector to Haul Pertinent Things About Debt.
 "No use to dun 'em! No use to dun 'em! They're deadbeats!" These words, uttered in shrill, piercing tones, attracted a crowd in the vicinity of Lincoln park. A well-dressed young man emerged from the vestibule of a residence, where he had been conversing with a woman, and rushed down the steps to a covered buggy in front of the house. "No use to dun 'em! No use to dun 'em! They're deadbeats!" "Quiet, Polly! Shut your mouth," cried the young man as he removed from the seat of the vehicle a large cage containing a particularly vicious looking parrot. After several times repeating its uncomplimentary protests the bird finally subsided and its master descended the steps to the vestibule, from which he soon emerged with some bank notes in his hand. "It's an original scheme of my own," explained the young man a little later, "and I'll explain the scheme if you keep it mum. Sometime ago I was connected with an agency that employed uniformed collectors and yellow woggles, object being to intimidate the debtor, who would pay a just bill rather than be disgraced by having self-advertising bad debt collectors calling upon him every day. After time legal proceedings were taken by a disgraced debtor who had been persistently annoyed, and the wagons and uniforms were promptly suppressed. But my deadbeats to escape paying their just dues on that account? I thought not, and recently devised the plan I am now carrying into execution. People whose names are on the blacklist are generally shrewd enough to understand the situation and a settlement is at once made or arranged for. I have been operating for over a month, and in but one instance has Polly been called upon to repeat her well-rehearsed act. I am told that complaints have been made to the police and I must make hay while the sun shines. Good day." "By-by! I'm a bird, I am!" shrieked the parrot, as the enterprising collector drove briskly away.

Test Your Own Temperature.

Persons who are continually watching their "symptoms," whether they have a mere cold or the toothache, will certainly invest in a family clinical thermometer. Its possession will add a new zest to illness. With it in the house we shall be able to test everybody's temperature, and discover whether it is normal or if it is ascending about in the hundreds. In fact, it won't surprise me to see these temperature-takers hanging to the chateleine or on watch chains, all ready to be clapped on to a possible invalid. Nervous people must revel in the temperature thermometer. Husbands, too, can be kept indoors if their temperature is 99½, especially when it rises in the evening one degree higher. As to dear little Snuffles, we shan't let him be taken out by his nurse to ride without trying it on him; and, altogether, it is a great boon to have one for the family, and not be obliged to wait until the doctor brings it in his bag.—Boston Herald.

RED AT CHINESE WEDDINGS.

That Color is Used for Everything—Mysterious Significance.
 The Chinese place a significance upon every color, and in connection with a wedding red obtains a deep-rooted, mysterious importance, the most bridal color in value being gold. Says the *Wide-World Magazine*, At a betrothal the bridegroom elect sends his sweetheart a pair of bracelets fastened together with a piece of red ribbon or cord. The bride and bridegroom drink two wine cups at the wedding, which are also connected by red cord. In northern China the attendants wear a tall felt hat, and each hat has a red feather stuck upright in it. The attendants also carry the wedding presents. A sedan chair bears the bride herself. In south China a sedan most wonderfully gilded is used by the wealthy classes, and it is decorated with what appears at first sight to be brilliant inlaid stones, but which are in reality the glossy feathers of the kingfisher. A handsome cloth of glowing red with trimmed borders is also thrown over the chair. In the case of the poorer classes red is also the prevailing bridal color, and a chair of ordinary carved wood, painted a bright red, is used. Above the door of the chair a kind of charm is placarded or hung upon a red cloth. The chair itself is sent by the bridegroom, accompanied by what corresponds to our best man. This functionary brings with him a letter written in yellow or gold upon red paper, praying the lady to enter and take her place. Men dressed all in red and carrying red parcels containing the presents fall into the procession. Other bearers carry boards and banners, inscribed in golden letters upon a red ground. These banners tell the pedigree of both parties. Behind the bearers come other attendants with long poles on which are hung very handsome lanterns. The bridal veil is of bright crimson hue, and the dress regal gold and scarlet.

HAVE CROWS A LANGUAGE?

Many Curious Facts That Go to Justify the Theory.
 There is some reason for calling an owl the bird of wisdom; and yet there is cause for wondering if the crow is not mentally his superior, says Lippincott's. Crows are not disheartened by the gloom of late autumn. If the fog is too dense to fly through it they rise above it or trot about the ground, discussing the situation with their fellows. Is this speaking too positively? I have been long familiar with an observing man who has lived all his days within sight and hearing of crows. He claims to understand their language and can repeat the "words" that make up their vocabulary. Certainly crows seem to talk; but do they? Does a certain sound made by them have always the one significance? Year after year I have listened and watched, watched and listened, and wondered if my friend was right. He believes it. I believe it—almost. Are there limitations to ornithological interpretation? And is this an instance where truth is unattainable? We know that crows are cunning and by their mother wit have withstood the persecutions of mankind; we know that they have a wide range of utterances, and not one is put forth merely to gratify the ear, as in the case of a thrush's song; yet we hesitate to say plainly that crow talketh unto crow and that they take counsel together. There is no physical or metaphysical reason why this should not be the case; there is abundant evidence pointing in that direction, but no actual demonstration, satisfying every one, has taken place. Were we less theory-ridden and more observant the question would have been settled before this. In such a case the opinion of the farmer is worth more than that of the professional ornithologist.

His Head.

A passenger on a Cunard steamship had an experience which led her to believe that a seaman is not apt to waste many thoughts on his personal troubles. The sailor who brought her to this opinion had a fall which resulted in a bad cut on the head, the second day out. She was solicitous in her inquiries as to his welfare when she saw the captain that night, and would undoubtedly have continued her sympathies had not a rough sea called to mind her own sufferings. Four days later, when she emerged, white and weak, from her stateroom, she suddenly remembered the poor sailor. In the course of the day she saw him, with a strip of plaster on his forehead. "How is your head?" she asked, kindly, as he passed by her bent on some duty. "West by south, ma'am," was the reply, delivered with respectful but hasty clearness, and he was gone.

Many Uses of the Banana.

Immense fortunes have been made out of the banana business. Revenues do not accrue alone from the sale of the fruit, for the leaves are used for packing; the juice, being strong in tannin, makes an indelible ink and shoe blacking; the wax found on the under side of the leaves is a valuable article of commerce; manilla hemp is made from the stems, and of this hemp are made mats, platted work and lace handkerchiefs of the finest texture; moreover, the banana is ground into banana flour.

His Unhappy Quotation.

Mrs. Peck—"I'm just going right out to the kitchen to give that cook a piece of my mind. Henry Peck—Fools rush in where angels fear to tread. By live-ly printing he reached the front door first and escaped.—Cleveland Leader.

CURE FOR COLD FEET.

Simple Means for Avoiding a Common Winter Affliction.
 Before many more days shall have elapsed not a few Chicago women will be suffering from a complaint which makes the shortest journey out of doors a terror and thus aggravates the trouble when going abroad becomes unavoidable. Cold feet are not uncommon even in warm weather, but the suffering at such times is mild, while in the fall and winter it is little less than torture. A doctor who was consulted on the subject has this to say: "Physical disorders of the most unexpected nature are traceable to this complaint. It can be safely said that a large proportion of lung diseases are due to cold feet. The blood repelled from the extremities goes to the lungs and congests them. Asthma arises from the same cause, and brain and eye troubles can sometimes be traced to habitually cold feet. I don't say that women are wholly to blame for this affliction, because that is not true. The cause is often traced back to childhood, when thin stockings and shoes too small for growing feet prevented a proper circulation of the blood. And some perhaps wore garters which had to be tight to do their duty, and when they reached womanhood the mischief had been fully done. They were then obliged to suffer on, if they knew enough, to mitigate their suffering by such sensible remedies as rubbing and warm bathing, with a proper regard for the covering of the feet. Wear woolen, cotton or silk stockings, according to your comfort. If the feet are prone to be dry as well as cold they should be soaked in hot water for ten minutes every night, thoroughly dried and rubbed with a small quantity of sweet oil, bestowing special attention upon the soles. Nothing that can keep the feet comfortable should be considered a trouble, as, aside from the fact of their affecting the physical condition, their relation to the nerves must be considered. Trouble with the feet means a nerve-wearing strain. The following has sometimes proved a simple cure for cold feet: Stand erect and gradually lift yourself to the tips of the toes, coming to the natural position in the same easy manner. Repeat this exercise several times each day and the circulation of the blood must be improved. Diet has something to do with the degree of improvement, and afflicted women are advised to shun much salted meats, pies and rich puddings."

JUBAL A. EARLY'S JULEP.

Temperance Commentary by Vance of North Carolina.
 Nearly a quarter of a century ago, as all old and middle-aged persons will remember, the religious temperance women of the north organized a movement against the saloons, which assumed large proportions and took the form of a veritable crusade. It invaded almost every city and large town, bands of enthusiastic women going from saloon to saloon praying and singing in every place where they could secure permission. While the crusade of the "praying sisters" was at its height that staunch old rebel, Jubal A. Early, visited Richmond, Va., for the first time since the close of the civil war. "In the hotel," said he to the writer, "I met my old friend, Governor Vance of North Carolina, since United States senator. Although I was not the governor of South Carolina, Vance suggested that it had been a long time—fifteen years in our case—between drinks, and we went in quest of a julep. 'General,' said he, after remarking that Virginia was the place for juleps, 'have you read how the women of the north are trying to destroy the liquor traffic by praying in the saloons?' I told him that I had, when he asked: 'Do you believe it's true?' I have an idea that it's only a joke of the yankee newspapers." I told him that it was true, that a friend of mine had witnessed the rather unique proceeding in Columbus, O. 'Where do they get their authority, general? For the life of me I can't understand.' 'They profess to get it from the bible,' I replied. 'Now look here, Early,' he responded very earnestly, 'as a boy and young man I was a pretty regular Sunday-school scholar, and the only instance in the bible that I can recall where any one ever asked for water was a poor devil in hell, where I think he rightly belonged.'"

Proper Way.

"Abner," asked the wife of the editor of the Plunkville Bugle, looking up from her latest "take," "don't you think it is a sin for you to write those Washington dispatches right here in the office?" "No, I don't," stoutly responded the editor. "I have always been taught that the way to get a thing done right is to do it yourself."—Ex.

Flattered.

Young Mrs. Torkins was almost in tears when her husband came home. "What's the matter?" inquired her husband. "It wasn't my fault, Charley, dear, and I do hope it can be mended. That poster pigeon you brought home—" "Well?" "I'm afraid it has swallowed a tack and got a puncture."—Washington Star.

Real Swell.

"Chollie says he is in favor of expansion." "How on earth did he ever happen to have an idea on the subject?" "I don't know, but I think it struck him as something swell."—Exchange.

Unless.

No more troops will be ordered to the front unless they should chance to board a crowded trolley car.—Philadelphia Record.

A Map of the United States.

The new wall map issued by the Burlington Route is three feet four inches wide by four feet long; is printed in six colors; is mounted on rollers; shows every state, county, important town and railroad in the Union, and forms a very desirable and useful adjunct to any household or business establishment.

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Remember that bruising the serpent's head is safer than pinching his tail.

Give Rome use of our politicians and she will soon control our government.

Public Notice.
 The Northwestern Line Daylight Special now leaves the U. P. Depot at 6:40 A. M., arrives at Chicago 8:45 same evening. No change in the other trains. Overland Limited 4:45 P. M., and the Omaha-Chicago Special at 6:45 A. M., arrives at Chicago 7:45 and 9:30 respectively, next morning. The most advanced Vestibule Sleepers, Diners and Free Parlor Chair cars—of course—What else would the "NORTH-WESTERN" have? 1401-Farnam st.

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W. A. SAUNDERS, Merchants National Bank Building.

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENT DEFENDANT.

To Peter Burkey and Mrs. — Burkey, his wife, first and real name unknown, non-resident defendants: You are hereby notified that on the 26th day of September, A. D. 1898, James L. Browne, plaintiff herein, filed his petition in the District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska, against Peter Burkey and Mrs. — Burkey, his wife, first and real name unknown, the object of which is to foreclose upon certain tax certificates dated November 10th, 1895, upon the following described real estate, to wit: Lot one (1) of block one (1) of sub lot three (3), of tax lot three (3) in section 31, township 15, range 12 east, in Douglas County, Nebraska, upon which there is now due the sum of \$28.50, with interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from September 26th, 1898, for which sum with interest and costs together with an attorney's fee amounting to ten per cent of the decree, plaintiff prays for a decree that he has a first lien upon said real estate, that the defendants shall pay the same, and in default thereof that the said property be sold to satisfy the amount found due, and upon sale thereof that he be declared the debtor of all right, title and interest in said real estate, and for equitable relief. You are also hereby notified that you and each of you are required to answer said petition or before the 7th day of November, 1898. Dated at Omaha, Nebraska, September 26th, 1898. JAMES L. BROWNE, Plaintiff. By W. A. Saunders, his attorney. Dec. 66, No. 25. 9-30-4.

W. A. SAUNDERS, Merchants National Bank Bldg.

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENT DEFENDANT.

To Charles Goldsmith and Mrs. — Goldsmith, his wife, first and real name unknown, non-resident defendants: You are hereby notified that on the 24th day of September, A. D. 1898, James L. Browne, plaintiff herein, filed his petition in the District Court of Douglas County, Nebraska, against Charles Goldsmith and Mrs. — Goldsmith, his wife, first and real name unknown, the object and prayer of which is to foreclose two certain tax certificates each dated November 10th, 1895, upon the following described real estate, and amounts due thereon, to wit: Lot one (1) in block one (1) of O'Neill's subdivision of Lowe's second addition, upon which there is due the sum of \$147.34, and also on lot three (3) in block three (3) in O'Neill's subdivision of Lowe's second addition, upon which there is due the sum of \$124.46, all of which said lots being situated in O'Neill's subdivision of Lowe's second addition to the city of Omaha, Douglas county, Nebraska, with interest on each of said amounts at the rate of 10 per cent per annum from September, 1898, for which sum, with interest and costs together with an attorney's fee amounting to ten per cent of the decree, plaintiff prays for a decree that he has a first lien upon said real estate, that the defendants shall pay the same, and in default thereof that the said property be sold to satisfy the amount found due, and that upon sale thereof, the defendant be declared of all right, title and interest in said real estate, and for other equitable relief. You are hereby notified that you and each of you are required to answer said petition or before the 7th day of November, 1898. Dated at Omaha, Nebraska, September 30th, 1898. JAMES L. BROWNE, Plaintiff. By W. A. Saunders, his attorney. Dec. 66, No. 17. 9-30-4.

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N. B.—Real Estate owners having property to dispose of on terms explained above will find it to their advantage to send me description of their property. No property covered by heavy mortgages wanted unless the rate of interest can be reduced to 4 per cent. per annum. M. L. ZOOK.

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