

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

When John Carroll was hanged a few days ago at Atlanta for the murder of a woman he wore a black cap which had been made for the occasion by his mother.

A Sullivan (Ind.) man has refused to pay a note for \$150, which he gave to a church some years ago, on the grounds that the paper was drawn on a Sunday and was therefore of no value.

Dr. C. J. Hoadley, the Connecticut state librarian, has now in his possession an old placard or dodger which was distributed ten days after Washington's death, announcing a memorial service in Hartford.

Harry Hale of Bellefontaine endeavored to open the head of an old whisky barrel recently with a red hot poker. He thrust the poker into the bung and the barrel exploded into a thousand pieces. Hale may die.

Duke M. Farson, the Chicago broker, has bought for \$10,000, the historical Buffalo rock, three miles west of Ottawa, Ill., which had been the scene of the war dances by the Indians at an early day, and which a few years ago was used as the state encampment grounds.

J. B. Frye, one of the oldest residents of Virginia, died recently and was buried according to his wish in a walnut coffin made with his own hands from an old walnut tree on his farm.

Amid the clash of nations and the shrieks of war it is refreshing to turn to the milder sensation furnished by New Jersey of a cat with forty-one toes. There is something positively philanthropic in the centipede growth of this gifted cat across the pages of contemporary history.

The reason why the Great Salt Lake in Utah is growing smaller, according to Prof. James E. Talmage, is that the volume of water from its four tributary rivers is being more and more diverted by irrigation. Prof. Talmage says the water of the lake is growing each year more acid as it shrinks in size, and he thinks that in another hundred years it will be replaced by a glittering bed of dry salt.

Prof. Willis G. Johnson of the Maryland agricultural college thinks hydrocyanic acid gas will soon be used as a means of putting murderers to death. The gas is very deadly and kills quickly, yet people who have been under its influence and have been resuscitated say they felt no pain. Its action is to stupefy and produce unconsciousness, which is soon followed by death.

The accidental fatal shooting of a boy who was a "super" in a production of "Northern Lights" at Elizabeth, N. J., during the scene in which the Indians are fired upon by the United States soldiers, furnishes an item of news with more of a point and moral than is often found in the average "theatrical notes" of the day. The muskets were loaded with blank cartridges of course, but the wads from some of them tore a hole in the boy's breast.

The residents of one of the suburbs of Paterson, N. J., seem to have been victimized very adroitly by a Swedish laborer, who prophesied a caterpillar crop of unusual dimensions and offered to keep them away for a consideration. His prophecies were at first received with incredulity and his prospects for doing business looked bad until the caterpillars began to arrive in large numbers, and then he rapidly made contracts with many householders to remove them and commenced to acquire a bank account. Now a boy who he employed and failed to pay says the Swede hired him and others to go into the woods and gather caterpillars at 5 cents a quart and that at night these were sprinkled around where they would be most effective in terrifying the inhabitants.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

The American Federation of Labor is composed of 7,000 local unions.

Fifty years ago 6-year-old children were employed in New England mills.

Michigan's copper mines employ 5,000 more hands than at this time last year.

Manufacturing industries in the United States employ nearly 5,000,000 persons.

Laws expressly prohibiting boycotting exist only in Colorado, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

The agricultural laborers in the United States number over 2,500,000, and there are 5,000,000 farmers.

The first recorded strike in the United States is that of the journeymen bakers of New York in 1741.

The American Equal Wage union is the name of an organization started in Kansas. The promoters were out of a job.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners have 60,000 members, being one-tenth of the whole number of men in this trade.

The productive capacity of the labor-saving machinery of the United States at the present time is equal to a hand-working population of 400,000,000.

The efforts of the Federation of Labor to introduce labor unions in the south are meeting with success of late. The organization of such unions in the cotton mills will probably put an end to the long-day system which gives the southern manufacturer an advantage over those of the north.

The dry season has been a serious matter with mill owners along the water courses of New England, as well as with the farmers. Not in many years has the Connecticut river been so low and this is true of other streams as well. Supplemental steam power has had to be used to an unusual extent and factories that have to depend entirely upon water are having a hard time.

RUBBER SHOES MADE IN 1835

India rubber shoes were first manufactured in Roxbury, Mass., in 1835, and verily they were "fearfully and wonderfully made." They really bore no resemblance whatever to a shoe. They had the appearance of having been run into molds, or blown, the same as glass bottles are made. They were made of pure rubber gum. No attempt was made to imitate the shape of the shoe or foot they were intended to cover. In shape they were hollow tubes, tapering toward the toe. At the place where the opening to pull the rubber over the shoe should be was an irregular hole, without shape, just as they came from the mold. The hole was enlarged with a sharp pair of shears to fit the instep, or cut high or low to suit the taste or caprice of the customer. The work was done by the salesman after the buyer had selected, according to his requirements, heavy or light, thick or thin. Men's sizes were very heavy, the soles being frequently one-fourth to half an inch in thickness. They were tied in pairs and stuffed with straw or hay to keep them in shape for shipment. A lady's foot, incased in such a huge, ill-shaped mass of India-rubber gum, weighing at least a pound, presented a clumsy appearance, indeed, particularly when compared with the light and truly artistic appearance of the present styles.

The first attempt at making overshoes of India rubber did not prove a success, a large amount of capital being sunk in the experiment, as well as all unsold stock. They answered the purpose in cold weather, but would not stand the heat, melting into a disgusting mass.

Experiments to remedy this difficulty resulted in reaching the opposite extreme, the cold weather freezing them brittle, so they could not be drawn over the shoe until they were thoroughly warmed, and this obstacle to success was not overcome until Charles Goodyear discovered his process of vulcanizing rubber, which has rendered his name immortal.

Rapidly following this era of improvements the India rubber shoe began to assume beauty of proportions and practical utility. They were lasted, and the shoe merchant threw aside his shoes. One particularly popular style that had a great run for a couple of years was trimmed with fur around the tops, and came well up on the ankles. Dickens immortalized this particular style by placing them on the feet of the pretty Arabella that Mr. Winkle met and fell in love with while visiting Mr. Pickwick at Old Wardle's.

All rubber shoes were made from the solid gum at that time, and we are safe in saying that a single pair would outweigh six pairs of those now in the market. Besides being heavy and ugly, they were often painful from being so tightly stretched over the foot. They made the wearer look club-footed, and any attempt at embellishment was a failure and made them look clumsy still. But this condition of things did not last. In 1844 Goodyear perfected his vulcanizing process and his method of spreading the pure gum upon elastic textile fabrics, and the manufacture of rubber shoes has improved from year to year, until they have become a thing of beauty.

Mammy Got the Girls.

Lizzie Jefferson, an old negro "mammy" of New Orleans, was recently awarded the custody of Annie and Lucy Galaw, little girls, 8 and 10 years of age, respectively, her rival claimant for the children being the mother. The suit, which resulted in the negro obtaining permanent possession of the children, was the first of its kind ever decided in Louisiana, inasmuch as the "mammy" is as black as the proverbial ace of spades, and the children have not a drop of negro blood in their veins.

But in spite of the fact that they are white, Lucy and Annie, who were weeping bitterly during the progress of the case, in fear of being given back to their mother, rejoiced exceedingly when Judge Aucoin pronounced judgment in favor of the negro. Behind the case there is an unusual story.

V. Galaw, the father of the little girls, died eight years ago. He was very poor, and was not on the best of terms with his wife. He knew "Aunt Lizzie," and just before death claimed him he asked the old woman to see that his children did not come to want. The faithful negro gave him the promise, and for the last seven years she has worked night and day for her charges, clothing them nicely, and, since they have been old enough, sending them to the public schools.

"Aunt Lizzie" is a caterer in a small way and earns a comfortable living. She announced her intention, not long ago, of sending the elder girl to Europe to complete her education, for the child is very bright. The devotion of the negro to her "babies" has long been the talk of the neighborhood.

Not long ago the mother married again, and demanded that "Aunt Lizzie" give her and her husband, rent free, a room in the house which was sheltering her girls. The negro refused, and the mother brought suit to recover the children. All these facts were brought out in the court.

After hearing the evidence Judge Aucoin said he was satisfied that the children were better off with "Aunt Lizzie," and so he ruled, much to the disgust of the mother.

An old lady entered the big department store. She walked to one of the counters. "I want to get something for a boy of 16," she said.

"Blipper counter, two aisles to the right," snapped the salesgirl, and the old lady walked over.

HALLUCINATIONS.

By Dr. W. J. Chenoweth, Decatur, Ill.: Old age is often assigned as a cause of death, very erroneously, as it is a relative term which does not indicate the number of years which the person has lived, but the condition of the system at the time dissolution took place.

In speaking of a vehicle we say it is worn out, and too old for further service, although not twelve months have passed since it came from the manufactory. Of another we say it is as good as new, although twelve years have gone since it was purchased.

So we should speak of the body. It may be old at 30 years, or it may be capable of its usual labor at a hundred. It could scarcely be proper to say of M. Chevreul that at 98 he was dying with old age, still active and vigorous, as presented an address to the Academy of Sciences on a scientific subject, or when a year later he presided at a meeting of the new association of French students. Nor can it be claimed that Gladstone died of old age, when an apparently vigorous health he was attacked with an intractable cancer.

Old age may be a heritage and come to the recipient when he should be in the vigor of youth, or it may be self-purchased by the acts of a libertine and a debauchee. It is honorable at any time if not self-imposed.

A fair illustration of an honorable old age and of its characteristics, was afforded by Mrs. A., who recently consulted me because of the frequent appearance of three images, which annoyed her. They were faces of two men and one woman, all of them distinctly defined. She had no superstitious fear of them, but supposed that they were caused by age. She was in her 88th year, having been born in 1811 near Belleville, Ill. She had no recollection of ever having seen either of the men, but described them very minutely. The youngest man had a fresh look, bright blue eyes, rosy cheeks, and light hair, and was generally a very pleasant appearing person. The other was a sedate, middle-aged man, with the look of a minister. The woman she recognized as a hideous old squaw, who often hired to do the washing in her father's family when Mrs. A. was a child of seven or eight years of age.

Incipient cataract, and local excitement, probably caused by anemia, developed the images imprinted four score years ago. Minute doses of strychnia, given more to satisfy anxious children than with hope of benefit, appeared to give relief, although I credited the effect to mental rather than physical treatment.

Near to death an ischemic condition of the brain sometimes causes bright images to fill the dying vision, which, with superstitious people, is sure evidence of angelic visitors sent to accompany the soul to regions of bliss. In nearly all of the reported cases the supernatural visitors are encircled with rays of light, and floating about the room over the bed, with the aid of the outspread wings of a bird, which seem to grow from the spinal column between the shoulders. A moment's reflection should convince the most skeptical that these visitors are mere reproductions of cathedral or other paintings of the old masters, who with pains endeavor supplied accessories, which they supposed to be necessary to aid the flights of saints in their transit to heaven.

In the light of knowledge of today certainly nothing could be more absurd than to believe that beings having form of men and the wings of birds indicate a higher order of existence.

On the contrary, they would be evidence of deformity and degeneracy. Paintings of such monstrosities, seen in youth, and pointed out by pious friends as superior beings, are accepted as articles of faith, so that the credulity of the child becomes the belief of maturity. And then summoned to meet death, the sick and their friends rejoice when these imaginary guides are recognized as present by the dying.

I have not often seen dying persons who were annoyed by supposed demons. One notable exception occurred many years ago in the case of a middle-aged woman, who manifested great fear of death, because of imaginary visitors, but by the judicious use of minute doses of morphine they were banished, and other and more welcome visitors made to swarm around her bed.

Hallucinations of dying persons are evidences of toxic or other abnormal condition of the blood, and the images projected are such as have been received and registered at some previous time, and caused by local conditions at or near the area of the sense represented. They are usually of hearing or sight, but may be of touch, smell or taste.

NOT HIS KIND.

Two members of a well established firm that does business in the wholesale district indulged in the following dialogue the other afternoon, says the Chicago Times-Herald.

Junior Partner—Why didn't you give that man a chance? We need another clerk here, and I rather liked his looks.

Senior Partner—I liked his looks, too, but he's no good.

Junior Partner—How do you know that?

Senior Partner—When a man who is looking for a job comes to me and says, "I suppose you don't want to hire any one today, do you?" that's enough. If he had anything in his head come right out and say what he meant. If he supposed we didn't want to hire any one why did he waste our time and his by coming in to bother us?

"You can't come in," said St. Peter sadly; "the gate is locked." "Is this all," asked the modern woman as she reached for a hatpin and proceeded to business.—Judge.

AARON BURR.

It will be pleasing to some few persons of iconoclastic bent to know that Aaron Burr was first in the hearts of his countrywomen and of some of the other countries of his time. He was the most fascinating man of the century, which is no small distinction, and it please you.

There were a good many things about Aaron Burr that were worth while. Of course it is impossible to hope to ever overcome the impression made by the school histories, which make him out a bad, wicked man, who ought to have been locked up in a closet all dark and kept there, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Burr did things. No man who has not been a figure in the world of men has been a real conqueror in the world of women. He was graduated from college when he was 18, studied for the ministry, entered the army, and by great deeds of personal daring became a colonel at 20. He came within one vote of being president of the United States.

It is necessary to tell these things about Burr to make it plain why women loved him. Had he been a homely man he would have been more attractive in perspective; but, as a matter of fact, he was an extremely elegant, handsome man, rather under medium height, with delicate, classic, yet strong features, and above all an eye.

He had the polish and the perfect poise of a Beau Brummel, the savoir faire of a Chesterfield, the brilliancy of a Pitt and his own dashing courage. He was a beau to his death, which occurred in his 80th year. It was only two years before that time that he courted the famous Mrs. Jumell. She was very rich and old.

In her most emphatic way Mme. Jumell told Burr that she would not marry him.

"Madam," he said in his most fascinating way, "I thank you. I shall have the preacher here tomorrow."

And he was true to his word. What could a woman do with a man like that? Nothing but marry him, of course. And that is exactly what Mme. Jumell did. Furthermore, it is said that there was a young woman in New York who, when she heard of the marriage, wrung her hands in despair. She had hoped to become the bride of the brilliant genius in whom the divine fire burned when he was long past the years allotted to man.

In his will, made in 1836, the year of his death, he left the bulk of his estate to "my two children, one girl, aged 1, who is now in charge of M. —, one girl, aged 6, now in charge of Mrs. —." When Burr was on his deathbed a friend resented his leaving a part of his estate to these children, who could not have been his own, but who were being added upon him.

"Sir," replied Burr, "when a lady loses me the honor to name me as the father of her child I trust I shall always be too gallant to show myself ungrateful for the favor."

In 1782 Burr married Mrs. Provost, a widow, 10 years older than himself, her face slightly disfigured by a scar and physically unattractive. But it was her brilliant mind that attracted him, and he used in after years to say that in style and manners she was without a peer among women. Burr's only legitimate child, Theodosia, was born in 1783. His wife died soon after.

After Burr fled to Europe, following his trial for treason growing out of his designs against Mexico, he practiced abroad the fascinations which made him so remarkable in America. He left a trail of aching and broken hearts in England, France, Sweden, Denmark and in Germany.

Sugar as Old as Humanity.

Sugar was known to the Chinese and used by them as early as 1200 B. C. This statement rests on tradition partly, but it is a historical fact that during the Tsin dynasty, about 200 years B. C., the article was well known, and was manufactured in relatively considerable quantities in China. Students of ancient Hindoo history and industries claim the discovery for the East Indians; but it is much more probable that in this, as in many other inventions ascribed to the Hindoos and the Japanese, the knowledge came to them from China originally, and was subsequently returned to China, where, in the meantime, the art had been lost or forgotten.

The claim of the honor for the Hindoos rests on the fact that the expedition under Nearchus, sent out by Alexander the Great, about 325 B. C., to explore the Indus and the adjacent regions, on its return to Greece, reported that they had found people who, from a cane, and without the intervention of bees, made a honey (syrup or molasses). This is the earliest historical mention of sugar among the "people of the west." It appears to have been utterly unknown to the Egyptians, Babylonians, Chaldeans, Jews, and Greeks, prior to the event mentioned above. Galen, the physician and pharmacologist, who flourished and wrote 140-129 B. C., prescribed sugar as a remedy in certain cases.

In England sugar seems to have remained almost unknown, except to the learned, until after the discovery of America. It was so costly a luxury that in 1455 it is recorded that a lady, the wife of a very rich gentleman, brought her husband, as the richest gift that he could bring her, on his homecoming from the metropolis, to fetch her a pound of sugar. Even at the beginning of the eighteenth century, Great Britain consumed but about 12,000,000 pounds of sugar. Today England alone uses more than a hundred times that amount.

The method of purifying or refining sugar was introduced into England in 1659, though the art had been known in Constantinople for several hundred years, it having been discovered, or invented, by the Arabs, who kept it a close secret, which was finally learned by those ubiquitous wanderers and traders, the Venetians, who, it is said, learned it of the Sicilian Saracens, in exchange for goods the market value of which exceeded 100,000 crowns—which, considering the value of money at the period, would be equivalent to \$5,000,000 now.

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CONNUBIALITIES.

The Princess Isabelle, sister of the duke of Orleans, is engaged to her cousin, Prince Jean, the second son of the duke of Chartres, an officer in the Danish army. Princess Isabelle is said to be the prettiest princess in Europe.

At the home of the bride, New Albany, Ind., August 21, Miss Celia Ammons, who is 56 years old, was married to Napoleon Overall, who has reached his 78th year. Celia is his seventh wife. The old man has twenty-four children.

On Monday a Kansas girl waved her handkerchief at a stranger and on Tuesday they were married. On Wednesday she waved a rolling pin at her husband and on Thursday he applied for a divorce. That's what the wild waves are saying.

After a married life of one month Mrs. Quick of Peru, Ind., is accused of poisoning her husband so that she might wed his brother. There may be nothing in the name, but at the same time there is something swift in the Quick family.

Miss Mint W. Thomas, a daughter of Theodore Thomas, was married on the 15th inst. to Danford B. Sturgis of New York at the summer villa of Mr. Thomas, Fairhaven, Mass. The bride wore white crepe de chene, trimmed with duchesse lace, and her ornaments were pearls.

Albert Perry and Miss Emma Meyer of Perry, Okl., desiring to be married, were unable to cross a creek swollen by the rain, on the other side of which the minister lived, so they went up to the edge of the bank, while the minister stood on the opposite bank and shouted the service at them.



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FRILLS OF FASHION.

Though some fastidious women always wear gloves of one color, black or shades of gray or tan, white gloves are still worn, as well as gloves of neutral tints.

Black silk coats in the form of the Eton jacket or coming a little below the waist line are trimmed with light furs for fall. Chinchilla is one of the prettiest and most becoming of them.

The broad collars or frills are to be seen around and at the sides of loaves to children's gowns, with side revers at the sides of long-pointed vests, all falling over the shoulder at the top of the sleeves.

Silk machine stitching appears as a finish on many of the latest French and English tailor models for autumn wear. It takes the place of all other simple decorative effects, rows of braid or silk gimp not excepted.

There is now a tailor-made pelmet. It is very simple except at the neck, where it is heaped with lace, muslin ruffles, accordion-pleatings, single, double and triple, with broad ribbon bows or choux fastened here and there.

The pierced cloth is seen in capes, and the long stole ends which have been seen in different forms are to be found on the most dressy mantles. Lace bows are at the necks of rich capes, with ends falling to the knees, and on more severe garments double-faced satin ribbon is used.

The scallop is another thing that still is. It undulates around jacket and wrap fronts, is to be seen on the frill that edges the yokes, waves up the overdress that opens at one side or the one that opens in the middle over a plain or plaited skirt, and it finishes the lower edge of the double skirt. It is usually large.



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