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COURSE DINNER FOR TEN CENTS.

Clever Sharers Systematically Beat New York Restaurants. The manager of a New York restaurant...

Charcoal Eph's Daily Thought. "Dey am some men dat got too much conscience t' fool wid money..."

Iowa Banking Law. Iowa authorities have decided that any one can open a savings bank in that state...

American Brewery in Ghent. An American brewery has been established at Ghent, Belgium. The entire plant of the American brewery...

A Test of Faith. "Now, brother," said the conservative, "I want to convince you that your what you call higher criticism is wrong..."

Good Guessers. It is quite remarkable that not less than six persons guessed the exact number of votes cast at the recent election in Kansas...

Wife or Donkey. It may not be generally known that amongst the peasantry in Connemara it is the custom for the women to draw turf and seaweed in baskets on their backs...

The Season. "Ah!" sighs the gentle damsel, "see the bare limbs on the beech. Does not that bring forcibly to one's mind the sorrowful fact that summer has gone?"

Old Egyptian Manuscripts. The National Museum at Washington helps with funds to support the explorations in Egypt which Dr. Flinders Petrie, the great Egyptologist, is making...

Value of "Worthless" Material. In addition to the collection of old junk from private houses the Salvation Army colony in London is now systematically gathering up waste paper...

Growth of Japanese Navy. An idea of the wonderful growth of the Japanese navy within the past few years may be gained from the fact that Japan has decided to establish a squadron on our side of the Pacific ocean...

Aged Inmates of Poorhouse.

In Sculcoates workhouse, Hull England, there are sixteen inmates whose united ages amount to 1,218 years.

Our Superiority in Coal. Britain's coal measures cover 9,000 square miles, against the United States' 222,500 square miles.

"Coming" and "Arriving." "And so," said the talkative person to the man who had just undergone that particular form of financial hemorrhage...

Nelson's Old Flagship. Nelson's old ship, the Victory, is still to be accessible to the British public, although she is shortly to be superseded as the admiral's flagship at Portsmouth.

Chamberlain's Trip to Africa. One hundred thousand replicas of a special medal struck to commemorate Mr. Chamberlain's tour have been ordered for the Cape.

Celluloid Eye Shade Burned. Congressman Hildebrandt of Ohio is going about Washington with a startled look in his eyes and no brows above the optics...

Kansas Working Overtime. Two crops of strawberries and the second yield of early apples is the reported record of Kansas during the past season...

Blessing the Danube. In Roumania there is a custom of publicly blessing the River Danube on Christmas day. A large cross of ice is carried before the procession.

Not a Protest. Representative Mudd of Maryland has frequently been in conflict with the other members of his delegation over the question of patronage...

Trees in England. Christmas trees were unknown in England until the reign of Queen Victoria. The first one was ornamented by Prince Albert for the amusement of the Princess Royal...

Work of American Astronomers. Within twenty-five years American astronomers have won as many annual medals of the Royal Astronomical Society of England as astronomers of all other countries, except England, combined.

The Largest Holly Trees. The largest holly-trees in the world grow in the Northern United States and in Canada, where the tree attains a height of 70 feet...

Superstition in Venice. There is a curious superstition in Venice that if a stranger dies in a hotel the number of his room will be lucky at the next lottery.

Brilliantcy Versus Plodding. "Some men," said the original philosopher, "see more than others see at first sight and then devote so much time and energy to the task of being pleased with their own brilliantcy that they miss all the benefit of the sober and maturer second thought that comes to those less gifted."

Irrigated Lands in America. The irrigated area of the United States is 7,510,598 acres, of which Colorado contains 1,611,271 and California 1,446,119.

Origin of "Gazette." The earliest newspaper was published in Venice and called a 'gazette' from the name of the coin for which it was sold.

BRO. DICKEY'S PHILOSOPHY. "Don't rain a man w'en you hear him sayin' de devil's to pay. De devil is de patient creditor in de country."

"I makes no doubt but what deys a few politicians in heaven—but dey ain't makin' no stump speeches ter do angels."

"De sayn's is, Poverty teaches lessons ter folks, but w'en I sees him comin' I mighty quick decides dat I don't need a eddication."

"Ef dey wuz a railroad runnin' ter heaven some folks would wake up too late ter ketch de train, en den blame de engineer for not blowin' de whistle."

THOUGHTS OF PRAYER.

"Pray often, and you shall pray often."

"God is nearer to us than we are to ourselves."

"Are you living for the things you are praying for?"

"Let us ask God to teach us what he would have us do, and do without."

"Prayer is the attitude of the needy, helpless soul, whose only refuge is in God."

Tombs of Our Presidents. An argument in favor of having our dead presidents buried in a national cemetery at Washington may be found in the proposition to increase the guard at the temporary tomb of President McKinley...

Recommends "Volcano Cellars." Prof. T. A. Jagger, Jr., Harvard, who has been making investigations of the eruption of Mount Pelee, believes that people of volcanic countries can escape destruction by building cellars or chambers of masonry in which they can seek shelter when the eruptions occur.

The Liberty Cap. The red liberty cap was really the headgear of the galley slave. The Swiss of the Chateauroux regiment, sent to the galleys for their share in the Nancy riots, on their release returned to Paris with their caps and were hailed as victims of despotism.

Many Specimens of Clover. Specimens of four, five, six, seven, eight and nine-leaved clovers have been presented to Queen Alexandra by a Welsh lady.

Few Churchgoers in London. The bishop of London says that only one in every eighty of the population of London go to church or chapel.

Pin Has Seen Long Service. At the marriage of Miss Aimee Stagg and Augustus Post in Paterson, N. J., recently, the bride wore a pin which had been worn by sixteen other brides in the same family. It was first worn by her grandmother, Mrs. Stephen Courter, 66 years ago, and since then all the girls in the family have tried to make it a part of their marriage outfit.

Australian Song Bird. Another marvelous voice has come out of Australia. It is that of Miss Marie Narelle, and is described as "the nearest approach to the pure dramatic soprano that New South Wales has produced since Miss Kate Slattery retired from the concert platform."

Merely Precautionary. "You succeeded in life in spite of the fact that you did not give much attention to study during your youth." "Yes," answered Mrs. Cumrox. "But that doesn't prove that education isn't a good thing. I was so much afraid that people would make fun of my spelling that I was compelled to hustle and get rich in self-defense."

Status of the Lottery. It is told of an East Indian law student that he once threw his examiners into confusion by declaring matrimony to be an illegal state. "How so? How so?" he was asked by the perturbed examiners, many of them married men. The student smiled beatifically. "Marriage," quoth he, "is a lottery, and lotteries are forbidden by law."

Long Lawsuit Decided. The ownership of a plot of land near Brooklyn has just been decided by the courts after a lawsuit of thirty-five years.

Oldest Printed Calendar. The most ancient printed calendar in the world has been found in Wiesbaden. It was printed by Gutenberg in 1448.

Tailors' Resourcefulness. If men knew the many artifices the tailor has to resort to in order to make them presentable they would be less ready to make him the butt or ridicule, says the Tailor and Cutter. Truly the tailor has need of padding and wadding, haircloth and canvas, to enable him to clothe his customers in such a way as to hide their deformities and bring into prominence their points of beauty.

Remedy the follies of the past by omitting them from the future.

The touch of kindness that makes the world kin is seldom applied.

Men who travel in a circle will get home occasionally, at all events.

Life's comedies do not hesitate to tread upon the heels of its tragedies.

It is easier to criticize another's mistakes than it is to avoid them yourself.

In the House of the Prophet.

BY THOMAS BARGE. (Copyright, 1902, by Daily Story Pub. Co.) In the background among the shadows behind the desk—a man of medium size with white, luxuriant silken beard and mane, thin of frame, albeit somewhat wiry, with white anemic skin, a marvellously shaped head, showing great intellectuality and dominant will power, albeit strangely uneven; light-blue eyes into which shot now and again the lightning flash of the eagle and the shifty uncertainty of the lunatic—altogether a most compelling personality. In the foreground a woman bearing at once the marks of refinement—those unmistakable evidences of "quality folk" which never come except to those possessed of birth and breeding; not a strong face, however, the weak retreating chin and nervous mouth killing the effect of the high forehead, which latter, truth be told, was a trifle too bulging. She was well dressed and her entire aspect bespoke a person well to do. Near the door a burly man with burning, fanatical eyes, stout jaw and heavy beard, standing with arms folded across his brawny chest, grim and menacing. This was the inner sactum of Dowfourth, the self-announced Prophet and reincarnation of the Delty—according to his own claims and those of his followers.

"I will willingly give all that is fairly mine to the cause," the woman was saying in pleading tones, "but is it right to give up that which belongs to the boy? I have the legal power, I know, but is it right?" "Oh, thou of little faith," replied the Prophet in deep solemn tones, at which the woman shuddered and bowed her head contritely, "how long must thou go on stumbling in the darkness? How long before thou acquirest faith and walk in the light?" Then raising his voice into a menacing key: "Would the chosen of God give false advice?"

"Oh, no, no," she replied passionately, "I do believe, I do, I do. But—" "There are no 'buts' to the true believer," the Prophet interrupted imperatively. "I see that thou art not fit for communion with the elect. Deacon, see that the sister leaves Elysium at once. Her presence here can only contaminate the elect."

"Verily, I hear," replied the heavy man near the door, grimly moving a step nearer the woman. "Oh, no, no; not that," screamed the woman, paling, "I will sign the papers. I will do what you say. You know what is for the best. Who am I to set my judgment against yours?" "Very well," replied the Prophet, permitting no sign of triumph to come into his voice, and extending a pen toward the woman at the same time. "But I fear a long course of training will be necessary before you learn to submit your strong and obstinate worldly will to come into subjection to the Holy commands."

Weeping silently the woman signed her name to the paper, relinquishing all her right and title in the property left her by a provident and trusting husband for the maintenance of herself and the curly-headed little boy who bore the father's name. Silently the burly figure near the door signed his name as witness and the woman was dismissed looking, with silent and pathetic appeal, but in vain for a sign of approval from the Prophet. His face was set and stern. When the door closed on her retreating figure, the Deacon relaxed just a trifle to say: "Blessed is the name of the Lord," responded the deacon piously. "I

"You have made a mistake—not at this hour. Get out." Jonathan strode toward him to eject him and the Prophet turned toward the woman. "It shall be as you say," she replied. "The girl will be ready." The girl threw herself on her knees in a paroxysm of grief. "Oh, Harry, Harry," she shrieked, "save me; save me now or it will be too late." And then a new kind of miracle happened in Elysium. Jonathan had just reached the boy and reached out his hand to eject him when the lad lost his shuffling gate and foolish looks, straightened up into an athletic young man, and gave the Elder a punch in the pit of his stomach that doubled him up like a jackknife, and followed it with a blow under the chin that sent him rolling to the floor in contortions. Quick as a flash he let Elder Lanson have one in the chest that caused him to expectorate blood for many days. Then seizing his pall of soapy water he dashed it into the face of the Prophet who had risen to give an alarm. Then throwing open the window which opened onto the broad verandah he exclaimed: "Rosie, Rosie; now or never. Come."

With a startled cry of "Harry," she sprang toward him, and they leaped from the veranda and in a moment were tearing out of the grounds surrounding Elysium in the Prophet's own carriage, which had been standing awaiting for him.

When the carriage and horses were returned late that afternoon the burly colored man who drove them carried also a note to the Prophet. It read as follows: "Lest you should want to take any action regarding the escapade of this afternoon, I will give you my correct name and address. Should you do so, however, or make any sort of trouble regarding the estate of my wife, nee Rose Walker, I will be pleased to meet you in a legal battle that will go a great deal further than you suspect."

"Harry L. Pearson, Attorney at Law, Room 114, No. 327 Fifth St." There was no sign from the Prophet and his followers.

other's eyes a moment. Then the Prophet said: "It shall be as you wish. I will speak to her this evening." The door opened and there entered a thin, lanky man with a lanky jaw and a scrawny growth of beard. His eye was furtive and he seemed to glide rather than walk. "Well, Benjamin?" said the Prophet interrogatively. "It is about the girl, Rose," replied the newcomer deprecatingly. "I pleased your holiness to give her to me to wife, and she will have none of me, nor does her mother urge her she might. She has a goodly inheritance. It should be kept in the fold. Summon the girl and her mother." Presently they came, a thin-faced, shifty-eyed woman and a girl of moderate beauty just budding into young womanhood. "I hear that the girl is obstinate and refuses to obey the will of the



Doubled him up like a jackknife, the Prophet, remarked Dowfourth sternly, addressing the elder woman. "Listen; unless you make her see the error of her way all your sacrifices shall be as nothing and you will be cast out of the fold."

"The woman trembled, and replied: 'I have told her she must. What more can I do?'" "She is your daughter. You must make her obey. To-night at eight o'clock Elder Lanson will come to your room for his bride. He will go with him enough of the elders to ensure her obedience if you show proper authority. See that she is arrayed for the bridegroom."

The girl wrung her hands in despair. During the months she had resided in Elysium she had seen enough to know how helpless she was. "Oh, mamma, mamma; not to be crawling thing. Let us leave this terrible place. Or you stay and let me go. I can make my own way. I know I can. Let them have my inheritance, but let me go."

Just at this moment the door opened, ar an ill-dressed, foolish-looking boy shuffled in with a pall of water in one hand and some cloths in the other. "Who is that, and what does he in here?" exclaimed the Prophet, frowning.

"It is a new boy to do the menial work. I took him in because he said he was a believer in the faith. What do you in here boy?" "I was sent in to wash the windows."

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The two men looked into each