

LURE OF THE STAGE.

A Greater Danger to Young Men Than to Young Women.

I genuinely believe that the stage is a place of greater danger to young men than to young women. This is a surprising statement, you think? I defend it by saying that the actor is liable to fritter away his time. He plays a few hours a day, and for the remainder of the time he "rests." He doesn't need so much rest. He needs work and study, and if he doesn't have them there will be a rapid disintegration of character. There was never a truer adage than that concerning idleness and the location of the devil's workshop.

But girls can find and do find more to do. They nearly all sew. It is great economy of time and of purse for them to do so. Cloth is cheap, and if they can fashion it into blouses and lingerie and into simple gowns they are thereby the gainers. Girls are rather more industrious than men. I have noticed that the girls in a company employ their time well. They read and study. I have never known but one young actor—no, two—who studied.

The player should be a constant student. He needs to know music and painting and sculpture and languages and literature. It requires a lifetime to learn all that he should know of the collateral arts.—Edith Wynne Mathison in Theater.

OUR NATIONAL FLAG.

Various Occasions When It Was Flown For the First Time.

The first display of the national flag at a military post was at Fort Schuyler, on the site of the present city of Rome, N. Y. The fort was besieged early in August, 1777. The garrison was without a flag, so one was made according to the prescription of congress by cutting up sheets to form the white stripes, bits of scarlet cloth for the red stripes, and the blue ground for the stars was made from a piece of the blue cloak belonging to Captain Abraham Swartwout of Dutchess county, N. Y. This flag was unfurled over the fort on Aug. 3, 1777.

The national flag was first unfurled in battle on the banks of the Brandywine, Sept. 11, 1777. The flag was first hoisted over a foreign stronghold June 28, 1778, when Captain Rathbone of the American sloop of war Providence captured Fort Nassau, on the Bahama islands.

Captain Paul Jones was the first man to display the American flag on an American vessel. This flag was made by the women of Portsmouth, N. H., for the Ranger, which was fitted out at that port for Captain Jones. The Ranger sailed from Portsmouth on Nov. 1, 1777.

Cheerfulness and Cholera.

A cheerful disposition is held by some doctors to be the best protection against cholera. When this disease first visited Paris, in 1832, a notice was issued advising the inhabitants "to avoid as far as possible all occasions of melancholy and all painful emotions and to seek plenty of distractions and amusements. Those with a bright and happy temperament are not likely to be stricken down." This advice was largely followed, and even when cholera was claiming over a thousand weekly victims the theaters and cafes were thronged. The epidemic was in some quarters treated as a huge joke, and plays and songs were written around it. Rochefort wrote a play, "Le Cholera Morbus," which proved a big success, and another production on the same lines, "Paris-malade," also had a long run.

The Real and the Pretend.

Widespread artistic taste would have had a better chance to develop in this country if we had not been so much concerned with knowing what we ought to know and liking what we ought to like. The movement has caught those whose taste happened to coincide with the canons. It has perverted a much larger host who have tried to pretend that their taste coincided, and it has left untouched the joyous masses who might easily, as in other countries, have evolved a folk culture if they had not been outlawed by this ideal.—Randolph Bourne in New Republic.

Jamaica.

The English admirals Penn and Venables captured and held the island of Jamaica in 1655. The Spanish were entirely expelled in 1658. The capture was part of the effort under Cromwell to crush Spanish power in the West Indies. The whole island had been divided among eight noble Spanish families, who had so discouraged immigrants that the population in 1655, both white and slave, did not exceed 3,000.

True Enough.

"What is the plural of man, Johnny?" asked a teacher of a small pupil. "Men," answered Johnny. "Correct," said the teacher. "And what is the plural of child?" "Twins," was the unexpected reply.—Pittsburgh Telegraph.

Demonstrative.

Old Lady (speaking of her late husband)—I mind the last time we was out together, and he turns round and sez, so kindlike, "Come along, old draggle tail!" he sez.—London Tit-Bits.

Helping Him.

Student (writing home)—How do you spell "financially?" Other—"F-i-n-a-n-c-i-a-l-l-y." and there are two r's in "embarrassed."—Harper's Magazine.

Industry supplies the want of parts; patience and diligence, like faith, remove mountains.—William Penn.

NAILING AN IMAGE.

Curious Custom of the Natives of the Kongo Country.

Among the curious objects in the home of the Royal Geographical society at Kensington Gore, in London, is a fetish that was captured in 1865 from river pirates on the Kongo river. It is a wooden figure with mica eyes that glisten unpleasantly in the dark. A number of heavy nails have been driven into its body.

According to Mr. T. A. Joyce of the British museum, the practice of driving nails into images has two purposes. One is simply to get a favor granted. In that case the worshiper on paying the fetish man a fee is permitted to drive a nail into the figure while uttering his petition. The other purpose is to injure an enemy. In that case the applicant pays a heavy fee and drives his nail into the figure in the belief that his enemy will fall ill and die.

A man who falls ill goes at once to the fetish man and makes inquiries, and if he finds that an enemy has driven a nail into the idol with him in mind he bribes the fetish man heavily to remove it. That, he thinks, insures his getting well.

The principle underlying the practice is quite different from that underlying the old practice of making a wax image of an enemy and driving pins into it. The wax figure represented the victim, who in some occult way felt in his own person the abuse lavished on his effigy. The nail driven into the wooden figure, on the contrary, is to remind the god to perform the wishes of the petitioner. It is, as it were, to tie a string round his finger.—Youth's Companion.

LEGEND OF THE VAMPIRE.

Queer Beliefs That Cling About This Old World Superstition.

The vampire, according to the belief of eastern Europe, is the physical body of a dead person, male or female, that maintains itself in a sort of half life in the grave by returning to its former haunts and nourishing itself on the blood of living persons. This superstition is characteristically Slavonic.

The vampire superstition is strongest in White Russia and the Ukraine, though it also pervades the popular belief in Poland and Servia, among the Czechs of Bohemia and the Slovaks of Hungary and is to be traced as far as Albania and Greece. Comparative philology proves it to have had a common origin with the equally hideous legend of the were wolf, a human being who could at will assume the appearance and ferocity of a wolf, which if wounded in its nocturnal pursuits in the head or limbs could not efface its injuries or escape detection when it returned to its human form.

The vampire is to be detected during his visits to the haunts of man by his extreme pallor, his unnaturally long and pointed canine teeth and his fetid breath. The vampire also throws no shadow either upon the ground or on a looking glass and is never seen to eat or drink. How he leaves and re-enters his grave is an undecided point, because no one is ever supposed to have had the courage and address to see, but the belief is that locked doors and closed windows are no bar to his movements.—London Globe.

Trial of a Dead Man.

Charles de Bourbon, high constable of France, died in conquering Rome, which his leaderless soldiers straightway sacked. For this crime it was necessary to find a scapegoat, so "on July 26, 1527, in the presence of King Francis I., on his seat of justice, assisted by the peers of France and the assembled chambers, Jean de Surie, first usher of the court, called Charles de Bourbon three times—at the bar of the parliament, at the marble table and at the marble steps—and then reported that the said De Bourbon had not appeared. The sentence was drawn up, then solemnly read, "The connetable de France, dead, was condemned, his goods returned to the crown, and the door of his palace by the Louvre was painted yellow."

Teeth Tell Sheep's Age.

A lamb has eight small first teeth on the lower jaw. When the animal reaches the age of about one year the middle pair are replaced by two permanent teeth; at the age of about two the teeth on either side of these permanent teeth are also replaced by a permanent pair; at the age of three the next tooth on either side gives way to a permanent tooth, and at the age of four the last or back teeth are replaced in like manner.—Farm and Home.

Grievously Disappointed.

"Have you found out why Jinks is looking so depressed these days?" "It seems that a friend of Jinks was in financial difficulties and Jinks offered his help."

"Well?"

"His friend took him up."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Pugnacious Doves.

Peace lovers had better find another bird to become symbolical of their ideas, for the dove is not a bird of peace, but is one of the most pugnacious little fighters. In fact, the dove fights a large part of its waking hours.—Washington Star.

His Reasons.

"They say the widower who has just married again was all broken up when his first wife died."

"That is why he was so anxious to be repaired."—Baltimore American.

Cruelty and fear shake hands together.—Balzac.

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But we want you to come and learn the inside facts about kitchen cabinets. If you missed this demonstration at the San Francisco Fair, this is your chance to see what interested thousands of people.

Come tomorrow and bring your friends.

# O. F. Biglin, O'Neill



**Summary of the News.**

The business and professional men of the American colony in the City of Mexico tendered a complimentary banquet Thursday night to James L. Rodgers, representative of the American State Department. A toast was drunk to peace between Mexico and the United States. The gathering was attended by prominent men from many parts of the Mexican republic.

William B. Bankhead, son of Senator Bankhead of Alabama, has defeated former Congressman Richard Hobson for the congressional nomination in the newly create Tenth district by 51 votes. Hobson has announced he will contest.

Former President Taft, speaking Friday night at the annual banquet of the Manufacturing Perfumers' Association, declared "that the trouble with us Americans is that we cannot look out for the future." "In my judgment," he said, "whenever we get into a war we ought to have conscription at once. We ought to have conscription so that everyone should be equally subject to military service. I think England now would be much

better off had she adopted conscription earlier. Everyone ought to stand equally before the law in rendering military service."

William J. Bryan will heartily support President Wilson for re-election, he told I. T. Jones, a Des Moines attorney, who spent Thursday touring Iowa with him for the equal suffrage amendment. "Bryan did not qualify his statement on any issue of peace or war," Jones said. "He declared unequivocally that he would support the president, and did not intend to align himself with any peace-at-any-price party which would oppose Wilson."

Emmet Williams, who had been absent from Missouri for several years and was reported dead and his estate settled, appeared at Centennial last week and collected the money that had been paid to others by order of the Probate Court. He now resides in Dallas, Texas.

Patriotic Youth—"Yaas, rejected me, they did, just because I'm six months under military age. It'd be a blinkin' nice thing if the war was over by then, wouldn't it.—London Opinion.

## WHY A STATE BANK?

There are more than 380,000 depositors in Nebraska State Banks. This indicates the confidence of the Public in Banks that are under State supervision and can offer the protection to depositors that the Depositors' Guaranty Fund insures.

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