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SOME QUEER OLD BOOKS.
Volumes of Peculiar Interest—Old Relics in Bible Lore.
In the department of different church exhibits at the Cincinnati centennial are some rare old wonders. Two hundred and forty-two languages and dialects are represented in book and pamphlet form, one unique pamphlet of sixty-four pages alone representing 105 specimen verses from versions in different languages and dialects in which the Holy Scriptures have been printed and circulated by the American Bible society and the British and Foreign Bible society. This is the second edition enlarged. A work of peculiar interest is an ancient Hebrew synagogue scroll, 500 years old, containing the Book of Esther, with a beautifully carved ivory distaff.

A queer looking German Bible, stained and worn, though still in a state of remarkable preservation, lying open, with ancient book mark in place, is the property of Mrs. Barbara Griek, 97 McMicken avenue, Cincinnati. This Bible is 270 years old, was printed in Luther's college town, just 100 years after Luther was made an L. L. D. It is a quarto volume founded on Luther's text, and is accompanied by a comment on obscure passages. It is illustrated after the highest style of German art engraving of the sixteenth century, as taught and practiced by Albrecht Duerer and Hans Holbein. The artist revels in the mystical ornamentation of the Apocalypse. He shows the angels sounding their trumpets and plagues descending upon the sons of man, as an authentic specimen of German wood engraving in the beginning of the seventeenth century. The volume is bound in stiff boards, covered with heavy old leather, with beveled brass corners and leather back-leaves. This ancient Bible has been in the family for eleven generations.

A copy of the "Mathews Bible" is another curiosity. This was published in 1529. A large part of this edition was burned by the order of the Inquisition, only 1,500 copies finding their way into circulation. The editor was John Rogers, the English martyr, whose picture for so many years adorned the pages of the New England primer. This copy was printed in 1551, and from its size was commonly called the Great Bible. Another copy is a Geneva Bible, sometimes called "The Old Breches Bible," from the curious rendering of Genesis iii, 7: "They sewed fig leaves together and made themselves breeches." The first edition was published in the city of Geneva from, it is said, silver type in 1560. It was the most popular of all versions in England for sixty years. It was prepared and published under the supervision of Calvin, Knox, Whittingham and Cover. This copy was printed in London in 1580 and is the property of Wm. Gibson, of the Gibson house, Cincinnati.

Still another relic in Bible lore is a copy of the first edition of the famous "Bishops' Bible." This is the first authorized English version, and continued in use among the people for a long time after the publication of King James' version. This relic was loaned to the Young Men's Bible society in whose exhibit were also these other books mentioned by the Lane seminary.

One case of curious relics in this church department is the exhibit of a returned Chinese missionary, Mrs. J. M. Shaw, whose husband died in China. This exhibit belongs to the Presbyterian Missionary society of the Cincinnati presbytery. A Chinese picture book, compiled 600 years ago, is among the mementoes. This book was widely known and read, and contains incidents supposed to have been taken from the lives of real persons who lived 600 and 700 years ago. Translated as follows, as an illustration of contents: "Lai's parents were very old, and fearing that they might be downhearted, he, when he was 70 years old, put on a bright flowered tunic and performed childish antics before them to make them forget that they were old."

While the residence of Mrs. Davis, on Penn avenue, was the scene of a dancing party the other evening, and during a waltz, a pet starling came fluttering into the room. He planted himself on the piano.

"What kind of a bird is that, anyhow?" said somebody. "He is dark, steel blue, with light spots on his breast."

"Him? don't you know?" said somebody else. "It is a thrush. I should think any one could tell that."

Generosity in Evening Attire.
He had evidently risen from a good dinner a few minutes before, had the tall, portly man who strode down Dearborn avenue about 8 o'clock. There was a contented expression on his ruddy countenance. He was smoking an exquisitely flavored cigar of the kind that costs 25 cents apiece. His light overcoat was thrown open, despite the cold wind, revealing his evening dress and broad expanse of shirt bosom, whereon sparkled two large diamonds. Altogether, he presented a picture of prosperity that attracted over his eyes, shivering in his thin coat.

"Excuse me, sir," he said. "Could I speak to you a minute?"

Without waiting to receive permission, he plunged into his story. The first words of it brought the diner out to a standstill.

"I am just out of the Joliet penitentiary. I won't say I was innocent, for I was guilty. I was drunk that led me to steal. I want to leave my past life behind me, sir. I want to get work and begin anew. But I can't. I've walked the streets thirty hours without sleep and without food. Once I was near leaving a job, when I saw the policeman that arrested me coming up the street, and I went away. I'm tired with cold and hunger. I never begged before. Will you help me, sir?"

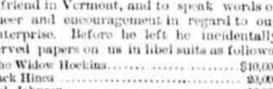
There was a glare in his eyes and bold eagerness in his voice. The diner out had listened intently.

"My friend," said he, "I don't know whether you are telling the truth or not. I hope you are. If you have fallen into evil ways and been punished for it there is no reason in that why you should despair. You have life left, and while there is life there is hope. It is never too late to mend. Some of the best and greatest men have risen to glory out of the ashes of their former lives of corruption. Take this," and he balanced a coin between his fingers, "but don't spend it for drink. Let it help you to be a man. Determine to be one, and to make the world look up to you instead of down upon you. Good night."

He dropped the coin in the tramp's outstretched hand and entered the darkness. The unfortunate hastened to the nearest gas lamp and looked at the coin which lay in his hand and filled his heart with such wild hopes.

It was a nickel!—Chicago Tribune.

He Was Still Alive.


Mrs. Jason—Jehiel, was there ever any such person as the fool killer?

Mr. Jason—What idiotic questions you do ask. How the dickens do I know? I never met him.

Mrs. Jason—Oh, I know that.—Terro Haute Express.

The Arizona Kicker.

We take the following from the last issue of The Arizona Kicker:

EXPOSURE.—Our genial sheriff, Bill Mayes, dropped in on us the other day to subscribe for a copy of The Kicker to send to a friend in Vermont, and to speak words of cheer and encouragement in regard to our enterprise. Before he left he incidentally served papers on us in libel suits as follows: The Widow Hoekins.....\$10,000 Jack Hines.....20,000 Col. Johnson.....10,000 Mrs. Smithers.....15,000 Scattering.....75,000

All the above suits were the result of a few truthful paragraphs in a recent issue, and while not exactly expected, are not unwelcome. We don't think a newspaper amounts to shucks until it has half a dozen libel suits on the docket, and we don't believe that any editor will get up and hump himself until he realizes that he has got to raise \$200,000 in cash inside of a year. Friends, Romans! Come and see us!

EXPLANATORY.—Last week we advised our friends to give the cold shoulder to a traveling theatrical company which advertised its week's engagement at Root Hog or Die hall, and after playing to empty benches for two nights, the company slid out of town, though not before long the leading man, the villain, the juvenile, the first old woman and Clara Vere De Vere, the heroine, had stoned The Kicker office and dared us to come forth in the stillly night and be mangled to a pulp.

CLIPPINGS FROM EXCHANGES.
Prince Bismarck has gone back to beer and tobacco.
The report upon the French vintage says that the injury from the phylloxera seems at last to have been arrested. Since 1875 it has caused the enormous loss to France of \$2,000,000,000.
The authorities of Portsmouth, England, have built a swimming bath for pauper children, who will all be required to learn to swim as a part of their regular schooling.
News from California says the Chinese of that state have leased numerous large farms at Fresno, and are building a packing house at Selma. This is an endeavor to head off the movement to supplant them with boys in picking and canning fruit.
Elder Evans, the head of the Shaker family at New Lebanon, has been spending some time in New York of late attending to the publication of his writings. At 80 years of age he looks and acts and talks like a vigorous man of 55.
The unspeakable Turk regulates the servant girl question with a high hand. Eighty souls employed in the imperial palace at Constantinople, who struck on account of non-payment of wages, have been sent into exile. Where are the woman's rights people? Here is a chance for missionary work.

A Michigan farmer, after losing three sheeps, mowed a large bear to the hog pen to grapple with the bear that was feasting on his stock. The bear possessed long tusks, and pounced upon Brown the moment he appeared. The bear attempted to hug his enemy, but the porker was too cute, and after a hard fight ripped the intruder open with his tusks. The farmer then came up with a lantern and brained the deprecator with an ax.
Amelio Rivas Chanler has set the fashion at afternoon teas of wearing a kid shoe made like a glove, each dainty toe having a separate piece of kid fashioned over it. The shoes are low at the heel, and ladies insist that they are very comfortable. They certainly ought to give great relief to the toes after they have been cramped up in the narrow pointed shoes which are fashionable for street wear.

Puzzle to an Insured Man.
Nobody knows what an insurance policy means until he has been burned out. The proprietor of a Buffalo repair shop has been for years carrying a policy, not only upon his goods, but also upon articles left with him for repairs. These latter were specifically mentioned in the policy, which was a very liberal instrument in its terms and appeared to be "horse high, bull tight and pig tight" in its power to protect the man who ran for it. It called for a larger amount than he would have placed upon his own property alone, and he was in the habit of telling people who left their property with him that it was amply protected.

He was burned out the other day, and when he came to settle with the insurance people they declined to recognize his claim in behalf of property left with him for repairs, unless he had in each instance specifically agreed with the owner that its loss by fire should be made good, and cleared out a considerable amount. They took this position on the ground that he was not otherwise responsible for the property left in his shop. They asserted that a watchmaker, for instance, is not responsible for watches left with him for repairs, unless he makes a special agreement to this effect with their owner, and charges them for it. If this be true, it is a good thing for people generally to know. In this case referred to the owner of the repair shop wonders what he has been paying for all these years.—Buffalo Courier.

Case in a Hospital.
A strange case occurred at the general hospital of Buffalo recently. A woman had a serious operation performed, and after it was all over she began to grow very weak from the shock. At 12 o'clock at night life was so low that the pulse was scarcely to be felt, and a rather unusual resort was made of injecting a quart of salt water into her veins. This revived her almost instantly, but it was only for a time. Then a pint more was injected, and one of the doctors drove off rapidly to a milkman, and had him fill some warm, clean bottles with fresh milk, for which the cow had just been milked. The bottles were put in warm water, and upon arrival at the hospital a pint of the warm milk was injected into the circulation, and shortly afterward another pint. This made three pints of saline solution and two pints of milk. Still the patient did not permanently revive, and, as a last resort, a transfusion of a small quantity of human blood from the arm of one of the doctors was made. All the efforts of the physicians were in vain, however, and the woman died twenty-four hours after the operation.—New York Press.

American Cotton in Russia.
The Russians think that the great cotton mills in Moscow and elsewhere will, within a couple of years, be enabled to rely upon cotton grown in Russia, and thus become independent of the American and Indian markets. The idea may be exaggerated, but they are certainly making great and not unsuccessful attempts to cultivate it themselves, and the Russian government supports with great energy every effort in this direction. Recently two great Moscow firms resolved to make a trial on a large scale. Upward of 2,500 acres were planted with American cotton seed in the neighborhood of Merv.—New York Telegram.

At School With Her Children.
Among the pupils of the state normal school is a young widow who has three little children in the primary department. There is something fine and inspiring in the thought of that gracious young mother going to school every day with her own little ones, full of patience and ambition, setting herself at the task of educating herself above the petty incidents and occasions of life, growing round in a mental way, fair and comforting at all times. If a woman is rightly educated this is what will have been accomplished in her, no more. She will simply be in better and truer proportion.—New Orleans Picayune.

Free Towns of Germany.
Hamburg and Bremen have finally surrendered most of their ancient privileges as free towns to Germany and become incorporated in the general German customs system. They still retain the right of representation in the Prussian and German parliaments. Extensive improvements have been made in contemplation of the change. Whole blocks of old houses have been demolished, new warehouses and new quay built, and the wharf quarter transformed.—Chicago Herald.

Vegetarianism in England.
Not only in London are vegetarians pushing forward; in Manchester also eight restaurants are flourishing. There are now two vegetarian societies and two journals. It is a popular error to associate the word "vegetarianism" with vegetables, the root word being vegetas—vital, vigorous, wholesome, healthful—and fruit, grain and nuts enter as largely into the vegetas's dietary as vegetables.—Home Journal.

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