

WANTED TIME FOR THOUGHT.

Arduous Duties Before the Head of the House Required His Entire Attention.

The baby was ill, and the doctor ordered that he be taken to the sea. This involved the closing of the house until the little one should be well enough to return. After the wife had secured hotel accommodations by the long-distance telephone, the man of the house went to his room and slowly and thoughtfully spread the entire contents of his wardrobe upon his bed, that they might be convenient for his wife to pack.

He stood surveying them, deep in meditation, when his wife came into the room and began to speak to him.

He raised his hand rebukingly. "Don't talk to me now, Susie, don't talk to me! I have a great deal on my mind. If we are going to the seashore day after tomorrow there are many things to be done, and I must plan."

His wife, who had already telephoned the butcher, milkman, baker, grocer, expressman and ticket office, and given the maid a month's vacation and arranged with a relative for the care of the dog, gazed at him in silence.

"A great deal on my mind," he repeated. Then the interrogative nature of his wife's silence forced him to explain.

"You see," he said, "I have got to put a nail in the cellar window and stop the newspaper."—Youth's Companion.

Spanish Executioner's Remorse.

A curious story comes from Seville. On Sunday night the local executioner died, his death being due to remorse.

For several years he had not carried out any executions, but recently he was summoned to Cordova to inflict the final penalty on some grimaais. The impression made upon him was so painful that he was unable to face the ordeal when summoned to execute the last criminal condemned in Seville, and the sentence will have to be carried out by the Madrid executioner.

Chinese Women Educated.

Li Ping Shu, president of the town council of Shanghai, has provided funds for the last three years for the Medical School for Women of that place. Recently six diplomas were granted women. There are 30 students, and the principal is a Chinese woman who has had the higher education herself. Two of the six graduates read essays in English and the rest in their native language.

Millions of Pins Daily.

The largest pin factory in the world is at Birmingham, England. It turns out 37,000,000 pins every day.

Done For.

A New York woman has used a whip instead of the divorce courts. She has ruined her matrimonial future.—Washington Post.

Edison's New Wireless.

About seventeen years ago Thomas A. Edison started the world by carrying on telegraphic communication between a moving train and stations along the railroad without any wire connection therewith. The system employed was to mount a board covered with tinfoil edgewise on the car roof. The tinfoil formed part of a local telegraph circuit, which inductively affected the telegraph wires that paralleled the track, and in this way the messages were made to "leap" from the train to the telegraph lines. The recent experiments on a well-known railroad where messages were exchanged between an operator on a fast-moving train and operators in Toledo, Elkhart and Chicago were of a different character. The Hertzian waves were used, which transmitted the messages directly to the receiving stations, and not to the telegraph wires along the track.

First Wire Hairpin.

The wire hairpin was first made in 1845 in England. Prior to that wooden skewers were used.

Self-Evident.

If you're willing to make the best of it, you're not likely to get the worst of it.

Baldwin Apple Honored.

A chance seedling that grew up on a farm near Lowell, Mass., about 1749 became the first Baldwin apple tree, but it was not until 1784 that Col. Baldwin became interested in the apple, developed it and gave it his name. The original tree lived till after 1817, and the place where it grew is now marked by a monument. The Baldwin is the only apple thus honored.

Spilled Her Sleep Word.

A little girl of four years was heard repeatedly murmuring a long word. Her father, thinking to please her, told her the meaning of it. She burst into tears. At last, with her mother's assistance, the father learned the meaning of her grief. "It was my word that I put myself to sleep with, and now you've spoiled it!"—M. Loane in "An Englishman's Castle."

Characteristics of Servians.

Servians in their good nature and love of humor are said to remind travelers of the Irish peasantry. They are hospitable to strangers; their patriotism is vehement, almost quixotic, and they take great interest in politics. Many of the domestics in the towns and cities come from abroad, as the Servian girl is too independent for domestic service.

Intellect Ruled by Superstition.

A man more absolutely governed by pure reason than Lord Macaulay could not well be found, but in his diary he refers to an after-dinner talk about the feeling which Johnson had—of thinking one's self bound to touch a particular rail or post and to tread in the middle of a paving stone, and he adds: "I certainly have this very strongly."

Knew Her "Missis."

"Hain't you better wash the dishes before we go?" said a man, who was taking a hired girl out for a walk; "your missis will be sure to see them and scold you." "No, she'll not," replied the girl; "as soon as she learns I am going out for the evening, she'll spend all the time looking through my trunk!"—Pack.

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FAILED TO MAKE THE SALE.

Sidewalk Merchant Was Badly in Need of Lesson to Curb Tendency to Freshness.

Carey Johnson Ludlam, the southern philologist, in the course of a lecture on "Neologisms" in Charleston, said:

"Another neologism is 'salesmanship.' The advertising columns of the magazines have for several months abounded in this word. Schools of 'salesmanship' books on 'salesmanship' secrets of 'salesmanship'—why, one reads of nothing else."

The aged scholar smiled. "And speaking of schools of salesmanship," he said, "I hope that the salesman who accosted me on my way here this evening will take in one of them an eight or nine years' course I'm sure he needs it. This salesman, a shabby young man, laid his hand on my arm and said:

"Say, friend, lemme sell ye a box of this here patent cement."

"I shook off his filthy paw. 'Cement!' I sneered, annoyed at his familiarity. 'What do I want with cement?'"

"'Why,' cried the man, in apparent surprise, 'ain't ye broke? Ye look it.'"—Los Angeles Times.

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PECULIAR IDEAS OF AUTHORS.

Varying Conditions Under Which the World's Great Writers Did Their Best Work.

Alexander Pope, who was the literary pontiff of his time, thought best when in bed. Whenever a thought came to him he would jot it down on a scrap of paper. His servant often found bedclothes and floor covered with white bits containing aphorisms which have now become hackneyed quotations.

Victor Hugo wrote "Les Miserables" standing up, an attitude which Hawthorne also assumed when he wrote many of his romances.

One leg thrown over the arm of a chair or sitting on the arm of his secretary's chair were Napoleon's favorite positions while dictating to Bourrienne, a position which he varied now and then by patting that scribe on the head or pulling his ears.

Sir Walter Scott could while reclining on a lounge dictate to two amanuenses, who frequently had to stop writing, so funny the dictated passages seemed to them.

William Morris made one of his famous translations from the Greek while riding on the steam cars. Walt Whitman and Horace Traubel, original in all things, were most original in the position they took while thinking. They were wont, so Mr. Traubel says, to climb upon a pile of lumber and lie down upon their backs. In that way each found out what the other's best thoughts were.

Coming Down Easy.

Inquiries after the welfare of Patrick Conroy were answered by his devoted friend, Terence Dolan, who was at the Conroy's in the double capacity of nurse and cook. "No, he's not dangerously hurt at all," was Mr. Dolan's reply to a solemnly whispered question at the door.

"We heard he had a bad fall and was all broke to pieces," whispered the neighbor.

"'Tis a big story you've heard," said Mr. Dolan, in his cheerful roar. "Thru, he fell off'n the roof of the Brady stables, where he was shingling and he broke his left leg, knocked out a couple of teeth and broke his collarbone."

"Mind ye, if he'd have fell clear to the ground it might have hurted him bad, but sure there was a big pile of shingles and old lumber that broke his fall!"—Youth's Companion.

The Ill-Natured Man.

The ill-natured man, though but of equal parts with the good-natured man, gives himself a larger field to expatiate in. He exposes those failings in human nature which the other would cast a veil over; laughs at vices which the other either excuses or conceals; falls indifferently upon friends or enemies; exposes the person who has obliged him; and, in short, sticks at nothing that may establish his character of a wit.

Back to Earth.

"Every cloud has a silver lining," said the ready-made philosopher. "Yes," answered Miss Cayenne. "The clouds are all right. But how about pocketbooks?"

Via Photographic Plates Spoiled.

A new York photographer recently earned, to his sorrow, that the gas mantle emits a ray. He had stored away a large number of plates in a dark place and inadvertently left a gas mantle near the plates. They remained in the place for a month, and when the photographer took his plates out he found all of them fogged. The mantle contained thorium, a radioactive substance that penetrates a cardboard plate box as easily as it goes through glass. The man didn't know this, but now he knows better than to leave gas mantles near his plates.

Luxuries.

Luxuries are those possessions which are enjoyed chiefly and almost solely because other people do not have them. All other possessions are necessities. If every one were a Standard Oil magnate, it would be an insufferable bore, and it is getting to be almost that anyway. Luxuries do not connote comfort. On the contrary, they connote litter, indigestion, gout and lassitude. Comfort comes only from necessities.—Life.

Wisdom in Old Adages.

"Strike when the iron is hot" and keep it hot by striking. "Take time while time is, for time will away," the English say. The Spanish proverb has it: "When the fool has made up his mind the market has gone by." The old Latin said: "Opportunity has hair in front, behind she is bald; if you seize her by the forelock, you may hold her; but if suffered to escape, not Jupiter himself can catch her again."

Interesting Analysis of Snow.

The London Lancet once made an analysis of London snow on a weekday and on a Sunday. The Sunday snow showed roughly a fifth of the amount of impurities present in the weekday snow. But the most significant difference was that while the weekday snow contained as much as 2.36 grains of sulphuric acid in ten pounds the Sunday snow contained practically none.

Where Nell Gwynne Lived.

Brent house, standing on the banks of the River Brent at Brentford, which was once the residence of Nell Gwynne, is about to make way for two modern villas. While residing there Nell Gwynne often entertained Charles II, and it is said that he once rode his horse up the great oak staircase.—London Daily News.

The Religious Life.

A religious life is not a thing which spends itself like a bright bubble on the river's surface. It is rather like the river itself, which widens continually and is never so broad or deep as where it rolls into the ocean of Eternity.—Beecher.

Satanic.

"Satan is represented as rumin' after folks wif a pitchfork," said Uncle Eben, "when de truth is dat so many folks is pullin' at his coat tails dat he ain't got time to chase nobody."—Washington Star.

DESERVED RAISE IN SALARY.

Theatrical Advance Agent Had Neat Scheme That Brought Him Popularity.

The value of the ability to know faces and the names that go with them is a recognizable asset among salesmen and all people who have dealings with a large number of persons. An advance agent of a theatrical concern, finding that he was not gifted that way, hit upon a new scheme for helping matters along. Immediately after leaving a town he card-indexed every man with whom he came in contact—reporters, hotel men, managers and merchants. He wrote a short description of their facial appearance, together with some incident which occurred while he was with them. The next year, while on the train, he would study the cards relating to the people of the next town he was to visit. The result was that whenever he met a man he saw the year before he would say something like this:

"Why, hello, Jackson! The last time I saw you we were still laughing over that fellow who slipped on the ice with a pail of milk in his hands. I have thought of it a thousand times since."

A raise in salary greeted the advance agent the next year, for he had every town his way long before the show reached it.

Be Amiable and Retain Youth.

As a charming woman once said: "To remain always young one must be always amiable." A melancholy face, a sullen, an evil look, is like coming in contact with winter; whereas a serene face, a gracious air, a kind and good expression, is like a spring day, and a smile on the lips like its sunshine. Sulky people, you may have remarked, always appear to be ten years older than they are. The face grows wrinkled from contracting the brows; the mouth projects disagreeably when sulking. Behold beside the portrait of the sullen woman the picture of the sweet and gracious woman; all her features are in repose, her lips form an adorable Cupid's bow, kindness softens her glance and goodness illuminates her brow. Perhaps she is the elder, but she will always appear young and charming.

Log Far Underground.

Wood 404 feet underground in a perfect state of preservation was found at the Alabama stock farm while boring for the second artesian well there. The drill had penetrated to a depth of 400 feet and had just been drilling hard rock when it suddenly struck a log which was five feet in diameter and in a perfect state of preservation.

How the log could be so far underground and underneath a ledge of rock in perfect condition is a question that is puzzling the officials of the bureau of agriculture.—Manila Times.

Town Built of Meerschaum.

The town of Valdecaas, in Spain, is almost entirely built of meerschaum. Valdecaas has on its outskirts great quarries of a meerschaum too coarse for pipe-making, and a meerschaum-built town is the result—an ivory-white town that shines in the Spanish sun.

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