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One Door West of Fanger's.

### His Photographic Plates Spoiled.

A New York photographer recently learned, 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 foredoomed 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 2.56 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.

### Small Scale Love.

Dr. Pierce Underhill, whose book on divorce and marriage is to appear next month in Indianapolis, delivered a lecture on divorce recently in a fashionable Indianapolis church.

"Extravagance," he began, "is one of the big causes of divorce. My cousin, a bank clerk, married a pretty girl and took her home to a nice little flat. But she frowned and bit her lip. "Oh, Jack," she said, "I can't live in a tiny flat like this!"

"You don't love me when you say that, darling," said my cousin. "Oh, yes I do, but not on such a small scale."

break and as he did so it rolled along the floor with a grinding rattle. Before he had time to turn around he heard the old lady shout from the front of the store: "That makes more noise than my old one, and I don't care to look at it," and so saying, she whisked out to the door, leaving the dealer to wonder whether the joke was worth the loss of the sale.—Portland Express.

### An Instantaneous Cure.

During the cattle plague of 1866 in England a farmer who had lost a number of his cows grew so depressed that he fully persuaded himself he had also contracted the disease. The medical man whom he consulted tried in vain to laugh him out of his fears, but subsequently, being fond of a joke, pretended to agree with the patient's views, and solemnly told him if he would attend to his instructions he would be cured. He then gave the farmer a prescription, which he directed should be taken to a neighboring druggist, but when the latter opened the envelope and read the contents he was as much startled as the farmer. For the prescription was as follows: "This man has the cattle plague. Take him into the backyard and shoot him, according to act of parliament." Needless to say, the cure was instantaneous.

### Investing in Nature.

A man must invest himself near at hand, and in common things, and be content with a steady and moderate return, if he would know the blessedness of a cheerful heart and the sweetness of a walk over the round earth. This is a lesson the American has yet to learn—capability of amusement on a low key. He expects rapid and extraordinary returns. He would make the very elemental laws pay usury. He has nothing to invest in a walk; it is too slow, too cheap. We crave the astonishing, the exciting, the far away, and do not know the highways of the gods when we see them—always a sign of the decay of faith and simplicity of man.—John Burroughs.

### Worldly Wisdom.

As there is a worldly happiness which God perceives to be no more than disguised misery; as there are worldly honors which in his estimation are reproach, so there is a worldly wisdom which in his sight is foolishness. Of this worldly wisdom the characters are given in the Scriptures, and placed in contrast with those of the wisdom which is from above. The one is the wisdom of the crafty, the other that of the upright; the one terminates in selfishness, the other in charity; the one is full of strife and bitter envyings, the other of mercy and of good fruits.—Blair.

### Bean Milk.

"Pigeon milk is a myth," said a milkman, "but there actually is a bean milk. It is drunk, put in tea and coffee, and even frozen for ice cream. The Japs are its inventors. This milk is made of the Soja bean. The bean is first soaked, then boiled in water. After the liquid turns white sugar and phosphate of potash are added, and the boiling is kept up till a substance of the thickness of molasses is obtained. Nobody could tell this bean milk from condensed milk, and when water is added it can't be told from the fresh. The Japanese poor use nothing else."

### Queer Habits of Authors.

Both Dumas and Balzac showed no inclination to pass the wine-bottle. On the other hand, Voltaire drank huge quantities of coffee when engaged in writing. As a matter of fact, over-indulgence in that beverage during a protracted literary effort was the real cause of his death. Schiller also drank coffee "to thaw the frost out of his wits," but he fancied imbibing the infusion while seated with his feet in hot water. This, he believed, stimulated his imagination in sluggish moods, and he refreshed it during work by copious draughts from a flask of Rhenish wine.

## THOSE DEAR GIRLS

### AND THE RUDE CROWD AT THE TICKET OFFICE.

#### Age of Chivalry Surely Dead When Men Object to Missing Their Trains to Accommodate Fair Femininity.

It was one of the branch offices of a big railroad. As the man ahead of her threw down his money, grabbed his ticket and disappeared, she fluttered up to the counter.

"I want to get my trunk checked, please."

"Let me see your ticket, miss."

"O, Clare, we forgot to get my ticket," turning to the girl with her.

"So we did. Now we will have to go all the way back."

"You can get your ticket here, miss."

"O, Clare, I can get my ticket here. Isn't it lovely?"

"Just happened to have a few odd lots on hand," grinned some brute behind her. "It's bargain day, you know. All tickets reduced to \$4.98!"

"What does that rude creature mean, Clare?"

"I don't know, dear. Don't pay any attention to him."

"Where to, miss?" inquired the ticket agent at this point.

"New York."

"Round trip?"

"O, I—wait a moment, Clare, I never thought about that. Would you get a round trip? You know the Howards may only be in New York a week, and I may go on with them to Pittsburg. They have been begging me to go for weeks, but if Mabel's wedding should come off by the 30th, I'll want to go to that. I shouldn't be a bit surprised though if she postponed it again, but—"

"Round trip, miss?" asked the ticket agent again, while the waiting line of men and women stood on the other foot.

"O, Clare, what would you do? I am wild to go to Pittsburg with the Howards—"

"And we are wild to have you go," suddenly yelled a man at the extreme end of the line, whose train left in 20 minutes.

"Try Pittsburg," yelled another voice. "You have to change everything there every hour or so, and you can include your mind without any extra inconvenience."

"Oh, no," shrieked another frantic individual, "go to Mabel's wedding. I am dying to have you go. What, Mabel?"

"Clare, did you ever see such dreadful people. I shall report you at the main office," and she glared at the ticket agent.

"Yes, miss," returned that individual in an expressionless voice.

"Round trip?"

"No, single," haughtily.

"What time? The next call is between 11 and 12."

"Oh, my trunk isn't packed yet. I could never get it ready in that time."

"Next call between 3 and 4."

"Very well, have the man call for my trunk at 3, then I can take the 2 o'clock train."

"You would not have your check, miss?"

"Why not? I can get the check when the man comes for my trunk."

"But you won't be there if you go on the 2 o'clock train and he doesn't come until 3."

"Oh," a long pause.

"Clare, I won't be there. What shall I do? Do you think I could get my trunk ready by 12? You know they never come when they say they will."

"I think you could, dear. I'll pack one tray for you and we'll phone for Helen to come and help us, and—"

"Say, look here," shouted an excited person in the rear, whose hair was standing wildly on end and whose eyes appeared to be endeavoring to sever their connecting links with his face. "I've got just 20 minutes to make my train in, and it's a matter of \$40,000 to me if I lose it. Now if 'Clare' and her friend will retire for a few moments and decide these momentous questions the rest of us can get our tickets before she has time to change her mind again."

"Clare, I'll not stay here another moment and be insulted. I shall not get my ticket at this office, and I shall certainly report you, sir, at headquarters. I will never go on this road again and I shall tell all my friends how I have been treated, and see that they take their custom elsewhere," and then she and Clare swept haughtily from the office, while the crowd cheered.

As the two disappeared the ticket agent winked at the crowd, and then began throwing out tickets and making change, as each man yelled his destination, tossed him his money and snatching his ticket sprinted out of the door with his coat tails standing out straight and his suit case cutting long streaks out of the atmosphere.—Puck.

### Things Undone.

Knowing Child—Mamma punished me for something I hadn't done yesterday.

Auntie—That's rather unjust. Are you sure?

Knowing Child—Yes, she punished me because I hadn't done my lessons.

### A Soft Answer.

'09—What did you tell your father when he asked you if you indulged?

'12—Told him I took only ginger ale.

'09—Thought a soft answer would turn away wrath, eh?

### The Smooth Way.

In the last generation Tyler Cobb, Esq., was a well-known citizen of North Bridgewater—now Brockton—Massachusetts. He was famous throughout Plymouth county, says a contributor to the Boston Herald, for his witty retorts and dry humor.

Never having taken a sea trip, Mr. Cobb one day conceived the idea of making a voyage to New York. Accordingly he sailed from Boston in a small schooner.

The first day out a storm was encountered and Mr. Cobb became violently sick, but after several hours he mustered up courage and strength to look out upon the troubled waters.

As he looked from the side of the little ship up the trough of the sea, it seemed very smooth to him. The captain's cutting of the waves was "senseless," he told himself.

But as this mad steering continued, the unhappy passenger finally crawled out, on hands and knees, to where the captain stood at the wheel, and raising his voice above the din of waves and wind, shouted:

"Man, man, keep in the ruts, keep in the ruts!"—Youth's Companion.

### The Human Family.

The human family living on earth to-day consists of about 1,450,000,000 souls—not fewer, probably more. These are distributed literally all over the earth's surface, there being no considerable spot on the globe where man has not found a foothold. In Asia, the so-called "cradle of the human race," there are now about 800,000,000 people, densely crowded, or an average of about 120 to every square mile. In Europe there are 320,000,000, averaging 100 to the square mile, not so crowded as Asia, but everywhere dense, and in many places over-populated. In Africa there are 210,000,000; and in the Americas—North, South and Central—110,000,000, these latter, of course, relatively thinly scattered over broad areas. On the islands, large and small, there are probably 10,000,000 more. The extremes of the blacks and the whites are as five to three, the remaining 700,000,000 intermediate, brown, yellow and tawny in color.

### Cause of Baldness.

After considerable familiarity the pair turned to the pearily-pected stranger and one said:

"My friend and I have been discussing the cause of baldness, but we can't seem to agree. Would you mind telling us what you regard as the real cause of baldness?"

The stranger wheeled about, eyed his questioners fiercely and snorted: "Brains!"

### Advice Worth Heeding.

Do not wait, but begin to-morrow morning to be reliable and keep at it until reliability becomes a part of you.—Booker T. Washington.

### Where Nature Falls Short.

Whiskers may conceal a receding chin, but there is no help for a flattened brow.

### And Equal Uselessness.

Were every pebble a ruby the ruby and the pebble would be of equal value.

### New Use for Onions.

A woman has cured her husband of a bad attack of "affinitis" by feeding him on raw onions.

### No Cheap Grades.

There are no varying degrees of sincerity.

### STRONG FLIGHTS OF ORATORY.

#### Examples of Mixed Metaphors Calculated to Cause a Smile.

An amateur historian is responsible for this: "All along the ever flowing stream of history you can discern the silent footprints of the crowned heads of Europe!"

The village reporter on the death of the village poet: "That dauntless pen shall write no more, for its eyes are closed forever!"

From the speech of a rising young politician: "The fierce light of public opinion shall dog their footsteps until it strangles them. Then shall they swallow the bitter pill and drink its very dregs."

Advice and warning from a successful man of business to a gathering of young people: "Every rung in the ladder of success is paved with slippery stones, on which only the clear head and the steady hand can retain their footing!"

The fearless suffragette was addressing a meeting of mere men. She had graphically related to them the fascinating story of the strenuous struggle the ladies had made for that most priceless of possessions, a vote—how every obstacle had been conquered and victory was at last in sight. "We have now," she shrieked, "almost crossed the trackless desert and the harbor lights are stretching out their arms to greet us!"

The temperance advocate was giving a striking but a true picture of the vast amount of evil wrought by the demon of drink. "What is the greatest devastating agent of our time?" he asked. "It is the bottle, which smiles genially before your face while at the same time it is stabbing you in the back!"

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### Riches and Real Worth.

Riches are for the comfort of life, not life for the amassing of riches. I asked a wise man: "Who is the fortunate and who is the unfortunate man?" He replied: "He is the fortunate who sowed and reaped, and he the unfortunate who died and enjoyed rest. Offer no prayer in behalf of that worthless wretch who did nothing but spend his life in the accumulation of wealth which he used not."

Attractiveness. A magnetic personality is often more powerful than ability, and is often, very often, placed in the balance against it. It is therefore advisable to exert oneself to the utmost to cultivate that wonderful charm to the highest degree, and she who has it not is not so much to be pitied as blamed, for it is, more or less, within the reach of all.—Woman's Life.

What Gifts to Give. The different wedding anniversaries and gifts appropriate are: First year, cotton; second, paper; third, leather; fifth, wooden; seventh, woolen; tenth, tin; twelfth, silk and fine linen; fifteenth, crystal; twentieth, china; twenty-fifth, silver; thirtieth, pearl; fortieth, ruby; fiftieth, golden; seventy-fifth, diamond; eighty-fifth, radium.

Truth Versus Fiction. The mother-in-law is generally kind and indulgent; the landlady is more than solicitous about your welfare; the street-car conductor does not knock down fares; policemen do not go to sleep on their beats; there is no such thing as a gentleman burglar. Think it over.

His Suggestion. Tommie was about to have a children's party. "Mother," he said thoughtfully, "it won't look well for me to be stuffing myself when those other kids are here. How will it be if I eat my share before they come?"—Harper's Bazar.

Result of Mince Pie Nightmare. After eating three pieces of mince pie, Albert Allen of Chicago went to sleep, and, dreaming that a man he was gambling with was cheating, he got his revolver, intending to shoot the gambler, but instead fired a bullet into his wife's head.

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