

NO PLACE TO WIN AT CARDS

Custom in American Club at Manila
Makes Lucky Player "Buy"
for Everyone.

"When you play cards at the American club in Manila," said an American just returned from the Philippines, "the worst thing you can do is to win."

Of course there were exclamations and questions.

"Well, you see, it's this way," continued the returned one. "At the club the game they play is 'vingt-et-un,' in which, as you doubtless know, one of the best things a player can do is to get what is called a 'natural.' But, in Manila, the trouble is that the getting of a natural immediately places its possessor at the mercy of an unwritten law comparable, in its severity, to the laws of the Medes and Persians.

"As soon as it is known that there is a 'natural' on the table everybody in the clubhouse hurries to the club bar, with hoarse cries of 'Natural! Natural!' Not only that—members rush to the doors and windows of the club, bawling 'Natural!' out into the streets, whereupon every American and Englishman within hearing charges into the club like a mad bull and makes toward the bar, without a word.

"There is but one thing for the possessor of the 'natural' to do. And, I ask you, where are his winnings when he has done it?"

HISTORY OF OLD FORT LEE

Consisted Merely of Earthworks and
Was Abandoned by Order of
General Washington.

The Fort Lee of revolutionary days was on top of the Palisades, about two miles up the river from the village of Edgewater, where the Fort Lee ferry has its New Jersey landing in the strict sense of the word, it was hardly worthy of being called a fort, since it consisted merely of earthworks, of which not a vestige is to be seen today.

Tradition says that the fort was laid out by Gen. Israel Putnam, and some of the historians thus account for the fact that the defenses were rather expansive for their purpose. At first it was called Fort Constitution, but was soon re-named Fort Lee.

This temporary stronghold was really constructed to co-operate with Fort Washington, on the New York side of the Hudson, in the defense of the river. In the beginning it was believed that the two defenses would be able to turn the British war fleet back and prevent it from getting up the river to West Point.

But from the first Washington is known to have questioned its usefulness and it was on his orders that it was finally evacuated. In November, 1776, all that was left of the American army in New Jersey abandoned the fort and set out on its historic retreat to Philadelphia.

Tradition says that there was a fort under the cliff of the river front at some point not far from Edgewater earlier in the revolution, but there is no authentic record of its existence and it therefore cannot be credited.

Literal Obedience.

Figg—Talk about green servant girls! My wife told ours to put a little nutmeg in the custard she was making this afternoon.

Fogg—And she didn't do it?

Figg—Oh, yes, she put a little nutmeg in, all right! I came near choking over the blame thing

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THIS HAPPENED IN MISSOURI

Editor Mixed a Wedding Announcement
and the Advertisement of an
Auction Sale.

A Missouri editor who was brimful of hard cider got a wedding account and a sale mixed, and served to his readers this dope:

William Smith, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Smith, was disposed at auction to Lucy Anderson on my farm, one mile east of here in the presence of 70 guests, including the following, to-wit: Two mules, 12 head of cattle. The Rev. Jackson tied the nuptial, the least weighing 1,250 pounds on the hoof. The beautiful home of the bride was tastefully decorated with a seawash calf, a spade, a sulky rake, one feed grinder, one set double harness, almost new, and just before the ceremony was pronounced. Mendelssohn's wedding march was played by one milch cow, five years; one Jersey cow, to be fresh next April, carrying a bunch of flowers in her hand and looking charming in a gown made of light spring wagon, two boxes of apples, two racks of hay, one grindstone, mouseline deori trimmed with about 180 bushels of spuds. The groom is well known and popular young man and has always stood well among society circles of 12 Berkshire hogs, while the bride is an accomplished and talented school teacher of a splendid drove of Poland-China—pedigrees if desired. Among the beautiful presents were two sets of knives and forks, one spring harrow, one wheelbarrow, one go-cart, other articles too numerous to mention. The bridal couple left yesterday on an extended trip, term of 12 months time, extended to responsible parties, otherwise spot cash luncheon will be served at the table. After this Mr. and Mrs. Smith will go to housekeeping in a cozy home at the corner of Main and Doctor R. L. Granby, auctioneer.—National Monthly.

UNCLE HIRAM TO HIS NEPHEW

His Dissertation on the One Priceless
Treasure Which All Men
Share Alike.

"Steven, my boy," said Uncle Hiram, "one man may have more talent than another or more courage or more money, but there is one thing that no man on earth can have any more of than you have, and that is time.

"Did you ever stop to think of that? Or maybe you haven't come to it yet. That of the most precious thing of all, the same being, I repeat, time, nobody, no matter who he is, can have any more than you have. There can't be any favoritism or special privilege or gouging or monopoly in time. You get what's coming to you anyway, and no man on earth can take it away from you.

"And isn't this something to be cheerful over? Why, Stevey, it's the grandest thing going to think that of the most valuable thing of all we've got as much as the man that rides by us in a \$10,000 automobile. But, and now I'm getting down to the sermon, Stevey, this most precious thing of all is the thing of which we are most wasteful.

"We get our full share of it sure, but we waste it ourselves shockingly.

"Don't waste time, Stevey, please don't. As you feel now you've got a million years ahead of you, more or less, plenty of time; but time is one of those things that once lost can never be recovered. Don't waste a minute of it. When you play, play; sink the shop; forget it utterly; but when you work utilize all your time. Don't dawdle it away."