

FORGOT HIS LINES.

Inscription Upon Poor Yorick's Skull that Embarrassed Booth.

Among treasures with which I decorate my rooms when I am long enough in one place to make decoration worth while is a skull. When Edwin Booth was playing "Hamlet" during his last engagement in Boston I took this skull to Owen Fawcett, who was playing the gravedigger, and asked him to use it in the graveyard scene for Yorick's skull. I also asked him to try to get Mr. Booth to write his autograph on the skull after using it in the play.

Some time before this I had written on the forehead of the skull, in very black ink, Hamlet's dying words, "The rest is silence." "Hamlet" was played Wednesday night, the last week of the engagement, and also at the Saturday matinee. After the performance Wednesday night I went to see Fawcett and inquire about my skull's "first appearance."

Fawcett met me with a smile and said: "I used the skull, but I am afraid you won't get Mr. Booth's autograph on it."

I asked him why not, and he told me that when he handed the skull up out of the grave to Mr. Booth the calcium light strongly illuminated the words I had written on Yorick's forehead. The result was unfortunate. Mr. Booth, before beginning the "Alas, poor Yorick" speech, started to speak, and "got the speech all twisted," almost "sticking dead." His last line in "Hamlet" thus appearing so far ahead of its one had upset him. He was justly offended, until he was told it had not been planned as a practical joke. I asked Fawcett to use the skull again at the Saturday matinee, and to try to get the autograph. He did so, and Mr. Booth showed his ever kindly nature by writing his name, clear and bold, on the forehead of the skull, immediately above the offending line, "The rest is silence."—Dramatic Mirror.

Slaughter of English Larks.

We have often spoken with regret of the wanton destruction of song birds in this country, not only because their beauty and melody are a delight to all who live in the country, but because they are such important auxiliaries in the war against insects injurious to vegetation. This wholesale butchery is by no means confined to our own country. A recent number of the Fortnightly Review notes that 40,000 larks daily come into the London markets, where poultryers sell them by the bushel. Besides those sold for table purposes, there are thousands killed for their feathers, their wings, when dyed so as to counterfeit tropical birds, being worn for ornaments. Large numbers are also trapped to let fly at shooting matches, and many more are sold to be confined, not as household pets, but by gamblers, who, strangely enough, keep them and bet on their powers of song, although how such matches are decided one can hardly understand. All this makes agriculture and horticulture more difficult in England, where, under any circumstances, it is none too prosperous. But what seems surprising to Americans is that public sentiment in England will allow the extermination of a songster which seems to be such a favorite and holds so high a place in the poetical literature of the language.—Garden and Forest.

What is "An Edition?"

"What constitutes an edition?" is a question that is frequently asked, and nobody seems qualified to answer it satisfactorily. The truth is that in 99 out of every 100 cases later editions are merely servile prints of the first edition, and there may have been 10,000 copies of a book made for the first edition, or there may have been only 150.

The first editions of all works by Emile Zola number 20,000 copies each.

In a Paris shop, where only rare volumes are sold, a first edition of "L'Assommoir" is valued at 105 francs—say \$4—but this book came out at a time when Zola was comparatively unknown, and Zola editions were then limited to 1,000 copies each.

In fact, in France an edition is supposed to consist of 1,000 copies, but as Mr. Robert H. Sherard says in a recent letter: "Publishers are not without guile, and to whip up a sale a book may be issued in editions of fifty copies, so that by the time 1,000 copies have been disposed of the book is in its twentieth edition."—Tid-Bits.

Not a Beauty.

Cecil Armitage, a young Englishman in Ashantee, tells of a strange West African "Joan of Arc," who is equipping an army for King Prempeh. Her appearance is more impressive than beautiful, and, unlike the famous French Joan, whose features we know, this dusky amazon is said to have only one eye, one ear and one arm, and to wear her hair hanging long. With one touch of her magic wand she can bring armies together, and in an engagement a brass pan is placed before her, into which all the bullets of the enemy can conveniently fall without hurting her brave soldiers.

Like Deathbed Repentance.

Wiggles—Say, Wiggles, go home quick! Your house is on fire. Waggles (excitedly)—Go home nothing! Who's the nearest insurance agent?—Somerville Journal.

New table ornaments combine candor and show stands.

The old-time stock seat, as our grandfathers were will be seen on smart shirt waist this summer.

FAST EXPRESS HELD UP

Three Masked Men Did the Job in Short Order.

USED DYNAMITE ON THE SAFE

Loss May Reach \$100,000 but the Amount Cannot be Stated at Present.

St. Louis, April 2.—The Frisco fast express from the west, which left Lebanon, Mo., 182 miles west of St. Louis, a little before 1 o'clock yesterday morning, was held up by three masked men near Richland, twenty-two miles east of Lebanon, about 3 o'clock in the morning.

When the train was near Richland the engineer saw a bright red light down the track. He reversed the lever, applied the air brakes and stopped the train. A man sprang into the cab with a Winchester rifle and commanded the engineer and fireman to hold up their hands. The robber made the engineer mount the platform of the express car and call loudly to the messenger to open his car. It was not until several volleys had been poured into the car through the door that the messenger admitted the robbers. The messenger declared that everything in the car worth taking was securely locked in the through safe, to which he did not possess the combination.

The robbers produced, from a bag, a sack of dynamite and went to work to blow the safe open. They worked for nearly an hour, firing their guns all the time outside the train to intimidate the passengers and trainmen. The messenger was badly hurt by being struck in the head with the butt end of a gun. At last the safe was opened, the booty secured, the robbers mounted horses and galloped off in the darkness.

A posse left Lebanon early yesterday morning in pursuit. The express officials claim not to know how much the robbers got, but one of the passengers says he heard the messenger say that there was over \$30,000 in the safe.

The loss may be any amount from \$10,000 to \$100,000. All the way bills were destroyed. In their haste, the robbers dropped one package of \$1,700. After some time consumed in drilling the safe, the first charge was exploded, creating a faint shock. In a few minutes a second and heavier shock did the work. The bandits cut the engine loose and started down the track. Engineer Price offered to go with them to take care of the engine, but they said they did not need him, as they knew something about engines. An eighth of a mile east of the train, they left the engine and mounted their horses, which had been picketed near by.

Good descriptions are given of the three robbers, and as the country is aroused and pursuit active, it is thought they cannot escape. The St. Louis agency of the Wells Fargo Express company refuse information as to the amount of money in the through safe.

MANY CITIZENS PURSUE.

LEBANON, Mo., April 2.—An hour after the robbery was reported here a posse made up of one hundred citizens started in pursuit of the robbers. About 11 o'clock a member of the posse returned. He says they found in the woods west of where the robbery took place two checks, one for \$4,000 and one for \$15, and also an envelope containing a five dollar bill, hence it is supposed that the cutting loose of the engine was merely a bluff and the robbers jumped off within a few hundred yards of the train and took horses and came west across the country. At least this is the theory the officers are proceeding on. Wells-Fargo & Co., have issued a circular offering \$300 reward for the arrest of the bandits. The description of the robbers, obtained from the passengers, is as follows:

- First—Large, well built, sandy mustache, black overcoat and black slouch hat and belt with pistols.
Second—Small man, smooth face, dark hair, black overcoat and slouch hat.
Third—Medium height, dark complexion, heavy, full growth of beard, dark and stubby mustache, broad band black slouch hat no overcoat and brown sack cut away coat.

Soldiers Storm the Stronghold.

CAPE TOWN, April 2.—Contradictory reports are received here in regard to the situation in Rhodesia, but there is no question that matters are serious in Bulawayo. The Rhodesia corps, which force was recently disbanded, has been replaced by the Bulawayo field force, 400 strong. This force will storm the stronghold of the Matabele in the Matoppo hills. King Khama, who rendered efficient aid to the British South Africa company in its campaign against Lobengula, has offered an armed escort for the coaches, and to keep open communication between Bulawayo and the south.

President Kruger has notified Sir Jacobus de Wet, the British diplomatic agent at Pretoria, that he has no objection to British subjects in the Transvaal being recruited for service against the Matabele.

Wager made.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., April 2.—Three suits aggregating \$91,000 were filed in the circuit court of St. Clair county, Illinois, yesterday against James D. Baker, ex-warden of the Chester penitentiary, for a shortage of \$23,808.58 in penitentiary funds belonging to the state while he was warden. The bondsmen of Baker are H. E. Seitzman, the defunct Lebanon banker and politician, the Lebanon Dairy and Creamery company and Charles J. Reuter of Lebanon.

Spaniards Fought.

PHILADELPHIA, April 3.—A private cablegram from Puerto Cortes, Honduras, shows that the Spaniards did not make a big haul as reported. Honduras authorities have really held the steamship Bermuda. The cablegram says that but ninety cases of arms and ammunition were found aboard the steamer and that the greater part of her cargo and General Calixto Garcia and the Cubans who went out on the vessel were landed on the coast of the province of Pinar del Rio. It is said that a number of men who were landed by the Bermuda were expert riflemen and had gained their experience in battery A of the national guard of Pennsylvania. It said the men were under command of Sergeant A. A. Cox of section 3, battery A, who is considered one of the best artillery instructors and the most efficient handlers of batteries in this part of the country. The services of these men were, it is asserted, secured by the Spaniards for the purpose of organizing their own men into effective battalions and raising them in the use of guns imported from the United States.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The Spanish minister here has received contradictory dispatches bearing yesterday's date, from the Spanish minister to Central America now in San Jose, Costa Rica, saying that he is in communication with the Honduras government regarding the Bermuda, which has been seized in Puerto Cortes and is still held here, including ninety cases of ammunition, Mauser rifles and a field gun.

Two cablegrams also reached the legation yesterday from the Spanish consul at Panama confirming the detention of the Bermuda and giving details which are withheld from publication at present, but which are understood to relate to the whereabouts of Calixto Garcia and his men, who were thought to be in a spot where a Spanish man of war may capture them.

Indian Legislation.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The senate committee on appropriations reported the Indian bill. The chief contention in the committee has been over the Indian school appropriation. The house went on the theory that there should be no appropriations for sectarian schools and yet appropriated \$33,000 for the Lincoln school and \$20,000 for the school at Hampton, Va., both of which, it was claimed, are sectarian. Both of these appropriations the senate committee has struck out. The general appropriation for the schools for the Indians not sectarian has been increased by upwards of \$300,000.

The bill carries \$7,413,896, being a net reduction from the amount as passed by the house of \$1,095,638. The bill is \$1,348,944 less than the current law. The chief items of reductions made by the senate are as follows:

- Payment on Cherokee outlet purchase \$1,660,000; surveying Indian reservations in South Dakota, \$20,000; Hampton school, Virginia, \$20,000; Lincoln institute, Philadelphia, \$33,400. The principal increases over the house bill are: Day and industrial schools for the Sioux of the different tribes, \$50,000; Ft. Hall reservation, Shoshones and Bannocks, \$10,000; negotiations with Uncompahge and other Indians of Utah reservations, \$25,000; extensions of public land surveys over the Cheyenne on Rosebud reservations, \$35,000; survey of the lands in Indian Territory, \$200,000; support of day and industrial schools, \$200,000; construction, repair, etc., of school buildings, \$100,000; erection of school building at the Sac and Fox reservation in Iowa, \$35,000; additional school buildings at Flandreau, S. D., \$50,000.

The bill also incorporated treaties with the Indians of Ft. Belknap reservation in Montana, the Indians of the Blackfoot reservation in Montana and with the Indians of the San Carlos reservation in Arizona.

Old Glory Changed.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—In the senate yesterday Mr. Sherman introduced a bill to regulate the use of a uniform flag in the army and navy, its proportions and the location of the stars in the blue field. The flag proposed is to be used on and after July 4, 1900. The arrangement of the stars is as follows: Three in each corner and a central star, around which shall be entwined a sufficient number of stars so that the total number in the blue field will represent the total number of states. The bill sets out that twelve stars in the four corners and the one in the center representing the thirteen original states according to their geographical location on the map, assuming the top of the field to be north, and the other states are represented in the circle of stars in the order in which they were admitted into the union, placing the oldest state nearest the center. The idea carried out in this bill is that of Alonso Marther of Chicago.

Sub-treasurer O. K.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—United States Treasurer Morgan and party have returned from New Orleans, where an examination of the sub-treasurer in that city was made. Mr. Morgan reports accounts accurate and well kept.

No Liquor.

DES MOINES, April 3.—In the senate yesterday the bill to legalize the manufacture of liquor in Iowa was defeated, 22 to 27, with one member absent, who said word that he desired the record to show that he had been present he would have voted against the bill. All the seven demerits voted for the bill. His explanations which in substance said they regarded the measure as a very short step, but in the right direction. They first proposed the substitute bill.

THREE PICTURES OF HORRID WAR.

"Good shooting." Three skeleton companies of infantry—180 men in all—half faced to the right on the right wing of a division extended in battle-line along a creek fringed with trees, and there to hold its ground at all hazards. We on the flank have no cover, but face a cleared field half a mile wide and are strung out in single line. No bullets are fired at us from in front, but there is a steady and vengeful ping! ping! ping! from the hot lead coming in behind us and over the heads of our comrades facing the south. We stand at "parade rest," and take whatever comes without wincing. Now and then a bullet finds its billet and a man goes down, but the "Steady men" of the senior captain prevents anything like confusion in the lines. Nothing tries the nerves more than to be under fire in line without movement, but pride and discipline are strong factors on a battle field.

At the end of half an hour we have eleven men down. Two of them are officers from the rear line. The fire along the creek has grown hotter, but our lines are holding their own and depending upon us to take care of the flank. Of a sudden a horseman rides out of the woods in front of us and inspects our position through his glass. We only know that he is an officer, but his glass enables him to count every man of us—almost tell the color of each man's hair and eyes. He holds his glass upon us for sixty seconds and then disappears among the trees.

"Attention!" calls the senior captain, and the line dresses in an instant. "Infantry in the woods!" whispers each man to his neighbors. "Well, let 'em come! If they are too many for us, reinforcements will be sent to us. Ah! That's business."

Three guns of a battery come galloping up on our right and unlumber, and a cheer goes along the lines. Shell first—grape and canister next. The guns will have a clear sweep over the field.

"There they come, and it's cavalry instead of infantry!" "Steady, men! No talking in the ranks! Now, then, not a shot until they pass that bush down there, and then shoot to kill!"



HE HOLDS HIS GLASS UP FOR SIXTY SECONDS AND THEN DISAPPEARS AMONG THE TREES.

Five hundred cavalrymen ride out from under the trees and form up two lines deep. The three guns open on them at once with shell, but the lines form and dress under fire with a coolness that excites admiration. We cannot hear the order of "Draw sabers!" but we catch the flash of steel and draw a long breath. The guns cease firing to load with grape, and the squadron moves out on a front no longer than our own. The bugles blow "Trot!" "Gallop!" "Charge!" Here they come, every trooper whirling his saber about his head and yelling—every horse at the top of his speed!

"Steady, boys! Let 'em get the grape and canister first! Down with those muskets on the left! That's right, stop that cheering in the center! Wait! Wait! Now give it to 'em!"

"Boom! boom! boom!" from the guns, double-shotted with missiles which were fired point-blank into the charging squadron, and then a crash of musketry as every man pulled the trigger at the same instant. Ten feet to the right of me a trooper broke through our line—ten feet to the left a second—but only to be shot down by the officers in the rear. The smoke-cloud hangs for a moment to obscure the vision, but we hear the groans of wounded horses—the cries and curses of wounded men—the thud of hoofs on the soft earth. We load and fire at will into the cloud, but presently the wind lifts the smoke and whirls it away and the order comes to cease firing.

Where is the body of cavalry which charged us? A score of horsemen down on the left—another score away to the right—a bunch of them just disappearing into the woods from whence they came, their retreat hastened by the shrieking shells sent after them from the guns. On our front a dozen horses are limping about—thirty others are down. Six or eight dismounted but un wounded troopers hold up their hands and come walking in to surrender—sixteen wounded ones cry out or curse us—twenty-two are lying dead on the grass.

"Well done, boys—that was good shooting!" says the senior captain. "Glad to have been of service, sir!" salutes the battery lieutenant, as he advances.

A Grim Joker.

At the second battle of Bull Run our colonel was ordered to hold a position on the right at whatever cost; and the word was passed along the lines that no one should go to the rear on any

excuse, even for fresh cartridges. For two hours we lay in line on the ground without firing a shot, though the enemy's bullets, and now and then a shell, fell among us to wound and kill. While we were enduring it as best we could a private named Stevens looked back at the captain, and asked: "Cap, can I go to the rear after water?" "Against orders?" was the reply. "Five minutes later Stevens looked back and held out a bloody hand, and said: "Cap, can I go to the rear and have the thumb amputated?" "Against orders?" was the answer. "Seven or eight minutes later Stevens received a bullet in his shoulder, and, sitting up, he pressed his hand to the wound, and queried: "Cap, can I go to the rear with two wounds?" "Wait till the colonel comes this way and I'll ask him."

The colonel was then riding down to us behind the lines. In about five minutes he was up, and our captain was about to address him when Stevens called out: "Never mind, Cap—I'm a dead man and don't want to go to the rear!" With that he fell over and struggled for a moment, and was dead. A bullet had passed clear through him before he called out.

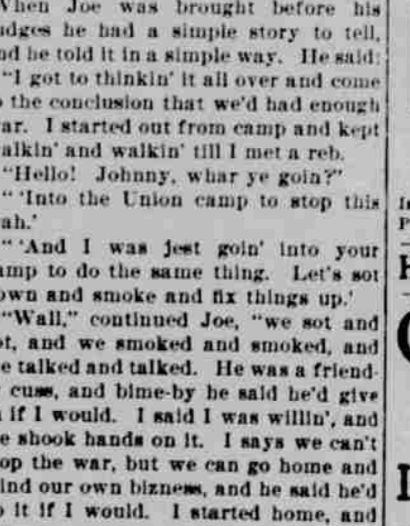


"CAP, CAN I GO TO THE REAR WITH TWO WOUNDS?"

Talking It Over. Three months after Joe Skinner deserted from our regiment he was captured on his farm at home by the provost marshal and sent back to the regiment in irons for trial. He had deserted in the face of the enemy, and it was generally believed that he would be shot, and great was the astonishment, therefore, when he got off with a three months' sentence to Dry Tortugas. When Joe was brought before his judges he had a simple story to tell, and he told it in a simple way. He said: "I got to thinkin' it all over and come to the conclusion that we'd had enough war. I started out from camp and kept walkin' and walkin' till I met a reb. 'Hello! Johnny, whar ye goin'?" "Into the Union camp to stop this war."

"And I was jest goin' into your camp to do the same thing. Let's sot down and smoke and fix things up."

"Wall," continued Joe, "we sot and sot, and we smoked and smoked, and we talked and talked. He was a friendly cuse, and bime-by he said he'd give in if I would. I said I was willin', and we shook hands on it. I says we can't stop the war, but we can go home and mind our own business, and he said he'd do it if I would. I started home, and



TALKING IT OVER.

that's all there is to it, and if the war isn't stopped I'm not to blame for it!"

To Verify a War Episode.

President Homer T. Fuller of Drury College, Springfield, Ohio, has received a letter from a Massachusetts man, who offers a large sum of money for the verification of a war episode. The story is that in the early days of the war a detachment of Confederate troops in Missouri took about 400 Union prisoners. Twelve of these prisoners were lined up and shot without provocation by the Confederate officers. Upon hearing of this act, the commander of the Federal regiment drafted twelve Confederate prisoners to be shot in retaliation. As the line was being formed a young man named William Lear stepped forward and asked to take the place of one of the condemned men, who was his friend. The request was granted, and Lear was shot in place of his friend.—New York Tribune.

The face of every babe is an interrogation point. Its future depends on how older folk answer the question.

Of Interest to the Soldiers. Part of Dohoney is to be colonized with Alsatians and Lorrainers who have served in the French army. The key of Libby prison and the flag which floated over the prison are preserved in the Soldiers' Memorial hall at Rutland, Vt. Cabot, in Afghanistan, has an arms factory a third of a mile long and 300 yards wide, that turns out 20,000 cartridges and 15 rifles daily, and four quick-firing field guns every week.

THE EVOLUTION. Of medicinal agents is gradually relegating the old-time herbs, pills, draughts and vegetable extracts to the rear and bringing into general use the pleasant and effective liquid laxative, Syrup of Figs. To get the true remedy see that it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only. For sale by all leading druggists.

Flowers, both real and artificial, are to be worn this season in greater profusion than ever. Many of the new toques are made almost entirely of flowers, violets being the favorites. Large hats blossom out in pink-tinted velvet leaves. Modest white gardenias also are very much used. One very attractive green straw hat is trimmed with green and white tulie, white quills, and these white blossoms.

Don't think a man is fascinated by your good looks if you catch him staring at you. Your back hair may be coming down or a black smudge on your nose may be the reason for his concentrated gaze.

Spring Medicine

Your blood in Spring is almost certain to be full of impurities—the accumulation of the winter months. Bad ventilation of sleeping rooms, impure air in dwellings, factories and shops, over-eating, heavy, improper foods, failure of the kidneys and liver properly to do extra work thus thrust upon them, are the prime causes of this condition. It is of the utmost importance that you

Purify YOUR BLOOD

Now, when warmer weather comes and the tonic effect of cold bracing air is gone, your weak, thin, impure blood will not furnish necessary strength. That tired feeling, loss of appetite, will open the way for serious disease, ruined health, or breaking out of humors and impurities. To make pure, rich, red blood Hood's Sarsaparilla stands unequalled. Thousands testify to its merit. Millions take it as their Spring Medicine. Get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

One as good as another.

It is easy to say that one preparation is as good as another, and it is easy to waste money by buying something you know nothing about—and receiving no benefit. When the body is weak and you want to give it strength, when health is failing, what wisdom is there in experimenting with a substitute, when for a few cents more you can buy the original article? For more than twenty years Scott's Emulsion has been the standard Cod-liver Oil emulsion. It contains more pure Norwegian Cod-liver Oil than any other emulsion in the world, and will stand the test of time as being a perfect, inseparable emulsion. You can't afford to take a substitute for it.