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## MAYER BROS.

Cultivate Constancy. The secret of success is constancy of purpose.—Disraeli.

## COIN SOMETHING OF A FREAK

Atlanta the Possessor of Silver Dollar with Two Heads—Its History.

Hansel W. Compton has just returned from New Orleans, La., where he went upon a business trip, bringing with him the only genuine silver dollar with heads stamped on both sides ever seen in Atlanta. And thereby hangs a tale, relates the Atlantic Constitution.

Mr. Compton got this silver dollar in change and did not notice the unusual fact about it at the time. Some time later he was matching a friend for car fare, happening to use this silver dollar, when he noticed that the coin fell 'heads' every time. He looked closer and saw that there was a head on each side of the dollar. Under one head were the figures "1906," the date of the initial stamping, and under the other "1909," the date of the second stamping.

He showed it to several New Orleans men, who offered him various premiums the highest being \$10, all of which he refused.

The story in connection with this coin is as follows: An employe in the New Orleans mint, whose duty it was to run the silver coin through the dies to have the head stamped upon it substituted a current silver dollar for the coin immediately after the head had been stamped upon it, with the other side unstamp and perfectly slick. This was in 1906. Three years later he ran the coin through the stamper for the reverse side, impressing another head and 1909 upon it. The fact that a coin had been put in, at the first instance, to replace the half-coined dollar, prevented detection. In this manner, it is explained, the silver dollar came to have its two heads.

## STRANGE FREAKS OF NATURE

Well-Authenticated Cases of Dumbness Which Scientists Are Unable to Explain.

The London Lancet recently dug up from its old files the following story: A farmer of Somersetshire made a vow in the presence of his wife never to speak to her again if she bore him another daughter. He already had three. A son was born, but, strange to say, when the child became old enough to talk and did talk to his mothers and sisters, the father could never get a "word out of him," and what was more the boy could not talk to any man. This was assumed in the neighborhood to be a punishment of the man for his rash vow. The republication of this curious case led to the appearance of another similar tale of intermittent aphonia, vouched for by a clergyman of Bath. In this instance a young man of 28 years had never spoken to his father nor to anyone in the neighborhood but his mother and sisters. And he could not talk with them in the presence of his father. But when he visited the clergyman in a neighboring town he talked as well as anyone. When asked for an explanation of his curious actions he had none to offer. "I simply can't talk, no matter how hard I try," was the substance of his answer. He had heard something of a "rash vow" by his father, but could give no further details. If these stories are to be accepted as true, they may perhaps be explained as the result of what are called "fixed ideas," which sometimes dominate slightly disordered or unsteady minds.

## Russia's Free Tea Stalls.

The Russian government is commonly supposed to be autocratic and even despotic, but, like other autocracies, it has an odd way of being at times quite paternal. In St. Petersburg tea stalls are provided by the authorities for the prevention of the spread of cholera. The disease was traced to the use of polluted drinking water, and accordingly the government established these stalls all over the country for the supply of beverages that should be free from all suspicion. The notice on top of the stall states that the sanitary committee provide hot water, tea and sugar free of charge to all comers. The attendants are paid by the government, and are not allowed to take any money for their services.—Wide World Magazine.

## Photography by Phosphorescence.

There is sometimes employed abroad an ingenious method of making photographic copies of plates and engravings in books which cannot be removed from the libraries, and where the use of the camera is prohibited. A cardboard is coated with a phosphorescent substance, exposed to sunlight or electric light, and then placed at the back of the engraving, while a dry photographic plate is placed on the face of the engraving. The book is closed, and after a period varying from 18 to 60 minutes, depending largely on the thickness of the paper, a satisfactory negative is produced. The book is enclosed in a black cloth during the manipulation.

## In the Year 2,000.

Transient—Who's that prosperous looking fellow over there?

Native—That's Squire Shuvvell, the millionaire ditch-digger. Everybody laughed at him years ago when he refused to become a doctor or a lawyer, and even turned down the correspondence schools' offer to make him a window dresser or an electrical engineer. Time proved his wisdom, and to-day, as the only unskilled laborer in this section, he can command almost fabulous prices.—Puck.

## NURSE LEFT HAIR AT HOME

Had Good Reason for So Doing, But Landlady Received Something of a Shock.

"In spite of the fact that it's so common these days, it made me uneasy," said the woman who keeps lodgers. "The professional nurse who rooms at my house—the one with a great pile of light brown hair—was called out on an emergency case night before last. When I went up in the morning to do her room I found she had left her hair hanging by the mirror. I thought, of course, she was coming back, or would telephone for it, or send an A. D. T., or something. But the forenoon passed and no word came from the nurse. I kept going up to the room to look at that hair; it seemed to fascinate me; and then it got on my nerves. Don't know why, but I was obsessed that something had happened to the nurse. You know, they are such good lodgers—pay so well and out most of the time—that I take a special interest in them.

"So finally I thought to look in her call book and found that she had left her number. Then I telephoned her. I was a good deal relieved, and a little amused, too. You see, she had gone out on a contagious case, and she doesn't wear her best hair at such times—too much trouble to keep it disinfected, she says. But she was grateful to me for calling up. Wouldn't I please put it away in the top bureau drawer. She had not intended to leave it out."

## PAY HIGH PRICES FOR PIPES

Smokers Known to Expend Large Amounts on Adornments for Their Favorites.

Tennyson delighted in an Irish clay and birdseye tobacco, while Bismarck, who reduced something like 2,000 cigars to ashes every year, was greatly devoted to his old briar pipe, the fumes of which were, to quote one authority, "comparable only to a mixture of sewer and gasworks."

The kaiser always smokes a pipe in private, and, like the prince of Wales, favors the small briar pipe.

On the other hand, there are many middle-class men to-day who smoke pipes costing many dollars. For the most part they are presentation pipes of carved meerschaum, or of the briar type with gold mountings and the choicest amber mouthpieces. Of course, you can make a pipe as expensive as you please. You can mount it with diamonds, rubies and emeralds, and run up the value to an enormous extent, or you could have an oriental hookah at anything from \$500 to \$2,500.

The most costly pipes of to-day are those used by the Dutch and the Germans. They are of formidable dimensions, some holding as much as a pound of tobacco. These pipes are mostly of the meerschaum variety, and some are carved so elaborately as to command \$1,000 each.—Stray Stories.

## Uses Animals Make of Their Tails.

Horses, cows and other creatures use their tails as fly flappers. Cats, squirrels and many more twist them around their necks for comforters. The rat has raised the use of the tail to a fine art, for by its means it guides the blind and steals jelly, oil and cream out of jars and bottles.

The macaco plays as merrily with its tail as a kitten does, and the marmoset while it sleeps uses its tail as a sort of blanket.

The raccoon catches crabs with its tail. Every one knows how the monkeys journey through pathless forests by swinging from tree to tree, while the fishes steer their way through the water by their tail fins.

The ant eater puts up its big bushy tail for an umbrella. The vanity of the peacock is fed by the beauty of its tail.—Dumb Animals.

## A Taste for Good Books.

If I were to pray for a taste which should stand me in stead under every variety of circumstances, and be a source of happiness and cheerfulness to me through life and a shield against its ills, however things might go amiss and the world frown upon me, it would be a taste for reading. I speak of it, of course, only as a worldly advantage, and not in the slightest degree as superseding or derogating from the higher office and surer and stronger panoply of religious principles—but as a taste, an instrument, and a mode of pleasurable gratification. Give a man this taste, and the means of gratifying it, and you can hardly fail of making a happy man, unless, indeed, you put into his hands a most perverse selection of books.—Sir John Herschel.

## Triumph for Americans.

The English hostess for various reasons, the principal one being that she cannot help herself, now accepts the invasion of her American sister, the magnificence of her entertainments and the wonderful individuality of her costumes with equanimity, says a writer. The days are long since past when the American woman had difficulty in making a place for herself in English society, and past also are the days when she was treated as a curiosity and expected to act and talk after the manner of the immortal Daisy Miller. Nowadays she reigns supreme. In fact, it is fashionable to be American.

## A Compliment Now.

"But, mamma, you told me never to call a person a pig."  
"But, daughter, that was before the rice went up."—Houston Post

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