

CAPRICE AND LAW.

The inconstant winds that rout the waves And shake the forest wide Seem shouting "Foolish mortal, cast Thy tedious rules aside."

THE WOODS' GHOST.

Possibly General Fawnciffe was eccentric because he could not help it, but it is more probable that he did things in a manner entirely different from anybody else because he wanted to be odd and wanted to make a sensation.

At the time of which I write I was a young fellow of 16, of no sort of consequence whatever, and my name was, but is not now, Pardon Sashwood, though mother and everybody else called me Pardy.

The horse was full of spirit, and the choleric driver seemed to be well supplied with spirits, though of the artificial sort. The animal pranced and capered on the sand, and did not appear to have learned that his master was as impatient as he was eccentric.

In another moment the buggy, which appeared to be floating, suddenly toppled over and spilled the occupant into the drink. He lost his hold upon it, and then I saw that he could not swim.

"I will kill that horse!" he exclaimed when he reached the beach and had recovered his breath. "He is the ugliest brute I ever drove."

"Boy, I want you to come and live with me," he said, and I was amazed then. "I won't do it," I replied. "I would not live under the same roof with such a porcupine as you are for all your money."

General Fawnciffe treated me with degrees of consideration accorded to other person. I helped him about

his accounts and papers, though I was permitted to attend the academy. I really came to like him after awhile, and I know that I improved his manners and morals to some extent.

After he had practiced this walking for a couple of weeks, he told me he had seen a ghost in the woods three successive nights.

I had a revolver, and with this in my hand, though it was not loaded, I went with the general to the woods one bright moonlight night.

"Pardy, General Fawnciffe is your father and my husband!" exclaimed my mother when the general had come up with us.

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First Person Cremated in America. The first white person lawfully cremated within the present limits of the United States, according to wishes and desires expressed by himself, was Colonel Henry Laurens, one of the Revolutionary patriots.

One whose charity is as broad as the earth, who is generous to a fault, who is honest to a rival, who, becoming a friend, remains one through thick and thin; who, loving, loves with all the ardor of a noble, consistent mind; who, being convinced of the right, is as immovable as a sphinx and yet is wise enough to hold his judgment in suspense and to change his attitude should superior arguments be brought to bear—such a one is an ideal man and one of nature's noblemen.—New York Ledger.

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W. L. Boyer, jeweler, of Chambersburg, Pa., has in his employ a workman who has produced a watch that marks the hours backward.

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A NAIL IN HER BRAIN.

Kansas Furnishes What Is Said to Be the Most Remarkable Case on Record. For six weeks Mrs. Frank Roadson of Abilene lived with a sixpenny nail in her skull.

About eight weeks ago a physician was called to see her, she being apparently suffering from paralysis or some kindred trouble. One side seemed deadened, and no amount of will power on her part could cause normal action.

The most remarkable part of this strange story was the discovery of the cause of its being there. At first she stoutly denied any knowledge of it being there, but at last admitted that she had herself driven the nail into her skull, pounding it down with a stone, for the express purpose of ending her life.

EXHIBITS HIS HEART.

This Is What the Subject of a Peculiar Surgical Operation Does. Physicians of this city are receiving visits from an unfortunate citizen of Buffalo who has had a peculiar experience.

Another physician said that the hole was about 3 inches square and that three ribs had been cut in the operation. He said also that an opening similar to the one in the chest existed in the man's back, under the heart.—New York Sun.

A Chinese Exodus.

Prominent Chinamen on the Pacific coast are predicting a big exodus of their countrymen from this continent and all other lands to the Celestial empire within a year or two.

What Was It?

A dispatch says a curious phenomenon was seen in the heavens by citizens of Wilmington, N. C., from 6:30 to 7 o'clock the other morning.

A colored astronomer says he saw the letters "W. W. W." distinctly outlined, while another avers that the word "Prepare" was there as plain as day.

The Berliner Zeitung enlarges upon the present condition of starvation in German industries. Workshops which usually furnish employment to 20 men have been obliged to reduce their forces to two.

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PORTUGUESE IN NEW YORK CITY.

Of the 16,000 in the United States the Metropolis Has but 76. The other day John Gubbins, a Portuguese, was held for trial by Justice Grady at the Yorkville police court under charge of stabbing a policeman.

How many Portuguese do you think there are among the 2,000,000 inhabitants of New York city? Just 76. There are 76 of them, and it is said in police circles to be a fact that Gubbins is the first Portuguese ever under arrest in this city.

Emigrants from the lands of Camoens and the Braganzas are famous as sailors and navigators, and their descendants are scattered in many lands, notably in Hawaii, where the Portuguese population is considerable, and the East Indies, where the Portuguese colonies are numerous.

TERRIBLE DEATH OF A HORSE.

The Costly Animal Goes Mad and Tears Itself Almost to Pieces.

J. E. Sechrist of this county lost his fine stallion Fleetwood in a peculiar and terrible manner. The animal was a very fine one, an inbred Hambletonian, both powerful and speedy.

Finally he made a desperate effort at the door, and tearing it from its hinges went at a run through the field. His speed was terrific, and he stopped not for paling, board or wire fences, but took everything in his mad run.

She Died With the Cat.

Mrs. Allie Spencer of Stillwater was found dead in her house recently. It was at first supposed to be a case of suicide, but later developments showed that it was the result of a strange accident.

Exposition Relics.

A curious illustration of woman's tendency to lose things is furnished by the collection in the lost and found bureau of the Columbian exposition.

A Coincidence.

One of those coincidences that are as mysterious as they are interesting occurred in connection with the death of John Nolan, an officer of the superior court of New York.

Grand Wolf Hunt.

The farmers of Kossuth county, Ia., had a grand wolf hunt on Christmas day. They have lost hundreds of sheep this winter through the depredations of wolves and propose to exterminate the pests.

A BRAVE WOMAN.

How She Rescued Her Husband From the Vengeance of a Puma. Jabez English, a sheep herder of this neighborhood, was engaged in building a cabin home, his former one having been destroyed by fire a week or two ago, and was busily at work on its roof when he saw an animal steal out of the woods hard by and fling itself upon the pail containing his dinner of cold boiled bacon and bread.

He recognized this animal as a puma, or mountain lion, but thinking he might frighten it away threw his plane at it. The tool struck the animal on the head, cutting it badly and rendering the creature furious.

The man, having no weapon and being out of reach of any one to whom he might call, could only sit still and wait for the puma to become tired of the watch or for deliverance.

As the great beast came leaping at her out of the darkness she dashed the lantern full in its face. The puma, startled, gave way, and English, guessing who the newcomer was, shouted to her to run back to the village.

In this way she made her way to Santa Anna, screaming as she neared it, "A lion! a lion!" until some of the men of the village, hearing her, armed themselves and came out in time to see the lion break away to run back.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHPLACE.

The Government Improving and Making Accessible a Historical Spot.

A contract has been awarded for the erection of a \$10,000 wharf on the Potomac river, near Wakefield, Westmoreland county, Va., General George Washington's birthplace, and the steamer Sue will probably make it a landing place.

In after years, while Washington was surveying the vast estates of Lord Fairfax, the birthplace was burned, and the family moved on the Rappahannock river, near Fredericksburg.

Death Among the Dukes.

Including the Duke of Leinster, whose death was recently announced, eleven dukes have passed away within the last three years—the Dukes of Buckingham, Cleveland, Devonshire, Leinster, Manchester, Marlborough, Roxburgh, Somerset, Sutherland and two Dukes of Bedford.

Girls as Pallbearers.

Six young ladies, each wearing a white chrysanthemum, created much comment by serving as pallbearers at the funeral of Mrs. James McGiven, manager of a local shorthand school.

Hanged Himself to Live.

A Paris beggar has been living very comfortably by hanging himself. He would choose a tree near where young children were playing, string himself up and groan to attract their attention, so that they would run for help.

Buried Under His Snow House.

Charles Prendergast, aged 11 years, was playing recently in a snow house near his residence, 116 St. Martin street, Montreal, when it collapsed, and he was buried in the snow.

CAN'T GET MARRIED AT HOME.

A Situation Which Is Causing Battered Couples Considerable Annoyance.

A young man and a young woman came over the line from New Brunswick the other day and were married here, says a Calais correspondent of the Boston Herald.

The reason for this seeming anomaly lies in the fact that Governor Boyd of New Brunswick is dead, and that every marriage license must be signed by the governor to be legal.

Now, there is a very fine legal point involved. The question is whether, during the interregnum caused by Governor Boyd's death and until the Dominion government appoints his successor, these marriage licenses signed by Governor Boyd are good.

BIMETALLISM IN ENGLAND.

Lord Salisbury's Recent Speech and What It Is Thought to Forecast.

Lord Salisbury's speech in the upper house during the debate on Indian finance is regarded as a definite pronouncement in favor of international bimetallicism.

The subject acquired considerable prominence in the Accrington election contests, but that is scarcely to be wondered at, because Lancashire has long been the stronghold of bimetallicism.

The Liverpool Post, an influential Liberal organ, gave prominence the other day to a letter advocating the adoption by England and her dependencies and the United States of a second, or silver, international standard, without relation to the first, or gold, standard.

Drained a Lake by Boring Holes.

In Florida Life is an article from the pen of B. W. Partridge of Monticello with the above title. In it he describes the effect of the drought of 1891 on Lake Miccosukie, one of the largest lakes in middle Florida, when about 6,000 acres of water became dry land for a spell.

Mr. Partridge conceived the idea that the lake could be drained by boring holes in its bottom and organized a company to try it.

Experts were engaged to examine and report on the plan, and the result was that the company has bored a number of holes in the bottom of Lake Miccosukie, and the water is rushing down through them via a subterranean passage to the gulf.

An Artist in Snow.

A young artist of Boston, after the recent snowstorm in that city, made a snow model in one of the public squares that attracted much attention. It represented a girl dressed in the height of fashion, standing with her arms folded. At her feet crouched a bulldog. The image was modeled in elaborate detail, and though the thaw destroyed some of the fine lines succeeding cold weather preserved the figure.

Mixed the Brides.

While two wedding processions were fighting for the road at one of the gates of Hankow the chairs holding the brides got mixed and each lady was taken to the wrong bridegroom. The gentlemen never having seen their brides before, according to Chinese custom, knew no mistake until the mothers of the brides came to call upon them.

John J. Ingalls.

Ingalls looked more attenuated than ever when he made his address in Kansas City the other day. His long frock coat, closely buttoned, accentuated the gauntness of his figure, and this, with the streaks of white in his hair, made him appear to be a compromise between an illuminated spook and an animated moonbeam.