

Had Oral Proof That 'De Clips' Had Arrived

When I was a boy, living with my parents near Waterloo, Iowa, writes a Companion reader, we had some Scandinavian neighbors living across the road from us. They were excellent neighbors, kind-hearted and obliging, honest and hard-working, but with very little education. There was to be an eclipse of the sun on a certain day one summer. Naturally, people were discussing it in advance, and neighbor Lars and his good wife had heard it talked about, though they had not much comprehension of what it was all about.

During the forenoon of the day of the eclipse the wife rushed across the road and excitedly informed my mother that "de clips is comin'; I heard it clippin'!"

Curious to learn what had caused the good woman's excitement, mother stepped out of the house to look and listen. "Don't you hear it clippin'?" earnestly exclaimed our neighbor. Then it dawned on mother's comprehension what she meant. In a field a half-mile away, but out of sight of either house, mother heard the click of a mower where some neighbor was mowing hay. The "clip" of the knives was "de clippin'" that our good neighbor had connected in her mind with the mysterious eclipse of which she had heard so much and understood so little.—Youth's Companion.

Model Realized That Work Had Drawbacks

The late John S. Sargent, the artist, used to tell a story about an old man who once called at his studio, saying he had just been discharged from a hospital, and asked for a little food or money.

Mr. Sargent gave the old fellow a small sum, and then decided that he would make a good model, and sent a maid to call him back.

"Hi, come back," said the maid, as she overtook him. "The master wants to paint you."

The old fellow hesitated. "Will he pay me well?" he asked. "Oh, yes," said the maid. "He'll probably pay you a pound (\$5)."

The old fellow took off his shabby old hat and scratched his head. Still he hesitated. "It's an easy way to earn money," said the maid.

"Yes, I know that," said the old man with a troubled smile. "I was only wonderin' how I'd get the paint off afterward."

Prehistory of Man

Since the opening of the present century a series of significant, in many cases wholly unexpected, discoveries have been made in western Europe, especially in France and Spain, which reveal human occupation and industry at a period moderately estimated by geologists at 500,000 years. In fact some anthropologists believe that Europe may have been the original center in which man passed from the sub-human to the human stage.

Meanwhile distinguished geologists and anatomists, as well as anthropologists and archeologists, have united to throw a flood of light from different angles of their special training upon this most interesting and fascinating of biological problems—the ancestry and prehistory of man.—Henry Fairfield in Yale Review.

Loathsome Affiliation

"Comprachicos" was the name adopted by a nomadic affiliation, famous in the Seventeenth century in Europe. This band of persons made a practice of buying and selling children. These children were deformed and disfigured so that they assumed certain peculiarities, which provided the humor demanded at the time. The organization had its own laws, oaths and formulas, and was found principally in England, Spain, France and Germany. The name is a compound Spanish word meaning "buyers of little ones."

Food Transport Costly

Many kinds of food are shipped from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast in specially made express cars, which are attached to passenger trains and run on fast-time schedules. The cost of building one of the "passenger express refrigerator" cars is officially stated to be not far from \$4,500. The California shipper who fills one of these cars with butter and ships it to New York or Philadelphia does so at an express charge of about \$1,000. The cost of shipping a car of this type filled with fruits and vegetables from the Pacific to the Atlantic usually runs from \$900 to \$800.

Red Hair From Norse

While the average person of today is a mixture of many types, including Saxon, French and mid-European stocks, the red-haired man or woman is a "throw-back" to remote Norse ancestry, according to a number of British scientists. As the Norsemen had unusually fair skins these scientists explain that this is particularly true of red-haired persons, and they base their conclusions on the results of crossing thousands of flowers, there being about one in every thousand that reverts to a type closely resembling the one from which the experiment started.

Foxy

"Asked you to marry him, did he? Are you sure, my dear, that he is a careful and cautious young fellow?"

"Oh, yes, indeed, papa. Why, he looked all over the room first for a possible dictaphone."

Reincarnation

"Over in a place with a vague and disagreeable recollection that you had been in that place before?"

"Yeah. Especially in a boarding place."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Law's Blunder Almost Justified by Facts

A dying confession by a waiter in a London garret revealed a tragic blunder which the law had made.

Five years before this confession, the landlord of the King's head hotel, Banbury, had been hanged for the murder of one of his guests. This landlord was heavily in debt. One night a rich gentleman stopped at his hotel, and over drinks foolishly mentioned that he had the sum of \$2,500 with him, and hoped that it would be safe.

In the middle of the night Bradford, the landlord, with a long knife in his hand, crept into the man's room, intent on getting the money, even if he had to kill the man for it. As he flashed his lantern on the bed he was amazed and horror-stricken to find the man with his throat cut from ear to ear.

In his terror Bradford shouted for help. Attracted by his cries, guests and servants dashed into the room, and found the landlord lying across the victim's bed with the knife in his hand.

With such evidence no jury would acquit, and Bradford was hanged. Then came the confession, five years later, which showed that a serious error had been made. The confessor was employed as a waiter at the King's Head. He had overheard the story the rich man had told the landlord and had anticipated his master in the grim deed.

Hope to Get Light on Aztec History

Aztec scrolls were destroyed by Spanish soldiers. The picture writing on cotton cloth and prepared skins, resembling somewhat Egyptian hieroglyphics, disappeared from the land where the Aztecs had ruled for more than two centuries.

The ruins of their pillared palaces remain, as did their feathered motifs, their turquoise inlaid shields, their disk-like calendar so similar to that of the Mayas and forming a link now being used by scholars to connect up the prehistoric civilizations of South America and Mexico. But these scholars are still hunting for scrolls with figurative characters which will disclose just what part the Aztec kings played in the drama that unfolded its tragic episodes before Spanish influence became so strong in Mexico.

Should documents bearing the writings of these kings or their subjects be unearthed among the bars of gold and emeralds in that hidden cave near Teopoxtlan, now being explored, they will furnish material for a new and important chapter in the history of culture on this continent.

Birth of Tides

A gigantic "tidal wave," which is born in the vast wastes of mid-Atlantic, travels at the rate of hundreds of miles an hour, but its very speed makes it imperceptible of height, for it is more than 1,000 miles wide, from front to back. It first hits the west coast of Ireland, on which it splits, then sweeps around the mainland of Britain by the channel between the Orkneys and Scotland to the north and by the English channel to the south.

There is a most curious "deep-water area" out in the North sea, half-way between Holland and England, where the tide thrusts from north and south happen to neutralize each other, and no tide occurs in consequence.—London Daily Chronicle.

Awake for Six Days

A captain of 30 years' sea experience writes: "It was stated in the Times recently that a world's record for continued wakefulness had been put up by two experimenters, who had remained awake for 115 hours. On one occasion I exceeded this period by 21 hours. I was in charge of cargo-loading operations which began on a Monday morning and ended at 8 p. m. the following Saturday. During this time I did not close my eyes, and after five and a half hours' sleep I was called up for further duty. On many occasions since I have put in over one hundred hours of continued wakefulness."

No Chance

The street car was crowded, and an old gentleman with a kindly wrinkle in his eye took five-year-old Tommy on his lap.

"This will be better than standing, won't it, my boy?" he suggested.

"Yes," said Tommy rather reluctantly, for he had enjoyed lurching about the car.

"But you want to be careful that I don't pick your pocket," the old man said in a whisper.

"Can't," Tom returned, his voice somewhat muffled. "As soon as I saw you lookin' at me I put my penny in my mouth."

Arctic Robinson Crusoe

Russkoe Ostyie, in the Yakutsk province of Siberia, is one of the northernmost settlements on the globe, and beyond a doubt one of the loneliest. A Russian exile who lived in the province refers to his life in the settlement of six houses and twenty-two people as that of an Arctic Robinson Crusoe. He was 300 miles from the nearest village and 4,000 miles from the nearest railway station. There was, of course, no postal communication. Answers to official correspondence could be obtained from Yakutsk, the capital of the province, in a year and a half at the earliest, and then only by special messenger.

Dangerous Knowledge

"I want a summons against my husband for threatening to throw me out," said a woman at Willesden, England.

"You can't have one," answered the magistrate. "It isn't an offense."

"Isn't it?" retorted the woman. "Then I'll go straight back and throw him out."

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CALIFORNIA, I LOVE YOU! Oh! come to the land of the western sun, Where every business is overdone. Where the stores charge freight on goods made here, Ask them why, they think you're queer. They serve you climate with all your meals, It's so blame hot your back just peels. The Ananias Club includes the state From San Diego to the Golden Gate. The movie stars marry twice a year, Would marry again if the way were clear. The grapefruit here is something fine— Cross between lemon and a pumpkin rind. Where the cows eat barley instead of hay, And the cream gets lost in the milky way; They sell you lots that are made by hand And make believe it's really land. The view of the ocean is very nice, That is included with the price. They weigh the sack and then the fruit, They weigh them again and then their fingers to boot. They claim it is wet if it rains once a year, You get so dry you can't shed a tear. The chickens have mites and dogs have fleas, The desert winds blow and the oranges freeze. You shovel sand and we shovel snow, Just about a stand-off as far as I know. So tune up your flivver and come to the west Where jobs are scarce and pay is less. Bring all your cash and plenty of clothes,

When you'll get more the Lord only knows. I am telling the story which I know is true As seen by me through eyes of blue; If the Boosters Club ever gets this back They will change my eyes from blue to black. They ask us to write the truth to a friend, Now I have done so, and this is the end. —Author Unknown. Religious and Fraternal Affiliations of Executive and Judicial Officials. The religious and fraternal affiliations of the executive and judicial branches of the United States government are as follows: The White House—President Calvin Coolidge, Congregationalist; C. Bascom Simp, secretary, Methodist. Cabinet Officers—Charles E. Hughes, secretary of state, Baptist; Andrew W. Mellon, secretary of

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