

Mathematical Wonder

A five-year-old wonder in mathematics is attracting much attention at Moscow, Slovakia. Even before he went to school he revealed a remarkable knowledge of the multiplication table.

Partisan Crinology

I have often wondered to see men of probity who would scorn to utter a falsehood for their own particular advantage, give so readily in to a lie when it is become the voice of their faction, notwithstanding they are thoroughly sensible of it as such.

Texas in Lead

In his first message to the congress of the republic of Texas, in December, 1838, President Mirabeau B. Lamar strongly urged provision for public education. A quotation from his message appears upon every publication of the state system.

Ripe for Scrap Heap

Why all the agitation about youth versus age? Youth and age are states of mind. . . The belief of age is a relic of the Dark Ages and should be relegated to the discard, along with the beliefs that the earth is flat and that women are too weak to vote.

Violins

There is a standard size for violins which is seldom departed from, or only very slightly. Small made smaller violins than the other great makers, but the smaller ones were only occasional.

Early Use of Coal

Coal was known to the ancient Britons. It was an article of household consumption during the Anglo-Saxon period as early as 852 A. D. England was probably the first country in which coal was used in any considerable quantities.

Excellent Rules

There are two things which will make us happy in this life if we attend to them. The first is, never to vex ourselves about what we cannot help; and the second, never to vex ourselves about what we can help.

Business Partnership

An active partner in a business is a partner who is responsible for the full amount for the debts of the business. A silent or special partner is usually responsible only for the amount of money he puts into the business.

Streets to Be Colored

Red, brown, yellow and green streets are just around the corner. Experiments have been completed that show just how to secure uniform shading by mixing color with cement. Some communities already have laid colored streets.

Keeping on Safe Side

You believe your children will care for you when you are old. Don't believe it so much as to neglect to lay up considerable rainy-day money. I'm not a pessimist; only an observer.—E. W. Howe's Monthly.

Ghostly Lawnmowers

Parish paper—It would be a great help towards keeping the churchyard in good order if others would follow the example of those who clip the grass on their own graves.—Boston Transcript.

Model Soldier

"The army rule," once said a well-known general, "is the model of the soldier." Occasionally he may be subordinate, but his kicks never require a court-martial.—Boston Transcript.

Early Conventions

The first Democratic national convention was held in Baltimore May 21, 1832. The first Republican national convention met in Philadelphia June 17, 1856.

A Civil war veteran says a pair of his war boots lasted 24 years, but of course he only fought at Charleston; he didn't try to dance it.

Innocence: Something or other in criminal jurisprudence which is inexorably proved by the absence of an asterisk in the indictment.

When the average man hears cautions about jay-walking and dangerous driving, he immediately thinks how many other fellows need the lesson.

Advertisement for PILES treatment, featuring a portrait of a man and text: 'ASSURED TREATMENT. Try today for FREE book describing the Dr. J. Dean famous non-surgical method of treating Piles and other Rectal and Colon ailments, which we cure exclusively. Also gives details of our WRITTEN ASSURANCE TO ELIMINATE PILES, no matter how severe. OR REFUND PATIENTS' FEE. DEAN'S PORTLAND COLON CLINIC. PORTLAND, SEATTLE, BOSTON, CHICAGO, SAN FRANCISCO, PHOENIX, DENVER, MINNEAPOLIS, ST. LOUIS, ST. PETERSBURG, TAMPA, JACKSONVILLE, MIAMI, PALM BEACH, MIAMI BEACH, HAVANA, CUBA.' Includes a small illustration of a building.

The Colfax Bookplate

By AGNES MILLER

CHAPTER XI—Continued

Where, oh where had I heard that click before? Last night, in that same room? Could it have been that mechanism of the shaft and the lever which I confused with a hammer and a trigger? I caught Charles MacIvor's eye; he was glancing at me triumphantly; he read my thought. Instinctively I glanced at Julia, and she was looking at me imploringly, as if to beg me not to misjudge her, even though that instrument must have been in her hand before she emerged from the shadows, snatched up to deceive the intruder, who she did not know was her cousin. Yet I hardly noticed either of them. That strange click was beating on my brain; its source, that small brass box, had been in Darrow's; I had heard that click before, not once, but often! I had heard it at 10:40 that fateful Monday when the shipping-office applicant rang in, and again ten minutes later; at 7:20 Thursday evening, and also at 10:15—that click, which I now knew was not that time-clock, similar though it had sounded. All in one stunned minute these facts flashed across my mind. Then Mr. Almy spoke. He was working the flat screw on the top of the box up and down, and at intervals snapping the trigger. He tapped the screw: "This is a depth-gauge. It regulates the depth which these knives cut. They can make a deep incision or a slight scratch, as desired. Sixteen of 'em, eh? And all grouped together. This is a beautiful little instrument."

CHAPTER XII

Revelations

"You'll need more than faith for that!" sneered Charles. I had had enough of him. "All right," said I, "we'll have some works too. One minute, please!" My three companions, even Mr. Almy, stared at me open-mouthed, but I did not care, for I was going to make the bluff of my life, which was based, however, on some very careful thinking I had been doing during the last half-hour. There was a bowl of flowers on the table. I snatched them out of the bowl, picked up the bookplate, and laid it carefully on the surface of the water. Holding it there with one hand, with the other I extracted from my hair the sole of my hairpin I always wear out of deference to two helpless male relatives who beg at the most extraordinary times for "a tin one" to clean a pipe with. Next moment I plucked the bookplate forth from the bowl, laid hold of its edge firmly with my left thumb and forefinger, rasped the edge with the hairpin, and then slid the wire loop into a tiny crevice which had appeared on the edge. The damp paper parted farther as the hairpin slipped along. I returned it to its place, grasped the edges of the groove I had made, and pulled gently. Slowly the bookplate peeled apart, amid a silence unbroken even by breathing. The picture remained in my left hand. In my right was a document. It was printed, with some blanks filled in by hand. I glanced at it, handed it to Julia, and regarded Mr. MacIvor with my sweetest smile. "I'd never have thought of doing that if you hadn't suggested it wasn't all there," I observed affably. But Julia interrupted, with a cry that ended all small talk: "I was right! I knew it, I knew it!" We all rushed to surround her. In her shaking hand, slightly blurred by the water, yet still quite legible, its edges trimmed to fit the size of the bookplate which had been so tightly and so indelicately affixed to it, was a birth certificate. And on it was set forth that on May 2, 1905, in New York, Julia Grosvenor had been born, the daughter of Miles Harrington (deceased) of Elliot's Crossing, Virginia, and his wife, Mary Grosvenor. "Well!" said Mr. Almy. He said it after a long time, during which nobody had spoken. He spoke in a tone of congratulation and relief, in which, however, there was a faint undercurrent of apprehension. I don't know if anyone else noticed that, for certainly Julia was too excited, and as for Charles MacIvor, he passed out of my mind entirely for the moment. "Of course," resumed Mr. Almy, "that thing had to be somewhere; but I'll tell you frankly now, I had given up hope of finding it, for every clue was exhausted." Julia was not listening to him, however; her eyes were still devouring the certificate. He took her gently by the arm, and made her sit down. "Listen, please," he said to her. "I have something else to tell you, some of it as good news as you have just heard. But first I must ask you to forgive me for the suffering you have undergone since your cousin came in a few minutes ago. I had to let him talk, and you'll talk some more, MacIvor, and to better purpose, in a moment!" "What is the good news, Mr. Almy?" interrupted Julia, feebly. He seemed to choose his words cautiously. "When I went to the telephone," he answered, "I learned something I had not expected to hear so soon. I wish just tell you now in a word that the person suspected of attacking your grandfather has been arrested. The evidence on which he is detained clears you entirely of suspicion. Details will be available later; just remember, now, you are cleared. And now," he added abruptly, "what you want to know, and are entitled to know, is the story of that bookplate. Out with it, MacIvor!" For the first time since she had seen the certificate, Julia looked at her

him any questions after I had picked it up from beside my grandfather, in the law-book alcove last Monday morning!"

"And you leaped to the conclusion that I'd attacked him with it. Wonderful idea!" scoffed Charles, roughly. "What possible motive could I have had for wishing him out of the way?" "To get that book with the bookplate before he did," answered Julia, steadily; "to get money—quickly. You always need it, Charles; he wouldn't give you all you wanted. Your desire for money is what's sending you to Buenos Aires. . . . And listen! I know I put those Liberty bonds into grandfather's desk, yonder; he asked me to do so. On Tuesday, when I came back from the hospital, they were gone. You are the only person who has a duplicate key to that desk; I suspected that you must have come back to the house unseen."

"(He came back," I murmured to Mr. Almy, "but not unseen. Tell you later!")

"—and taken them. And sure enough, they were sold for you. And I said nothing. But that's aside from the present point. Why did you go to Darrow's on Monday, if not after that book?" Charles MacIvor flushed with rage, but seeing that he was still in a stronger position than Julia, he glared at her with defiance. She paid no attention to his anger. In fact, she spoke, seeing she must speak, as gently as she did firmly. "Charles," she said, "it was for you that I hid that spring-lancet."

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cousin. He was vindictive and sulky in his defeat; but Julia, was such an appealing figure in her solitude and suffering that he actually spoke with a trace of shame, forced to obey his orders: "It was your mother who drew that bookplate, Julia."

"My mother?" "She was a gifted artist—" "She must have been—oh, far beyond what I am! Why have I never known this? Why haven't I seen any of her other work, all my life?" "Grandfather destroyed it."

"How did he dare?" flamed the girl. Then she quieted down. "Well, what does it matter after all? She left this bookplate; it was by that that she saved my birth certificate for me! Why are you started, Charles? Of course I know that! How? Simply because she was my mother, and to one she would have done it for me. You may tell me how she did it!"

Charles had indeed been startled by the unerring divination, and began nervously: "I was here visiting grandfather a couple of months after you were born, Julia. I was nearly nine years old—old enough to notice lots of things. I sensed there was some kind of trouble about Aunt Mary, your mother. She was very sick, for one thing; she hardly ever went out. Then grandfather seldom spoke to her. Sometimes, when she felt well enough, she would draw a little. I liked to watch her. One of a number of sketches I saw her working on was that bookplate. Of course I didn't know then what it was. "One day she asked me to mail a letter for her. It was addressed to a Mr. Edward Case, whom I remembered having seen at the house more than once, during a previous visit I made. I had liked him; he was friendly, and had shown me some little attentions such as a small boy enjoys. In fact, he had made some impression on me, and as you know now, I recognized him last Thursday night. It certainly was a shock, especially as he seemed to have changed so greatly at all. And the most amazing thing was that, in a minute, he appeared to recognize me—"

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Charles had not known then, of course, what Mr. Case had told Julia an hour or so ago—that he had seen him off and on, in the neighborhood, undoubtedly, during the course of the years which had passed since his boyhood. Nor did he realize, probably, that his boldly formed features, his dark complexion, were of the type which changes least during growth. But he did suggest the immediate cause of the recognition, as he went on: "I suppose the presence of the book, in the desk which I was apparently engaged in searching, stimulated Mr. Case's recollections violently. Well, to continue: The night after I had mailed my aunt's letter, I woke up suddenly. I was sleeping in that little room right alongside here; that's now the reception room; the noise that woke me came from this room. I peeped in, and saw my aunt opening that French window, which had creaked. She went out on the balcony. Full of curiosity, I followed her. "Leaning over the railing, she spoke to some one down in the street: 'You'll give it to Royall?' I recognized Mr. Case's voice in answer: 'I promise.' I saw her drop a small book over the rail. Then I had just time to get back into my room and shut the door before she came back into the house. "Six weeks later, she died. After a few days, of course, I got used to her absence, and took interest mainly in what happened around me from day to day. I noticed especially that grandfather kept searching, apparently in vain, through her papers for something he wanted very much. Then one day he missed something of his own, an old medical book that had belonged to his father the doctor. He accused me of having taken or mislaid it. "I knew absolutely nothing about it, and disclaimed all knowledge of it, but he wouldn't believe me. He was very stern, and frightened me. Finally it came back to me that I had seen my aunt drop a book over the balcony that night. I had never told anyone of that experience; I liked knowing a secret that was none of my business, and, though I can't claim much credit, I was fond of Aunt Mary, and would never have done anything to hurt her. Still, now she was gone; and grandfather persistently accused me of having taken that book, so finally, in the hope of placating him, or at least distracting his attention from me, I told him what I had seen that night. Not one word did he say as I told my tale; but at least he never asked me for the book again. "Well, years afterward grandfather told me what the story revealed to him. The paper he had been searching for was your birth certificate, and when he couldn't find it, he knew your mother had hidden it somewhere, for she would not have destroyed it. He realized, therefore, that she had hidden it most cunningly. She had chosen one of his most valued books for his easily conceal the certificate, the book gave a convenient means for handling it, and if she had died before she could dispose of the book, the certificate would probably never have been disturbed. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

Maggie's Many Virtues

The magpie, which is quite common on the plains and mountains of the West, has many excellent qualities and as many bad ones. As an insect eater the magpie surpasses the crow and all other members of the same family. Destructive weevils, caterpillars and grasshoppers characterize its insect food, which forms nearly 30 per cent of its diet. The magpie also eats a limited number of small rodents, and as a carrion feeder it does additional good. The magpie has, however, some outstanding faults. It is guilty of the destruction of poultry and beneficial wild birds and their eggs, and at times becomes a peck on the cattle ranch by its attacks on sick, injured or weak live stock. There are times when the birds gather in such large numbers that it becomes necessary to kill off some of them.

Trees by the Nations

During the Pan-Pacific Institute of International Relations in Honolulu, each nation represented planted one of its native trees on the hillside, says the report to the American Tree association by Mrs. M. M. Whitney. Some of these nations were China, Japan, Korea, Philippine Islands, Hawaii, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Boy scouts, children from Japan in picturesque costumes; governors of Hawaii, past and present, had part in the program.

Largest Arch

The largest municipal arch in the world is the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, France. This edifice is 162 feet high and 147 feet wide. It was erected in 1806-1836 to celebrate Napoleon's victories.

Quality That Counts

No dollar can buy so much as the one that has been honestly and squarely earned. There is something more than money in it—satisfaction.—Capper's Weekly.

Not Confined to a Few

I have found that the fame of moral judgment burns just as brightly in the man of humble and limited experience as in the scholar and man of affairs.—Woodrow Wilson.

Another View

"I visit my friends occasionally," remarked the book lover, "merely for the purpose of looking over my library."

Great Religious Sects

The world's population of Mohammedans and Buddhists is estimated at 730,000,000.

Useless Information

An American statistician has discovered that Great Britain uses an average of 2,795,373,100 buttons a year.

Let Charity Be Wise

It is wick to withdraw from being useful to the needy, and cowardly to give away to the worthless.—Epictetus.

Elephant Good Swimmer

The elephant swims more easily than it walks. It simply stands upright and trends water.

Epoch in History

Coal was discovered in America 250 years ago.

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise; but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.—Proverbs 13:20.

Three of the five men that drafted the Declaration of Independence were scientists.

If one is tender-hearted, may the Lord give him wisdom with it.

Unless a man possesses self-control he is little better than a slave.

The popularity of some people is due to the things they don't say.

Few people repair their eyesight looking on the bright side of things.

Study your own self.—St. Bernard.

Vegetation Big Help

The greatest flood is merely the sum total of the discharge from numberless tiny rills and rivulets, which in turn collect rain-water from the ground where it falls. This difficulty, says "Floods, Forests and the Future," published by the American Tree association of Washington, comes from failure to take into account the vast extent of land surface on which flood-causing rains fall and the equally vast surface over which vegetative cover may exert its influence.

Education Routs Prejudice

Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education; they grow there, firm as weeds among rocks.—Charlotte Bronte.

That Kind of Man

He is the kind of man, we said in our bitterly intolerant way, who is much nicer to the society editor than he is to the elevator operator.—Ohio State Journal.

Molasses Not Treacle

The words "molasses" and "treacle" are often used as synonyms, but properly speaking molasses is the uncrystallized sirup produced in the making of sugar, while treacle is obtained in the process of refining sugar.

Oxen in Farming

South African farmers find oxen profitable in farming. A two-year-old steer costs \$25, and after four or five years' work, the butcher will pay \$50 for him.—Farm & Fireside.

Alpaca and Sheep

The body of the alpaca has some what the form of a sheep, but it has a long neck. It is also more active and carries its head erect.

Uncle Eben

"We all has an ear for music," said Uncle Eben, "an' many a man is heard wif attention, simply because he has a good bass voice."—Washington Star.

Derivation of "Latin"

The word Latin is derived from Latinum, which was that part of ancient Italy which included Rome.

Banana Prolific Plant

An ordinary crop of bananas yields approximately 32,000 pounds of food per acre.

The Pity of It

Lots of people are sure they are right who never go ahead.—Boston Transcript.

Idleness and pride tax with heavier hand than kings and parliaments.—Franklin.

The man who can acknowledge a mistake without blaming it on some one else has true moral courage.

In some families, if they can get it, they think they can afford it.

He who takes no position will not sway the human intellect.—Shedd.

Logic proves or disproves all things but it doesn't accomplish any of them.

To Save the Soil

There are only two ways in which man can radically alter the condition of the earth's surface, says "Floods, Forests and the Future," published by the American Tree association of Washington. One way is through tilling the soil. Poor tillage leads to rapid run-off and soil erosion; good tillage leads to absorption and stability of soil. The other great means of changing surface conditions is through the use or abuse of vegetative cover.

Wrote of Christian Sect

In the Annals of Tacitus, Roman historian, the fact is stated that there existed a sect known as Christians, who were followers of one Jesus Christ, executed by command of Pontius Pilate.

Middle Age "Palmer"

In the Middle Ages a pilgrim returned from the Holy land was entitled to wear a piece of palm in his hat. He was, as a result, sometimes called a palmer.

Old Queen of the Seas

The United States superdreadnought Wyoming on July 19, 1912, made 22,045 knots on her standardization trial. This was the largest and fastest battleship afloat at the time with twelve-inch guns.

Height of Wisdom

"We regard our ancestors as wise," said Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "especially those ancestors who attained riches we hope to inherit."—Washington Star.

The Verdict

"Beautiful," murmured the flapper tourist as she gazed upon the image of the sphinx. And as an afterthought she added, "but dumb."

Worth Remembering

When a man offers you something for nothing, don't accept it unless you can afford to pay at least double its value.—Exchange.

Few Do It

Another good intelligence test is the ability to memorize good poetry—and never quote it.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Poor Policy

To lose our charity in defense of our religion is to sacrifice the citadel to maintain the out-works.—Colton.

Turks Bar Christianity

Turkey is the only country in the world in which Christianity is not accepted as a religion.

Evil in Satiety

I hold this to be the rule of life: Too much of anything is bad.—Terence.

Its Significance

The gold fringe on the American flag denotes that it is regimental colors.

It takes a pretty girl of eighteen, with lots of company, to brighten up the gloom of a big old mansion.

A man gets great diversion out of his reason if he has a good one.

Advertisement for Willys-Overland cars. Features a large illustration of a Whippet Six sedan. Text includes: 'TILL BREAKING SALES RECORDS! GREATEST JULY IN WILLYS-OVERLAND HISTORY! The big forward march of Willys-Overland continues! Following the greatest six months in Willys-Overland's 20-year history, with sales exceeding the entire 1927 output, came July with far more sales than any previous July. 100% more Whippet and Willys-Knight cars were purchased than during July last year. This success is not surprising. Whippet Four and Sixes and the three great Willys-Knight Sixes offer a degree of comfort, performance, safety and economy never previously available at such extremely low prices. Orders now accepted for prompt delivery.' Price tags for Whippet Six (\$770) and Willys-Knight Six (\$995) are shown. At the bottom, it says 'WILLYS-OVERLAND, Inc. TOLEDO, OHIO'.