

BUYING A VASE.

Wertheimer's Clever Coup by Which He Secured the Prize.

The late Charles Wertheimer when asked on one occasion what he considered to be his astutest business coup thought for a while and then told how once when he was walking through Brighton square he espied through an open window what he knew to be a priceless Chinese vase. He went to the nearest postoffice, examined a local directory and found the name of the resident. Then he called and asked for the gentleman and was shown into the study under the name of "Hamilton." He briefly explained that he was looking for a modest house in Brighton and had taken a fancy to this one. Would the gentleman entertain an offer for the place as it stood—"flock, stock and barrel?"

The owner, a little nonplused, hesitated.

"If your offer is reasonable," interrupted Hamilton, "I will give you an extra thousand."

"Call tomorrow at 10:30, then," replied the owner.

Hamilton did and found him prepared to accept £18,000 for the twenty-two years' unexpired term and the contents of the residence.

Although this was well over market value, Hamilton at once closed, adding the extra thousand, according to promise. As, however, he afterwards sold the vase for £25,000, his coup was unmistakable.—London Telegraph.

WHISTLER THE FIGHTER.

The Artist Always Took His Revenge in a Refined Way.

In "Whistler as I Knew Him" Mortimer Menpes, the author, has a good deal to say about Whistler the fighter and his quickness in resenting an affront. He is careful to add that Whistler was always refined in his methods:

While he was severe he was not actually brutal. He never treated his enemies in a coarse way. Any man who had offended him Whistler would rap sharply over the shoulders with his cane, and then by the time the sufferer had recovered the master would be in the next room explaining to every one how he had just felled his enemy.

Once he caught a man with whom he was for the moment enraged washing his face. Without a moment's hesitation Whistler dashed the unfortunate head straight into the basin of water, and while the foe was endeavoring to clear the soap from his eyes to see the cause of this sudden immersion Whistler was in the smoking room setting the men there in a roar with the account of his adventures.

When I first met Whistler he was in the act of searching for a man who had dared to criticize his Venetian etchings. "If you want to see some fun, Menpes," he said, "come with me." Fortunately the man had been warned and was nowhere to be found.

Slavery in Old Greece.

The Greeks were slave owners with a vengeance. All manual work was done by "barbarians," as the Greeks called those who had been captured in war. The greatest of the Greeks saw no evil in the institution. Aristotle is quite outspoken in his justification of slavery. A certain amount of mean work had to be done, he claimed, and "mean natured men" were intended to do it. The slaves in some of the Greek states outnumbered the freemen four or five to one. Manual labor came in Greece to be thought a degradation, suited only for beings who could not do the higher work. Even freemen who worked for wages were by Aristotle placed outside the constitution. And what was true of the Greeks was equally true of most of the other ancient nations.—Exchange.

Shakespeare as an Actor.

About the year 1580 one of the London companies received an addition in the person of a young man who was not only a skillful and useful actor, but who also possessed the accomplishment of being able to adapt other plays to the taste of the times and even proved to have the gift of writing not only good plays himself, though old and jealous colleagues might hint at their not being altogether original. This young man, whose capacities became of no slight use to the company and the theater, was named William Shakespeare.—From "A History of Theatrical Art."

Very Complicated.

Aunt Kate—What brings that young Mr. Stevens to the house so often? Mildred—Well, his mother's stepfather married a second cousin of my father's great-aunt. We're trying to figure out what relation that makes him to me and it can't be done in one evening.—St. Louis Times.

Keeping Tab on Dad.

"What does your father do when you ask him any questions?" asked one small boy.

"He generally says, 'I'm busy just now; don't bother me,'" replied the other. "Then when I go out of the room he looks in the encyclopedia."—Washington Star.

Breaking the Record.

The Caller—I hear that you've been to a party, Mabel. Did you dance much? Mabel (aged eight)—I should say I did. I danced two quadrillions.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Labor—the expenditure of vital energy in some form—is the measure, nay, it is the maker, of values.—Holmes.

REVIEW'S LEGAL BLANKS

The following list of legal blanks are kept for sale at this office and others will be added as the demand arises:

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Notice is hereby given that on Saturday, the 2nd day of March, 1912, at Valantine's Real Estate Office at corner of South Jersey and Charleston streets, for the First Ward, and at the City Hall for the Second Ward, a Primary Nominating Election will be held, at which the Republican and Democratic parties will choose their candidates for city officers, namely:

One Mayor.
One City Recorder.
One City Treasurer.
One City Attorney.
Two Councilmen First Ward.
Two Councilmen Second Ward.
Three Councilmen at Large.

Said election will be held at twelve o'clock noon, and will continue until 7 o'clock of said day.

F. A. RICE,
City Recorder.
Published in the St. Johns Review on January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 23, 1912.

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