

Secrets of the Craft.

Side remarks by distinguished author while composing the novel of the decade:

(a) "For heaven's sake, Mary, can't you stop that child crying without singing at the top of your voice? How is a man to get anywhere with all that noise going on?"

(b) "Yes, yes, yes, take the paste, take the shears, take the paper, take the ink, take the stamps, take anything, but let me work in peace!"

(c) "Oh, if you say so I suppose we must pay that fool cent, but I do wish you'd remember that every minute taken out of my working day cuts down our income by just so much!"

From the dedication page of the completed novel of the decade:

To MY WIFE, MARY, without whose gentle inspiration, true companionship and constant helpfulness these pages would never have been written, I gratefully inscribe this book.—Arthur Gutterman in Life.

Drunken Monkeys.

According to a letter from the Congo region on the west coast of Africa, the monkeys there are inordinately fond of a kind of beer made by the natives, who use the beverage to capture their poor relations. Having placed quantities of the beer where the monkeys can get at it, the natives wait until their victims are in various degrees of inebriation, and when they then mingle with them the poor creatures are too much fuddled to recognize the difference between negro and ape. When a negro takes the hand of one of them to lead him off, some other food creature clings to the hand of the latter one and another one to his hand. Thus a single negro may sometimes be seen carrying off a string of staggering monkeys. When secured the beer is administered in decreasing quantities, so that they may only gradually awaken to the sad results of their spree.—London Tit-Bits.

For American Citizens.

When the visitor approached the diplomatic gallery of the senate chamber the doorkeeper informed him, says a writer in the Philadelphia Ledger, that the gallery was reserved for foreign representatives.

"It is, hey?" said the visitor. "Well, I want to tell you right now that this is a free country, and this is the senate of the United States, and I demand admission in the name of American citizenship."

"Oh!" said the doorkeeper. "Why didn't you say at first that you were an American citizen? Just step around to the second door from here. That gallery is reserved for American citizens."

With chest puffed up the stranger betook himself to the door indicated and was at once admitted to the public gallery.

A King's Rebuke.

The queen of Wurttemberg was one day walking in the streets of Stuttgart attended by a maid of honor, when she met a body of students who refused to make room for the ladies, and thus compelled them to walk in the gutter. The queen reported the matter to the king, and the next day the captain of the corps Suevia was summoned to the palace. A servant led him into a room where there were no chairs, and there the unfortunate student had to wait a full hour. At last the king appeared, and finally the young man was dismissed by him thus: "I cannot demand that every student should know my wife, but I do demand that the corps Suevia give place in the streets to ladies."

The Crawfish's Tail.

The tail of a crawfish serves that animal as an ear. By a peculiar jerk of the tail the animal can retire from a dangerous object with almost incredible swiftness. The tail is much more effective in moving the animal backward than forward, a singular instance of adaptation to its situation, for by means of its tail it can withdraw into its hole with such swiftness as in an instant to place it out of danger.

On Himself.

They had quarreled again. "Perhaps you are not aware," she said, "that I had over a dozen proposals of marriage before I accepted yours."

He flushed.

"And perhaps, madam," he retorted haughtily, "you are not aware that I proposed to nearly twenty women before I became acquainted with your self."

Two of a Kind.

Wig—What is more tiresome than a man who is always talking about what he has done? Wage—A man who is always talking about what he is going to do.—Philadelphia Record.

One Sure Cure.

"Jones seems to have sworn off for keeps. How did it happen?"

"His wife had a moving picture made of his last jag and let him see it."—Judge.

An Old Fashion.

Some people are so old-fashioned that they continue to visit their relatives for the purpose of having a good time.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Make Them Buy Tickets.

Boy—Papa, who originated the motto "Pay as you go?" Father—Some chap that owned a railroad.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The noblest question in the world is, What good may I do in it?—Franklin.

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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Indians' Poisoned Arrows.

The arrow poison used by the Indians of Columbia has been found to be the secretion of the skin of a small frog. The arrows are eight inch palm spines, which are shot from a blowgun about fourteen feet long, and the hunter carries the frog along in a hollow bamboo in order that he may have the poison in a fresh condition. A simple prick of the skin yields the poison drop when needed. When one of the arrows enters the body of even a large animal—such as a jaguar, monkey or deer—paralysis quickly follows and the victim is then easily killed. The use of the poison, it is said, does not affect the flesh of the animals killed, which is quite harmless when eaten. Two French naturalists have made experiments with the edible frog, *Rana esculenta*, showing that its skin exudes a similar poison when irritated and that an extract prepared from the skin gives in guinea pigs the same symptoms as in connection with the arrow poison.—Chicago Tribune.

The Way Back To It.

"Why do you call your wife Peggy?"

"It's a long story."

"It must be. Peggy is supposed to be short for Margaret, though I could never see why. But your wife's name is Felicia. How do you get it?"

"Well, you see, it's like this. Peggy is short for a nickname I invented for her. I got in the habit of calling her Pegasus."

"But why?"

"Pegasus is the feminine of Pegasus."

"Yes, but?"

"And Pegasus was an immortal steed."

"I know that. But what has your wife got to do with it?"

"Well, an immortal steed is in plain terms an undying horse. And an undying horse is an everlasting nag. Now do you see?"

"He saw and sympathized appropriately.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Dressed For the Occasion.

"Before I take this dress off," said the woman to the home dressmaker, "I want to go into the kitchen and read the riot act to Maria."

"Oh, not with this dress on!" the dressmaker protested. "She is cooking, and the grease might pop!"

"Can't help it," the woman interrupted. "Maria needs a lecture. She has been needing it for some time, but I didn't dare deliver it because I hadn't good enough clothes to make it effective. Maria is black and judges people by the clothes they wear. If I had scolded in my shirt waist and skirt or even in my old blue afternoon dress Maria would have scorned me, but with all this finery on I can speak my piece, and Maria will be properly impressed, and maybe she will reform."—New York Times.

Clever Rubinstein.

The Italian tenor Marconi once made a visit to Rubinstein, during which the latter's little son came tripping eagerly into the music room and said, "This is my festa, papa, and I want a present." "Very well, my son, what shall it be?" "A waltz, papa, a new waltz all for myself, and now." "What an impatient little son it is!" exclaimed the great musician. "But, of course, you shall have your gift. Here it is. Listen! And for you," turning to the distinguished tenor, "I will play my 'Nero.'" "It seems incredible," says Marconi, "but then and there I witnessed and heard a most remarkable phenomenon. The maestro improvised and played a charming waltz with his left hand, giving me at the same time with his right the splendid overture."

How Sound Waves Move.

The speed with which sound waves are transmitted through the atmosphere depends on several conditions. When the temperature is at 32 degrees F., sounds move with a speed of 1,090 feet per second, the velocity increasing with the temperature at the rate of about one foot of speed per second for each degree above the freezing point. Then, again, in damp air sound moves with a greater velocity than it does in dry air, so odds if the dry air be warm and the damp cold. In water sound moves more than four times as fast as it does in air, or, say, at about the rate of 4,700 feet per second.

His Prescription.

Tramp—I jus' dropped in to offer my cure for indigestion and kindred ailments, mum. It may prove a great blessing to your family, mum, and I charge nothing for the prescription. Housekeeper—Well, I must say that's reasonable enough. What's the cure? Tramp—Live on plain food and give your rich and indigestible dishes over to the poor. I'm the poor, mum.—San Francisco Chronicle.

A Bitter Taunt.

The other day at cards two London ladies quarreled long and ardently over a payment of the gigantic sum of 15 shillings. At last the loser flung the money down on the table, saying, with concentrated venom, "There, that will pay for your next dinner party."

In a Glass House.

Tom—Doesn't your girl's father call you down for staying so late? Jack—Well, no. You see, I generally meet him at the gate coming home from the club.—Boston Transcript.

Not the Same.

"Do you know, I heard your family doctor is a dipsomaniac?"

"No such thing. He's an allopath."—Baltimore American.

We have committed the Golden Rule to memory; now let us commit it to life.—Markham.

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