

NATURE.

As a fond mother, when the day is o'er, Leads by the hand her little child to bed.

Aunt Phebe's Story.

AM willing to confess that I would have married Gus Waters at a word. He was the sort of young man a girl instinctively likes and trusts.

I went down. He didn't want to borrow anything. On the contrary, he wanted me to give him something to keep-my hand, my heart.



TERRITORY INVOLVED IN CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

HAVE SAME SUPERSTITION.

Islanders Fifteen Thousand Miles Apart Believe in Evil Spirits.

Philosophic people who belong to the folk lore society are fond of tracing legends and myths and customs all over the world.

Now, there has been unraveled a curious superstition common to Shetlanders and Singhalese. How islanders so wide apart—some 15,000 miles—managed to adopt each other's views one does not know.

Snake Bite in India.

Fully twenty thousand of the population of India are annually killed by snake bites.

Origin of Hurrah.

W. J. Sprattley thinks there can be no doubt that the Egyptian soldiers in ancient times went into the battle to the inspiring cheer of the "Hoo Ra! Hoo Ra! Ho!"

CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

History of the Compact Between United States and Great Britain.

The Clayton-Bulwer treaty derives its name from the diplomatists who negotiated it—the part of the United States, Hon. John M. Clayton, Secretary of State in President Taylor's administration; and on the part of England, Sir Henry Bulwer, British minister at Washington.

There were so many eager purchasers crowding round the little stall that I gave up the idea of buying the insect I wanted that evening.

High Priced.

The most expensive material worked into a garment was the gold brocade purchased in 1670 for a robe for King Louis XIV., at a cost of about \$85 a yard.

Blind People.

So far as the most recent statistics go, the known proportion of blind people is about one in fifteen hundred.

School for Scandal Closed.

Springfield, Mo., women have organized a "don't speak evil" society, each member signing this agreement: "I do hereby solemnly pledge my word to speak no evil of any woman, whether such report be true or not.

Largest Geyser in the World.

The largest geyser in the world is the Excelsior geyser in Yellowstone Park. Its basin is 200 feet across and 350 feet deep.

Britain in America.

British landlords are said to own 20,000 acres of land in the United States, an area larger than that of Ireland.

SINGING OF INSECTS.

JAPAN THE ONLY COUNTRY WHERE IT IS APPRECIATED.

There the Tiny Pets, in Their Exquisite Bamboo Cages, Make the Evening Air Vocal with Their Little Cries and Bell-Like Notes.

Singing birds are prized in all countries, but it is only in Japan that the notes of insects have been appreciated and the insects named according to their different voices.

ANECDOTE AND INCIDENT.

Poulney Bigelow's admiration for the Kaiser is well known. One person, however, who recently tried to joke with him about it did not get off unhurt.

At an entertainment in Edinburgh, just as the Boer war broke out, the audience stopped the performance to sing the national anthem.

Youth Never Returns.

Her Father—You are too young to marry. Wait and you will get over this love.

Trying to Scare Her.

"Ma, our old cat likes a joke." "What makes you think so, Jimmy?" "Cause, when she catches a mouse she allus brings it to you."—Indianapolis Journal.

Undertaker—How's business?

Shoemaker—So, so. How's yours? Undertaker—Dead.

Ties that Bind.

"I thought you and Dorinda were perfectly inseparable." "We were, but—don't you know—it was just a society friendship."—Indianapolis Journal.

Reflex Disarmament.

"The Transvaal war is full of surprises." "That's so. Whenever I try to talk about it I run against somebody who has read more about it than I have."—Indianapolis Journal.

Strategy.

"Oh, mamma!" exclaimed little Arthur, all out of breath, "I've just been playing with the Goodwin children, and they have the measles at their home. Now can I eat all the cake I want to? 'Cause you know I'm going to be sick anyway."—Chicago Tribune.

Proof Wanted.

"I could die for love of you!" said the rich old sultor. "Yes; but would you?" queried the practical maid.—Chicago News.

HUMOR OF THE WEEK.

STORIES TOLD BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Odd, Curious and Laughable Phases of Human Nature Graphically Portrayed by Eminent Word Artists of Our Own Day—A Budget of Fun.

"I wish we was all over in Kimberley," said little Willie. "Why?" his mamma asked.

Mexican Sarcasm.

La Gaceta, a paper published in Guadalajara, Mexico, part in English and part in Spanish, prints in a prominent place the following:

"A Popular Heir."



A Distinguished Character. "That's an imposing-looking woman over in the corner."

Caution.

"Young man," said Uncle Jerry Peebles, "how do you pronounce that?" "Tabbleddy hote, sir," replied the waiter, a recent importation from Skedunk.

What a Palatable Dish!

"Will you have oysters?" asked the man, glancing over the bill of fare. "Yes," said the short little woman, as she tried in vain to touch the floor with her toes.

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In Mourning.

"What's back again?" exclaimed the young housekeeper, "you can't expect me to give you cake every day."

The Optimistic View.

"You're a shocking sight! He broke your nose, didn't he?" "Yes, but if he had struck me an inch higher and a little to the right or left he would have broken my eye-glasses, and that would have been \$2.50."—Chicago Tribune.

And Incompatibility.

"You want a divorce from your husband, madam? On what ground?" "Excessive cruelty. He abuses Fido."—Chicago Tribune.

"The Absent-Minded Beggar."

First beggar—Hil, there, pal, you've got y'r signs mixed this mornin'.

Quantity Rather than Quality.

"Why do you think he isn't much of a criminal lawyer?" "He completed his speech in three hours, when he might just as well have strung it out for as many days and added several hundred dollars to his bill."—Chicago Post.

Willing to Lose Herself.

"There is one thing can be truly said of Miss Ogler; she is self-possessed." "True, but I'll bet you she wishes she wasn't."—Boston Courier.

Absent-Minded.

Wickwire—Look here! This is the fourth time this morning you have been in here asking for the price of a meal.

His Words Rang True.

He—To prove the sincerity of my intentions, I have brought this solitaire ornament for your engagement finger.

The Seasoning.

Mr. Tenderfoot—This bear meat seems very highly spiced.

A Game of Checkers.

1—Mr. Blackboard: Dar oughter be some game in disher log.

Of a Truth.

"Seven dollars and fifty cents for a book like that!" exclaimed the young man, putting his purse back in his pocket.

Useless, if Stationary.

"Yes, your highness," said the aide, "and shall I post this proclamation in a conspicuous place?"

The Roundabout Way.

"You have three brothers, haven't you?" he inquired. "Yes," she answered. "Why?"

Next!

Miss Goldrox—You didn't seem to have much regard for Count Spaghetti. What do you know of him?

Impossible.

"We can be friends," she said, softly. "Then we can never be man and wife," he answered, dismally.—Philadelphia North American.

Could Bring Them All.

"I can't pay that bill now." "If you don't I'll tell all your other creditors that you have paid it."

Kite Draws Sparks from Snow.

William A. Eddy, at Rayonne, on a recent occasion made his first electric test in a blizzard, by sending aloft a six-foot single plane kite during the heavy gale and dense snowfall, sustaining in this way a steel wire at a considerable height.