Anecdotes of Gilbert Stuart.

It was only a few days previous to his death that he was requested to paint a head of himself, for the Academy at Florence; but, as usual, he did not even answer the letter; he seemed perfectly insensible to compliments of every kind, and particularly during the latter part of his life. Persons would sometimes flatter him extravagantly, and he would answer in the most dry manner; flatterers, in fact, never failed to elicit an ironical or absurd answer. After some very fine compliment, he would say, "Yes, but is it not too bad to think, after all, I should have been taken for the devil?" He would then relate the following anecdote with great gusto.

His friends frequently sent him masulapatam snuff, put up in a common glass bottle, the contents of which it was impossible to extract, without running the risk of breaking the glass among the snuff; to avoid this, he thought of the plan of dipping candle-wick in the spirits of wine, and tying it around the neck of the bottle; then he would set it on fire with a candle, which took off the neck and all the upper part of the bottle, without a particle of glass mingling with the snuff. The servant man was sent out to the kitchen for all the implements to this performance; but a servant woman who had been suspected of taking some spoons, becoming conscience-stricken, got it into her head that he had some dealings with his Satanic majesty, and intended raising him to discover the missing property. She therefore made some excuse to go into the parlor, as it chanced just as the blue flames were ascending in the most fearful manner around the bottle. She turned pale as death, and with her teeth chattering, cried out: "I know what you are about; I am as good as anybody; I go to meeting; I—I—read the Bible, and I ain't a bit afraid of Satan;" then, bursting into a paroxysm of tears, she rushed up stairs, packed up her goods and chattels, and was off that evening. But she took care to put a pile of spoons on a top shelf in the kitchen, where she was sure they would be found. My father stood for some moments in dumb amazement; but when he recovered himself said: "Why, what in the d—l is the matter with the woman?" Then he became convulsed with laughter, and for weeks could not think of the incident without bursting into peals of merriment.

When a boy he went to school in Newport, R. I., where he, together with a companion of the name of Channing, getting into a scrape in consequence of the tell-taleing of an old shoe maker of the place, they both vowed vengeance, and adopted the following mode of carrying it out: They provided themselves with an old gun, a syringe, and some blood from a butcher. They gave the gun a liberal charge of powder, and filled the syringe with blood, so mixed with hot water as to be about blood warm.

These preparations were made in the evening of a summer's day, and thus prepared they crept to the open window where the shoe-maker was at work, and while one fired the gun, the other at the same instant squirted the watered blood upon the bald head of the unsuspecting victim. Startled by the explosion within five feet of him, and feeling the moisture trickling down his neck, he raised his hand to his head, and seeing blood, rolled over among his lasts and lap-stones, calling out that he was murdered. His wife ran in, and with some assistance got him into bed, where he was washed, in order to find the wound, but as no wound could be found, and as in a short time he felt as comfortable as ever, he suspected the trick and immediately ran to the school, to inform against his enemies. As Stuart and Channing were found in bed *with their shoes on*, they were held responsible and suffered the application of birch that was customary in those days. Years after, when Stuart returned from England, he found the old man still alive, and at work. He went into the shop, and asked if he remembered him. "No," said the shoe-maker; "I don't know as ever I seen you afore." "My name is Stuart—don't you remember the boy Stuart?" "Oh, yes," said the old man, with a non-committal grunt; "wall, if you're as good a man as you were a bad boy, you're a devilish clever fellow."—*Scribner's Monthly.*

A Singular Phenomenon.—The Panama *Star and Herald* reports a curious phenomenon as having occurred at Aspinwall during the past month, and calls upon the scientific for an explanation. The beach, says that journal, is of coral formation, and extends from the light-house eastward along the northern shore of Manzanilla Island for a mile or more, and is open to the Caribbean. Upon the night in question, or rather on the morning following, this whole distance was covered with a deposit of a deep vivid indigo blue—something resembling a broad ribbon stretched along the limits of high tide, which there amounts to only about eighteen inches.

Beholders were startled by this very peculiar appearance, and it was at first thought that perhaps Old Neptune and the Tagus indigo business might have had something to do with it; nor was curiosity allayed in the slightest when a closer examination revealed the ichthyological fact that this blue deposit consisted of millions of a flat, shapeless sort of jelly-fish, smaller than the hand, rounded in contour, with a slightly raised ridge running what would seem to be fore and aft over the back. Everybody looked and wondered, but the wisest—and there are some perfect Solomons in that city—could not make out what they were, or what such a singular and sudden phenomenon meant. The next day all the bright color had faded out, and the gelatinous deposit, although giving out a strong, unpleasant odor, dried up and soon disappeared.

Manners at Table.—As do the old so will the children do. If, when a child asks for a biscuit, it is picked up by the parent and handed around one at a time, or thrown to the child, there is no chance to reprove the child when it does the same to the parent. When a parent eats with a knife, and forgets to use the fork, the child is warranted in doing the same. A chatty, cheerful table is always to be desired, free from formal stiffness; but freedom is not rudeness, ease is not boorishness; good breeding will show its presence quicker at table than in the parlar or saloon. Let parents be careful to set the example, and the children will not be slow to do likewise.

This is the season when newly married couples make their appearance at the watering place hotels, languish on a four dollar-a-day diet for one week precisely, and then go home to the realities of corn beef and cabbage for the balance of their natural lives.—*N. Y. Commercial Advocate.*

A Singular Woman.

A short time since some of the Boston papers noticed the death of Miss Joanna Farnham, about eighty years of age, and for a long series of years known as the housekeeper at the American House, in Boston. She went from Milton, N. H., in her early days, and during her long life at the hotel nobody supposed she had any property, and at her death it was not generally known that she had a surplus dollar anywhere. But she had a trunk at the American House, which was opened, and found to contain a variety of dry goods, notes for five thousand dollars against the proprietor of the American House, a bank book of the Blackstone bank, showing deposits of seventeen hundred dollars, a small sum of money, and also a piece of paper having a trunk key wrapped up in it, and on the paper was a writing stating that the key belonged to another trunk, which could be found at the house of a relative in Milton.

This led to a visit to Milton, and there some very curious developments were made. The trunk referred to as being at Milton was found, opened with the key found in the former trunk, and this second trunk was packed full of all sorts of fine wearing apparel, and contained also a key in a piece of paper, upon which was a statement that this key belonged to another trunk at a certain other house.

And so this thing was followed up until twenty very large-sized trunks and three huge packing chests were found, all crammed full of the most expensive articles of ladies' wearing apparel and house furnishings that the Boston market could afford. When these trunks and boxes were all collected they loaded down a four-ox team, and were drawn to a large hall in Milton, unpacked and inventoried, preparatory to an auction sale for the benefit of the heirs.

Among these valuables were 89 dresses, new and perfect, made of silk-velvet, satin, and all kinds of plaid silks, black and colored thibets, poplins, alpacas, brilliantines, cashmeres, etc., etc.; 3 silk-velvet cloaks, 19 shawls, from common to the richest Paisley and wrought crape; 105 skirts of all colors; 114 pairs of hose; under garments too numerous to mention, table-linen, towels, handkerchiefs, counterpanes, blankets, coverlets, sheets, live geese feathers; sets of elegant China ware; a large lot of table and tea spoons of best coin silver; a fine gold watch and chain, and a large lot of fine jewelry, and so forth and so on. It is said that the best dress cost not less than $200.

All of these goods are perfectly new, and in the best of order, never having been used at all. There is enough of the whole to stock a large store, and all in all the largest legacy ever left by a poor housekeeper, who worked for small wages all her life. Yet there is said to be no doubt that she came honestly by all, as it has since been ascertained where and of whom she purchased them at various times as she went along. The original cost of all these goods was not less than $3,000, and the owner, while she lived, went clad all her days in the very cheapest sort of apparel—the strangest specimen of humanity ever known in these parts.

The Difference Between One and Two.

The English language is often a puzzle to foreigners, and sometimes drives even an American hotel keeper into a corner, as for instance in the following experience at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, where a wealthy French guest came to complain at the office, and was there met by the gracious Griswold, who rose to explain.

"What for, sare, your garcon not present my demand?"

"Your demand, Monsieur?"

"Yes, sare, do I speak Inglis perfait, sare; do you comprehend me, sare?"

"Certainly, your English is perfectly correct, my dear sir; what is it you desire?"

"Vy, sare, you tell me I can have at my private table wis my friends whatever I desire to manger—pardon, to eat."

"Certainly," said Griswold, "anything, stewed doubloons and diamond sauce, if you wish."

"Ah, no, Monsieur, zat is too rich; simply desire some grice."

"Eh; some what?"

"Some grice, Monsieur Griswold, such as I eat for my dinnay ze ozer day."

"Ah, you mean rice, boiled rice—certainly, all the rice you desire."

"No, sare! It is not rice. Zat is what zat premier garcon—headwaitare, say. It is a bird I want, sare; I want him roast, not boil."

"Roast grice—why, let me see," said Griswold, in a dilemma, not wishing to appear ignorant of his guest's meaning. "I don't believe there is a single grice in the market."

"Ah, you mistake when you say *single* grice."

"Indeed?"

"Yes, sare. Vat you call a leetle rat, a-a?"

"Mouse," suggested the hotel proprietor.

"Yes. Zen two of zem, vat you call two mice, eh?"

"Quite correct," responded the host.

"Zen if one is ze bird you call grouse, two is vat you call grice, eh?"

"Why, not exactly," said the hotel man, struggling to keep countenance; "we say two grouse, just as we say two sheep or two deer; but for mouse, mice and—"

"Yes, sare," said Monsieur, triumphantly; "an vy not you say two hice for two houses, or"— how far he might have continued cannot be said; but at that moment the head clerk, Palmer, standing near, had a violent attack of coughing, and Carr, the room clerk, walked off suddenly and slammed on the big bell, and called for "front" to do something, and then stuck his own head down beneath the counter, as the amused host walked away towards the dining hall with his guest, to order "two grice" for Monsieur's private table.—*Boston Commercial Bulletin.*

The poverty of the Irish is not exaggerated, nor their good humor, nor their whimsical adsurdity, nor their courage. There is perpetual kindness in the Irish cabin—butter-milk, potatoes—a stool is offered, or a stone is rolled that your honor may sit down, and be out of the smoke, and those who beg everywhere else seem desirous to exercise free hospitality in their own houses. Their natural disposition is turned to gaiety and happiness; while a Scotsman is thinking about the term-day, or, if easy on that subject, about hell in the next world—while an Englishman is making a little hell in the present, because his muffin is not well toasted—Pat's mind is always turned to fun and ridicule. They are terribly excitable, to be sure, and will murder you on slight suspicion, and find out next day that it was all a mistake, and that it was not yourself they meant to kill at all, at all.—*Walter Scott.*

Tennessee has 139 newspapers.

Outwitting a Tyrant.

It was in the year 1848 that the leading citizens of the chief towns of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom avowed openly their detestation of Austria, and they only awaited a favorable opportunity to throw off the yoke. At one of the theaters of Venice, on a certain evening, a magnificent bouquet was thrown upon the stage at the feet of a beautiful *danseuse*. It was a rare piece of workmanship, was the bouquet, and its three colors, of red, white, and green, were so arranged that the symbol of Italian independence could not be mistaken. The *danseuse* picked it up, and kissed it repeatedly, and pressed it rapturously to her bosom, while the vast audience applauded vociferously.

On the following morning the actress was summoned before the police authorities, and sharply questioned touching her absurd treatment of the boquet which had been thrown to her on the previous evening. She tremblingly answered that she had only done as she always did when such beautiful tributes were given her.

"Very well," said the Austrian chief; "hereafter, when a bouquet is thrown to you thus publicly, you will trample upon it with your foot. Do you understand?"

She said she understood, and she was suffered to depart. She went to some of her friends and told them what had happened.

"Ah," said the artist, Antonio Luigi, "and you will trample upon it?"

"I must."

"Then I will see that you have the right kind. Be brave, pretty one, and we will win applause again. Wait."

That evening, when the favorite *danseuse* had acquitted herself grandly, a huge bouquet was thrown upon the stage. Mercy! what a bouquet it was! A broad field of strange flowers, the only colors yellow and black—the imperial standard of Austria! There could be no mistaking it.

"*Bestiaccia!*" (great ugly beast), said the actress, loud enough to be heard over the house. And then she jumped upon the yellow and black symbol, and trampled it heartily.

For a time it seemed as though the applause would shatter the building. The police saw, and took the hint, and did not venture to interfere further with the bouquets of the bold and favorite *danseuse*.—*S. C., Jr., in N. Y. Ledger.*

"Dodge the Big Ones."

Joseph Lane, United States Senator, Governor and Major-General, was one of the bright galaxy. Through the war with Mexico he rendered services second to none other. On his way from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico he met and totally routed Santa Anna's army. He had with him three thousand men. That was on October 9. On the 19th of the same month he attacked a strong force of the enemy at Atlixco, and captured the place; and here it was that he lost only one man, while of the Mexicans full five hundred were killed or seriously wounded. And so all through the war his course was brilliant and effective. He had entered the service as a private soldier from Indiana, resigning his seat in the State Senate for that purpose; but he was elected colonel of his regiment, and as two more regiments were formed in Indiana he was commissioned by President Polk a Brigadier General before he left the State.

The anecdote we are to tell was of the battle of Buena Vista. He there had command of the left wing of Gen. Taylor's army, and opened the engagement by attacking the Mexican division of Gen. Ampudia. While his forces were forming into line they were somewhat annoyed by a battery of small guns which the Mexicans had stationed on a neighboring height, and which were blazing away furiously; but their pieces were badly aimed, and the shot flew wild, most of it passing high over our soldiers' heads. One of Lane's old Indiana regiments was at the front, and most exposed, and as the balls came whizzing through the air the men would involuntarily duck their heads. Gen. Lane noticed this, and in his loud, trumpet tones, he called out:

"Indiana Regiment! No dodging!"

Almost immediately afterwards came the boom of a new gun from the height—the boom of a roarer—and as a twenty-four pound solid shot came uncomfortably near to the general, he popped down his head very suddenly.

The men saw, and a smile and a titter ran along the double line of bronzed faces. With a grim smile upon his own face, turning again to his men, Gen. Lane thundered:

"Indiana Regiment! You may dodge the big ones!"—*N. Y. Ledger.*

A Pleasant Surprise.—We call to mind one instance of "hazing"—a cruel amusement which is very popular in all colleges—which is as sweet and touching as such instances are generally revolting and disgraceful. It was noticed by some sophomores that two country boys had begun their housekeeping in a room on the ground floor of one of the college halls, with a miserable apology for a bed, no carpet, no table, and only two chairs, as the sum total of their outfit. It was learned also that they proposed to board themselves, and had only a few dollars for their food during the term. "On this hint they acted." On "Bloody Monday" night—the time on which the severest hazing of the freshmen is prosecuted by the sophomores—the poor, trembling youths were summoned by a "soph," who was not over courteous, to go to a room up-stairs. Up-stairs they went, pale and trembling, expecting to be dealt with without mercy. They were detained there an hour or so, not being molested, but only being quizzed by the circle of "sophs" in the room. Then they were dismissed to their own room. When they entered it, it was over a nice new carpet. There was a tasteful bedstead and appurtenances, a study table, chairs, a lamp, a book-case, a stove, and so forth, and in their closet they found provisions for several days. This was hazing to a blessed purpose. Let us hope that this instance of clemency may not stand forever alone.

Our iron manufacturers are entertaining high hopes of the development of a large trade with Brazil. Pennsylvania manufacturers have shipped considerable quantities of rails to Dom Pedro's empire this year, and have heavy contracts for more. A number of cars and locomotives have been contracted for in Wilmington. It has been demonstrated that American goods of this kind can be laid down in any South American port fully as cheaply as British or Belgian goods can.

Two hundred and twenty granges have been organized in Vermont during the last six years, with a membership of 11,000.

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It is a fact which became patent years ago to the people of the United States, that Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is a remedial agent of uncommon power. As a consequence of this recognition, its sales have increased immensely at home and abroad, and it has risen to a foremost rank among the proprietary medicines of the day. Chemical analysis, after submitting it to the closest scrutiny, pronounce it absolutely pure, and skillful and conscientious medical practitioners recommend its use. A wide range of disorders falls within the scope of its curative operation. Among them may be enumerated dyspepsia, liver complaint, constipation, nervous ailments, urinary and uterine affections, rheumatism and gout. It is a supremely efficacious tonic, hastens convalescence, cheers the minds, imparts appetite, and promotes sound sleep.

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Thousands of housekeepers are annoyed and vexed because they cannot get good yeast. This is the reason why the California yeast cakes are becoming so popular wherever they are known. They recommend themselves, and those who have been previously bothered to keep yeast on hand find these cakes always ready for use, and save themselves a great deal of time and expense. The advertisement can be seen in another place, and the best evidence of their merits is shown in the fact that the proprietors offer to send samples free by mail to all who wish to try them. Another evidence of their worth is shown by the increasing demand for them by the wholesale grocers of San Francisco. If your grocer does not keep them, tell him to order them from any wholesale dealer; or packages can be sent by mail. The man who is at the head of the firm manufacturing them is an industrious, hard-working man, and deserves to succeed, and he does wherever the California yeast cakes become known.

From all that we are able to learn of the Sacramento Medical and Surgical Infirmary we believe it to be a reliable institution and worthy of public confidence. The advertisement can be found in another place. The men at the head of the institution appear to be gentlemen, who will do all that they can reasonably be expected to do. They do not promise to raise the dead or do any impossibility, but we believe them all the more worthy of confidence that they make no extravagant claims.

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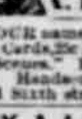

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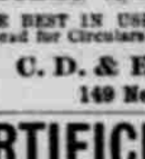

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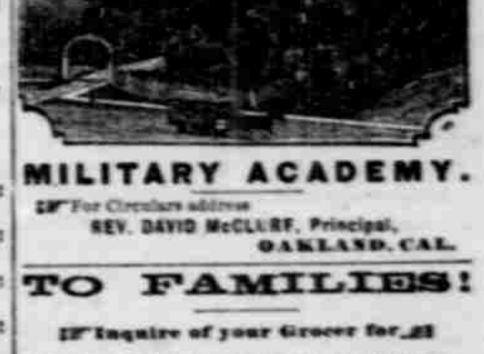

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