

A STORY OF WEBSTER

ONE OCCASION WHEN DANIEL WAS DEEPLY HUMILIATED.

An incident which shocked and surprised him into tears—The Admiration, the Loyalty and the Generosity of His Circle of Friends.

The following incident in the life of Daniel Webster was related to the writer by the late Joshua Seward:

Mr. Seward came to Woburn from Boston in the early seventies and bought a farm, where he lived until his death in 1885. He was a native of the New Hampshire "Peace City," from which place he came to Boston in early manhood and later engaged in the livery business of School street. He was a genial, social, active young man, and in a short time many of the business and professional men of the city were his friends and patrons. Daniel Webster, then in the fullness of his manly manhood, was his particular friend and most favored patron. One year Webster early engaged to deliver the Fourth of July oration in the city.

A public procession was then an important feature of the celebration, and the orator of the day was the chief person of distinction in the parade. In those days there were no four-wheeled vehicles for convenience or for pleasure. A chaise was the proper carriage for gentlemen to use. Webster was popular and proud as popular. He saw no chaise in the city as good as he desired to appear in on that important occasion, and therefore he ordered one to be built by the principal carriage maker of the city (Sargent, I think it was), to be ready for use on that day. In the morning of the Fourth he appeared at Seward's stable office and requested Seward to go to the carriage shop and get the chaise he had ordered. Seward harnessed a horse and went to the carriage shop as directed, and told

the proprietor he had come for Mr. Webster's chaise. The proprietor in a measured tone said that could not be misunderstood as Mr. Webster sent the money to pay for the chaise?

In relating this to me Seward said: "I was never so astonished in my life! I should have been less surprised if he had raised his fist and knocked me down. I had no thought that there was a man living who had ever heard of the great Webster, the godlike Daniel, who would or who could have denied him any request it was possible to grant. I could only say, 'He sent no money by me.' 'Then,' said the proprietor, 'tell him he can have the chaise when he sends the money to pay for it and not till then.'" Seward said he was never in such a dilemma in all his life. He could not go back and tell that great man, whom he adored, that he could not have the chaise till he paid for it. And yet he must go back and tell him something. But what could he tell him? Finally, after much thought and study it occurred to him that he had a new chaise which he would offer to Webster and tell him that the varnish on the one he had ordered was not yet hard and that it would be liable to injure if taken out in the heat and dust of that public day. Webster met Seward at the door when he returned, and before Webster could ask a question Seward was telling him the story he had invented on the way home. Webster made no reply, but accepted Seward's statement as true and rode in his chaise that day.

About a week later Webster came again and said to Seward, "I think the varnish on that chaise is hard now, and you may go down and get it." Seward said: "With a heavy heart I harnessed a horse and went again to the shop. I knew I should not get the chaise, and I was not disappointed. In the same manner I was asked the same question as before. I could not invent another story that would be credible and was therefore compelled to go back and tell him the truth." Webster was impatiently awaiting Seward's return, and when in halting distance he called to Seward: "Where is the chaise? What is the trouble?" Seward approached him more closely and in tones so low that no one could overhear him replied, "He told me to tell you that you could have the chaise when you sent the money to pay for it and not before." Webster stood silent an instant and then with voice trembling with emotion exclaimed, "My God, Joshua, did he say that?" and sank into a nearby chair and cried as would a deeply aggrieved child of six summers.

It is well known that Webster would incur debt, apparently with no thought that there were two parties to a con-

tract, a creditor and a debtor, and that their moral obligations were equal. Consequently his creditors so multiplied and his indebtedness so increased as to interfere with his political plans, if not, indeed, threaten his political future. At this time his friends came to his aid and, it is said, raised the sum of \$40,000 to cancel his indebtedness and relieve him from the further annoyance and pressure of his creditors. When we realize that \$40,000 was a larger sum to raise then for any purpose than would be \$200,000 today we have some measure of the admiration and the loyalty of his friends.—H. C. Hall in Boston Transcript.

Just So.

"I thought you said you couldn't live without me," sneered the girl. "So I did," answered the man. "Yet you're living." "No; I'm not. Just boarding; that's all."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

ROYAL EPICURES.

Monarchs Who Were Famous For Their Culinary Learning.

Royalty in times past has had many an accomplished epicure as learned in culinary lore as in the practice of the cuisine. It was Henry de Valois who brought into fashion aromatic sauces and various spice dainties, inheriting his taste for cooking from Catherine de Medici, who introduced into France not only ice, but much of the culinary art from Italy.

Louis XIV. was devoted to gastronomy, and for his use liquors were invented in his old age, when, it is said, he could scarcely endure existence without a succession of artificial stimulants. But the pertinacity with which Charles V. of Spain gratified his appetite under all circumstances rivaled even that of Frederick the Great. Before rising in the morning potted capons were usually served to him, prepared with sugar, milk and spices, leed beer being one of his favorite drinks. Fish, too, of every kind was to his taste, eels, frogs and oysters occupying a prominent place in the royal bill of fare. Frederick the Great was fond of highly seasoned meats and had a strong predilection for Italian or French made dishes. It was his habit during dinner to make pencil marks against the different items of the bill of fare, to which he referred when conversing afterward with the maitre d'hotel.

When the Duc d'Escaurs and his royal master, Louis XVIII., were closeted together to talk over a dish the ministers were kept waiting in the antechamber, and the next day this notice regularly appeared in the official journals: "M. le Duc d'Escaurs a travaillé dans le cabinet." It may be added that Louis XVIII. had invented the "truffes a la purée d'artichauts" and

disclosed the secret, he invariably prepared the dish with his own hands, assisted by the duke. Another epicurean of the first order was the Polish King Stanislaus Leszinski, who invented many a new dish and vastly improved the style of cooking, astonishing the Lorrainers, among other things, by having served up at his table dishes of meat with fruits, both of which had been cooked together. Geese which had been plucked when alive, then whipped to death, and marines were set down in his bill of fare as foreign birds, and after a somewhat similar fashion turkeys were transformed into "coqs de bruyeres" and were served at the table buried under the strong smelling herbs of Lorraine. One year was remarkable for the entire failure of the fruit crop, but Stanislaus would not be deprived of his dessert, for, turning his attention to confectionery, he substituted compositions of sugared vegetables, especially of turnips.—London Standard.

CASUAL PHILOSOPHY.

What one goes into debt for nine times out of ten is a luxury.

A man always making excuses leaves himself no time to make anything else.

Business based upon friendship threatens both; friendship based upon business strengthens both.

That man can best ignore the enmity of those who don't understand him who goes home to a wife who does.

It is a good deal easier to pray for men's souls than to pour balm into their wounds, not to mention that it costs less.

The supreme court has not yet decided which is the weaker man—he who is not able to see his own weakness or he who has no faith in himself.

From an intellectual point of view that time of one's life is most wasted when he tries, in a spirit of dumb loyalty, to admire all those things that are popularly considered admirable.—Success.

The Word "Slave."

The word "slave," which is happily used seldom unless metaphorically in this country, is a word of brilliant historical antecedents. Its original, the Russian "slava," means glorious and is the title of that race which subsumes the Russian people. But when the Germans reduced hosts of the Slavs to servitude their name, from malice or accident, as Gibbon says, became synonymous with "servile." It retains no more suggestion of its racial origin now than does "ogre," which is really "Hungarian," from a confusion of the Magyars with the Huns, and of both with the terrible Tartars.

Morning Astorian, 65c. per month.

CUBA WILL AID.

HAVANA, April 30.—The house of representatives has passed a bill appropriating \$50,000 for the San Francisco sufferers.

The response to California's appeal has been prompt, universal and substantial. Relief is going forward by ship loads, by train loads and by wagon loads.

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Will overcome indigestion and dyspepsia; regulate the bowels and cure liver and kidney complaints. It is the best blood enricher and invigorator in the world. It is purely vegetable, perfect harmless, and should you be a sufferer from disease, you will use it if you are wise. R. N. Andrews, editor and manager Cocoa and Rockledge News, Cocoa, Fla., writes: "I have used your Herbine in my family, and find it a most excellent medicine. Its effects upon myself have been a marked benefit. Sold by Frank Hart's drug store."

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