

THIEVING ON TRAINS.

PEOPLE WHO CROSS THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE FOR PROFIT.

One Man Who Is Well Known and Is Constantly Watched—His Specialty Is Umbrellas—Record of One Day's Carelessness—Odd Things Left Behind.

A well dressed woman got into a bridge car carrying a gold headed umbrella. A moment later a fairly well attired man came in, walking carelessly, and sat down beside her. Had a careful observer noticed him when he entered he would have seen him throw a quick glance at the umbrella before sitting down.

The train rumbled across. The lady gazed at the bay, and watching the swiftly moving craft fell into a dreamy state of observation. When the guard called, "Brooklyn, all out!" the lady got up, with her far away look still in her eyes, and walked out, leaving the umbrella. The man beside her had ridden across with his eyes closed, as if fatigued.

When she had got out his hand fell quickly on the umbrella, and he was making off with it when the guard colared him. The fellow looked surprised at finding the umbrella in his hand, muttered something about "picking it up unconsciously," shook off the guard's hand and plunged into the crowd.

"That is the fifth time in a month I have caught that fellow taking lost articles," said the trainman to a reporter. "The bridge trains are a paradise for such as he. There is a more miscellaneous collection of lost articles gathered on these trains than in any other place in America, I'll warrant."

HOW LOST ARTICLES ARE KEPT. The number of missing articles became so numerous, and so many claims were made by pretended owners, that several years ago a system of checks was put into use. Now anything found in the cars by porters is taken by them to the train dispatcher's office, where he makes a report of the article, giving the train on which it was found and other details. This is entered in a book of blank having stubs. The trainman then gets a receipt for what he has turned in. When the caller comes for what he has lost he must thoroughly identify the article before he can get it. The stub of the trainman's receipt keeps thus a perpetual record of everything found.

These stub books are filed away and are never destroyed. A glance through them reveals a bewildering variety of lost goods. The stubs of 1890 are especially prolific in curious cases. Here are some of the things recorded: Punctured stone, diagram, two boxes of cigars, a pocketbook containing fifty-two dollars, a white apron, spool of cotton, pair of rubbers, a picture, a waistcoat, a bracelet, some encirclings, several remnants, piece of sheet iron, three sauce dishes and a horsehair.

On one Saturday the record for variety was eclipsed. That day the guards gathered up these things: Three pairs of stockings, a lady's veil, a roll of sheet music, a teaspoon, a bottle of wine, gentlemen's kid gloves, eyeglasses, porter's badge, a lunch, a gossamer, a cranberry mold.

ONE MONTH'S RECORD. In one stretch from Sept. 12 to Nov. 22, 200 articles were reported. That was the rainy season, and forgotten umbrellas swelled the list. But taking the year around umbrellas have the questionable distinction of being the oftener overlooked. Pocketbooks, however, singular to say, are not far behind. A count of fifty-six stubs selected at random gave this tally:

Umbrellas..... 25 Cans..... 2
Pocketbooks..... 17 Keys..... 3
Packages..... 7 Walter's jacket..... 1
On an average three articles are found a day. This makes nearly a hundred a month. Some sneaks have long ago found this out, and travel across often each day and run chance of picking up something of value. Even if they fail the low car fare does not leave them much out of pocket. The guards have "spotted" a number of these characters and watch them closely. They cannot be driven away by fear of arrest, for they know very well that it is no easy thing to make a charge of stealing hold against them.

The trainmen have decided that the three classes most guilty of forgetting are strangers to the city, absorbed in everything but themselves; married women, and gentlemen who have been "out with the boys." Anybody who has studied human nature at all will understand why the trainmen have so decided. —New York World.

William the Conqueror Liked Oysters. In Denmark and the northern parts of our island kitchen middens of the Stone age yield oyster shells, and Professor Forbes affected to pity "the enthusiastic oyster eater, who can hardly gaze upon the abundantly entombed remains of the apparently well fed and elegantly shaped oysters of our Eocene formation without chasing a pearly tear away."

We cannot believe that oysters ever went out of fashion with our ancestors. "Ostre" occurs in Anglo-Saxon and seems to be connected with "ost," a knot, a scale. William the Conqueror is said to have esteemed the English oyster very highly, and it figures in the menu of many medieval feasts, especially in Lent. —London Saturday Review.

The Washerwoman's Revenge. Mr. De Sharp (anxiously)—I inadvertently sent my cuff buttons to the wash last week. Did you find them? Washerwoman—Sure, I saw a couple in th' tub, but I have no time to be fishin' around for brass cuff buttons, an Oi t'row them away.

Mr. De Sharp (in horrified accents)—Throw them away! Those buttons were pure gold. Washerwoman—Moy! moy! That's too bad. Oi never thought a young man wot was always beatin' down a poor washerwoman's prices cud afford to wear gold. —New York Weekly.

When the "Hunchback" Was First Given.

When Sheridan Knowles offered Mr. Charles Kemble the "Hunchback" for Covent Garden theater it was immediately accepted. Fannie Kemble, then in her twentieth year, has recorded her first impressions of the comedy. "After my riding lesson," she writes, "I went and sat in the library to hear Sheridan Knowles' play of the 'Hunchback.' He read it himself to us. A real play, with real characters, individuals, human beings. It is a good deal after the fashion of our old playwrights, and does not disgrace its models. I was delighted with it. It is full of life and originality; a little long, but that's a trifle. I like the woman's part exceedingly, but am afraid I shall find it very difficult to act."

She was cast for Julia, her representation of which Knowles subsequently acknowledged far outstripped his most sanguine hopes. The author enacted the part of Master Walter. The play was produced on April 5, 1833. The crowded house which assembled to witness its performance was unanimous in its appreciation, and during the latter scenes between Julia, Clifford and Master Walter, "the audience was overwhelmed with tears."

When the curtain fell, The Morning Chronicle states, "the applause was tumultuous, and a general call was made for Knowles. He was confused by the novelty of his situation, and exclaimed that, 'conscious of his own unworthiness, he presumed the audience was applauding their own kindness.'" The comedy ran to the close of the season, being only interrupted by a few benefit nights. —Chambers' Journal.

Personal Appearance of St. Paul. The following fragment of early Christian literature is unquestionably of great antiquity, some of the foremost writers on Christianity having gone so far as to attribute it to St. Paul himself. The copy from which it was taken is in Greek, and is now reposing in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, England:

When Paul was going up to Iconium, as he fled from Antioch, he was accompanied by Hermogenes and Demas, men full of great hypocrisy. But Paul, intent only on the goodness of God, suspected no evil of them, loving them exceedingly, making the Gospel of Christ pleasant unto them, and discoursing to them of the knowledge of Christ as it had been revealed to him.

But a certain man named Onesiphorus, and his wife Lectra, and their children, Simmia and Zeno, hearing that Paul was coming to Iconium, went forth to meet him, that they might receive him into their house, for Titus had informed them of the personal appearance of Paul, but as yet they had not known him in the flesh. Walking, therefore, in the king's highway, which leads toward Lystra, they waited, expecting to receive him. Not long after they saw Paul coming toward them. He was small of stature, bald, his legs distorted, his eyebrows knit together, his nose aquiline, but was in all a man manifestly full of the grace of God, his countenance being sometimes like that of a man and then again like that of an angel. —St. Louis Republic.

Elderly Men and Exercise.

While the elderly man has less capacity for some forms of exercise than the younger adult, he has no less need than the other of the general and local exercise. It is in the earliest period of mature age that the most characteristic manifestations of defects of nutrition—obesity, gout and diabetes, in which lack of exercise plays an important part—are produced; and the treatment of them demands imperiously a stirring up of the vital combustion. Placed between a conviction that exercise is necessary, and a fear of the dangers of exercise, the mature man ought therefore to proceed with the strictest method in the application of this powerful modifier of nutrition.

It is impossible, however, to trace methodically a single rule for all men of the same age, for all do not offer the same degree of preservation. We might, perhaps, find a general formula for the age at which the muscles and bones have retained all their power of resistance, and at which the heart and vessels begin to lose some of their capacity to perform their functions. The mature man can safely brave all exercises that bring on muscular fatigue, but he must approach with great care those which provoke shortness of breath. —Popular Science Monthly.

Humorous Toasts.

A publisher once gave the following: "Woman, the fairest work in all creation. The edition is large and no man should be without a copy."

This is fairly seconded by a youth who, giving his distant sweetheart, said, "Delectable dear, so sweet that honey would blush in her presence, and treacle stand appalled."

Further, in regard to the fair sex, we have: "Woman, she needs no eulogy, she speaks for herself." "Woman, the bitter half of man."

In regard to matrimony some bachelor once gave, "Marriage, the gate through which the happy lover leaves his enchanted ground and returns to earth." At the marriage of a deaf and dumb couple some wit wished them "unspeakable bliss."

At a supper given to a writer of comedies a wag said: "The writer's very good health. May he live to be as old as his jokes."

From a law critic: "The bench and the bar. If it were not for the bar, there would be little use for the bench." A shoemaker gave, "May we have all the women to shoe, and all the men to boot." —London Tit-Bits.

German Easier Than French to Acquire.

German is on the whole easier than French; its character is in accordance with the genius of the English language, and, if it has retained inflection of the sentence, making it necessary to put the verb at the end of every subordinate clause, this peculiarity does not constitute any special obstacle in the way of progress. —Boston Herald.

No Use for Honest Men.

The National Weighing Machine company has, it is said, just bought the right to use a certain lock on the money pouches of their machines, for which they will pay the inventor the sum of \$50,000. This is a safety lock, and its purpose is to prevent robbery of the machine by the employees who are entrusted with collecting the earnings of the silent money makers daily. There are 20,000 of these machines now in use in the United States, and the company is getting ready to put 10,000 more on the market. When a penny is dropped in the slot it will roll into a little iron box and there remain until the collector calls during the day.

The collector will be furnished with a seamless bag, the metal mouth of which he will insert into an orifice in the cash box. There is a registering lock in the mouth of this bag, the registered number of which is recorded in the company's office before the collector receives it. Inserting the bag properly, he turns the key which he has just one quarter turn. This releases a concealed key in the bag, which is guided into a keyhole in the cash box. A second quarter turn unlocks the cash box, and the money rolls into the collector's pouch without his being able to touch it. A third quarter turn withdraws the concealed key, and the last turn releases the pouch, with the contents of the cash box intact. —Boston Transcript.

Almost Side by Side.

Two sailing vessels recently lay in the Mersey that had left Liverpool on the same day last year, and after voyages of nearly 30,000 miles for each returned to port at Liverpool almost side by side. They left Oct. 5 for Astoria, Ore., and arrived there March 1 or 2, having been in company with each other for a large portion of the voyage. They were in sight for forty days. Both captains had their wives on board, and during the forty days of proximity one of the captains and his wife enjoyed a Sunday dinner on the other vessel, the compliment being returned the following Sunday by the other captain.

Both vessels left Astoria April 8, but this time one vessel sailed for Dunkirk and the other for Havre. They left these ports at nearly the same time, and entered the Mersey within hailing distance after a voyage of 342 days. —London Letter.

A Snake Swallows Five Turkeys.

The two Shafer brothers, who live on the east side of the Osage river and some distance below Castle Rock, had an adventure with a blacksnake the other day. A dog had chased a rabbit in a hollow log, and one of the brothers reached in the hole a little way, when he was instantly bitten on the hand. Fearing that a snake had inflicted the wound, the other brother hastened to house and returned with a bucket of fresh milk and an ax, the former to be used to counteract the poison and the latter as a means of investigating the interior of the log. After some work the log was split open and a huge blacksnake measuring over nine feet emerged. The serpent was soon killed, and afterward cut open. His stomach contained five young turkeys and seven turkey eggs. The brother who was bitten experienced no serious results from the wound. —Jefferson City Tribune.

Infinging on an Ancient Idea.

"There is no new thing under the sun." Messrs. Roberson, of Long Acre, in the course of their business of supplying artists with pigments, become possessed from time to time of remains of the great Egyptians, to be in due course ground up by them and sold in tubes as "mummy" paint. The firm recently lent a piece of the beautifully woven and preserved linen bandages in which a high priest and keeper of the baths had been preserved to be shown at some conversation or lecture in the Midlands.

The texture and quality excited great admiration among the audience, which culminated in something like astonishment upon the declaration of a manufacturer that this fabric, woven perhaps by a contemporary of Moses, contained the same disposition of threads which he had independently invented and patented only a year ago. —Pall Mall Gazette.

Baron Von Pasteur.

M. Pasteur is, now entitled to style himself Baron von Pasteur, the emperor of Austria having sent him the Order of the Iron Crown. There are some doctors and savants who have a right to wear it. The Paris Liberte is curious to see whether M. Pasteur will cause himself to be announced as M. le Baron de Pasteur when he goes to dine at great houses. There is practically no hindrance to Frenchmen in France going by foreign titles or wearing foreign orders. —London Star.

Shot Dead by His Mule.

C. N. Hammond, living two miles south of Jackson, heard a noise at his barn, and, thinking that a thief was about, took his pistol and went out. It is thought he went near a mule, which kicked him, causing the pistol to go off. The ball passed through his body. He lived but a few hours and died without ever speaking. —Cor. Memphis Appeal-Avalanche.

A new kind of a school is about to be started. The University of Pennsylvania has received \$700,000 in gifts to be used for founding a school of American history and institutions.

The new tunnel of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, under the city of Baltimore, will cost upward of \$6,000,000. It is being pushed night and day, fully 1,000 men being at work upon it.

A recent importation of orange trees into California from Tahiti showed them to be infested by a new insect, and the authorities will not allow them to be landed.

The bicycle has become almost as popular in Germany as it is in the United States. The German Union of Cyclists now has over 1,400 members.

Found Dead in His Bed.

WINDSOR, Nt., Dec. 10.—Charles B. Everts, son of Hon. William Everts, was found dead in bed this morning.

The farmers' alliance of Marion county and the grange last Saturday endorsed the Oregon railroad commission in its fight to enforce the state laws regulating freight rates on the railroads. This is a proper thing for all such organizations to do, because being of a non-partisan order, they are able to give the commission their moral support without raising partisan feeling. The railroad commission cannot become a partisan body. It is by its nature a board of public prosecutors. The railroad commission is showing great nerve and backbone in doing its duty fearlessly. It deserves to be sustained by the people. It is fighting the people's battles against the millionaires, and the people should sustain it. —Salem Journal.

Women.

The common afflictions of women are sick headaches, indigestion and nervous troubles. They arise largely from stomach disorders. As Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla is the only bowel regulating preparation, you can see why it is more effective than any other Sarsaparilla in these troubles. It is daily relieving hundreds. The action is mild, direct and effective. We have scores of letters from grateful women.

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WE GUARANTEE SIX BOXES. To cure any case. With each order received by us for six boxes, accompanied by \$5.00, we will send the purchaser our written guarantee to refund the money if the treatment does not effect a cure. Guarantee issued only by

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