The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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A Sad Leap Year Story.

Leap year is with us once more, and if reports are true a number of Chicago's young ladies have already proceeded to make the most of it. However, there is one story circulated which proves that the course of true love does not run smooth even when directed by the members of the sex that is supposed to know most about it.

"Let me tell you a story about my friend 'Lill,'" said one of Englewood's fairest daughters. "I don't suppose I ought to tell it, but the incident is one that most men who have tried lovemaking will know how to appreciate. Lill's beau, who came from Boston a year ago, had been paying attention to her for months and calling on her about two nights a week.

"But he seemed to be so bashful and so afraid of coming to the point that she finally grew desperate and said to me: 'You just wait till leap year comes and I'll teach that bashful young man a lesson. Such diffidence and such delay are wholly inexcusable.'

"Well, New Year's came and the young man called. I expected Lill to come down to my house the next morning to tell me how she had happily settled matters, but she didn't come, so I called on her in the afternoon. She appeared to be indisposed and melancholy.

"'What's the matter?' I asked.

"Her eyes filled with tears, and after a little cry she said:

"'I took him by the hand and said to him: "Now, my boy, I'll show you how we Chicago women do things. Will you avail yourself of this opportunity to become my promised husband?" And he'—here she sobbed—'oh, the brute! he said, "I can't, for I'm already engaged to a girl in Boston."'

"'And what did you say then?' I asked sympathetically.

"Her eyes flashed as she replied, 'I said to him, "Mr. Falsette, there's the door, and please be very quick about it, too."'"—Chicago News.

A Black Cat in a Courtroom.

Toward the close of the trial of M. F. Kerr, of Crawfordsville, Ind., for forgery, an incident occurred which, while amusing, demonstrated that the average American still believes in the efficacy of "signs." During a lull in the proceedings a strange black cat, with fierce, glaring eyes, appeared in the doorway, causing a solemn silence to fall over the assembly. It paused, looked about, and slowly swishing its tail to and fro advanced toward the space between the prisoner and the jury's box. The silence became oppressive, and the judge, lawyers, jurors and prisoner craned their necks and with open mouths gazed at the creature.

"Would the apparition approach the prisoner to be touched?" If so the man was innocent and would be freed.

After standing as if transfixed for seconds it approached the prisoner, who with a superhuman effort stretched forth his hand and touched the glossy fur. Immediately the cat gave a joyous "meow" and disappeared. All were convinced that Kerr would go free. He was acquitted.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Real Babes in the Wood.

The two pretty little children of David Wismer, of Quakertown, figured in the role of the "Babes in the Wood" a few days ago, but were rescued before the birds had occasion to cover them up with leaves. They suddenly took it in their heads, while playing in the street, to make a pilgrimage, and set out with no further preliminaries than the prince in the fairy tales. They came at last to the road at Perkasie, several miles away, but still were unweary, and kept on their journey over the hills. Wondering farmers gaped at them as they passed.

The little ones soon struck the woods and wandered around among the trees until dusk deepened into evening, when they composed themselves complacently for slumber beneath the overhanging branches. Meanwhile the frightened father had spread the alarm and was fast on their heels. He traced his babes to the woods, where he awoke them, and took them home with him half frozen.—Philadelphia Record.

Fashion in Dogs' Covering.

There is a code of fashion in relation to the garments worn by ladies' pet dogs. Its latest edicts in regard to canine fashions set forth that at breakfast only a simple garment of blue or white flannel should be worn, and a collar at this hour of the day is considered vulgar. For the morning walk a close fitting coat of striped or spotted English cheviot, with a mantle well covering the chest, is correct, with a leading chain and collar of antique silver. For the afternoon drive the costume is of blue or fawn cloth, with a collar of velvet hung with tiny medallions, and for evening dress the pet is arrayed in a gown of velvet richly embroidered, and has the family crest embroidered on his collar.—New York Sun.

SOCIETIES.

ASSEMBLY NO. 4827, K. OF L.—Meets in K. of P. hall the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p. m.

WASCO LODGE, NO. 15, A. F. & A. M.—Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7 P. M.

DALLES ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER NO. 6.—Meets in Masonic Hall the third Wednesday of each month at 7 P. M.

MODERN WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.—Mt. Hood Camp No. 59, Meets Tuesday evening of each week in Fraternity Hall, at 7:30 p. m.

COLUMBIA LODGE, NO. 5, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in K. of P. hall, corner Second and Court streets. Sojourning brothers are welcome.
H. CLOUGH, Sec'y. H. A. BILLS, N. G.

FRIENDSHIP LODGE, NO. 9., K. of P.—Meets every Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, in Schanno's building, corner of Court and Second streets. Sojourning members are cordially invited. W. S. CRAM,
D. W. VAUSE, K. of R. and S. C. C.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERENCE UNION will meet every Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the reading room. All are invited.

Harmon Lodge No. 501, I. O. G. T.—Regular weekly meetings Monday at 7:30 P. M., at Fraternity Hall. All are invited.

TEMPLE LODGE NO. 3, A. O. U. W.—Meets in Fraternity Hall, over Kellers, on Second street, Thursday evenings at 7:30.
PAUL KREFT,
W. S. MYERS, Financier. M. W.

JAS. NESMITH POST, No. 32, G. A. R.—Meets every Saturday at 7:30 P. M., in the K. of P. Hall.

B. OF L. E.—Meets every Sunday afternoon in the K. of P. Hall.

GESANG VEREIN—Meets every Sunday evening in the K. of P. Hall.

B. OF L. F. DIVISION, No. 167—Meets in K. of P. Hall the first and third Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 P. M.

THE CHURCHES.

ST. PETERS CHURCH—Rev. Father BRONSGEEST Pastor. Low Mass every Sunday at 7 A. M. High Mass at 10:30 A. M. Vespers at 7 P. M.

ST. PAULS CHURCH—Union Street, opposite Fifth. Rev. Eli D. Sutcliffe Rector. Services every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 9:45 A. M. Evening Prayer on Friday at 7:30

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—Rev. O. D. TAYLOR, Pastor. Morning services every Sabbath at the academy at 11 A. M. Sabbath School immediately after morning services. Prayer meeting Friday evening at Pastor's residence. Union services in the court house at 7 P. M.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—Rev. W. C. CURTIS, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Sunday School after morning service. Strangers cordially invited. Seats free.

M. E. CHURCH—Rev. J. WHISLER, pastor. Services every Sunday morning at 11 a. m. Sunday School at 12:20 o'clock P. M. Epworth League at 6:30 P. M. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended by both pastor and people to all.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH—Rev. J. W. JENKINS, Pastor. Preaching in the Congregational Church each Lords Day at 3 P. M. All are cordially invited

The Books of 1891.

The last number of The Publishers' Circular gives the usual analytic table of books published in England during 1891. The grand total is 5,706, made up of 4,429 new books and 1,277 new editions. These figures show a slight decrease on those of the previous year, a larger decrease on those of 1889, and a very considerable decrease when compared with the grand total of 1888, which was 6,591. There has been no material variation of recent years in the proportion of the several classes, except that novels are still growing steadily. Since 1880 the total number of novels (new and old) published in a year has increased from 580 to 1,216, or more than twofold. and miscellaneous (including pamphlets) has increased from 353 to 731, again more than twofold.

On the other hand, arts, sciences and illustrated works have decreased from 479 to only 116, or less than one-fourth: and theology has decreased from 975 to 627. The annual output of poetry seems to remain constant at between 100 and 170 volumes; while the new editions of old poetry, which come into competition with contemporary verse, also remain pretty constant between 40 and 70 volumes.—London Academy.

Thumb Rings.

Men's thumb rings are no rarities to collectors. Some of the Roman specimens must have been cumbrous wear, one in the Montfaucon collection, bearing the bust of Trajan's consort, Plotina, measuring over three inches across. Mediæval churchmen of high degree did not allow "the largest, first and shortest of the fingers" to go unadorned. A massive gold ring was found upon the thumb of the supposed skeleton of Hilary, bishop of Chichester, who died in 1169; and the recumbent effigy of Bishop Oldham, in Exeter cathedral, is remarkable for the pressed together thumbs being inclosed by a single ring.

When the shrine of St. Thomas a Becket was robbed of its treasures, the famous archbishop's thumb ring, given to him by the king of France, graced with a ruby the size of a hen's egg, found its way to the thumb of bluff King Hal; and as the humor of the king is always voted just the thing, we may be sure the royal hand was not the only one so decked at court. Mayors and aldermen imitated their betters. "When I was about thy years, Hal," says the fat knight, "I was not an eagle's talon in the waist; I could have crept into an alderman's thumb ring."—Chambers Journal.