

BANDON RECORDER.

PLATONIC FRIENDSHIP.

Something Which, in its Modern Sense, Plato Never Understood. The name "platonic" is not very accurately used when it is employed to discuss the friendship of a man and a woman into which there enters no trace of amatory sentiment.

Making an Impression. A Virginia senator was talking of negroes and their love of making impressions. He called attention to the well known fact that negroes, as a rule, when paying for a ten cent purchase, will deliberately fumble through a large number of bills though they have the ten cent piece in another pocket.

The Puritan Fathers and Smoking. The Puritan fathers were greatly addicted to smoking—indeed, the practice became so common that even the straitlaced observers of times and seasons actually smoked in church.

The First Porterhouse Steak. The first porterhouse steak was so named in New York city, in the famous old tavern of Martin Morrison, at 327 Pearl street.

The Tail of a Wolf. The wolf carries its tail hanging down because in that position it is less conspicuous and better eludes detection. A family of wolves playing together undisturbed occasionally carry their tails curled upward.

Forrest's Great Power. An effeminate young man, an intense admirer of Forrest, enlisted among the supers so as to be nearer his idol. At the end of Forrest's most effective speech, then on, the new actor was so overcome that he fainted.

Hypocrisy. "Can you sincerely say that you never descended to hypocrisy?" asked the man of severe standards. "Well," answered Mr. Bliggen, "I must confess that I once sat and listened to my daughter's commencement essay and pretended to be as much entertained as if I were at a baseball game."

Kept Him Waiting. Haydon, the English artist, in his diary, relates how he once went late to a sitting given him by the Duke of Wellington and the old duke tore his white hair and cried that he had "sat to 400 confounded painters and sculptors, and none of them was ever punctual."

POLLY LARKIN.

"Let the men attend to politics, I have troubles enough of my own without bothering about offices, from the President down to petty positions," said a busy housekeeper the other day when friends tried to prevail upon her to join a woman suffrage club and held out that it was her duty to society, to good government and to her own family to do all she could to lift politics out of the corrupt ring it had fallen into in the political parties of to-day, and which could never expect to be purified until women were recognized and given credit for having as much sense as immigrants flocking into this country, who are practically the riff-raff, or, to use an English expression, "the scum of Europe," unable to read and write even in their own language, but who after a five years' residence in this country become capable of voting and are made citizens, understanding the laws of our country and the best interests of the people, while clever, educated women with a keen appreciation of everything pertaining to the good of the country are deemed anything but fit subjects to have a voice pertaining to the laws of the State and nation.

Another popular young lady went to a character ball as "wild oats." She carried out the idea to perfection. Scarlet and tinsel, champagne corsets galore, birds, wild oats, etc., made up the striking costume, which you can rest assured did not fail to attract attention. It was not a modest and refined character; in fact you would not expect it under such a name, and was not such a character you would expect a very charming young lady to assume at a ball or any other entertainment for that matter.

Air Baths. "Air baths," says the Golden Penny, are all the rage in fashionable Berlin just now. We all know what necessary factors light and air are for the maintenance of health. The Berlin air baths have the great advantage of being pleasant as well as healthful, and many of the social women of the German capital have taken them up. Even the tiniest children are taken to these "baths," as well as young girls and more elderly women.

"All that you say is true," said the little lady to her visitors. "I suppose I am an 'old fog' in my notions, but I have been brought up to think that a woman's place is her own home circle. Here, if she does her duty, she has all she can attend to. It requires good government and clever generalship to bring up a family so they will be good citizens. I propose to do my electioneering at home. I don't think I will have to use much strategy to prevail on my husband and sons to vote for this one or that one. Politics is not a taboed subject with us. We discuss political affairs as much as we do anything else that is important. We want our boys, who are the coming voters, to understand the subject and hear it come up for argument in our own homes. We talk for the benefit of our boys about the prominent men of the day as well as the coming men in greatness and power. Summing it all up I can do more good right here in my own home than if I was going out among the people. My vote would not count for much, but my influence at home means a great deal."

Electric Billiards. The very latest innovation in the line of amusements is the playing of electric billiards, which started in Paris, and is expected to take New York by storm in the near future. In the center of this new billiard table is placed a plate of some easily electrified material. The billiard balls are of compressed pitch, and the cue is a short rod with a cork tip, chemically prepared. The balls are, of course, subject to the influence of the electrified plate in the center of the table, and the object of the game is to make caroms despite the repulsion between them. It is said to be pre-eminently a game of skill, and experts who have been signing for fresh laurels will undoubtedly greet its arrival with acclaim.

A Diversified Country. Transcaucasia grows almost every known grain in the world. The forests of the Caucasus mountain range produce saffron, madder, oak, walnut and boxwood lumber, while apples, pears and grapes grow wild in these forests to such an extent that they are exported in large quantities. The wine of Caucasus is also exported, and the cotton of the country is second only to that of Egypt.

A census recently completed shows that there are 94,832 children of school age in Boston, and that 71,532 are pupils in the public schools and 16,901 in private schools. It is only a small nature that likes to "show authority." The great Lincoln seemed to apologize for all the ruling he was compelled to do. Orphan children have a hard lot of it as a general rule, and if you can cheer the life of some motherless child do so. Human sunshine is as good medicine as sunshine from the sun above—both warm and cheer. He who has done evil and unclean deeds thinks others would do likewise.

THE OLD FIRE HORSE.

Pathetic Ending to His Brilliant and Glorious Career. The story of a veteran fire horse that was disabled and found his way into the street cleaning department is told by Sewell Ford in "Horse Nine." The author says: There was no delay about his location. Into his fore hoofs they braced this shameful incision, "D. S. C. 937." On his back they hung a forty pound single harness with a dirty piece of canvas as a blanket. They hooked him to an iron dump cart, and then with a heavy lashed whip they sent him forth at 5:30 a. m. to begin the inglorious work of removing refuse from the city streets.

Perhaps you think Old Silver could not feel the disgrace, the ignominy of it all. Could you have seen the lowered head, the limp hung tail, the dulled eyes and the dejected sag of his quarters you would have thought differently. It is one thing to jump a hook and ladder truck up Broadway to the relief of a fire threatened block and quite another to plod humbly along the curb from ash can to ash can. How Old Silver did hate those cans! Each one should have been for him a signal to stop. But it was not. In consequence he was yanked to a halt every two minutes. Sometimes he would crane his neck and look mournfully around at the unsightly leg which he had come to understand was the cause of all his misery. The crowd would look at him with great eyes of such pitiful melancholy that one might almost fancy tears rolling out. Then he would be roused by an exasperated driver, who jerked cruelly on the lines and used his whip as if it had been a fall.

To another horse, unused to anything better, the life would not have seemed hard. But to Silver, accustomed to such little amenities as friendly pats from men, and the comradeship of his fellow workers, it was like a bad dream. Had he not lost his caste? Express and drag horses, the very streets that had once scurried into side streets at sound of his hoofs, now insolently crowded him to the curb. When he had been on the fire truck Silver had yielded the right of way to none, he had held his head high; now he dodged and wailed. He would not come into his great eyes to see nor to be seen.

BRIEF REVIEW.

What Alled the Clock. Mrs. Benson's clock, after having kept excellent time for several years, suddenly stopped. After trying for some time to make it go she removed it from its shelf and sent it to a clock repairer. "Madam," he said after inspecting, "is this clock kept in a damp room?" "No," she replied. "We keep it in the drier room in the house." "Has it ever had a fall into a tub of water or anything of that sort?" "Never."

Where Youth Headlops. The other day I found as my companion in a railway journey a young engineer. He had spent a good number of his not very numerous years in America, and he had realized the spirit of that country. In the course of the conversation, in which he spoke frankly of his successes and his failures, of his difficulties and his friendships, he made the observation that the greatest of all his obstacles here in England would have been the greatest of all his recommendations in America, and that was his youth. When he went into a board of railway directors and suggested that he should take on a great big contract the directors looked up at his beardless face and could scarcely keep their countenances, so shocked were they at the disparity between the proposal and the age of the proposer.—T. P.'s Weekly.

Oyster Seed. The Pacific coast is sending across the continent and across the ocean for oyster seed. The Pacific coast is in need of good oyster seed, and Japanese as well as American seed is sought for the beds. The first of the Atlantic seaboard is from Wareham, Mass., where the raising and shipping of seed have become a considerable industry. It does not cost much more to bring the Japanese oysters across the ocean than it does to ship the Wareham seed by rail, and the government is especially desirous of having the oriental stock tested.

Theater Goes Rights. A German court has decided that any purchaser of a seat in a theater has a right to demand full view of the stage. Not long ago a man bought two seats in a box in the Central theater in Berlin. When he discovered that he could see but a part of the stage he went to the box office and demanded his money back. This was refused, and he brought suit, which has been decided in his favor on the ground that any one purchasing a seat in a theater must be able to see the whole of the stage.

Have Seen the World. There is no city in the world in which so large a proportion of the residents have had wide and varied experience in travel and observation as Salt Lake City. The explanation of this lies in the fact that a large proportion of the young men in the Mormon church are sent to foreign countries, where after learning the language they preach as missionaries. These return with cosmopolitan experiences, a broad outlook and greatly augmented knowledge.

Pain is a Relative Term. "Pain" even in the human subject is purely a relative term. It expresses a very real sensation, but it does not express its degree. And so far as mankind is concerned the sense of pain, in the intensity in which it can be felt, depends very largely indeed upon two great factors. The first of these is civilization, and the second factor is that of education.—London Magazine.

Pickled Statues. The marbles in Westminster palace are treated to a bath once a year, and then "pickled." This pickle consists of a solution of soft soap and sulphur, which removes the incrustations due to the smoke laden atmosphere and is said to do the marble no harm.

The Touch of Kinship. Clarice—Why does all the world love a lover? Clarence—Oh, because he makes as big a fool of himself as all other men have made of themselves.—Detroit Free Press.

No Familiarities. "I suppose you are familiar with John Ruskin, Miss Tooles?" "Indeed I am not! I never allow myself to become familiar with men, Mr. Pearson. I have not even met the person you refer to!"—Kansas City Journal.

Logic and Love. Dejected Sultor—if you intended to say "no" why did you let me propose? Sweet Girl—Why, how could I say "no" if you didn't?

CHOICE MISCELLANY

He Got into the Navy. At a recent dinner in Washington Captain — of the United States navy told the following story about a certain shallow dated naval captain who was looked upon with scant respect by his brother officers. From traveling salesman the man had turned preacher and, backed by influence, went to Washington in Mr. Cleveland's time to get a naval chaplaincy. When he was introduced at the White House Mr. Cleveland looked over in his grave, penetrating way and said: "Mr. —, this is no case for favoritism. We want a man of merit and ability for this post."

The applicant rejoined: "Mr. President, if it is God's will that I go into the navy neither you nor any one else can keep me out." The president eyed him for a moment and then said dryly: "Well, Mr. —, I'll do my part anyway. Good morning." "The cream of the joke is," said the narrator, "that the fellow, who really did get into the navy later, told the story himself, with all seriousness, adding, 'And as I left that room I had a strong conviction that it was not the will of Providence that I should enter the navy at that time.'"

No Straps in Berlin Cars. There is no hanging on to straps in the street cars of Berlin, even in the rush hours. The police regulations forbid the carrying of a larger number of passengers in a car than is authorized, and that number, which is posted conspicuously in every car, is the same as the number of seats, plus a few permitted to be carried on the front and rear platforms, usually six persons on the two platforms.

Dear Sir—I have seen your letter and I tell you again my husband he die during the war I never seen him since he left with the other soldiers which went from here. I sent him a number of letters but he never wrote to my poor lone self but once. The other letters I wrote to him they came back. I sent the postmaster which has the postbox here and he says they is dead letters that was the first I knew he was dead I don't remember the date.

Didn't Weigh the Part. There is a story of doubtful origin which relates how a certain rustic who had been sent running after Lincoln's carriage by being told "there goes the biggest man in this country," returned with aching lungs and sad face to remark that "he wasn't near as big as Bill Jones." Similar misconception is said to have been put upon an idiom of the stage by a layman friend of William A. Brady at one of the performances of "Pretty Peggy" in New York.

This friend was standing in the wings with the manager when Carl Eckstrom, who plays the plotting fortune teller in the piece, began a scene with Grace George. Mr. Eckstrom is not troubled with superfluous flesh. In pugilistic circles he would be classed as a welter weight. The friend aforesaid evidently was somewhat struck with his look, however, for, turning to Mr. Brady, he asked, "Who is that?" "Carl Eckstrom," Mr. Brady replied. "He's Miss George's heavy man." The friend glanced at Mr. Brady to see if he was the victim of a joke. Then, tapping Mr. Brady on the arm confidentially, he remarked, "I say, Will, of course you know your business better than I know it, but don't you think he's a little light for a heavy man?" Mr. Brady had difficulty in restraining his laughter. Every one who understands that "heavy man" simply is stage parlance for the actor who impersonates the villain will appreciate how he felt.—New York Times.

Dr. Temple's Frankness. The archbishop of Canterbury, whom England will long remember as one of her most useful and earnest prelates, was a man of rough speech and no courtier. A few years ago an English clergyman was offered the bishopric of St. Albans. He went to Dr. Temple, who was then bishop of London, and said to him, "I have been offered a bishopric, but I am afraid I dare not accept it." "But you mean to accept it, don't you?" tersely replied the bishop. "But, my lord, I am such a bad preacher." "I know; I have heard you," replied Dr. Temple without any more ceremony.

Oil for Anointing the Body. Butter is noticed by Fliny as used by the negro and lower classes of Arabs for anointing the bodies. The natives of India prefer strong perfumes for this purpose and use oil of santal and oil of patchouli. Savages also grease their bodies, but probably with the idea of being enabled to escape more easily from the grip of an enemy.

The fellow who sits down and waits for his rich relations to die must consider that they are worth their wait in gold.—Philadelphia Record.

There are about 30,000 automobiles in use in the United States. The limit of a soldier's credit at the canteen was 20 per cent of his pay. Americans are making an effort to establish a steel plant at Flushing, Holland. The proportion of policemen to population is one to 307 in Paris, one to 408 in London and one to 458 in New York. American tourists annually spend abroad an average of \$75,000,000, and foreign tourists leave about \$20,000,000 here. Goose quill pens and drying powders are still used in English law courts and the house of lords and in the French chamber of deputies. The editor of a weekly newspaper in Australia offers himself as a prize to the woman who writes the best essay on the duties of a wife. Andrew Carnegie has given \$100,000 in cash to the Western Reserve university of Cleveland, O., the money to be used in the training of librarians. In England the annual consumption of southern fruit amounts to fifteen pounds per head. In Germany it averages not quite three pounds per head. The average passenger haul on steam railroads has increased from twenty-three to twenty-seven miles since electrical lines have been competing for suburban business. The botanical papers report that De Vries, the great Dutch experimental evolutionist, has by long continued selection produced a variety of clover which has normally four leaves. Of the 140 steamships now in Morgan's combine, operated as the International Mercantile Marine company, but ten were built in America and but twelve carry the American flag. Two black oak chairs said to have belonged to Mary, queen of Scots, and to have been rescued when Hawley's dragons set fire to Linlithgow palace were sold in London recently for \$220 each. Of the five new battle ships authorized by congress the three 10,000 ton vessels will be named Vermont, Kansas and Minnesota, and the two 13,000 ton vessels will be named Mississippi and Idaho. Successful experiments have been made in generating electricity to light railway trains by placing a fan on the front end of the locomotive. The pressure of the air revolves the fan and produces the power. The Monterey (Mexico) steel plant, with a capital of about \$4,000,000 gold, in which several wealthy Americans are largely interested, started working on the 1st of March. It is expected to produce 300 tons a day. There are 2,000 varieties of postage stamps in circulation today, all of which have to be identified by the postmasters. There have been upward of 40,000 different varieties issued since stamps came into use. A medal has been struck by the German Samaritan union in honor of Professor von Esnarch's eightieth birthday. This medal will be awarded to those who have distinguished themselves in the service of the sick. The marine cable industry was confronted by a scarcity of gutta serena, which is used to insulate the wires, until a tree producing it was found on the Amazon. Now it has been discovered in abundance in German New Guinea. As the result of the official inquiry into the collapse of the campanile at Venice it is declared that the case of the disaster was the cutting of a trench without the adoption of precautions. The report censures the district architects. The Autopator Journal, London, describes a new traction engine called the "pedrail," which literally walks up stairs with the stride and sure footedness of an elephant and hauls loads far in excess of those the wheeled traction engine can move. Four hundred and fifty acres of land have been obtained at Blairgowrie, Perthshire, Scotland, to enable Scottish peasants to try the Irish scheme of small holdings, but without aid from taxation. Fruit growing and fowl rearing are to be insisted on. The deaths from pneumonia per 10,000 of population in 1800 were 4.40; in 1870, 10.24; in 1880, 12.58; in 1890, 18.84; in 1900, 19.78, an aggregate increase of 349.6 per cent of pneumonia as compared with an aggregate decrease of 39.5 per cent of consumption. The Elgin dairy report says in speaking of the Lawrence-Kennedy milking machine, a New Zealand invention, "So far as the experience of users has gone the results are of such a satisfactory nature as to justify the belief that at length the mechanical milker has arrived." An interesting feature of the application of electricity on shipboard is the so called Schotten telegraph, or bulkhead telegraph. In the moment of danger caused by a collision this telegraph enables the captain on the bridge to see whether all the water tight doors are closed or not. Shooting is by far the most popular method of ending life, with poison and drowning in the order named. The percentage of suicides is highest among those whose mothers were born in France, with Germany and Russian Poland second and third. The death rate from suicide of those whose mothers were born in the United States is much lower. "Magasinette" is a new word coined by a French physician to describe the state of mind similar to intoxication produced in kleptomaniacs when they see the tempting display of seemingly unguarded articles in department stores. Dr. Dubousson thinks that the owners of these stores should try to diminish temptation as well as to punish thieves. Envelopes in the Eighteenth Century. Envelopes are supposed to be quite modern, but in the Birch manuscripts in the British museum, No. 4432-105, there is a letter from Martin Triesard to Sir Hans Sloane, dated Stockholm, April 24, 1755, enclosed in an ordinary envelope, which is opened out and mounted at the end of the letter.—Notes and Queries.

If dogs could speak they would have something to say about the fool names that women give them.—New York Mail and Express.

NEW SHORT STORIES

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FACTS IN FEW LINES

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Now it has been discovered in abundance in German New Guinea. As the result of the official inquiry into the collapse of the campanile at Venice it is declared that the case of the disaster was the cutting of a trench without the adoption of precautions. The report censures the district architects. The Autopator Journal, London, describes a new traction engine called the "pedrail," which literally walks up stairs with the stride and sure footedness of an elephant and hauls loads far in excess of those the wheeled traction engine can move. Four hundred and fifty acres of land have been obtained at Blairgowrie, Perthshire, Scotland, to enable Scottish peasants to try the Irish scheme of small holdings, but without aid from taxation. Fruit growing and fowl rearing are to be insisted on. The deaths from pneumonia per 10,000 of population in 1800 were 4.40; in 1870, 10.24; in 1880, 12.58; in 1890, 18.84; in 1900, 19.78, an aggregate increase of 349.6 per cent of pneumonia as compared with an aggregate decrease of 39.5 per cent of consumption. The Elgin dairy report says in speaking of the Lawrence-Kennedy milking machine, a New Zealand invention, "So far as the experience of users has gone the results are of such a satisfactory nature as to justify the belief that at length the mechanical milker has arrived." An interesting feature of the application of electricity on shipboard is the so called Schotten telegraph, or bulkhead telegraph. In the moment of danger caused by a collision this telegraph enables the captain on the bridge to see whether all the water tight doors are closed or not. Shooting is by far the most popular method of ending life, with poison and drowning in the order named. The percentage of suicides is highest among those whose mothers were born in France, with Germany and Russian Poland second and third. The death rate from suicide of those whose mothers were born in the United States is much lower. "Magasinette" is a new word coined by a French physician to describe the state of mind similar to intoxication produced in kleptomaniacs when they see the tempting display of seemingly unguarded articles in department stores. Dr. Dubousson thinks that the owners of these stores should try to diminish temptation as well as to punish thieves. Envelopes in the Eighteenth Century. Envelopes are supposed to be quite modern, but in the Birch manuscripts in the British museum, No. 4432-105, there is a letter from Martin Triesard to Sir Hans Sloane, dated Stockholm, April 24, 1755, enclosed in an ordinary envelope, which is opened out and mounted at the end of the letter.—Notes and Queries.

If dogs could speak they would have something to say about the fool names that women give them.—New York Mail and Express.

FACTS IN FEW LINES

There are about 30,000 automobiles in use in the United States. The limit of a soldier's credit at the canteen was 20 per cent of his pay. Americans are making an effort to establish a steel plant at Flushing, Holland. The proportion of policemen to population is one to 307 in Paris, one to 408 in London and one to 458 in New York. American tourists annually spend abroad an average of \$75,000,000, and foreign tourists leave about \$20,000,000 here. Goose quill pens and drying powders are still used in English law courts and the house of lords and in the French chamber of deputies. The editor of a weekly newspaper in Australia offers himself as a prize to the woman who writes the best essay on the duties of a wife. Andrew Carnegie has given \$100,000 in cash to the Western Reserve university of Cleveland, O., the money to be used in the training of librarians. In England the annual consumption of southern fruit amounts to fifteen pounds per head. 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At a recent dinner in Washington Captain — of the United States navy told the following story about a certain shallow dated naval captain who was looked upon with scant respect by his brother officers. From traveling salesman the man had turned preacher and, backed by influence, went to Washington in Mr. Cleveland's time to get a naval chaplaincy. When he was introduced at the White House Mr. Cleveland looked over in his grave, penetrating way and said: "Mr. —, this is no case for favoritism. We want a man of merit and ability for this post."

Perhaps you think Old Silver could not feel the disgrace, the ignominy of it all. Could you have seen the lowered head, the limp hung tail, the dulled eyes and the dejected sag of his quarters you would have thought differently. It is one thing to jump a hook and ladder truck up Broadway to the relief of a fire threatened block and quite another to plod humbly along the curb from ash can to ash can. How Old Silver did hate those cans! Each one should have been for him a signal to stop. But it was not. In consequence he was yanked to a halt every two minutes. Sometimes he would crane his neck and look mournfully around at the unsightly leg which he had come to understand was the cause of all his misery. The crowd would look at him with great eyes of such pitiful melancholy that one might almost fancy tears rolling out. Then he would be roused by an exasperated driver, who jerked cruelly on the lines and used his whip as if it had been a fall.

To another horse, unused to anything better, the life would not have seemed hard. But to Silver, accustomed to such little amenities as friendly pats from men, and the comradeship of his fellow workers, it was like a bad dream. Had he not lost his caste? Express and drag horses, the very streets that had once