

BANDON RECORDER.

ANCIENT COFFEE.

The Way the Beverage Was Brewed in the Seventeenth Century. There are in existence in Great Britain a few copies of an ancient cookbook, published in 1622, that gives what is perhaps the first English recipe for coffee. The recipe reads: "To make the drink that is now much used, called coffee.

"The coffee berries are to be bought at any Druggist, about seven shillings the pound. Take what quantity you please, and over a charcoal fire, in an old frying pan, keep them always stirring until they be quite black, and when you crack one with your teeth that it is black within as it is without, yet if you exceed, then do you waste the Oyl, and if less, then will not deliver its Oyl; and if you should continue fire till it be white, it will then make no coffee, but only give you its salt. Beat and force through a lawn sieve.

"Take clear water, and boil one-third of it away, and it is fit for use. Take one quart of this prepared water, put in it one ounce of your prepared coffee, and boil it gently one hour, and it is fit for your use; drink one-quarter of a pint as hot as you can sip it. It doth abate the fury and sharpness of the Acrimony, which is the gender of the Diseases called Cronical."

A Coming Lawyer.

A young lady teacher in a West Philadelphia kindergarten thinks that she has discovered a "Philadelphia lawyer" in embryo. She made the discovery in one of the exercises incident to teaching the young idea how to count. After drawing five ones on the blackboard and writing beneath the five successive numerals, one, two, three, four, five, together with a painstaking verbal explanation, she attempted to test the understanding of the little ones by turning to one bright-eyed little fellow and putting the question: "Now, Donald, which would you rather have, five pennies or a five cent piece?"

"Five pennies!" Donald promptly replied.

"Why, Donald?" asked the teacher patiently.

"Because," said Donald, "you see, if you lost one of the pennies you'd have four left, and even if you lost four you'd have one left; but if you lost the five cent piece, why, it would all be gone—every penny!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Charm of the Mississippi.

To novice eyes a trip down the Mississippi is full of wonder. Not the beauties of the Hudson does one find, nor the castled turrets of the Rhine, nor the gay pageants of the storied Thames, nor the gentle loveliness of that small stream that graces the mountain region of North Carolina—O three fair Swannanoa!—but a beauty all its own has this wonderful Mississippi, which on its serpentine way from pearly Lake Itasca to the blue waters of the Mexican gulf traverses 2,616 miles of territory. Its legends and traditions, its great dash times before the war, its spectacular history, may all be learned from some quaint old river man who will gladly give full measure of his lore. There is a charm in the vast stretches of forest, in the loneliness of the great stream—Father of Waters—in its mightiness and supreme length, its sunsets and its sunrises.—Sports Afield.

Ganjah Smoking.

In Jamaica ganjah, a variety of Indian hemp, is smoked by all classes, with terrible results. It is stated that it was this weed that was used by the leaders of the Indian mutiny to drive the sepoy into the passions of raging mania which they exhibited during that campaign. Ganjah smoking affects the beginner in a peculiar way. While under its influence his senses of time, sound and distance are obliterated. A single minute may seem a month, a child's voice sounds like the rattle of a machine gun and a little finger may seem a mile long. "Continued use," says the Spatula, "causes cataleptic fits and eventually idiosyncrasy or raving homicidal madness."

The Dying Boarder.

The boarder was about to settle permanently with his first landlady—Mother Grundy.

The minister had been summoned.

"Is there anything you would like to have sung—a specific hymn?" asked the good man.

"Yes," said the boarder, with feebly fluttering breath. "There is a hymn with something in it about 'Feed me till I want no more'—also some one might sing 'We're going home to dine—O more.'"

Several persons were present who boarded at the same place, and in their loud soba could be detected a grief greater than mere sympathy.—Baltimore American.

The Omnipresent Scot.

The London Chronicle tells a story of a traveler in eastern Russia who attended service in a Greek church and noticed a gigantic attendant in the procession who flourished an aspsage with great skill, uttering words which seemed familiar. Listening intently, the tourist made out the sentence: "It's just a pickle of clean cold water. If it does you nae good it does you nae harm."

After the service the attendant disclosed himself as a Dunfermline man who had temporarily taken service with the local Greek priest.

David Was on Time.

Mr. Joggins (facetiously)—If I should not be home at dinner time you need not—

Mrs. Joggins (with decision)—You'll be home at the usual time, David.

Joggins says he doesn't know how it is, but when his wife says a thing it is pretty sure to come true.

Spoke Advisedly.

Farmer Reepum—I was told hailstones fell over in Clay county that looked like hen legs comin' through the air.

Farmer Thrashum—I'll bet the feller what told you that never seen a hen leg comin' through the air.

Farmer Reepum—Then you lose. He was the main actor in that 'ere barnstormin' troupe.—Kansas City Journal.

POLLY LARKIN

The National Executive Committee of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church has filled a long-felt want by appointing Miss Margarita J. Lake to the important position of Missionary and Travelers' Aid in San Francisco. This Home Missionary Society represents over 72,000 women in the United States who are banded together in a noble cause and are living up to the motto of the "good we might do here." Their work shows how much they have done for the uplifting of humanity in the various walks and callings of life. The appointment of Miss Lake was made on the recommendation of the California Conference Board, the local Oriental bureau and the resident committee for Japanese and Hawaiian work. The duties of the new office to which Miss Lake has been appointed will call her to every incoming steamer and train. She must put herself in touch with the railroad and steamship companies and will interest stewardesses and conductors who will inform her of traveling women and girls who are strangers and unprotected. Not only will they find a friendly hand reached out to welcome them to the city of the Golden Gate, but Miss Lake will make it her pleasant duty to furnish shelter and find employment for them. No one can realize the importance of this position more than women and young girls who have had to travel alone and found themselves friendless in a big city, utterly bewildered by the noise and confusion, with hotel runners shouting the various hotels in your ears and two or more having a tug of war in their efforts to get your satchel out of your hand and hustle you unceremoniously into a "bus or carriage. I have seen women positively terrified by these over-zealous hotel runners. If they were "at sea" when they stepped off the boat or cars as to where they were to go, they were made almost insane before they could get any definite information. I have seen girls, friendless and alone who looked as if they had never been out of their country homes, who escaped the noisy hotel runners but who stood around in a dazed sort of way looking lonesome and unhappy and trying to find a policeman or some one who could direct them where to go. They were as bird and fearful of making some mistake and wretched enough to see their new surroundings through a mist of tears. Now the friendless stranger, young or old, will always find a friend to greet them in Miss Margarita Lake, who in her pleasing and happy manner will dispel all their fears for the future, and they will feel that they have found a place of refuge and some one who is not going to lose sight of them until they are settled in their new home and, if they are looking for something to do, who will not rest until they have obtained a position. It is one of the best missionary moves that has ever been made in this field of labor. It will prevent many a heartache, dispel those twin evils, loneliness and the blues, that are never welcome visitors, particularly to those who are strangers in a strange land.

Parents will no longer fear to have their daughters, who must find employment, go to San Francisco to seek work, for they will not fall into bad company and be spirited away into questionable places from ignorance of the people and surroundings in which they will find themselves thrust by no fault of their own. All such danger can be avoided by addressing Miss Lake a letter advising her on what steamer or train they will arrive on in San Francisco. It is a great deal to the young girl or woman traveling alone to find a bright, cheerful face and outstretched hand of welcome reaching out to them in a sea of strange people. One must experience it to know what a happy, joyous thrill wells up from the heart to feel that you are not entirely alone after all. If you have been inclined to be despondent it makes you feel that someone cares and you are ready to put away your blue spectacles and put on a pair that magnifies the beauty and goodness of this grand old world and decide that it is a good place to live in. You feel that here you will find congenial friends and your pleasant impression is usually realized. Polly Lake is a strong advocate of home missionary work, and I believe this is one of the best moves on the checker-board of the vast missionary field of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

It is a wise thing to make good resolves, but it is a better thing to act. "I resolve every day of my life to do better, spend no idle moments and to have something to show for having lived," said a friend the other day. "But I don't know what's the matter with me," she continued. "The next day finds me in the same old rut. For instance, I promise myself I am going to pursue a thorough course of good substantial reading. None of your trashy novels, but something that will tend to make me better, advance my none too up-to-date ideas, give me a knowledge of things past and present that are being talked about and are generally known by clever and well-read people. I don't do it. My resolve is like a cigarette, it goes up in smoke, and the only advantage derived is that it was good while it lasted. I say to myself, I shall commence to-morrow and go through certain gymnastic exercises that will make me strong and agile and give me a physique that will enable me to throw off little ailments that are apt to come to everyone and ward off disease. I believe in physical culture to keep one young and ward

off the ravages of time, I adopt a system—in my mind—but I never get to the point that I keep up my enthusiasm for more than a few days at a time. I know cold water baths are a fine thing to keep one strong and well and make the body hardy so that colds are not an every day occurrence. Do you think I keep up the bathing? Well, I don't. One plunge into cold water makes my teeth chatter for a week, and I don't nerve myself up to take another for a long time to come. I promise that I will keep such a vigilant watch over myself that I will not utter an unkind word, down all uncharitable and ugly feelings that arise and make me cross and disagreeable. I will be pleasant in spite of everything, but I fall far short of what I intended to do that I do not dare to sum up the failures when I go to my own room. If I did I would only find that I was bankrupt—failed in everything and nothing left for my creditors, who had a right to expect some measure of success. I often wonder, Polly, if I am not one of those unfortunates who need a leader—some one to entice and urge me on by their own good example. If some one is with me who is wide-awake and active, and above all who has the willpower to enable them to accomplish whatever they set out to do, as long as I am with them I carry out my part of the program. I am ashamed to tell of this vascillating spirit of mine, but I have it, nevertheless. Now, what would you do, Polly, to break yourself of this unenviable habit?"

Don't make too many good resolutions at once; start with one or two and live up to them. Take up your studies and devote a couple of hours if you can spare the time, and do not let anything interfere with your plans. Don't postpone your study hour for some slight excuse. It will soon grow to be a habit and a delightful and profitable one, too. Try this and you can soon bring order out of chaos.

BRIEF REVIEW.

Does Not Want Automobiles.

The Swiss cantonal authorities, as a result of numerous accidents, do not look upon motoring with a kindly eye, and the sport is hedged in with regulations, while in the cantons of Valais, Uri and Grisons it is absolutely prohibited. The Swiss Automobile Club has been attempting recently to obtain a uniform code of regulations, for at present the cantons issue their own separate rules. Speed is regulated by law in each canton; in some only twenty kilometers an hour is allowed, and in others as much as fifty-five kilometers. A chauffeur traveling through this country has therefore to study nineteen separate sets of rules, and if he by chance crosses the "frontier" into the prohibitive cantons he is heavily fined. These vexations have practically killed automobilism in Switzerland. It is thought that there should exist one law for the control of automobilism.

Across the Alps in Autos.

Should the experiments in progress in the neighborhood of Berne prove as successful as is anticipated, travelers to Switzerland in the summer of this year will be able to cross the mountains by motor car instead of the usual post diligence. The actual trials have been made, and the results if satisfactory will enable travelers to make the different journeys in one-half the time and will give the motorists a chance to drive over the mountain roads, which have been closed to them on account of the horses.

Elephants as Road Builders.

The Congo Free State Government is constructing a road in the northern part of the state for the transport of passengers and goods by means of motor cars. The new route, of which nearly 450 miles have been completed, will join the important trading centers of Dongu and Lado. While making the road a local engineer hit upon the happy idea of driving forty elephants up and down the projected highway until the thick undergrowth was trampled down, allowing the natives to complete the task.

Electric Radiator.

A new electrical radiator, intended to supersede the steam heater, is formed by enameled iron plates, the space between being filled with powdered carbon, kept in position by asbestos cardboard. In this radiator are led three copper strips, one at each end and one in the center, and a continuous current of electricity is passed from the center to the end strips. With a current of eight amperes at 200 volts a heating surface of twenty-five square feet can be kept at a temperature of 190 degrees Fahrenheit.

The Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that 45,000 persons in that State have retired from business on small competencies, and, strange as it may seem, 3500 of them are farmers—in that land of stone fences. But 3500 merchants have retired, and the list includes 1078 classed as laborers.

The Mississippi and its tributaries are navigable for 35,000 miles. The rivers of Europe furnish navigation for only half as many miles, and few of them are connected.

The number of homesteads entered in British Columbia during April was 4675, or 600 more than double the number entered in the corresponding month last year.

People with little purses generally have big healthy hearts. Those with big purses have shriveled little doughnuts.

The rising star is followed by satellites, while the falling star falls alone.

A RIOT IN TITLES.

Elaborate Classification of Rank That Rates in Denmark.

The Danish classification of rank is a very elaborate one, built up of offices, orders, birth and title, writes J. Brochner in "Danish Life in Town and Country." There are nine classes, which are divided into as many as a dozen subsections, each of which may again comprise a score or two of different titles and offices, yet there was a complaint in one of the Danish papers the other day that it was anything but complete.

Holders of titles have to pay an annual tax ranging from \$4.50 in the first class to a miserly \$3.33 in the ninth. There are about a score of different titles, several of which are again divided into "real" and "others," the "real" being several shades better than the "others."

These titles are always used in conversation, as, for example, "Will not the chamberlain have a cigar?" or "Mr. Chamberlain, will you not have a cigar?" And it requires a fairly clear head and a good memory to give everybody his due in a large party, especially as some of them are decorously long, as, for instance, gehelne-conferentsraad.

Then there are ladies, who generally have "inde" (the English "ess") added to their husbands' title or office. A colonel's wife, for instance, is called oberstinde, and the wife of the chamberlain to the king kammerherinde, and so forth.

And the subtleties of the additional titular address in writing even excel the verbal form. That persons of the first rank are "excellencies" is only natural, but gentlemen of the second class have on documents addressed to them a "high well born" prefixed to their title and name, and those of the third class a "high and well born." I much regret that I cannot explain why the addition of this "and" should somewhat detract from the value of the same words.

Gentlemen of the ninth class are addressed as "well honorable and well bred," which is, I think, almost more than they could expect for their \$3.33.

MEXICAN ETIQUETTE.

Ladies do not attend funerals. Children kiss the hands of their parents.

The bridegroom purchases his bride's trousseau.

The hostess is served first at a Mexican table.

When friends pass each other on the street without stopping they say adios (goodby).

Cards are sent to friends upon the anniversary of their saints' day and upon New Year's day.

Even the youngest children of the family are dressed in mourning upon the death of a relative.

The pronoun tu (thou) is used only among very intimate friends and relatives or when addressing children or servants.

Never allow a caller to carry a package of any size from your house; always send it to his home. Mexicans do not send parcels.

If you change your residence you must notify your Mexican friends by card; otherwise they will not feel at liberty to enter your new home.—Modern Mexico.

A Matter of Time.

"The reason why I quit shaving," said Rivers, "was that I figured up one day the amount of time that it took. I used to spend a little over fifteen minutes every day of my life shaving myself. I found that this used up ten or twelve working days every year, and I decided I simply couldn't afford the time."

"Well," responded Brooks, "you spend at least half an hour three times a day eating your meals. That makes ten and a half hours a week. There are fifty-two weeks in a year. Ten and a half times fifty-two—let me see—is 540. Allowing eight hours to a working day you spend sixty-eight days, or over two months, every year at your meals. Why don't you quit eating?"—Kansas City Independent.

University.

"A university," said John Henry Newman, "is in its essence a place for the communication and circulation of thought by means of personal intercourse."

That was some years ago.

Now a university is in its essence a group of buildings costing \$15,000,000, containing apparatus costing \$10,000,000 and in the custody of a faculty whose salaries foot up \$5,000,000, where young persons, regardless of religious beliefs, provided only they have the dollars, may learn to use tobacco and slang.—Life.

Small Horses.

The geologists tell us that the obelisk, the ancestor of the noble horse of today, was but little larger than the common rabbit of today and that each had sixteen toes, four on each foot, the same as the cattle of today. After the lapse of ages this sixteen hoofed equus shed a toe or hoof from each foot and thus became a twelve toed animal. The sixteen hoofed variety are first found in the oceanic period of geological epochs.

To Win Notice.

Mrs. Greene—One does not like to be ignored. I wore a brand new gown at the reception last night, and I don't believe a soul noticed me.

Mrs. Gray—There's where you made a mistake. Now, I wore my old black silk that has been turned twice, and everybody saw me fast enough.—Boston Transcript.

Carried Its Own Punishment.

Jack—Tom, I'm in a terrible fix. I'm engaged to three girls.

Tom—Well, that's not exactly a crime.

Jack—No. That's the worst of it. If it were, I could go to prison and have some peace.—Stray Stories.

A Discouraged Fighter.

"He isn't so much of a fighter as he used to be."

"No, you see, he was always looking for some one who could whip him—at least that's what he said."

"Well?"

"Well, he found him."—Chicago Post.

FACTS IN FEW LINES

Bank deposits have increased \$5 per cent in ten years.

Fully 2,500 persons commit suicide in Russia every year.

The valley of the Amazon still remains almost unexplored.

One concern in Wurttemberg exports 5,000,000 harmonicas per annum.

Another lunatic asylum for London is to be built at Horton at a cost of \$2,850,000.

The Spanish ship to the United States each autumn 300,000 barrels of Almeda grapes.

The United States uses nearly a third more coffee than the rest of the world put together.

At Canterbury cathedral there are always about forty workmen engaged in the structure.

Birmingham's sewage works are the largest in the world, after those of Paris and Berlin.

Los Angeles claims to have a greater stretch of attractive ocean beach in its vicinity than any other American city.

More work is put upon naval guns in Great Britain each quarter than they were required to stand during the Spanish war.

The Birmingham (England) police force consists of 700 Englishmen, 74 Irishmen, 20 Welshmen, 8 Scotchmen and 1 German.

A clever calculator estimates that there are in use by telegraph, telephone and trolley companies in this country 15,000,000 poles.

According to the United States census for 1900, there are 3,536 persons in the United States who are a hundred or more years of age.

Northern Nigeria is to have a new police force 1,000 strong, recruited in the territory and on the lines of the royal Irish constabulary.

The last census gave the value of poultry raised in the United States during the year 1899 as \$136,801,877; of eggs produced in the same year, \$144,286,158.

If two masses having exactly the same weight are presented to a normal man he will invariably estimate that mass to be the heavier which has the less volume.

A large area of coal and petroleum has been discovered in Kootenay, B. C., near the northeast corner of Idaho and within twenty-five miles of the Canadian Pacific railway.

The National museum at Washington has recently acquired one of the Marco Polo sheep from the Himalayas. Beside it the American highland and large Alaskan white sheep seem insignificant.

Mr. Joelsson, chief of the Jessup North Pacific exploring expedition, states that the tribes which he studied in Siberia all possessed characteristics in common with the Indians of North America.

In the election of 1892 there were in England and Wales 46,109 illiterates; in Scotland, 4,577; in Ireland, 84,919. At the 1895 elections the figures were: Illiterates in England, 28,521; Scotland, 4,062; Ireland, 40,357.

It is reported from Brussels that besides the \$1,500,000 for the construction of a palace of peace at The Hague Mr. Carnegie has given \$200,000 for the organization of an international library on diplomacy and international law.

A flock of ostriches at Phenix, Ariz., now numbers more than 1,000 birds. Their increase is rapid because a pair, barring accidents, will raise a brood each summer for seventy years. Each pair produces in feathers and eggs about \$30 a year.

The vast bulk of the trade of the United Kingdom is certainly noteworthy. For 150 years down to the present time it has been practically a continued growth. In 1902 the total of the exports and imports touched \$4,300,000,000, the highest figure ever reached.

The secretary of the treasury has ruled, after obtaining the opinion of the attorney general, that American purchases of the rights in the United States in foreign trademarks registered in the United States patent office have no protection against the invasion of their territory by the foreign manufacturer of the article covered by the trademark.

One definite advantage in substituting khaki for blue cloth uniforms for the army in the tropics and in summer was not considered when the change was discussed in the war department, the anopheles mosquito not having at that time been exhaustively studied. The malaria breeding mosquitoes will not light upon substances having a yellow color, but swarm about blue fabrics.

The number of Americans who may enter the Transvaal or Orange River colony is limited to fifty a month, and each must have a permit, the blank application for which can be had of any British consul. And, too, an affidavit must be made that the applicant has sufficient means to support himself and family after arriving. Consideration of such application is often delayed for weeks, and those who grow impatient and arrive in advance of their permit are generally given the option of leaving the next day or imprisonment for six months, with a fine of \$2,435.

A complete telegraphic system of shorthand has been laboriously worked out by Mr. A. C. Barone and named "Pantelography, Section Paper." It consists in a reduction of the Morse alphabet to ten short characters or sounds which are so manipulated by a key as to express anything and everything by them in such a way as to give the public greater privileges while at the same time immensely reducing the work of the telegraph operator. A set of automatic instruments is now being made which will, it is said, make messages so cheap that they will be largely used instead of letters.

His Business.

"Yes, gentlemen," said the newly nominated candidate, "I am opposed to holding public meetings and rallies. My idea would be to have a house to house canvass."

"That might be all right for you," objected another candidate, "but how about us? We are not used to it, while you are an awning maker."—Judge.

The first question every child asks on reaching home is, "Where is mother?"—Aitchison Globe.

NEW SHORT STORIES

Inconvenient Conventionalities.

"In London I met Consul General Henry Clay Evans," said a Washingtonian just returned from a European trip. "Mr. Evans, although a man of democratic simplicity, is adapting himself to the life of the British capital and subscribes to the adage about adopting Roman customs in Rome. Recently a wealthy American visiting London was invited to an affair of some importance and was perplexed as to what he should wear. Evening dress was an abomination to him, and as for the knee breeches and spangled slippers, which, he was informed, might be the proper thing, the traveler swore he would not do them. He looked up the consul general and placed the matter before him.

"My friend," said Mr. Evans, "you must learn to adapt yourself to the conditions of the hour. Where custom decrees a certain kind of dress it is mistaken independence to appear in any thing else. All this opposition to dressing with conventional propriety for any occasion reminds me of a young fellow in Tennessee who was about to start barefoot for a Saturday night party. 'Where are you going?' demanded his mother. 'To the party,' he responded. 'Well, afore you go,' she ordered, 'you go right down to the creek and wash your feet.' 'Don't want to,' he retorted. 'See here,' exclaimed his mother, 'of you don't wash your feet you don't go to that party, that's all!' Sullenly of abatement. 'If I'd a knowed there was going to be such fuss over gettin' ready,' he growled, 'I wouldn't've agreed to go to the pesky party at all.'"

The Czar's Old Lamp Cleaner.

When Czar Nicholas was promenading in the park of Zarskoe Selo one morning recently he was surprised and somewhat taken aback by a voice over his head.

"Your majesty—little father!"

Nicholas looked up and saw a white haired soldier cleaning a lantern.

"What do you want?" asked the czar.

"I beg to ask whether we old soldiers have to work to the day of our death?"

"I forget the regulations, veteran. Ask the poltzei master."

"The deuce I do! He would have me thrashed for my impudence."

The czar grow thoughtful and asked the veteran's name, regiment, etc., and

Intemperance in France.

Statistics show that there is more drinking done in France in proportion to the population than in any other country in the world. In some parts of Normandy 50 per cent of the conscripts, it is said, are unable to enter either the navy or military arm of the service on account of degeneration due to drink, while of the 150,000 deaths which occur annually from tuberculosis three-fourths are ascribed to alcoholism. As for the insane asylums, they are filled with invertebrate drunkards. It is further said that alcohol is fed regularly to many children, a piece of bread being placed on a plate, then alcohol poured over it as a substitute for butter or molasses. This condition of affairs is causing serious alarm among the earnest people of France, who are forming temperance societies all over the country in an attempt to combat the habit of drinking.

Vest Pocket Dinners.

The gourmand will not agree with Carl Snyder, who speaks in his "New Conceptions in Science" of a future vest pocket dinner of pellets as "an engaging fancy." Mr. Snyder tells us that it was the French scientist, M. Berthelot, who said several years ago that our food some day would come to us from the chemist's laboratory and not from farms. The tendency has been in this direction for many years. As long ago as 1856 Emerson said in "Nature": "They say that by electromagnetism your salad shall be grown from the seed while your fowl is roasting for dinner. It is a symbol of modern aims and endeavors." But M. Berthelot does not stop here. "His bold imagination," says Mr. Snyder, "has looked forward to the day when from the test tube and its mixtures life itself may come."—Harper's.

The Dispute Is an Old One.

It is an extraordinary circumstance that the two oldest and most vexatious complications with which the latter day diplomacy has been beset should be centered in the island of Newfoundland, the most ancient colony. One of these entanglements is the French shore question, the other is the Atlantic fisheries question. Both had their origin in the troublous times of the eighteenth century, and the legacy of irritation and international bickerings which they have proved is an eloquent testimony to the supineness or ineptitude of the British statesmen of those days, who trafficked in the peerless fisheries of Newfoundland with every power that had to be conciliated.—P. T. McGrath in Nineteenth Century.



"WHAT DO YOU WANT?"

paring to jot them down on his cuff, but, though he twice repeated the question, the veteran sullenly held his tongue.

"Well, I can't wait here all day," cried Nicholas. "My wife is waiting and may get impatient. You will now tell me your name without delay."

"Provided you promise not to tell the poltzei master, little father."

"I promise."

"Cross your heart?" queried the man on the ladder suspiciously.

"Cross my heart, old fellow."

Only then the czar's demand was complied with.

"How many years have you served me and my fathers?" continued Nicholas.

"Thirty-seven, little father. Never endured punishment nor even a reprimand, as the records show."

"In that case I will sign your honorable discharge today after raising you to the rank of sergeant. That will give you quite a snug pension for the rest of your life. And here is my portrait in gold," handing him a ten ruble piece.

"The court jeweler will put a ring through it so you can wear it around your neck. Mind, I forbid you to spend the money for drink."

R. W. Emerson's Lecture Fee.

George Francis Train tells the story of Mr. Emerson's lecturing. It shows by comparing \$5 and four quarts of oats" with \$500 how much the public was willing to pay for the lecturer's fame:

The lecture night was always a great event in Waltham. One day a man came to me and said, "Here is a remarkable letter." He read it to me, and it was as follows:

To the Library Committee, Waltham: I will come to lecture for \$2 for myself, but ask you for four quarts of oats for my horse.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

The lecture that Mr. Emerson delivered for us boys of the library committee in Waltham was entitled "Nature." We paid him \$5 and four quarts of oats for it. He delivered it many times afterward, when his name was on every lip in the civilized world, and he received from \$150 to \$500 for each delivery. — New York Mail and Express.

Oldest Pear Tree.

What is said to be the largest and oldest pear tree in America is in Michigan, near Lake Erie. It is supposed to have been planted by the French when they first settled in that country. Five feet above the ground this tree measures thirteen feet in circumference and is sixty-five feet high. It is said also to be a prolific bearer that rarely fails of a full crop. No special effort has been made to prolong the life of the tree, but it has grown naturally as the forest trees of similar age.

Satisfied.

Aunt Sophia—Before engaging yourself to Henry I would advise you to take him to a palmist and learn something of his life and character.

Grace—I saw the lines in one of his hands last evening when we were out driving, and I was perfectly satisfied.—Washington Star.

Quite a Difference.

"What is the difference between hens and poultry, pop?"

"Why, hens, my son, are things that belong to our neighbors; poultry is something a man owns himself."—Yonkers Statesman.

To Prevent a Relapse.

Wife—So, doctor, you think my husband is entirely out of danger now?

Doctor—Yes; but I wouldn't let him see my bill for some time yet.—Baltimore American.

Quite a Difference.

"What is the difference between hens and poultry, pop?"

"Why, hens, my son, are things that belong to our neighbors; poultry is something a man owns himself."—Yonkers Statesman.

CHOICE MISCELLANY

A Knowing Fire Engine Horse.

Tony is a fine horse. He became so enamored of Monty Montgomery that all the men in the engine house were jealous. Monty used to pause there on his way downtown and give Tony a lump of sugar. The horse would run from his stall to the front door and lean up against the rope to get out of Monty's hand. When Monty walked away Tony would try to follow him. One day he broke the rope and followed his friend to the elevated station, and while there a fire alarm came in. Tony being absent, his substitute was hooked into the traces. When Tony arrived at the engine house and missed the apparatus he was in a rage and kicked things to pieces. The firemen after that begged Monty to pass through another street and leave Tony to himself and his duties. The other day as Monty was walking down Columbus avenue an engine dashed along on the way to a fire. The driver had a hard time to keep his team from bolting into the curb and could not understand what the trouble was until he recognized Monty. He yelled, "Git around the corner till I git past!" Monty ran into a store, and Tony went on about his business.—New York Press.

Intemperance in France.

Statistics show that there is more drinking done in France in proportion to the population than in any other country in the world. In some parts of Normandy 50 per cent of the conscripts, it is said, are unable to enter either the navy or military arm of the service on account of degeneration due to drink, while of the 150,000 deaths which occur annually from tuberculosis three-fourths are ascribed to alcoholism. As for the insane asylums, they are filled with invertebrate drunkards. It is further said that alcohol is fed regularly to many children, a piece of bread being placed on a plate, then alcohol poured over it as a substitute for butter or molasses. This condition of affairs is causing serious alarm among the earnest people of France, who are forming temperance societies all over the country in an attempt to combat the habit of drinking.

Vest Pocket Dinners.

The gourmand will not agree with Carl Snyder, who speaks in his "New Conceptions in Science" of a future vest pocket dinner of pellets as "an engaging fancy." Mr. Snyder tells us that it was the French scientist, M. Berthelot, who said several years ago that our food some day would come to us from the chemist's laboratory and not from farms. The tendency has been in this direction for many years. As long ago as 1856 Emerson said in "Nature": "They say that by electromagnetism your salad shall be grown from the seed while your fowl is roasting for dinner. It is a symbol of modern aims and endeavors." But M. Berthelot does not stop here. "His bold imagination," says Mr. Snyder, "has looked forward to the day when from the test tube and its mixtures life itself may come."—Harper's.

The Dispute Is an Old One.

It is an extraordinary circumstance that the two oldest and most vexatious complications with which the latter day diplomacy has been beset should be centered in the island of Newfoundland, the most ancient colony. One of these entanglements is the French shore question, the other is the Atlantic fisheries question. Both had their origin in the troublous times of the eighteenth century, and the legacy of irritation and international bickerings which they have proved is an eloquent testimony to the supineness or ineptitude of the British statesmen of those days, who trafficked in the peerless fisheries of Newfoundland with every power that had to be conciliated.—P. T. McGrath in Nineteenth Century.

R. W. Emerson's Lecture Fee.

George Francis Train tells the story of Mr. Emerson's lecturing. It shows by comparing \$5 and four quarts of oats" with \$500 how much the public was willing to pay for the lecturer's fame: