

BANDON RECORDER.

THE FIERY DRAGON.

Ancient and Medieval Descriptions of the Monster.

Dragons were important animals in ancient and medieval natural history. Until comparatively recent time no scientist ever thought of questioning the existence of the most formidable of beasts.

Temperature and Atmosphere. That a body can acquire during the night a different temperature from that of the surrounding atmosphere has been demonstrated by an English physicist.

Curious Case of Mind Reading. A very curious case is related in the Annals Psychiques. A child of seven years, in good health, lively and robust, belonging to equally healthy parents, showed a strange facility in learning all that his mother taught him.

A Moving Sermon. "I once had a parishioner who was a miser," said an English clergyman. "For this man's benefit I preached one Sunday a strong sermon on the necessity of charity, of philanthropy—a sermon on the duty and the joy of giving."

Light and Heat and Eyes. Looking into the fire is very injurious to the eyes, particularly to a coal fire. The stimulus of light and heat united soon destroys the eyes.

Inconsiderate Fellow. "He said he'd die if I didn't marry him." "And still you refused?" "Yes, I wished to find out before pronouncing whether he really loved me as much as that or not."

Debts in China. In China one can always borrow money on the strength of having a son, but nobody would advance him a cent if he had a dozen daughters.

Favorable Stroke. "Papa, have you seen Harold since you told him he was too poor to think of—of marrying me?" "Yes, I ran across him at the club last evening. We got into conversation, and he struck me—"

Liverpool, generally called a wet place, has an average rainfall per annum of 34 1-3 inches.

Struck you! Oh, papa! "Struck me as quite an agreeable young man. I understand his uncle has left him \$200,000."—Kansas City Journal.

POLLY LARKIN

One hundred and thirteen miles north of San Francisco on the California Northwestern Railway, lies the pretty, prosperous little town of Willits. I had heard so much about this section of country since the California Northwestern extended its line from Ukiah to the little town, which up to that time had been but a dot on the map, that I decided to get away from the dusty, windy city and find out for myself what this new country held forth to attract summer and fall visitors.

"This is the summit," says the courteous and ever-popular conductor, T. J. Cummings, "and it is now known as Ridgewood." Here you find a few redwood buildings where dwell men who are working on the road.

When you look about Willits you don't wonder that the Signal Corps of San Francisco chooses this beautiful spot to pitch its tents in its annual outing. Here they have a fine grove and the purest of mountain water and an ideal place for summer and fall sports.

Strange Test of Innocence. "A strange way of testing the innocence of an accused person is employed in India," said a traveler who has lately returned from Madras.

Willits is a flourishing little town of about 2000 population. Knowing that the place had been visited by a destructive fire not many months since, I expected to find a few saloons, a dry-goods store, etc., like many other small towns. On the contrary, it is a prosperous, flourishing community.

In China one can always borrow money on the strength of having a son, but nobody would advance him a cent if he had a dozen daughters. The former is responsible for the debts of his father for three generations. The latter is only responsible for the debts of her own husband.

has parlors for ladies on the first and second floors, and next summer will be added croquet grounds, a tennis court and swimming pond. Mr. William Wiegand and his estimable wife are the popular host and hostess of this thoroughly up-to-date hostelry.

While the recent fire did much damage, still it was a blessing in disguise, for only modern and attractive buildings have taken the places of the old structures. The burned district is called the new addition, and here you find a new store—an Emporium on a small scale—conducted by Mr. Lancaster, and brand-new drugstore, owned by Mr. Guest and dividing trade with the Pioneer Drugstore.

Willits has one of the finest grammar schools in the State, which is thoroughly equipped, and to Mr. Fairbanks and other progressive citizens is due the credit. On all sides are lovely drives and fine roads, and the streets and avenues, named very appropriately Oak, Redwood, etc., have not been situated but are good and broad.

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BARNS TO MATRIMONY

FEAR KEEPS MANY MEN FROM THE BLISS OF WEDDED LIFE.

Some Instances of a Lack of Sufficient Pluck to Take the Fatal Trip to the Altar—Various Reasons That All Spell "Afraid."

"There is a great deal of speculation," said a well known lawyer, "as to why men are so reluctant to marry, but one reason never seems to occur to the speculators, and that is that many of them are afraid. No, I am not joking. It is a sober and well considered statement of fact, for which I can adduce as many proofs as you want, that many men would almost as soon think of patting a fierce bull on the head or facing the midnight burglar as taking a trip to the altar."

"I remember as a boy an amusing specimen of this kind of man in Iowa. He was a farmer and was as notorious for his amorous entanglements as for his ingenuity in getting out of them when marriage began to loom near. It was said he had been engaged a dozen times, and though he left all his fiancées in the lurch he never found any difficulty in getting a successor."

"One client of mine had allowed matters to proceed right to the eyes of the wedding day, when he disappeared mysteriously and was not discovered for some months. The young lady promptly sued him for damages for breach, and at the hearing the reason for his conduct came out. He admitted that he was fond of the girl, but sundry exhibitions of her temper and jealousy which he had witnessed had so scared him that he simply hadn't the courage to marry her."

"In another case in which a widow sued a widower for playing her false the defendant put in a singular plea. It seems that the widow's family strongly objected to the match, and as passive opposition was useless to prevent it one of the sons, a staid young fellow, called on the middle aged woe-bearer and told him that if he persisted in his suit he (the son) would give him such a thrashing as would effectually cure him of any further sentiment."

"The more one sees behind the scenes the more one realizes that there is often a great deal to be said for the man who marries and runs. One of my clients a few years ago found himself in an awkward quandary. He had engaged himself to three girls at different times and, having canceled his engagements with two, was on the eve of marrying No. 3. No sooner was his intention known than the two jilted ladies threatened him with legal proceedings if he persisted in his proposed marriage, and the favored lady in turn threatened a similar fate if he didn't."

"Here was a dilemma, for whatever he did would end unpleasantly. However, like a prudent man, he decided to run the smaller risk. He pacified his two former fiancées by canceling his engagement and prepared to face the music of the third lady. "The mother-in-law is often a fatal distraction to the young dreamer. One breach of promise defendant declared that he would willingly have married the plaintiff only he couldn't stand her mother at any price, and the prospect of having his married happiness disturbed by her interference so scared him that he decided it was more prudent to break off the engagement, while another fellow lover, equally situated in court that he was afraid to marry the plaintiff lest she should 'grow up like her mother,' whose 'tongue and temper' had shown him some of the less desirable possibilities of married life."

"One man whom I defended last year seems to have had a constitutional dread of matrimony. He had been engaged to the plaintiff no less than nine years. Four times the wedding day had been fixed, and as many times it was adjourned by his wish. Finally he cried off altogether, and in court he declared that, although he loved the girl, he felt he could never screw up the courage to marry her. When he was asked the reason for his diffidence he said that he had seen so much of the unhappy side of married life and the difference between wooing and wedding that he didn't feel equal to running the risk."

"These are but a few from scores of similar cases which have come within my own knowledge. One man feared to face matrimony on account of his fiancée's extravagance, another quittedly confessed a horror of his wife's cooking and domestic gifts generally, a third defendant was afraid to wed because a distant relative of his lady-love had died in an asylum, and so on. But, whatever the cause, you may take my word for it that the men who are downright afraid to take wives are legion."—Chicago Tribune.

Thoroughly "Done Up." "Have you done up my shirt yet?" asked the patron of the laundry. "It is just out of the ironing room," answered the clerk, "and we will have it done up for you now, so that you may take it along with you." "All right. I hope it has had better luck than the last one I had done up here." "Better luck?" "Yes, you did it up so completely in the ironing room that it wasn't worth doing up in the bundle."—Judge.

A Puzzle to the Last. When a woman tells a man just what she thinks of him she really tells him just what she wants him to think she thinks.—Somerville Journal.

PEOPLE OF THE DAY

Schwab May Again Be President. There has been considerable speculation of late, especially in Pittsburgh and New York, as to the real position of Charles M. Schwab now holds to the United States Steel corporation. At the time of his withdrawal from the presidency many believed there was "a string tied to his resignation."



CHARLES M. SCHWAB.

What is said to be the truth about Mr. Schwab's \$1,000,000 salary has just come to light. It is said that the agreement included a salary of \$100,000 a year for five years, making \$500,000 for the full time of the contract. Mr. Carnegie, learning that Schwab was to receive only \$200,000 for five years' work, raised the sum to an even \$1,000,000 by adding \$400,000 to the annual salary of President Schwab. Nothing official is known concerning the salary of Mr. Corey, Mr. Schwab's successor.

Men of the Other Day. A short time ago four men were seen in Pine Street, New York, near the subway, says the Pittsburgh Dispatch. "How's that for an equalized political quartet?" remarked a veteran newspaper man to a well known dry goods merchant who has lived in New York city ever since he was born, sixty-two years ago. "Who are they?" was the merchant's rejoinder. "Face of the small man is kind of familiar." The newspaper man collapsed. The quartet was Alonzo B. Cornell, once governor; William F. Sheehan, once lieutenant governor; Hamilton Fish, twice speaker of the state assembly, and the "small man" was once secretary of war, Dan Lamont. Of course, now, Fish is United States assistant treasurer and will be known for awhile, for he is again a man of today.

Quite recently United States Senator Tom Platt was seen shaking hands heartily with a white haired gentleman on Fifth avenue. Everybody knew Platt, because he is a man of today. "That's Edward Murphy, Jr., of Troy," remarked a passerby, pointing to the white haired man. No person remembered that he was Chauncey Dopey's predecessor as United States senator from this state.

It happened one evening that three men were at the same theater in New York. No one in the theater but the manager knew who they were; no one recognized them going into the theater or coming out with the crowd. Yet they were former mayors of New York—Ely, Grant and Van Wyck, the latter being only out of office eighteen months.

Will Succeed Wright. When General Luke E. Wright assumes the duties of governor general of the Philippines he will be succeeded as vice governor by Henry C. Ide, who has been a member of the Philippine commission since April, 1900. Henry C. Ide is a native of Vermont and is thirty-six years of age. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1896 at the age of twenty-two. He was a member of the Vermont state senate, 1882-85, and was prominent in state and national politics until he went as a commissioner to Samoa in 1891. In 1893 he was made chief justice of Samoa upon a joint appointment by England, Germany and the United States. Mr. Ide has large business interests and is connected with several banks and large manufacturing corporations.

What a \$100,000 Salary is For. James Buchanan Duke is president of the Consolidated Tobacco company; also he is president of the American and of the Continental companies. His year's salary is \$50,000 from each of the two tobacco companies' stock. Once a shareholder, turning sullen, asked Mr. Duke what he did for these salaries of an aggregate \$100,000. "I'm not paid that \$100,000," said Mr. Duke. "For what I do, but for what I don't do. I'm paid for the mistakes I fall to make."—Everbody's Magazine.

She Knew Her Dad. Smilers—Do you know any one who has a horse to sell? She—Yes, I suspect old Brown has. Smithers—Why? She—Well, papa sold him one yesterday.—London Punch.

Their Mutual Fervent Wish. She—I trust, Jack, our marriage will not be against your father's will. Jack—I'm sure I hope not. It would be mighty hard for us if he should change it.—Towns and Country.

MISSING WORDS.

Annoying Gaps in English Language That Cause Inconveniences. The English language may fairly claim to be the most prolific in the world. Not content with its native riches, it possesses in a special degree the faculty of assimilating everything useful from other tongues, ancient and modern. It ought indeed to be the most perfect vehicle of thought in the world, and in some respects no doubt it is.

But, curiously enough, there are deficiencies in English not to be found in far less copious languages. While in many cases we have half a dozen words expressing the same or practically the same thing, there are, on the other hand, certain ideas that have no appropriate words to express them. In the words denoting relationship some notable gaps are found. The most glaring instance is the want of a word to distinguish between a male and female cousin. Other languages, such as French and Italian, have a separate word for each, but in English some addition or explanation is required in order to make it clear which sex is intended.

Curious gaps occur here and there in our language if we look into it. The word "show" expresses the idea of making to see, but there is no word for making to hear—a phonograph, for example. "I took the phonograph to my friend and—" "Got him to listen to it" would probably be the elegant finish to the sentence.

On the other hand, "audience" means those who hear and applies very well to those present in a lecture hall or concert room. But what of those who see a cricket match, for instance? "Spectators" is the nearest word, but it does not correspond exactly to "audience." There is one deficiency in the language so awkward and irritating that even at this late hour it ought to be made good. Need it be said that reference is made to indiscriminate use of the personal pronoun to denote either the person speaking or the person spoken of? This may not be a defect peculiar to English, but it is one from which the ancient classical tongues are entirely free.

THE GENTLEMAN BURGLAR.

He Can Exist Only in Fiction, Never in Real Life.

Whenever a thief who is dressed otherwise than in rags falls into the police net there are chronicled the adventures of a "gentleman burglar." Such a being is, of course, impossible. He is a literary creation, like the "Invisible Man," the Frankenstein monster, Kipling's Mowgli and the rest of the crew of prodigies that dwell within book covers.

As a character in fiction the "gentleman burglar" could be made plausible and picturesque, for when we get into the realm of fancy there is an implied contract that the reader shall accept the author's premises and not bother about possibilities. A burglar is just a thief—about the meanest of thieves. To a man endowed with qualities of refinement and consideration of others and honor—which are the attributes of a gentleman—burglary or other theft is impossible. The pride of such a man, his regard for his own opinion of himself, would prevent his sneaking into another man's house and taking his plate or his wife's jewelry. Then it must be remembered that the burglar is prepared to do murder to accomplish his robberies, and the idea of a gentleman committing murder for gain is too inconsistent even for fiction.

COLLAR AND CRAVAT.

Ways in Which They Affect the Appearance of the Wearer.

Men who do not want to look any fatter in the face than they can help have an easy means of accomplishing their purpose. Not all of them are aware of the effect that may be created by the form of a collar or cravat. "The stout man who wants to look as thin as he can," said a haberdasher's clerk, "ought to wear a tie of the kind known as a four-in-hand. Preferably it should be dark in color and drawn tight. That carries down the line of the face and lengthens it to a degree that tends to make the face look thinner."

"Another aid to making a man look thin is in the height of his collars. Stout men who want to look thin should wear high collars and closed ones. Any collar that opens in front makes one look stouter under nearly every circumstance. Such collars are becoming to the thin men. "The fat man should avoid the kind of tie that has a horizontal effect. This will add pounds to his appearance—in his face, at least. "On the contrary, this cross effect will make the thin man look stout. The broad scarfs have little effect on a man's looks one way or the other. When he wears them it is the collar that makes the difference. "He should therefore see that he wears a high one that does not open if he wants to look as thin as possible, whereas if he wants to seem stouter an open collar will produce that effect for him."

The Temperature. "Why do you watch the thermometer on the wall so closely?" queried the invalid. "Because," replied the untrained nurse, "the doctor said if the temperature got any higher I was to give you another dose of quinine."

FOR THE CHILDREN

A Living Paper Cutter. The following story is told by a South African paper: "An Indian rajah who had learned the English language after a fashion frequently visited some years ago the viceroys of Calcutta and on one occasion borrowed of the latter a copy of the Edinburgh Review, which he happened to see lying on the table. When he returned the magazine the viceroys asked him if he had found anything interesting in it. 'Oh, yes,' he replied; 'many beautiful things, but also many disconnected articles. See here. This begins with "Hunting the Orang-outang." Does it not? And now turn over the page, and here you have "The History of Mary Stuart." The viceroys laughed. He perceived that the rajah had attempted to read the book without cutting the leaves. He accordingly took from his table a beautiful ivory paper cutter, explained its use to his visitor and made him a present of it. About a year after this occurrence the viceroys saw a gay company entering the court and in the center of it the rajah seated on a young elephant. No sooner did he see the viceroys than he cried: 'Do you happen to have an uncut copy of the Edinburgh Review? If so, please toss it to me.' The viceroys threw out the magazine. It was caught by the elephant, who placed it between his tusks, which had been brought into elegant ivory cutters, even including carved handles, and quickly cut open the leaves, after which the knowing animal passed the Review back to the surprised viceroys. The rajah then dismounted and said to the viceroys as he pointed to the elephant: 'He is yours. I return you the paper cutter alive.'"

How They Catch Bears in Russia. A gentleman was once making inquiries in Russia about the method of catching bears in that country. He was told that to entrap them a pit was dug several feet deep, and after covering it over with turf, leaves, etc., some food was placed on top. The bear if tempted by the bait easily fell into the snare. "But," he added, "if four or five happen to get in together they all get out again." "How is that?" asked the gentleman. "They form a sort of ladder by stepping on each other's shoulders and so make their escape. "But how does the bottom one get out?" "Ah, those bears, though not possessed with a mind and soul such as God has given to us, yet can feel gratitude, and they won't forget one who has been the chief means of procuring their liberty. Scampering off, they fetch the branch of a tree, which they let down to their poor brother, enabling him to speedily to join them in the freedom which they enjoy." Sensible bears, we should say, are a great deal better than some people that we hear about who never help anybody but themselves.

Awful. There is a little maiden Who has an awful time; She has to hurry awfully To get to school at nine. She has an awful teacher; Her tasks are a awful load; Her playmates all are awful rough When playing in the yard. She has an awful kitty; Who often shows her claws; A dog who jumps upon her dress With awful muddy paws. She has a baby sister; With an awful little nose; With awful cunning dimples And such awful little toes. She has two little brothers; And they are awful boys; With their awful drums, their awful trumpets They make an awful noise. Do come, I pray thee, common sense; Come and this maid defend; Or else I fear her awful life Will have an awful end. —Toronto Globe.

Happy Kitten. "Oh, look what a pretty kitten, mamma!" exclaimed small Harry. "Yes," replied his mother, "and just think, it never cries." "Well," no wonder," rejoined the youngster. "It doesn't have its neck washed."—Exchange.

Needed Repairs. Little Harold, whose father is a carpenter, saw the crescent moon and exclaimed: "Mamma, there's a piece broken out of the moon! We'll get papa to climb up on his stepladder and fix it."

A Natural Mistake. "I was just telling our friend here, Molly, that it was storming on the day of our marriage." "Surely not, Hiram! The weather was perfectly lovely!" "Well, well! I don't know how I got so mixed up about it—probably because it's been storming ever since!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Sincerity is the basis of all true friendship. Without sincerity it is like a ship without ballast.