

BANDON RECORDER.

SAVED BY A GYPSY.

An Incident of the Austro-Prussian War of 1866.

An incident of the Austro-Prussian war of 1866 was told as follows by the Archduke Joseph: "On our retreat before the advance of the Prussian army, I was lodged in a peasant's cottage when about midnight I heard the sentry challenging some newcomer. My adjutant entered and reported that a gypsy wanted to see me in private. A soldier (a gypsy) entered, and on my asking what was the matter he told me that the enemy was approaching to surprise us.

AT BUENA VISTA.

The Only Preparations General Taylor Made For Defeat.

Santa Anna was the greatest military leader the Mexicans have ever known. Santa Anna with 25,000 veterans went to the battle of Buena Vista with the avowed purpose of exterminating the entire army of the United States, and there was no doubt in the mind of Santa Anna that this great feat could be accomplished with comparative ease. General Taylor, with his 5,000 men, prepared for the unequal contest, and not only defended himself successfully, but won a substantial victory from his aggressive antagonists and drove them from the battlefield of Buena Vista.

Some time after the battle was fought and the Mexican war concluded General Taylor was criticised for having made no preparations for the retreat of his army in the event of defeat. General Taylor promptly replied: "I made every preparation necessary for the battle of Buena Vista. I wrote my will, and so did nearly every man in my army. If we had not won that battle, we would have needed no lines of retreat. It was, from our standpoint, victory or annihilation. The only preparation necessary for the contingency of defeat at Buena Vista was that we should write our wills."

Cloths For Presents In Japan. Of one singularly attractive and decorative detail of Japanese daily life little is known in this country. Yet it touches all classes, from nobles to coolies—the use of present cloths. These are squares of all sorts of materials, from twenty inches to two yards across. They are used to tie up the gifts which are exchanged on all possible occasions. After the presentation of the gift the cloth is removed and returned to the giver by a servant. These cloths are handed down from generation to generation, and among them are found some of the finest specimens of the old embroidery and dyeing. Many of the square pieces of Japanese embroidery used in this country for pillow and table covers were originally used as coverings for presents.—House Beautiful.

The Noble Red Man Today. "Yes," said the portly and consequential gentleman in the observation car, "these plains were once roamed over by savage red men. The Indian in those days was a famous hunter. When he was not on the trail of the bear or the buffalo he was on the scent of the white man."

Proof of Woman's Amiability. One thing stands as a sure proof that woman is an amiable creature, easily pleased and satisfied with her lot. And that is that when she buys a dress ready made she rejoices because it is much better and cheaper than fussing to have it made. And when she has it made herself she wonders why she never gets things ready made when one can have clothes made "just as one wants them and cheaper"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Under Cross Examination. Counsel—Your age, signorina? Young Lady (bashfully)—Oh, I hardly like to tell you. Counsel—Yet I must insist on knowing it. Pray tell me how old you are. Young Lady (cheerfully)—Oh, twenty-three!—Fau fulla.

The Proper Term. Cholly Gayboy—I hear you wear a necktie that no girl would be wise to marry Gusse Whittless or me because we were too fastidious. Miss Sharpe—You haven't got it quite right. I said you were "two fast idiots."—Philadelphia Ledger.

With Respect to Fish Stories. Harry—Fish diet is said to be good for the brain. Harriet—That may be so, but going to catch fish seems to be awful hard on the morals.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

POLLY LARKIN

Polly overheard a conversation the other day that was not intended for her ears, and it left me with a great desire to remove a little girl from the influence of one who should have been the child's safeguard, the one to whom of all others she should go for advice and be able to tell her troubles, knowing that here she would find sympathy and the good wholesome advice that only a tender and loving mother can give. A storm was brewing and Polly knew it, for the dirty unkempt mother was berating her child for her unlaughingly conduct in daring to say that she wanted to go to school in preference to staying home and looking after a lot of noisy and untidy children. "What's the use of an education?" asked the dirty, slouchy mother, whose hands and face looked as if they were strangers to the thorough use of soap and water and whose frowny hair suggested tangles near the scalp and goddess knows what else. "Father wants me to have an education and make something out of myself as much as I do, mother." "Your father?" sneered the mother. "He had an education, and what good did it ever do him?" "He didn't have a chance to get much of an education; that's why he wants to give me the chance while I am young." "Education fiddlersicks. He can read, write and figure, that's more than I can do, but I can beat him all to pieces when it comes to talkin'; while he's blunderin' round to try and find the right words, I've said it and am clear off on another subject. Tell you, I'm smarter than the average, even if I cannot read and write, and I'd like to see the man who can cheat me when I go to buy anything. They've tried it many times, but I just simply end, instead of being cheated, in jewing them down in everything I want to purchase. Now, you just pack up your books like a good girl and come home to-night. Stop putting your eyes out studying after everybody is in bed."

"I love to study, mother, and I wouldn't go to bed anyhow, for I sit up and wait for father and get him a bite to eat when he comes in tired and hungry." "There's where you make another mistake; let your father wait on himself instead of spoiling him like you do. You've done it so much that now he expects you to toady to him. I need you at home with this raft of children to take care of. You've had your chance going to school and know enough, and as I told you before, you don't need no education. Help me for a year or so here, and I'll be willing to bet that I can marry you to a policeman, all slicked up to kill all the time with his brass buttons and nice uniform, swinging his club like he was the lord of creation." "A policeman don't know much, for it's muscle, not brains, they want, mother, and they're cowards, anyhow; they hardly ever arrest anybody but little boys and drunken men and women, and then they swell up with pride and crow over it like it was some grand act." "They're right, too. What's the use of running into danger when they can draw their pay regularly, just as well and no questions asked." "I don't want the best policeman they've got on the force any more than he wants me, mother." "S'pose you aspire to something higher. Maybe you'd like to be a hello girl or one of our type writers. You're the strangest and most ungrateful girl I ever saw. The health officer was here only the other day and said I'd have to keep the place cleaner, and here you refuse out and out to stay home and help me. Eight children and nobody to help keep things clean, is beyond the strength of any woman. I've no patience with you and your father with your high-flown notions. If it wasn't for him I'd set my foot down and just say, 'You've got to stay to home,' and that would settle it, too, mighty quick."

"I'm glad you haven't got the say, mother; besides what good would it do if I were to stay at home? How is it every vacation? When I clean things up and get the place to look like father likes to see it, don't you say it's a waste of time, and do you ever stay home to help me? No, you're gadding from morning until night with Mrs. Murphy and a lot of her kind and leaving me to look after the children, when you know they won't mind me and that they'll litter up as fast as I clean up." "There, now, that's just what I've been telling your father and the health man they sent here; it don't pay to clean up. You get things in order here in the morning and at night you wouldn't know it, and I've made up my mind to let things go and take life easy."

"You didn't begin right with us, mother. You should have made us put things away in their places when we got through with them when we were little and we would have kept it up." "We're not going to talk this thing over any more. You're so stubborn and so selfish that I need never look for any help from you, but I can go on slaving until I die." "If I go through school, mother, and fit myself for something else beside a drudge in the family I can help you much more than if I should leave school now, help you here for a couple of years and then marry a girl-butted policeman." "That time is coming like. However, it's a long way off, although you're driving me toward it pretty fast. I'll tell you one thing, though, if ever your father dies there'll be no more of your school foolisness." "Hope father will outlive us all. He's the only one to help us keep

THE SKYLARK'S SONG

AN ASTONISHING FEAT FROM MANY POINTS OF VIEW.

Not Alone Is It a Wonder of Beauty, Tone and Quality, But Its Singing Is Astonishing and Its Circumstances of Utterance a Physical Marvel.

For its music alone the song of the lark is almost the most melodious of any bird's. The tone and quality are admirable and the volume of sound astonishing. It can be heard clearly when the lark has mounted, as it sometimes does, beyond recognition by normal eyesight. The volume of sound is also most noticeable when a caged lark is heard, singing as it does far nearer to the hearer than the bird in the sky. But apart from the quality and music of the song the circumstances in which it is uttered render it an astonishing feat.

BRIEF REVIEW.

Interesting Relics of Cliff Dwellers.

Every year investigators are adding to the world's store of knowledge of the cliff dwellers, who once inhabited the southwestern portion of this continent. Dr. R. W. Schuessler, while exploring the Puye and Shufinee cliff dwellings, a little less than 30 miles north of Santa Fe, made a peculiar discovery recently. He noticed a spot in the wall of different color than that around it and investigated. With a pocket knife he dug into the soft stone and discovered a hole five inches in diameter and two inches deep, partly filled with mud in which was imbedded a stick on which was mounted a face of obsidian that looked like a doll's head. In the same hole with the doll was a small but highly polished turquoise. Dr. Schuessler investigated further. He found another hole of similar character, in which there were also a doll and a turquoise. After further search two more of these sealed openings were found, each of which contained a doll and a turquoise. One of these holes contained a piece of petrified resin, in which two marks indicated that it had been used as the chewing gum of today is used. Under pressure from the fingers the resin powdered into dust. The probabilities are that the doll heads were idols, but the significance of burying them in the mesa walls and the presence of the turquoise are, of course, inexplicable.

Milking Cows by Electricity.

In the newly invented apparatus for milking cows by electricity rubber hoods are attached to the udder of the cow. These hoods are connected with a vessel for receiving the milk by means of a rubber tube, from which the air is exhausted by means of the electrical device. It is claimed that the suction thus secured resembles very closely the sucking of a calf, and that for this reason the cow "lets down" her milk more freely than when milked by hand. It is also claimed that absolute cleanliness of the milk may be secured when this method of milking is employed.

Religions in Russia.

To many the nature of Russia's religion is only vaguely understood. Christianity was introduced into the country in the ninth century. The Established Church, says our authority, is identical in doctrine with the Greek Church. The liturgy, which is read in Slavonic, is the one used originally by the Church at Constantinople. Until recently, any form of dissent was not tolerated. Under the laws of Alexander II, Catholics and Protestants have equal rights with members of the Established Church.

Fortune Concealed in Old Statue.

A woman living in St. Cloud, Paris, died recently at her nephew's house apparently leaving only a lot of works of art. A second nephew made no claim for a heritage, but asked for a statuette in clay as a souvenir. He took possession of the statuette. His servant accidentally broke it into fragments, when 11 bills of 1,000 francs each fell to the floor. They had been concealed in its interior. The other nephew is now claiming half the sum.

Why Italians Fence Well.

Experiments show that the nervousness of southerners acts in a most marked manner to their disadvantage. Owing to a greater nervousness and quickness of response, they impose severe strains on already tired muscles. The skill of the Italians with the foil is an instance of the greater speed of their motor nerves.

Novel Heating System.

A cheap and novel plan for heating houses is being put in operation at Glenwood Springs, Col. Water from the famous boiling springs is being piped into town, and so great is the supply that houses can be heated at a very small expense.

Change of Dates.

Mrs. Dearborn—Were you married in June? Mrs. Wabash—Yes, once on the 5th, once on the 8th, once on the 10th and another time on the 16th; but I've switched off to October; that's my marrying month now.—Yonkers Statesman.

HORSESHOE LUCK.

A Superstition Common to Nearly All Races and Nations.

The origin of belief in "horseshoe luck" is so ancient that it never has been determined with certainty, and no superstition is more universal. Ever since horses began to wear shoes those crescent-shaped iron have been accounted lucky emblems of all peoples, races and nations, that have been acquainted with their use.

The Chinese, for instance, say they nail them up over their doors as a charm against evil spirits because of the close resemblance in shape between them and the arched body of the sacred snake, Nagendra, one of their principal deities.

A Turkish Mohammedan for information on the subject and he will tell you that it is because they are in form like a crescent, the sacred emblem of Islam.

A Polish Jew will explain that at the passover the blood sprinkled upon the lintel and doorposts, in the manner directed by their ritual, forms the chief points of an arch; hence, obviously, the value of arch shaped talismans such as horseshoes are.

The stolid and unimaginative Russian peasant, on the other hand, maintains that the luck associated with the horseshoe is due chiefly to the metal irrespective of its shape, iron being traditionally a charm wherewith to nullify the malevolent designs of evil spirits and goblins.

Very different is the story by which the Irishman seeks to account for his liking for the same talismanic symbol. The name "Irland" or "Ireland," he will tell you, originated as follows: "The whole island was once submerged in the sea, out of which it only rose once in seven years, and then only for a very short time. Many attempts had been made to break the spell and induce the country to remain permanently above the waters, but all were vain until one day a daring adventurer threw a horseshoe from a boat on to the topmost peak of the Wicklow mountains just as they were disappearing beneath the waves. Then at last was the ban removed. The Emerald Isle began forthwith to rise again from the ocean depths into which it had sunk. And it has been dry land—more or less—ever since.

In England, up to comparatively recent times, horseshoes were extensively used almost everywhere as anti-evil charms, and the custom is not even yet an extinct one. No witch, it used to be said, could enter a building over the door of which a horseshoe, better still, three horseshoes—had been affixed, prongs downward.

The origin of this particular belief is referable to the old legend of St. Dunstan. This versatile English ecclesiastic was a skilled farrier, and one day while at work in his forge the evil one entered in disguise and requested Dunstan to shoe his "single hoof."

The saint, although he at once recognized his malign customer, needed, but caused him so much pain during the operation that Satan begged him to desist. This Dunstan did, but only after he had made the evil one promise that neither he nor any of the lesser evil spirits, his servants, would ever molest the inmates of a house where a horseshoe was displayed.

A Dutch Fishing Village.

At Marken, a fishing village of Holland, few men are to be seen, as they are nearly always out at sea in their boats. Those whom one does see are like Dutchmen in a play, in queer headgear, in the most voluminous knickerbockers that ever delighted the heart of a caricaturist and having on clattering wooden shoes, which are, as a coasting skipper once said, the surest preventive of colds and of "cold feet" (which he spoke of as if they were a disease) to be found in the world. Clumsy enough these Dutch folk look, but they are handy in a boat. But there is agriculture, too, of a simple kind at Marken. Not a man usually is to be seen working in the hay harvest or at other employment in the fields. The women do the farm work.

A Legal Puzzle.

Curious comments by a judge, even in the presence of the prisoner, though extremely rare, are not unprecedented. Mr. Justice Maule once addressed a phenomenon of innocence in a smock frock in the following words: "Prisoner at the bar, your counsel thinks you innocent; the counsel for the prosecution thinks you innocent; I think you innocent. But a jury of your own countrymen in the exercise of such common sense as they possess, which does not seem to be much, have found you guilty, and it remains that I shall pass upon you the sentence of the law. That sentence is that you be kept in imprisonment for one day, and as that day was yesterday you may now go about your business."

The Yankee as Europe Knows Him.

"I was greatly amused," said a merchant who has lately made a visit abroad, "to notice how the term Yankee widens in application as one gets farther away from the habitations of the real thing.

THE WATWA OF AFRICA.

A Curious Tribe, Low Down in the Scale of Humanity.

A hunter of big game in Africa gives a description of a tribe of natives whom he found there, the Watwa. "These natives," he says, "live in the swamps, their staple article of diet being fish and flour made from the seed of the water lily, although during the rains they grow patches of cassava root and sweet potatoes at the edge of the swamp. They smear their bodies with mud to protect them from mosquitoes and are extremely dirty and evil smelling in consequence. They are very low down in the scale of humanity and have a bad reputation among tribes living on the high ground, which reputation they uphold during our visit. We engaged several Watwa natives as carriers, but they only came to see what they could steal. One day I shot a reed buck in sight of the camp and left two Watwa to carry it in while I went after a hartbeest, but I never saw either man or buck again. It was no use following them into the swamps, as they knew every inch of the ground and water. They had small canoes hidden everywhere, and immediately they crossed a stream they sunk the canoe again where they alone knew where to find it. Our boys were afraid to follow them, as they used poisoned arrows and sometimes set poisoned stakes in the tracks leading to their haunts."

DAME JULIANA BERNER.

She Was a Fifteenth Century Authority on Fly Fishing.

The first printed English book on angling was Dame Juliana Berner's "Book of St. Albans," which appeared about 1486, and contained a chapter entitled "A Treatise on Fyshynge With an Angle."

Fly fishing must have been practiced much earlier than this, as nothing but a gradual evolution could account for the complete list of flies for the fishing months of the year which it gives.

To Dame Berner belongs the honor of first telling that the salmon could be caught with the fly. She says: "Also ye may take hym, but it is seldom seen with a dubbe at such times when he leith in lyke fourme and manere as ye do a trout or a grayling." Her knowledge seems more complete than could have been that of the original inventor, so that the time when fly fishing originated in British waters must remain uncertain.

Dame Berner's flies will kill trout today, and her twelve were the foundation of those which Isaac Walton said quaintly in 1653: "Thus have you a jury of flies, likely to betray and condemn all the trouts in the river."

LOGGERHEADS.

The giant turtles which are found along the Atlantic coast and frequently in southern waters in great numbers are known as loggerheads. They commonly attain a weight of 1,000 pounds, are rapid swimmers and are often seen far from land, floating asleep upon the waves.

Carnivorous by nature these huge tortoises feed on crabs and fish, especially on a large species of conch, which they break open with their massive jaws. The flesh of this terrapin is leathery and oily, with a strong smell of musk. Young specimens are more palatable and are often on sale in the markets.

A duck, as large as our goose, which is native of the shores of Tierra del Fuego and the Falkland Isles is also called loggerhead, from its seeming stupidity and helplessness.

PITH AND POINT.

Lots of worthy people are not popular. There's your case, for example. Talk about a rat all you please, some men are never any good out of one. The second time a man calls on a clever girl she tells him she knows his step. Youth deals in fancy; age, in facts. All false teeth are made to look too young. Before saying that you think forty is old remember there may be some one present who is at least forty-one. You are getting old when people begin to say that you have money hidden somewhere. They never accuse the young of hiding money. There is a saying "Get busy." It applies to idle, shiftless men. But there should also be a saying "Get lazy." It would apply with force to some men who work too much.—Acheson Globe.

Old Maids.

The true "old maid," like the true poet, is born, not made, old maidliness being a question of innate character rather than of accidental condition. There are old maids of every state and age and sex, says Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler, creatures who revel in fuss, and batten upon detail, and abide in the narrowest of narrow paths. Do not mistake these old maids for women with large families who are, nevertheless, old maids to the backbone, just as we know adorable elderly spinsters who have the minds of girls and the hearts of mothers? And who do not also know numbers of the so-called stronger sex whose absorption in trifles and avidity for gossip proclaim them old maids of the purest water?

As His Wealth Grew.

Ascum—Have you seen anything of Jigjigs lately? Dr. Swellman—Yes, I just prescribed a trip to Europe for him this morning. Ascum—Indeed? He's getting wealthy, isn't he? Dr. Swellman—Well, I can remember when I used to prescribe for him simply a dose of sodium bromide for the same complaint.—Philadelphia Press.

Spoiled His Chance.

"Yes, she rejected him because of a bad break he made when he was proposing to her." "What was that?" "He told her she was 'one in a thousand.'" She thinks she's one of the Four Hundred.—Philadelphia Ledger.

CHOICE MISCELLANY

London's High Rents.

He is indeed a lucky man who owns building property within the four mile radius of London, for he can command a small fortune in the way of rental for his houses, shops or offices, as the case may be. Singularly enough, it is not in the west end of London, as many people imagine, but near the Old Lady of Threadneedle street. Some time ago one room near the Royal Exchange let for between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a year, while a house agent who advertised certain properties in Throgmorton street asked \$1,200 yearly rental for each of seven telephone boxes. For a suit of three rooms on the mezzanine floor \$5,000 a year was also asked and \$10,000 required for six rooms on the first floor.

For shops and business premises in the Strand gigantic rents are paid, although, of course, Bond street is the dearest thoroughfare in the world with regard to shops. Many shopkeepers between Charing Cross and the old Lyceum theater pay between \$10,000 and \$15,000 rental, exclusive of rates and taxes. Perhaps one might be able to obtain a very small shop for \$3,000 or \$3,500 per annum, but such a price would secure very indifferent accommodations—probably only the one room which faced the street.—Chicago Journal.

Green Diamonds.

Considerable interest, writes a correspondent, has been aroused in Johannesburg by the discovery on a mining property at Klerksdorp of a green diamond of about three-quarters carat. The man had slipped into a crevice in the iron plates of the crushing mill and was found during the dismantling of the mill to make room for a new stamp battery.

In 1833 over seventy similarly colored diamonds were found upon the same property. They had all slipped between the dies and escaped destruction. It is conjectured that many other green stones got crushed out of existence. For the first time since that date the Klerksdorp mines have been proposed to resume operations on this particular ground, which contains both gold and diamonds, and the prospects of unearthing more of these green gems are being eagerly watched from the Rand.—Philadelphia Record.

An Indignant Judge.

An eminent English judge some years ago caught himself nodding on the bench. He had nodded for some minutes over his notes. His head collapsed with a jerk in the direction of the desk, and he awoke. He opened his heavy eyes and looked angrily around. "Summon the caretaker," he said. The caretaker was summoned. "What do you mean, sir, by permitting such an intolerable temperature in this court?" demanded the judge. "I open the windows at once. If ever you permit the court to become so hot again while I am here I will commit you to prison without warning." The miserable man crouched away. The court was already as cold as a vault, but the judge wanted to blame some one for his drowsiness.

Defenses of Mexico.

Mexico is thinking about a new navy, is taking some of the preliminary steps and is also laying out quite extended plans of fortification to be carried on through a period of years as her finances will afford it. Her engineers are preparing plans for a modern fortress on San Juan de Ulo Island, just outside of Vera Cruz harbor, a site now occupied by the old military prison, and it is expected that the work will be begun this year. Defenses for other ports on the Gulf and Pacific coasts are also in contemplation and will be begun later, not because of any urgent present need of them, but to be ready and fitted up with all modern improvements in case they should at any time be wanted.

The English Starling.

Well informed ornithologists say that an extensive increase in the number of English starlings brought to this country would not only afford delight to eyes and ears, but would be highly beneficial in lessening the ravages of many destructive insects which become a prey to these birds. By all means, then, hurry over the starlings. A lamentable error was committed when those quarrelsome English sparrows were imported. These little fellows have been productive of much more harm than good in this country. The starling would probably be a much more useful importation.

Ancient Corn Germinated.

"Several years ago in exploring an Indian mound in the southwestern part of Missouri a quantity of corn was found," says the Jamesport Gazette. "Some of this corn was planted, and to the surprise of all it germinated and matured. How long it had lain in the mound, on which large trees were growing, no one can conjecture, probably several hundred years. Last fall the Gazette editor secured a handful of this corn and now has a dozen hills of it growing in his garden. The plants are about the same size as field corn, but are of a deep brown mottled with yellow."

German Law Regarding Dentists.

The supreme court of Germany has rendered an opinion that the title of doctor conferred by American dental colleges is not to be recognized in Germany, constituting a violation of the German law against unfair competition, and is therefore prohibited to be used. Three hundred and twenty dentists in Germany who heretofore held the title of doctor from American colleges are affected by this decision.

A Peculiar Ornament.

Berlin has probably one of the most peculiar ornaments for a reading room that has ever been seen in a similar position in a civilized country. This is a gravestone which stands, large and massive, in one corner of a small room. It is not only a gravestone, but is in its legitimate position at the head of a grave. The history of its location in the house is interesting. It was put up in the house, but the house was built around the stone. Its original position was in the burial grounds in the churchyard at St. Hedwig's.