

SERVIAN WEDDINGS.

The Bride Collects the Gifts, Which Must Be in Money.
If you receive an invitation to a wedding in Little Serbia on the west side, you must not buy a present and take it with you or send it. That would be bad form, and the bride would probably feel insulted, but when you went to the wedding you would take with you the price of the present in money. At the wedding you would find several hundred men and women all making strange motions and talking in a strange, excited manner.

After the guests had assembled—and everybody in the colony would be welcomed—a young woman would pass around the wedding cake. Behind her would come the bride carrying a silver platter, and upon this she would collect the money given as presents. At the majority of weddings the platter is piled high with silver dollars, and around the edges are bills of various denominations, from \$5 to \$20. It is not uncommon for a bride to receive \$1,000 in cash. This amount, it must be remembered, is given by men who are mostly laborers in the packing houses.

Sometimes the groom passes cigars, and every guest will take a cigar and hand him a dollar. Another custom is to place a dollar in the large glass of whisky and every man take a drink, each drink costing a dollar.

These weddings are a great feast for the guest, and there is always plenty to eat, and sometimes the groom rents a hall where all may dance.—Kansas City Star.

THE MONKFISH.

This Glutton Has Many Names and an Appalling Appetite.

Among the most curious of fishes is one known on the coast of Maine as monkfish, by Massachusetts fishermen as goosefish, by Rhode Islanders as the bellows fish, in Connecticut as the molligut, in North Carolina as the all-mouth. On the other side of the Atlantic it is called wide gut, kettle maw and other names. Its adult length is about four feet, its weight about forty pounds.

The fish is a glutton, with no finely discriminating palate. It is said to bolt the wooden buoy of a lobster pot with an apparent satisfaction equal to that with which it swallows a mackerel.

Dogfish, sculpens, squids, crabs and lobsters are items in its ordinary diet. Its Massachusetts name is said to have been given it because of its practice of swallowing geese. Seven wild ducks are said to have been taken from the stomach of one of these fish, which had pulled them down one by one from the surface of the water.

The fish habitually lurks upon the bottom, though it is occasionally seen near the surface. It is sluggish in its ordinary movements, but very quick and ready with its powerful jaws and well fitted by nature for its mode of life. Its margins have long fringes, which sway in the currents like vegetable sea growth, deceiving the unwary prey.—Philadelphia North American.

Sandy's Narrow Escape.

"An hoo's the guid wife, Sandy?" said one farmer to another as they met in the market place and exchanged snuffboxes.

"Did ye no near that she's dead an buried?" said Sandy solemnly.

"Dear me!" exclaimed his friend sympathetically. "Surely it must have been very sudden?"

"Aye, it was sudden," returned Sandy. "Ye see, when she turned ill we had na time to send for the doctor, sae I gied her a bit pouther I had lying in my drawer for a year or twa an that I had got frae the doctor myself, but hadna ta'en. What the pouther was I dinna verra weel ken, but she died soon after. It's a sair loss to me, I can assure ye, but it's something to be thankfu' for I didna tak' the pouther myself."—Dundee Advertiser.

The Chairman's Break.

Senator Moses E. Clapp of Minnesota made a speech at Erin Corners, in his state, says the Saturday Evening Post.

His audience was very unfriendly. They howled at the gigantic Clapp, laughed at him, threw things at him and made it most uncomfortable.

Finally Clapp stopped and looked at the chairman. "Don't mind them, Mose," said the chairman. "Go right ahead. They're nothing but loafers and rowdies. None of the decent people would come."

Igneous Rocks.

Igneous is derived from the Latin word ignis, meaning fire, and igneous rocks are those which geologists say were produced through the action of heat. Igneous rocks are divided into two great groups, volcanic and plutonic. The volcanic, as the name implies, are those brought to the surface by volcanic action, while the plutonic are those which have solidified below the surface of the earth and have been exposed by the wearing away of the strata above them.

An Explanation.

"Edie," said Margie, who was laboriously spelling words from a first reader, "how can I tell which is a 'd' and which is a 'b'?"

"Why," replied Edie wisely, "the 'd' has its tummy on its back."—Harper's Weekly.

Difficulty is a severe instruction set over us by the supreme ordinance of a paternal guardian and legislator who knows us better than we know ourselves.—Bosch.

A STUFFED EMPEROR.

Fate of Valerian of Rome, Captured by the Persians.

One of the most remarkable stuffed skins on record was that of Valerian, emperor of Rome, who was taken prisoner and afterward kept in chains by Sapor, king of Persia. He was either killed in a tumult or by order of his conqueror, who was perhaps fearful of losing his valuable living trophy, in the year 260. The body of the dead emperor was treated with no more delicacy than when it held the spark of a living one. It was skinned. The hide after being tanned was stuffed, painted red and suspended in the chief temple of the capital. It remained there for many years and was the popular spectacle for holiday makers and visitors from the country. But it was put to more important ends than this. It was made a diplomatic engine of much significance and efficiency. In after times it often happened that the Roman envoys at the Persian court had misunderstandings more or less serious with the government to which they were temporarily accredited. When these ambassadors from Rome grew arrogant in their demands, it was the custom to conduct them into the presence of the stuffed skin of the emperor of Rome, where they were asked if humility did not become them at sight of such a spectacle.

"THE BLUE DANUBE."

Odd Way in Which the Beautiful Waltz Was Written.

It was a linen cuff and the quick thought of the woman who wore it that gave us one of the prettiest of the tuneful Strauss waltzes. Johann Strauss and his wife were one day enjoying a stroll in the park at Schonau when suddenly the composer exclaimed: "My dear, I have a waltz in my head. Quick—give me a scrap of paper or an old envelope. I must write it down before I forget it." Alas, after much rummaging of pockets it was found that neither of them had a letter, not even a tradesman's bill. Johann Strauss' music is considered light, but it weighed as heavy as lead on his brain until he could transfer it to paper. His despair was pathetic. At last a happy thought struck Frau Strauss. She held out a snowy cuff. The composer clutched it eagerly, and in two minutes that cuff was manuscript. Its mate followed. Still the inspiration was incomplete. Strauss was frantic and was about to make a wild dash for home with the third part of his waltz ringing uncertainly in his head. His own linen was limp, colored calico. Suddenly his frau bethought herself of her collar, and in an instant the remaining bars of "The Blue Danube" decorated its surface.

THE CURE OF WORRY.

Clear, Simple Common Sense Applied to the Business of Life.

There are two reasons why man should not worry, either one of which must operate in every instance—first, because he cannot prevent the results he fears; second, because he can prevent them. If he is powerless to avert the blow, he needs perfect mental concentration to meet it bravely, to lighten its force, to get what salvage he can from the wreck, to sustain his strength at this time when he must plan a new future. If he can prevent the evil he fears, then he has no need to worry, for he would by so doing be dissipating energy in his very hour of need. To cure oneself of worry is not an easy task. It is not to be removed in two or three applications of the quack medicine of any cheap philosophy, but it requires only clear, simple common sense applied to the business of life. Man has no right to waste his own energies, to weaken his own powers and influence, for he has inalienable duties to himself, to his family, to society and to the world.—William George Jordan in "The Kingship of Self Control."

How Browning Read Political Matter.

I have read the newspapers only through Robert's eyes. He reads them in a room sacred from the foot of woman, and this is not always satisfactory, as whenever Robert falls into a state of disgust with any political party he throws the whole subject over. Every now and then he ignores France altogether, and I, who am more tolerant and more curious, find myself suspended over a hiatus. I ask about Thiers' speech. "Thiers is a rascal," he says. "I make a point of not reading a word of Thiers." M. Prudhon, then? "Prudhon is a madman. Who cares for Prudhon?" The president? "The president is an ass not worth thinking of." And so we treat of politics.—Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Removing the Blot.

A woman was trying to lift a big blot of ink from a letter with a piece of blotting paper, with the usual result of making the blot bigger and uglier than at first. "Let me show you how to do that," said her friend. "I learned the trick in a stationer's shop in London last year. You just moisten the corner of the blotter first to get it started and then apply it to the ink spot. There! Isn't it wonderful how clean it takes it all up?"—New York Sun.

The Right Word.

Editor—I notice that you say that the women at the ball tonight were "elegantly gowned." Do you think that "gowned" is a good word? Reporter—Well, you couldn't call them dressed.—Somerville Journal.

We sometimes have those little rubs which Providence sends to enhance the value of its favors.—Goldsmith.

SHORTHAND.

The Quality That Appears to Be Lacking in All Systems.

The fatality of all systems of shorthand is that what seems easy to the eye of filial piety may be terribly difficult to the cold gaze of a stranger. Of the innumerable systems of shorthand that were the vogue a century ago how many survive today? asks a London writer. Fame and fortune still await the man or woman who can invent a system that will appeal to the reader as effectively as to the original writer. Perhaps if we were to rediscover the lost shorthand writing of the ancient Romans we might find ourselves on the road toward a solution of the problem.

For the Romans were on affectionate terms with shorthand. Did not Suetonius, speaking of Calligula, express surprise that an emperor of so many promising parts should nevertheless be an ignorant in shorthand, and did not Titus Vespasianus pride himself on his facility in the use of stenography both for business and amusement? So foul was he of the sport that he delighted to gather his amanuenses around him in order that they should tilt against each other in the stenographic field. It may be that but for the rediscovery of the art in England toward the end of the sixteenth century the curious Pepsys would not have been moved to write his diary.

VENEZUELA.

Beauty of the Country and the Impression It Leaves.

The beauty of the country is the first and the most lasting impression. To catch glimpses at every turn in the valleys of cloudy peaks, or when on the mountain side to see through the limpid air valley after valley between the protecting hills, to breathe this pure air, to know that summer is almost perpetual—he is only half a man who does not for a moment forget the needs of civilization in the intoxication of primitive nature. The loveliness of Venezuela is something different from that of the Andean ranges farther west and south. It is more tropical, and the mountains do not rise to the height in which the senses are stilled by grandeur, nor is there found so near the equator that ruggedness or gloom of solemnity which is one feature of the Rockies. It is a beauty of more human type, which can be enjoyed most when we know that man has his abode there. The Andes, the Alps or the Rockies are bold and austere. They need no life. Life is not meant for them. But such contrasts and changes as are constantly presented to the eye in these softened landscapes are more exquisite when man is pottering about on the surface trying to imagine that he is of some real importance on the earth.—Reader Magazine.

MARVELS OF WORKMANSHIP.

The Violins That Were Made by the Famous Old Masters.

The old masters used such care in the selection of the woods for their instruments that, having found a piece of wood of proper fiber and vibrational powers, they treasured every fragment, no matter how small, and rather than waste even a particle of such a strip they frequently constructed the backs and bellies of patches so delicately put together that "the seams are only discoverable by microscope, so perfect is the cabinetwork." It was ever the aim of the old masters to "marry" the back of hard sycamore, which produces the quick vibrations, and the belly of soft wood, producing the slower sound waves, in such a manner as to give the mellow but reedy timbre of the perfect instrument. Anatomically a violin made by an old master is a miracle of construction. It can be taken on to pieces, patched, put together, repaired indefinitely and is almost indestructible. Repairing has been the means of exposing many clever forgeries. The inside of a violin made by Stradivari, Guarnerius or other old masters is as perfectly finished inside as outside, and the clumsy interior work of a forgery betrays an imitation at once.—Circle Magazine.

Late and Early Easters.

The earliest date on which Easter can fall is March 22. The moon must then be full on March 21, and that date must be Saturday. Such a combination of circumstances is extremely rare. Easter Sunday has fallen as early as March 22 in 1093, in 1761 and in 1817, and it will fall on March 22 again in 1990, 2076 and 2144. The latest date on which Easter can fall is April 25. That happened in 1696, in 1734 and in 1886. It will happen again in 1943.

To Be Exact.

"Jane," asked Mrs. Hiram Offen, "are the eggs boiling?" "Most assuredly not, madam," replied the new servant, lately from Boston, "but I may safely say the water in which the eggs are immersed is."—Philadelphia Press.

The Change.

"You certainly look better. You must have followed my advice and had a change." "Yes, doctor, so I have." "Where did you go?" "I went to another physician."

Wouldn't Waste Time.

An assumed critic on etiquette says an invitation to dine should be accepted the same day. Any chump knows that much. We'd have an answer in the postoffice within ten minutes.—Yates Center (Kan.) News.

Every one is bound to bear patiently the results of his own example.—Phaedrus.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.
United States Land Office, Roseburg, Ore., March 16, 1907.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, George E. Wilson of Bandon, County of Coos, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 2888, for the purchase of the N½ of SW¼, SE¼ of SW¼, SW¼ of SE¼ of Section No. 15 in Township No. 29 N., Range No. 14 W., and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk and Clerk of the County Court of Coos County, at his office at Coquille, Oregon, on Friday the 7th day of June, 1907.

He names as witnesses: Glenn B. Cox, Charles L. Cox, and Edward Olanian of Bandon, Oregon, and Cecil C. Cox of Coquille, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 7th day of June 1907.

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