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It Must Stop.

This town is lighted at night by six kerosene lamps, and old Jim Hewson and his crowd get together regularly at 8 o'clock every evening and shoot the six lamps into the middle of the next day. This has been going on for about four weeks, much to the annoyance of citizens and the financial damage of the town treasury. His honor the mayor (who is himself) gives public notice that from and after this evening he and the city marshal will be abroad after lamp-light, and any found popping at the public lamps may look out for a pop in return.

Friday morning a half-breed named Joe Chin was found dead in the road a mile west of town, and a coroner's investigation revealed the fact that he had drunk the contents of a two quart jug containing horse medicine. Joe Chin is the critter who stole and ate five pounds of roller composition belonging to The Kieker office. It gave him cramps for three or four days, but he eventually became frisky again. One of the ingredients of the medicine was antimony, but it took the full two quarts to make Joe lie down.

He was the biggest thief and liar for 100 miles around, and no one will regret his taking off. Why the vigilance committee didn't hang him long ago is a matter to be wondered over, though it may be that the shortness of his neck had something to do with it. It could not have been broken by anything less than a fall of 50 feet. It is no use hoping Jim is with the angels. He's gone where it would burn the feathers of angels' wings like dry grass.

Tallying Pineapples.

Quick Work Done in Handling the Fruit on the New York Wharf.

The pineapple season lasts from about March 1 to about Aug. 1. New York gets pineapples from the Florida keys, from the West Indies and from the Bahamas. Some come in steamers, some in sailing vessels. Pineapples from Havana by steamer are brought in barrels and crates. Pineapples brought in sailing vessels are brought mostly in bulk—not thrown in loosely, however, but simply stowed, so that as many as possible may be got into a vessel.

On the wharves here pineapples brought in bulk are handled with great celerity. Men in the hold of the vessel fill bushel baskets with them and they are passed along on deck, where they are passed along and counted by the string-piece of the wharf. The trucks in which they are to be carted away are backed down wharf. A box of suitable height, and which is as long as the truck is wide, is placed at the end of the truck. A man standing near on the wharf lifts the baskets from the string-piece and sets them up on this box. Two men stand at the box, each with a large tin pineapples in front of him, and hand the pines and their stems to the string-piece, which has been fixed to the end of the truck. Two men stand in the truck to level the fruit as it comes to them.

LAUGHTER.

Has It Evolved From the Brutal Yell Over a Tortured Enemy?

Just as the hoof of the horse is the remnant of an original five toes, just as the pincel plant in man is now said to be the survival of a prehistoric eye on the top of the head, so, perhaps, this levity in regard to particular ailments (in others) may be the descendant of an aboriginal tendency in man. It is a well known theory that what we call humor first human laugh that ever woke the astonished echoes of gloomy primeval forests was not an expression of mirth, but exultation over the misery of a tortured enemy.

There is to this day something terrible in laughter. The laugh of madness or of ecstasy is a sound more awful than that of the bitterest lamentations.

By means of that strange phonograph that we call literature we can listen to the hearty guffaws or cynical titterings of generation after generation of bygone men and women, and if we are curious in such matters we can probe into the nature of the changes that have passed over the fashion of men's humor.

For it has been said: not without the support of weighty cumulative evidence, that, as we penetrate further into the past, we find the sense of humor depending upon the enjoyment of the pain, misfortune, mortification or embarrassment of others. The sense of superiority was the sense of humor in our ancestors; or, in other words, vanity lay at the root of this, as of most other attributes of our human species!

Putting car to our phonograph, we catch the echoes of a strange and merry merriment, hoarse, shrill, often brutal, yet with here and there a tender cadence from some solitary voice; and presently this kindly note grows stronger and sweeter, as we travel slowly toward our time, until at length, through all the merriment, we can hear the soft under-murmur of pity. Does the picture not seize the imagination—the long laughter of the ages which begins in cruelty and ends in love!—Westminster Review.

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London's Oldest Restaurant.

Probably the oldest restaurant in London is Crosby Hall, in Bishopsgate street, in the city. This was built more than 500 years ago, was once the palace of Richard III and afterward the residence of Sir Thomas More. It was in this building that Shakespeare had the scene of Richard's plot for the murder of the young prince. The structure was injured by fire, fell into decay and in 1858 was restored. One tumbles up the narrow, winding stairs, passing below the modern restaurant, leaving through low doorways that show walls 3 feet in thickness and enters the hall, a great room lighted by high windows and a beautiful oriel. In the restoration the old features have been retained, and an end is the minstrel's gallery, looking down on more massive scenes than it once witnessed. The white capped cooks stand at the huge fireplace, now converted into a grill, and the shop and potatoes come smoking to your table. Pretty waitresses wish to know if you don't want a pint of the famous "bird and art," and the wayfarer is wise if he accepts the hint. This would seem a fitting place to sit and muse in a Johnian fashion on the variety of human life, but there is little seclusion about the spot today, for bankers from Threadneedle street are continually discussing trade and securities in this room, which has known the presence of Sir Philip Sidney and Ben Jonson—a room where it requires no very vivid imagination to fancy the Countess Pembroke reading the fatuous sonnet that Spencer wrote to her honor.—Homes Journal.

The Real Nice English Girl.

It is a bonny sight to watch the lithe and breezy English girl promenading with her bally dog upon the bowdler beach at Brighton, according to Steadling Helleg. She will run a foot-race with her 8-year-old brother down the main street of the village, utterly thoughtless of attracting attention. If she happens to pull up breathless and glowing, flushed and moist eyed, with her golden hair hanging down her back, in the center of admiring friends, it is to explain to them that she has been running. "Such larks! Tommy and I have been running a foot race." It's not to make her effect, as a French girl would. Really, it isn't. She doesn't know enough.

She Will Scratch Herself in Company.

no matter where the mosquito has been. She will fall in love with a man and will follow him about like a dog. She will sit on a rock and be hugged, oblivious of the fact that every one is looking at her. She is wonderfully frank. She will say to a young man: "What a shocking bad sailor you are! Your liver is a great fish and can run a boat. She is all the time blushing. She has freckles on her hands. When she walks out with her bally dog upon the blooming sands, you don't know which to whistle to, both are so intelligent.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Climbers Have Conquered All of the Alps.

Of course the mystery is gone from the Alps—none but climbers know how completely. Every mountain and point of view of even third rate importance has been ascended, most by many routes. Almost every gap between two peaks has been traversed as a pass. The publications of some dozen mountaineering societies have recorded these countless expeditions in rows of volumes of appalling length. Of late years vigorous attempts have been made to co-ordinate this mass of material in the form of a climber's guide, dealing with particular districts, wherein every peak and pass is dealt with in strict geographical order and every different route and succession and every difficult route are set forth, with references to the volumes in which they have been described at length by their discoverers. Nearly half the Alps has been treated in this manner, but the work has taken ten years, and of course the whole requires periodical revision.—Sir W. M. Conway in Scribner's.

Why They Wear Hats.

History does not tell so far as we know, how it came about that members of the English parliament wear their hats. The custom has descended from an age when its proceedings were not recorded, but one may suspect that there, by hangs a tale of sturdy and victorious revolt against privilege, every position of the aristocracy, could it be recovered. Now and again we find antique allusions to the practice. When the commons voted that every one should "uncover or stir or move his hat" when the speaker expressed the thanks of the house for any service done by a member. Lord Falkland "stretched both his arms out and clasped his hands together on the crown of his hat and held it down close to his head, that all might see how editions that flattery was to him."—Pall Mall Gazette.

A Child's Heart.

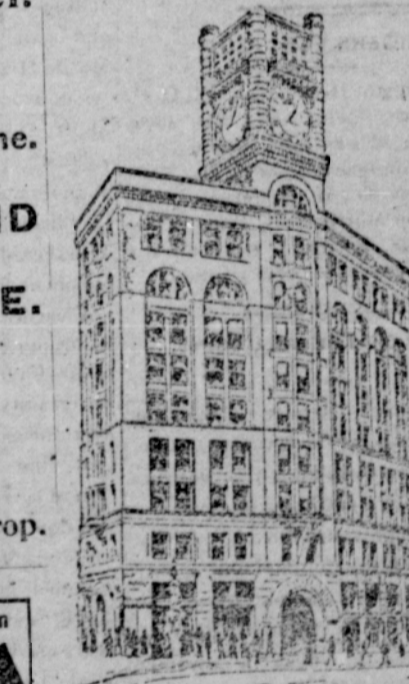
Among the bizarre articles offered for sale at the Hotel Druot, Paris, was a child's heart immersed in a jar of spirits, and, although 97 years had passed since the organ was placed in its transparent receptacle, every portion of it—the right and left auricles and ventricle, and every portion of the aortic arch—was in a perfect state of preservation. It was catalogued as the heart of Louis XVII, duke of Normandy, and from the documentary evidence which accompanied it there was little doubt as to its authenticity.—Temple Bar.

Digestible Food.

A simple test for digestibility given to a class of nurses, by which you can easily determine if a solid food is unwholesome, is proper to give a sick person, is to drop a small piece of it in cold water. If it soaks up the water rapidly, the food is moderately digestible.—New York Post.

An Old Hand.

"Bob—How much is it customary to give the minister when he marries you?"
 "Ten—Oh, I generally give him \$10." —Yonkers Statesman.



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