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Roseburg Review.

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—THE—

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On Mount Washington.

"The view from Mount Washington," says my guide book, with pardonable enthusiasm, "is incomparably grand." As a matter of fact, it is a good view, but still quite comparable, and not good enough in proportion to the elevation. You are at the same height as on the top of the Rigi; but oh, what a difference! Mount Washington towers as the actually highest peak anywhere around; whereas the Rigi stands a mere observatory in the center of a girdle of mountains all infinitely grander and nobler than itself. I don't want to make "odorous" comparisons about the incomparable; I merely mean that, all things considered, the view from the American mountain is not quite so fine as one might naturally have expected it to be for its height above sea level. For one thing, there is little or no water in sight, only a stray lake or two, shimmering, pond like, in the remoter distance. No near tarns, as in the deep combes of Snowdon; no sea, as from Ben Nevis and Helvellyn; no winding meres, as when one looks down on Lucerne and Zurich; rather a tumultuous mob of surging mountains like the serried ranks of the Deeside hills from top of the Lochnagar.

Still, I will frankly admit it is a magnificent prospect in its own way. Westward, through the faint blue haze, the Camel's hump and the Green mountains of Vermont loom indistinctly on the cloudy horizon. Eastward, the other great peaks of the presidential range—Jefferson, Adams, Madison—rising to above the limit of trees and with their gaunt bare summits of loose strewn bowlders remind me more of Cader Idris and of the Coudon, near Toulon, than of any other masses I have seen anywhere. Southward, the more wooded and rounded tops of Kearsarge and its giant neighbors recall rather St. Catherine's peak and the Blue mountains of Jamaica.—Grant Allen, in Longman's Magazine.

Important Archeological Discovery.

At the state department I read the manuscript report of M. Bissinger, our consul at Beyrout, Syria, announcing an important archaeological discovery, which has caused a great sensation in Sedan, a town of 12,000 people, on the east shore of the Mediterranean. It seems that recently a shaft thirty feet square and from thirty-five to forty feet deep was discovered one mile out of town. Cleared of the earth this shaft led into a rock chamber, where at the present time more than sixteen beautiful and perfectly preserved sarcophagi have been found. These are a clay white marble, save one, which is of black marble, having a peaked shaped lid. The marble is highly polished, and some of the sarcophagi are wonderfully carved and very beautiful. They show in bas relief lions' heads, eagles, horses, centaurs, men, etc. Some are painted, and others have inscriptions. One is a Greek temple. Some are cut of solid blocks. They are supposed to belong to the Egypto Phœnician type of art, and are very ancient.—Fuller Walker in Kansas City Journal.

The Meerschaum Industry.

It is not generally known that the ordinary meerschaum of pipe bowls, tips and ornaments is a true mineral. It is found in considerable beds in Crimea, the island of Negropont, and in Asia Minor. In chemical constitution it is a combination of magnesia, carbonic acid gas and water. The largest and best pieces are sent to Vienna, while the smaller bits are purchased for the north German industry. At the little dorf of Ruhla, distant sixteen kilometers from the historic Eisenach, is the center of the business. The exports of finished products from that village alone amounts to several millions annually. The beds of meerschaum are owned by the Turkish government, but are worked by European capital. About 4,000 men are employed at the mines.—Chicago Tribune.

How He Got Even.

A little while back there was a "strong man" who traveled about the country performing very wonderful feats, but he had the misfortune to quarrel one night with an assistant, who with superhuman struggles was wont to hand him the gigantic cannon balls necessary for the performance. The assistant had demanded increased wages; the demand was refused. The performance proceeded swimmingly, but when the applause was at its height, the assistant collected the objects on the stage, which in the aggregate should have weighed about a ton and a half, threw them lightly on a tray, and jauntily carried off all with one hand. The "strong man" never exhibited at that place of entertainment again.—Philadelphia Call.

Decimal Clock in Wiesbaden.

There is a decimal clock in Wiesbaden which is constructed on the following principle: The day has 10 hours, the hour 10 decades, each decade 10 minutes, each minute 10 seconds and each second 10 rays—thus dividing the whole day into 100,000 parts. A similar division is to be applied to the circle. Herr Moder, of that city, goes still further, and proposes to divide the year into 10 months—the even months of 36, the uneven ones of 37 days each. The advantages of this decimal system are placed in evidence, and the inventor hopes to see the same adopted before long in spite of the present opposition.—New York Tribune.

The Sun is Not Blue.

A year ago Professor Langley, the distinguished American astronomer, performed an experiment in the theatre of the Royal institution to show that the true color of the sun is blue. He argued that the atmosphere cut off a large proportion of the blue rays, and that, if the observer could get beyond it, the sun would look blue. Capt. Abney, in a lecture on "Sunlight Colors," rejected this experiment, adopting Prof. Langley's figures with mathematical accuracy, but dispensing with his paper disks, which this lecturer held vitiated the result, and he showed that the color of the sun was not blue, but very nearly that of the white light to be seen at high elevations in a clear, dust-free atmosphere.—London Telegraph.

Woman and Her Work.

"Could a man make a shirt for six cents?" asks Charles Dudley Warner in Harper's. "No! What limit is there to a woman's ambition or performance! She drives a stage, plays the violin, sews, sings, dances, acts, paints (both in oil and water colors), teaches, is a clerk, a typewriter, a typesetter, an editor, a marvelous producer of short stories (said by critics to be the most difficult art in the world), a telegrapher, and as a yeller through the telephone probably will never have an equal. Go where you will there is woman, lovely or plain, ready to cure, to chide, to guide, to aid, to instruct, to amuse, to rule, to lead, and point the way for halting man."

Pure in Heart.

Almost every one appreciates the duty of governing the tongue, although few people dwell upon the necessity of controlling the thoughts. Right speaking is a recognized duty, but right thinking is too often classed among the impossibilities of life.

"It may be wicked to feel so, but I can't help my thoughts," apologetically says some detractor.

The excuse is a generally accepted one, but it has not sufficient foundation in fact. Isolated thoughts cannot always be controlled. They flash into the mind like obstinate sprites, and the more one fixes the attention upon them in disapproval the more impossible does it become to expel them.

It is, however, within the limits of human effort to control the tendency of the thoughts. When a malicious or frivolous member of the tribe starts into being they can be best combated, not by out and out fighting, but by turning instantly to another class of valuable and interesting reflection.

The mind may be so thoroughly disciplined that its thoughts shall be drilled battalions of soldiers. They will doubtless be always raw troops, not marching according to strict military rule, and not in all cases sure to obey upon the moment, but they will steadily improve with practice, conforming themselves more and more to the true and the good.

Physiologists have a great deal to say about the force of habit. Dispose the brain toward a certain line of thought and it will keep it with increasing steadiness, for purely physical reasons. It has its automatic action, as the fingers have theirs, when they so accustom themselves to seeking the keys of the piano that they find them without the aid of the eyes.

The discipline of the thoughts contributes to the intellectual as well as moral development. There are in all lives unoccupied intervals of time, when one is riding to and from his place of business, or taking his "constitutional," for example. He cannot read or study to advantage at such moments, but instead of letting the mind drift whither it will, he can fix it upon the last poem he has read or upon some truth from an author of value.—Youth's Companion

The Persian Antelope.

The Persian antelope seems to be a duplicate of his distinguished American relative in a general all round sense; he is, if anything, even more nimble footed than the spring heeled habitue of the west, possesses the same characteristic jerky jump, and hoists the same conspicuous white signal of retreat. He is a decidedly slimmer built quadruped, however, than the American antelope; the body is of the same square build, but is sadly lacking in plumpness, and he seems to be an altogether lankier and less well flavored animal. For this constitutional difference he is probably indebted to the barren and inhospitable character of the country over which he roams, as compared with the splendid feeding grounds of the far west. The Persians sometimes hunt the antelope on horseback, with falcons and greyhounds; the falcons are taught to fly in advance and attack the fleeing antelope about the head, and so confuse them and retard their progress in the interest of the pursuing hounds and horsemen.—Outing.

"The Queen's Pipe."

In the center of the tobacco warehouses at the London docks there is an immense kiln, which is kept continually burning, day and night, and goes by the name of the queen's tobacco pipe. The English government has a different way of treating confiscated articles than that in use in this country, one of them being to utilize them as fuel for what is termed the queen's smoking. Whenever merchandise is seized for nonpayment of duty, or because it is considered under the law as in a damaged or unsalable condition, it is taken to this great kiln and burned there, the owners having no remedy. The only utilization that is made of these seizures is from the sale of the ashes from the furnace, which, to the amount of a great many tons a month, are sold by auction to chemical works, and to farmers and others to be used in enriching the soil. There is a similar but smaller queen's tobacco pipe in the government tobacco warehouses at Liverpool, these two forming the points of destruction for all confiscated merchandise in the United Kingdom.—Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.

Dickens as an Actor.

Carlyle referred to Dickens as an actor, having seen him in one of his amateur performances. He gave it as his opinion that Dickens' genius was essentially histrionic and mimetic; that with his faculty of keen and minute observation, his general alertness of mind and body, his mobile power of gesture and expression, he had all the requisites of a successful actor, and that had he lived at a great period of the drama, in the Elizabethan age for instance, his genius would have found its appropriate outlet on the stage. He would have become a popular comic actor, writing a humorous piece now and then, perhaps, as was the custom of such actors in those days. But while living under different conditions and working with his pen, his books still retained and revealed the native genius of their author. They had the sustained, if rather jerky, liveliness, the pleasant tricks and mannerisms of humorous portraiture upon the stage. He was, in short, a born actor.—The Athenæum.

A Derbyshire Story.

A correspondent calls to mind that in Derbyshire a story was told about fifty years ago which has some resemblance to the story of Tam o' Shanter, as related or adapted by Burns. Upon a dark evening, as a man was riding homeward, he passed a large house which was all ablaze with light. From within came a sound of music and dancing. The house, he knew, was said to be haunted, and, being curious to see what was going on, he went in at the door. He was invited by the revelers, who appeared to be ordinary men and women, to supper. Accordingly he sat down at the supper table, but before he began to eat he asked his host to say grace. The guests said, "Hush!" but the host did not say grace. Then the stranger shut his eyes and said grace himself devoutly. When he opened them all was still, the inmates had gone and he was left in utter darkness.—Notes and Queries.

Just What They All Say.

Hon. D. D. Haynie of Salem, Ills. says he uses Dr. Bosanko's Cough and Lung Syrup in his family with the most satisfactory results, in all cases of Coughs, Colds and Croup, and recommends it in particular for the little ones. Sample bottle 5 cents at W. S. Hamiltons.

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But Silence hath a spell
That breatheth more than any tongue can tell.
—Clinton Scollard in Youth's Companion.

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A Healthful Climate and Magnificent Scenery—Plain and Cordillera.

Those islands are as distinct in features as in origin. Some are suggestive of a period when a large portion of our continent was submerged in the ocean. Others are towering masses of trap rock, with cone like summits, declaring their volcanic descent. Others for ages have been in a progressive state—the work of the invisible zophite architect. Some have not yet risen above the belt of foam that marks their existence as coral reefs, and notifies the mariners of danger, while others soar above the tides and bloom with evidences of bounteous harvests. Servile insurrections, attended with great loss of property and life, have, in years past, retarded the prosperity of these islands. Shocks of earthquake there have alarmed the inhabitants, and the serenity of the heavens is often disturbed by the desolating track of the hurricane. Large conflagrations have occurred there, as in the United States, but energy has surmounted those losses by fire, and better built houses have arisen from the ruins.

From December to May the climate is delightful and healthy, even along the coast, where, in the summer months, yellow fever occasionally occurs. The mountainous regions or cordilleras, where the wealthy planters have their elegant residences, are blessed with a perennial springtime and exempted from epidemic influences. The mean temperature of these highlands is about 70 Fahrenheit, and at the elevation of 2,500 feet you are securely fortified against the attacks of yellow jack. Beauty and sublimity in a pre-eminent degree are combined in the scenery of those cordilleras, especially in the blue mountains of Jamaica, the largest and most valuable island of the British West Indies. The loftiest peak of that ridge, which extends some fifty leagues in length, is nearly 8,000 feet high, although the mean elevation does not exceed one-third of that measurement. The crest of the chain is so sharp that in many places it is only four yards across; the escarpments are wild, the declivities steep, checkered in places with stately forest growth. The more elevated ranges are flanked by still lower ones, and these by verdant savannahs.

A belt of intervening plain lies between the ocean and the blue cordillera and is brightened with tracks of guinea grass, corn, sugar cane and groves of cocoa and plantain proudly tossing their plumated heads in unison with the rustling airs. There are also seen the tapering furnaces of the sugar works, the overseer's dwelling and clusters of the laborers' huts. But those evidences of culture and population are not confined to the plain. Look up the steep, rugged side of the cordillera and you will see where its precipitousness does not render cultivation impossible. The dark tint of the woodland that gives a name to the mountain chain is diversified with the light green of cultivated fields and golden shades of ripening cereals. You will see abrupt cliffs dotted with white specks as points of rock, or perchance reminding you of an eagle's aerie. When with a telescope these points are brought closer to your vision, you behold one white speck transformed into a lovely country seat, others into hamlets nestling on the brows of precipices 3,000 feet or more in height. Bridle paths scarcely twelve feet wide are cut up the sides of this cordillera to its gorges and table lands, for journeys in the interior are generally made on horseback, as the asperities of the country are unfavorable to the transit of carriages.—Baltimore American.

Another Fortune Made.

Omaha Man—Are you making a fair living out of your Kansas farm?

Kansas Man—Living? Why I'm rich. You see, there was a little piece of poor ground back of the dugout which was not fit for anything. Well, one day brother Jake dreamed there was gold under it, and the next morning he offered me $100 for it, on long time, of course, for he hadn't any money, and I sold it."

"Yes."

"Well, Brother Bill heard of Jake's dream and bought the lot of him for $1,000, in the same way, you know. Then I got scared and bought it back for $5,000. Then I sold it to Bill for $10,000, and so it went on until a few days ago, when I got the lot again and sold it to Jake for $100,000. Just think of it. No more farming for me."

"But what security have you to show for all that value if Jake has no money?"

"Why, I've got a mortgage on the lot."—Omaha World.

Comfort in English Hotels.

The guests of the hotel spend very little time in their rooms. The smoking room in the English hotels could be copied with advantage in the United States. There is nothing more dreary in the world than the reading room or gentleman's waiting room of American hotels. In the English hotels the smoking room is furnished with heavy leather covered chairs and sofas, with small tables scattered about. Here any one can order anything he pleases to drink or come in after his dinner for his cup of coffee with his cigar. It is always a cozy and comfortable place, and, indeed, almost the only comfortable place in the hotel.—T. C. Crawford's Letter.

Youthful Gallantry.

Ethel—Now I am going to be nurse and play I'm taking the baby in its carriage to the park.

Roy (who has a penchant for Ethel)—Well, then, I'm going to be your p'liceman.—Harper's Bazar.

Early in the Season.

Young Wife—I took great pains with that cucumber salad, John, and I hope you enjoyed it.

Husband (anxiously)—I'm afraid, my dear, that I took great pains with it too.—New York Sun.

Food products from all parts of the world are to be exhibited in Amsterdam during June and July.

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THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cts per box.

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