

WHAT OF THAT?

Tired? Well, and what of that? Didst fancy life was spent on beds of ease...

Lonely! Well, and what of that? Some meet to be lonely; 'tis not given to all...

Dark? Well, and what of that? Didst fondly dream the sun would never set?

Hard? Well, and what of that? Didst fancy life was summer holiday?

No help? Nay, 'tis not so? Though human help be far, thy God is nigh...

Phrases from Shakespeare.

Shakespeare's influence over the public is shown by the extent to which his phrases have become incorporated into our language...

What Four Sparrows Can Do.

Two pairs of sparrows were watched by an observant naturalist feeding their young in their nests in only one half hour...

The Grinding of the Ice.

"The submarine forest off our port," said a man from Kenosha, Wis., "is being broken up by the grinding of the ice..."

Gen. Sheridan's Plan.

Gen. Sheridan has proposed a striking and ingenious plan of harbor defenses, based upon his experience in fighting Indians years ago...

Are the Times Degenerate?

When one reads of defaulting treasurers and cashiers, he is likely to refer to the degeneracy of the times in morals...

Green Chalk for Cues.

They are trying to introduce green chalk in some of the billiard rooms of Chicago. It is claimed that the chalk loses none of its adhesiveness by reason of its artificial color...

THE SATURDAY NIGHT MARKET.

A Procession of Buyers, Who Are on the Lookout for Bargains.

On Saturday nights the pressure is terrible. About 8 o'clock the procession of buyers commences, composed entirely of people who must have things cheap...

Side by side with the shoe tables are other merchants, who make appeal to the same passion for cheapness. At one end will be an old white bearded man, who, sweeping his hand over a collection of tin whistles and imitation jet brooches...

The groceries are in full blast, giving away a chromo and a package of sugar to every one who buys tea and coffee, which is already for the buyer in paper packages...

The Macon Telegraph wants a toboggan slide, and tells how to make one that the heat won't hurt. It selects a certain hill in the city, and then says: "Buy enough twelve inch plank..."

The rapid decay and destruction of building stones is a matter of common experience. Mr. T. Eggleston has described somewhat the causes leading to them. He finds that many limestones that are most liable to disintegrate...

This, said Capt. Storms, taking up a monstrous native drum of unshapely girth, "produces a curious effect when you hear the muffled banging of it..."

The maya was a table napkin in use in ancient Rome for wiping the hands and mouth at meals. Vulgar persons fastened it under their chins to protect their clothes from stains...

It is said that the more rapid deterioration of much of the iron of a late make arises from the fact that it contains more impurities than formerly. The common iron of to-day is filled with slag...

"Been north, I understand," said Jones to Brown, who had gone to New Hampshire to sponge on some of his rich kin.

Mines can now be lighted by electricity at one half the cost of lighting them by oil and candles.

Saving Tears in Persia.

Tears are considered so precious in Persia that they bottle them up. When there is a funeral some one goes round among the mourners and presents each with a sponge to weep in...

"The question is often asked me," said an electrician, "if it is really true that the electric current travels fast enough to go around the world in a single second..."

Thousands of young people are turned out of them yearly with just knowledge enough to make them yeasty and unsettled, but without enough to awaken a tendency in their minds toward any productive vocation...

The Sultan's Wives.

The sultan of Turkey lives in a palace somewhat out of the city of Constantinople and fitted up in ordinary European style. It is built of stone, but the rooms are small and the ceilings low...

Washington's Othography.

George Washington defied orthography with the same calm courage with which he opposed the troops of England. He once wrote to the congregation of the Dutch Reformed church at Schenectady:

The experiments of Dr. Edward Smith with bones were cited to instance their possible food value. These experiments were undertaken at the command of the English government...

When Abd-el-Kadir was expected at Cairo, Lady Duff Gordon's donkey driver asked her if he were not Akhul-Benat (a brother of girls). She said she did not know that he had any sisters...

Andrews Roubert, the well known composer of the "Bell," once received a challenge from the leader of a small orchestra on the ground of some pretended insult...

"I have come across chiefs in the interior whose hobby it is to have 'fancy' drummers. But their way of procuring them is essentially African. They chop off the hands of their slaves...

The Chinese government employed Dr. Bahr as European doctor of their fleet during the recent war with France. When the war was ended the doctor was discharged as a means of economy...

Everything is bright, every outline is sharp, every house like a house made of snow, roof and all, scarlet and yellow flowers in masses, trees so full of birds that it seems as if every leaf were a bird...

A great scarcity of the very small coins is reported. We are afraid the heathens have got all the very small coins by this time.—Burlington.

A BOOK CANVASSER'S METHODS.

His Meekness, Humility and Imperturbability—Securing an Order. "Well," said the canvasser, putting his portfolio on an adjacent desk...

"The best way, though, to illustrate our teachings is to tell you how we work—and all we do comes out of our course of study, as you call it—or our book of instructions, as we call it. We depend on ourselves to the largest possible extent..."

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Pursuing the Forty Dollars.

The pursuit of a dollar is responsible for the wreck of countless lives. It makes young men old and adds physical debility to the sorrow of old age...

Interviewing a Woman.

Women who figure in public usually like to be interviewed. They are less cautious than men about expressing their convictions, but they are more particular about having their exact language printed...

The Ruling Mood.

The law of correspondences between spiritual and material things is wondrously exact in its working. People ruled by the mood of gloom attract to them gloomy things...

Von Bulow's Lead Pencils.

Hans Von Bulow, on his first appointment to the leadership of the orchestra at a German court theatre, introduced himself to his musicians carrying a small parcel under his arm...

The Celebrated "Widow's Mite."

The most notable coin in the mint collection, and perhaps the most celebrated coin in the world, is the "Widow's Mite." It name simply tells its commercial significance...

Presidents Who Were College Graduates.

This is the list of presidents who have been college graduates: Adams (John), Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Adams (J. Q.), Harrison, Polk, Pierce, Buchanan, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur—twelve in all...

The Prophet and the Cat.

Mohammedans entertain a kindly regard for cats, because of a tradition that the prophet on a certain occasion, being called to quell a riot, cut off the sleeve of his robe rather than disturb a cat sleeping upon it.—Cosmopolitan.

IN JOAQUIN MILLER'S CABIN.

The Foot at Work Clad in the Picturesque Garb of a Forty-niner. One day I walked out to Joaquin Miller's cabin on the hills just outside the city. Everything about the place looked deserted and desolate...

Over in the corner of the room was a bunk such as may be seen in the stowage of ocean steamships. It was covered with a profusion of the richest skins and furs, some of which were also hung about the walls...

After a pleasant ordinary chat I left the picturesque little cottage on the hill and its queer occupant. I must confess I felt a little disappointed with my visit, for in everything but dress I had found my host an average man...

The Alaskan's Intoxicant.

During a course of years, commencing with the Russian occupation of the country, before the cession of the province to the United States, and subsequent to that time, men of our country found a lucrative business in the sale of molasses and sugar to the Alaska Indians...

The natural history of savage races corresponds exactly with this natural history of European folk lore. The Zulu will tell you that the reason the hyrax has no tail wherewith to drive away the flies is, that on the day when tails were distributed the hyrax, fearing it was going to rain, begged the other animals to bring him his tail to save himself the trouble of going...

Animal Lore Among Savages.

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The Climate of Alaska.

The climate of Sitka, Alaska, is milder than that of Brooklyn, the mean temperature for the summer months being about 60 degs., and the average temperature for the winter months about 40 degs. It is a mistake prevalent throughout the United States that Alaska is an Arctic climate. The population of Alaska in 1885 was 8,500 whites and 20,889 natives.—Lieut. H. T. Monahan in Brooklyn Eagle.