

THE LAST LAUGH.

Conspiration of the Congregation. The Wisdom of the Innocents.

Adjoining an out-of-the-way, but favorite summer resort, is a little Chapel in which religious services are held occasionally, as clergymen can be obtained, during the pleasure season.

A visiting divine consented to preach one sabbath last summer, and, notice being given, quite a congregation of hotel guests and resident neighbors assembled. In opening the services the preacher suggested that, as the chapel was provided with no musical instrument, perhaps some one present would start a hymn, in which the congregation could join. A brief pause ensued, and then the congregation was consulted at hearing an old lady strike up, in a cracked voice,

"Believing we rejoice To see the cuss removed." As no one "joined in," the old lady did not proceed far with the hymn, and an awkward contretemps seemed imminent. The clergyman was quick-witted, however, and turned the ludicrous incident to good account. He quietly arose and announced as his text the words, "Believing we rejoice," from which he preached an excellent sermon, one that under the peculiar circumstances, made a deep impression.

The old lady will probably never know why she caused such a sensation. She lived in the neighborhood, and being accustomed to the pronunciation "cuss" for "cure," sang it that way.

Homespun people often run counter to some of the common customs, or time-worn prejudices of society, and are laughed at. Sometimes they are right, and society is wrong.

When new and valuable ideas are evolved in the progress of the world's thought, those who first believe in them are often subjected to ridicule. But it is those who believe who have occasion to rejoice.

Mr. A. Way is a prominent farmer at Navasino, N. Y., who was prestrated with kidney disease, and reached a point where "the doctor said he had done all he could." Feb. 23d, 1883, he writes, "As a last resort I began the use of Warner's safe cure, and today I am hale, hearty and happy." October 13th, 1887, he again writes, "If it had not been for your wonderful discovery of Warner's safe cure, I should have been in my grave to-day. I am, to all appearances as free from any trouble of the kidneys as any man living. The doctor who doctored me and said I must die, has since died with Bright's disease!"

The honest old farmer was doubtful, decided and laughed at by the medical man, and many of his friends, when he announced his determination to try Warner's safe cure, a proprietary medicine; but he is alive and well to-day, while the physician who laughed at him is dead.

The wise old farmer has the last laugh!

A general conference on Foreign Missions, similar to the one held at Mildmay Hall, London, in 1878, has been called to meet in London some time during 1888. A large committee, representing the chief missionary societies of Great Britain, has been chosen to make preparations for the meeting, and American and continental societies are asked to co-operate.—United Presbyterian.

"Drop into school occasionally," said one of our teachers to a parent yesterday; "it does us good to see the parents, and besides you may see things that need correction which we do not see. Don't wait for special occasions, but come any time and see how we look when we are hard at work." The suggestion is a good one. The schools would be improved if they were brought nearer the homes by the frequent visits of the parents.

LATE SHIPWRECKS OFF CAPE HORN.

Extract of letter from David James (late master) of the bark Colorado of Glasgow—"Having lost our ship on Staten Island, on the 5th of July last, and having saved neither effects nor provisions, we were then compelled to travel over the island for ten days, subsisting on nothing but shellfish and seaweed. On the 19th of July we came across another shipwrecked party of seventeen, the surviving part of the crew of the British ship Dunskeig of Glasgow, fourteen having perished through exposure. Now, the ship was lost on the 23d of June, and a lot of the cargo, consisting of Erps' Cocoa, was washed ashore out of the wreck. There was nothing saved except the cocoa, and we, numbering twenty-five men, were kept alive on it up to the 20th of August, when we were rescued by the steamer Mercurio of Buenos Ayres, and landed there on the 13th of September.

"Too much praise cannot be given to this cocoa for the preserved state that it was in, after being in the bottom of the sea, in the wreck of the Dunskeig, for a fortnight, and then washed ashore, and lying on the beach and rocks of Staten Island for about six weeks, subject to the exposure of the severest weather on the face of the globe.

"The island is situated in a region of perpetual ice, snow and storms, and after all this test it was as fresh and dry as if in the works.

"As we had a good stock of it there, we used it in a liquid state for drink, and also made it in a thick state, like porridge, and we also baked it on the fire, which made splendid bread, and kept us alive and warm on this barren island."

SEALS AND SEALSKINS.

Where the Most Valuable Fur-Seals Are Found and How They Are Caught.

While a great many people are interested in sealskins most of them have a rather vague idea as to the animals from which they are stripped. Every spring, when it is announced that the Jan Mayen hunters have brought 20,000, 30,000, 50,000 or 60,000 to Dundee, or that those who rendezvous at St. John's, or Harbor Grace have landed 200,000 or more, the prints which especially concern themselves with ladies' dress are filled with jubilation over the approaching cheapness of the fur, to possess which seems to constitute the acme of female ambition. In reality these captures of Newfoundland or in the Arctic Sea have no effect whatever on the fur market. They are "hair" seals, of no value except for their hides, out of which leather is made, or for their blubber. No fur seals, in the seal-skin-jacket sense of the term, are found in the North Atlantic. They are almost entirely confined to the North and South Pacific. From the South Shetlands and the Georgian Islands the seals, once so abundant, have almost vanished; and neither St. Paul's, nor the Crozets, nor Marion Isle, the Elephant Isle, and Amsterdam, nor even the Tristan da Cunha yield any thing like the number they once did. The early adventurers who first fell among the "rookeries" in these localities seem to have had a glorious time that their less fortunate successors can not help envying them, even at the distance of a century, though sealskins were not so valuable in those far away days. In 1800, when the fur-seal business was at its height at the Georgian Islands, 112,000 seals were taken, of which 57,000 were secured by a single ship. Between the years 1820 and 1821 over 200,000 seals were taken at the South Shetland Islands alone, though, in addition to the number of old ones killed for their fur, not fewer than 100,000 newly-born young died in consequence of the destruction of their mothers. So indiscriminate was the slaughter that whenever a seal reached the beach, no matter what its age, it was immediately clubbed. The result of this butchery was soon apparent. By 1822 the enormous herds in the South Shetland Islands had been exterminated, and in 1830 sealing in the South Sea was pronounced a losing business; the old resorts of the animals having been abandoned or "cleared out," so that the hunters had to go further afield or be content with profits much smaller or much more precarious. At this day fur seals of different species are picked up all through the Antaretic and sub-Antaretic regions, as well as along the coast of Japan and Siberia as far as Kamtschatka, the Kuriles and Behring Strait. From California northward three species are found. A few are seen on the shores of California, Oregon, and Washington Territory, and the Indians of Vancouver Island and British Columbia find a moderate profit in those which they kill. It is, however, not until the Pribilof and Seal Islands, off the shores of Alaska, are reached that the fur seal attains its maximum. These islets are leased by the United States Government to a commercial company, who are bound by their contract, made in pursuance of an Act of Congress, not to kill more than 75,000 a year on St. Paul's Island, or more than 25,000 on St. George's Island; though the Secretary of the Treasury has power to alter the ratio for each island if he pleases, or to extend the period for killing them from June to the 15th of August, and then after an interval during September and October. The killing of female seals and seals less than one year old, and among other regulations to the same effect, the use of firearms or other means tending to drive the seals away from the islands are expressly forbidden. No dogs are permitted on the islands, and no vessels other than those employed by the company are permitted to touch there or land any persons or merchandise, except in case of shipwreck or vessels in distress. The method of capture is to drive the seals into little heads or "pods," where they are leisurely dispatched by the blows of a club on the head.

—When a jump burns poorly boil the metal burner in soda and water. Gummy accumulations from the oil will be removed and the light will burn as brilliantly as ever.

—Newport is becoming more and more a place for the very wealthy. People with incomes of twenty thousand to twenty-five thousand dollars a year can no longer make a show there and participate in fashionable gaiety. An income of fifty thousand dollars even does not enable one to meet the exacting demands of the American Vanity Fair.

—Sir William Grove, whose writings on the conservation of energy have given him so much distinction as a man of science, has resigned his office as one of the Judges of the High Court of Justice in England. He invented the powerful electric battery known as the Grove battery.—N. Y. Ledger.

—"I do wish," remarked the white horse, wearily, "that auburn-haired girls would try and keep in doors more."—Washington Critic.

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—"Depot," says a purist, must only be used when it is a terminal point; along the route the word should be station.

—King Charles of Roumania reads all the proofs of his wife's stories and corrects them for the printer. A revise is then submitted to the Queen.

—Gadwumps, according to the New York Tribune, are theater-goers who leave their seats between acts and step on other people's toes while going out.

—An industrious Maine boy recently sold over twenty pounds of lead to an Augusta junk dealer. It was rifle balls which he had dug from the embankment back of the State militia practice targets.

—Mosquitoes in China have a very poisonous sting. In a Tientsin hospital there were at one time this summer a man with an abscess in his face and another with blood poisoning from the bite of the insects.

—A fisherman at Asbury Park, N. J., picked up a sealed bottle on the coast containing a map showing where an alleged treasure is buried at a place near Wilmington, Del. The discovery has aroused a good deal of curiosity there.

—Bavaria's late mad King's personal effects were sold at Munich recently. A pair of scarlet trousers brought ten pounds; a pair of musical brushes did not sell, because the "music wouldn't go." The saddest thing in the collection was the King's inseparable bed-fellow during the last four years—a stuffed monkey.

—A little girl while playing one day recently on a porch at Wallingford, Conn., was startled by a large bird flying over her head. The bird flew a short distance away and returned again and was caught and held by the child until her parents, who heard the noise, came out and secured it. It proved to be a full grown partridge, apparently unhurt.

—A colored man of Smithville, Ga., finding that his lady love had been locked in the house by her father, climbed down the chimney. The father, on returning, discovered the dusky Adonis with his daughter, besmeared with soot. "Da'n't no use in stoppin' dem," said the old man. "De debil is after dem, but the Lawd work wid um. Lem go along."

—The New York World, which is always seeking to attract public attention, now comes out as the champion of mothers-in-law and old maids. It truly says that there is no basis for one tenth of the cheap wit about mothers-in-law and old maids that circulates through the papers. Likewise it remarks there are lots of handsome old maids, wherein it is quite right.—Boston Transcript.

—In Germany the average duration of the life of gardeners, mariners and fishermen is fifty-eight years; butchers, fifty-four years; carpenters and bricklayers, forty-nine years; compositors and lithographers, forty-one years, and laborers, thirty-two years. Of the professions the average lifetime of clergymen is sixty-seven years; teachers, fifty-seven years; lawyers, fifty-four years, and physicians, forty-nine years.—Public Opinion.

—In the exhibition at Havre, says Nature, there is an interesting collection of specimens of poisonous fishes. Some are poisonous when eaten, others are merely venomous. Among the first are many sparoids, a tetradon, and many clupea, which are abundant near the Cape of Good Hope. In the Japan Sea is found a very peculiar tetradon, which is sometimes used as a means of suicide. It produces sensations like those produced by morphia, and finally death.

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A particle is applied to each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents at druggists; by mail, Registered, 50 cents. ELY'S CREAM BALM, 25 Green St., New York.

A. P. Foss saw a live chicken floating and struggling in the canal at Suncok, N. H., and pulled it out. Attached to its leg was a pile weighing over two pounds, which had grabbed the chicken's leg in such a way that it could not get loose.

READ THE DEATH ROLL. Which the bills of mortality of any large city may be fitly designated, and you will find that renal and vesical maladies, that is to say, those that affect the kidneys or bladder, have a remarkable prominence, we had almost said—preponderance. Bright's disease and diabetes in the chronic stage are rarely cured, and gravel, catarrh of the bladder and enuresis, slay many. Yet at the outset, when the trouble merely amounts to ineffectiveness of the organs involved, the danger may be nullified by that pleasant renal tonic and diuretic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which imparts the requisite amount of tone to the organs, without over-excitement, and the use of which is convenient, and involves no elaborate preparation. Dyspepsia, a usual concomitant of renal complaints, and debility which they invariably produce, are remedied by it. So also are constipation, malarial, rheumatic and nervous ailments.

The color of the jelly is spoiled by being boiled too long.

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A large treatise on Diseases of Women profusely illustrated with colored plates and numerous woodcuts, sent for ten cents in stamps. Address—WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, 63 MAIN ST., BUFFALO, N. Y.

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Liver, Blood, and Lungs.

If you feel dull, drowsy, debilitated, have a yellowish-brown tinge to your complexion, or a frequent headache or dizziness, or taste in mouth, internal heat or chills, alternating with hot flushes, low spirits and gloomy forebodings, irregular appetite and coated tongue, you are suffering from Indigestion, Dyspepsia, and Torpid Liver, or "Biliousness." In many cases only part of these symptoms are experienced. As a remedy for all such cases, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is unequalled.

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