

AN UNFOUGHT DUEL

A New York Lawyer Tells a Good Story of Ante-Bellum Days.

A well-known lawyer of this city tells a good story of ante-bellum times that, inasmuch as it is more or less historical, will bear repeating.

"I am not the challenging party. Why don't you arrest your son-in-law, Colonel Davis? The Southerners will all say that I became afraid and had myself arrested to avoid the consequences of a fight if you allow this to go on."

This argument seemed to strike "Old Zach," who thereupon caused the arrest of his son-in-law, Colonel Davis.

INMAN'S SUCCESS.

How the President of the Georgia Central Railroad Made His Fortune.

The purchase of the Georgia Central railroad by John Inman, president of the Richmond Terminal Company, brings that gentleman quite prominently into public notice.

He worked as a clerk in a broker's office, and plodded along for a couple of years, saving a little from his scanty salary.

Business Is Business.

Jake—There's a man out there who wants to know if you need a sign writer.

He Was a Good Judge.

"My friend," said the man who was lighting a cigar, to the proprietor of the store, "that clerk of yours sold a ten-cent cigar to the fellow who has just gone out, and he took it from the same box from which he sold me this five-center. He must be a poor judge of cigars."

AL ETIQUETTE

Members of the Queen's Household Like to Act as Plain People.

The custom of English royal families are frequently startling, original, and over-elaborate to a New Englander.

The Princess, of course, speaks with even more of an accent, and, as she is quite deaf, she also is not much of a conversationalist.

"HE'S IN THE SOUP."

The Origin of the Latest Addition to the Vocabulary of Slang.

Every body and every thing that doesn't just suit every body else is sure to be consigned by somebody or other to "the soup."

In the soup's first achieved classic authority, so far as can now be ascertained, in one of the picturesque stories of what are called "sporting" events.

"He! Johnston's fell in do soup!" The sublime audacity of the comparison of the great Atlantic to a plate of soup was wasted on the drunken crew that heard it, but the waves chuckled gleefully ripples against the tug's sides, the stars twinkled merrily, and next morning, when people read about it, it tickled the public fancy so that the new slang became quickly the pet expression of the day, and by this time it has attained just about ripeness enough to make it ready to pick and lay away along with Mr. Gallagher's other slang once of repute.

TIME WAS PRECIOUS.

A Possum Ridge Courtship and Its Happy Termination.

Old Hobson's fourth wife had been dead a month, when one morning he caught up his horse, saddled him with an old sheepskin furnished with rope stirrups, and mounting rode off down the "hog path" leading to 'Squire Beeson's in the interior of Missouri.

"Hain't time, I reckon, 'Squire." "Summat of er hurry, eh?" "Yas, I'm goin' ter git married, an' I want yer ter go 'long an' jine us."

"Right now, o' case. I foteh ther Squire onlong for that purpose."

"Drive ahead then, Squire," Hobson said; "we're ready."

The Squire went through the ceremony in short order, while the widow kept her eye on the soup kettle to see that it did not bile over.

HOW TIGERS EAT.

A Couple of Them Usually Finish a Cow at One Sitting.

A Hindoo expert on tigers gives the following interesting information about the appetites of tigers and their manner of devouring their prey.

Under Secretary—Yes, sir. The worst injured were drummers, who are used to that sort of thing, and three dollars worth of cigars fixed them all right. The only other one was a man who had his nose broken.

A SCIENTIFIC WONDER.

The Phonograph and Some of Its Peculiarities and Possibilities.

If the achievements of science had not already familiarized the people with the age of fable in which they live, the rooms in which there was lately exhibited in this city the perfected phonograph, upon which Edison has spent some of the best years of his life, would have been crowded hourly with an awe-struck multitude.

The invention is now really perfected. He who sets the retransmitter at work and listen at the ear-piece can hear the words originally spoken reproduced with the famous accuracy of machine work, and with a human quality of which it might seem that no machine is capable.

The practical utility and commercial value of the machine are not yet decided. But it will find its place as speedily as the telephone and the typewriter.

The resulting cylinders will be stereotyped and multiplied. Instead of buying the new book, the tired man of business will purchase the two or three cylinders that contain it, and have his phonograph read it to him in the leisure evening hours.

MADE HIM INDIGNANT.

Why an Arkansas Farmer Disowns His Pretty Daughter.

An old fellow stood leaning on a gate. A young woman cautiously approached.

"May I come in?" she asked. "No, you kain't!" he exclaimed. "Ain't you never goin' ter let me come?"

"Well, Uncle Cleo, what makes you look so glum?" "Yes, sah; to tell you the trufe, my ole woman has begun to make buckwheat cakes and she hasn't got into the swing of it yet, sah."

LADY ELLENBOROUGH.

Mrs. Lew Wallace's Story of an Eccentric English Woman's Career.

Mrs. Lew Wallace in her famous book, "The Repose in Egypt," gives an exceedingly flowery account of Lady Ellenborough, the eccentric wife of an English nobleman, who, emulating the example of Lady Hester Stanhope and Lady Mary Wortley Montague, not to mention a French lady, Mme. de la Tour d'Auvergne, who built herself a temple on the top of Mount Olivet, and lives there now, deserted her country and went to live in the far East.

Lady Ellenborough married the Sheikh in his tent in the desert, with no witnesses but Arabs, and according to the laws of Islam. The bride found to her horror when she returned to Damascus that she had forfeited her nationality, and had become a Turkish subject.

Wrecked by Eating Cloves.

A physician of Syracuse says that one of the strangest cases that have come under his observation in practice is a Syracuse young lady who is addicted to the habit of chewing cloves.

A Diploma That Talked.

A young man entered a Woodward avenue car one day last week and began to distribute leaflets to the passengers.

SARDINE FISHING.

A Wary Fish to Catch and a Complicated System of Seining.

Sardine fishing begins in May or June and sometimes lasts as late as November. Boats come from Douarzene to take advantage of the early run, and, as the season wanes, return. At times there are as many as 1,200 boats engaged here in the pursuit.

This is the critical moment. He throws a quantity on the opposite side, and the fish, making a dash for it, are entangled in the meshes.

FOUR OLD POETS.

The Difficulties Under Which They Accomplished Their Life-Work.

Homer lived about a thousand years before the Christian era; his Iliad was the first great poem written. He lived nearer the time of the Greek war than any other author, and it is right to suppose he knew what he was talking about.

Virgil follows Homer, as to time. He had a liberal education and every advantage which could promote literary culture; in this he had a better chance than Homer.

Dante was a follower and admirer of both Homer and Virgil. He studied Virgil closely and has something of his style. His Inferno is very much like Virgil's description of Hades in Book Six of the Aeneid; his style is more thrilling and real, however.

Milton was a follower of all these men, and it is said he was the most classic of English writers; he was also a Christian poet.

The lives of all these authors were much alike, in that each had some great trouble; it is supposed that Homer composed his Iliad and his Odyssey from the memories of his childhood, after he became blind.

The proper mode of treating muck is to dig it up in the fall and let it remain exposed in order to permit the frost to pulverize it and also to allow it to undergo a chemical change.