

THREW AWAY A CROWN.

FRENCH WOMAN WHO DID THIS WITHOUT KNOWING IT.

Napoleon's Match Making Friend Meets with a Sore Disappointment—The Young Corsican Needed Money, but Not a Grandmother.

At the commencement of his career the great Napoleon fell in with an ardent revolutionist, M. Paul Francois Barras, who took a great liking to the young Corsican, and conceived the highest opinion of his abilities and of the powers which, events proved, he possessed in so remarkable a degree.

Though she was called Mlle. Montansier, she was in reality a widow, who, because she had been on the stage, had never adopted the name of her husband.

Barras made up his mind that it was imperative to the success of Napoleon's career that he should make this elderly lady his wife, and accordingly he set himself to work to bring about the match by impressing upon each of them the advantages that would result from it.

For the purpose of introducing the couple to each other, he decided upon giving a supper, to which they were both invited. He so arranged matters that they were placed together at the table, and hoped that this precaution, added to the injunctions which he had given to Napoleon to behave for once in his life with some show of civility to a lady, would have the happiest result.

But in this he was fated to be disappointed. Napoleon was quite the last man to rely upon in such a respect. His manners toward the fair sex were those of a coxswain, and though he could generally hold his own in a conversation with men, he was entirely without the knack of making himself interesting or agreeable to women.

Had he been inclined to a wit, it would have been in a straightforward, soldier-like fashion, not with the dallyings and compliments so dear to the French woman of his time. So, presently, Barras had the mortification of seeing Mlle. Montansier, her back turned to Napoleon, engaging in a lively conversation with the gentleman on the other side, while the future conqueror was making, with little smiles of bread, a plan of battle on the table before him.

Supper over, Barras drew Napoleon aside and spoke forcibly to him of the foolish way in which he was throwing away his chances. "You know," said he, "that money is everything to you; there are 1,000,000 francs, and you will not stretch out your hand to take them; a most attractive woman, and you will not show her the smallest gallantry. Mlle. Montansier has come here this evening prepared to hear a declaration from you. Strike while the iron is hot, and win the wealth that you cannot do without at one bold stroke."

"The woman is old enough to be my grandmother," said Napoleon, who was then 25 years old; "but that is no matter, for to me all women are alike. Money is what I want, and, if I cannot get it without a wife, I must take the two together. I am no coiner of pretty speeches, but before the evening is over I will say to her: 'Mademoiselle, are you willing to accept me as your husband? More than that I cannot do.'"

"The very kind of proposal that any woman would expect from a blunt soldier," replied Barras. "Say that, and I desire no more. You are to be envied; for, besides her wealth, mademoiselle is very handsome still."

Napoleon turned away with a gesture of impatience; but half an hour later Barras noticed, to his joy, that the two were alone together in a recess. Presently Napoleon got up and went away, and the lady beckoned to Barras with her fan. "Take away that dreadful little man," she said with a shudder; "he has bored me to death, and I only prevented him from proposing by sending him for a glass of lemonade."

"But why prevent him?" said Barras. "He will be a great man yet."

often been depicted, with his arms folded and his chin sunk upon them. "Well, are you to be married?" he said, hastening towards his protegee. "That old actress," said Napoleon, "that female Cressus refused me before I had opened my mouth to ask her hand. I was on the point of speaking, as I told you I should speak, when she began to inform me that her wealth was the cause of her constantly receiving offers from adventurers who cared nothing for herself; that she thanked Providence she had so far seen through some fellows, and that she was resolved to keep her independence. I was glad I had not spoken, for it gave me the opportunity of saying: 'Mademoiselle, pray persevere in that praiseworthy intention; it is one which I am sure no one will ever try to persuade you to alter.' Let her keep her millions to bait the hook for some one else; I have done with her."

And in spite of Barras' endeavors the affair ended there. In a few years Mlle. Montansier was found of boasting that, had she chosen, she might have been empress of France and wife of the most famous man of the age. Could she have been gifted with the faculty of foresight, no doubt she would have regarded more leniently the young man whom M. Barras wished her to marry.—Chambers' Journal.

At the Gas Office Window. "Anything new this year for the people in the way of gas meters?" asked a subdued looking citizen at one of the windows of the gas office on Dearborn and Lake streets.

The man on the inside, whose long attention to duty at that post has made him look haggard, tried to thaw out in front of the inquiry.

"You may say," he replied, as if he were conferring a favor, "that our gas meters will run this year as usual—which is to say, all right. And let me say another thing. There has been a good deal of complaint in the year gone, at this very window, and to this very person now speaking, sir, that we have rendered bills to people for gas who were out of town and who had not lighted a burner in six weeks. They have come to us and exclaimed with air of triumph, sir, that they had us at last. A sort of ah-ha business, you know, like the villain in the first act of the play."

Then the man at the window paused, took a fresh grip on his breath and resumed: "You may say to these deluded people that a certain amount of gas is forced through the meter, any way, and if it isn't burned it will leak, and the register marks it up just as if it were burned. So you see that the gas company is not a robber after all. Tell that to the people."

The man without gave a longing look and gasped: "Then there is no hope?" "You can take out the meter," said the wretch inside, as he resumed his work of compounding.—Chicago Tribune.

The Best Wearing Leather. But very few people who wear Cordovan shoes have any idea where the leather bearing that name comes from, hence the question is often asked, "What is Cordovan?"

"Cordovan" the name by which leather made from the hides of horses is now known, was first finished in Hamburg, Germany, under the name of Rose leather.

In combination with it the hide has four layers of muscular skins which, with the "shell," give to the horse the great and tremendous pulling power that makes the animal so serviceable to mankind. This "shell," if properly tanned and shaven clean of its sinewy matter—a most difficult task—makes the best wearing leather in existence, and proves the theory of old time shoemakers—that only leather of a long fiber will wear to be a mistaken one, as the "shell" has no fiber.

In this it has a decided advantage over calfskin with its fibers; the breaking of any one throws additional strain upon the other, and a break in the leather soon follows. Experience has demonstrated that the "shell" will wear two or three times longer than calfskin.

Cordovan possesses another great advantage in being the nearest waterproof of any leather made. The fineness of texture also permits its taking a very high polish.—St. Louis Republic.

The Indian in Literature. Cooper is said, by Bradner Matthews, to have been the first author who introduced the red man into literature. This has been disputed, and it is alleged that "Chateaubriand, who visited the new world in the year of Cooper's birth, certainly did not neglect the noble savage."

But here are some mistakes. Chateaubriand was in America in 1791, when Cooper was 2 years old. His "Atala," a tale of Indian life, appeared in 1801. Cooper's first novel appeared anonymously in 1819, and his "Last of the Mohicans" in 1826. But Thomas Campbell had introduced the Indian to English literature in his "Gertrude of Wyoming," which appeared in 1809. But Alexander Pope's lines, beginning "Lo, the poor Indian," appeared about 1732, more than fifty years before Cooper was born; and it certainly refers to the red man of America, for the poet adds that his "humbler heaven" is a place where slaves once more their native land behold No funds torment, no Christians thirst for gold.

The "Christians" here mentioned were the Spanish invaders of America.—Lowell Courier.

The Use of Letters. It may not be generally known to the reading public how much each individual letter of the alphabet is used. D, h, n, o, c and u are in third place as regards ordinary use; t, s, a, i and r are in second place, being used a very little oftener; l and m are in fourth place, with f, g, y, v, p and b close afterward; j and k are not common, as compared to the rest; while z, q and x are used least of all. The letter e is in first place, being used far oftener than any other.—Christian at Work.

THREE STREETS.

I sought the new, unknown to meet, And found a gay and favored street, Where fashion walked with flitting feet: And as I watched, a golden gleam Pierced swiftly through the summer air And darted o'er the human stream; Then nestled 'midst some dusky hair, I gazed upon the hair's dark grace, The tender frame to woman's face, That pictured all its charms so sweet. Then as I looked I met her eyes, Deep as the blue of southern skies, And from them glanced a baby smile My own poor treasure to beguile; Through every vein, throughout my frame There swept a dry, an ardent flame, Love's passion!

I wandered for a dim retreat, I found a quiet moss grown street, And trod its length with tired feet; And as I passed, a door it kept Unopened, and forth a figure stepped And met me with a face of tears, A figure that had beauty's mien, A face that in a mood serene, Unmarred by grief, had been more sweet Than aught that painter's art had traced, Or chisel's marble coldly traced. And as I gazed with anxious wit, A face that in a mood serene, Unmarred by grief, had been more sweet Than aught that painter's art had traced, Or chisel's marble coldly traced.

Dr. Jordan's office is at the residence of ex-Mayor Yeeler, Third and James streets, Seattle, Wash. Consultations and prescriptions absolutely free. Send for free book explaining the Histogenetic system.

While talking with James Miller, who has been a floor walker in one of New York's big emporiums, but has set up a store in a neighboring town for himself, he said to me: "The newspaper which will take up the cause of the immature children who are engaged as cash girls in the large stores of New York will be doing a great work for humanity. I have no means of knowing how many cash girls there are in New York, but I should say about 20,000. Fully one-half of them are under fourteen years of age, and many even under twelve. They are not governed by the factory laws of the states which prohibit the employment of children below certain ages in factory work, and they are subjected to drudgery that is sometimes terrible."

"If I was obliged to make a choice for my own children of such ages, between a factory and one of the big stores, I should choose the factory, where their labor would be of such character as to keep them busy all the time. In the stores they have idle moments, when they learn all sorts of wickedness.—New York Press.

Oscar Wilde, since he is a pere de famille, is no doubt a wiser and a sadder man; he has cut his hair, and no longer wears garments a la Disraeli; he has left off turn down collars and short waisted coats and fobs, etc. Oscar has grown very stoic. His conversation is still brilliant—rather too epigrammatic and wanting in simplicity.

Mrs. Wilde is young and pretty; very quiet, almost demure. She is as silent as Oscar is loquacious, a Lady Wilde (Oscar's mother) is a striking old lady, very accomplished. She can speak seven languages, and though she has suffered terribly from the state of Irish affairs, she bears her many troubles bravely. Her non de plume is Speranza.—London Star.

Rev. James McMahon, of New York city, who recently gave \$500,000 worth of real estate to the Roman Catholic university at Washington, is perhaps the richest priest in this country. His wealth being the result of judicious investments in real estate. He is an accomplished Biblical and Hebrew scholar, and once published his version of the New Testament. Of late years he has given much attention to the perfection of church organs, making many improvements.—Harper's Weekly.

He—Darling, why are you such a tease? She—Because I'm educated up to it, I suppose. He—I don't understand you. She—Well, I wore my tea gown nearly all day, then went to a tea in a Cart, and afterward to a choir rehearsal, where we practiced a Te Deum for two hours.—Pittsburg Bulletin.

An Acre of Bananas. An acre of bananas will support twenty-five times as many persons as an acre of wheat; 1,000 square feet of land, growing bananas, will produce 4,000 pounds of nutritious substance; the same space devoted to wheat or potatoes will produce only thirty-three pounds of wheat or ninety-nine pounds of potatoes.—Current Literature.

The return which the education department presented to the two houses of parliament shows that there are 4,714 board schools, 11,922 schools maintained by the Church of England, 551 by the Wesleyans, 946 by the Roman Catholics, and the undenominational schools number 1,365.

The depth at which some of the Belgian coal mines are worked is something prodigious. In a pit at Flenu the work is now done at 3,700 feet; in a pit at Fremerin at 2,800 feet, and in the St. Andre pit, at Montigny-sur-Sambre, at 3,000 feet.

Analysis of individual beets indicate that maturity, more than size, determines the sugar contents of the beet. A high weight of leaves, as compared with the roots, was no evidence of higher sugar contents, but rather the reverse.

From the Hindoo the Egyptians and the Persians learned to use cotton for clothing, but the Persians at first employed it only in the vestments of priests.

ALL REFORMERS

In Art, Religion or Science Since the World Began

Have at some time been called bigots, fanatics, renegades. And a people have stoned a prophet to whose memory the next generation has raised a monument for the greatness of his deeds.

Dr. J. Eugene Jordan, Seattle, Wash.—DEAR SIR: I have been so long thinking of writing to you, but I have been getting along so well that I did not think it necessary. I have stopped taking the treatment now, and I believe I am entirely well. Your medicines have done what you said they would do—they have made a new woman of me. I now feel like myself again after suffering for eight years with catarrh of the head and bronchi, and that very painful thing—neuritis of the stomach. I took three months' treatment. Both of my eyes were so sore that we cannot be thankful enough to you for what you have done for me. I hope that every one who is suffering as I was will hear of Dr. Jordan and his most valuable medicines. Yours most respectfully, MRS. C. ARMSTRONG.

Dr. Jordan's office is at the residence of ex-Mayor Yeeler, Third and James streets, Seattle, Wash. Consultations and prescriptions absolutely free. Send for free book explaining the Histogenetic system. CAUTION: The Histogenetic Medicines are sold in only one place in the United States. The label around the bottle bears the following inscription: "Dr. J. Eugene Jordan, Histogenetic Medicine." Every other device is a fraud.

"If there is one thing I like," said the forger, "it is a good name."

Benjamin Franklin was the original lightning calculator.

OUR LITTLE WORRIES AND ILLS. It is the little things of life, the worries of to-day and to-morrow, that make the crow's feet around our eyes. So the little pains of an hour or a minute break down the constitution. Look after the little ills.

BRANDRETT'S PILLS cure dyspepsia, or indigestion, headache, pain in the shoulders, constipation, tightness of the chest, dizziness, sour stomach, bad taste in the mouth, bilious attacks, palpitation of the heart, inflammation of the lungs. Pain in the region of the kidneys and a hundred other painful symptoms are the offspring of dyspepsia. One or two pills every night is sufficient.

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How does he feel?—He feels a headache, generally dull and constant, but sometimes excruciating.—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels a violent hiccoughing or jumping of the stomach after a meal, raising bitter-tasting matter or what he has eaten or drunk.—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels the gradual decay of vital power; he feels miserable, melancholy, hopeless, and longs for death and peace.—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels so full after eating a meal that he can hardly walk.—August Flower the Remedy. G. G. GREEN, Sole Manufacturer, Woodbury, New Jersey, U. S. A.

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Other fruits in variety. The above are for fine quality; dark, old or inferior I do not offer. Small discount to Hotels, Boarding Houses, Dealers, and other large buyers. Canned goods are lower. See next paper. We offer a general variety of goods for family use at close prices, and want a share of your trade. Ask for 40-page catalogue free. Address: SMITH'S CASH STORE, 419-418 Front St. San Francisco.

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