

THE TALE OF A PIG

Chief Justice Marshall's First Case as a Lawyer.

HE OUTWITTED A DEADBEAT.

When Marshall Sued Old Haskin Smiled, When the Case Was Won and Payment Claimed He Laughed, but When the Climax Came He Wilted.

Chief Justice John Marshall's first case as a lawyer was tried in Fauquier county, Va. It was the suit of Cohn versus Haskin, and the descendants of the great interpreter of the constitution delight to this day to tell of the subtle strategy whereby the budding jurist achieved victory over that case hardened deadbeat of a Haskin person.

This same Haskin, it appears, was a man possessed of property. But he was also possessed of a shrewd knowledge of the law. He kept all he had in his wife's name, excepting what the statute exempted from seizure for debt.

In an evil and absentminded moment Cohn, who ran a general store in Haskin's neighborhood, trusted him for sugar and coffee to the amount of \$11. This was years before the eruption of young Marshall into the law, and in the interim Cohn had given the claim for collection to every young lawyer in the county to cut his teeth on. Swiftly following Marshall's unfurling of his shingle to the Fauquier winds came Cohn with his claim. Even the callow attorney recognized it as a veteran among claims. However, having nothing else to while away the time, he took the case, Cohn promising him all he could get out of it, which showed Cohn's valuation of it as an asset.

Young Marshall promptly brought suit, at which Haskin smiled. When judgment was obtained, Marshall rode out in person to Haskin's place and demanded payment, at which Haskin laughed.

And while Haskin chuckled the keen eye of the young lawyer wandered about the farmyard. He saw one plow, which was exempt under the law; also one harrow, also exempt; also a huge leviathan of a pig drowsing lazily in a pen—a very Gargantuan of a pig.

"That's the only pig I got," volunteered Haskin, reading the lawyer's thought, for Haskin, also law wise, knew that under the statute he was entitled to one pig exempt from seizure for debt.

The future chief justice rode home pondering deeply. Next day he was seen strolling around the outskirts of the town looking into casual pigsties and keeping his thoughts to himself.

One noon shortly after a youth, trudging along the big road in front of Haskin's house, stopped to ask for a bite to eat. Over his shoulder he carried a gunny sack. Haskin handed him out a pone of bread and a chunk of meat and then demanded a quarter for the repast. "I haven't got a quarter," replied the youth; "thought you would give a feller a little snack like that."

"Not much," growled Haskin. "What you got in that bag?"

"Nuthin' but a month old pig," answered the youth. "Say, if you gimme a quarter in money I'll give you the pig and we'll call it square."

"I reckon you stole that pig," commented Haskin, "else you wouldn't sell it so cheap. Here's your quarter, gimme the pig."

The youth disappeared with the quarter, and Haskin, with the content of one who has driven a hard bargain, carried the shote over to the barnyard and spilled it into the pen where lay the porcine Gargantuan. Coincidentally there rose out of the alder bushes adjacent the forms of young Marshall and another man—the other man was the constable. In his hand he held a writ of execution. He climbed solemnly over into the pigsty and, pointing to the fat porker, said:

"I levy on that pig in the suit of Cohn versus Haskin," and he waved his hand to a man who was waiting with an empty wagon down the road. "But that pig is exempt," exclaimed the fat Haskin. "The law allows me one pig."

"You've got him there," answered the constable, pointing to the shote as he trussed up the big fellow and called to the man in the wagon to lend a hand. "You can't make your selection for exemption after the levy's made."

"But the fellow that stole me that shote stole him," urged Haskin, growing desperate. "I can't own a stolen pig."

"All right," put in young Marshall, wholly unperturbed. "Mr. Constable, just arrest him for receiving stolen goods."

But Haskin had fled to the safety of his back porch, seeing which the constable, Marshall and the man in the wagon hustled the complaining porker aboard and drove away, leaving the bewildered Haskin to ruminate at leisure over the intricacies of the law which permits a man to keep even his religion in his wife's name, but ravishes away his choicest pig from under his very nose.

And, concluding, the multiple descendants of the great John also delight to tell how that pig sold for \$19.85—enough not only to pay the ancient claim, but to satisfy exactly the demands of court and constable for costs, leaving not a penny over for the grief-stricken and wicked Haskin.

To which the reader may add, "And they all lived happily forever after"—except Haskin.—New York Times.

LIQUID PORES.

An Entertaining Experiment With Alcohol and Water.

It is not easy to imagine liquids as having pores, though this seems to be the case as shown by certain familiar experiments. When a certain amount of powdered sugar is slowly poured into warm water, the water will dissolve the sugar and appear to absorb it without increasing its volume. Similarly, when alcohol is poured into water the resulting volume is less than the sum of the two volumes.

For instance, if fifty parts of water and fifty parts of alcohol be mixed together they will make only ninety-four parts. Apparently one of the liquids has entered into the "pores" of the other. This experiment, as commonly performed in laboratories, consists in putting measured quantities of the two liquids together, but the effect would be far more striking were it possible for students to see one of the liquids actually "soaking" into the other. This can be done in the following way:

Take two glasses, one filled to the brim with water and the other with alcohol. In order to show the effect to better advantage, color the alcohol with red ink. The glasses should not be over full—that is, the surface of the liquid should not bulge above the rim of the glass. When everything is ready, place a sheet of paper over the glass full of alcohol, and with a hand on the paper to keep it down on the rim of the glass invert the tumbler, and the liquid will remain in the glass, owing to the air pressure on the paper. Now place the inverted tumbler over the glass full of water and carefully draw out the paper. This can be done without spilling a drop of alcohol, and yet as soon as the paper is removed the alcohol will commence to drop. Owing to the fact that it is colored it is possible to see the alcohol actually "soaking" into the water, while tiny air bubbles that were formerly contained in the "pores" of the water rise slowly to the top of the tumbler. This will continue for some little time until a considerable air space forms in the top of the tumbler.

ASLEEP AT HIS DESK.

Lincoln Was Worn Out, but Hadn't Forgotten His Caller.

One day a very energetic lady called on me to take her to the president and aid her to get a private soldier pardoned who had been sentenced to death for desertion and was to be shot the very next morning. It was late in the afternoon when we got there, and the cabinet was still in session. I sent my name in to Mr. Lincoln, and he came out, evidently in profound thought and full of some great subject. I stated the object of our call and, leaving the lady in one of the antechambers, returned to the senate, which had not yet adjourned.

The case made a deep impression on me, but I forgot it in the excitement of the debate and the work of my office until perhaps near 10 o'clock that night, when my female friend came rushing into the room, radiant with delight, the pardon in her hand.

"I have been up there ever since," she said. "The cabinet adjourned, and I sat waiting for the president to come out and tell me the fate of my poor soldier, whose case I placed in his hands after you left. But I waited in vain—there was no Mr. Lincoln. So I thought I would go up to the door of his cabinet room and knock. I did so, and as there was no answer I opened it and passed in, and there was the worn president asleep with his head on the table resting on his arms and my boy's pardon signed by his side. I quietly waked him, blessed him for his good deed and came here to tell you the glorious news."—John W. Forney in "Anecdotes of Public Men."

Pat Scored.

An Irishman named Pat Carr was met by an Englishman one day, who said to him:

"What's your name?"

"Carr," said Pat.

"Well, well," said the Englishman; "you're the first car I ever saw going without an ass, so you're a great sight to me."

"Begob!" said Pat. "You're not the first ass I saw going without a car, so you're no sight to me."—London Globe.

Consulting the Sage.

No Korean couple would think of marrying without consulting the sage, who fixes the happy day for them. This he does simply by adding the bride's age to the bridegroom's, and, after determining which star rules the destiny of their united ages, he decrees that the wedding shall take place upon the day sacred to that star.

Courting Celebrity.

"I want to do some one thing that will cause me to be talked about," said the energetic and ambitious man.

"That's easily arranged," answered his wife. "Merely move into a strange neighborhood."—New York American.

The Resemblance.

Teacher—If the earth were empty inside it would resemble—Scholar—A razor, miss. Teacher—A razor? Why, Teddy? Scholar—Because it would be hollow ground, miss.—London Telegraph.

Easier.

The Landlady—At our table, Mr. Blinks, it is customary to return thanks at each meal. The New Boarder—That's fine. I like it lots better than paying cash.—New York Journal.

It is the people who know how to rest who do continuous good work.—Harraden.

A ROPE OF WATER.

Berthelot's Test That Showed Its Tensile Strength.

THE COHESION OF MATTER.

Perfect Planes of Metal or Glass When Brought Into Contact Will Adhere to One Another as Though They Were Glued Together.

It is well known that liquids are among the least compressible of substances; this in spite of the fact that they have the property of conforming to any shape of vessel or of yielding to any forces, no matter how small, which tend to change only their shape.

Thus, to squeeze water into nine-tenths of its volume under ordinary conditions would require a pressure of no less than 3,000 atmospheres, or 45,000 pounds, to the square inch. This property of being almost incompressible is best illustrated perhaps by an experiment tried centuries ago, wherein an attempt was made to compress water by filling a leaden shell with it and then, after closing, hammering and squeezing the shell. The only effect of the tremendous pressures produced in this way was to cause the water to penetrate the minute pores of the lead and exude in drops like perspiration on the outer surface of the shell. The same effect was found for a silver shell.

But, while it is a familiar fact that liquids will resist an enormous force of compression, the companion fact that they are also capable of withstanding tension is not so generally known. At first sight this statement may appear ridiculous. When water may be so readily dipped from a pail or poured from one vessel to another, how can it be capable of withstanding tension? If, however, we prevent change of form we find that pure water is capable of bearing fifty atmospheres of tension, or 750 pounds to the square inch.

If it was possible, then, to utilize this property by making a "rope" of water we should find it capable of sustaining a good fraction of the weight that could be borne by an ordinary rope of the same size. But it must be admitted that the task of making a rope out of such material would be rather difficult, to say the least, notwithstanding the fact that it possesses this desirable property of tensile strength. Because of its inability to resist a deforming force it would have to be inclosed in a tube; but, while it would here be in condition to withstand compression, as from a piston in the tube, any attempt at "stretching" the liquid in this way would simply result in pulling away the piston from the water surface.

However, this tensile strength was actually found by Berthelot in the following way: A strong glass tube sealed at one end and drawn out very fine at the other was filled nearly full of water and then closed. The tube was then cautiously heated until the water had expanded and completely filled it. It was then slowly and carefully cooled back to its original temperature, when it was found that the water had not contracted, but still filled the tube.

It is almost a universal law that a small extension in volume of a body requires the same magnitude of force to produce it as to cause a similar amount of compression, the forces, however, being tension in one case and compression in the other. With this law in mind it is readily seen that the water that now fills the tube must be under tension, since previously at the same temperature it did not quite fill the tube—that is, it has actually been stretched or expanded beyond its normal volume for this temperature, and from our knowledge of the forces that would be required to produce the corresponding compression we can figure out what this tension must be.

The ultimate particles or molecules of matter we believe to be held together by powerful forces, known variously as cohesion or adhesion, but being in any case forces of attraction, and these forces tend to prevent any expansion of the matter, be it solid or liquid. It might be thought that these forces would cause two bodies in contact to adhere to each other, but particles have to be so near together to be acted upon by them that it is difficult to bring bodies into such close contact that an appreciable area of one is within this distance of the other.

However, two clean pieces of lead can readily be pressed so closely together that they will adhere, and a set of copper cubes was once made with such true faces that when a dozen of them were piled one on top of the other the series adhered together so well that the whole could be lifted from the top one. But the best example is furnished by pieces of optical glass whose surfaces have been worked so plane that when pressed together they will as readily break at some other spot as at this plane.

Perhaps it is unfortunate that these useful forces, which hold all matter together and keep it from collapsing into impalpable dust, are confined in their action to such a limited range. If this were not so, a break of any sort could be fixed by merely bringing together the broken ends. Glue of any kind would be unnecessary.

But even this state of affairs would have its drawbacks. A book laid on a table would have to be pried off with a wedge, and the same instrument would be required to open it. Everything would stick to everything else, and the pleasure of walking would be lost in the tedious process of prying first one foot and then the other from the viselike grip of the sidewalk or the floor.—Boston Post.

FOILING THE PICKPOCKET.

What to Do When Your Hat Is Tipped Over Your Eyes in a Crowd.

For a man there is only one really safe pocket, and that is a pocket which few men except experienced race goers have their suits supplied with. It is a breast pocket inside the waistcoat, and it should have a but-toned flap, for without the button even this hiding place is unsafe.

The second best place for carrying money is the trousers pocket, especially if the owner is rather stout. And the left hand pocket is better than the right. A skilful thief standing behind you may insinuate his right hand into your right hand pocket easily, but the left comes awkwardly to him.

For safety's sake the pickpocket seldom works single handed. He usually works with a couple of "screens," who plant themselves in front of the intended victim. If the "job" is a difficult one they carefully jostle him at the critical moment in order to distract his attention. This jostling is usually called "working the ramp."

A favorite trick in a dense crowd is to tip a man's hat over, as though accidentally. His hands naturally fly up to set it right. Instead they should go straight to the watch and the money pocket. If your hat is knocked off in a crowd make sure your money pocket is safe before troubling about the hat. If you are quick enough you may catch a hand there.

The trained pickpocket's fingers are almost as delicate and sensitive as those of a skilled pianist. To become an expert demands long practice. But the expert could with or without the shelter of a newspaper go through, one by one, every one of a man's twelve or sixteen pockets except that one inside the waistcoat if he knew it to be worth his while. Three years ago a man was sentenced for training young pickpockets. He used clothes dumplings with bells so arranged that they rang when the picking was clumsily done.—Exchange.

JUST A LITTLE GIFT.

The Present an Economical Duchess Made to Her Rich Friend.

Recently when the wealthy Mlle. de R. was to be married one of our good duchesses had to make her a present, just a little present. The duchess thought it would be useless to expend much money for a person so rich. She thought if she would look through her vast mansion she would be able to find something, some trinket, to which the addition of her card would give sufficient glory. She finally found in her writing desk an insignificant cameo that she had once worn.

The following day she received from her young friend a letter of enthusiastic thanks: "Oh, you have been very foolish! This is too, too beautiful," etc.

"She is making sport of my little present," thought the good duchess. Then came a second letter, this time from the husband who was to be: "How can we thank you? We are delighted! This will spoil us."

"The impertinent fellow!" said the duchess. "He wants me to understand that I have been niggardly."

Nevertheless she went to pay a visit to the R.'s before the marriage. There, in the midst of her presents, exposed in a most prominent place, she saw the little cameo placed upon her card. An old gentleman approached her. He is a member of the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres.

"What a wonderful present you have given these children, Mlle. de R. duchess," he said. "For forty years we have been seeking for this very cameo. It is of the era of Trajan, and this trinket is valued at 200,000 francs."

Ah, the poor duchess!—Col de Paris.

A Novel Fine.

An Englishwoman in the Rivera stepped on the footboard of a train, intending to enter the carriage, but found the door locked. The train started suddenly and she recognized that she would have to travel on the footboard until the next station was reached. A man who saw her plight crept backward on the footboards, stepping from carriage to carriage with some peril and supported her with his arm until the next station was reached, half an hour later. The woman was fined several francs for "illegally traveling outside the train." The rescuer disappeared without leaving name or address.

Earning a Spanking.

Mrs. Brown—I was downtown yesterday. I didn't know but I might meet you. Mrs. Greene—I was downtown, too, and I'm awfully sorry I didn't see you. Little Johnny Greene—Ma, don't you remember we saw Mrs. Brown's dog and you said: "Come, let's hurry away from here. That old cat must be somewhere near." What old cat did you mean, ma?

Peculiar.

"I do not understand it," said the philosopher.

"What is bothering you now?" inquired the other.

"If a man is two hours late arriving home his wife raises a row, while if he is gone two years she will give him a royal welcome. Women are peculiar."—Pearson's Weekly.

Very Particular.

"Mayme is a crank on having things harmonize, isn't she?"

"Yes, to such an extent that she won't use rats because she has mouse colored hair."—Baltimore American.

Glory, ambition, armies, fleets, thrones, crowns—playthings of grown children.—Victor Hugo.

ROYAL ETIQUETTE.

In England It Assumes a Number of Curious Phases.

THINGS THE KING CANNOT DO

He Is Barred From Accepting Gifts From Individuals, He Must Not Belong to a Club and May Not Marry Without Parliament's Consent.

It may sound a little curious, but there are quite a number of things which, despite his exalted position as sovereign of the realm, King George V. cannot do. These disabilities range over all sorts of matters and concern etiquette, politics, religion and law. To begin with etiquette, it is an established practice that his majesty must never call upon or grant an audience to a foreign monarch except in the presence of a responsible minister. Etiquette also precludes him from accepting a gift which a loyal subject may wish to make him. Should, however, the gift be a joint offering the prohibition does not apply. This enables King George to accept gifts which are subscribed for by a number of people together.

A king never writes a letter to anybody outside his family circle. All other correspondence has to be conducted through one of his secretaries. Nor does King George accept invitations to dine or stop with a subject. What he does when he wishes to pay such a visit is to invite himself. Another strictly observed point of etiquette is that on ascending the throne a king shall withdraw from any club to which he has hitherto belonged. Similarly he cannot become a Free Mason, and if he happens to be one at the date of his ascension he must resign from the craft. King George, however, has not been initiated.

Even in affairs of the heart a sovereign must bow to the will of others. Although King Copetua might have loved and shared his throne with a beggar maid, the royal marriage act would render the occurrence of any such romantic union impossible in England. Members of the blood royal must have the sanction of parliament before they can marry, and this would certainly not be accorded unless the birth and position of the lady were beyond reproach.

An English king's position toward the law is somewhat peculiar. Theoretically he is above the law. In practice, however, he has to obey it, just as have his subjects. He must observe the established legal system of the country. Any royal proclamation which he issues is only binding in so far as it is founded upon an existing law. It cannot alter the common law or create a new offense, nor can a king set up private tribunals, such as the star chamber, or add to the jurisdiction of a court. By a special act of parliament it has also been decided that if his majesty were to lose an action brought against him by the revenue authorities he would be liable for the payment of costs.

By the law of the land the king cannot possibly commit an offense. Any injury or wrong suffered by a subject at his hands has to be attributed to the "mistake of his advisers," hence it happens that King George is the only person in Great Britain who cannot arrest a suspected felon, even if such a one were to be seen by him entering Buckingham palace or Windsor castle. The reason for this is because no action for wrongful arrest could lie against him, and therefore if the person arrested by him were proved innocent there would then be a wrong without a remedy. Another legal disability of the king is that he is barred of all rights in matters relating to land after a lapse of sixty years. He is also prohibited from serving on a jury or from giving evidence.

Until so comparatively recent a period as 1870 if a subject were convicted of treason or felony the king could claim his property. Another lapsed prerogative of the crown is one known as "corody." During its existence a king who wanted to advance the interests of a royal chaplain could compel a bishop to support such a clergyman until a benefice had been found for him. Nowadays he has not even the right of founding a bishopric or creating ecclesiastical jurisdiction. Similarly he must always be a member of the Church of England and cannot change his religion.

The theory that the king "reigns, but does not govern" is amply borne out by the political system of the country. While the members of parliament are his majesty's "faithful commons," they have certain privileges which he himself does not possess. Thus King George can summon or prorogue parliament at will, but he cannot prolong it beyond a definite period. Similarly he is absolutely debarred from imposing any sort of taxation whatever without first securing the consent of parliament. So jealously guarded is this privilege that a king cannot create new officers with new fees or annex new fees to existing offices, as such a course would be considered as imposing a fresh tax. In bygone times, however, when an English monarch was in want of funds he would levy taxes right and left and without asking anybody.

The franchise does not extend to English monarchs. King George is one of the few men possessing a genuine stake in the country without the privilege of recording a vote. — London Belman.

God pays, but not every Saturday.—Alphonse Karr.

MUST CARRY GOOD WATCHES

Railroad Men Are Compelled to Use Accurate Timepieces.

It may be news to many that the watch of the railroad man is as necessary in modern railroading as the air brake. Without accurate timekeeping there would probably be more accidents than if there were no air brakes. The train dispatcher starts a train at a certain time; he halts it at certain stations at certain times; he side tracks it for a period of varying length; the watch of the conductor on the side tracked train must agree with the watch of the conductor on the express to which he had to give way; each station master along the road checks the time of every train that stops or flies past.

In order that there may be agreement among all these railroad men there must obviously be not only timepieces, but accurate timepieces. There must also be some means of inspecting the timepieces to see if they are accurate and if they agree with some standard. The railroad man is therefore compelled to buy not simply an ordinary watch of reasonable value, but a particularly good watch, a timepiece which is adjusted to heat, cold and at least three positions. These three positions are pendant up, as carried in the pocket; dial up and dial down. Such an instrument will not vary more than thirty seconds a week, which is a good deal more accurate than many scientific instruments of precision used in laboratories. Even human proneness to error is considered in this matter of choosing a good railroad watch, for a lever set watch is preferred to the pendant set watch because there is just the chance that the stem of the pendant set may not be pushed back after setting through an oversight.

On one great line about 5,000 watches, worth on an average of \$25 apiece (a low average), are used. If we take into consideration the number of watches that are used on other roads throughout the country it is evident that the value must run up into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In order that the watch may be kept up to a regular standard it must be inspected regularly. There is not only a general time inspector on most railroads, but a staff of local inspectors who are placed along the road at convenient points and to whom the men may resort when they wish to compare their time with the standard time at that place. Once every two weeks the railroad man submits his watch to such an inspector, usually a jeweler or watchmaker by profession.

The inspector gives his expert opinion on the condition of the timepiece. If it needs cleaning he says so and does it; if it is fast or slow he regulates it, and not until it is running with sufficient accuracy is it allowed to escape from his care. A watch's record is kept as if it were a thief. So far as repairing goes, the railroad man is under no compulsion. He need not hand over his watch to any particular watchmaker or inspector for repair, but he can give it to any watchmaker in whom he has confidence. It must, however, be submitted to the inspector before it can be used in actual service.

That no favoritism is shown in the matter of watches is evident in the fact that no less than eight different manufacturers supply railroad watches.—Scientific American.

Making the Chances Even.

In days when tavern brawls in England were frequent and swords were out on the slightest provocation common fairness demanded that the blades of chance combatants should be of equal length. In a sudden affray there would be no thought of measuring swords, so the authorities took the matter into their own hands at the gates of the city of London, where every gallant was liable to be challenged, and if the public official found any blade beyond thirty-six inches the smith stood by to snap off the steel to the required length. In Queen Elizabeth's reign this was the common practice.

A Sixtus V. Salad.

When Pope Sixtus V. was an obscure monk he had a great friend in a certain lawyer who sank steadily into poverty while the monk rose to the papacy. The poor lawyer journeyed to Rome to seek aid from his old friend, the pope, but he fell sick and told his doctor to let the pope know of his sad state. "I will send him a salad," said Sixtus and duly dispatched a basket of lettuce to the invalid. When the lettuce was examined money was found in the hearts; hence the Italian proverb of a man in need of money. "He wants one of Sixtus V.'s salads."

Jam For Breakfast.

People who like to eat pastry or other irregular dishes for breakfast should be consoled to learn that no less a man than Herbert Spencer ate strawberry jam at his morning meal. He did it to avoid monotony, believing that digestion was best served by keeping the stomach entertained with variety. He is said to have told of a man who went into a decline from a too steady diet of mutton chops.

A Gilded Fad.

"Yes, papa is going to buy me a battleship."

"Good gracious! I beg your pardon, what for?"

"I want to use its deck for a dancing party."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Matter of Measure.

"He writes poetry by the yard."

"That's probably why his verse is so poor. Poetry should be written by the foot."—Birmingham Age-Herald.