


# \$4200 Reward!

The Shortstory Publishing Company, Boston, Mass., will pay \$4200 in cash prizes, ranging from \$100 to \$500 each, to those who will tell in writing some unusual experience, thrilling adventure, or fascinating freak of the imagination in a story that will interest the hundreds of thousands of readers of *The Black Cat*, the unique short-story magazine which has won the title of "The story-telling hit of the century." This prize competition is open to all, and each story will be judged solely upon its merits without regard to the name or reputation of its writer; but no story will be considered at all unless it is sent strictly in accordance with the printed conditions, which will be mailed free, postage paid, to any one, together with a complete specimen story, and many of the names and addresses, as references, of the men and women in all parts of America who have received over \$50,000 cash, for *BLACK CAT* stories, and information of real value to all who are interested in earning money at home.

Send address at once, as the contest closes March 31st. The Shortstory Publishing Co., 64 High-Railford Street, Boston, Mass.



## MINOR NEWS ITEMS.

The number of marriages in Manhattan and Bronx this year will be greater than ever in their history.

The Ancient Mechanical Society of Baltimore celebrated its 16th anniversary recently.

An attack of melancholia caused Mrs. Samuel Miller, of Fortchester, N. Y., to cut her tongue with a pair of scissors.

The oldest existing church in New Hampshire is the Congregational at Hampton, which was organized in August, 1638.

The state prison building at Sing Sing, N. Y., has been condemned by a committee of the New York State Prison Association.

The best maple syrup comes from the north side of the tree, but the flow is not so large as when the tree is tapped on the south side.

At a recent auction sale at Zurich more than 1000 gold and silver Swiss coins of the 15th to the 19th centuries were disposed of.

On the big steamer *Oceanic* there is no seat at the table marked 13, nor a cabin bearing that number. This is a concession to superstition.

In Connecticut the percentage of criminal population to the 1,000 inhabitants has fallen steadily from 2.48 in 1896 to 2.33 in the present year.

The Noah Webster Association, which has just been organized at Hartford, Conn., will procure funds for the erection of a library building in memory of the lexicographer.

Thunder storms are more frequent in Iowa than in any other part of the world. The average is one about every fourth day. Sumatra has 86 in a year, and Rio Janeiro 51.

The vegetable ivory of Ecuador is the seed of a native palm. The exports amount to 11,500 tons per annum, of which two-thirds go to Germany and one-sixth to the United States.

A Chicago workman has discovered a process by which plate glass can be made from slag, the waste material in iron and steel manufacture, and the Federal steel trust proposes to build a plant to turn out the new product.

The whole of the dry land on this planet scarcely exceeds 52,000,000 of square miles. Forty millions are under caucasic sway, leaving, as Professor Keane says, not more than 12,000,000 for the now reduced domain of the other divisions.

James S. Galloway, of Hillsdale, Mich., has just put hosed the whole of Morgan county, Ontario, 39 1/4 square miles, for the white pine timber upon it. He could cut nearly if not quite 100,000,000 feet, but intends to hold most of it, awaiting developments.

Judge Scott, of the district court at Omaha, has decided that the forcible entry of a saloon for the purpose of robbery is not burglary under the law, for the reason that the word "saloon" does not occur among the buildings mentioned in the statutes in the list of places subject to burglary.

The life-sized bronze equestrian statue of Frederick the Great, by J. L. Gerome, the French sculptor, which he will exhibit at the Paris exposition, has been purchased by Peter Gibson, of Cincinnati, and immediately after the exposition it will be shipped to this country.

### DR. MARTEL'S BOOK

## Relief for Women

French Female Pills.

Prepared by thousands of satisfied ladies as the best, always reliable and without an equal. Sold by all druggists in metal box. French Pills are made in France, N. Y. City.

### CANCER is Curable

Without the Use of Knife.

Address DR. NEWKIRK, Mountain Home, Ida.

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### PISO'S CURE FOR

RUINS WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.

Best Cough Syrup. Cures Croup. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

### CONSUMPTION

## A POPULAR BEVERAGE

### TEA IS DRUNK IN ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES.

#### Legend Concerning the Origin of the Tea Plant—In Some Places It Is Regarded as Food—Peculiar Ways of Preparing It.

How long tea has been used as a beverage no one knows. It was a domestic essential in the kingdoms of the Orient long before it was introduced into Europe, and that was not a few decades ago. To-day it is used as a beverage in nearly all civilized lands, and even barbarians dream over its care-giving properties. A pious legend tells us that Daruma, an Indian saint, was the medium through which the beverage became known to the world. He had renounced all allurements of this life to pass the remainder of his days in meditation and prayer. Many long years he spent in supplication, when one fatal night the evil one possessed his soul and the saint fell asleep to dream of a beautiful woman who had enchanted him. When he awoke he was so humiliated and pained that he drew from his girdle a knife and severed his lazy eyelids from his eyes and cast them from him. What was his amazement to discover the next morning that the lids had disappeared, and in their place two wonderful shrubs were growing—shrubs with dainty leaflets, eyelid-shaped and snowy buds opening to the east! He called it *te*, and vowed that with its help he would pass the remainder of his days and nights in unbroken meditation.

Tea became known in England about the middle of the seventeenth century, during the latter half of which we find occasional reference to it, but it did not come into general use until the beginning of the eighteenth century. It was first sold in public houses as beer is now, and tapped.

Tea is the national drink in Russia. It is as indispensable in the food of the people as bread and meat, and is taken at all hours of the day. In all the serows of the Russians, tea and vodka seem to be the universal consolation. The first thing in the morning, after luncheon, after dinner, in the evening, the last thing before going to bed, are regular times when everybody takes tea, but there are many who take it at odd intervals between times.

In Morocco the teamaker puts a handful of tea into a teapot, pours on some hot water and pours it off directly. Then as many lumps of sugar as desired are added and the teapot is filled with boiling water. The same tea is brewed two or three times, leaves of wild thyme and fragrant verbena being added. Milk and cream are never used. The host always pours out a cup for himself first and drinks it off before his guests have time to touch theirs. This is to show them that he has no designs against their lives, and that the tea is not poisoned.

Tea is not simply a beverage with Tibetans, but the principal article of food. It is invariably mixed with butter and parched barley, and the leaves are not infrequently eaten. The brick tea is reduced to powder and put into the kettle just before the water boils, and after cooking five minutes salt and soda are added. Sometimes it is put in this stage of the preparation, but usually it is put, through a bamboo strainer, into a tea churn, with a little barley meal, and churned vigorously for two or three minutes; then it is poured into earthen or metal teapots and is ready to be drunk.

The Dutch drink tea in the evening two hours after dinner. The brazier with the boiling kettle is brought into the drawing-room and placed beside the mistress of the house, and the tea tray with every appliance on it is set before her. It is served with small cakes, like our afternoon tea.

The Russians and Germans sometimes use claret in their tea. The Nicaraguan ladies call their high teas *terullas*.

### KRAPOTKIN IN THE SOLITARY.

#### A Description of the Prison Room in Which He Was Confined.

My first movement was to approach the window, which was placed so high that I could hardly reach it with my lifted hand. It was a broad, low opening, cut in a wall five feet thick and protected by an iron grating and a double iron window frame, relates Prince Krapotkin. At a distance of a dozen yards from this window I saw the outer wall of the fortress, a piece of masonry of immense thickness, on the roof of which I could make out a gray sentry box. Only by looking upward could I perceive a bit of the sky, which was now faintly illuminated by the last rays of the sun.

I made a minute inspection of the room, where I had now to spend no one could say how many years. From the position of the high chimney of the west corner of the fortress, in a bastion overlooking the Neva. This room of mine was a casement destined for a big gun and the window was an embrasure. Sun rays might never penetrate it; even in summer they must be lost by the thickness of the wall. It was eleven steps from one corner to the other of the room, which held an iron

bed, a little oak table and an oak stool. The floor was covered with painted felt and the walls with yellow paper. However, in order to deaden the sounds, the paper was not put on the wall itself; it was painted over canvas and behind the canvas I discovered a wire grating, behind which was a layer of felt. Only beyond the felt could I reach the stone wall.

At the inner side of the room there was a washstand and a thick door, in which I made out a locked opening to pass the food through and a little slit, protected by glass and a shutter from the outside. This was the "Judias" through which the prisoner could be spied upon at every moment. The sentry who stood in the passage frequently lifted the little shutter and looked inside, his boots squeaking as he crept toward the door. I tried to speak to him. Then the eye which I could see through the slit assumed an expression of terror and the shutter was immediately let down, only to be opened furtively a minute or two later. But I could get no word of reply from the sentry.

Absolute silence reigned all round, no sounds came from anywhere. I dragged my stool to the window and looked upon the bit of sky I could see. I tried to catch any sound from the Neva or from the town on the opposite side of the river, but I could catch none.—*Atlantic Monthly*.



## Science AND Invention

Recent investigations prove that eighty-three per cent. of all the ocean floor lies further down than one thousand fathoms, or one mile below the surface; twenty-one per cent. lies between one and two miles; fifty per cent. lies between two and three miles, and seven per cent. is known to lie further down than three miles.

It is reported from Sierra Leone that those who are engaged in investigating the mosquito theory of malaria in that district poured a dram of kerosene oil, as an experiment, upon a puddle about a square yard in area, floating on which were numbers of *Anopheles* larvae, with the result that after six hours all the larvae were found to be dead.

Glimmering phosphorescent lights play an important part in the activities and strategies going on in the deep sea. Phosphorescent organs appear sometimes to act as bull's-eye lanterns to enable the monsters possessing them to pick up food in their midnight underworld, and at other times serve as a lure or a warning to other species.

Lake Chelan, in the State of Washington, just east of the Cascade range of mountains, was recently the scene of a strange disturbance. Without warning, the water in the center of the lake, which is some forty miles long and three or four broad, rose to a height of fifteen feet. Immense waves rolled upon the shores, and a large creek emptying into the lake ran dry for three hours. There is an Indian tradition of a volcanic crater having once existed in the neighborhood of the lake.

There is already talk in England of developing the natural resources of the Sudan through scientific exploration. Immense forests line the banks of the Blue Nile along its upper reaches, extending to the Abyssinian frontier. The ebony-tree is met with along that river and also near the Sobat. On the White Nile the India-rubber creeper, a valuable source of rubber, abounds. There are large forests in the Bahr-el-Ghazal province. Gold was once mined in some of the mountains of the Sudan. Search will be made for coal.

Dr. R. Hauthal, an Argentine savant, has put forward a startling theory concerning the remains of gigantic sloths, related to the great megatherium and the mylodon, recently found in Patagonia. In his opinion, these animals, whose race is now extinct, were kept in a domesticated state by the prehistoric inhabitants of Patagonia. A cave at Ultima Esperanza, where many indications of the former presence of the huge sloths have been found, is regarded by Doctor Hauthal as having been used by the ancient Patagonians as a stable for the beasts.

The marvellous effects that are sometimes produced by music may eventually receive a scientific explanation. In a recent lecture at Oxford University, Professor McKendrick said that, while the intricate connections of the auditory nerves are only just being unraveled, it is probable that the roots of those nerves are more widely distributed and have more extensive connections than those of any other nerves in the human body. Researches on the auditory nerves indicate that there is scarcely a function of the body which may not be affected by the pulsations and harmonic combinations of musical tones.

The first thing the members of a women's club do, after electing a new member, is to appoint a club meeting at the new member's house, in the hope of getting something elaborate in the way of refreshments.

When a child says a particularly bright thing, its mother looks at its father as much as to say, "See how much you owe my family!"

### Death Pleased Them.

Drummer—How was the "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show at the town hall last night?

Landlord Pettyville Tavern—First rate! The audience was so pleased with little Eva's death that they entered her till she done it again.—*San Francisco Examiner*.

Funds are being collected in Denmark for the purpose of bringing to their native land the remains of two famous Danes who were buried abroad, Tycho Brahe in Prague, and the poet Jens Baggesen in Kiel.

### Mormonism

's a blot upon our land—a symptom of governmental ill-health. The right laws would act upon it as Hostetter's Stomach Bitters does upon constipation, or dyspepsia. They would quickly restore healthy purity; and this is just what the Bitters does for the human constitution. It makes the stomach strong by curing indigestion and biliousness.

Instruction in the English language is now obligatory in Russian commercial schools.

### DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED

By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.  
Sold by Druggists, 73c.  
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

There are 1,135 miles of railway in Cuba, 551 miles of which are controlled by British companies.

### TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

New York may furnish its fire department with searchlights to aid in taking care of night fires.



### La Grippe, Catarrh, Rheumatism.

Effective, Most Powerful and Effective Nerve-Relieving Remedy for DROPS

TRADE MARK Will cure any ache or pain known in the human body. Send for trial bottle, 25c. This offer lasts 30 days only. Large bottle (300 drops) 50c. 5 DROPS each 10c or 3 for 25c.

SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO.  
187 and 169 Dearborn St., Chicago.

Manchester, England, has opened lodging houses under the control of the city to accommodate 60 men.

### Throw Physic to the Dogs!

Constipation is treated by an intestinal tonic and liver stimulant, palatable, gentle, yet potent—Cascarets Candy Cathartics. All druggists, 10c, 25c, 50c.

The Wisconsin College of Music has been opened with an imposing building as its home in Milwaukee.

Mothers will find the best remedy for their children during the summer months.

Detroit Demands a new park.

I believe no one is ever cured of a cold.

Baltimore population in 1900.

VITALITY low, due to Dr. Kline's Invariant. Bottle containing 2 Weeks' Treatment, 90c. ATCH ST. 1.

New York wants a new history and to cost several million dollars.

The haughty shell of the freshly creamed about a thick, which has to with a spoon. Sparkling place of the acrid "milk" English consumers, comprise the nut.

## BEST FOR THE BOWELS

If you haven't a regular, healthy movement of the bowels every day, you're sick or will be. Keep your bowels open, and be well. Force, in the shape of violent physic or pill poison, is dangerous. The smoothest, easiest, most perfect way of keeping the bowels clear and clean is to take



### CANDY CATHARTIC

## Cascarets

TRADE MARK REGISTERED

REGULATE THE LIVER

Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, Do Good, Never Sickens, Weakens, or Gripe. 10c, 25c, 50c. Write for free sample, and booklet on health. Address: Sterling Remedy Company, Chicago, Montreal, New York, 333.

## KEEP YOUR BLOOD CLEAN

THIS IS STORE FOR \$21.41. Save the Retailers' Profit—save the Wholesale Profit. Take advantage of our contract purchase. Others have advanced their prices of Factor Stoves, but our contract to furnish us with these, so we can sell them at a small profit. \$11.41, \$12.27 and \$23.71. YOU would be proud of either one of these parlor stoves. The pictures give but a faint idea of their elegance, beauty, and utility. Write for our price list to your banker or freight agent on arrival at your depot.

Send us the amount you desire, and we will ship you a large stove less than a small one for heat. Write in mind when ordering.

SEND FOR FREE CATALOGUE FREE.

T. M. ROBERTS' SUPPLY HOUSE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

## "Do Not Burn the Candle At Both Ends."

Don't think you can go on drawing vitality from the blood for nerves, stomach, brain and muscles, without doing something to replace it. Hood's Sarsaparilla gives nerve, mental and digestive strength by enriching and vitalizing the blood. Thus it helps overworked and tired people.



## Hood's Sarsaparilla

Never Disappoints

### Clerical Ordinance.

Hobbs—I see by the papers that your friend Rev. Dr. Bang has joined the artillery of the church.

Hobbs—What do you mean?

"Why he's been made a canon of the cathedral."

"H'm; I didn't know that he was such a big gun."—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

That the spores of mildew are disturbed by snails and worms has been proven by Mr. F. L. Stevens, of the University of Chicago. The mildew appeared in the path these creatures had taken over fresh leaves.

## BUY THE GENUINE SYRUP OF FIGS

MANUFACTURED BY CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

NOTE THE NAME.



### SOLE AGENCY

Worthington Steam Pump and Water Meters.

Pumping Plants of Any Capacity.

TATUM & HOWEN  
29 to 35 First Street, Portland, Or.  
Machinery—All Kinds.

### PHOTO

and Magic Lantern Bargain List No. 16 now ready for mailing. T. P. ANDREWS, 109 Montgomery St., San Francisco.



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Is food for thought.

### PORTLAND DIRECTORY.

Feeds and Wire Works.

PORTLAND WIRE & IRON WORKS: WIRE and iron fencing; office railing, etc. 334 Alder.

Machinery and Supplies.

CAWSTON & CO.: ENGINES, BOILERS, MACHINERY, SUPPLIES. 45-50 First St., Portland, Or.

JOHN POOLE, PORTLAND, OREGON, can give you the best bargains in general machinery, engines, boilers, tanks, pumps, plows, belt pulleys, etc. The new steel I X L v. is the best in the world, is unequalled.

Dr. Kline's Invariant. Bottle containing 2 Weeks' Treatment, 90c. ATCH ST. 1.

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