Longevity.

"My State," said the Virginian, "is the mother of Presidents."

"Yes," said the Ohio man, "but the old lady has outlived her boys half a century or more."

Professional Advice.

Physician—You'll have to be careful this summer and not overexert yourself.

Patient—Then you think I ought to take a vacation, eh?

Physician—Certainly not. Didn't I just tell you not to overexert yourself?

The Conversation of Coin.

"Money talks," said the succinct person.

"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, "and some of it seems at present to be quite gossipy and scandalous in its remarks."—Washington Star.

A great irrigation project involving an expenditure of about $25,000,000 has been authorized by the Secretary of State for India.

Worst Thing About Them.

"Appearances," remarked Mrs. Highmus, "are so deceitful."

"I don't mind that so much," sighed Mrs. Ambish, "but they're so expensive to keep up!"

During the lifetime of a healthy hen she will lay from 300 to 500 eggs. Her best laying capacity is during her second year.

Sixteen out of the twenty-one English coronations that took place between William II. and Elizabeth, both inclusive, were held on a Sunday.

Knew Better.

Nan—O, that story looks too long. I don't want to read it.

Fan—Yes, you do. It's a story about a woman you don't like.

Japan has very few millionaires and practically no multi-millionaires.

Trace of the Teddy Bear.

When it sits up on its haunches, in a pose for catching flies;
When it ogles you, my children, with its wicked little eyes;
When it reaches out caressingly, its forepaws in the air——
That is the time of peril, dear! No truce with the Teddy Bear!

Peculiar Hindoo Drums.

Drums used in Hindoo religious processions are called doles. They are made of baked earth, and sometimes a yard long, and twice as large at the center as at either end. Kettle drums are thin copper basins or bowls, covered with parchment or calf-skin, which is held in place by an iron hoop.

Headquarters for Information.

Dicky—You don't b'lieve that story about Little Red Riding Hood an' the wolf, do you?

Kitty—Course I do.

Dicky—Well, if you'll jist write to Pres'dent Roosevelt an' ask him about it he'll tell you it's a fake.

No Fears.

Manufacturer (showing him around the workshops)—With our improved machinery we can make one of these giant firecrackers every minute in the day.

Visitor—Aren't you afraid you will overstock the market?

Manufacturer—Not at all. There's a fool born every minute.

Her Failing.

"What a chronic blunderer Mrs. Hittermiss is! She had several engaged couples at her house for dinner the other evening, and she didn't do a thing but pair them all off wrongly."

"Yes; she doesn't seem to know how to put two and two together."

A perfect head, viewed from the side, falls within a perfect square, averaging nine inches for a man, and eight and a half for a woman.

GUILTY OF GRAFTING

Benson and Perrin Convicted of Fraud Against Government.

JURY OUT ONLY HALF AN HOUR

Aged Defendants Hard Hit by Result—Both Are Permitted Their Liberty on Bail.

San Francisco, Aug. 20.—John A. Benson and Dr. Edward B. Perrin were yesterday convicted of conspiracy to defraud the United States government in securing 12,000 acres of land in Tehama county.

The verdict, which means a fine and term of imprisonment, was returned by a jury in the United States District court after being out about an hour.

Benson and Dr. Perrin were allowed to retain their liberty on bail. Judge De Haven set Thursday as a day for passing sentence.

J. C. Campbell made the closing argument for the defense at the morning session, and in the afternoon United States District Attorney Devlin closed for the prosecution, summing up the case in a forcible manner. In his charge Judge De Haven instructed the jurors that if they found from the evidence that Dr. Perrin had at any time subsequent to October 31, 1903, taken advantage of the contract with Benson he should be found guilty as charged.

After the jury had been out about half an hour they filed back into court and asked for a reading of letters Perrin wrote from Washington, Snell's reply and that part of the charge relating to Dr. Perrin's liability in connection with the Benson contract. A verdict was returned within ten minutes after the request of the jury had been granted.

Dr. Perrin took the verdict very hard and was comforted by his two sons. Benson appeared to be dumfounded at the result.

The punishment provided by the statute is a fine of not less than $1,000 nor more than $10,000 and imprisonment for not less than two years.

NO LACK OF MEN.

Telegraph Company Blames Operators for Congestion.

Portland, Aug. 20.—"General conditions are improving," said R. T. Reid, district superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph company, who was in this city yesterday from Seattle.

"There has not been a day since the strike began, a week ago, that our company has not had enough good operators to handle all business, and they could have done so, but for the malicious interference with our wires by the railroad telegraphers. We have a number of secret service men and inspectors, who are on duty at suspected points and we propose to arrest and prosecute every man who is found tampering with our wires. However, there has been less disturbance on this account today than any other day since our operators walked out.

"Six months ago the operators in the employ of the Western Union throughout the Northwest were as one large happy family. But that condition has been replaced by discord ever since the men came under the influence of Sam J. Small, president of their national organization. The men had no grievances and what is more they deliberately walked out without being so much as ordered. It was not until then that they formulated a statement of grievances to be presented to the company. The same course was pursued by the messengers.

"The trouble is not that the men have grievances, nor that they were kept from their positions by intimidation. They would rather not work at all. Take the Portland office today, for instance. The company is paying $3 a day for messengers. Seven men accepted positions as messengers this morning and before night six of them had quit their positions."

Gompers' Aid Asked For.

Washington, Aug. 20.—President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, today reported to the executive council of the federation that he, John Mitchell, of Indianapolis, and Daniel J. Keefe, of Detroit, had been intrusted by united labor with an attempt to bring about "an honorable adjustment of the telegraphers' strike at an opportune time." Mr. Gompers was asked when he thought that time would arrive, and replied that he could not say, but that it might be "at any hour, or perhaps not at all."

Must Kow Tow to Mr. Ishii.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 20.—A bulletin in the dock offices of the immigration offices gives this laconic instruction to inspectors: "K. Ishii, Japanese diplomat, may pass through Seattle. Kow tow to him." Japanese Consul S. Hismidsu left last night for San Francisco to meet Ishii and bring him to Portland and Seattle. He is coming here to investigate consular and labor conditions and immigration officers have received word he must be treated with consideration. The force was given the word in the dock office bulletin.

Taft Favors Revision.

Columbus, O., Aug. 20.—W. H. Taft, secretary of war, tonight made what he was pleased to term his "political confession of faith" at Memorial hall. Mr. Taft made no formal announcement of his candidacy, but he was introduced by Governor Harris as the next president of the United States, which was the signal for a prolonged burst of applause. He reiterated his previous declaration that he is in favor of tariff revision.

Stomach Full of Frogs.

Tremont, Pa., Aug. 20.—Frogs' eggs imbibed in spring water by Mrs. Walter Kaudlich, of West Schuylkill, nearly proved fatal. The warmth of the body caused the eggs to hatch instantly, and the little frogs thrived to such an extent as to cause an internal obstruction. An operation was necessary to save Mrs. Kaudlich's life.

TURNING POINT REACHED.

Both Sides in Strike Expect They Can Win Fight.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Important developments in the strike of the Commercial Telegraphers are looked for today by both disputants. Confident that the strike has spent its force, and that the turning point has been reached, the telegraph companies look for a stampede of the strikers to regain their former positions.

Cheered by the reports they have received from the various cities affected, the strike leaders on the other hand are prepared to prosecute the fight more vigorously than ever.

According to advices received at union headquarters, the messenger boys and check clerks in New York are scheduled to go out today. Broker firms throughout the country have been given until noon today to sign contracts with their operators or suffer the consequences of a walkout.

Three hundred operators employed by the American Telephone & Telegraph company throughout the Southwest may be called out before night, unless a 10 per cent increase in wages is granted. This is one of the trump cards which President Small expects to play. If the order is issued it will isolate Chicago from the rest of the country, so far as telephonic communication is concerned.

KEEPS CORPSES LIKE LIFE.

Young Italian Blacksmith Finds New Method of Preservation.

Paris, Aug. 19.—The scientific and medical world is greatly interested in the discovery of a young blacksmith, of Rome, to preserve corpses fresh and intact. The system is the injection of serum which kills the micro-organisins of putrefaction.

It is said to be the secret of the invention many years ago for the same purpose of Gerolamo Segato, which had since been lost. The inventor is a young man named Pignotti, 23 years of age, and his hope is that from this discovery he may push on his researches and succeed in curing certain diseases by injecting his serum into the living subject.

It has already been injected into living animals without causing them any inconvenience, or disorder of the oragnism, while a corpse which was inoculated with the concoction was found ten days later in exactly the same condition as at the moment of death.

PLAGUE IN FRISCO.

Board of Health Takes Drastic Measures to Isolate Patients.

San Francisco, Aug. 19.—Five cases of bubonic plague, four of which have resulted in death, have been reported to the Health department within the past week. The patients, with one exception, were of the poorer class of foreigners dwelling in the neighborhood of the old Chinatown. The exception was a foreign sailor taken from a coastwise steamer.

Prompt and active measures were taken by the local, state and Federal authorities, and spread of the disease is not feared. Both President Jules A. Simon, of the health board, and Health Officer James T. Watkins stated today that the situation is well in hand and no occasion exists for alarm. The infected steamer was ordered into quarantine with her passengers and will so remain until released by the Health department. The two shacks inhabited by the other patients were fumigated, locked up and sealed.

The bodies of the two Mexicans, Italian and Russian Pole, who succumbed, were destroyed in quicklime.

Pinkerton Dies at Sea.

New York, Aug. 19.—Robert Pinkerton, head of the detective agency bearing that name, died at sea Monday on the steamship Bremen. He was en route to Germany in the pursuit of health. The cause of death was fatty degeneration of the heart. Robert Pinkerton was one of the two principals of the Pinkerton Detective agency, this organization having never incorporated. During the last 25 years, he has been in charge of the New York agency, while his brother, William A Pinkerton, resided in Chicago.

Shah of Persia Helpless.

Teheran, Persia, Aug. 19.—This unhappy country is in a complete state of anarchy. The new shah is entirely helpless, having lost even the power of veto, which most constitutional monarchs reserve to themselves. Being without money, he cannot get out of his difficulties, and he has to act entirely at the orders of the revolutionary party. Obeying their commands, he has withdrawn his uncle, hitherto governor of Ispahen, from his post. The revolutionaries are crazy on the subject of reform.

Sentence Is Deferred.

San Francisco, Aug. 19.—The sentence of Vice President Zimmer, of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, for contempt of court in refusing to answer questions in the first trial of Louis Glass was deferred Saturday until Tuesday by request of his attorney, who was unprepared for argument. Zimmer's attorney, Charles H. Fairall, has raised the point that the verdict of guilty cannot stand, as the jury was discharged before it was recorded.

Record Price for Rents.

New York, Aug. 19.—Nine leading companies affiliated with the Steel corporation has leased four floors of a great office structure which the Hudson Tunnel company is erecting at the Church street terminal, for which they will pay a record rental of $60,000 for each floor, or $2,400,000 for 10 years' lease. This is said to be the largest rental paid anywhere on earth.

Double Track Great Northern.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 19.—N. H. Hogeland, chief engineer of the Great Northern, announced here tonight that the line on the west slope of the Rockies, between Whitefish and Summit, would be double tracked and a large portion of it entirely rebuilt. Mr. Hogeland has just completed an inspection trip over that territory.

NATURE STORIES BY SAILORS.

Snake that Killed a Monkey and Lived in Victim's Skull.

President Roosevelt's attacks upon the authenticity of other person's nature stories and the men who tell them may lead to international complications if continued, for to-day several new brands of anecdotes of animals came to town, and the authors are ready to stand up for their rights and their veracity.

On board the British freight steamship Indrapura, in port from Japan and India, is Chow, a chow dog. Chow would rather fight than eat, and he demonstrated his predominating desire on several occasions during the 30,000-mile journey that the Indrapura, under Captain Kelway's command, ended upon her arrival in New York. Besides Chow, the Indrapura boasts of Tyser, a wire-haired Irish terrier, and Pickles, a gamecock. Said Mr. Wainwright, first officer of the Indrapura:

"All this talk about nature faking is rot, for I can tell you things that happened on this ship that neither President Roosevelt, Dr. Long, Mr. Roberts, nor Chauncey M. Depew has ever seen. You wouldn't believe, for instance, that the gamecock can clean the deck in ten seconds of every living thing. And Mr. Roosevelt would perhaps not believe that Pickles has a habit of jumping on the back of Chow, digging his spurs into the Chinese dog's hide, and then calmly attempting to pick Chow's eyes out. The last time we rescued the dog it took the entire crew of forty-seven Lascars to get Pickles from his back. We tried to clip Pickles' spurs, but they resisted the sharpest knife, and finally the smith shaped some metal caps, nicely rounded, so as to make the spurs harmless.

"Next day Pickles began picking the dog in the port side with his beak. He kept it up every day for a week, and then he switched to the starboard side. Finally one day the howls of the chow dog again resounded through the steamship. Pickles was in his accustomed place, his capped spurs dug deep into holes which he had picked, and he was again trying to pick out Chow's eyes."

Vivian Tuthill, the Indrapura's third officer, told a nature story about a snake and a monkey which he got at Singapore and which fought a battle to the death. The snake was a beautiful reptile of the garter variety, and the monkey was a bushy-faced little fellow of sweet temper and great agility. One morning the snake and monkey were found in deadly battle. The monkey was killed and the snake crawled into its skull and circled about in it, entering in at one eye and out of another. Finally he got all knotted up and died. Mr. Tuthill dried the outfit under the fierce tropical sun in the Red Sea and to-day he shows his friends the fantastic souvenir of the bleached monkey's skull with the little snake, practically petrified, still entwined through the monkeys' head.

Second Engineer Fraser, of the freighter Indravelli, lying almost alongside the Indrapura at the Bush stores in South Brooklyn, told of a battle between a cheetah on board the Indravelli and a bulldog in this harbor. If Roosevelt decides against the cheetah as an easy victor over a bulldog he will have to do so over the words of seven British marines, stanch and true.

The cheetah was chained to the port rail on the sun deck and was unconcernedly washing his face as the two men discussed him.

"I've got a dog that can do that cat in about two minutes," said the longshoreman.

"Bring along the dog," said the stevedore.

The cheetah paid no particular attention to the dog when the latter was let go and made for the chained animal. It went calmly on wiping its face in its morning ablutions. The dog was within a foot of the cheetah when the latter suddenly raised both his front paws, caught the bulldog between them at the neck and in a twinkling ripped him open. The cheetah then continued his washing exercises as if nothing had happened.—New York Evening Telegram.

The School of Experience.

Stevenson says in his essay on "Youth and Crabbed Age" that when the old man reproves the youth and points his folly by saying: "I thought so, too, when I was your age," he is really proving the case of the youth. This idea, that youth must keep to its own kind of wisdom and cannot take to itself ready-made the wisdom of age, appears in a dialogue which the Chicago Tribune prints:

"Daughter, you ought not to wear those high heeled shoes. They will make corns on your feet."

"How do you know, mamma?"

"By experience. I used to wear them when I was a girl."

"Did grandma tell you they would make corns on your feet if you wore them?"

"She found out by experience, just as I did."

"Hadn't she any mamma to warn her against wearing them?"

"Oh, yes."

"But she wore them, just the same?"

"To be sure."

"And you did, too?"

"Yes; that was what I was telling you."

"Well, if I ever have any daughters I ought to be able to give them a warning against high-heeled shoes from my own experience, oughtn't I?"

Then she put them on.

The Bane and the Antidote.

Gabe Gashall (on the southeast corner of the dry goods box)—It must be tur'bie t' be ketched out in a brainstorm. Hi Hemlock (on the southwest corner of the dry goods box)—W'y, all a feller'd hev t' do 'ud be t' h'ist one o' them paranoias, an' he'd never know 'twuz rainin'.—Puck.

Well Meant Prayers.

Sydney Smith declared that the children of Bishop Phillpotts used to end their usual prayers by praying for Earl Grey, explaining that "papa tells us it is our duty to pray for our greatest enemies."—London Spectator.

No man need feel hurt if people say he is not good-looking.

Sagacity of Ravens.

A case of remarkable sagacity in a pair of ravens is related in the Field. Two collie dogs were hunting rabbits and the ravens were soaring overhead. As the dogs drove the rabbit out into the open near the top of a hill it ran straight into a trap and was caught. As the dogs came near the ravens came down and by loud croaking managed to drive away both. They then started to devour the rabbit, which they quickly dispatched.

"Bumper."

The word "bumper," meaning a drinking vessel, derived its origin from the Roman Catholic religion.

It was the custom in England in ancient times to drink the health of the Pope after dinner in a full glass of wine. This was called "au bon pere," from which we have the contraction "bumper."

Luck in Small Numbers.

"I hear," said Hi Tragedy, "that while you were playing in one of the country towns a fire broke out in the theater."

"Yes," replied Low Comedy, "and there might have been a horrible panic but for one thing."

"What was that?"

"There weren't enough people in the house to create one."

Poor Thing.

"I don't suppose Miss Passay ever had any beaux when she was a young girl."

"No, she was too dignified and old-fashioned."

"And the men don't like her now, either."

"No, she's too kittenish now."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Not Always Safe.

"Don't you think a man ought to tell his wife all about his business affairs?"

"I should say not. A friend of mine who was about to start on a journey borrowed $50 from a rich old uncle and then told his wife of it. He was wrecked at sea, crushed in a railway collision, or something of that sort, and when his wife collected his life insurance, of course, she felt bound to pay back that loan."

His Easy Job.

"Isn't this a wearisome sort of occupation?" asked the customer. "You have to remember so much, and answer so many questions."

"Not at all, madam," answered the book store salesman. "All I have to remember is the titles, names of authors, and prices."

"You sell a great many of the popular novels, don't you?"

"Yes, ma'am, but I don't have to read them."

No Right to Complain.

"See here!" cried the irate man. "I purpose to sue you. Look at my head! You professed to cure——"

"Wait a minute," interrupted the maker of Fakeley's Balsam; "we advertise merely that we cure partial baldness and not——"

"Well, I was only partially bald when I started using your stuff; now I haven't a hair!"

"Well, then you're cured of your partial baldness, aren't you?"

"Dunce."

It is a strange fact that the word "dunce," meaning a stupid person, comes from the name of one of the most eminent scholars of his time, Duns Scotus.

In the Reformation the works of the schoolmen fell into disfavor with the reformers, and Duns, who was the leader of the schoolmen, was often spoken of with scorn by the votaries of the new learning. As time went by the name of Duns became a byword for utter stupidity.

No Way Out of It.

Rouget de Lisle was composing the Marseillaise.

"It seems to be up to me to do something of the kind," he said. "The people have grown tired of hearing 'There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town To-night,' and they're hollering for something fresh."

Endeavoring to make it musical and catchy, and as unlike "Hail, Columbia," as he possibly could, he tousled up his hair, sawed a few more notes on his violin, and proceeded to grind out the rhymes to fit them.

Discouraged.

Lovely Fancee—Oh, George, I sometimes think I would rather die than be married!

George—What, darling! Rather die?

Lovely Fancee—Yes; you don't have to rehearse half a dozen times for that, you know.

More Danger Ahead.

"Captain," said the frightened passenger, "haven't you got a big load of people on this boat?"

"Yes, sir," gloomily answered the captain of the excursion steamer. "And that isn't the worst of it. As soon as we reach St. Joe a good many of them are going to double up for the return trip."—Chicago Tribune.

Candor.

Borem—Hello, old man! What's the matter? You look disgusted.

Cutting—Yes, I feel that way.

Borem—Why, what have you run up against now?

Cutting—You. I didn't see you soon enough to escape.—Philadelphia Press.

Wily Woman.

"Women are such convenient liars," declared Mr. Jefferson Judd. "When the Wigginses were here to dinner you kept saying Mrs. Wiggins didn't eat enough to keep a bird alive. You know that wasn't so."

"Well," retorted Mrs. Judd. "There's different kinds of birds. You may have had a canary in your mind while I was referring to an ostrich."—Kansas City Times.

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