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HURRIED THE WORK.

Peculiar Experience of a Turkish Literary Man.

Once upon a time a certain Turkish literary man living in Constantinople arranged to translate for a daily newspaper a novel then popular in England. Each day he rendered a sufficient part of it into the Turkish language to fill the space reserved for it. One day his peaceful home was entered by the police, who peremptorily arrested the man of letters and dragged him off to prison. No explanation was given for his arrest. The novel reflected in no way against the politics of the state, and he had broken no laws. He was not even given time to bid farewell to his family, but he was commanded to bring the work under translation with him. Arrived at the prison, he was given pleasant quarters, good food and drink and sterner commands to complete his task. So for several days the frightened translator worked arduously.

When the work was done he was, to his astonishment, instantly liberated and presented with a large sum of money. Upon further inquiry as to his treatment it was explained that the sultan had become interested in the story as it appeared from day to day and was too impatient to wait for the end. He wanted to read all the rest of it at once! Truly, there are certain advantages in being a sultan.

STRANGERS IN BERLIN.

Their Comings and Goings Always Known to the Police.

"I had no idea that they kept such an espionage over strangers in Berlin until a friend of mine had occasion to look up some one there," said a traveler. "We had come up from Vienna, and as my friend was in the diplomatic service we called at the embassy."

"While there he happened to think of another friend, an American, who had gone to Berlin about three years before to represent an American concern and wondered how he could get a trace of him."

"Nothing is easier," said the embassy secretary. "Just wait a moment."

"He wrote a note and handed it to a messenger."

"We shall know all about your friend within fifteen minutes," he said to us.

"Sure enough, within that time the messenger reappeared with an answer. From it the secretary read that so-and-so had arrived in Berlin on such a date three years previous, that he lived at a certain address, that he had gone the week before to a little town in the interior, but that he was expected back within three days."

"Well, he turned up on the day the police said he would be back, and we

had dinner with him."—Detroit Free Press.

A Sensational Prophecy.

One of the most sensational of prophecies was a Koss negro named Umhlatassa, who did his prophesying in British Kaffraria, Africa, in 1856-7. His niece had met some mysterious strangers near a stream, and Umhlatassa, having gone to see them, reported that they were the spirits of his dead brother and others. They communicated a prophecy which rapidly grew. On an appointed day in 1857 two blood red suns were to rise, the sky would fall and crush the Kingos and the white, herds of splendid cattle would issue from the ground, great fields of ripe millet would spring up, the Koss dead would rise and live with their descendants, and trouble and sickness should be no more. Unhappily there was a condition—the Koss must slaughter all their existing cattle. And so 200,000 cattle, the wealth and sustenance of the people, were killed, and probably 50,000 credulous natives starved themselves to death.

Game in Germany.

Germany is a country of Nimrods. There are, we learn, 600,000 sports men, which means one gun for every hundred people. Each year fall to the gun on an average 400,000 hares, 4,000,000 partridges, 2,000,000 thrushes, 500,000 rabbits, 100,000 deer, 145,000 woodcocks, 46,000 wild ducks, 25,000 pheasants, 22,500 deer, 15,000 quails, 13,500 bucks, 3,400 wild boars and 1,500 hussards. In weight this "bag" represents 25,000,000 kilograms, a kilogram being two and one-fifth pounds. The monetary value is about \$1,000,000. The sum received for licenses to shoot is about \$1,500,000.

Stung!

"I overheard my husband talking in his sleep last night," remarked Mrs. Trigger to her closest friend.

"Oh, how interesting!" exclaimed the friend. "Did he mention some strange woman's name?"

"No," snapped Mrs. Trigger; "he was dreaming about a baseball game."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

The Other Side.

Husband (mildly)—You should remember, my dear, that the most patient person that ever lived was a man. Wife (impatiently)—Oh, don't talk to me about the patience of that man Job! Just think of the patience poor Mrs. Job must have had to enable her to put up with such a man.

Naturally.

Scrubber—I am going to call my new play "The Wicked Plea." Wigwag—I suppose you'll—er—try it on the dog.—Philadelphia Record.

Too Cold For the Candle.

It is a cold climate in which a flame cannot keep itself warm. One of the scientists attached to the Peary expedition has personally told of the effect of intense cold on a wax candle that he tried to burn. The temperature was 35 degrees below zero, and its effects were felt not only by the members of the expedition, but even by the candle in question. It gave forth no cheery light such as might have been expected from it in other circumstances, and when it came to be examined it was found that the flame had all it could do to keep itself warm. The air was so cold that the flame was not powerful enough to melt all the wax of the candle, but was compelled to eat its way down, leaving a skeleton structure of wax in the form of a hollow cylinder. Inside this cylinder the wick burned with a tongue of yellow fire, and here and there the heat was sufficient to perforate the outer covering and leave holes of odd shapes which turned the cylinder into a tube of lacelike wax, through the holes in which the light shone with a strange, weird beauty.—St. Louis Republic.

Directions in London.

In London and throughout the tight little island the words "up" and "down" have a peculiar significance. In going to London from any part of England you go "up." In traveling in any direction from the capital you go "down." So in London itself everything goes "up" if it goes in the direction of the bank—that is, the Bank of England—and going from that center toward any of the points of the compass is to go "down."

The word bank, which is not only always spelled with a capital "B," but is always uttered with an impressiveness that suggests an initial letter of the largest type, may be said to be in a sense interchangeable with city, a term of equal dignity and value in the eyes of Englishmen and likewise invariably adorned with a capital "C."

The city does not mean London by any means. It means a certain limited section of London, the part where business is mainly carried on and where the great financial institutions stand.

A Poor Fit.

George Graham Vest once won a case for his client by a neat retort. To testify against Vest's client there was brought into court a certain witness whose ill favored countenance matched his unsavory reputation in the community. The man's testimony was most unfavorable to the defendant, and so, of course, Vest proceeded to discredit his story. As the witness was unkempt and poorly clad, his clothes hanging about him in tattered folds and wrinkles, the counsel for the opposing side endeavored in

their turn to make it appear that Vest was making capital of the poor appearance of the man. Mr. Vest, of course, denied this allegation in the course of his closing remarks, adding: "Gentlemen of the jury, if that man's face fit him as well as his coat he would be a good looking man."

The jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

Close Range Duels.

During the first fifty years of the old American navy, 1798-1848, the mortality of naval officers resulting from duels was two-thirds that resulting from naval wars. In the eighty-two duels listed by a recent writer thirty-six men were killed, all naval officers except three civilians. The per cent of mortality was 22, or five times the mortality of the federal army in the civil war. One-half of those not killed in these duels were wounded. The large number of casualties was undoubtedly due to the short distance between the combatants, which customarily was only ten paces, or thirty feet. In a few duels the distance was even less. In the Barron-Decatur duel it was twenty-four feet and only twelve in the Bainbridge-Cochran duel.

Led by the Nose.

An analytical chemist was retained as a skilled witness some years ago where there were questions of analytical chemistry. There was one case where a farmer had bought some artificial manure, and he was being sued for the price of it. He resisted payment on the ground that the material had none of the qualities of manure at all. The expert chemist was one of the witnesses and had stated that, although the substance had the smell, it had none of the chemical qualities of manure. Under cross examination he was asked, if that was so, how did he account for hundreds of the best farmers having taken the manure for many years. "They must have been led by the nose," returned the witness.—Dundee Advertiser.

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