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ATHENA, ORE., MAR. 7, 1913

If present indications are confirmed by later reports, responsibility for the assassination of ex-President Madero of Mexico and the ex-Vice-President, Saurez, rests upon the revolutionary government. This goes far toward placing that government in the criminal class as to all its international relationships. Neither as a retaliatory or penal measure nor in any necessity for self-preservation, can excuses much less justifications, for those killings be found. When himself in power, Madero refused to execute a duly imposed death sentence for treason upon Diaz, one of the leaders now concerned in displacing him and apparently in having him assassinated. This was in accordance with Madero's humane policy of pacification while pursuing his plans for what appears to have been the democratization of Mexico industrially as well as politically. In his deposition by insurrectionaries, Mexico has lost a patriotic public servant of democratic ideals, and acquired in his place (from present appearances,) a gang of self-seeking assassins. The greatly predominating public sentiment in the United States has been that of sympathy for Madero. The people of this nation saw Madero overthrow a despotic regime which seemed permanently established, and they saw him always a humanitarian in his effort to give Mexico a real republic and to rid the country of senseless and almost aimless rebellion. The opinion has grown that Madero was not strong enough for the task which he undertook; but whatever may have been the opinion of his efficiency doubts as to his patriotism and unselfishness have not gained firm root in American sentiment. The killing of the ex-president will not simplify Huerta's task. The revolt against the upstart administration which has already spread throughout Mexico will doubtless be strengthened. To the already complicated situation will be added the new and important element of the Maderista in revolt against the men who betrayed their leader.

The Oregon Almanac, issued by the State Immigration commission is in demand by schools and colleges where it is used as a text book, which is helping along the know-your-state movement. The almanac, of which an edition of 380,000 was printed, is filled with data carefully gathered and compiled and is, in substance, an admirable encyclopedia of Oregon. The book is being distributed to inquirers in all parts of the country from the Portland headquarters of the Oregon Development League and copies will be sent without charge to any school desiring them for educational work. During the coming year the book will be completely revised and enlarged and letters are being sent out to county assessors in order to get accurate statistics on land classification in the various parts of the state, in order that reliable figures may be printed as to the extent of land timbered, tillable, untillable etc.

It is an old saying that what men deny all will refuse, says the Canyon City Eagle. In other words Canyon mountain would remain unstacked for time indefinitely were it not for a few who see fortunes in store for some one or many who have mining holdings in it mineralized ground. No one has patented this mining section because no one staked it. The moment some one commences to set a few stakes that moment the crowd starts and we predict by spring Canyon mountain will be staked from base to apex. The proposed operation of the Chambers mine has given the mining industry some stimulus, and little strikes that are made from day to day excites the cupidity of miners. During the last few days a strike of some importance was made on the claim of John Muldrick. A vein was struck and a rich piece of rock found. The rock mortared up, panned \$60. If the pay streak would thicken up with this kind of stuff, Rockefeller's fortune would look like thirty cents.

Secretary Meyer of the Naval department is said to have recommended that the Oregon, the superb battleship that steamed from the Pacific northwest around South America in 1898 to take part in the war against Spain and made the 16,000 miles a voyage without starting a rivet, shall be sent to the scrapheap and be sold as junk.

## AN IDLER'S SAYINGS.

Athena ought to get the cement sidewalk habit.

It is President Wilson now, and everybody is happy.

In the United States we have government by parties; in Mexico it is government by person.

W. H. Taft appears to be as happy as a clam in high tide.

This country needs a great navy and ought to have the greatest fleet.

It is announced that ships can pass through the Panama canal by January first, next.

Uncle Sam may yet be compelled to intervene in Mexico, but we should hope not.

Well, if Bryan cannot be president, he can be secretary of state, a very important position.

Oregon leads all the other states in freak legislation.

It may not be necessary to make an attempt to reorganize the republican party.

The suffragettes seem to have the courage of their convictions. Woman suffrage is coming as sure as time.

**Feats of Archery.**  
In the days when the buffalo was found in vast herds on the western plains there were Indians who, while riding at a gallop, could send an arrow through a buffalo's body. Remarkable as this archery was, yet it did not equal that reached by the archers of ancient times. It is of record that the Macraes of Galrock, Scotland, were such skillful archers that they could hit a man at the distance of 500 yards. In 1794 the Turkish ambassador at London shot an arrow, in a field near that capital, 415 yards against the wind and 482 yards with the wind. The secretary of the ambassador, on hearing the expressions of surprise from the English gentlemen present, said the sultan had shot 500 yards. This was the greatest performance of modern days, but a pillar, standing on a plain near Constantinople, recorded shots ranging up to 800 yards. Sir Robert Ainslie, British ambassador to the sublime port, records that in 1798 he was present when the sultan shot an arrow 972 yards.—New York Press.

**Mark Twain's German Coffee.**  
German coffee must have given Mark Twain a pain, judging from the following recipe which he gave for its concoction:  
Take a barrel of water and bring it to a boil; rub a chicory berry against a coffee berry, then convey the former into the water. Continue the boiling and evaporation until the intensity of the flavor and aroma of the coffee and chicory have been diminished to a proper degree; then set aside to cool. Now unharness the remains of a once-cow from the plow, insert them in a hydraulic press, and when you shall have acquired a teaspoonful of that pale blue juice which a German superstition regards as milk, modify the malignity of its strength in a bucket of tepid water and bring up the breakfast. Mix the beverage in a cold cup, partake with moderation, and keep a wet rag around your head to guard against over excitement.

**Clever Crows.**  
In a garden a dog was eating a piece of meat in the presence of four covetous crows. They evidently said a great deal to one another on the subject, and then one of them tried to pull the meat away from the dog, which he naturally resented. At last a big, strong crow succeeded in tearing off a piece, with which he returned to the tree where the others congregated. A long powwow now ensued, which ended in all four crows flying down to the dog, the leading crow dexterously dropping the small piece of meat within reach of his mouth. The dog immediately snapped at it, unwisely letting go the big piece, which was seized by two crows and carried to the tree, where it was devoured with much fluttering and hilarity, while the cheated dog walked away with every appearance of discomfiture.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

**A Notorious English Spendthrift.**  
Among the customers at Long's, the famous hotel in Bond street, was the last Marquis of Hastings, the most notorious of mid-Victorian spendthrifts. Hastings, according to one who knew him well, "gambled so that not even the Bank of England, backed by the Rothschilds, with the mines of the Transvaal as additional supports, could have withstood the strain."  
Yet even he protested at Long's when charged 2s. 6d. for a whisky and soda. The proprietor declared that this had always been the charge. "About time it was altered, then," retorted the marquis. Just before his death Hastings remarked to a friend: "I've made a pretty hash of my life. About all the good I've ever done was to bring down the price of a whisky and soda at Long's."—London Express.

**Henley and Stevenson.**  
W. E. Henley once met Robert Louis Stevenson and found his friend distressed because he was not a Voltaire or a Dumas, though he had an equipment which ought to have made him their peer. Stevenson put his "father's" down to the weakness of his lungs. "Perhaps you are right, Louis," said Henley. "I've always felt that if I had not been a blessed cripple I could have taken the earth in my hand and hurled it into the sun."  
**A Suspicion.**  
"I declare," said Mrs. Cromox after

making a round of calls, "all these butlers must have umpired baseball games."  
"Impolite?"  
"No, polite, but positive. They seem to have got into the habit of saying everybody is out."—Washington Star.

**Professional Pride.**  
The Judge—Then you acknowledge having robbed the safe. Were you assisted by any one?  
"No, indeed, yer honor. I've bin in the perfunct for nineteen year, an' I ain't never collaborated with nobody."  
—Life.

**Just a Shade.**  
"I come of a very old family. We have a family ghost."  
"We have two."  
"I guess that gives you a shade the best of it."—Washington Herald.

**A Sure Cure.**  
"Doctor, I have for years been addicted to walking in my sleep. Is there any cure for me?"  
"Yes. Adopt a baby."—Chicago Record-Herald.

**The Blame.**  
He—Oh, but you mustn't blame me for my ancestors, you know.  
She—I don't. I blame them for you.  
—Boston Transcript.

### LOW CASTE MANGS.

**Hindus Not Only Despise Them, They Fear and Hate Them.**  
By his fellow Hindu the Mang, one of the lowest of all Indian castes, is not only despised, but even feared and hated. A writer in the Times of India says: "To be cruel is to be 'Mang hearted,' to fly into a passion may be expressed in Marathe idiom as having a Mang within one. When on the occasion of an eclipse fears are awakened for the safety of the sun or moon, it is the Mang whose help is sought. He goes among the people claiming their propitiatory gifts, saying: 'Give your gifts that the grasp may be removed. For are not Rabu and Ketu, the enemies who have laid evil hands on the heavenly bodies, themselves Mangs? Similarly, to their recognized relation with 'dark' worship and with subterranean and demonic influences is to be traced the making of offerings to Mang women on Dusera day and the sinister fact that there are few great buildings erected in pre-British days in this part of India that have not—whether they be temples or forts or palaces—Mang victims built into their foundations."  
"The peculiar place that these popular superstitions have given to the Mang community is seen especially in the ceremonies that are sometimes performed for the removal of disease. Frequently when some one has fallen ill a Joshi is consulted and explains the illness as due to the influence of some evil spirit. The one effective prescription in such a case is to call a Mang and give him a dinner. This is not by any means an act of friendliness toward a despised community, but has as its object apparently the propitiation of the demonic power and the removal of the source of the disease from the sick man to its proper habitation."  
"With this end in view practices of sympathetic magic, which can be paralleled in the folk lore of many peoples, are employed. Portions of the finger nails or, it may be, fragments of hair of the invalid are secretly mixed with the food to be given to the Mang, and before the sugar water of which he is to partake is given to him the sick man must see his face in it. In this way the evil is supposed to be passed back to where it properly belongs and the disease removed.

**STAGE REALISM.**  
**Why Jefferson Didn't Have a Dog Schneider in the Flesh.**  
It was the privilege of the writer years ago to attend a reception at which Joseph Jefferson spoke on the drama. His treatment of the subject was interesting, the utterance of a man who knew the art of which he spoke. But the most interesting part of the hour came after the completion of the formal address, when an opportunity was given to the audience to ask any questions they wished of Mr. Jefferson. Soon the familiar topic was introduced, the effect of the modern elaboration and realism in stage setting. Mr. Jefferson at once rose to the question. He spoke somewhat rapidly, with a quaint humor and sympathetic charm that were irresistible. He characterized the modern fashion of stage setting as "a tribute to the weakness of the human imagination." "I am often asked," he went on, "why I do not have a real dog Schneider. But if I did none of you would be satisfied. You would go home saying, 'Well, Schneider never looked like that dog?' You love Schneider because you have made him out of a piece of your own heart. And then," meditatively, "if I had a real Schneider some one in the gallery would probably whistle to him at the critical moment, and he would bark and spoil the play, while if he knew his part perfectly and did just what Schneider ought to do—pausing and with his delightful smile—'Schneider would be the hero and not Rip!' Then, with a twinkle of the eye, he summed up the whole matter with the quiet remark, "Realism with a tail to wag in the wrong place is a dangerous thing."  
—New York Post.

**Debbling de Crabs.**  
In the service of a Baltimore family is an old negro cook known as Aunt Sally, and not the least of her achievements is the preparation of sea food.  
In the kitchen one day Aunt Sally's nephew, a nine-year-old lad from a point where crabs are seldom seen, was watching in breathless interest the old lady's devilling of a dish of such crustaceans.  
"Am'ty," asked he after much reflection upon this mysterious point, "does debblin crabs come from de debblin'?"  
"No, child," promptly responded Aunt Sally, "but dey is de debblin' make."  
—St. Louis Republic.

### Resurrection of the Pig.

Boys and girls' essays are so remarkable sometimes as to suggest the conscious cleverness of the adult. Here is one pure and unadulterated, sent in for the children's essay competition in connection with the Darwin agricultural show. Probably you think you know something of the pig already. It will be instructive exercise to fill out your knowledge of this animal from this essay "For the pig to die" (we are informed) "is to be born again to a sphere of greater utility. When we get out of bed in the morning we brush our hair and clothes with its bristles; for our breakfast we have a crisp, savory piece of bacon. When we arrive home for our dinner we find some tender chops awaiting us, and when we go back to work we feel as strong as Jack Johnson. On our arrival home to tea we find some pork sausages frizzling in the pan, and we have our supper of cold sausages, which perhaps disturbs our sleep. And we dream of bacon, pork chops and sausages, and the cause of all this is the pig."—Dundee Advertiser.

**The Hotel Hoodoo Room.**  
"We used to have a room in the old Fifth Avenue hotel that was known as the 'hoodoo room,'" said a former clerk. "Of course that was an office secret, but whenever one of us rented that room to a stranger we never felt quite comfortable about him until after he had left the hotel. Now that the old hotel is gone there can be no harm in mentioning that the number of the room was 569. I don't see how even the most superstitious person could get a hoodoo out of that number, and nobody ever refused to take it so far as I know, but it is a fact that of the twenty-five suicides that took place in the Fifth Avenue hotel during fifty years, seventeen occurred in room 569. The last that took place was that of a young woman, who drowned herself in a bathtub. You will find that in any big hotel that has been running for any length of time there is a room that has a hoodoo of some kind on it."  
—New York Sun.

**Filing an Alibi.**  
Parson White's precautionary measure of protecting his chicken coop with chilled steel bars was futile, for that very night four more of his choice Leghorns disappeared, leaving the severed bars as the only visible evidence of the theft. However, his suspicions pointed toward his next door neighbor, whom he had seen prowling around his yard that day, and accordingly he had this suspect up in the police court the next morning.  
"If the prisoner can file an alibi I'll let him off with a suspended sentence," announced the judge at the end of the evidence. "Can you file an alibi, Ham?"  
"I guess I can," eagerly rejoined the suspect, "if it ain't my harder der Pabson White's chicken coop bars."  
—San Francisco Star.

**Grace Knives.**  
There is a curious class of knives of the sixteenth century the blades of which have engraved on one side the musical notes to the benediction of the table, or grace before meat, and on the other the grace after meat. These knives usually went in sets of four, representing a four part harmony of bass, tenor, alto and treble. They were kept in an upright case of stamped leather and were placed before the singers according to the adaptation of each one to his particular part. As may be supposed, the inscription was usually in Latin. The following specimen is taken from actual knives of the period: "Pro tuis beneficiis Deus, gratias agimus tibi" (For thy good gifts, O God, we thank thee).

**The President's Oath.**  
The oath of office taken by the incoming president of the United States is the shortest and the simplest required of any ruler on earth. It is prescribed by the constitution and is as follows:  
"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and, to the best of my ability, protect, preserve and defend the constitution of the United States."

**Her Cooking.**  
The Doctor—How is your appetite?  
The Patient—Wretched. The best meal my wife cooks doesn't tempt me.  
The Doctor—Um—er—do you ever try a meal in a restaurant?

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