

The Difference.

Case and Comment says that at a recent meeting in Hampton one of the speakers told of a colored witness who was rebuked by the judge for the constant repetition of the phrase, "also and likewise." "Now, judge," replied the witness, "there's a difference between those words. It's gwine to splain. Yo' father was an att'ny and a great one, wasn't he?" The judge assented, somewhat placated. "Well, judge, yo's an att'ny also, but not likewise. See, judge?"

Author of "Annie Laurie."

"Annie Laurie," according to the generally accepted story, was written by a soldier in Flanders to his ladylove at home. The writer was William Douglas, and Annie Laurie was one of the four daughters of Sir Robert Laurie of Maxwellton. Sad to relate, says the London Chronicle, Annie did not marry her ardent lover. Some say Douglas was killed in Flanders, but at all events Annie was led to the altar in 1709 by Alexander Fergusson of Craigdarroch.

British General Elections.

The British "general election," which can be called an appeal to the people and on which the existing government may be obliged to "go out," is practically a referendum. In case of a deadlock or disagreement in parliament or cabinet a general election may be called at any time. Although the vote of the people is not taken directly on a question, but on the representatives whose standing on the question is known, the result is the same as if the bill itself were being voted upon.

Munitions in the Long Ago.

The munition question was a simpler matter for our forefathers than for us, but they were acquainted with it. Richard III. ordained that with every ton of certain goods imported into England ten yew bows should be

sent. Bowmakers, too, were not allowed to use our own yew wastefully, and some standard of skill had to be reached before one could possess a bow of that wood. The novice had to be content with ash or elm.—London Standard.

Deadly Chemical Bombs.

Hydrocyanic acid, known as prussic acid, is so poisonous that a mere breath of it means instant death. Sulphuric anhydride when brought into contact with the air combines rapidly with moisture absorbed from the air, producing sulphuric acid. Thrown in a bomb with just explosive charge enough to disrupt the bomb and scatter the sulphuric anhydride, the air for a large space about the explosion would be at once converted into a dense fog of sulphuric acid. Liquid ammonia, similarly employed, would instantly so impregnate the atmosphere with ammonia as to strangle all persons in the immediate vicinity. Ammonia is absolutely irrespirable.

Rocket Cameras.

The military camera of a Saxon named Maul is carried by a rocket over the landscape to be photographed. The rocket, twenty feet long and weighing fifty pounds, is mounted on a special support, which is raised to the degree necessary and aimed by means of sights, and the electrically ignited powder charge carries the rocket to a height of about 2,000 feet. As it turns to fall, exposure is made by an electro-pneumatic shutter worked by a small battery. Directly afterward a parachute opens, holds the camera thirty feet above the rocket, and the whole apparatus falls gently to the ground. Very distinct pictures seven inches square are obtained.

In True Proportion.

He (rapturously)—Miss Sweetthing dances as lightly as the ocean foam. She (sweetly)—Indeed she does, and her head is just as light as her heels.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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Colored Evidence.

A well known lawyer was trying to
make clear to a legal student the sig-
nificance of the term "colored evi-
dence," meaning that evidence which
has been tampered with.

"The best illustration I can think of
came within my observation not long
ago," said the lawyer. "A physician
had said to a fair patient:

"Madam, you are a little run down.
You need frequent baths and plenty
of fresh air, and I advise you to dress
in the coolest, most comfortable
clothes; nothing stiff or formal."

"When the lady got home this is how
she rendered to her husband the ad-
vice given to her by the doctor:

"He says I must go to the seashore,
do plenty of motoring and get some
new summer gowns." — New York
Times.

Obsolete Trade Names.

Some obsolete names of trades sur-
vive as surnames—e. g., Webster,
Lister, Walker. In the fourteenth cen-
tury the weaver was known as "the
webster," the dyer was "the lyster"
and the workman who trod the cloth
in the dye vat was "the walker." The
arkwright made the arks or chests
in which clothes or meal were stored,
and the smith was frequently dubbed
"the faber," this later being one of
the rare cases in which the Latin
translation of a craft has become a
common surname. When the cotteler
had forged an edged tool the blower
finished it off or put the bloom on; the
chapman traveled with goods from
door to door and the coke baked cakes
and sold them.—London Tatler.



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