

Meant Well, But—

Viscount French of Ypres often tells an amusing story about a French review that he attended a good many years ago.

General French, as he then was, attended the men's dinner in camp one day, and as he puffed on his cigar he noticed that 300 young Frenchmen had nothing to smoke whatever.

Accordingly he sent to his tent for three boxes of Havanas, and these were quickly distributed among the troops, a rare treat truly. To show their gratitude the soldiers without consulting their sergeants lined up in two files, marched toward the English general, and, raising their right hands to their caps and holding their lighted cigars in their left hands, they shouted as with one voice:

"Vive la Russie!"

They had mistaken the uniform.—Washington Star.

The Price of Eloquence.

The auctioneer held up a battered fiddle.

"What am I offered for this antique violin?" he pathetically inquired. "Look it over. See the blurred finger marks of remorseless time. Note the stains of the hurrying years. To the merry notes of this fine old instrument the brocaded dames of fair France may have danced the minuet in glittering Versailles. Perhaps the vestal virgins marched to its stirring rhythms in the feasts of Lupercalia. Ha! It bears an abrasion—perhaps a touch of fire. Why, this may have been the very fiddle on which Nero played when Rome burned."

"Thirty cents," said a red nosed man in the front row.

"It's yours," cried the auctioneer cheerfully. "What next?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Various Ages.

In the Greek mythology four—the golden, self sufficient; the silver, self indulgent; the brazen, warlike, and the iron, violent; together with the heroic, nobly aspirant, between the third and fourth.

In archaeology three—the stone age, the bronze and the iron.

In history the middle and dark, between the ancient and the modern.

In Fichte five—of instinct, of law, of rebellion, of rationality, of conformity to reason.

In Shakespeare seven—infancy, childhood, boyhood, adolescence, manhood, age, old age.

Pity the Poor.

"There's no justice in this world for a poor man."

"That's right. Here I've got one of the fastest little cars in this town, and I don't dare let it out, because I haven't got enough money to pay a fine for speeding."—Pittsburgh Press.

His Handicap.

First Golfer (to clubmate who has just been trimmed woefully)—Well, what's your handicap? Second Golfer—Honesty.—Judge.

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