

DIDN'T CARRY OUT THE JOKE

Young Man Probably Was Wise in Not Impersonating the "Family Ghost" for Butler's Benefit.

Among the guests at an English country house one Christmas was a young gentleman who claimed to be able to "read character at a glance."

"Now, there's your butler," he remarked to his host. "I've seen little of the man, but I would undertake, by merely playing the family ghost, to frighten him into a fit!"

"I don't think you would!" laughed the host. "Anyhow, you have my consent to try!"

The young fellow declared his intention to do so, but as he didn't wish to overdo the thing, he determined to drop a word of warning to the butler.

"I say, Briggs," he whispered to that individual on meeting him in the corridor, "you haven't seen the family ghost, have you? I'm told that he invariably walks on Christmas eve, y'know!"

"Thank you for the hint, sir," calmly replied the butler. "One hint should be worth another, sir, and"—here he dived his hand into a back pocket, and produced a wicked-looking revolver—"here's one for the ghost if you should see him first, sir!"

The young gentleman decided that, after all, he couldn't carry the joke any further.

Magna Charta Draws Visitors.

After 700 years, Magna Charta remains the most popular British manuscript. Last year 14,000 persons went to the British museum to see it. Americans invariably ask to view the famous charter which insures Englishmen their rights, according to the museum custodians, but other foreigners take more interest in the papal bull, which is displayed next to it.

Heavy green blinds are kept over the precious parchment to exclude the full light rays and thus prevent deterioration, but are lifted to show the charter to admiring pilgrims.

Most persons are disappointed at not seeing King John's signature, according to an official at the museum, but they seem satisfied when they read the script that it was "given by our hand in the meadow which is called Ronimede, between Windlesor and Stanes, on the 15th day of June in the 17th reign of our reign. (1215.)"

Great reduction on all trimmed and untrimmed hats. Celia Goldsmith, Oregon City, Oregon. 6-8

Gas Has 2,000 Industrial Uses.

Artificial gas is lightening the labors of housewives in the homes of 49,000,000 Americans, and is the "silent partner" of industry, where it has upward of 2,000 uses. The vast sum of \$4,000,000,000 has been invested in the plants and equipment. Approximately 4,600 communities now have gas, the mains being equal in mileage to nearly three times the circumference of the earth. It is used in more than 7,000,000 cooking stoves and appliances, 1,500,000 water heaters and 1,000,000 gas heaters and has become so necessary to industry that thousands of manufacturing plants would be forced to close if the gas companies were unable to continue to supply them with gas.

A Matter of Policy.

"I just saw your wife out in your neighbor's motorcar. Why don't you take her out in your own?"

"Oh, we've just made our wills in each other's favor."

Women in China.

In the New International Encyclopedia, edition of 1902, the following statement was made: "In China proper not more than 6 per cent of the men and 2 per cent of the women can read an ordinary book." But a great advancement in the education of women has been made during the last twenty years. The Encyclopedia Americana, published in 1920, says: "Until very recently, female education, so far as it existed, was mainly a private or a family affair. Of late years, largely through missionary influence and example, the education of women has made surprising progress, and the tendency is now strongly toward more equality in intellectual training without regard to sex."

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