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SOLDIERS' VISIONS.

A Ghost That Led a Serbian Army to a Brilliant Victory.

That soldiers suffer from torturing nightmares as a result of the strain of being continually under fire is well known, but few people are aware that troops in the field often have astonishing visions. The late Lord Roberts on several occasions stated in his despatches during the Afghanistan campaign that seasoned soldiers would at times declare that they could distinguish hordes of natives approaching. It often happened that a dozen recruits would swear that they could discern an army in the distance, whereas they were merely victims of nerves.

Experienced soldiers on occasions have extraordinary visions during the heat of battle, which are astonishing, inasmuch as they affect whole battalions and not solitary individuals.

During the Balkan war the Serbian army on one occasion won a brilliant victory which the men swore was given to them by a ghost who led them into battle. The Serbian infantry were stationed on the foot of the Mount of Pelip, on which stood the castle of the Royal Prince Marko, a fourteenth century warrior, who is a national Serbian hero. The troops had to attack a Turkish force which held the castle, but they were cautioned against storming the fortress until artillery had broken down the defense.

Before the order to charge was given, however, the Serbians, shouting wildly, dashed forward and after a desperate struggle completely routed the Turks. When reproached by their leader for disobeying orders the victorious soldiers shouted in a body: "Kraljevitch Marko commanded us forward. Did you not see him on his Shuratz?" the latter being the great soldier's horse, famous in legend. "It was clear," said the officer who related the story, "that the tradition of Kraljevitch Marko was so deeply engraved on the hearts of those heroic men that in their vivid enthusiasm they had seen the incarnation of their hero."

The terrible sights which soldiers see during the war often haunt them for years afterward. Napoleon, when languishing on Elba, is said to have been tortured by visions of his army retreating from the ruins of Moscow, while Dr. Brydon, the sole survivor of the Kabul massacre, was never wholly free from distressing nightmares, in which the frightful scenes he had witnessed were conjured up in his mind. There have been cases in which soldiers have been convinced that the ghost of a dead commander haunts their regiment. In the sixties a past leader of the London Rifle brigade was said to haunt his old corps in spirit form.—London Answers.

Get Her Wish.

A newly engaged couple were enjoying some blissful moments alone after dinner. They had broken the wishbone at table.

"Tell me what you wished?" she asked shyly.

"Tell me what you wished?" he returned.

"Well, I will if you will."

"I hate to do it. It might not come true."

"But maybe it would. Now, you promised, you know."

"Well, I wished you'd let me kiss you. Now, what did you wish?"

"Oh, I haven't told."

"But you promised."

"Well, I wished you'd get your wish."

A Curious Barometer.

A curious barometer is said to be

used by the remnant of the Araucanian race which inhabits the southernmost province of Chile. It consists of the castoff shell of a crab. The dead shell is white in fair, dry weather, but the approach of a moist atmosphere is indicated by the appearance of small red spots. As the moisture in the air increases the shell becomes entirely red and remains so throughout the rainy season.

His Little Scheme.

"Oh, yes, we always have good meals at our home."

"Then you have a good cook?"

"No, she's a plain cook and hardly passable. My wife is the real cook."

"Your wife?"

"Sure. All I have to do is praise the cook's cooking, and then my wife goes out and does the cooking herself."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

More Witty Than Industrious.

The class in drawing was directed to draw a picture of a horse and wagon. When walking up and down the aisles noting the various stages of progress the teacher saw that Charles had drawn the picture of the horse only.

The teacher asked, "Why have you not completed your picture?" to which the boy gave the somewhat pert, but nevertheless witty reply:

"Oh, the horse can draw the wagon."—Philadelphia Press.

The One Exception.

"So you can speak seven languages?" incredulously exclaimed Mrs. Aska Lot. "How marvelous!"

"Yes," replied the professor. "Of course it takes time."

"But surely you must have found one tongue that seemed beyond you? Some tongue with which you had great difficulty and that you couldn't master? Wasn't that so?"

"Oh, yes," answered the professor. "My wife's!"—London Answers.

Strange Method of Salutation.

Of all the strange modes of salutation the most extraordinary is the "dance of ceremony" current in the west African kingdom of Dahomey. Whenever any Dahoman chief or official of rank comes to pay you a visit he always opens the interview by dancing around you with various queer contortions (extremely suggestive of his having just upset a kettle of boiling water over his knees), which you are bound to imitate as closely as possible. It is even reported that one of the native ministers of the terrible King Gezo owed his rapid rise at the Dahoman court wholly to his superior skill in cutting these strange capers and that he thus literally as well as figuratively jumped to preferment.

The Wherefore of School.

Little Herman was a very backward scholar, and his teacher frequently lost all patience with him.

One day when he seemed to be more dense than usual the teacher exclaimed:

"It seems you are never able to answer any of my questions, Herman. Why?"

"If I knew all the things you ask me, ma'am," replied Herman, "my father wouldn't go to the trouble of sending me here!"—New York Times.

A Man of Straw.

Many years ago in England men could easily be found to give any evidence upon oath that might be required, and some of these persons walked openly in Westminster hall with a straw in one of their shoes to signify they wanted employment as witnesses. This was the origin of the saying, "He is a man of straw." But the custom has high antiquity. A writer in the Quarterly Review says that such were common in Greece.

Iridium.

Iridium is a hard, brittle, silver white metallic element belonging to the platinum group, discovered by Tennant in 1803, sometimes found native and nearly pure, but generally combined with osmium. It is, with the exception of osmium, the heaviest metal known and is used for pen points, contact points in telegraphy and points of scientific implements liable to wear. Its specific gravity is 22.4.

Railroad Time Table

Arrival and Departure of Passenger Trains

Woodburn-Springfield Branch
WEST SCIO

North..... 7:55 a m
South..... 5:31 p m

Corvallis & Eastern
MUNKERS

Albany..... 8:10 p m
Mill City..... 8:05 a m
(Daily except Sunday.)

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