

RUNNING THE GANTLET.

This Punishment Was Once Used For Military Discipline. The following extracts give information concerning the punishment of "running the gantlet."

WEDDING SPEECHES.

Some That Were Not in the Usual Conventional Style. A wedding in New York at which the bridesmaids were representative of six nationalities and each felicitated the bride in the language of her own country was an odd affair, but probably not so well received as the speech of a young Englishman who was called upon to propose the toast.

Penny Blanders.

A famous sculpture group recently exhibited in Glasgow represents Adam and Eve after they had left Eden. Eve, in despair, lies at Adam's feet. Through a mistake an intelligent attendant placarded it with this description: "Motherless."

He Saw the Joke.

"One day," says an American, "I walked into a bookshop in the Strand and asked for Hare's 'Walks in London.' In America the book is sold in one thick volume. The clerk brought it in two. 'Oh,' I said as I looked at them. 'You part your 'Hare' in the middle, do you?' 'I, sir?' he said, with a bewildered look. 'Oh, no, sir! I saw he didn't see the joke, so I didn't explain, but bought the books and went away. A week later I went to the same shop. As soon as the clerk saw me he rushed from the back of the shop, laughing vociferously. 'Good!' he shouted. 'Capital! Part your 'Hare' in the middle! That's capital, sir, capital!'"

Lee's Grammar.

"I wish I dared to ask you something, Miss Helen," said Percy, with trembling voice and wabbling chin. "Why don't you dare to ask it?" the maiden said demurely. "Because I can see 'No' in your eyes." "In both of them?" "Yes." "Well, don't you—don't you know two negatives are equivalent to an—how dare you, sir? Take your arm from around my waist instantly!" But he didn't.

A Question.

"You'll let me come to your wedding, dear, of course?" "Well, I can't promise. My people are so enraged at my choice that I hardly know whether I shall be allowed to go myself."

A Dyer.

He—Do you think blonds have more admirers than brunettes? She—I don't know. You might ask Miss Turner. She has had experience in both capacities—New Yorker.

If we are not willing to work and suffer for the sake of our love, we have not the artist soul within us.

He Knew.

"You are sure that man cheated?" "Yes, sir," answered Three Finger Sam. "He held four aces." "But that is not conclusive evidence." "It was in this case. I knew where the regular aces was myself."—Washington Star.

Sudden.

"Now," said the professor, describing the work of his class to Miss Elderberry, "we are engaged?" "Oh, are we? How sudden!" was her reply as she snuggled up. —Houston Post.

SIMON MAGUS.

The Legend From Which Was Born the Story of Faust. Almost every renowned man of antiquity in the middle ages was believed to be attended by a spiritus familiaris and not a few were suspected of being in direct league with the devil. Probably the oldest legend of which the Faust legend is a continuous thread is that of Simon Magus, mentioned in the history of the apostles.

THE ODD LITTLE GECKO.

A Queer Animal That Lives In Africa and Southern Europe. The gecko is an odd little creature. His name is seldom heard, and his form is seldom seen, for he lives in Africa and the southern countries of Europe.

Chinese Children.

The education of their children is a matter of no small interest to the affectionate Chinese mothers. They watch the little one from the day he is born, to note superstitious signs. Let him cry lustily, and he will live long, say the old grannies. If he teeths or walks too soon he will grow up unlovable in disposition.

Millionaire's Poor Stomach.

The worn-out stomach of the over-fed millionaire is often paraded in the public prints as a horrible example of the evils attendant on the possession of great wealth. But millionaires are not the only ones afflicted with bad stomachs. The proportion is far greater among the toilers.

The best safeguard against headache, constipation and liver troubles is Dr. Witt's Little Early Risers. Keep a vial of these famous little pills in the house and take a dose at bed time when you feel that the stomach and bowels need cleaning. They don't gripe. Sold by Williams' Pharmacy.

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A SELFISH MAN.

The Prayer He Addressed to the Throne of Mercy. The following example of a quaint and selfish prayer does not come from the liturgy; it is from "Glimpses of Ancient Hecatey." "O Lord, thou knowest that I have nice estates in the city of London and likewise that I have lately purchased an estate in fee simple in the county of Essex. I beseech thee to preserve the two counties of Middlesex and Essex from fire and earthquake, and, as I have a mortgage in Hertfordshire, I beg of thee likewise to have an eye of compassion on that county, and for the rest of the counties thou mayest deal with them as thou art pleased. O Lord, enable the bank to answer all their bills and make all my debtors good men. Give prosperous voyages and return to the Mermaid ship, because I have insured it, and, as thou hast said the days of the wicked are but short, I trust in thee that thou wilt not forget thy promise, as I have purchased an estate in reversion which will be mine on the death of that profligate young man, Sir J. L. Keep my friends from sinking and preserve me from thieves and housebreakers and make all my servants so honest and faithful that they may attend to my interest and never cheat me out of my property night or day."

THE CHINESE MOTHER.

She is Steadfast in Affection For Her Children. The Chinese mother is very fond of her children. She is happy in their company and spends much time caring for them. In a Chinese family the birth of a child is a greater event than with other orientals. Long before the child is born the mother performs rites and ceremonies to propitiate the gods that her child may be a boy. After birth the little fellow is wrapped in old rags and in winter is sometimes put in a bag of sand sewed close around its neck to keep the little one warm. Great rejoicing follows the birth if the child is a boy; otherwise there is an air of chastened disappointment. But good Chinese parents make the best of their little lassies, becoming very fond and even proud of them. I have known more than one Chinese father to exhibit his toddling wee girl for approval, though always with the customary national verbal depreciation of what belongs to one. Indeed, this evidence of excessive courtesy may be found everywhere in this strange land. It is good form to vouch what is mine and land what is thine. "My good for nothing family are all still treading the earth with their presence. How is your honorable family?"—Pilgrim.

MUMMIES.

Many persons who have an interest in archaeology will be surprised to know that all the mummies to be seen in museums have not been taken from faraway tombs in Egypt or other eastern lands. Well preserved mummies have occasionally been taken from the ruins of the cliff dwellers in the mountain canyons of Arizona and in New Mexico and southern California. These mummies, though very poor specimens of the mummifying art, are considered great treasures by scientists, because they give the anthropologist a vague idea of the strange people who had the earliest civilization on the American continent. The best of them are almost entirely ignorant of who the Aztecs and Toltecs were, how they looked and lived and why they have been so entirely obliterated from the face of the earth.

The reason for this ignorance is found in the fact that no satisfactory remains of the dead Aztecs have been found. These people were cremationists, and they probably buried household effects with the dead, leaving little or nothing for the scientist to build a theory upon. Frequently a party of explorers in the valleys of Arizona will come upon sealed jars of burned bone dust.

Flowers in the Shade.

It is not unusual to hear a complaint that one's yard has no sun, and therefore flowers cannot be raised. But there are a large number of flowers that prefer shade to sunshine in summer. The begonias is of this class. Those who have north walls or fences may have great beauty during the summer by setting out the different kinds of begonias. Even the glorioxa, the achimenes and similar hot-house plants bloom splendidly throughout the summer season when grown on the north side of walls.

Keppel's Recipe For Health.

Meeting me in a bitter east wind one day in Piccadilly on his way to church, Keppel asked how Mr. Gladstone was. I told him he was very ill. "Ah," he said, "he is overworked. If he would do as I do, climb up eighty steps, have a cold bath every day and sleep with his window always open, he would never be ill."—Memoirs of Sir Henry Keppel.

Foot In It Again.

Mr. Brakes—Who is that sour looking dame over there? Mr. Grubbins—Sir, she has the misfortune to be my wife. Mr. Brakes—Oh—ah—er—indeed, sir, the misfortune is—er—all yours, I'm sure!—Cleveland Leader.

Possible to All.

She (philosophically)—Do you think it is easy to die? He (companion)—Well, a lot of very stupid people have managed to do it.

Difficulties strengthen the mind as labor does the body.—Seneca.

Indigestion is much of a habit. Don't get the habit. Take a little Kodol Dyspepsia Cure after eating and you will quit belching, puffing, palpitating and bloating. Kodol digests what you eat and makes the stomach sweet. Sold by Williams' Pharmacy.

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