

ECCENTRIC STAMPS.

Blunders That Bring Joy to the Hearts of Philatelists.

"The fascination of stamp collecting," said a postal official, "lies in the rare 'bluds' which are continually made and the curious points which sometimes make a stamp of the face value of a few pence worth hundreds of pounds. For instance, the twopence blue Mauritius stamp which the Prince of Wales bought at a public auction for £1,450 was unique in one respect—the proper wording on it, 'Post Paid Mauritius,' had by a strange error been altered to 'Post Office Mauritius.'

"Another stamp which has been priced at several hundred pounds is valuable for the mere misspelling of a single word. It is a British Guiana six cent worth just £1,000, but it is sought after by all collectors because the word 'Patumusque' figures on it instead of 'Petumusque.'

"Ye 3d gentleman, Col. Washington, was bred a soldier—a warrior, & distinguished himself in early life before & at ye Death of ye unfortunate but intrepid Braddock. He is a modest man, but sensible & speaks little in action evol, like a Bishop in his prayer.

"The 4th real half Quaker, Patrick Henry, your Brother's man—moderate & mild & in religious matter a Saint but ye very Devil in Politics—a son of Thunder-Born-Erges—the Patriotic Farmer will explain this—I know it is above your Thumos. He will shake ye Senate & Some years ago had like to have baited treason in ye House, in these times a very useful man, a notable American, very stern & steady in his country's cause & at ye same time such a fool that I verily believe it w'd puzzle even a king to buy him off—he's a second Shropshire—oh, he had the handling of some of our Courts—for instance, was it North or South Scotch English or Welsh the poor Irish have enough of it in their own country, our Patrick w'd certainly be very useful—he is no Macaroni."

"Some years ago in Western Australia a few stamps were printed with the figure of a swan upside down upon them. When the mistake was detected the issue was hastily destroyed. Several specimens had escaped, and one of them has been sold for £400."—London Tat-Bits.

THE SORROWFUL TREE.

Its Flowers Open at Night and Close With the Dawn of Day.

There is a tree in Persia to which the name "the sorrowful tree" is given, perhaps because it blossoms only in the evening. When the first star appears in the heavens the first bud of the sorrowful tree opens, and as the shades of night advance and the stars thickly studded the sky the buds continue gradually opening until the whole tree looks like one immense white flower.

On the approach of dawn, when the brilliancy of the stars gradually fades in the light of day, the sorrowful tree closes its flowers, and ere the sun is fully risen not a single blossom is visible.

A sheet of flower dust, as white as snow covers the ground around the foot of the tree, which seems blighted and withered during the day, while, however, it is actively preparing for the next nocturnal festival. The fragrance of the blossoms is like that of the evening primrose.

If the tree is cut down close to the roots a new plant shoots up and attains maturity in an incredibly short time.

In the vicinity of this singular tree there usually grows another which is almost an exact counterpart of the sorrowful tree, but less beautiful, and strange to say, it blooms only in the daytime.

Strong Rooms.

The Bank of England's strong room is one of the largest in the world. The foundation, sixty-six feet below the street level, is a bed of concrete twenty feet thick. Above this is a lake seven feet deep, and above that thick plates of iron specially manufactured to resist both skill and force. Any one attempting an entrance from above would find a similar bed of concrete, a similar lake and similar plates of iron. The walls are impenetrable, while the doors are one foot thick, weigh four tons each and are made absolutely unbreakable.

The Imperial Ottoman bank, Constantinople, had a marvelous steel fort built upon a water bearing rock, and on top of the rock foundation is a four foot bed of concrete. The height is over thirty-six feet, length forty-six feet and width twenty-four. The steel walls are surrounded by masonry and concrete six feet thick throughout, while the whole comprises nearly thirty tons of steel.

Circulation of the Blood.

The idea of some sort of movement of the blood in man and the lower animals was possessed by Aristotle and other Greeks and by the physicians of the Alexandrian school as well as by the doctors and surgeons of the middle ages. In fact, even the village barbers knew of such movement. But no one, not even the wisest of men, had any conception of a continuous stream returning to its source—a circulation in the true sense of the word—or of the functions of the heart as the motor power of the movement of the blood until it was demonstrated by Harvey in 1628.

The "Letters of Junius."

The vexed question of the real authorship of the "Letters of Junius" has never been positively settled. Mr. Chabot's learned work to show that Sir Philip Francis was the author of the famous letters, while a strong production, fails of absolute proof. The attempt was made to prove that Thomas Payne wrote the letters, but that, too, failed to convince. The question is still a mystery, though the balance of the evidence is in favor of Sir Philip Francis.

Dad Gets Sarcastic.

"Physical culture, father, is perfectly lovely. To develop the arms I grasp this rod by one end and move it slowly from right to left."

"Well, well!" exclaimed her father. "What won't science discover? If that rod had straw at the other end you'd be sweeping"—Louisville Courier Journal.

Thanks For His Money.

"Weekie—So Slippy is a defaulter, eh? Deekie—So they say. Weekie—By George! I always wondered why he said 'Thank you' so pleasantly every time I made a deposit—Bohemian Magazine.

PATRICK HENRY.

A Saint in Religious Matters, but DIFFERENT IN POLITICS.

The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography has a number of letters by Roger Atkinson, a Virginia planter, who came from Cumberland, England, about 1750 and settled near Petersburg. To his brother-in-law, Samuel Pleasant of Philadelphia, he writes in October, 1775, concerning Virginia's recently appointed seven delegates to the first Philadelphia congress. The spirit of the man is shrewd, but obviously not reverent:

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"Eet ees dose weadow, Bridget, w'at ees bring half dose mos' bes' shirt vaist dose town to de doo of old Matilde."—Youth's Companion.

Laundering Shirt Waists.

Matilde, the popular washerwoman, having sprained her wrist, was unable to do her week's ironing, but she stood over the young Irish girl she had hired and directed the work.

"Maybe, Bridget," observed Matilde, with a watchful eye on her understudy, "you'll think, you dat all shirt vaist ees iron alike. Maybe you'll think she ees som' easy job for iron shirt vaist for half dose lady of different shape."

"But non, Bridget, she ees mos' difficult. Som' of dose vaist ees for dose so fat Mme. Jone, w'at weigh tree, two honder pound. Som' ees for dose so t'm Mlle. Smit, w'at weigh lak som' small fiddaire."

"Eet ees not sufficient to iron dose vaist, she mos' hal be mold to fit does bodie."

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Congressional Bell Signals.

On the door of the house the doorkeeper has his desk, and it is here that the bells are struck that give notice of the needs of congress. One bell calls for tellers when the house is in committee of the whole; two bells indicate a call for year and nays; three declare a recess; with four bells the red light over the door goes out; five bells mean a "call of the house," under which the sergeant at arms is supposed to summarily arrest any member on sight and bring him in, whether on foot or horseback. Any member who is not present at a call of the house is subjected to a severe reprimand. Looking down the corridor, the going out of the red light gives the curious suggestion of the tail end of a passenger train dashing through a tunnel. While the red light burns bright and clear it means that congress is in session, but when the light winks and goes out then the visitors understand that the wheels of legislation have ceased to revolve.—National Magazine.

Countermanded.

A very devout clergyman had just married a couple and, as was his custom, offered a fervent prayer, invoking the divine blessing upon them. As they seemed to be worthy folk and not overburdened with this world's goods, he prayed, among other things, for their material prosperity and besought the Lord to greatly increase the man's business, laying much stress on this point.

In filling out the blanks it became necessary to ask the man his business, and, to the minister's horror, he said, "I keep a saloon."

In telling the story to his wife afterward the clergyman said that as he wrote down the occupation he whispered:

"Lord, you needn't answer that prayer."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Lord Kelvin and the Cable.

It is perhaps not generally known that the success of the Atlantic cable was due to the calculations and experiments of the late Lord Kelvin, at that time plain William Thomson. He discovered that the current through a long cable would arrive gradually at the receiving end and devised the apparatus which rendered it possible to utilize such a current for making the Morse signals. It was through disregard of his theoretical predictions that the first Atlantic cable, in 1858, was ruined by too powerful currents. Without his mirror galvanometer to translate into visible signals the delicate impulses received through the cable the enterprise would have been a complete failure.

How to Fill Up Holes in Wood.

It sometimes becomes necessary to fill up cracks or dents in fine wood-work, furniture, floors, etc. The following is the best way of doing it: White tissue paper is steeped and perfectly softened in water and by thorough kneading with glue transformed into a paste and by means of ochers (earth colors) colored as nearly as possible to the shade of the wood. To the paste calcined magnesia is then added, and it is forced into the cracks or very firmly to the wood and after drying retains its smooth surface.

An Apology.

An excited military looking gentleman entered the editorial sanctum one afternoon, exclaiming: "That notice of my death is false, sir, I will horsewhip you within an inch of your life, sir, if you don't apologize in your next issue."

The editor inserted the following next day: "We extremely regret to announce that the paragraph which stated that Major Blaser was dead is without foundation."—Detroit Free Press.

A Loud Kiss.

Bob Footlite (actor)—Failure? I should think it was! The whole play was ruined.

She—Gracious! How was that?

B. F.—Why, at the end of the last act a steam pipe burst and missed me off the stage.

A Lark.

What a lark it would be if an egg came down the chimney!

No, it wouldn't, unless it was a lark's egg, and even then not until it was hatched.

Eggsactly!

The head, like the stomach, is most easily infected with poison when it is empty.—Jean Paul Richter.

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Notice For Publication

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Lakeview, Oregon, June 20, 1908. Notice is hereby given that Asa Fordyce, of Ft. Klamath, Oregon, who, on August 24, 1901, made homestead entry, No. 2423, for Lots 11, 12 and 13, Section 4, Township 33 S., Range 7½ E., will, Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final five year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before County Clerk, Klamath County, at his office, at Klamath Falls, Oregon, on the 1st day of August, 1908.

Claimant names as witnesses: Christ Weiss, Edd Leever, Charlie Martin and James Emery, all of Ft. Klamath, Oregon.

6-22

J. N. WATSON, Register.

To make room for new goods that are now on the way we are disposing of all second-hand articles we have left at prices less than cost. Virgil & Son.

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