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FRIENDS-AND FRIENDSHIP. Once on a time-perhaps 'twas when Haroun al Raschid ruled - two men Greeted each other at the gate Of Bagdad, famed throughout the state. "Oh, friend," the first exclaimed, "now, say Why gleam your eyes so bright today While mine are filled with tears, that run To lose themselves my beard among?" "Know then, I have a friend most dear In Kandahar this many a year, Who now has come my lot to share, My thoughts, my house, my work, my fare!" "Ah!" cried the first, "my friend has gone Whose face I've daily looked upon, Forever from my sight he's passed Across Arabia's desert vast!" Just then they heard the muezzin's call, "Come, come to prayer!" from turret tall. And each, with closed ears and bowed head "Allah il Allah! Kismet!" said. Then parted: one with flying feet, His thoughts on intercourse most sweet. The other, slow, with stifled groan, To muse upon his friend, alone.

When some ten years had passed away The two men met again, one day The solitary man seemed glad, The other, downcast, tired and sad. "Oh, friend," the first one cried, "I fear You've lost the one you held so dear! What chance could chance your joy to mar In him, who came from Kandahar?" "Alas!" the other cried, "we still Abide together and fulfill The treadmill round of daily life, There is no bickering nor strife, All's courteous, civil, decent yet I feel, deep down, a keen regret. He shares my house, my work, my fare, But in my thoughts he doesn't share! You're glad today-your friend's returned From o'er the desert?" "Nay, I yearned To see him, but I might not see: Yet well I knew his love for me And would not shame that love. I tried To live as though he stood beside To warn, to comfort, and to bless. So grows our friendship more, not less." The other answered with a sigh, "Just then, from out a turret high, The muezzin's voice rose clear and loud, "Come, come to prayer!" Each head was bowed. And as the sun set, round and red, "Allah il Allah! Kismet!" said. Oh, heed the moral well, I pray! A friend may go and friendship stay Or come and friendship fly away "Allah il Allah! Kismet!" say -Arthur Chamberlain in Boston Common wealth.

Photographing a Bullet. An apparatus for photographing bullets in flight consists of a box lined with black cloth, in which the photographic plate is exposed; of an electrical condenser formed of a plate of glass about a foot square; of a smaller condenser, in the form of a bottle, to act as a starter of the spark, and of a system of wire circuits and knobs to give the spark which throws the shadow of the bullet on the plate and thus takes the photograph. The bullet enters and leaves the box by two holes covered with paper to exclude the light, and in passing the plate the bullet touches the terminals of two wires composed of thin lead wire, thus partially completing the circuit.

A small flash passes from the smaller condenser, causing a large flash to pass between the knobs of the plate condenser inside the box, and this flash, lasting less than a millionth of a second, takes the photograph of the bullet, no lens being employed. -New York World. He and His Wife. Wife-I need a little more money. Husband-It is only two days since. Wife-Now, see here! I want you to understand that I wouldn't ask for money if I didn't need it, and I don't intend to be reminded that it's only two days since you gave me some. I am not a child, nor a mendicant, nor a slave, to be treated like an irresponsible being, and I just want you to know that I won't stand it either, so there now! I've got just as much right to your money as you have, so there now, you. Husband-My dear, I was merely going to remark that it is only two days since I drew my salary, and you could have all you wanted. New York Weekly.

Carlyle's Effort. Carlyle tried to make the proud English ashamed of their gentility, respectability and rubbish. He taught that work was noble, idleness shameful; that ladies and gentlemen who live to please themselves live the life of a beast-of the pooh on their hearth rug, that duty no pleasure, was "our being's end and aim;" that realities were better than shams. But to make the "upper middle classes" swallow all this he was obliged to disguise the medicinal truth, not exactly in nectar, but in a Scotch porridge manufactured for the purpose, a notable "sham" of his own. -"Life and Letters of Samuel Palmer." The Concern. A school board inspector asked a small pupil of what the surface of the earth consists, and was promptly answered, "Land and water." He varied the question slightly, that the fact might be impressed on the boy's mind, and asked: "What, then, do land and water make?" To which came the immediate response, "Mud." -London Tit Bits.

Why Philadelphia Grows. When anybody wants a new house in Philadelphia he goes off some where and gets a vacant lot and builds his new house on that. No one ever thinks of tearing down an old house to put up a new one. Old things are too sacred. -Cor. New York Sun. Fifty Kinds of Sea Serpents. Sea serpents are all easily recognized by their oar shaped, laterally flattened tail. Twenty seven distinct species are known as Indian and

Hoping the Sun. One popular myth of the South Sea Islanders expresses the very poetical belief that the Island of Tongareva was fished out of the bottom of the sea by a god, who used for the purpose the tail of the constellation Scorpio, baiting this remarkable hook with a star. Another divinity accomplished a work of great beneficence by regulating the sun. The orb of day used to have a trick of setting almost as soon as it had risen, so that it was impossible to get through any work. Even an oven of food could not be prepared and cooked before darkness came on. So the deity Maui carefully plaited six great ropes of strong cocoanut fiber, making nooses in them, and with these he sought the hole at the edge of the sky through which the sun climbed up from the nether world each morning. At this point of exit from the land of ghosts into the heavens the six nooses were placed. They entrapped the sun, and that luminary was glad to agree to be in future more deliberate in his movements, so as to enable the inhabitants of the earth to get through their employments. -Exchange.

Greek and Latin. I am afraid that tradition is likely to be too strong for us, and that the old story will go on for a long time to come; that Latin and Greek will still be the staple of education, and that the making of Latin and Greek verses will be the intellectual exercise of the boys of the future as it has been of the boys of the past. I do not for the moment deny that there are masterpieces of beautiful form in old literature. To deny it would be absurd. I should be very sorry, for my part, to give up the knowledge I have of these languages, and I remember what an era it was in the expansion of my own thought when first I was set to work on the Republic of Plato. But when we speak of Greek and Latin literature, I suppose it is like English and French literature in this respect, that it contains good, bad and indifferent. It is a great mistake to think that everybody who wrote in Greek wrote beautifully, or that every work composed in Latin about the Augustan era is a model to admire and imitate. -Archbishop Thomson.

He Had Studied. It is to be feared that even in the United States so called liberally educated men are sometimes ignorant of many simple and useful things; but what shall be said of the state of education in China? It is exceedingly common to find men who have spent more years in study than they can remember, who yet cannot read the simplest colloquial book, nor repeat a page of what they have studied. A few months ago the writer met in a dispensary a man who seemed to be examining his tally card with a minute attention which indicated that he recognized the characters. The latter were few and simple, merely indicating his surname and number, "Wang, Number 236." On being asked if he knew the characters by sight, he replied that he recognized "about half of them." "And have you studied at school?" "Oh, yes." "How long have you studied?" "Twelve years." -"Chinese Characteristics."

Better Than Flytraps. Pet chameleons in Cape Colony are utilized as domestic fly catchers. A lady of my acquaintance one day took the trouble to count the number of flies her tame chameleon caught while it was resting on her hand. When she saw a fly on the wall or table she held "chummy" near it, when out flew the tongue and the fly disappeared. She had the patience to count 100, and thought that was enough flies for one day and restored the fly catcher to its cage. Schoolboys make bets with each other to see whose chameleon will most quickly catch, say, twenty or fifty flies, as may be. So chameleons in hot countries where insects abound are not without their use. -Cor. Forest and Stream.

The Hookah in India. The hookah is smoked as a refreshment and sign of fellowship by the natives of India, and not merely as a luxury. When a group of natives are seated together and, as is the custom, the hookah is passed around to each in turn, it is considered very bad manners for any one to decline to have a few puffs. If the hookah is thus refused in a friend's house, or while one is the guest of another, it is regarded as an insult. If for any reason a native is put out of caste the fact is strictly marked by his former caste fellows' refusal to smoke with him, and any one who eats, drinks or smokes with an outcaste is himself outcasted. -Chambers' Journal.

When Justice Will Come. A correspondent tells a true story of an Irishman who was complaining the other day that he and other campaigners had lost a case in the courts. He ignored the fact that the evidence went against him and his friends. "When William gets in"-of course there is only one William-"he will do away with the police and the law."

BARBER AND DENTIST. The Shrewd Knight of the Razor Wanted an Advertisement. Dr. Wills, an English resident of Persia, was talking with the barber who had come as usual to shave and shampoo him. "Why not do me the honor to come just over to my shop?" said the barber. "It would do you harm," answered Dr. Wills, "if the people were to know that you shaved an unbeliever." "Not a bit of it, sahib. I would shave the evil one himself if he were only open handed; and I should be respected for it, particularly if"-with a chuckle-"I kept tight hold of his nose." Hassan, the barber, had tight hold of the Englishman's nose at that moment, and as he was just going over the region above Adam's apple with his keen razor there was no replying to his joke. "You should see me draw teeth-such teeth!" added the barber. "You, doctor, who only draw the teeth of princes and gentry, you have never seen such teeth, even in a dream." Here he drew his fingers, dipped in water over his client's chin-they do not lather in the east-and added with unctious, "Such teeth-teeth with five roots!" Dr. Wills could not restrain, for Hassan had him by the nose again, and his razor was still playing in dangerous places. The conversation ended by the Englishman's promising to visit the barber at his shop. Hassan had no sooner gathered up his traps and retired with dignity than the servant of Dr. Wills began to expostulate. "You won't go, sir, of course," he began, as he handed his master a towel. "Won't go! Indeed I shall. Why not, pray?" "Ah, you sahibs are always taken in. Don't you see, sahib, why he wants you to come? He will say you have come to learn from him." The Englishman was amused, and at the time appointed he went to Hassan's shop, and was received with exuberant welcome. "Your footsteps are on my eyes, you are indeed welcome; you honor my poor establishment."

The place was "clean as a new pin." Vases of the Narcissus poetical filled it with fragrance, and customers were plentiful. Heads were shaved; arms were bled; a rheumatic sufferer lay down and received three severe burns with a hot iron, for which he seemed duly grateful; and finally Hassan "accidentally" extracted a part of a tooth-in three acts and a prologue, with an interval of five minutes after each. At the end a large piece came away. "Ah," said the triumphant barber, "that was where the pain was!" And the patient went out with his cheek in his hand. Dr. Wills soon followed, but was hardly in his own courtyard before his servant entered, pale with rage. "Sahib! Oh, sahib!" he began. "I said it! I knew it! He has done it; I knew he would! There he stands, the rascal, explaining to the two merchants, your patients, that you-ah, that I should live to see the day! -that you have come to him at your own request to take a lesson in tooth drawing!" -Youth's Companion.

Knew His Business. The clothing man had printed a big advertisement, and he was honest and had much business. A factious customer came in. "I like this," he said, sticking out a copy of the paper containing the ad. "What's the matter with it?" asked the clothier. "You say here, 'A good boy's coat for fifty cents.' Can't a bad boy get a coat for fifty cents too?" "Yes," said the clothier politely. "Then why not make the advertisement to read 'a boy's good coat for fifty cents?'" and the customer laughed the laugh of a man who always has everything just right. The clothier was as serene and gentle as the gospel of truth and light. "Because," he said, "I meant it the way I put it. We can't sell a boy's good coat for fifty cents. We can and do sell a good boy's coat for fifty cents, and if a bad boy wants one of that kind he can have it exactly at the same price. See?" Then the factious customer put the paper in his pocket and took one of the coats home to his boy. -Detroit Free Press.

Oil as an Insulator. The value of oil as an electric insulator, which has been supposed to have been well proved by practical tests in this country and in Germany, is now placed somewhat in doubt by experiments conducted by Professor Elihu Thomson, the results of whose experiments seem to show that alternating currents of moderate potentials, and low periodicities will cause puncture over much longer distances under oil than occur with very high period current discharges. -New York World.

At the Steamship Docks. Among the striking sights of New York are those to be seen at the docks. It is as interesting to look at a steamship load of Americans bound for Europe as to look at a steamship load of European immigrants coming into port. The outward bound Americans are apt to be less picturesque