

LIKE HAMMERED GOLD.

Proposed Monument for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.

The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition monument, to be the crowning work of the international exposition of 1909, will be covered with gold leaf. Gold donations to the amount of \$7,000, necessary to completely cover the great shaft with the shining metal, will be solicited from Alaskans, Yukoners and the people of the world.

An appropriation to cover the cost of building the monument in staff has been authorized, the drawings made by the sculptor is engaged in building a clay model. The monument is to be in the center of the plaza in front of the magnificent group of United States government buildings and the head of the Cascades.

From the monument the eye will travel over a panorama of eighty miles of mountains, lake and woodland scenery to Rainier and the Cascade range.

The exposition monument is to be more than seventy feet in height. The monument proper will stand on a pedestal twenty feet high. This column will be of Corinthian design, on the top of which will be a globe giving the signs of the zodiac. On top of this globe will be a huge American eagle with outstretched wings, as in flight. Grouped about the base of the monument will be three seated female figures symbolic of the northland, the south sea and the orient. Every foot of this great monument will have the appearance of having been hammered out of pure gold if the donations are forthcoming.

Dislike to the second. She also secured an exit by the easy means of opium. A Bengali woman in Howrah wanted to go on a pilgrimage to Gaya. Her mother said she could not advance the railway fare, and the girl went out to a tree and hanged herself. These are all recent cases.—Calcutta Empire.

A Pleasant Prison.

The prison at Cetinje, Montenegro, has been described as surely the most pleasant one in existence. It is a little to indicate that it is a prison, there being a garden between the prison and the city. There are no prison walls, and in the cells the prisoners are about eight or ten to each, are as contentedly and comfortably housed as their own personal domestic belongings can make them. Moreover, they are generously fed, and cigarettes without stint, wine occasionally and no work at all combine to check any desire to escape more effectively than would strong walls, iron bars and an army of jailers.—London Globe.

Trees in the Treetops.

Here is a story speaking better for the German emperor's goodness of heart than his knowledge of the ancient game of golf. "So you and for your golf club, Sir," said the Kaiser to the Britisher at Berlin. "We haven't a grassy meadow round Berlin, have we in England, but I'll give you a bit of the Grunewald," a pine near Berlin and a great Sunday the Berliners. "Ah, sire," Sir Frank Lascelles replied, "I am afraid there would be too many trees!" "Trees!" instantly replied the emperor, with bonhomie. "All the better to keep the sun off you when you are playing in the summer!"

Cold Storage Poultry.

The state board of health of Massachusetts has issued a bulletin on cold storage poultry in which this advice is given to housekeepers: "In order to obtain waterlogged and re-frozen poultry the consumer should avoid the frozen bird and thaw it himself. If thawed quickly by immersion in a bucket of hot water it may be eaten with impunity and with relish the same day it is purchased, or if hung overnight at room temperature it may be ready for use the day following."

The Funny English.

S. S. Palmer, vice president elect of the United States, may possibly look a little odd in the position of president. It will be remembered that on the death of President McKinley, Mr. Roosevelt, who was then vice president, succeeded automatically to the presidency without opposition. Should anything happen to Mr. Taft (which we sincerely trust, for his sake, may not be the case) Mr. Palmer would probably, if precedent were followed, take his place.—Illustrated London News.

The Moving in Party.

"Yes, they have a new sort of function in Chicago that is quite the rage." "What is it called?" "It's called a moving in party. When the hostess learns that the empty house next door is to be occupied she calls her guests by telephone, and they come and draw cuts for the front windows and then sit there and sip up the new neighbor's stuff as the new carry it in."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Senate's Hole in the Wall.

When the nineteenth century was as yet only half grown, senators applied customarily for their toddlers at the so-called Hole in the Wall, a small circular room just off the postoffice of the upper house. The latter body then occupied what is now the chamber of the supreme court, and the postoffice was across the main corridor of the building on the same floor. When a wearer of the toga found himself in need of a "snifter" he had only to cross over to the mails department and pass through it to the little circular room aforesaid, which was about the size of a pantry. The Hole in the Wall was the first senate restaurant, and the bill of fare for edibles was short, though to the point. There was ham, guaranteed to have been smoked for six months, a veritable sublimation of the pork product; there were corned beef and bread and cheese, but very little else. They served, however, as an accompaniment for the fluids, and when the Hole was crowded, as was often the case, senators ate their sandwiches outside, in the postoffice.—Washington Post.

The Aurora Borealis.

The aurora borealis, or northern light, is something that we have all heard about, but very few, perhaps, can give any explanation of it. No one definitely knows what causes it, but the scientists are pretty well agreed that it is due to electricity. They believe that the light is made by the recombination of the positive and negative electricity always in the upper and lower strata of air, respectively. M. Lenstrom made an interesting experiment in Finland in 1882, his object being to determine the nature of the aurora. He had the peak of a mountain surrounded by a copper wire, pointed at intervals with tin nibs. When he had charged the wire with electricity a yellow light appeared on the tin tips, and an examination of the light by the spectroscopic revealed the greenish yellow ray that is a marked feature of the aurora. This evidence among scientists is almost convincing, for it is by means of the spectroscopic that we discover the constituent parts of the sun and the stars.—Exchange.

"Thou Diest on Point of Fox."

Fox blades were celebrated all through the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries for their excellent temper, and mention of them is frequent in English drama. This is their history: There was a certain Julian del Rei, believed to be a Morisco, who set up a forge at Toledo in the early part of the sixteenth century and became famous for the excellence of his sword blades, which were regarded as the best of Toledo. That city had for many ages previous been renowned for swordmaking, it being supposed that the Moors introduced the art, as they did so many good things, from the east.

Julian del Rei's work was a little dog, which came to be taken for a fox, and so the "fox blade" or simply "fox" for any good sword. See "Henry V." act 4, scene 4, "Thou diest on point of fox." The brand came to be imitated in other places, and there are Solingen blades of comparatively modern manufacture which still bear the little dog of Julian del Rei.—London Notes and Queries.

A Royal Snake Slaughterer.

The "secretary bird" is one of the most precious birds in South Africa. It is a royal game, and any person destroying one is liable to a fine of £50. Majestic looking birds, they stand about three feet high and generally go in pairs. They are of drab color, with black, feathery legs, and are valued for their propensity for killing snakes. Where the secretary bird is seen there are sure to be many reptiles about. The bird beats down its adversary first with one wing and then with the other at the same time trampling on it with its feet until the snake is sufficiently stunned to catch it by the head with its claws. Then the bird rises far up in the air and drops its victim to the ground, to be killed. By this means thousands of venomous reptiles are destroyed.—London Scraps.

Natural History.

"What is you been workin'?" asked Miss Miami Brown.

"Up to one o' deshere garridges whar dey keep de automobiles."

"I s'pose you likes 'em better dan mules."

"Well, de diff'ence is dat a mule kicks wif his hind feet an' de automobile is mo' liable to butt same as a goat."—Washington Star.

Busy Woman.

Every monthly magazine carries as many as two continued stories in it. When a man takes six it means that his wife is carrying twelve continued stories in her head in addition to doing the cooking and trying to find out how much the new hat cost worn by the woman next door.—Oil City Derrick.

Economical.

She—I'm going to give you back our engagement ring. I love another. He—Give me his name and address. She—Do you want to kill him? He—No, I want to sell him the ring.—Pick-Me-Up.

Milk Toast and Cheese.

Make some rich milk toast and spread out on a flat dish. Cover with a thick layer of grated cheese and put in the oven till the cheese melts and browns.—Harper's Bazar.

A Sponger.

"The worse of Spongily is he never pays anything," said Grabbles.

"Oh, doesn't he, though? Ask him to pay you a visit and see," retorted Hicks.

A Wedding Decoration.

Whether it was a mistake or a joke or simply an example of bad taste is a question that is still puzzling most of the passengers. But no matter about that. It certainly was a floral masterpiece. Full four feet it stood from the ground, in the form of a cross. Roses white and roses red composed the body of the cross, and dainty white blossoms and green leaves formed the trimmings. In the center the word "Peace" was spelled out in rosebuds.

Everybody in the car admired the offering, and when the boy set it down on the floor all leaned forward to examine it more closely. At length one old gentleman stood up and readjusted his glasses in order to get a better look at it.

"That is a mighty pretty poey you've got there," he said. "Who, may I ask, is dead?"

The boy giggled.

"Nobody 't I know of," he said. "This ain't for a funeral; it's for a wedding."

The old gentleman sat down heavily.

"Good Lord!" he said. "What idiot ever ordered 'Peace' inscribed on a wedding decoration?"

The rest of the passengers smiled, and many of them, being married, wondered as well, but nobody ventured an explanation.—New York Times.

Death and Snuff.

A certain Margaret Wilson of Westminster, who was an inveterate snuff taker, enjoined that a quantity of Scotch snuff should be placed in her coffin. She also ordered that the arrangements connected with her funeral should be as follows: "Six men to be my bearers who are known to be the greatest snuff takers in the parish of St. James, Westminster. Instead of mourning, each to wear a snuff-colored beaver hat, which I desire may be bought for the purpose and given to them. Six maidens of my old acquaintance to bear my pall, each to carry a box filled with the best Scotch snuff, to take for their refreshment as they go along." Snuff was also to be thrown on the threshold of deceased's dwelling before the cortege passed out, snuff was to be strewn on the ground at every twenty yards in advance of the coffin, and the officiating clergyman's fee was to be proportionate to the quantity of snuff he consumed during the ceremony.—London Globe.

What the Peruvians Believed.

A unique idea of the future state was that of the ancient Peruvians. As the disembodied soul winged its way to eternity it encountered two rocks, upon one of which it must needs rest. The choice was determined by the morality of the life in the flesh. If it rested upon the left hand rock it was instantly translated to "Po," or oblivion, a state analogous to the Nirvana of the orient. If through early misdeeds, however, the unhappy spirit was guided to the right hand rock it entered into a purgatorial hell where fiends grated away the flesh from all the bones in succession, after which the skeleton was re clothed and sent back to earth for another try. There was no haste about this grating process. It took something over 10,000 years.

Australia's First Theater.

The first recorded production of a play in Australia took place in June of the year 1789. It was called "The Recruiting Officer." The proceeds of the first night (some £20) went to the family of a man who had been drowned. In January, 1796, a rough and ready playhouse was opened, and the public had to pay a shilling a head for admission. The payments were made in kind, wheat, flour or rum taking the place of the usual currency.—London Standard.

Disappearing Home Life.

The flat dweller ought not to keep a dog, prefers not to keep a cat, cannot have a garden, has no chance of keeping house, has no possible place for memories and, most emphatic of all, has no use or accommodation for babies. Although it may be possible to make homes without kittens or babies or flowers or memories or cupboards, the spirit of home is hard to woo and win without any of them.—Fortnightly Review.

Go Right at It.

"Of course you know that germs communicate sickness?"

"Yes," answered the man who is apprehensive about his health, "and the worst of it is that they get right down to business in their communications, instead of employing the scientific circumlocution of the medical profession."—Exchange.

Trying to Make a Hit.

Judge:—Do you acknowledge the charge brought before the court of throwing your wife to the ground and knocking her head repeatedly against the floor? Prisoner (evasively):—I was only trying to make a hit with her, your honor.—Judge.

A Substitute.

"I am sorry, my dear sir, but I neglected to bring my surgical instruments with me."

"That will be all right, doctor. The plumber who has been working in the cellar has left his tools here."—Exchange.

The Fatted Calf.

That mighty unfair trick of killing the fatted calf for the prodigal causes more family rows than anything else on earth except the division of father's money.—Athenian Globe.

Out of a great evil may come a great good.—Italian Proverb.

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