

JERICO.

The Famous City, Its Walls and the Curse of Joshua.

The walls of Jericho, remains of which have been excavated by German archaeologists, are, of course, chiefly famous in connection with their miraculous destruction by Joshua. It is recorded in the book of Joshua, chapter vi, that, by command of the Lord, Joshua's army compassed the city, going roundabout it once a day for six days, headed by seven priests bearing seven rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day they encircled it seven times. Then, on Joshua's command, "the people shouted, and the priests blew with the trumpets, and it came to pass when the people heard the sound of the trumpet that the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city," destroying all that was in it, except Rahab the harlot, who had hidden the messengers sent by Joshua to spy out the city and her father's household. The date of this destruction is placed at B. C. 1451. In spite of Joshua's curse on any one who should rebuild the city, it was rebuilt in the reign of Ahab in B. C. 918 by Hiel, a native of Bethel, and it is recorded in I Kings xvi, 34, how the curse of Joshua was fulfilled. The second city flourished and under Herod the Great became important. It was sacked by one Simon, slave of Herod. Archelaus, the son of Herod, founded a new town on the plain, which he had planted with palms. Jericho was finally destroyed by Vespasian in A. D. 68.—Dundee Advertiser.

DOING THE CZAR.

A Display of Quick Wit by the Comedian Martineff.

The Emperor Nicholas of Russia was once "sold" as follows:

During an interview which Martineff, the comedian and mimic, had succeeded in obtaining with Prince Volkonsky, high steward, the emperor walked into the room unexpectedly, yet with a design, as was soon made evident.

Telling the actor that he had heard of his talents and should like to see a specimen of them, he bade him mimic the old minister. The feat was performed with so much gusto that the emperor laughed immoderately and then, to the great horror of the poor actor, desired to have himself "taken off."

"'Tis physically impossible," pleaded Martineff.

"Nonsense!" said Nicholas. "I insist on its being done."

Finding himself on the horns of a dilemma, the mimic took heart of grace and, with a promptitude and presence of mind that probably saved him, buttoned his coat over his breast, expanded his chest, threw up his head and, assuming the imperial part to the best of his power, strode across the room and back; then, standing opposite the minister, he cried in the exact tone and manner of the czar:

"Volkonsky, pay M. Martineff 1,000 silver rubles!"

The emperor for a moment was disconcerted; but, recovering himself with a smile, he ordered the money to be paid.

Stories of John Bright.

John Bright was supposed to be a total abstainer, but once when Edward Miall was very nervous at the prospect of having to make an important speech in the house Bright said:

"Well, Miall, if I were you I'd for once go and have a pint of champagne."

Mr. Miall did as he was told, and the result may be judged from the narrator's comment that "champagne on an unaccustomed interior is not always a curative or a tonic."

Bright "rarely had any difference with his wife," but occasionally they were not at one about the children. When they came to a point of absolute disagreement he used to say:

"Now, I tell thee, if thou doesn't do what I wish I'll go straight to Mr. Gladstone and ask him to make me a knight," to which the answer invariably was:

"Oh, anything rather than that."

He Was Not Superstitious.

A captain of an ocean liner tells the following story: Coming from the old country was a very nervous old lady who complained that she was sure there was a rat in her stateroom.

"Keep it there, madam," said the captain.

"But do you like rats?" asked she.

"I've got a nest in my cabin," reported the brusque seaman, "and I never disturb them. When they leave the ship I do."

"Why, you must be superstitious," urged the dame.

"No, ma'am," wound up the captain, "I'm not, but the rats are."

Qualified.

"I'm sure my daughter is going to make a great singer some day."

"Is that so?"

"Yes; she's always quarreling with her mother, who tells me it is absolutely impossible to manage her."—Detroit Free Press.

Paid Her Back.

Mae—So you are engaged to George? I refused him three times. Ethel—That must have been what he meant when he told me that he had had several narrow escapes.—New York Journal.

The Flame.

Clara—That man who just passed was an old flame of mine. Kate—Indeed! What happened between you?

Clara—Oh, he flared up one day and went out.—Boston Transcript.

Prizefighting Weights.

In prizefighting bantamweight is 115 pounds ringside; featherweight, 122 ringside; lightweight, 133 ringside; welterweight, 142 ringside; middleweight, 154 ringside; light heavyweight, 165 ringside; heavyweight, all over 165.

A Lincoln Relic.

Among the Lincoln relics in Tacoma Wash. is a valise carried by Lincoln more than fifty years ago on his debating tour in Illinois with Stephen A. Douglas. It is a plain box split in two and covered with black cowhide leather, with thin iron bands thickly studded with large headed tacks like buttons.

The President at Table.

When the president of the United States sits at a dinner table, even as the host, and there are ladies present, he is always served first, as with all other rulers. It is an old custom observed in all countries.

Washable Paper Cloth.

The Japs make a paper cloth that washes like linen.

Scenery in Ireland.

The one thing that strikes the traveler about Irish scenery is the gray tones of its coloring. The rocks, the hills, the houses, the soil, the sky, are all painted in gray, and it assuredly looks its best not in the full glare of sunlight.

Big Brained.

The only two animals whose brains are heavier than that of a man are the whale and the elephant.

Pure Water Is Blue.

A well known scientist says that the true color of pure water is blue and that this is a characteristic of the water itself and not due to reflection from the surface or from suspended particles. Lake Geneva is an example of the blue of pure water.

Radium.

Radium is contained in greater or less amount in every sort of igneous rock.

Absolute Zero.

Astronomers believe that the temperature of space outside of the earth's atmosphere is 459 degrees below the zero of the Fahrenheit scale. That inconceivable cold is what they mean by absolute zero.

Yawns.

Yawns are excited by improper aeration of the blood and are akin to the unconscious, tired sigh. Both are evidence of mental fatigue and sometimes are symptoms of brain disease. There is no reason to be worried over a fit of yawning, however, for often it is brought on merely by sight of some one else yawning.

The Chimpanzee.

Surgeons of the Pasteur Institute at Paris have discovered that chimpanzees have a previously unsuspected resemblance to man in their special susceptibility to appendicitis.

Mice That Spin Like Tops.

Japan has a breed of mice which whirl round and round for hours at a time. If a person should lift a mouse when it is whirling, the animal will resume its whirling the moment it is set down.

A Silver Dollar.

The life of a silver dollar in constant circulation is only four or five years.

New York's First Ferry.

The first ferry from New York city to Long Island was established in 1637. It was in the vicinity of Peck slip. Cornelius Dincksen, who had a farm near by, came to ferry passengers at the sound of a horn, which he hung against a tree near his skiff.

The Honeycomb.

The mathematics of the honeycomb are as near perfect as can be, quite up to that of any human engineering, the hexagonal cell combining, as it does, the maximum of strength with the minimum expenditure of material.

Coral.

Some of the better grades of Mediterranean coral sell at wholesale in the crude state as high as \$200 per pound.

Lake Geneva.

Extraordinary are "tidal" waves of Lake Geneva. They are called "tidal" for want of a better name. At uncertain intervals the lake leaves itself up and raises five or six feet in a few seconds—why or wherefore no one knows.

Ant Road Builders.

The greatest road builders of the world are the red ants of South America, which line the roads leading to and the galleries and passages within their nests with clay packed perfectly smooth.

First American Lifeboat.

The first American lifeboat was built by the Massachusetts Humane society in 1807 and was placed at Cohasset. Other boats were built by the society at intervals until it had, in 1873, fifty-six boats in service among the eighty life saving stations it had established.

Early Panama Road.

A paved road was constructed across the isthmus of Panama in 1671.

Teak Wood.

Teak wood is given its extraordinary durability by barking the trees two years before they are cut, causing the oil to develop, as though to protect the trees from exposure.

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Kiss Me, Doctor.

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Young Dr. Beaumont was an original thinker. He had no sooner learned what the medical profession knew than he began to speculate upon what it did not know. "What about these faith cures?" he asked himself. His answer was, "Influence of mind over matter." "And what about hypnotism?" "Influence of one mind over another."

The doctor tried the first influence—mind over matter—and met with little success. But in attempting to influence his patients he made a discovery. He possessed the power of hypnotism.

Now, Jim Beaumont, as his friends called him, after learning of his power, caught an idea—a new idea. He was very much in love with Julia Adams and had found it impossible, so far as he could judge, to make the slightest impression upon her. But in matters of love "hope springs eternal." He was not convinced that Julia did not favor him, and he hoped that she did. When he discovered his power of hypnotism it occurred to him to use it for the purpose of finding out her real sentiments toward him.

The doctor called upon Miss Adams, told her that he had discovered hypnotic power in himself and after some bantering on either side gained her consent that he should put her to sleep. She went off very easily, and when he was satisfied that she was completely under his control he began to ply her with questions.

"You are in love," he said. "Don't say you are not; you are."

"Yes," was the faint reply.

"Describe the man you love."

"He is tall, not quite six feet."

"That was the doctor's height. He wears no beard, only a mustache." So did the doctor. "His complexion and eyes and hair are light." These also fitted. Beaumont was delighted. "He is beginning to show a trifle of baldness."

The doctor never before rejoiced that he was getting bald. "He has a peculiar walk, moving every part of his body at once." His pals had often called him on this peculiarity. It had troubled him; but, being natural to him, he couldn't help it. Now that he was loved in spite of it he didn't care.

"He has one blemish—not a physical blemish, but one of character."

"What's that?" asked the hypnotizer, a trifle worried.

"He is very selfish."

"Selfish?"

"Yes, even tricky."

"How selfish and tricky?" asked the doctor, pausing.

"He loves, but he is unwilling to declare his love, ignoring the fact that it is the girl's privilege to reserve a showing of her own love till she is sure she is informed of his."

"This took the interviewer, as sailors say, flat aback. He began to fear he had gone wrong.

"Do—do—you regard this dishonorable?"

"I certainly do."

"But you still love him?"

"I am not sure about that. True love is based on respect. Without respect love is sure to wane."

The doctor trembled. He was wondering what to do when she spoke again. This time he was astonished.

"Kiss me, doctor."

The words were a flashlight on his position. He had attempted to extort a confession of love that was not freely given. The girl's will power was so completely removed that she had done an unmaidenly thing. He shuddered at taking advantage of her in doing as she asked, and yet he had done an equally contemptible act in leaving her a confession of love that she would not have given had he not been hypnotized. He did not know what further move to make in the matter, but resolved to gain further information as to the consequences of his act by more questions, shooting her request, he asked:

"If your lover could gain no encouragement don't you think he was justified in fading out your sentiments?"

"Not without first declaring his love."

"Would you have a man propose to you without any intimation from or that she favored him?"

"That's his risk."

"And he is not acting honorably in attempting to learn anything of her sentiments toward him?"

"If she is in full possession of her senses he is justified in using every wile."

"I thought all is fair in war or love."

"Nothing is fair that is dishonorable."

There were two scientific points involved that interested him. First, could hypnotized she was conscious what he had done; second, she retained her reasoning powers. For the moment his scientific bent overpowered every other consideration. Leaving his subject, he strode back and forth must.

"By Jove," he said aloud, "I must try an article for the Medical Record. I can use fictitious names."

So though he heard a faint giggle, going to say his subject still lying peacefully asleep.

"The doctor."

"The doctor be bent over her. Not bent over, but when he looked at her the mouth quivered and she had possession of her lips, and she needed for her to repeat requests. He pressed a kiss upon her and at the same time she used a pair of laughing eyes.

He enters the Medical Record's news column.

HEVELYN WITNOL.