

CHOICE MISCELLANY

Indian Sign Language.

With the passing of the old Indian men and women in the west will vanish the sign language used for centuries as a means of communication among North American Indian tribes.

Bandits of Sicily.

Since the opening, ten years ago, of the railway from Giarrì to Catania, on the island of Sicily, Mount Etna has been the most accessible of volcanoes.

Where Noise is Fined.

The most silent town in Europe is, or rather was until recently, not Bremen apparently, but Driesen-Vordamm, in Brandenburg.

A Land Battleship.

A unique feature of the extensive constructions under construction at the entrance to Manila harbor is a "land battleship," as it is called.

Lost His Own Skeleton.

A curious law case, that of a man who sued for the ownership of his skeleton, has just been concluded at Stockholm.

A Quaker's Modest Price.

John William Itansden, who recently celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday, is a wealthy man.

A Hideous Sight.

From a Shanghai newspaper: "The most hideous form of punishment was recently witnessed in Cheuchow when a mother-in-law who had driven her daughter-in-law to commit suicide..."

Taking No Chance. "Darling," he said, "I wish to be perfectly frank and honest with you. We are to be married a week from next Thursday. Don't you think I ought before it is forever too late to tell you the story of my past life?"

The Curly of My Childhood. [With all due apologies.] How dear to my heart are the curls of my childhood. When memory's working recalls them to me...

In Old Bagdad. "Have I ever told you," asked Scheherazade, "the story of the lake which covered the site of a vanished city and of the fisherman who cast his nets therein..."

The First Straw. From the closet, cobweb covered, Took he forth his old straw hat. Scent of moth balls round it hovered.

Not Complimentary. "Well," said the young lawyer after he had heard his new client's story, "your case appears to be good. I think we can secure a verdict without much trouble."

Progress. Last year I experienced internal pain. My doctor in tone supercilious Announced that I never could motor again.

Mercenary Maude. "I understand you are engaged," said Mamie. "Not yet," replied Maude. "I have several offers, but the engagement rings have not all been submitted for inspection."

Trades Birds. Three little birds one morning perched Upon my window sill. They looked so very, very sick I offered them a pill.

Precocious. "Have you ever heard a person curse the day he was born?" "Yes; that is very common."

Woman's Wiles. O woman, in your hours of E's Why do you spend so many V's? Poor man must mind his P's and Q's To earn the X's that you U's.

No Concealment. Mrs. Byers—All the big berries are on the top of this box, I suppose. Peddler—No, mum; some of 'em are on the top of the other boxes.—Boston Transcript.

Rather Puzzling. There's one thing we can't understand. 'Tis not of women's hats. But why they all should fear mice and yet be so fond of "rats."

The Crows and the Snake. "Strolling in Burma one day," says a writer in the London Field, "I came to a ditch bridge, and about ten yards off there was a mass of black soft mud caused by buffaloes rolling."

The Rainbow. When a ray of sunlight falls on a raindrop it is refracted; then part of the light is reflected from the internal surface and again refracted on leaving the drop.

Male Fashions in 1870. Male fashions of 1870 had other discomforts besides long hair. Trousers were light and buttoned under the foot with broad straps.

Dr. Yates' Trousers. St. Catharine's was the first Cambridge college to produce a don who dared to stagger humanity by wearing trousers.

Genesis of the Horseshoe. It is known that the hoofs of horses were protected by boots of leather at a very early period in the world's history.

A Useful Femur. Excited Naturalist—Are you aware, my dear sir, that this gatepost of yours is the femur of an ornithomimid?"

A Strong Cup. Guest (to cheap restaurant)—Look here, waiter, I thought I told you to bring me a strong cup of coffee?

Feminine Tactics. "Why are you talking about a trip to Europe? It would cost your husband \$1,000 or more."

Her Favorite Sports. "Is your wife a lover of outdoor sports?" "I should say so. She's bargain or house hunting all the time."

Easy. "How shall I break my husband of playing poker?" "Just break him and keep him that way."

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