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SLANG IN CLASSIC

Pages of Cervantes Full of Colloquialisms.

Variety of Terms by Many Thought to Be Modern Can Be Found in "Don Quixote" and in "Rabelais' Works.

"They now spurred on toward the inn, and soon overtook on the road a young fellow, heading it on the hoof pretty leisurely." "No, no, it shall never be said of me, the eaten bread is forgotten, or that I thought it working for a dead horse, because I am paid in advance." Extracts from a recent western novel? By no means; quotations from a world classic written 400 years ago.

In a recent reading of "Don Quixote" I have been struck by the fact that it is a vast storehouse of what we fondly believe to be American slang. And this is not by any twisting of the sense; the terms are used strictly in their modern significance. It is true that I do not read the book in its original tongue, but the translation is that of Peter Anthony Motteux, and was made more than 200 years ago, so that it has a fair degree of antiquity. This Huguenot merchant, who settled in London after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, picked up a remarkable knowledge of homely, idiomatic English, and his language is always racy of the soil.

"Take it from me, you will lose your labor," says the Knight of the Sorrowful (not Ruffal or Woeful in Motteux's translation) to Donna Rodriguez, and this is one of his favorite phrases. "I had a mind to outbudge some of his cloth," confesses the tailor brought before Sancho as governor of his island of Barataria for judgment. When Altisidora sang her mock serenade to the incorruptible and unyielding knight, she declared herself a "virgin pullet," a "tender chicken," and thought that Dulcinea "well may brag of such a dud." "I had not cared a pin though she had died of the pip," was Sancho's philosophy, and he begs his master not to "die merely of the nulligrubs."

The squire complains that he had been "riboasted by above four hundred Moors," and admitted that it was not for "such scrubs as myself" to be mentioned the same day with knights-errant.

Although by his own admission a mere clown, Sancho says, "I know what's what, and have always taken care of the main chance." He tells his master that the latter "had the wrong side by the ear;" his "belly cries cupboard;" he is "cocksure;" he believed that the giant in the adventure of the wine skins had "gone to pot," and he reproached the knight for not "going snacks" in his dealings. One of the galley slaves would have gone free for 20 ducats "to have gressed the recorder's fist." The don chides his niece that she should "presume to put in her oar and censure the histories of knights-errant."

Motteux finished Sir Thomas Cragh's partial translation of Rabelais. The Frenchman and the doughty Scottish cavalier had equal knowledge of Anglo-Saxon colloquialisms, and where can one find more racy, pungent, downright English than in these two master translations?—Frank W. Hoyt in New York Evening Post.

Flying Fox Australian Pest.
The flying fox has appeared in South Australia as a new fruit pest. Farmers have killed quite a number of these creatures. A correspondent at Port Wakefield writes: "This morning some crows, while marauding amongst the bushes near the rifle target, put up a flying fox, which took a direct course for the river, about a mile distant. The crows followed, but when the fox leaped the river amongst them they quickly flew in another direction. The flying fox appeared to be nearly 3 feet wide across the wings. It had a fair amount of speed on the wing and much resembled a bat." The flying fox, so-called because of its fox-shaped head, has been previously found in other parts of Australia and is sometimes known as the fruit bat.

An Everlasting Memorial.
Nature has a great part in this lasting and beautiful memorial, that is to be erected to the local service men in the city of Santa Monica, Cal. It is to be a large open-air theater, and will take the conventional Greek form, with seats arranged in concentric tiers, the orchestral area in the center and pillared stage at the bottom of the slope. As in the conventional theaters of ancient Greece, the site and background will be a beautiful wooded hillside.

The level area in the center will be floored with mosaic stone work. This beautiful tribute to the service men will, no doubt, be the pride of the citizens of this city for many years to come.

Division of Income.
"In my opinion," writes a wife, "there is only one satisfactory arrangement which a young couple can make, and that is to take the weekly income and divide it into separate sums, something on the following lines—rent and taxes, charities and church collections, doctor, dentist, etc. holiday fund and savings, an equal sum for pocket money for each of the young couple, an equal sum for dress for each. My husband and I have been wedded over six years, and have two bonny children but we always divide our weekly income in this way."—Happily Married.

Four years more of government under present day Democratic leadership would carry the system of terrorism already so far advanced to the point where a man could be indicted for voting the Republican ticket.

A moving picture of Cox's profers contributing money to beat the Democrats for what this administration has done to them would have a Charley Chaplin feature backed off the boards.

TATTOOING AS A FINE ART

It Reached Its Highest Development in the Marquesas Islands of the South Seas.

Tattooing is an art so old that its origin is lost to historical records, having been practiced when the cave-men went out to club their fellows. In the Marquesas Islands, the most distant and most mysterious of South sea archipelagos, tattooing reached its highest development and there it was the most beautiful form of art known. For a man in the Marquesas to lack the tattooed stars of terror upon his face and to have a bare countenance upon his face was to be a poltroon and despised by the whole tribe. Frederick O'Brien says in the Century that to achieve a fairly complete picture on one's body meant many months of intense suffering and the expenditure of much wealth.

When white men were cast by shipwreck in the islands of the far Pacific or fled from duty on whalers or warships and sought to stay among the Marquesans they accepted to the honored customs of their hosts and adopted their facial adornment. Once the curious ink of the tattooer has gotten into the skin it is there forever and can never be erased, like the pits of smallpox. The white men, therefore, of Europe and America never again returned to their old homes after settling among these Marquesans and having their faces tattooed.

EGYPTIAN BEADS MOVE BED

Remarkable Manifestations Said to Have Been Made by Ancient Necklace in Edinburgh.

Some remarkable manifestations, states the Scotsman, have occurred in Edinburgh in association with an ancient Egyptian necklace. The present owner of the necklace, who lives in the west end of Edinburgh, received it from Calro at the end of 1913.

Recently she decided to get rid of it and threw it into a waste paper basket. That night when near the basket she was startled by the distinct feeling of a hand clutching at her wrist. She afterward heard sounds from the basket as a mouse moving. Examination revealed only waste paper and the glass beads.

She gave the beads to her brother, who on going to bed placed them on the pillow near his head. The necklace seemed to be moved on the pillow during the night by some unseen agency. A night or two later he went out the beads on his bed. He was roused from his sleep by the bed having moved from side to side. He afterward heard the necklace producing a rustling movement. The following night he slept soundly with the necklace in the room. At four o'clock next morning he was awakened by the bed again shaking. Other persons say they had similar experiences with the beads.

George Eliot the Lay Preacher.

A novelist who bases his art on clean-cut ethical formulas is bound to want in popularity. For special reasons, he may make a strong appeal to his own generation and yet be neglected by the generation succeeding. George Eliot was the eloquent lay preacher of her age. Literary sermons like hers are now out of date. Readers do not care to be told what will happen if they do not do this or if they do that. Similarly Thomas Hardy is certain to suffer in fame. The kind of philosophic determination embodied in his novels is disappearing. If Hardy and George Eliot long survive, it will be in spite of their moral formulas; it will be because readers will be willing to overlook moral formulas on account of the permanently interesting phases of life presented by a master hand in their novels. Herein lies the final test of literary immortality. There is no question about novels like "Tom Jones" and "Vanity Fair," which are not framed on any precise technical theory. They are life itself and its diffused morality.—Wilbur Cross, in the Yale Review.

Spell of the Witch Doctor.

In the twentieth century, according to the report of forward movement survey, there are approximately 120 million people in Africa held in abject fear through the hundreds of thousands of witch doctors who alone are believed to have the power of "spelling out" the evil spirits. The theory of the African native regarding disease is that an enemy casts a spell which enters the body and it must either be spelled out or cast out and this is accomplished by the use of charms which often kill before they have the opportunity of proving their curative powers. The natives of South Africa, the survey finds, depend entirely on witch doctors and herb doctors. For 8 1/2 million native people there are only twenty-three missionary doctors and nineteen nurses. Scattered among the millions, this little band of workers accomplishes wonders. But the sway of the witch doctors is practically unaffected.

Electric Incubator.

The electric incubator is said to be much safer, surer and more economical than the oil-heated apparatus. Current entering the incubator passes through resistance elements in the top of the box; these are arranged to distribute the heat evenly over the 75 eggs below. Double insulating walls prevent the escape of heat, while a thermostat keeps temperature constant. Ventilation is likewise automatic.

It may be that Governor Cox has read how Samson slew the Philistines and thinks he can overcome the Republicans with the same weapon.

If Governor Cox were to begin telling what he knows about "slush funds" personally, instead of what he doesn't know about the other fellow's campaign funds, it would make an interesting confession. And maybe somebody else will tell before the mud slinging ceases.

HAVE HIGH VALUE

Four South American Animals of Great Utility.

The Llama in Particular, Well Called "Ship of the Desert," is Prized—Alpaca is Bred for its Splendid Fleece.

When first seeing a llama, an alpaca, a vicuna or a guanaco, in their native habitat your first comment would be: "Too big for a sheep, too small for a camel, yet looks like both," while you might add mentally, as did the yokel when he saw the giraffe at the circus: "There ain't no such animal." These extraordinary creatures, little known outside of the southern Andean region of South America, have their range from southern Ecuador through the elevated plateaus of Peru and Bolivia southward along the high Andes to the plains of Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. All are of the very highest utility for men's needs for food and clothing.

The four are merely different breeds of the same race, varying only as they have been bred in domesticity for certain specialized purposes, or modified by their environment when left unhampered in their native wilds. Possessing a head like a sheep, a swaying, curved neck like a camel, without the camel's hump but drawn in at the withers like the camel and with the camel's "wobbly" look, apparently insecurely braced upon its tall, slender legs, with the camel's cushion-like splay feet, the llamas undoubtedly belong to the camel family. They have the camel's nature, for though more vigilant than the camel, they possess the same dull imperturbability, and their identical stubborn, morose disposition, and seem to consider man their hereditary foe, only to be obeyed by compulsion and with spiteful spittings and groans.

The llama family in prehistoric times had a much wider range than at present, their fossil remains being found from the republic of Colombia northward to Central America and even as far north as central Colorado. The llama and alpaca are domesticated, the guanaco and vicuna are still in the wild state, and this is one of the instances where domesticated animals range co-existent with their wild congeners. Of the four kinds the guanaco is the most numerous, and is found in lands of 5 to 5000, and while confined to the high table lands elsewhere, in Patagonia their range is over the plains and lower lands as well.

Both the guanaco and vicuna are easily tamed and readily take to captivity, and from the wild guanaco and vicuna have sprung the domesticated llama and alpaca. The alpaca is kept upon the wild uplands near the eternal snows and is only driven in to be shorn of its beautiful fleece of black or brown wool, which is so long that it often falls over its sides and back like a curling cascade reaching to the ground.

When Pizarro and his fellow conquistadores conquered the aboriginal Peruvians they found the llama the only domesticated beast of burden. Under Spanish domination more than 300,000 llamas were used to carry silver from the mines to the seacoast, but the coming of the horse, the burro, and more than all else, the railway is gradually running it out, as it is timid and slow, and can travel with its 100-pound pack only 12 to 15 miles a day; yet it retains a certain advantage, as it is never fed on the trail, but forages its own living.

Balloons and an Airplane.

Writing of the passing of an Avro biplane over Utzshage en route to Port Elizabeth, a South African newspaper has the following to say: "Mr. Norman Chase relates a peculiar experience he had in connection with the plane. He was bathing at Kamakets, when he noticed a number of balloons which were in the vicinity showing unmistakable signs of fear. They crowded together and whimpered, giving every indication that something unusual had disturbed them. Mr. Chase's dog, a well-trained Airedale, and known to be plucky and fearless, also became uneasy, and appeared to be in dread of something. On looking round for the cause of all the trouble, Mr. Chase observed the airplane flying overhead at a comparatively low altitude. The sound of the engine and the huge birdlike appearance of the plane no doubt upset the equilibrium of the balloons."—Scientific American.

Danger in Improper Cooking.

In the Italian experiments indicating that much of our food is uncooked, or at least not cooked enough to destroy bacteria, a large joint of corned beef that had been boiled three and a half hours showed a temperature in the center of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit. This is harmless to most disease germs, including tubercle bacilli, with which beef is believed to be especially liable to be infected. A meat pie eaten by a number of people caused two deaths, and while this appeared to be well baked outside, the middle gave evidence that it had not been heated above 105 degrees Fahrenheit.

A Politician.

A woman hater I knew was quite a politician and once while running for a much coveted office, was desirous of getting the women's votes. He suddenly became courteous to all women of voting age and not only was successful in getting their votes but married one.—Chicago Tribune.

Governor Cox asked one of his Western audiences to forget he was the Democratic candidate. Doubtless he would be glad to have the people forget the fact that he is the candidate of the party that has been ruining this country for the past seven and a half years. But why should they?

Go to it, Governor. The mud gun's kickback makes you less and less like a presidential possibility each time you touch the trigger.

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