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Ben Forstner & Co.

STORY OF A PIANO.

A Genius Who Found Difficulty in Keeping a Vow to His Sweetheart.

Probably the severest ordeal that genius can undergo is to be deprived of the exercise of its powers. M. de Pontmartin had a pathetic illustration of this in his acquaintance with one of the greatest pianists of the present century. He relates the strange story in "Les Souvenirs d'un Vieux Critique." Though not a player himself, M. de Pontmartin had a fine piano. One day the proprietor of the village hotel called to say that the evening before a gentleman, apparently a Hungarian or an Austrian, had arrived at his house, a person about M. Pontmartin's age, elegant of appearance and wearing an expression of touching melancholy.

In the evening, it seemed, the stranger would take no breakfast, but besought M. Pierron, the hotel keeper, for a piano, saying that circumstances had prevented his touching one for a year.

A little later the stranger was seated at M. Pontmartin's piano, and it was soon manifest that he was not only a wonderful artist but an inventor of new methods, whose touch tripled the power and volume of the instrument. He played on and on. Shortly before midnight he seemed to put his whole soul into improvising a funeral march, which ended with a finale of wonderful tragic beauty just as the village clock struck 12.

"Adieu and thanks," said the strange guest, not waiting to hear M. Pontmartin's exclamation: "It is I who thank you! My piano is sacred henceforth." The next morning he went away, begging M. Pierron not to ask his real name.

The following year, just after hearing Liszt, M. Pontmartin called on his friend, Zimmermann. He was explaining to the incredulous musician that his admiration for the great Liszt was tempered by the memory of an incomparable genius whom he had heard at Avignon, when there was a knock at the door, and as the critic relates, "I heard a voice that thrilled me say, 'May I enter?' 'Sigismund Thalberg,' cried Zimmermann in joyful surprise.

"I recognized my mysterious visitor, but my delight was checked by the sadness in his face. He said to me, 'My dear sir, I owe you an explanation. On the 30th of April I promised Catherine B——, a beautiful girl whom I loved, that I would not touch a piano until April 30 of the next year; this is an evidence that my piano and my art were not first in my regard. At the end of the year she was to become my wife.

"'Well, you know the rest. I thought that terrible year would never end. I traveled constantly to distract my mind and to pass the time more endurably. I reached Avignon the 29th of April.'

"He stopped. 'And Catherine?' I asked.

"She died on the 30th, at the very hour when I finished the funeral march, just as the clock in the belfry struck midnight.'"

Didn't Remember the Name.

At the time when Napoleon was the most prominent figure in Europe one man at least was little impressed with his greatness. The conqueror's name actually slipped his mind, so slightly did his career concern the world that for the artist centered in his studio.

Edgar Quinet relates that when he went to Germany he visited the old sculptor, Dannecker.

"We talked," he says, "of art, and the sculptor was eloquent over his theories. Suddenly, wishing to fix a date, he stopped, reflected, and finally said:

"'I think it was in the time of that man—what is his name? you know the man; the one who has won so many battles. I've forgotten the name. You must know it?'

"'Are you speaking of Napoleon?' I asked.

"'Yes, yes, that is it,' cried the artist, and went on with his interrupted statement without giving the incident a second thought.—Youth's Companion.

An Unpardonable Fault.

A temptation to avoid is the constantly recurring one to repeat the funny sayings of one's own children, especially before them. A painful recollection occurs of a nervous, only child, whose active brain led her often to make extremely bright speeches, which were repeated with much glee by her unwise mother, whether the child was present or not. One day after this had occurred the child lifted up her shrill voice from the corner of the room where she was sitting, and said, "Go on, mamma, tell 'em that funny thing I said the other day about God!" The mother was much shocked, and it is hoped profited by the lesson thus taught her.—Housewife.

The Largest Meteor.

Probably the largest meteor that ever reached the surface of the earth lies on the plains of Incuman, in South America, where it fell. It measures 7 1-2 feet in length and weighs between fourteen and fifteen tons. Perhaps the next largest is the one, well known to tourists, that lies at the foot of a lesser mountain of the Alps range.—New York Recorder.

A Subordinate.

"Why do you permit such impudence?" said the Pullman traveler to his companion after a quarrel with the porter.

"Can't help it. He's the porter; I'm only a director in the company."—New York Epoch.

PRANKS OF THE OSTRICH.

The Tall, Ungainly Bird Does Some Mighty Queer Things at Times.

The ostrich is not a bird that can be easily brought up in the way that it should go. It has no powers of discrimination. "Because God hath deprived her of wisdom, neither hath he imparted to her understanding"—as runs the description of the ostrich in the book of Job. It cannot discriminate between a wire fence and the open camp, between friends and foes, or between what is helpful and what is hurtful to the digestion. It was owing to its want of understanding in this last respect, and to an equal want of discrimination on the part of the British public, that it has been found impossible to keep ostriches alive in the zoological gardens in London.

A public accustomed to slip its pennies into automatic machines could not refrain from the temptation offered by the omniverous throat of an ostrich, and filled them up with poisonous copper, as if they were so many missionary boxes. In its African life, however, the chief danger that besets it is not the recklessness of its appetite, but its reckless disregard of its own limbs. It will take fright at a shadow and hurl itself blindly into the nearest fence, from which it will be extricated with a broken leg, or fight savagely with a brother ostrich and break its leg, or dance, waltzing with swift and graceful precision, affording a most beautiful sight to the spectator and the greatest satisfaction to himself, until giddiness comes upon it and brings it to the ground—again with a broken leg. It is true that its dangerously powerful legs are also very brittle, but it must be confessed that it does not use them well.

Of the danger that the owner sometimes runs from those powerful limbs, a writer tells some very amusing stories. A sturdy newcomer, some six feet in height, laughed at the warnings that were given him when he set out for a walk and disdainfully refused the protection of a tacky—a thorny branch, the dexterous use of which will keep the ostrich at bay—averring that he "was not afraid of a dicky bird!" He was missed and discovered some hours afterward by a search party most uncomfortably perched on the top of an ironstone bowlder and slowly grilling under the African sun, while the "dicky bird" did sentry up and down, watching him with an evil eye.

Another gentleman had a theory that any creature, however savage, could be subdued—"quelled," as he said—by the human eye. One day he tried to quell one of his own ostriches, with the result that he was presently found in a very pitiable predicament, lying flat on the ground, while the subject of his experiment jumped up and down on him, occasionally varying the treatment by sitting upon him. Doubtless it was safer to lie down than to stand up to be kicked; but to be sat upon as if one were an egg must have been indeed humiliating.

Curious, too, is the account that the author gives of the camps or little kingdoms that the ostriches mark out for themselves, with invisible but never to be encroached upon boundaries. Inside that camp it will bear no intrusion, but outside of it, in the domain of its neighbor, it is profoundly indifferent to the stranger's wanderings.

Nor is it safe for the farmer to presume upon his former acquaintance with any bird, for the ostrich has not wits enough to distinguish an old friend from a new intruder, nor sufficient respect for his owner to except him from his suspicious hostilities, though it would appear that, as a rule, he will manifest a stronger aversion to the Kaffir or Hottentot than to a white man.—Great Divide.

The Red Seed of the Abrus Precatorius.

The small shining red seeds of Abrus precatorius are largely used by the Indian goldsmiths as weights, each weighing about 1.75 grains. It is stated that the famous Koh-i-nur diamond was first weighed by the rati, a word which by some authors is supposed to have given origin to the jewelers' carat, from the Arabic kirat. The carat is the twenty-fourth part of an ounce, or 3 1-6 troy grains; this approximately would be equal to two of these seeds.

They are sometimes called crab's eyes, from a fancied resemblance to those objects; and in the West Indies are known as jequirity seeds, being extensively used for necklaces, ornaments for the ears, and to decorate small boxes, baskets, etc. Strung as necklaces, they are considered teething remedies for young children. The fact of these being used as rosaries doubtless suggested the specific name of "precatorius."—Chambers' Journal.

Modern Conveniences.

Hotel Guest (Sunday morning)—I'd like a Sunday paper, but I'm a stranger here and don't know which paper is the best.

Newsstand Man—Had your breakfast yet?

"No."

"Ordered it?"

"No."

"Well, you'd better take this paper; three supplements, twenty-four pages. If the waiter is spry he'll get your order filled before you're through reading.—Good News.

The Universal Help.

Employer—Jerry, you ought to know better than to put that box on that shelf, where no one can reach it.

Jerry—Do you wish to get it down?

Employer—Yes.

Jerry (who is slightly impertinent)—Advertise.—Jewelers' Circular.

THREW HIS MONEY AWAY.

The Story of a Physician Who Was the Victim of Circumstances.

When the doctors, in a jovial mood, get together, they invariably tell stories if they have any time on their hands. Half a dozen Rochester physicians were feeling particularly happy and exultant a few days ago. They had passed a delightful hour in making an examination of the body of a man killed in an accident, and were well pleased with each other and the gentlemen who had furnished them with their scientific amusement. When they were through their work they adjourned to the office of one of their number and began telling their experiences and reminiscences. They told of exciting amputations and exhilarating operations until it came the turn of the oldest man present to speak. Then such a tale was unfolded as brought tears to the eyes of many present.

"When I was a young man," said the old physician, "I practiced in a western city. This was about thirty years ago. It was not a great while after I had my first case that I was called one day to attend a young man who had a most peculiarly shaped head. Under my care the fellow soon got well, but I cultivated his acquaintance to serve certain ends that I had in view.

"When I came to know the young man pretty well I told him frankly that I wanted his head. You all know that I have always made brain disease a specialty, and I thought that the man's head, with his abnormal development, would be a splendid subject for study. The chap fell in with my proposal. I gave him $300, and he made a will in which he mentioned me as the heir to his head. To be sure, the fellow was young, but so was I, and I was willing to wait.

"Well, gentlemen, within less than a year after we had completed arrangements the young fellow was killed."

"Lucky man," said one of the listeners, and all the others gave evidence that they thought the doctor was fortunate.

"But, gentlemen," continued the old physician, "the fellow was struck on the head by a safe that fell to the sidewalk while being taken in the third story window of a block," and the old fellow's voice choked with emotion at the remembrance of the wrong that had been done to him.

"Saddest thing I ever heard of," said one of the listeners, while others walked up and shook the victim's hand, too full for utterance.—Rochester Democrat.

His First Voyage.

A man from the far north who had never seen either ship or sea in his life had to cross from Kinghorn to Leith on a very stormy day. The vessel rolled heavily, and the poor, frightened Highlander ran to the cords and held them down with his whole vigor, to keep, as he thought, the boat from upsetting.

"For te sake of our lives, shentles, come and hold town," he cried; "or if ye will not pe helping me I'll let you all to the pottom in a moment. And you plowman there" (to the man at the helm), "cannot you keep te howe of te furr, and no gang ower the crown of te riggs avaw? Heich?"

The steersman laughed at him, and the Highlander, becoming irritated, seized a handspike and knocked him down.

"Now, laugh you now, you Lowland rogue," said he; "and you well deserve it all, for it was you made all the toohoo, kittling the poatie's tail with tat pin!"—London Tit-Bits.

The Saw of the Mosquito.

The bill of the mosquito is a complex institution. It has a blunt fork at the head and is apparently grooved. Working through the groove and projecting from the angle of the fork is a lance of perfect form, sharpened with a fine bevel. Beside it the most perfect lance looks like a hand saw. On either side of the lance two saws are arranged, with the points fine and sharp and the teeth well refined and keen. The backs of these saws play against the lance.

When the mosquito alights with its peculiar hum it thrusts its keen lance and then enlarges the aperture with the two saws, which play beside the lance until the forked bill with its capillary arrangement for pumping the blood can be inserted. The sawing process is what grates upon the nerves of the victim and causes him to strike wildly at the sawyer.—Journal of Health.

In Fly Time.

"I had rather an uncomfortable experience the other day," said a young man. "My tailor had just sent me down a suit of new flannels which fitted uncommonly well, and I put them on, well satisfied, to go to the Casino to play tennis. While waiting for my trap I strolled into the dining room and without looking sat down solidly—for I am very heavy, you know—on a chair by the window. A scream from the maid caused me to jump up, but it was too late, and I assure you I felt like using some very strong language when I found that I had sat down on one of those detestable sheets quite covered with flies. Of course the suit was ruined, and I assure you the flies were imbedded in the flannel so deep that they looked like a printed pattern."—New York Tribune.

Too Good All of a Sudden.

College President—All the boys have attended prayers regularly this week.

Professor—Not one has missed for two weeks.

President—Humph! Some infernal mischief is brewing.—Good News.

The New Discovery.

You have heard your friends and neighbors talk about it. You may yourself be one of the many who know from personal experience just how good a thing it is. If you have ever tried it, you are one of its staunch friends, because the wonderful thing about it is, that when once given a trial, Dr. King's New Discovery ever after holds a place in the house. If you have never used it and should be afflicted with a cough, cold or any throat, lung or chest trouble, secure a bottle at once and give it a fair trial. It is guaranteed every time, or money refunded. Trial bottle free at Fry's drugstore, 225 Com'l St.

The Metal Wolfram.

Wolfram, or tungsten, belongs to a group of rare metals, and till a comparatively recent time was known only to the chemist, and its value was only in the laboratory. With the invention of 100 ton guns the demand for tungsten soon made that previously obscure metal well known throughout the mining world. It was soon found that the steel tube lining the bore of these enormous guns could not resist the shock entailed by discharging many shots without becoming fractured, when, of course, an expensive piece of ordnance became useless.

Experiment proved that the addition of a small quantity of tungsten to the fine steel employed in gunmaking rendered the latter metal wonderfully elastic, so that the steel tube will expand under the tension of firing and contract again to its normal size a great many times before the quality of the metal is in any way impaired. The German gun factories consequently absorb most of the tungsten found in the world, and from being a mere curiosity seen only in the laboratory of the chemists this rare metal has acquired considerable value.

Wolfram (erroneously called tungstate of iron in the cablegram) generally occurs in combination with iron in Europe, but it is also found in scheelite or tungstate of lime. It is in the latter form that it occurs in Otago. The metal itself is of a white color, extremely brittle and heavy, the specific gravity being 19.1, that of gold being 19.3. It will thus be seen that tungsten is a very heavy metal, being only very slightly lighter than gold.—Otago (New Zealand) News.

Sam's Sin Laden Soul.

Mr. T. received a message from his wife telling him "to hurry home quick, that the horse had kicked Sam to death." Mr. T. rushed home and found that his horse had kicked Sam, the colored hostler, in the region of the stomach, and he looked like a dying man. Sam thought he was going to die, and began to unburden his sin laden soul:

"Marse John, I'se gwine ter die, but befo' I go I want ter tell yer whar yer'll find dat bran new bridle yer bought de oder day an what yer thought some nigger had stolen—it's up in de loft kivered wid hay. And yer ricollect dat new lap robe dat yer thought fell out er de karridge—dat's under de front do'step. An de ole pistol wat wus in de buro' draw', yer'll find dat in my trunk."

And various and sundry other things that had been missed at different times were mentioned by Sam and their whereabouts disclosed. When Sam had confessed his misdeeds, he seemed to get better—confession is good for the body as well as the soul. He finally recovered, but he now moves about the premises with a penitent air.—Birmingham News.

Giving the Cattle a Rest.

It is found expedient to give the cattle that are brought from the ranches of the Canadian northwest near the Rocky mountains a chance to rest during their long journey to the Atlantic coast. Cattle are not tortured with hunger and thirst and tired to death with the incessant jolting of the cars day after day as they were when cattle shipments first became a large item of railroad traffic. Every steer that is taken on board the cattle cars of the Canadian Pacific at the western ranches is turned loose when he gets to White River, north of Lake Superior, into large stockyards, where he has a chance to recuperate.

Plenty of feed and running water are supplied for the animals, and after a day's rest they continue their journey. Cattle shippers find that it pays to give stock such an opportunity to recover from the fatigue of the long trip, and it is certainly a humane as well as profitable feature of the cattle trade.—New York Sun.

Earth Growing in Weight.

It hardly seems possible that the earth could increase in weight appreciably from the meteoric hail to which it is subjected. The few shooting stars one sees seem utterly incapable of producing any noticeable increase. It is not these, of which even a close observer could scarcely count an average of four an hour on a clear night, but the myriads of lesser ones that are never seen, unless accidentally crossing the field of an observer's telescope, that produce the result.

These lesser ones are of such slight weight that the small amount of light caused by their combustion in the earth's atmosphere is not visible to the naked eye. However, these little fellows are continually bombarding the earth day and night, year in, year out, finally reaching the surface as a fine dust. This increase in weight amounts to about 90,000 tons a year at a very moderate calculation.—New York Recorder.

They Shake Their Own Hands.

When among the Chinese settlers on the tobacco plantations in the island of Sumatra I discovered for the first time that the correct way of saluting "John" is to shake not his hand but your own, and I was frequently amused with the sight of two men shaking their own hand with the utmost warmth and cordiality, instead of that of their neighbor.—David Ker in New York Epoch.

For the Sake of Quiet.

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THE RICHARDS DRUG CO., Agents
509 & 511 MARKET ST.,
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CIRCULARS SENT FREE.

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Best office foot of Trade street. Pleasure and hunting boats. Rates low.
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To Loan on Real Estate Security.

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D. C. SHERMAN

U. S. Pension and Claim agent, P. O. Box 281, Salem, Oregon. Deputy County Clerk. Write for blanks.

INSURE IN YOUR HOME COMPANY

"The State."

Assets Over 350,000 Dollars.
GEO. M. BEELER, City Agent.
And special agent for Marion county, Office with the Company.

$500 Reward!

WE will pay the above reward for any case of liver complaint, dyspepsia, sick headache, indigestion, constipation or costiveness we cannot cure with Dewitt's Little Early Risers, the celebrated Liver Pills, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely vegetable, and never fail to give satisfaction. Sugar coated. Large boxes, containing 30 pills, 25 cents. Beware of counterfeits and imitations. The genuine manufactured only by THE JOHN C. WEST Co. Chicago Ill.
Sold by Geo. E. Good, Druggist, 300 Commercial street, Salem Or.

EAST AND SOUTH
—VIA
Southern Pacific Route

Shasta Line

CALIFORNIA EXPRESS TRAIN—RUN DAILY BETWEEN PORTLAND AND S. F.

South.				North.
7:00 p. m.	Lv.	Portland	Ar.	8:30 a. m.
9:18 p. m.	Lv.	Salem	Lv.	7:13 a. m.
8:15 a. m.	Ar.	San Fran.	Lv.	9:00 p. m.

Above trains stop only at following stations north of Roseburg, East Portland, Oregon City, Woodburn, Salem, Albany, Tangent, Shedds, Halsey, Harrisburg Junction City, Irving and Eugene.

ROSEBURG MAIL DAILY.

8:00 a. m.	Lv.	Portland	Ar.	4:00 p. m.
10:52 a. m.	Lv.	Salem	Lv.	1:10 p. m.
5:40 p. m.	Ar.	Roseburg	Lv.	7:25 a. m.

Albany Local, Daily (Except Sunday)

5:00 p. m.	Lv.	Portland	Ar.	10:05 a. m.
7:52 p. m.	Lv.	Salem	Lv.	8:30 a. m.
9:00 p. m.	Ar.	Albany	Lv.	7:00 a. m.

PULLMAN BUFFET SLEEPERS.
TOURIST SLEEPING CARS.
For accommodation of second class passengers attached to express trains.

West Side Division, Between Portland and Corvallis:
DAILY—(EXCEPT SUNDAY).

7:30 a. m.	Lv.	Portland	Ar.	7:30 p. m.
12:10 p. m.	Ar.	Corvallis	Lv.	12:15 p. m.

At Albany and Corvallis connect with trains of Oregon Pacific Railroad.

EXPRESS TRAIN—(DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY)

4:40 p. m.	Lv.	Portland	Ar.	8:20 a. m.
7:25 p. m.	Ar.	McMinnville	Lv.	5:45 a. m.

Through Tickets
—To all points—
EAST and SOUTH

For tickets and full information regarding rates maps, etc., apply to the Company's agent Salem, Oregon.
E. P. ROGERS, Asst. G. F. and Pass. Ag't.
R. KOEHLER, Manager

THE YAQUINA ROUTE.

OREGON PACIFIC RAILROAD

And Oregon Development company's steamship line. 225 miles shorter, 36 hours less time than by any other route. First class through passenger and freight line from Portland and all points in the Willamette valley to and from San Francisco.

TIME SCHEDULE, (Except Sundays).

Leave Albany ..... 10:00 a. m.
Leave Corvallis ..... 1:00 p. m.
Arrive Yaquina ..... 5:30 p. m.
Leave Yaquina ..... 8:00 a. m.
Leave Corvallis ..... 12:55 p. m.
Arrive Albany ..... 4:20 p. m.

O. & C. trains connect at Albany and Corvallis.

The above trains connect at YAQUINA with the Oregon Development Co's Line of Steamships between Yaquina and San Francisco.

SAILING DATES.

STEAMERS. FROM YAQUINA
Farallon, Friday.....June 26
Willamette Valley, Tuesday.....July 7
Farallon, Sunday.....
Willamette Valley, Thursday.....
Farallon, Tuesday.....

STEAMERS. FROM SAN FRANCISCO
Willamette Valley, Friday.....June 26
Farallon, Tuesday.....July 7
Willamette Valley, Sunday.....
Farallon, Thursday.....
Willamette Valley, Tuesday.....

This company reserves the right to change sailing dates without notice.

N. B.—Passengers from Portland and all Willamette Valley points can make close connections with the trains of the YAQUINA ROUTE at Albany or Corvallis and if destined to San Francisco, should arrange to arrive at Yaquina the evening before date of sailing.

Passenger and Freight Rates Always the lowest. For information apply to Sloan, HULMAN & Co., Freight and Ticket Agents 200 and 202 Front st., Portland, Or.

C. C. HOGUE Ac't Gen'l Frt. & Pass. Agt., Oregon Pacific R. R. Co., Corvallis.
C. H. HASWELL, Jr. Gen'l Frt. & Pass. Agt. Oregon Development Co., 204 Montgomery st.

From Terminal or Interior Points in

Northern Pacific Railroad

Is the line to take

To all Points East and South.

It is the dining car route. It runs through Vestibule trains every day in the year to

ST. PAUL AND CHICAGO!

(No change of cars.)
Composed of dining cars unsurpassed, Pullman drawing room sleepers. Of latest equipment

TOURIST Sleeping Cars.

Best that can be constructed and in which accommodations are both free and furnished for holders of first and second-class tickets, and

ELEGANT DAY COACHES!

A continuous line connecting with all lines, affording direct and uninterrupted service.

Pullman sleeping berths can be secured in advance at any agent of the road.

Through tickets to and from all points in America, England and Europe can be purchased at any ticket office of this company.

Full information concerning rates, time of trains, routes and other details furnished on application to any agent or

A. D. CHARLTON,
Assistant General Passenger Agent, Portland, Oregon.

SHAW & DOWNING, Agents, Salem.