SELECTIONS

WHEN THE MESSIAH COMES.

A Feast That Has Been Foretold by a Rabbi of Israel.

Greatest discordance prevails among Jewish doctors respecting the time the Messiah's anticipated coming, many of them believing that his advent is delayed by the iniquities of the people of Israel. Rabbi Machir, living at the end of the Fourteenth century, describes numerous commotions, prodigies and signs that are to precede that great event. He says:

The Jews shall be gathered from all nations and brought to the land of their forefathers, and the Messiah shall then rebuild the city, he will celebrate a gracious reception, at which every one shall be seated at a golden table.

At this feast he will entertain himself in company with a great battle between Behemoth and Leviathan. The flesh of Behemoth will be highly gratifying, and Leviathan will come armed with his scales as a breast plate and covered with a coat of mail. The battle will be fierce, but neither will be victorious. Both will fall exhausted, when the Messiah, with a great, strong sword, will slay them both. These tremendous meats, together with the bird Bar Jachne, are then to be spitted and laid to the south. Bread will then be obtained from wheat that will greatly surpass the wheat of our days, as much as Bar Jachne exceeds a common bird in size. Wine will be yielded to perfection in the salted Leviathan, and the dessert to consist of all the delicious products of the Garden of Eden, including even some of the fruit of the tree of life.

The guests are to be treated to exquisite wine made from the fruit grown in Eden immediately after the creation and preserved in Adam's wine cellar for this great occasion. Toward the end of the feast the Messiah will fill a cup for the guests, over which they are to say grace, and the Messiah will be requested to perform this office, but God will offer it to Michael, Michael to Gabriel, Gabriel to Abraham, Abraham to Isaac, Isaac to Moses, Moses to Joshua, but all will decline in succession. Then he will assign it to David. The cup will contain about 214 gallons.

What remains of the provisions after the feast is over will be divided among the guests, who will sell the same in the market of Jerusalem. With part of the skin of Leviathan will be made tabernacles, pavilions or awnings for the feast, and the rest will be spread upon the walls of Jerusalem, diffusing a light to the extremities of the world. The feast will be followed and the festivities concluded by dancing and music. The Messiah is afterward to marry, having the daughters of kings for wives, and one of the most beautiful virgins of Israel as principal wife or queen.

Different periods of time are allotted for the duration of his reign, but all agree that he will die like other men, and Gog reigning in his stead.—St. Louis Republic.

Models at South Kensington.

The model Newcomen engine has been placed in the museum at South Kensington and kept in action, the necessary power being supplied by a gas burner. The interest shown in this model, owing to its being in motion, suggested the desirability of placing other models in motion. Compressed air afforded the most convenient means of supplying and distributing the requisite power, and a piece of iron pipes for this purpose has been laid under the floor of the gallery containing the collection. It was found that the reserve power of the workshop gas engine would be sufficient to pump air for the purpose, and accordingly a vertical air compressor was purchased and placed with the gas engine in a separate engine room adjacent to the workshop.

These alterations were completed in October last, and the machinery has since been in daily operation. At present the models are shown in motion—Newcomen's engine of 1720, Watt's sun and planet engine, two beam engines by Watt, with modified parallel motions and air pumps; Watt's cabinet engine, original model of the cabinet engine, a beam engine by Miller, grasshopper beam engine, horizontal engine by Bramah, with automatic expansion gear, and modern steam fire engine. In addition the moving machinery is under glass.—London News.

Upon the Mountain Top.

The loftiest point so far as yet known to have been attained by a mountain climber is 23,700 feet, which was accomplished several years ago by a Mr. Graham in the Himalayas. He states that in spite of the great altitude he did not feel any difficulty in breathing, nor did he experience nausea, bleeding at the nose or temporary loss of sight or hearing. The motion of his heart was, however, perceptibly affected, as its beating became audible and its rate was decidedly increased.—Brooklyn Eagle.

His Definition.

"Now that we are together again for another season's work," said the teacher in the mission Sunday school, "we will have to arrange for a little entertainment. By the way," she added, "can any of you children tell me what an entertainment is?"

Up went a little hand in one of the back benches.

"Well, what is it, Sammy?"

"It's sumpin ter eat."—Detroit Tribune.

Returning from the Honeymoon.

Mrs. Young—Won't you put away your paper now and talk for awhile, Jack?

Mr. Young—Yes, my love. Just wait until we get to the tunnel.—Brooklyn Life.

A Question of Shade.

The woman was noticeable by reason of her lugubrious expression of countenance. The corners of her finely chiseled mouth drooped in a manner suggestive of sobs, and the moisture visible in her big blue eyes confessed a flood of tears behind with difficulty repressed.

"It's just too bad."

She was regarding in indecision an array of costly draperies and mural hangings of variegated shades.

"I don't see how I am going to furnish that room."

She was petulant. An attendant approached her deferentially.

"Cannot I assist you, madam?" he softly inquired.

She shook her head hopelessly.

"I don't believe you can."

A deep sigh rose from her heart, fluttered for a moment in her bosom and escaped.

"May I suggest?" the attendant persisted.

She ventured no reply.

"What is the difficulty?"

She stared at the man with a hard, callous look in her eye.

"Difficulty? Only"——

Gathering her wraps about her she rose to leave.

——"that I am called upon to match two opposite tints in one room."

"May I ask"——

The attendant had followed her to the door.

——"what are the shades?"

Impatiently she paused.

"My husband's whiskers are black, while Fido's coat is cream fading into white. Perhaps you can harmonize those. Ump."

With a haughty sneer she swept from the place.—Exchange.

Feminine Curiosity.

Madge—Do you really love me?

Arthur—You know I do, Madge; but why do you ask me so often?

Madge—Well, I'll tell you. I've been reading the book called "Courtship's Catechism; or, Lovemaking Made Easy;" and I want to see whether you'll ever answer the question in the words used by the author.—London Tit-Bits.

A Costly Variety.

Bagley—I've got an order from a friend to buy a dresser for him. I'm on my way down town now on that mission. I don't suppose an article of that sort costs much, does it?

Wagley—A dresser? I married one ten years ago, and it has impressed me with the belief that there could be no costlier investment.—Boston Courier.

Cause to Rejoice.

He—You know there are some girls who require that compliments should be paid them all the time.

She—I know it. I should think it would be awfully tiresome to say flattering things to a girl when there is nothing to flatter about her.

He—It is. I am so glad you are not that way.—New York Herald.

That Is What It Amounted To.

Her majesty Queen Victoria is somewhat sensitive in the matter of her authority as sovereign of a nation fast growing democratic.

To a member of her court who said, "I suppose they will make several new peers now that Mr. Gladstone is in," Victoria replied, with amphasis, "They?"—Boston Globe.

A Specimen.

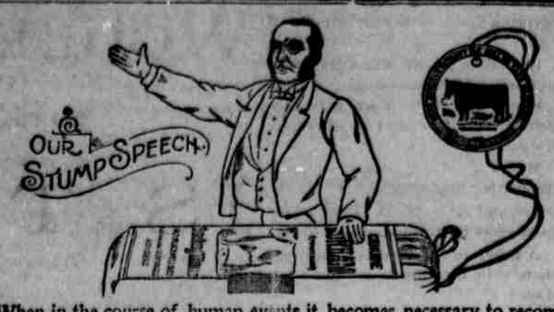
Willie—Mr. Dashaway, what is a thoroughbred?

Dashaway—A thoroughbred, Willie, is a fellow who is game for anything.

Willie—Then you must be one.

Dashaway—Why?

Willie—Sister says you are game for her.—New York Herald.



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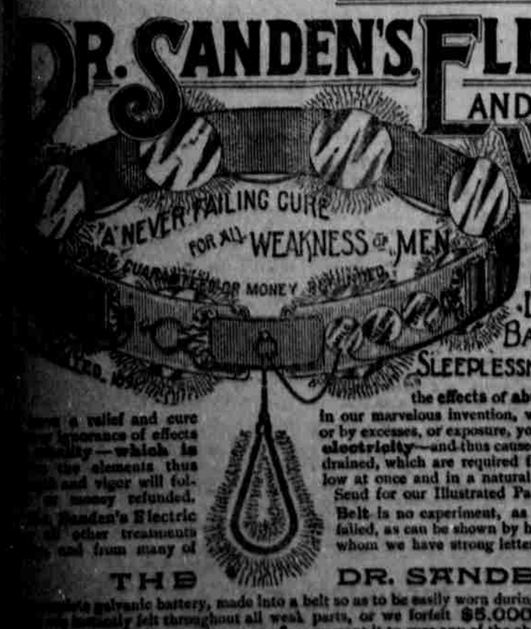

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