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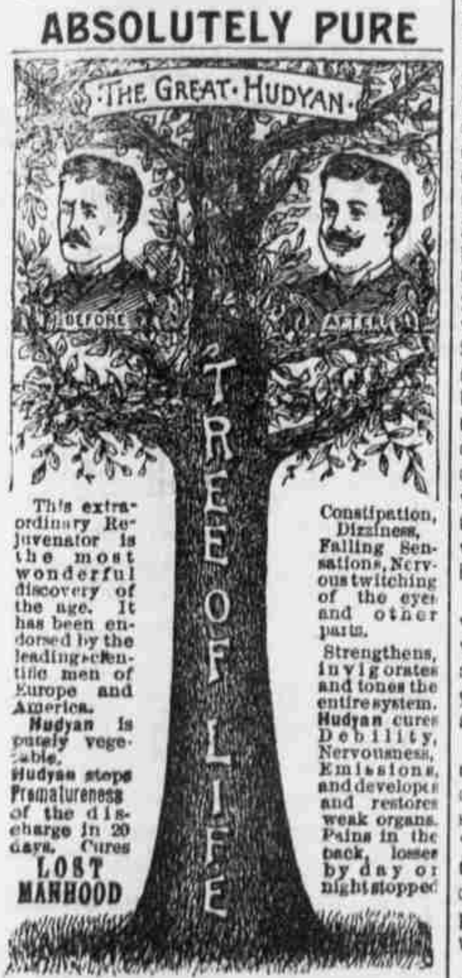

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FUN IN THE GALLERY

THE PHOTOGRAPHER DOESN'T ALWAYS SEE THE HUMOROUS SIDE.

The Woes With Which He Is Beset by All Sorts and Conditions of Men—It Is a Business Where Much Knowledge of Human Nature Is Necessary.

"Oh, my goodness gracious, sakes alive! That's horrid. Why, I wouldn't give a picture like that to one of my friends for worlds."

"But, Miss Blank, you forget that this is only a proof."

"A proof, is it? And what were you trying to prove by making me look like that? That I am 100 years old or had been through a fever before the picture was taken?"

"Miss Blank, I think you are a little unreasonable. This is nothing but a proof, and all of those dark shadows and hard lines will be toned down. I admit, as it is, it does not do you justice"—

"Justice? Well, I should say not. I ain't very conceited about my looks, but if I thought I was as hideous as that picture makes me I'd wear a mask."

This, in substance, is a dialogue in a photograph gallery a few days ago. A woman had "come in to see her proofs," and the clerk had blandly handed the cause of all the commotion over the showcase, behind which she had intrenched herself. The customer, or "subject," as the photographers term their patrons, was mad as soon as she saw the proof. But the diplomacy of the young woman behind the showcase would have given points to a politician. She was thoroughly in earnest or confidential or friendly or a little bit troubled, all in one breath. It was apparent that she had been there before, and she demonstrated that she was well acquainted with the premises. And she was truthful. She knew that it wasn't fair to judge the plate by the proof, and, what is more, she succeeded in convincing the subject that this was the case.

"Very well, Miss Blank," she said when the atmosphere had cleared somewhat. "We will finish some of them, and you come in and see 'em, and if you feel then as you do now we won't ask you to take 'em."

As the door closed the clerk rearranged some photographs of party gowns on the showcase, looked away into space for a few moments and murmured, "Oh, bummie," and then went back and thrust her head into the pokebonnet contrivance where she was making ugly people look a little less so, and there was silence in the room.

"Do you have many cases of that kind to handle?" the photographer was asked.

"Well, no, not many. Of course there are some people who are bound to kick anyway. But I have noticed that such characters have more self conceit than they are entitled to. We have all kinds of people to handle." And then followed a little dissertation which would interest subjects, and particularly the women, who have ever tried and intend to try conclusions with the camera. The stock remark which at some time nearly every subject utters as she comes into the presence of the camera cyclops is that she had "about as soon have a tooth pulled as to have a picture taken." But that time honored platitude has little excuse for existence nowadays, said the photographer, because in all of the best galleries pictures are taken by short exposure, which is practically instantaneous. The people who know more about photography and the art of getting a good likeness than does the operator often cause him some annoyance and a good deal of amusement.

"In deciding upon a pose for the face," continued the photographer, "we must exercise great care. In the few seconds that we have to look at the subject we must decide (provided, of course, we are allowed to decide) what position of the face will give the best likeness. It is true of almost everybody that one side of the face is quite markedly better looking than the other, and for this reason comparatively few full face or front view photos are taken. But sometimes we have to deal with individuals who insist upon a pose of the face that is distinctly bad. Not long ago a certain man came to me with the photograph of a friend which showed the face in clear profile. He said he wanted a photo of himself in exactly that position. It so happened that the model which he submitted had an unusually good profile, and consequently the picture was quite effective. But my subject's profile was faulty. Indeed he had a nose 'as was a nose.' It was gigantic. I saw right away that a profile of his face would be anything but flattering to the owner, and I tried to break it to him gently.

"'But,' he said, 'you admit that this is a fine photo, and I know that the likeness is excellent. Why can't you get the same results from my face? I think I am quite as good looking as he is, don't you?'

"'That isn't the point,' said I, because I didn't want to hurt the man's feelings. 'You know that no two faces are alike, and I am only telling you that a profile is not your best view.'

"But he wasn't satisfied and insisted on a profile, so rather than anger him I took that view of his face and afterward one which I thought was better. The next day he came in to see his proofs. I showed him the profile first. There was no overlooking that nose. It loomed up like Mount Tom from Smith's Ferry. I pitied the poor chap. He looked up from the proof at me and said:

"'Good Lord! Do I look like that?'

"'The camera doesn't lie about such things,' I replied, at the same time handing him the other proof. He looked a good deal relieved when he saw the second proof. But I could see that he was badly [illegible] about that nose. He looked at first one and then the other proof for a minute. Then he handed both back to me and said in a humble tone, 'You may develop the other one.' And I didn't need to be told which was the 'other one.'"—Springfield Republican.

GERMAN WHIST.

One of the Few Interesting Games of Cards For Two Hands.

There are, for some undiscovered reason, very few simple two handed card games. And of these the best, and perhaps the least known, is German whist. Essentially a game of skill, there is a sufficient element of luck combined to insure a good game even between two unequal players, and the issue is always more or less uncertain until the last moment.

An ordinary pack of whist cards is all that is required, and as far as play is concerned the rules of whist are almost entirely applicable. Thirteen cards are dealt to each player, as in the ordinary four handed game. Instead, however, of turning up the twenty-sixth card, the twenty-seventh card is placed face upward on the remainder of the pack. The suit of this card remains trumps throughout the game.

The dealer's vis-a-vis plays first by leading a card, and the dealer must follow suit as in whist, or, if he cannot, either trump or throw away a useless card.

The first trick is now on the table, and whoever picks it up draws the trump card from the top of the pack. The card below this is drawn by the loser, who does not show its face. The third card on the pack is now turned up and will belong to the winner of the second trick, the loser again drawing the card underneath, and so on throughout the pack. In this way the player has 13 cards in his hand until the end.

As tricks of two are difficult to keep distinct, it is generally found advisable to pile them indiscriminately for the time being and to count them out at the end of each game.

In playing the cards have the ordinary whist valuations, and when the last cards have been drawn the 13 which remain in the hand are played out in the usual way. The difference between the number of tricks taken by the dealer and his opponent is the number of points the winner scores. Each game is usually considered complete in itself, but it is no unusual occurrence to find at the end that each player has 13 tricks.

It is difficult in such a short space to give any reliable hints for players, but any one accustomed to whist will fall into the way at once. Obviously, however, it is not always an advantage to take the card which is turned up, and in the case of this being a low one a speculative player will often lead the lowest card in his hand in the hope of drawing something better underneath. The player is happy who, when it comes to playing the last 13 cards, finds himself with one long suit and the majority of trumps!—Home Notes.

Rubinstein.

Rubinstein, the famous pianist, went to confession one day in the Kasan cathedral in St. Petersburg. After the confession he stepped to the "sacristy book" to inscribe his name. The officiating priest asked him his name, rank and profession.

"Rubinstein, artist," came the answer.

"You are in service at some theater?"

"No."

"You give instruction in some institute?"

"No. I am a musician."

"Then you are employed somewhere?"

"I told you once no."

"Well, how, then, shall I describe you here?"

The two men looked at each other several moments. Then a "wise thought," in his own estimation, came to the priest.

"What is your father?" he asked, his eyes brightening.

"Merchant of the second class."

"Then," cried the priest, with joy, "at last we know who you are! We shall write, therefore, 'Son of a merchant of the second class.'"

This scene gave Rubinstein much food for thought. It led him to establish his conservatory and the musical society in order to teach the Russian people what the word musician might mean.—New York Tribune.

Exceptionally Honored.

A good old Methodist lady attending service in a suburban Episcopal church last Sunday became happy under the preaching of the word and ejaculated "Glory." She was admonished to keep quiet by two of the brethren and nodded assent, but soon becoming forgetful responded "Hallelujah." The brethren again called her attention to the annoyance and told her that if she did not keep quiet they would be compelled to remove her. The sermon proceeded, and the old lady, becoming very happy and forgetful of her surroundings, shouted out, "Glory to God." This was too much for the brethren and they tried to lead her out, but she refused to walk, so they carried her. On the way she said:

"I am honored above my Master, for while he was carried by an ass I am carried by two."—Philadelphia Record.

Always Keep to the Right.

The polite dodging that some times occurs between passers in a narrow passage was happily solved once by a tall, ungraceful, bulky Vermonter, who extricated both from the position by saying, "If you will stand still, madam, I will go round." Joseph Ritchie of Roxbury used to tell an experience of his in the days when ladies' gowns trailed on sidewalks and in street cars and their tempers flashed out if anybody trod upon them. Looking straight at the flushed cheeks and wrinkled forehead, "I excuse you, ma'am," said Mr. Ritchie, with old school politeness.—Boston Transcript.

The Sea Nettle.

The sea nettle in tropical seas is very dangerous to bathers. One of these creatures fastened to the body causes a pain so intense that swimmers have been known to faint ere they could reach the shore. The pain has been compared to that of a very acute attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

BISMARCK AND CRISPI.

The Friendship Existing Between the Two Men of Iron.

The close friendship between Crispi and Bismarck, which is of 20 years' standing, is one of the most remarkable relations I know and is sufficient proof of Crispi's value. Crispi is accused, but only by people who do not know him, of aping Bismarck, but a glance at any of his portraits will show that nature had provided the similitude before either knew the other.

The type of character is the same. The strongly marked jaw, the spacious brain, the eye that looks you through like a lance and yet is full of affectionate welcome at need, and the expression of inflexibility in pursuit, are common to both, as is also the high appreciation of authority and discipline, but beyond this there is little resemblance, and their political ideas differ entirely.

Crispi has been accused of being dictatorial. In his official relations he is peremptory and exacting, and his ideas of government are imperative, but no Italian minister has ever done so much to put power out of the hands of the ministry as he, or has shown so scrupulous an adherence to the letter of the constitutional law. He is a democrat of the strongest dye, but the king has never had a minister so absolutely deferential to him as head of the state, rarely one so profoundly respectful to him as the symbol of law and the seat of authority.

The conception of a dissension between him and the crown is impossible to any one who knows him, and this his majesty recognizes. Crispi has the fidelity and the individuality belonging to his Skipetar blood, and all its wild independence; Bismarck, the overweening masterliness of his Prussian stock. They are alike in their patriotism, but as unlike as possible in their way of understanding it, as in their relation to their sovereign.—Century.

Hears With His Mouth.

A boy whose mouth is wonderful, in that it does the double service of tasting and hearing, was in San Antonio today. His name is John Mihand, and his home is at Sabinal. He was born ten years ago. Both ears were closed at birth, and they have never been of service to him. But by a remarkable freak of nature his mouth has done what his ears ought to have done, and he is not incommoded in the slightest. Several local doctors examined and tested the powers of the mouth and pronounced the case a phenomenon without a parallel.—San Antonio (Tex.) Dispatch.

Fearless.

"Fear," said the Russian General Skobeleff to a subordinate officer, "must cease when a man reaches the grade of captain." Every officer under him was expected, when the occasion came, to lay down his life as an example to his men.

"I must show my men how badly the Turks aim," he said while standing as a target on a rampart of a trench at the siege of Plevna.

"I know how to cure him of exposing himself," said a soldier in the trenches. "The first time he jumps on the rampart let us all jump after him."

They did so, and Skobeleff, who could not bear needlessly to expose his men, jumped down.—Youth's Companion.

Has the Most Legs.

The little creature which bears the distinction of owning more legs and feet than any other known organized being is the milleped, which literally means "thousand footed." There are several species of these curious worms, all possessing the characteristic of having a many segmented body, each segment provided with a pair of legs. Unlike the centipeds—"hundred footed"—they are perfectly harmless.—St. Louis Republic.

An Optimist.

"My husband," said Mrs. Sharp, "is one of the most cheerful of optimists"—

"Indeed!"

"Oh, yes; he never doubts his own judgment."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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