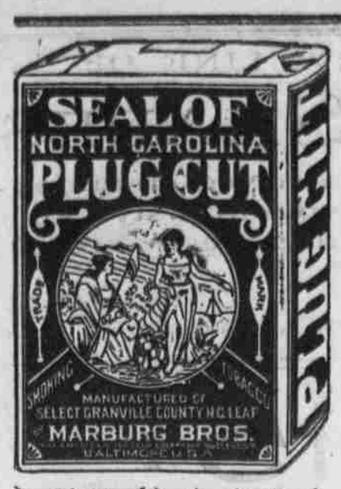

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GOOD AND BAD LUCK.

Their Influence May Be Determined by the Law of Probabilities.

A great deal of sophistry has been wasted in vain attempts to prove that there is no such thing as luck, good or bad; that nothing happens by chance, all results coming from some definite cause. Even though the latter statement could be proved or should be admitted, it would not preclude the existence of luck to the individual.

That which occurs, favorable or unfavorable to him, from any cause beyond his control, is good luck, and there is no doubt that luck plays some part in the history of every one, but it is of much less importance than the idle or indifferent suppose. The individual may or may not take advantage of the fortuitous circumstances or luck which he meets. That depends on himself, his abilities, his industry, his boldness, his character, a thousand qualities of mind or person. Moreover, as one cannot control luck, the important thing in life is to prepare oneself to meet it and turn it to some account. Those who lay too much stress upon luck seldom deserve good fortune. They are indolent, without enterprise or zeal, and spend their time in complaining of their own hard luck or in envious consideration of the good luck of others.

Lowell in one of his essays says that "luck may and often does have some share in ephemeral successes, as in a gambler's winnings, spent as soon as got, but not in any lasting triumph over time." It is of course conceivable that an ephemeral success, arising from luck, may lay the foundation for lasting success due to hard labor and deserving, but the rule is that unearned advantages cannot be held; the winner is not fitted by training and habits to hold fast to that which he has gained. Cobden pictures the subject truly, so far as young men are concerned, when he says that "luck is ever waiting for something to turn up. Labor, with keen eyes and strong will, will turn up something." The last sentence is one of great significance to the young.

Much that is called luck is not really such, but follows deserving. Real luck is a mere matter of chance, upon which we can no more depend for a living or for advancement than upon the turn of a card. He who would command a good fortune must depend upon his own industry and character. He may meet with hard fortune, it is true, but industry, zeal, honesty, will surely lift him out of it in the long run, and if not his fortune cannot be altogether bad when he retains to the end his honor and independence. The young may properly recognize that there is such a thing as luck, but they should place no dependence on it, but think only of fitting themselves to make good use of it if it should come their way. The chances which may come to every one and which are wholly beyond control are innumerable, but he who speculates upon them will lose as surely as the gambler, or, when he wins, show a gambler's recklessness in getting rid of his winnings.

There is a German proverb that "luck seeks those who flee and flees those who seek it." The wise man will therefore not seek it, but moving through the world as though no such thing existed will depend upon his own intelligence, his own industry, his own good purposes to command fortune. Thus, self reliant, he will be ready on the instant to take advantage of any fortuitous circumstances to further his designs or be equally ready to avoid or overcome the "hard luck" that would overwhelm one who was not thus fortified.—Baltimore Sun.

A Musical Dickens.

The appearance of the novelist's elder sister as pianist on the stage of Drury Lane theater has not, I think, been noticed by any writer. Her name occurs in the playbill on the occasion of Harley's benefit, May 29, 1827, among the performers in a concert introduced between the pieces, and supported by Miss Stephens, Miss Fanny Ayton and others. She was announced thus: "Miss Dickens of the Royal Academy of Music, the celebrated pupil of Mr. Moscheles, will perform her master's 'Recollections of Ireland.'"

For the same actor's benefit, in the following year, she played "Anticipations of Scotland," also by Moscheles. Harley appears to have been an early friend of the Dickens family, and it was probably to his interest that Dickens owed the production of his plays at the St. James theater, which happened while Harley was stage manager there. —Notes and Queries.

A Fairly Big Fish.

Paddy has been telling the story of a big pike he caught, too big to get into the boat, so that he had to be towed behind (with the gaff in it, it must be understood). Then followed this dialogue: "What weight, Paddy?" "Divil a know I know, but he was as ojous baste." "Was that the biggest you ever saw, Paddy?" Then a description of the biggest. "What weight, Paddy?" "Sorra a bit I know—he was a terror." "How big, Paddy?" "Sure, I can't tell to a fut or two, but a man could walk down his throat." On this incredulity, but Paddy "clinched the matter and silenced all controversy" by adding, "Wid his hat on."—Angler's Evenings.

Dangers of Figurative Speaking.

"Mrs. Brigham is a charming woman," said a visitor to Salt Lake City.

"Yes," said her husband enthusiastically. "My wife is one of a thousand."

"Goodness gracious!" exclaimed the astonished visitor. "I didn't suppose you ever went in so deep as that, and I had understood that of late years polygamy had been abolished anyway."—Somerville Journal.

Use Milk For Burns.

Milk has been found to possess remarkable healing qualities if applied to burns at an early stage. Compresses are soaked in milk and laid on the burn, to be renewed night and morning.—Philadelphia Record.

Misplaced Emphasis.

A gentleman who spent a summer in a small village in Norfolk tells how a kind hearted woman without the slightest idea of making him ridiculous gave his fellow boarders a chance for a hearty laugh at his expense.

"We had haddock for supper one night, and happening to be peculiarly hungry I ate heartily of it, but unfortunately swallowed a bone. One of the young women of the house endeavored to comfort me by saying that no harm would ever come from a fishbone, as it would dissolve of itself.

"Mrs. H. had been observing me anxiously and now spoke:

"'Don't be too sure about that,' she said. 'I think you ought to take something at once, Mr. S., for we lost a pig once by his getting a fishbone in his throat.'"—London Paper.

Nobody Helped Him.

A story of Scotch honesty comes from Dundee. A small boy had taken the prize for an exceptionally well drawn map. After the examination the teacher, a little doubtful, asked the lad:

"Who helped you with this map, James?"

"Nobody, sir."

"Come, now, tell me the truth. Didn't your brother help you?"

"No, sir. He did it all."—Milwaukee Wisconsin.

Not an Easy Job.

"It is in evidence," said the judge, "that the prisoner beat his wife."

"Hardly, your honor," replied the prisoner. "I am but a frail man, and I have always said that my wife was a woman who was hard to beat."—Atlanta Constitution.

His Explanation.

Miss Morgan—How charmingly Mr Allen talks! There seems to be no subject that he is not informed on.

Paddington (who is madly jealous)—He says he inherited the gift. His ancestors were barbers, you know.—Truth.

Mrs. Pepys' Temper.

Being at supper, my wife did say something that caused me to oppose her in. She used the word devil, which vexed me, and, among other things, I said I would not have her to use that word, upon which she took me up most scornfully, which, before Ashwell and the rest of the world, I know not nowadays how to check, as I would heretofore, for less than that would have made me strike her. So that I fear without great discretion I shall go near to lose, too, my command over her, and nothing do it more than giving her this occasion of dancing and other pleasures, whereby her mind is taken up from her business and finds other sweets besides pleasing of me, and so makes her that she begins not at all to take pleasure in me or study to please me as heretofore. —Diary of Samuel Pepys.

An Unlucky Shot.

"I am not a very good shot," said B. B. Coleman, "and this fact gave me a great deal of trouble at one time. I borrowed a valuable dog from a friend and went hunting. The animal became rattled when he found that I knew nothing about hunting. Rabbit after rabbit was started up, and I missed them as fast as they came. Finally the dog grew tired and concluded to catch them on his own hook. He soon started another, and as it jumped the dog jumped after it just as I fired. The shot went into the head of the dog, and he died without a groan. The rabbit ran a short distance and then stopped and looked back, as if to mock me. Of course I paid for the dog, but my friend has never forgiven me, and I have not gone hunting since."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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is time, if you are a sufferer from that scourge of humanity known as consumption, and you can be cured. There is the evidence of hundreds of living witnesses to the fact that, in all its early stages, consumption is a curable disease. Not every case, but a large percentage of cases, and we believe, fully 98 per cent. are cured by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, even after the disease has progressed so far as to induce repeated bleedings from the lungs, severe lingering cough with copious expectoration (including tubercular matter), great loss of flesh and extreme emaciation and weakness.

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10:45 a. m.	Ar.	San Fran.	Lv.	7:00 p. m

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