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HOW HE GOT FATHER.

Curiously Won His Consent to Pay Attention to the Daughters.

It was overheard while they sat under a tree and took refreshment at a little roadside inn. It was plain that they were city people, and their correct costumes, as well as their wheels that lay on the grass near by, told that they were prosperous.

"How in the world did you get papa's consent to pay me attention? He's such an irreconcilable Tatar and has a foolish idea that no man on earth is good enough for me."

"I'm disposed to agree with him on that point. You won't take offense now if I tell you how I succeeded where so many better fellows made dismal failures? Sure now?" And he stretched himself out with his elbow as a pillow, so that he could look his audience in the eyes. And they were well worth looking at.

"Your father is proud as a peacock," began the lover, although he has an unusually strong character. It is a passion with him to excel, and he loves flattery as a plant loves light. I captured him at the summer resort. I can swim miles to his rods, yet at the summer resort I let him pull me out of ten feet of water and then told of the gallant rescue on all sides, and industriously posted him as the most remarkable swimmer of his age in the country. I had to be very careful that this praise was not the death of him, for he went floundering around like a wounded porpoise, and often we pulled him into the yacht just in time, pretending that it was to have him decide a bet, tell a story or settle some disputed point in poker. One night a friend of mine pretended to hold him up. Just as your papa was about to faint, his assistant took to his heels. I appeared, congratulated him on his bravery, and told every one how he had routed a desperate footpad. He went around with the air of a professional duelist. I can discount him at billiards, and yet let him beat me. He would prance around the table till he was deluged with perspiration and his feet were blistered."

"Don't tell another word. It only creates a 'harrowing' dread that you might be fooling me, too."

Mistletoe Gatherers.

The woods are full of them, and that's not slang, but a simple statement of fact. From the middle of November until Christmas the boys who gather greens and berries for the holiday season are out in full force.

They are a merry band. You may see them in the woods of Jersey and Long Island. You may see them in New York and in Delaware. North and South they are gathering the fragrant pine and the green cedar, the



MISTLETOE GATHERERS.

bright holly and the pale mistletoe, and they are enjoying their present pleasure, as well as anticipating their future profit.

Mistletoe, being the rarest of Christmas plants in this country, commands the highest prices. Even then it is not like the English mistletoe. But it is eagerly sought, and the boys who find it in the woods about New York are the ones who wear the most expansive smiles these days.

His Own Uncle.

A few days ago a young medical student came suddenly face to face with a dear, kind, old, fatherly looking gentleman of highly respectable appearance.

They both stood transfixed. The same idea flashed across both of them. "Your face is familiar to me—very familiar; but I can't remember where we have met so often."

However, the friendly impulse was carried out. They shook hands warmly, partook of a friendly glass and departed, still ignorant of each other's name and occupation.

But the young man was determined to solve the problem, and he seized a waiter.

"Who is that distinguished stranger with the long white hair?"

And the waiter whispered slowly:

"If you please, sir, that's the pawnbroker."

A New Constituent of the Blood.

Dr. Muller has given an account of certain objects, not hitherto described, which are to be found in every sample of blood, both in health and disease. They resemble fat globules, but must not be confounded with fragments of the white or red corpuscles; their size is variable; the largest diameter being 1-2,000 of an inch. They may be seen to show movement, and are not affected by osmic acid. Dr. Muller has named them "haemokonia" (blood dust).

"What is courting danger, Uncle Simon?"

"Any kind of courting."

LONDON FIREMEN.

THE LATEST BIG FIRE SHOWED THEIR SYSTEM WEAK.

The English Public Astonished by the Display of Inefficiency and a Loud Cry for Reform Gave Up in the Newspapers—Twenty Minutes to Get Water.

Londoners had an eye-opener recently when the destruction of \$20,000,000 worth of property by fire in the heart of the business district showed that the boasted superiority of their fire department has existed only in their imaginations and British conceit. The chief of the New York Fire Department could have told them that long ago if they had been in a mood to receive the information. This they are admitting to themselves, though they will not heap treason on humiliation by admitting it to a foreigner.

Nothing in London strikes visiting Americans as being more quaint than the London fire engine. Compared with the great engines of New York they seem like toys.

"But our engines do the business required of them far better than yours. They will throw a stream as high as any of the buildings, and that is all that is required. And we have none of those clumsy sky-scraping fire-traps as you have in New York," the Londoners said.

The American could not resist retorting: "It's a good thing that you haven't. Your little engines would be about as much use in quelling a fire on the seventh story as a garden hose."

The alarm system is far inferior to that of the leading American cities; so the arrangements at the engine house for a quick call. The men are not nearly as large and strong or as well paid as the American firemen. In England the army gets so many of the men of spirit who are inclined to enter government service that the fire department has to put up with what is left over. The uniforms are not so practical as those in New York, though more



A LONDON FIREMAN.

so than some of those on the Continent, which are more fitted to a dragon parade than to a man who is to swing an axe or handle a hose.

Speed is certainly the first requirement of any fire department. The department which can send engines to a fire the quickest after it originates is the best department. There was no hose playing on the recent great fire for twenty minutes after it started. Owing to the poor fire patrol service it took some of the engines an hour to make their way through the crowds and the piles of merchandise that blocked the streets. Without a question the fire would have been confined within very small limits had it been in New York.

Some of the newspapers call urgently for reform. They are handling the new fire chief without gloves. He was a naval man who had never had any experience in fighting fires, which will be news to Americans, who supposed from the comments of English papers on New York municipal affairs that the merit system had full sway in London government. There was little adverse comment when he was appointed, however, and despite the supposed inferiority of municipal administration in America it is not likely that New York would have submitted with such good grace to the appointment of a retired naval officer who needed money as a practical chief of the New York Fire Department.

The conviction is general that the London Fire Brigade is entirely too small to deal with a great emergency, though the energy and resources of Chief Wells and the courage of the men are fully recognized.

Enthusiasm in Abyssinia.

It appears as if Russia was going to make another score at the expense of Great Britain. Colonel Leontieff has prevailed on the Negus to send a number of high-born Abyssinian youths to Russia for their education. Out of the twelve so chosen, four are to learn the Russian language and then attend a technical high school. The other eight are to be trained to become military instructors in their own country. These twelve youths will in time no doubt form a pro-Russian party in Abyssinia. It is a clever move and thoroughly Russian.

Greatest Drinkers of Alcohol.

A learned professor at Geneva, Switzerland, states that France drinks more alcohol annually than any other nation in Europe. His calculation is based on the percentage of alcoholic liquors consumed. According to this standard, each person in France drinks thirteen quarts of alcohol in the more quarts of wines, beers, etc., in the course of a year.

ATHLETIC AND HEALTH.

There is a popular delusion that an athlete must necessarily be a healthy man, by reason of his athleticism, but as a matter of fact, muscular development is not an affair of the constitution; it is an accident, pure and simple. Strong limbs are frequently to be found associated with a weak heart, and many a strong man dies of consumption. If health may be defined as a capacity for hanging on to life, then in many cases the weakest are the healthiest. If such a definition is accurate, women are healthier than men, their average length of days being greater. It is doubtful, however, if centenarians, merely because they are centenarians, are absolutely the healthiest. It is as hard to say what life is as to say what health is, and the way in which unhealthy people are tenacious of life is not surprising.

Bad Spelling a Disease.

A medical authority claims that bad spelling is caused by a disease. In certain conditions of brain and nerves the patient frequently writes "ot" instead of "to." In another slightly varying form, instead of "the," the first letter is omitted, and so in many other short words. The malady usually affects the brain only in connection with words of one syllable, but cases have occurred where longer words have been so distorted that it was difficult to get their sense. It is a question whether one would be comforted by being told that bad spelling was caused by mental disease, or whether one would prefer to have his lack of accuracy set down to ignorance or carelessness. That it is not always a proof of defective education is quite certain.

Man Who Wears Vells.

According to a French traveler, African races whom he describes in a book about Timbuctoo, wear vells. The rearing of horses, oxen and goats is their chief industry, the milk and flesh of these animals, with the addition of dates, furnishing their principal nourishment. For the protection of eyes and lungs they adopt a headress of two vells. One, the "nikab," is rolled around the temples, hanging down in front to protect their eyes; while the other, the "litham," reaches from the nostrils to the edge of their clothing. The vells are never removed, even at meal times, and the garb has become so much part of them that any one being deprived of it is unrecognizable by friend or relative.

Why Old Clocks Have III.

Not every one who looks at the dial of a clock knows that the four IVs which are in place of the usual IV, to designate the number 4 are there because of the obstinacy of Charles V. of France. When Henry VIII. carried to the King the first accurate clock the King said to him that the IV was wrong and should be changed to III. Vick said: "You are wrong, Your Majesty." Whereat the King thundered out: "I am never wrong. Take it away and correct the mistake." From that time to this day the four IVs have stood at the mark of the fourth hour.

Bismarck's Confession.

Bismarck, in his prime, was regarded as the ablest as well as the most unscrupulous diplomat of his time. But now, in his old age, he declares that he was worried more by the Empress Augusta than by all the schemers in and out of Germany. This is a high tribute to the diplomatic ability of woman by one who has never shown any great partiality for the sex.

Not Withheld.

"The fact is," said Dawson, "I married because I was lonely. To put it tersely, I married for sympathy."

"Well, old man," replied his friend Haley, "you certainly have mine."

A Timely Friend.

With perfect propriety may we call that excellent remedy, Salvation Oil, a timely friend. This liniment rapidly cures rheumatism, neuralgia and palms, when other remedies fail. Mr. Jno. M. Hall, Ashland, Va., writes: "I suffered with rheumatism in the ankle and the muscles connected therewith. Salvation Oil at once relieved the soreness, reduced the swelling, and cured the pain. No other liniment that I ever used did me so much good."



This famous product has stood the test of over 30 years and is still unapproached in quality, fine flavor and popularity. It is the original, as invented by the great chemist, Justus von Liebig. All other kinds came later and are, practically, imitations.

Ask for Liebig's Company's Extract of Beef with this signature

and see that you get it.

DIOCESAN NEWS.

What Our Friends in the Surrounding Parishes are Doing.

From Our Special Correspondent.

Miss Mary and Ella Collier are coming home to spend the holidays.

The Catholic Journalist, Mr. Nagle, was in town Sunday.

Miss Mattie Morrison is going to her home in North Rush to spend Christmas.

Miss Jennie Ross has gone to Buffalo on a visit.

John Costello spent last week in Rochester.

Miss Fanny Leahy expects to spend the holidays with her brother in Buffalo.

Edward Smyth spent last week in Rochester.

Woodport.

Miss Lizzie Cloonan has returned home after a pleasant visit with her uncle, Father Hickey of Gettysburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson, of Seneca Falls, was in town a few days last week visiting friends.

The Knights of Trinity, of Syracuse, will give a military ball in this village New Year's eve at Franklin hall.

Shoreville.

Christopher Gilligan of Bolivar, Pa., is visiting his father.

Quite a number of our village people attended the fair at Canandaigua last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Russell and children of Oil City, Pa., visited the former's parents last week.

Tribes.

At the last regular monthly meeting of the Ladies Aid Society, the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Miss Kate G. McAllister; vice-president, Miss Minnie McCormick; secretary, Miss Julia Kelly; treasurer, Mrs. T. D. Sullivan; director, Miss Lizzie Norman. The president appointed the following committee: Buying, Mrs. P. McAllister and Mrs. D. McCaughy; poor, Miss Minnie McCormick and Mrs. J. W. Clayton; Mrs. M. Grace and Mrs. Wm. Mosher.

The Junior Society of the Children of Mary held their annual election last Sunday afternoon with the following result: President, Katherine Sullivan; vice-president, Margaret Maloney; secretary, Nellie Corry; treasurer, Sarah Laykin.

Thursday morning, Dec. 16, about 11 o'clock, a scaffold attached to the Helena Hotel and upon which were two painters, Charles and Peter Hunt, were at work, and they fell without warning and precipitated the men about thirty feet to the roof of the adjoining block, burying them in the brick and mortar. A defective chimney to which the scaffold was attached gave way and caused the accident. The men were immediately taken to the City Hospital, and it was found that Charles Hunt was suffering from a fractured skull, broken shoulder joint and crushed elbow. He suffered intensely until early Saturday morning, when death came to his relief. He is survived by a wife and two small children. The funeral was held Monday at 9 a. m. at the church of the Immaculate Conception. Peter Hunt, a brother of the deceased man, was severely shaken and bruised, but is now in a fair way to recover rapidly. The contract for painting the hotel had been awarded to Charles Hunt.

Coring.

The Christmas services at St. Mary's church will consist of masses at 7 and 8 o'clock, followed by high masses at 10. The choir is preparing an elaborate mass, and the music will undoubtedly be very fine.

Several of the Knights of Columbus were in Binghamton, Friday of last week to be present at the working of the third degree of the order by the Binghamton council.

On Sunday, the following officers were elected at a meeting of the Coming council, Knights of Columbus: Grand knight, W. T. Moran; deputy grand knight, D. C. Keefe; financial secretary, F. Pfeiffer; recording secretary, J. T. Sullivan; advocate, Joseph Boyle; lecturer, W. H. Hunsbury; physician, Dr. T. A. McManis; chaplain, Rev. J. M. Rustin; trustee, John M. Tracy; outside guard, W. L. O'Halloran; inside guard, R. E. Maloney; T. McGovern, C. W. Hickey and J. L. Clark.

John and Dennis Rooney were in Tonawanda, Pa., last week, called there by the death of a relative.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ryan rejoice over the birth of a daughter.

James F. Lee of Buffalo was in the city Sunday on a visit to his brother, Rev. W. Lee.

Mrs. Margaret Cowley, wife of Last Cowley, died at her residence on East Market street, on Saturday night, aged 45 years. She leaves two children, namely, Mrs. Philip Kinzels of Palmyra, Pa., and Miss Teresa Cowley, who resides at home. Deceased was an active member of several charitable societies and a most devoted Catholic. The husband and children have the tender sympathy of a large circle of friends.

The funeral was held from St. Mary's church on Tuesday evening and was largely attended.

Le Roy.

The Ladies Catholic Mutual Benefit Association have elected the following officers: Spiritual adviser, Rev. L. Vanderpool; president, Mrs. Rose Sillings; first vice-president, Mrs. Margaret Hogan; recorder, Mrs. Kate M. Ball; assistant recorder, Miss Katie Dillon; financial secretary, Mrs. Catherine Noon; treasurer, Mrs. Catherine Kane; marshal, Mrs. Noonan; guard, Mrs. Gallagher; trustees, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, Mrs. Catherine McKee.

Frederick Robinson of Rochester, formerly of Le Roy, has returned home to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Robinson of East Main street.

Mrs. Patrick Kerwick of Caledonia spent some time last week with her sister, Mrs. George Stevens, West Main street.

The funeral of Mrs. Michael Garigan, who died on Monday, was held from St. Peter's church on Monday, with interment at Batavia.

A Life Saved.

Marvelous cures of throat and lung affections are made daily by Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. Miss Annie Swan, Petersburg, Va., writes: "My brother was attacked by a bad cough and cold, and it was thought he had consumption. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup was used, and to our great surprise it made him well and hearty. There is no better cure in the world than this Syrup." Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is sold everywhere for 25 cents.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

It cures all skin diseases, including eczema, psoriasis, and all other eruptions of the skin.

It cures all blood diseases, including leucemia, anemia, and all other disorders of the blood.

It cures all general debility, including loss of appetite, indigestion, and all other symptoms of weakness.

It cures all nervous disorders, including headache, neuralgia, and all other symptoms of nervousness.

It cures all urinary diseases, including catarrh, and all other disorders of the urinary system.

It cures all female ailments, including irregular menstruation, and all other disorders of the female system.

It cures all diseases of the liver, including jaundice, and all other disorders of the liver.

It cures all diseases of the lungs, including consumption, and all other disorders of the lungs.

It cures all diseases of the heart, including palpitation, and all other disorders of the heart.

It cures all diseases of the stomach, including indigestion, and all other disorders of the stomach.

It cures all diseases of the bowels, including constipation, and all other disorders of the bowels.

It cures all diseases of the kidneys, including catarrh, and all other disorders of the kidneys.

It cures all diseases of the bladder, including catarrh, and all other disorders of the bladder.

It cures all diseases of the prostate, including enlargement, and all other disorders of the prostate.

It cures all diseases of the testicles, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the testicles.

It cures all diseases of the penis, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the penis.

It cures all diseases of the vagina, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the vagina.

It cures all diseases of the uterus, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the uterus.

It cures all diseases of the ovaries, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the ovaries.

It cures all diseases of the fallopian tubes, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the fallopian tubes.

It cures all diseases of the cervix, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the cervix.

It cures all diseases of the vulva, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the vulva.

It cures all diseases of the clitoris, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the clitoris.

It cures all diseases of the perineum, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the perineum.

It cures all diseases of the rectum, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the rectum.

It cures all diseases of the sigmoid colon, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the sigmoid colon.

It cures all diseases of the descending colon, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the descending colon.

It cures all diseases of the ascending colon, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the ascending colon.

It cures all diseases of the cecum, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the cecum.

It cures all diseases of the appendix, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the appendix.

It cures all diseases of the pancreas, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the pancreas.

It cures all diseases of the gallbladder, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the gallbladder.

It cures all diseases of the biliary system, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the biliary system.

It cures all diseases of the liver, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the liver.

It cures all diseases of the lungs, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the lungs.

It cures all diseases of the heart, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the heart.

It cures all diseases of the stomach, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the stomach.

It cures all diseases of the bowels, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the bowels.

It cures all diseases of the kidneys, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the kidneys.

It cures all diseases of the bladder, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the bladder.

It cures all diseases of the prostate, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the prostate.

It cures all diseases of the testicles, including inflammation, and all other disorders of the testicles.