

The Mouse Trap

Turning then upon me the expression of a great determination, my Josephine lifted her voice and said "Augustus"

"To which I made my ever fond reply. "My love?" "Augustus! I think that mice are frightful little beasts, don't you?"

"And taking me into the pantry then, Josephine showed me the trap that she had set and over her expression of her great determination I saw at last another look, stern and implacable, and a wave of unshed tears assailed me, shaken and shak-

"Augustus!" "To which I made my faint and fond reply. "My love?" "Augustus! Let us go into the other room and I will play the Battle of Waterloo. Thus they will know that we are out of the way and so they will walk into the trap."

"And again a wave of fear assailed me as I listened to my Josephine artfully outlining a campaign of such deep duplicity and when she played the "Battle" she beat the bass notes with a martial vigor that I had never before suspected, and when she came to the charge of the grenadiers she gazed at me with such an aspect of ferocity that I turned my head away and could not bear to look

"Augustus!" "To which I made my sad but fond reply. "My love?" "Augustus! There is a mouse in the trap and it is looking at me!" "It looked at you dear heart? It looked at you?" "Yes, Augustus, yes, it looked at me and oh, it was frightened!"

"And her tender mouth so quivered and her eyes so brimmed with tears that in my heart of hearts I knew that she, my Josephine, was still un- changed, and a deep peace fell upon me.

"Then," said I, "we must plunge it straightway into a bucket of water." And Josephine shuddered and turned to me the eyes of supplication.

"Or better yet," said I, "we will get the cat that lives next door and"

"To which I made my sweet, my glad reply. "My love?" "Augustus! If you had only seen the way it looked at me! Dear Augustus! Let us feed it well and let it go!"

And after the mouse had been fed with cheese until it could eat no more and after I had opened the door of the trap and had gently shooped it forth, my darling kissed me fondly for forgiveness and fondly then I kissed her back again, for I knew once more that our love would endure forever, firm and true, having its foundations in the great eternals and as fragrant as the flowers that greet the dawn.

DRY FLY FISHING.

Hints to the Angler—How to Entice Big Fish.

Dry fly fishing is very little practiced in this country for the reason that almost all authorities seemed to agree that the wet fly method is the only one suited to our streams.

"If the angler wants big fish and we all do the dry fly will take them when nothing else will but it must be presented properly to the highly educated trout of streams that are rich in food."

A singular rivalry has arisen between two Montana towns as to which possesses the tallest family. Libby in Flathead county professes to have more tall people than any town of its size on the continent.

Knipping and the "Bus Owner." Annoyed by the injury done to one of his trees by the driver of the bus, Mr. Knipping once wrote a vitriolic letter of complaint to the bus owner who is also the landlord of an inn.

Decapitated Turtle Walks. Arthur Thomason caught a fine turtle one day last week, cut off its head and placed it on ice, expecting to have a few friends enjoy it with him the following night.

Pity She's No more. There was an old-fashioned woman who would blush if company caught her with less than six different kinds of cake and seven different kinds of preserves in the house.

The Danger of Knocking. "The simplest proposition," said Senator Beveridge in a recent address, "must be set out with the utmost care in the wording, or misunderstanding, dissent, even anger, may result."

EFFECT OF WATER ON COAL.

How it Assists Combustion—Does not Make the Coal Last.

It is often asserted that water on bituminous coal both aids combustion and makes the coal last. Housewives, office men who live where the coal is used, and who are compelled to maintain stove or furnace fires, are firm believers as a rule, in this paradox.

The facts are these (and any one may easily verify them) in a light fire that is to say a stove or house furnace, water sprinkled on large lump coal really causes it to burn more rapidly.

No Common Offender. "See here your Honor," protested the young aristocrat in city court, "because my auto happened to run over somebody's pet dog and took his carcase free of the city this bungling policeman arrests me for exceeding the auto-speed limit and then besides embarrassing me before my guests by refusing to give my word of honor that I would appear in court without his escort."

Barrel Organ for Church Music. A curiosity in church organs, is now in use at Brightling Church and it is a barrel organ, which has been in use there since the early part of the eighteenth century.

Doctors Thick in New York. The proportion of physicians to the general population is probably greater in New York city than anywhere else in the country.

Kaiser Obeyed Scene Shifter. A story is told in Berlin newspapers which places the Kaiser in a somewhat curious light. Recently he visited a theatre and straggling behind the curtain became liberal of advice to the manager, actors and even scene shifters, who listened in awed silence.

Ribboned Flowers. The use of ribbons with flowers has a great field and enhances the beauty and value of them. A bunch or basket with an appropriate bow artistically placed makes it worth as much again, if you are not simply selling more handles.

Curiosity Gratified. Former Customer (after a long absence)—What has become of the pretty blonde that used to feed the hungry at this lunch counter? Dark-skinned Walter Girl—I'm her. What you gotta' order, sir?

THE LOVE THAT DID

(Original.)

I chanced the other morning to overtake my friend Mr. Thayer, and as our common destination was downtown we continued on our way together.

For years I have gone down to my office by Spruce street until six months ago I don't go that way now because of the haunted house "haunted house," I repeated, "I didn't know there was one, or with a look abroad at the general appearance of the scene, I thought ghosts walked only at midnight."

Mineral Wealth of the South. About one-seventh of the mineral production of the entire country comes from the Southern States, says the World's Work of bituminous coal, the most valuable mineral, the South produces one-fourth, and of iron about one-sixth.

Post Office at Singapore. The post at Singapore must be a Tower of Babel. There are letters for delivery to Europeans, Eurasians, Malays, Tamils, Bengalis, Parsees, Arabs, Armenians, Siamese and others.

The Japanese Merchant. Curious ways the Japanese merchant has of doing business. A special agent of the United States Government who is now in Japan gives some illustrations.

Saving Fertility. The man who makes butter at home and feeds all his skim milk, is not selling off much of his fertility. It is claimed that as much fertility is sold with \$2 worth of skim as with \$88 worth of butter.

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