

BANK OF ENGLAND

Tragic and Romantic Episodes In Its Historic Career.

DEADLY BATTLE WITH A MOB

The Bloody Climax to the Attempted Raid by the Lord Gordon Rioters—A Financial Coup That Was Spoiled by the Duchess of Marlborough.

No other banking institution has so romantic a history as that pertaining to the Bank of England, the "Old Lady of Threadneedle Street."

One of the bloody episodes in the history of the bank is that embraced in the story of Charles Walter Godfrey, one of its early partners in the bank.

When these tiny policemen discover vagrant germs or criminal bacteria they rush upon the intruder and, trying him up in a mesh, proceed to devour him.

Sometimes when the vagrants are too numerous the policemen throw them out from the body by means of pimples, boils and similar eruptions.

The clerks, armed with muskets, were unprovided with shot. Before them lay rows of leaden inkstands, suggesting the possibilities of a new use.

At that time Childs' bank, a private concern, which had the backing of a great part of the English nobility, exhibited such signs of future greatness that the Bank of England became greatly alarmed.

The principal figure in the drama that ensued was no other than the famous Sarah Jennings, in whom Childs' bank found its staunchest supporter.

Whereupon the redoubtable duchess sat down and wrote out a check, which she handed to the agent. It was an order on the Bank of England for the payment of £700,000.

At 12 o'clock that day there appeared at the Childs' counter an agent of the Bank of England bearing a big bagful of receipts and blandly suggesting immediate payment.

The cashiers at Childs' naturally took their own time in scrutinizing the receipts, spending fully half an hour over the first batch alone.

At sixes and sevens, "I married my first husband for money and my second for love."

A Special Favor. Customer—I want a ton of coal. Dealer—Yes, sir. What else? Customer—Well, if it's not asking too much, I'd like to have a 2,000 pound son.—Brooklyn Life.

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BUSY CELL TOILERS.

The Marvellous Work They Constantly Perform in the Blood.

The blood cells are important members of the cell community and are exceedingly numerous, there being over 75,000,000,000 of the red blood cells alone.

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MAGIC WATER TOYS.

Wonderful Play Toys That Amuse the Children of the Orient.

Europe and America turn out for the education of their children many ingenious toys, but the occidental youngsters have nothing to compare with the strange expanding water toys with which the children of the far east have for centuries amused themselves.

These are placed in small wooden boxes similar to the little paint boxes so often seen in our own country. They have the appearance of soiled shavings, broken matches and dilapidated toothpicks, but when thrown into the water the ingenious toys at once exhibit properties that show them to be considerably more than mere bits of stick.

The wood of these toys has been kiln dried, and immediately it touches the water it begins to absorb the water and to expand almost indefinitely.

Then, too, there are toys which show as whales, tigers, crocodiles, etc. The figures are colored and present a bewildering variety in design and treatment. Their manufacture is a trade secret, kept inviolate by the guild that turns them out by the thousands.

For older children there are provided larger and even more artistic figures, consisting of historical characters—rulers, poets and soldiers—and dwarfed trees and tiny houses.

Far Distant Uranus. Oddities a Visit to This Gigantic Planet Would Disclose.

If Uranus, which is a star of about the sixth magnitude, were a planet like those little ones called asteroids, which are being discovered by the dozen every year, it could not have much claim upon popular attention.

Uranus has four moons, which revolve backward in their orbits—that is to say, they revolve from east to west around Uranus, while Uranus goes, like all the other planets, from west to east around the sun.

The receipt given by the steamship company sets forth that so many kegs have been received for shipment, not for any stated amount of gold to the value of so much.

Although no armed guard stands by the strong room, two men watch the room constantly so long as the ship is in sight of land.

Mark Twain's Profanity. William Dean Howells read the "Tom Sawyer" manuscript and thought it the best story he had ever read.

Spelled Her Enthusiasm. "Harry proposed last night" I was so—"I knew he would. I played a joke on him."

Matrimonial. Three Germans were sitting at lunch on recently and were overheard discussing the second marriage of a mutual friend when one of them remarked "Till tell you what. A man what marries de second time don't deserve to haf lost his first wife."—Life.

Small Blase. Mr. Dubb—My brain is on fire! Miss Keen—I hardly think we need call on the fire department.—Boston Transcript.

A Lasy Man is as useless as a dead man and takes up more room.—Hubbard.

GOLD ON A BIG SHIP

How Bullion in Transit Is Guarded on an Ocean Liner.

LOCKED IN ROOMS OF STEEL

After the Treasure is Safely Stowed Away There is Little Danger of Its Being Stolen During the Voyage, Shipping and Checking the Kegs.

The natural assumption would be that in the safeguarding of the treasure which the various countries are constantly sending one another by the big ocean liners there would be required the vigilance of many men.

Taking the specific case of one liner sailing under the British flag, we find that it has two strong rooms, the smaller of the two being in close proximity to the captain's office.

In the case of the British vessel mentioned there is another and larger stowage room, situated next to the provision department. This is about twelve feet in length by four in width.

Gold usually is brought to the vessel on which it is to be shipped the day before the date of sailing, and it is stored away carefully before passengers embark.

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VARNISHING DAY.

It Brings Many Surprises at the English Royal Academy.

When the hanging committee of the English Royal Academy has completed the work of "hanging," the artists whose pictures are exhibited on the academy walls are forwarded a piece of pasteboard known as a "varnishing card."

"Varnishing day" brings many surprises to the exhibitors. One man will find his canvas wrongly named, and another, an impressionist, may be startled to discover that his glorious sunset, over which he has taken so much pains, is upside down.

Turner had one of his paintings hung upside down, and old academicians well remember that a little canvas, "A Sleeping Naiad," was once, owing to lack of space, placed on the wall in an upright position and renamed "The Waking Naiad."

Carries an Umbrella, Has a Whip Tail and Walks Like a Bird. The frilled lizard is found in Australia woods, being tolerably abundant in north Queensland and the Kimberley district of Western Australia.

A Real Disciplinarian. The other night we heard a father speak thusly "William, your mother tells me that you must have a dose of castor oil before retiring tonight. It is your bedtime now. Take your medicine and go to bed at once."

Domestic Bookkeeping. "And what's your reason for increasing the servants' wages, pray?" her friend asked.

Teaching the Teacher. Mother (whose children have had an education superior to her own, to her small daughter, whom she is in the act of smacking)—"I'll learn you not to contradict me! Small Daughter (between her sobs)—"Teach, mother, teach.—London Punch.

A Mystery. "Mummy, darling, where does the fire go when it goes out?" "Goodness knows, my dear! You might just as well ask me where daddy goes!"—London Answer.

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