

Too Quick.

While reporting a term of court in an outlying county a village merchant was prosecuted for "arson." It developed that the business men of the town had retained a "special prosecutor" to assist in the case. The attorney for the defendant invariably asked each witness if he had ever contributed anything toward the support of the "special prosecutor." One old man was very zealous in his efforts to convict the defendant. The attorney started to ask him the regular "contribution" question but the witness interrupted him and gave his answer in the middle of the question, with the following result: "Have you ever contributed anything toward the support?" "No, sir; I never did—not a cent!" "Of your family?" "The witness was excused amid the laughter of the court, jury and audience. He left the room mad as a hornet and was heard to mutter, "I ain't got no family."—West Publishing Company.

Silhouette and Painting.

The art of painting begins inevitably with drawing—with expression by means of the point; the result—line. This every teacher and academy realizes and has to realize. More, every great school of painting has evolved from it. But this use of the point of drawing soon reaches its limitations and the brush demands mass, or perhaps it is more correct to say that mass demands the brush. The floating of masses on canvas or paper, with its edges holding the outline of the form is silhouette. Silhouette, in other words, is the basis of all mass impressions. Without a sense of silhouette we can utter no large and sublime moods. Yet strange to say, the small part given to silhouette in the teaching of the art of painting in academies—indeed, more often the utter lack of it—has always struck me as extraordinary. —Hindline Macfarlin in T. P.'s Weekly, London.

Wife's First Mistake.

An amusing incident recently took place in a hotel at a popular seaside resort. At one of the tables in the writing room sat the young and charming Mrs. Newby, who had just engaged on a letter. Suddenly she stopped, laid down her pen and gazed out of the window; then she started at the ceiling, evidently deep in thought. Finally she made a blunder of jottings on the blotter beside her, examined them carefully and at length resumed her letter. A base and uncalled for curiosity prompted the correspondent to take a seat at that table not long afterward. On the blotter, each word followed by a formidable question mark, was the mysterious inscription: "Happyques Happiness Happiness." And, alas, Mrs. N. had made the first mistake in her married life. The first two words had a determined line drawn through them.—Glasgow News.

Made the Hot Air Work.

Until the art of science was invoked the work of unloading cars loaded with coal in winter in Philadelphia proved to be a heavy task, for it often happened that whole trainloads arrived with the coal frozen into a solid mass. Science built a concrete and nearly airtight house at Greenwich Point, into which twenty-one loaded coal cars may be backed at one time, like so many pies in an oven. Here in a temperature of 150 or more degrees the solid contents of a car are thawed loose from the sides. In forty minutes or so, the cooling process being complete, the cars are taken from the oven and hoisted over the ship, when the coal runs out easily. That hot air can do to twenty-one cars in forty minutes what it took 100 men a day to accomplish.

Good Bait.

Fish stories are supposed to be unique as stretchers of the imagination, but none beats the story told by a recent British visitor at Washington. It seems that one of his acquaintances, a traveler of some note, had sold a small farm to an Irishman, and the latter was complaining because there were no birds in his garden. "Set some traps," suggested the traveler, "and they will come." "Sure an' will they come thin?" "Yes, I was once in Africa, and there wasn't a woman, I had been told, within 200 miles. I wanted some one to cook, so I hung a pair of car-rings and a bracelet on a tree and the next morning found five applicants under the branches."—New York Tribune.

Warning the Flirt.

A popular actress was condemning the flirt. "The flirt," she said, "has a good time in the present—a good time of a sort in the present—but what about the future? Many a girl is on the shelf today because she kept men on the rack yesterday."—Washington Star.

To Think About.

"She seems like a very nice girl." "One whom it would be safe to marry?" "Oh, no. No girl is safe enough for that. But she's nice enough to think about marrying if you only know when to stop."—Life.

In the Days of Old.

"How these laundries do mangle your shirts of woad!" said Sir Lancelot. "Yes, mine always come back shy, several rivets," assented Sir Gink. —Pittsburgh Post.

Much Easier.

Candidate of Ideals—Wouldn't you rather be right than president? Practical Friend—Certainly! It is so much easier to be right.—Baltimore American.

Push, but No Pull.

Sir Oliver Lodge claims that there is no such thing as a pull applied to bodies—that is, that an engine, for instance, never pulls a train, but really pushes it. A little excursion into what he means will readily convince the skeptical that he is right. Take this example: The coupling of the engine extends behind that of the car following and does actually shove it forward. The reason it comes forward is because its parts do not separate—that is, it has cohesion.

But the actual force administered is that of a push and not a pull. Take a rope pulling a safe up to a window. It is wrapped under the safe, and that is the part that is exerting the force and urging the safe upward, the other parts of the rope simply sticking together. When we pull our coats off we really push them off, for the force is exerted behind the object in the direction of motion, and, as every one knows, that is called a push. So if we really desire to speak in chastely scientific terms we should say, push our coats off, push our hats off, push a safe up through a window.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Star Arcturus.

It is probable that the star Arcturus is one of the six greatest of all the stars in the sky. Notwithstanding its brightness, it is so far away from us that it is not displaced in position in the slightest measurable degree, as we change our position 180,000,000 miles in our annual journey around the sun. Could we be placed midway between Arcturus and our sun we would receive thousands of times more light and heat from the star than from our sun and this notwithstanding that the star's radiation is smothered by a dense blanket of metallic vapors. In spite of its immense distance the star is drifting slowly in a southwestward direction over the face of the sky, its motion changing its apparent position by an amount equal to the diameter of the moon in the course of about 1,000 years. So great an apparent motion must indicate an enormous velocity in space.

Fairly Warned.

One of Australia's best landscape painters was out with his bag of tricks near Daylesford recently. He had pitched in front of an old, two roomed, wattle and slab hut, softened with a crimson flowered creeper, which he thought would make an excellent sketch. While he was working a tall, hairy man came out of the hut and regarded him with some misty glint. The painter approached. "Watched you, mister?" he said. "I'm painting your picturesque dwelling," said Patterson. The hut dweller regarded Patterson dubiously for a minute, then went in doors. Presently he reappeared with his wife, and the two advanced toward the artist. "Mind yeh," said the man, pointing at the painter, "I've got me witness. You're doin' this at your own expense."

Asiatic Use of Quackskin Churns.

Goatskin churns are the proper thing in the Asiatic deserts. They are the unique butter making contrivances of the world. These churns resemble gigantic footballs, varying in size according to the extent of the dairies. They are constructed of goatskin sewed together in the form of a ball, with the hair side in. Cream is put into these bags until they are as full as a bladder and the balance of the air is filled with air from the churn's lungs. Then these churns are suspended from three sticks and a rocking motion begun. The air on the inside is calculated to cool the butter from the cream. After churning the product is strained through cloth, for the goat's hair has a tendency to shed during the violent operations.

A Book She Wouldn't Read.

There is one book of Mr. Stevenson's that I myself have never read," said Mrs. Stevenson once. "I refused to read it and held to my refusal. I make it a rule never to read a novel the scene of which is laid in a bygone age. The author always deems it his duty to make his characters talk in what he considers the language of that period, and I am always sure that he doesn't know positively how they did talk, so I won't read such books." And Mr. Stevenson thought it such a good joke that he insisted upon dedicating it to me.

Squelched.

Prosperous Young Actor (returning tired after a smattering and evening performance of a successful play)—Ah, dear boys, I really think it's time all good actors were in bed. Grumpy tragedian (looking up from his paper)—They are.—Exchange.

A Hint to the Old Man.

"I hope you appreciate the fact, sir, that in marrying my daughter you marry a large hearted and generous girl." "I do, sir," with emotion, "and I hope she inherits those qualities from her father."

An Unfortunate Misunderstanding.

"I tried to leave my last situation because the missus said they were going to lead the sinful life, and they wouldn't want any servants about the place."—London Punch.

Farfetched.

"What do you think of the jokes Bill brought over from England?" "I think they were pretty farfetched."—Princeton Tiger.

See business and you will see; labor diligently and you will have.—Spanish proverb.

A healthy city is a wealthy one.

The cheerful loser stands next to the cheerful giver. More things will come your way if you go after them. War veteran, sixty-nine, ran 140 yards in seventeen seconds in 1913, not in 1863. So, Sir Thomas hopes also to win a bride over here next year. That will be a lot easier. One advantage of being a horse is that corn on the cob never gets too tough for his use.

Householders need anticipate no shocks in becoming adjusted to the new tariff. The tradesmen will break it to them gently.

An objection to good roads is that people who have once had them will have no other kind. The luxury of today is the necessity of tomorrow.

Perhaps if Outimet had been older he would have done even better still. His opponents can extract that much consolation from the fact of his youth.

The one indisputable fact about good roads in any inhabited region is that it is much cheaper to get them at any cost within reason than not to get them.

The steel railroad car doesn't prevent accidents, of course, but when an accident occurs it is very efficient in saving life, as has been many times demonstrated.

The driver of a Chicago fire truck has been disciplined for turning in false alarms to amuse his mother-in-law. Are all the old stock jokes of the comic papers to go?

Blind people are asking for a currency adapted to their necessities. As there are 64,763 of them in the official reports, their request deserves some consideration.

The average citizen doesn't need any elaborate statistics from the federal government to prove the rise in food prices in recent years. He can prove it from his bills.

Now the mate critic of the silk skirt, remembering the speckled hat with the velvet bow that reposes upon his head, passes a finger across his lips and passes on in silence.

In 2017, according to a scientist, this will be a babyless world. We have several red apples to wager that this awful prediction will be falsified by the facts. Any takers?

New York city's enrollment in the public schools this year is nearly a million. The army of education in this country is one of the signs that make the prospects cheerful.

A crisis in conditions affecting the world's food supply is predicted by Professor Dickson of the Edinburgh university. This means more work for the department of agriculture.

The eminent German specialist who says that hotel orchestras are driving people crazy will find supporters among thousands of unscientific, pests who have been in doubt as to what ailed them.

The governmental and scientific congress in Germany for testing the efficiency of the dividing rod suggests that it might be no less worth while to investigate the frost forecasting powers of the katydid.

In deciding that the mule is a common carrier in the same sense as the greatest railroad the Kentucky court doubtless took into consideration the similarity of consequences following a rear end collision.

The only member of the diplomatic corps who seems to be untroubled by the high cost of living is our envoy to Madagascar, where a nice, cosy straw thatched apartment may be rented for two strings of beads per annum.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley advises eating the least meat and more cereal as a remedy for the high cost of living. The Chinese and Japanese anticipated Dr. Wiley's advice by a few thousand years or so, but it is good advice for all that.

The Michigan doctor who says that statistics show that the human race is becoming insane! doubtless made a mental reservation as respects medical men. If they go insane who will be left to pass on the mental condition of the rest of us?

Great Britain would make a mistake to withdraw from the Olympic games after the contest to be held at Berlin in 1916. Whatever its reasons, it would find it hard to convince the world that it was inspired by any other motive than disappointment over its indifferent success in the past.

The worry gun causes a lot of unnecessary trouble.

If a man is seasick it's natural for him to want the earth. A man isn't necessarily charitable because he gives himself away. Unscrambling eggs is now one of the chief activities in financial circles. The car pays \$75,000 for a painting. Guaranteed as still life, we suppose. When it comes to baseball leagues two is company and three is a complication.

"Is obesity hereditary?" asks an exchange. Not at the present price of grain.

Any lawyer will tell you that some people won't take advice even when they pay for it.

The price of golf balls has been reduced, but the penalty for losing one remains the same.

England will try for the south pole again. She doesn't believe that Amundsen got away with it.

It's up to you either to take things as they come or turn your back and let them meander by.

The barking dog seldom bites, but we'll take people's word for it rather than submit to a test case.

The German comedy, "When Women Are Silent," is drawing great crowds. That isn't a comedy; it's a joke.

Why not put a scale on the telephone instead of a meter so that people can weigh their words more carefully?

Some of those big London houses will become famous for the American millionaires who have rented them.

In Scotland there is a cow with a wooden leg. We believe it. We've had a stack of many a one like that.

Philadelphia is a live town, nevertheless. The mint coined \$2,000,000 more money last year than in the year before.

If that automatic restaurant really eliminates the waiter with the un-manicured nails it has accomplished no small feat.

Dr. Woods Hutchinson comments learnedly on the secret of baldness when everybody knows baldness can't be kept a secret.

The latest revolution in hotel lobbies is six hours. This is wasteful; they ought to bunch up enough revolutions to last out a film.

To the average consumer grand opera in English sounds much the same as grand opera in Italian, French, German or Hottentot.

Just what is meant by autonomy for the Kong-fies beyond ordinary comprehension, unless it is something that follows the autopsy.

If Greece and Turkey are going to begin a naval building war there will not be much left of either country except the mortgages.

All discussion regarding sanitary finger bowls could be avoided by carefully polishing the rim with a clean napkin before drinking.

A New Yorker with nine wives is charged with non-support. Unless he's a millionaire we should think the accusation reasonable.

Be an optimist like Andy Carnegie, who still looks on the bright side, though he has given away all except a penny \$25,000,000.

A scientist says the world will last 15,000,000 years longer. That will give high prices plenty of time to come down and be acceptable.

Upside down dinners are the newest London fad. Occasionally careless professional tangoists introduce them in New York restaurants.

So many forms of erudition are exhibited in the department of agriculture that the old adage, "Tell your troubles to a policeman," has been superseded.

The German crown prince is said to spend much of his spare time making furniture. Sometimes the crown prince must wonder if he's ever going to make the throne.

Married men, according to General Miles, are better fighters than bachelors. "Fighting" people will at once say that it is because married men have had more practice.

Nobody knows what the president said to Mr. Lind or what Mr. Lind said to the president, but the opinion is steadily gaining ground that one of them must have said something.

It overpopulation in China is an evil that the executioner is one of the central republic's most useful citizens, for he is reported to have eliminated 24,000 persons in a single province in the last year.

In addition to X rays there are now F rays, which are useful in "exploding" submarine mines at a distance. "What will the next be—P, Q or Z? Discoverers should file their claims before the resources of the alphabet are exhausted.

See Mussels as Food.

The sea mussel is closely related to the oyster and the clam. It is not, however, to be confused with the fresh water mussel. As a nutritious and wholesome food it is equal to either the oyster or the clam, and many persons regard it as superior in flavor. The mussels exist in such abundance in such readily accessible places, and they are so readily obtained by the oysterman's regular equipment, that they can be put upon the market at lower cost than can either oysters or clams. They are at their best, moreover, when oysters are out of season, though they are in season all the year round. As a food they are economically good not only because of their high nutritive value and digestibility, but because, unlike the clam, all the meat is edible, and, because their shells are thin and regular, a barrel of mussels contains more edible material than a barrel of oysters. A peck of mussels in the shell will supply all the meat required for a meal for ten persons.

Tipping the Headsman.

Ancient usage in England has a peculiarly consecrating effect in the matter of tips and fees. Horace Walpole records the astonishment of George I. when told that he must give guineas to the servant of the manger of his park for bringing him a brace of carp out of his own pond. Apparently everybody in England is at some time or other justified in demanding a fee unless he is the monarch. When Tait became archbishop of Canterbury and met the queen he breathed a sigh of relief on at last encountering a person to whom he had not to pay something. According to Bishop Burnet a man used to have to give a tip in order to be decapitated. He tells the story of Lord Russell when under sentence of death for high treason asking what he ought to give the executioner. "I told him 10 guineas. He said, with a smile, it was a pretty thing to give a fee to have his head cut off."

Chess and War.

The origin of chess is shrouded in mystery. There is little doubt, however, that its birthplace was in India and that it is an offspring of a game called chaturanga, which is mentioned in oriental literature as in use fully 200 years before the Christian era. From India chess spread into Persia and thence into Arabia, and ultimately the Arabs took it into Spain and the rest of western Europe. The game was in all probability invented for the purpose of illustrating the art of war. The Arab legend upon this point is that it was devised for the instruction of a young despot by his father, a learned Brahmin, to teach him that a king, notwithstanding his power, was dependent for safety upon his subjects. The Greek historians credit the invention of the game to Palamedes, who, they claim, devised it to beguile the tedium of the siege of Troy during the Trojan war.

Sleepwalkers.

Many years ago an archbishop of Bordeaux attested the case of a young ecclesiastic who was in the habit of getting up during the night in a state of somnambulism, and, taking pen, ink and paper, composing and writing his sermons. When he finished one page he would read and correct it. In order to ascertain whether the somnambulist made use of his eyes the archbishop held a piece of pasteboard under his chin to prevent his seeing the paper upon which he was writing, but he continued to write on without being in the least inconvenienced. It is related of Negretti, a sleepwalker, that he would sometimes carry a lighted candle, as if to give him light in his employment, but on a bottle being substituted he took it and carried it without apparently noticing the difference.

Curious Pictures.

In the famous galleries at Antwerp are certain pictures of old masters in which the jumble of ideas is as remarkable as the technique is fine. In one picture of heaven the archangels are armed with bows and arrows, and in a celebrated painting of "The Murder of the Innocents" the massacre is represented as taking place in a city of Holland. The parents of the children are stout burghers, the Roman soldiers are Dutch policemen armed with muskets, and the innocent infants are transformed into solid schoolboys in bulky woolen trousers and jackets and horned shoes.

Hereditary.

"And when you grow up," said the father to six-year-old Elsie, "I suppose you will get married?" "Oh, there's hardly any doubt about it," answered the small maid. "Everybody says I am much like mamma, and she has been married three times, you know."

Gallant Lover.

"Silly boy," she said, "why did you get offended? Though my words were severe, you might have seen that I was smiling." "Well," he replied magnanimously, "your mouth is so small I didn't notice it."—Philadelphia Press.

The Faultless.

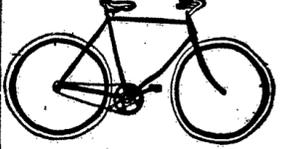
The man who says he is without fault would probably not know a fault if he should meet one in the middle of the road.—Knorrville Journal and Tribune.

Transformation.

"Hymen is a great magician." "Prove it!" "See how often he turns a turtle dove into a snapping turtle.—Judge.

Nothing is difficult; it is only we who are indolent.—Benjamin E. Haydon.

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Change of mind doesn't always bring better ideas.

Charity begins at home, and most of it finishes right there.

Many a good resolution is made in a mad quarter of an hour.

A beauty doctor's handiwork bears the stamp of the doctoring.

Some people come to grief and some wait for it to overtake them.

Great works are performed, not by strength, but by perseverance.

The man who has money to burn and burns it stands in his own light.

Japan seems to have acquired a celestial dragon to watch over its treasury.

If the good die young it must be that many others become better as they grow older.

England is amazed at the compensation of American athletes; also at the results they get.

An average of three or four foolish notions a day ought to be enough for anybody to have.

Don't expect your friends to stand up for you forever. Even friends may need to sit down.

The fact that humanity is prone to err should not restrain us from endeavor to avoid mistakes.

When a man tells himself that he doesn't care what others say of him he is trying to fool himself.

Radium is now said to be glowing prominently in fiction. However, the doctors beat the novelists by it.