

A Nestor Of Criticism

By LOUISE B. CUMMINGS

The woman's club of Medbury was divided into departments of art, sciences, music and other subjects, and for each department a night was set apart. One evening when the department of literature met for chat on literary subjects it was announced beforehand that Miss Emma Alden Hinckley, a celebrated litterateur, would be present. Miss Hinckley had not written very much herself, but her opinion on books was looked upon as final.

UNSOLVED MYSTERIES.

Such as Radium, the Human Brain and the Electric Fluid. Alexander Graham Bell was once asked if he understood precisely how a telephone conveyed the sound of a human voice. His answer was: "No, I only know what is done. I do not know how it is accomplished."

SHOES SPOIL OUR FEET.

That is Why So Few Persons Have Perfect Feet. A person with normal feet is very difficult to find. In fact, the doctors estimate that foot trouble is endemic in the United States, as well as in every enlightened country on the globe. The cause of this condition and the vast suffering which it entails is the unhygienic shoe.

New Canada Got Its Name.

The origin of the name Canada is strange enough. The Spaniards visited that country previous to the French and made particular search for gold and silver, and, finding none, they called it "aca nada," meaning "There is nothing here." The Indians, who watched closely, learned this sentence and its meaning. Later on the French arrived, and the Indians, who wanted none of their company and supposed they had come on the same errand as the Spaniards, were desirous to inform them in the Spanish sentence "aca nada." The French, who knew as little of the Spanish language as they, supposed that the incessantly recurring sound was the name of the country and ultimately christened it "Canada, which it has borne ever since."

Compensation.

King Alfonso is very English in some of his expressions. For instance, he was discussing with a well known British peer the difficulties and dangers of kingship. "So you think, sir," remarked the peer, "that it is rather a thankless task being a king?" "It is rather difficult work at times," replied his majesty with a grin, "but it is deuced well paid!"—London Globe.

Helping Him.

A section foreman on a southern railway heard the following conversation between two of his dusky laborers. "Jim, you bettah come here an' he'p me. I's talkin' up fer you." "How's dat?" "W'y, dis here man say you ain't fit fer de dawgs, an' Ah' tole him yes you is!"—Everybody's Magazine.

Superfluous Adornment.

"I am now engaged on a beautiful design for a new coin," said the artist. "I don't see why we need it," replied Miss Cayenne. "You can't make money so good looking as to render it any more popular than it already is."—Washington Star.

Excessive anger against human stupidity is itself one of the most provoking of all forms of stupidity.—Von Radowits.

A Point Gained From an Impostor

By DWIGHT NORWOOD

I began my public career by writing books; but, although I became favorably known as an author, my income from my literary work was not large. I presume I wrote for the few whose taste is refined. I entered the lecture field and found the work much easier and far more productive.

HEALTH AND WEDLOCK.

Conditions That Should Be Studied Before It Is Too Late.

Marriage, from any point of view, is of course a serious proposition, as it may bless or wreck two human lives. It is not mere. Not the least important of these points of view is that of the health of both parties to the contract. The health commissioner of Pennsylvania in an official bulletin gives the following advice to those about to marry:

"CAMEL'S HAIR" BRUSHES.

The Very Best of Them Are Made From Squirrel Tails.

It may sound rather strange, but it is nevertheless true that no brushes are ever made of camel's hair, yet they are asked for daily and sold as such. There are very many kinds of hair used in the making of "camel's hair" brushes, such as bear, fox, rabbit, squirrel, etc., and, indeed, one authority states that over 150 sorts of brushes are known as "camel's hair" brushes, but there is only one definition accepted by the British board of trade—i. e., "camel's hair" brushes made from squirrel tails, these being the best and most expensive.

Reasbell's "Favah"

Never was there a blacker daughter of Africa than was Reasbell Jackson when, as a girl but thirteen years, she was taken into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Deena, a childless couple who purposed training Reasbell into a maid of all work. This she succeeded in doing, and so many admirable traits of character were developed in Reasbell that they became much attached to the girl, and her affection for them was pronounced. One day when she was nearly thirty years old she came to Mrs. Deena to ask a "favah" of somewhat startling character.

Bitter Lady Lytton.

In "Unpublished Letters of Lady Bulwer Lytton to A. E. Chalon, R. A.," the editor slips in the following when referring to S. C. Hall's impressions of Lady Bulwer Lytton: "Mrs. Hall was Irish, and Lady Lytton had no partiality for her compatriots. On one occasion her husband entertained Daniel O'Connell and other Irish members at dinner, and S. C. Hall relates. The next day I saw Mrs. Bulwer directing some arrangements in the dining room, which she told me she was fumigating in order to get rid of the brogue."

Tiger-like Cat.

Although he's no bigger than an ordinary house cat, the dasyure of the South American jungles is strong and ferce. He has the temper of a tiger, and is kept in a soft coated, speckled body of tomato size. Good lighter that he is, the dasyure never lights for his food, for his chief subsistence is the ant and other small insects, but when attacked by a man the latter very often gets the worst of it.—Wisconsin State Journal.

Selfish.

"So Jack Hanson has married Miss Goldie." "Yes, and I was mighty sorry to see it." "Sorry? For her sake or his?" "For mine; I wanted her!"—Boston Transcript.

Truth and Fiction.

"Truth is stranger than fiction." "I don't know," replied Miss Cayenne, "whether it is stranger or only scarcer."—Washington Star.

Of Course.

"Can you tell me which class of people lives the longest?" "Why, centenarians, I believe."—Boston Transcript.

An Ingenuous Criticism

By F. A. MITCHEL

Jimson, an author, having done more scribbling than was good for his health, was ordered by his doctor to go into the country. He chose a small town called Hollywood because there was a library there, and if he was forbidden to write he could at least read, which was not what his doctor intended at all. He wished his patient to be out of doors—walking, driving, boating, and the like.

CHILDREN'S TEETH.

When They Should Appear and the Order in Which They Come.

The milk teeth (first teeth) are twenty in number. The time at which they appear is subject to considerable variations, even under normal conditions. The following table gives the order and average time of appearance of the different teeth:

BATHING IN JAPAN.

Natives Wash Themselves Clean Before Getting into the Tub.

Partial accounts of the luxury of a Japanese bath lead us to believe that we have something yet to learn about what is regarded by many in this country as a necessity and by more as a supererogation—in Japan the bath is not only a necessity, but a delightful recreation. The Japanese have a way of their own of taking a bath. They have a system that in some respects resembles that enforced at swimming pools in this country. You must first wash the body thoroughly, and then you enter the tub, the water of which is heated by an individual system. There, if you are in a public bathhouse, you may smoke and dose and chat with your friends in a despatch that is said to be exceedingly refreshing. The water is kept hot, perhaps increases in heat and when you leave the tub it is still regarded as fit for the next customer. In a private house the master and mistress may have their baths first, and the same water serves for the invigoration and diversion of the servants. The ignorant foreigner, who goes into the Japanese tub for the purpose of cleansing his body and with soap spoils the water for further use, is not only guilty of a social error, but entails a hardship on the household, including the servants.—Rochester Democrat.

Recognized.

A Pennsylvania lawyer known throughout the state for his sharpness once met his match in a very unexpected quarter. An old woman was being cross examined by him as to how the testator had looked when he made a remark to her about some relatives. "I don't remember. He's been dead three years," she answered testily. "Do you mean to tell me that your memory is so bad that you cannot go back three years?" demanded the attorney. "The witness was silent. "Did he look anything like me?" the lawyer finally ventured. "Seems to me he did have the same sort of vacant look," responded the old lady.—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

An Unconventional Duke.

Kew Parish church had among former worshippers the first Duke of Cambridge, a strong but unconventional churchman, who made audacious comments while the service was in progress. To the exhortation, "Let us pray," he would reply, "By all means," and during a dry summer he added to the "Amen" after the prayer for rain, "But we shouldn't get it till the wind changes." On hearing the words, "For we brought nothing into the world, neither may we carry anything out," he would ejaculate, "True, true; too many calls upon us for that."—London Globe.

The Smile of God's Love.

As the ice upon the mountain, when the warm breath of summer's sun breathes upon it, melts and divides into drops, each of which reflects an image of the sun, so life, the smile of God's love, divides itself into separate forms, each bearing in it and reflecting an image of God's love.—Langfellow.

The Noblest Arms.

We may talk what we please of lilies, and Hons rampant, and spread eagles, in fields of gold or argent, but if heraldry were guided by reason a plow in a field of arable would be the most noble and ancient arms.—Abraham Cowley.

A Matter of Support.

Her Father—You expect me to support Margaret indefinitely? Her Husband—Well, I hope you may stand from under very gradually, sir.—Boston Transcript.

Nothing is denied to well directed labor; nothing is ever to be attained without it.—St. Joshua Reynolds.