

THE STORY OF SANDY O'NEILL

Friend of Poor Though Lacking Public Spirit.

Speaking of the "ups and downs" of life I don't know but that a commercial traveler sees as many of them as any one.

Sitting in the reading room of a hotel one cold winter evening I noticed an old, badly dressed man come in, look about him as if not knowing exactly what to do, warm his hands by the fire, then turn and go out. There was something in his appearance that interested me. He seemed like a man who had a history. I followed him from the room in time to see him go out into the cold. I asked the landlord about him, and he told me the old man's story.

"Sandy O'Neill when a young man was the pet of the village, or rather, the village was Sandy's pet. Some would call him a maulin over other people's troubles, but those who knew him gave him sympathy were of no such mind and loved him as he deserved to be loved. Sandy's only trouble was that he had no means with which to make people happy. He never met a child that didn't run through his pockets to find a cent for candy and when he failed to find one would often lead his little protégé in a romp and provide the sweets on tick. But Sandy's great charm was a cheerfulness that communicated itself to others and was a relief to those in distress.

"Sandy had more in him than people suspected. He never could become prosperous by ordinary methods, for he would give money faster than he could possibly make it. His only chance was to make it all at once. This he did. A stranger came to town, took a fancy to him and induced him to go with him to the copper mines of Lake Superior. There Sandy became possessed of an embryo mine, which proved of great value, and he found himself a millionaire.

"One day ten years after Sandy had left the town one of our morning papers announced that Alexander O'Neill, the distinguished copper king, a former resident of this city, arrived yesterday on a visit to the place of his birth. It was more than a visit, for Sandy had come to stay.

"In view of Sandy's past charitable disposition, it was generally admitted that he would do a great deal with his wealth for the town. A public reception was accorded him, got up by the first citizens. I noticed one man's name on the reception committee, whom I had heard speak of Sandy O'Neill as a maulin over other people's troubles. The organizers of the testimonial were all interested in property and enterprises which they hoped would be benefited by the copper king. The greeting of those whom he had befriended was different. They welcomed him with smiles at his good fortune with tears at remembering his past kindnesses.

"Sandy got through the reception as best he could and put it behind him as something not pleasant. He went about just as he used to sympathizing with his friends, only now when he left them there was something substantial in their hands to mark his visit. He did nothing for the town, only for the people. For one he put a new roof on his home, for another paid off a mortgage, for another bought a cow that the children might have plenty of milk. Wherever he found a sick person he went the doctor and provided comforts. Add everywhere that Sandy went he gave as much comfort with his kindly, cheery words as with his money.

"But when those who had no need for Sandy's small benefits found that he would do nothing for the town when he had refused to take an interest in a park which was intended to border a real estate speculation on a railroad that was to connect the place with a neighboring city, a dam to furnish water power, they turned against him. When he had first returned he was Alexander O'Neill, the distinguished copper king. He had not been in town long before the first citizens spoke of him as 'Sandy O'Neill the man who no public spirit whatever.'

"Well, for years Sandy pursued the occupation he had chosen, giving away his money. There were a great commercial crisis and the square dance that was left to him disappointed. Sandy was without a cent. By this time he had dropped from among the first citizens, and his loss made not a ripple in that part of the community. It was a long while before it was known among those he had befriended that he was in want, but when they heard it they swarmed about him, those who had savings offering to share them with him and those who had not saying through tears, 'God bless you Mr. O'Neill, and give you back your fortune.'

"Then some of the first citizens who had been interested in getting up his reception, when the fact that he was penniless and had passed into old age became notorious, offered to get up a donation affair for him. I have always believed they did it to humiliate him. Sandy declined their offer, saying that he had many friends who would not see him suffer. And he had and has now. When he wants a meal there are a thousand people ready to give it to him. He has a room in a house he built for a poor family, and those he befriended are constantly clamoring for him to eat with them.

"Nevertheless Sandy O'Neill is a wreck."

WHAT IS ELECTRICITY?

It Seems to Be an Effect Produced by Energy on Matter.

It is a curious fact that although evidence of electricity in a primitive way was observed as long ago as the fifth century B. C. and its manifestation has become one of the greatest factors in our modern civilization, no one knows just what it is.

At different times it has been thought to be a form of matter, a thin, weightless fluid, a kind of force, a variety of motion and a disturbance in the ether which is supposed to fill all space, including pores in most solid metals. Electricity is not something created by man. He has simply discovered ways of turning its manifestations to practical account.

From the time that Thales observed, centuries before the Christian era, that amber, after being rubbed by silk, had the property of attracting light bodies like bits of paper, discoveries of electrical phenomena were made from time to time, but they were detached from a realization of the great possibilities brought to light in recent years.

Electricity, becomes evident when rendered active by some molecular disturbance, such as friction, rupture or chemical action. Scientists today regard it as neither energy nor matter, but, like heat, light and sound, it is an effect produced by energy on matter. It has been discovered that electricity is a self-existent property, by which we are everywhere surrounded, and human as well as inanimate bodies can be charged with it. From this we can understand that many more remarkable discoveries of its application will be made. Rocky Mountain News.

ARCTIC FROST BITES.

And the Popular Error That Rubbing With Snow Helps Them.

The idea that when your face or any other part of your body begins to freeze you must thaw it out with snow is declared to be a superstition by Vilhjalmur Stefansson. Few things could be more absurd, he says, and yet this is a superstition that has been carried with many an arctic explorer through long experience in the north. This is told of how even the application of snow failed to relieve the freezing, and these are taken as indications of the severity of the case. Instead of proof that, as a matter of fact, the snow only assists the freezing process. Any high school pupil Stefansson says, could tell us offhand what would happen if liquid air were applied to a man's cheek or nose. Of course the part would freeze instantly. Snow has the same though less rapid effect.

The whole secret of dealing with frost bites of the face in arctic travel, he says, is to keep the hands warm and to run the warm hand over the face every few minutes to see if any part of it is frozen. Usually, also, one can keep oneself fairly well informed about the condition of one's face by wrinkling it and making faces. If a spot of skin or cheek the size of a twenty-five-cent piece becomes stiff one can always detect it by making a grimace. Then, if one has to do so, take one's warm hand out of one's mitten and press it to the frozen spot for a moment until the whiteness and stiffness are gone. Indianapolis News.

His Blasted Life.

John Grimes a hotel skiffing roving in a rural district, became engaged to a lady of some means who had come to be visiting in the neighborhood during the summer. Ascertaining his true character as the weeks passed, she told him all was over between them, whereupon Grimes threatened to sue for breach of promise. Rather than incur publicity and notoriety his former sweetheart thought for a moment and settled for \$250. "Two hundred shirked crimes melodramatically," "Two hundred dollars for ruined hope, a blasted life! Never, never!" "How much do you think would be about right?" asked the attorney. "Make it three hundred and it's a bargain!" declared Grimes instantly. Argonaut.

Offer Declined.

It was after an attack, and two highland officers were lying flat to escape the flying bullets. During a brief lull in the firing one of them said, "Let's be moving on Jack."

"I can't, Sandy," was the reply. "I got hit in the leg."

"Then crawl on the mat back," said Sandy, and I'll carry you."

"No danger for you and I, but the Victoria cross for you and another bullet for me." Boston Transcript.

A Thumb Print Fantasia.

"You seem very much interested in those thumb print records," commented the man at police headquarters. "Yes," answered the visitor. "I can't help feeling the greatest curiosity about how one of those things would sound if you put it on a phonograph and played it." Washington Star.

Difficult Classification.

Teacher Tommy to what class of the animal kingdom do I belong? Tommy - Dunno, teacher. Pa says you're an old hen and ma says you're an old cat. - Baltimore American.

No Exemptions.

Grubbs - You have to give the devil his due. Stubbs - That's right. The bankruptcy law doesn't hold good to his court. - Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Rude Criticism.

"My daughter has a rack for her music." "I know. It's the one she puts her listeners on." - Exchange.

Installation of Archbishop Hanna

Most Rev. Archbishop Hanna will be formally installed in his see on Wednesday, July 23rd. The Apostolic Delegate is expected to arrive in San Francisco en route to Seattle, on July 25, and he will officiate at the installation, which will take place after the Solemn Pontifical Mass at 10 o'clock.

Order of the Alhambra

The biennial supreme convention of the Order of the Alhambra, whose membership is strictly confined to Knights of Columbus of third and fourth degrees, will be held in the city of Binghamton, N. Y., Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 23, 24 and 25. As these supreme conventions are held only every two years and are always notable for spectacular degree work and novel entertainments, they attract large attendances not only of the accredited delegates, but delegations of the members at large. While all the details of the convention program have not yet been completed, it is already seen that the convention of this year will be of special interest.

Monday afternoon, August 23, will be devoted to a meeting of the Supreme Council of Vizers; in the evening there will be an elaborate degree by Vega Caravan No. 13, of Albany, instituting Caravan No. 83, of Binghamton, with 150 candidates. This degree will be followed by a banquet and other entertainment.

Tuesday, August 24, all day, the supreme convention will be in session and also the greater part of Wednesday, August 25. One feature of Wednesday's program will be the dedication of the summer home of Caravan No. 33 on the Susquehanna river, when a banquet will be served and all sorts of land and water sports enjoyed. The Alhambra headquarters during the convention days will be at Hotel Arlington, which is owned by Sir Noble Tierney of Vega Caravan.

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An Inflection.

"Your tickets were complimentary were they not?" "Well, replied the man who had seen a painfully amateur entertainment, "I thought they were until I saw the show."

PLEASURE AND LIFE.

"While we live let us live," is an ancient heathen saying used to excuse living in pleasure alone. But pleasure is not life, it is but the fringe of real living. He who has known only pleasure has not known the deeper essentials of being. The old saying, 'pleasure is truly wise.' The old saying is existence, used is life.

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Clayton \$5.00 Alexandria Bay 5.50

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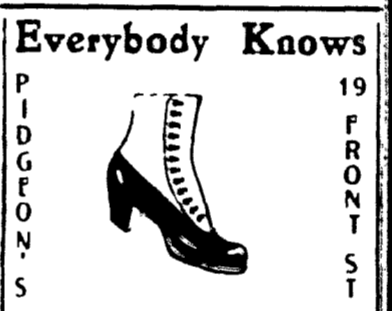
Buffalo \$1.50 Niagara Falls 1.60

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Syracuse \$1.65 Round Trip. Every Sunday to October 24 inclusive. Good going only on morning (except limited) trains. Returning same day.

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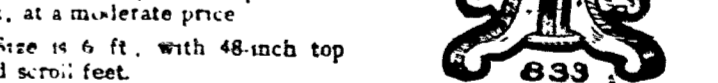
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