

KING SOLOMON IN FEATHERS

Raven Has Been Well Described by Naturalists as the Cleverest of the Bird Tribe.

The literary history of the raven begins with Noah and Elijah. Naturalists call him "the most wary, the most amusing, the cleverest of birds."

The bill of the raven is a formidable weapon—strong, stout, sharp at the edges, curved toward the tip. It is his one weapon of offense, but it answers the purpose of two or three.

Like most of his tribe, the raven is in the strictest sense of the word, omnivorous. His dietary ranges from a worm to a whale.

When his nest is built, as it generally is, beneath some overhanging rock which quite conceals it from view from above, its position may sometimes be discovered by the remains of rabbit neatly laid in the short grass at the top of the cliff in what might be called his "larder."

In districts where food is scarce the ravens will attack without scruple a newly born lamb or even a sheep that has been cast.

The raven has a passion for solitude. He will tolerate no rival, not even his own offspring. In the neighborhood of his throne, he drives them ruthlessly away as soon as they are able to shift for themselves.

He Played the Part. No matter what mother said, father always chose to argue with her.

One day he had carried through an argument of his usual kind when his ten-year-old daughter looked up from the book she was reading, "Mother," she giggled, "father is your goat, isn't he?"

Mother seemed bewildered but dad laughed, "I guess I am," he agreed.

Religions of the World. According to reliable statistics and carefully-made estimates the adherents of the leading Christian religions number: Roman Catholics, 272,890,000; Greek or Orthodox Catholics, 120,000,000; Protestants, 171,450,000; making a total of 564,340,000 Christians.

Couldn't Stand for That. The Lawyer—Yes, you have a perfectly good cause of action for breach of promise and, of course, the defendant will have the privilege of appearing in court and making his defense.

Avoiding Personalities. "You and your wife had quite a discussion about the League of Nations the other evening," remarked the observant neighbor.

Exceptionally Qualified. Mrs. Gazippe—I'm rather hard to please. Have you had much experience as a maid?

Most Conspicuous. "I understand yours was the most conspicuous of all the bathing suits on view."

Even More Serious. "Did you say that campaign manager used money?" inquired the horrified constituent.

Trouble. "Why don't you take your wife to see a baseball game now and then?"

Hunting Trouble. "What makes you think the ex-kaiser hates peace?"

Not Quite. "So they had smuggled whisky on that yachting party. This is going the limit."

PURE PARAGRAPHS

Swapping horses is one kind of stock exchange. Every time a wise man falls it teaches him something.

No man is capable of pulling others who is unable to rule himself. Only a nervous woman can demonstrate what nerve force really is.

The first problem that confronts a baby is how to make crying pay. Some women are so modest that they won't even own up to their faults.

Umbrellas are great bluffers; it's a case of put up or shut up with them. The light comedian nearly always weighs more than the heavy tragedian.

The woman who never sheds a tear on account of a man doesn't love him. A grocer is one who gets sore at what a good natured man laughs at.

You can always depend upon the sincerity of a dog when he wags his tail. Many a sunstroke is due to a man's efforts to make hay while the sun shines.

If some fools were to remain quiet they might acquire a reputation for wisdom. One kind word to the living is better than a long drawn out eulogy over the dead.

A philosopher says that people might live forever if they would only quit worrying. When a married man falls down stairs he is sure to blame his wife for the mishap.

If a sure-enough fool-killer were to come around every man on earth would try to die. The vain art of self-defense is apt to go wrong when it encounters a woman's eyes.

Every cloud has a silver lining. The boy who has the mumps doesn't have to go to school. A girl doesn't necessarily lose her head when she lays it on a young man's shoulder.

Some men renounce bachelors because they are unable to choose between beauty and intellect. If you want to attract a woman's attention to any particular thing just put it in front of a mirror.

One-half of the world imagines the other half couldn't possibly manage to worry alone without it. If riches don't bring happiness, they have at least one advantage over poverty—they don't prevent it.

GEORGIE'S PATIENCE GONE

And the Youngster Signified the Fact With Slang Phrase Much to the Point.

"Stang and children are the two most prominent paths by which colloquial and technical terms come into everyday use," remarked Professor Jorgan. "Only the other day I overheard two small boys talking together."

"George had a better memory than his brother, and Roger was always trying to get him to remember things for him. George got tired of this, and when Roger wanted him to remember something, he must do before school time the next morning, he asked: 'What do you think my head is, a parking lot for a car if you want to remember?'"

Hubb Time, Too. During a lull in the storm one night a knock came at the door, followed by a faint "Hello!"

When I turned to my visitor to take her wraps, I discovered that she was laughing heartily. "Will you please let my husband in?" she said. "He's on the outside."

Only the real amusement of both of them broke the spell of my most embarrassing moment.—Exchange.

Sudden Change in Weather. I was out riding with a girl one evening, and when I mentioned the fact that I was cold she put her fur around my neck.

Immediately I heard peals of laughter on all sides of me. Using my collar as a substitute for a thermometer, I swear that it grew 50 degrees warmer in a few seconds, for I discovered that I still had the fur on.—Exchange.

No Words Wanted. "What's the trouble?" asked the man in the barber's chair.

Exactly. Richleigh—I am building a beautiful house for my son. Wagfish Friend—"Ah, I see—a sort of her-castle."

Not Quite. "So they had smuggled whisky on that yachting party. This is going the limit."

Hunting Trouble. "What makes you think the ex-kaiser hates peace?"

Exactly. "I understand he is anxious to get back to Berlin."

PECULIAR KIND OF UMBRELLA

African "Bishop" Made Use of Prince Albert Coat When Rain Threatened Precious Loincloth.

"The Bishop" is like no other African. He has acquired the graces of the court of St. James and a surprising gift of repartee, using smiles and grunts chiefly. He is taller and older than any native in the neighborhood.

On a recent expedition a missionary saw the bishop for the first time and was particularly struck with the bishop's pride in his loincloth, a well-tanned, trifle fashioned from monkey skin and built around a large brass ring. It began to rain. The bishop looked solicitously at the garment—much as a lady caught unawares will look at her new spring suit when rain comes.

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NATIONAL FLOWER OF FRANCE

Iris, or Fleur-de-Lis Was Originally Called the Fleur-de-Louis—Valued for its Medicinal Purposes.

The iris, or the fleur-de-lis, is the national flower of France. It was originally called the fleur-de-louis. The ancients valued it highly for medicinal purposes. A powder made from the root, mixed with honey, was used for broken bones, and it was also considered beneficial for snake and scorpion bites. A valuable perfume and oil was also obtained from the iris.

The legend as to how the flower received its name goes back to the Greeks. Iris was the messenger of the gods, and the rainbow was dedicated to her. On her birthday, Juno invited all the flowers to celebrate the occasion. They all came in their prettiest frocks. Among them were three sisters, gorgeously dressed in gowns of purple, yellow and red, and who were unknown. Since they had no name, they were called Iris, because their gowns were the color of the rainbow.

Since Iris was the messenger of the gods, and conducted the souls of dead women to their final resting place, the ring, it began to rain. The bishop looked solicitously at the garment—much as a lady caught unawares will look at her new spring suit when rain comes.

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FLOATING CHIPS

Confidence is the champion of success. A frost is generally dew before it comes.

Elbow grease is the essential oil of industry. If you would earn more you must learn more.

To go far, it will help to start early each morning. Time is of no value to a man who fails to use it.

Even in the "fatherland" they speak the mother tongue. Love is blind to the best interests of the gas companies.

A wise man always bets on top dogs and bottom facts. Occasionally a man who runs for office wins in a walk.

What's bred in the bone is weighed out to us by the butcher. The man who augurs bad luck is the worst kind of a bore.

It never takes the boss long to discover the clerk who thinks. Frequently a man is honest because he is afraid to be dishonest.

Some men never recognize an opportunity unless it is labeled. Some crooks are fly, but there are no feathers on the jailbird.

A taste for minding one's own business is often hard to acquire. Wise men are like sponges; they seek to absorb all they can.

No, Cordelia, a plagiarist isn't necessarily the author of a play. It is rough on a man when love or measles attacks him late in life.

Ceremony was invented by a wise man to keep fools at a distance. This world is but a fleeting show, and all the best seats are taken.

A wise man proceeds to close the fool's mouth by shutting his own. The pain of a lost love is what many a woman has paid for a home.

A widow never tells her age; she's always old enough to know better. A trick may sometimes make money but it never makes a friend for you.

A man's accusations of himself are always believed; his praises, seldom. Among the people who get satisfaction by going to law are the lawyers.

Some writers never disturb the truth that lies at the bottom of the inkwell. Poverty is no disgrace, but there is precious little else can be said for it.

Solitude is better than company—when the company is not congenial. The lower down a man gets in the world, the nearer the roof you will find him.

The more shiftless a man is the more he shifts from one job to another. The man who quarrels with his bread and butter is likely to dine on scraps.

Do not borrow trouble; any of your neighbors will gladly give you all you want. Female pickpockets are rare. No lady will pick any pocket but her husband's.

Many a man's mistakes are the result of his letting desire get a strangle hold on duty. No, Luke, women don't mean it when they kiss each other; they just do it for practice.

He who runs may read, but if he's running for office the less he has to say the better. Trying to do business without advertising is like a man winking at a girl in the dark.

Art is not a thing separate and apart—art is only the beautiful way of doing things. Yesterday is dead—forget it! Tomorrow does not