

ONLY A TEMPORARY CRAZE

Pilgrims From "the Other Side" Lapse Into "United States" Again. Recurrent peril, threatening our American speech, becomes imminent about this time of year. For there now returns from "the other side" the traveler, rather more likely to be feminine, who, swollen with the pride of her first ocean voyage, having stuffed her trunk to bursting with miscellaneous articles, gets even with a meddlesome government by smuggling in a warranted British accent for herself and family. Upon her vivid tongue such useful little words as "were" and "been," "suffer a sea-change into something rich and strange," approximating respectively the verb of garmenture and the popular name of a common vegetable. One even encounters accents which distort "clerk" into "clark." But the mal-treatment is, happily, in most cases only temporary. First, the family, despite pained and patient correction, fall from grace. Presently the enthusiastic herself gives signs of lapsing. She imperceptibly graduates into the conversant state of George Ade's rising social light, who every Saturday "took a bawth in the bathtub." And long before the sewing circle has heard the last of her views of the Eiffel tower and the intricacies of continental currency the healthful home atmosphere of Pontiac, Mich., or Topeka, Kan., has done its work and she returned exile's common speech is again according to Noah Webster, unabridged.—Collier's Weekly.

MIXED HIS BUSINESS UP.

Absentmindedness Badly Marred Solemnity of Occasion. Not far from Worcester, Mass., there lived some years ago a man who combined the business of rural undertaker with that of miller. He had spells of absence of mind that were dangerous to his dignity when in the presence of death. One of these spells was upon him when he was officiating at the funeral of a worthy woman who had been one of the most popular leaders of the country society. The funeral was at the home of the family, and more people attended than could be seated inside the house, so many were standing about the entrance when the time arrived for commencing the body to the hearse. The man who assisted the undertaker, in the capacity of driver both at funerals and about the business of the grist mill, exulted in the name of John Smith. He was sitting on the funeral car down the road when his superior bawled out from the doorway of the house of mourning: "Bring up your wagon, John; we will load the grist!" It was the last call the undertaker in question had to bury any of that particular family.

Bees In Store.

A swarm of bees on Water street took possession of a store in Auburn and furnished amusement to a large crowd of spectators that gathered on the opposite side of the street, says the Utica Observer. The bees resented any intrusion, and anybody who came within ten feet of the window and awning where they swarmed received a sting or two. Victims were plentiful, and the cruel spectators, out of harm's way, took childish glee at the victim's antics as one after another was driven up the street followed by a part of the swarm. One man strolling leisurely along came into contact with one of the sharp points on the end of a bee, and his surprise was so vigorously evidenced that he attracted the attention of the entire swarm, and, thrusting his umbrella right and left, he beat an ignominious retreat, accompanied by a delegation of the insects. The sidewalk was covered with dead bees. The arrival of a thunderstorm effectively drove the bees to cover.

Perfumed Ink. Oh, Lilacs!

When the thoroughly equipped society girl answers the notes of her newest recruit she must use stationery of the palest heliotrope. Her seal must be of the same hue and the latest flat is that her ink must be scented with the same flower. Count Boni, husband of Anna Gould, is credited with introducing this novelty into the land of the free. He once shocked the proprietors of that famous hostelry, the Ponce de Leon, in St. Augustine, by sending for ink perfumed with violets. Common ink, with its plebeian odor, Count Boni asserted, was impossible. So perfumed ink is going the rounds, and it is essential as sachet bags for the chiffonier or essence for the handkerchiefs. Hyacinth is a favorite scent for ink, for, being rather strong, it retains its odor much longer.

Needle in Child's Abdomen.

A dispatch from Harrisburg says that after complaining for a week of pain in his abdomen, four-year-old Owen Worth was taken to the Harrisburg hospital, where an operation revealed a large needle in the muscles of his abdomen. When removed the needle measured over three inches, and though black, was not rusty. It is supposed the child swallowed it several months ago.

Her Friends.

"Yes, the horse ran away with her." "Was she frightened?" "No. She was pleased rather than frightened. The late fact that anything on earth would cause her to run away with her was such a novelty."—Housley Post.

RESCUED HIM WITH PETTICOAT

Bull Tread Swain and the Girl Lured the Beast Away. A bull and an opposite red petticoat were the means of reconciling George Hoyt and Miss Ella Goodman, who were lovers once, but estranged more or less of the last year. Hoyt and Edward Cowles were walking through a field at Oxford Conn., when they were charged by a bull. A tree in the middle of the field afforded them an asylum. They gained to the thin margin of a coat tail. The bull laid siege, and for six hours the young men surveyed the horizon for rescue. Then a carriage approached, and they signaled it with a coat on the end of a long stick. The carriage contained a young woman whom neither recognized at that distance. But she proved to be a person of resources. Tying her horse to the nearest rail fence, she vanished into the nearest clump of bushes and soon reappeared, waving a scarlet petticoat. For ten minutes she stood on the stone wall and solemnly wigwagged at the bull with the flaming piece of apparel. Then the bull took notice. As he approached the young woman fled down the field along the wall, still waving the silken scarlet challenge. The bull pursued, bellowing. At the far corner of the field a fence barred his progress. On the safe side of the fence the young woman kept on going while the two young men slipped out of their tree and then out of the field. They hastened to meet and greet the young woman. Much to the surprise of Cowles, Hoyt and the heroine fell into each other's arms as soon as they were near enough. The girl was Miss Goodman. Hoyt had in his pocket the ring she had returned to him. He put it on her finger and she said, it is said, that it would stay there until a certain day.

FISH AS WEATHER PROPHEYS.

They Foretell Storms and Frosty Weather, Says the Old Fisherman. In their way, said the old fisherman, fishes are good weather propheys. "If a storm is approaching the fish stop biting and they won't bite again until the storm is well over. They appear to know when a storm is coming and when it has really passed." "And to fishermen, and farmers living along shore, fish foretell and near approach of cold weather. Hours before it comes fishes leave the shallow waters in shore and seek deeper water, which in its depths will stay warm and keep an equable temperature after the shallower and surface waters have turned cold. "Oh, yes, fishes know a thing or two about the weather."

Schools to Teach Milling.

Recently several schools have been established in Russia, modeled largely after the more successful schools in Germany, for the education of millers. The course of instruction, besides the Russian language, includes the following subjects: Mathematics, physics, electro-technics, technology, chemistry, machine building, milling, mill engineering, drawing, bookkeeping. The schools are divided into three grades or classes, and the pupils spend one year in each class, the complete course extending over three years. Pupils who attend a milling school for two years are obliged to serve only the same period in the army. Instead of serving the customary four years, while students who have passed through the complete course are obliged to serve only one year in the army.—Consular Reports.

Bad Fate of Animal Trainer.

Animal trainers of the old days led adventurous lives. In 1600 all London was talking of a man named Bankers, servant to the earl of Essex, who had taught his horse to count and perform a number of feats, including mounting to the top of St. Paul's cathedral, while "a number of asses," as the historian puts it, "brayed below." Sir Walter Raleigh, in his history, says of Bankes that he "would have shamed all the enchanters of the world, for whatsoever most famous among them could never master or instruct any beast as he did his horse." When Bankes took his horse to Rome both were burnt for witchcraft.

"Blue as a Sapphire."

To say that anything is "as blue as a sapphire" is to make use of an incorrect comparison. Sapphires are not exclusively one color. The sapphires of Ceylon vary from a soft blue to a peacock blue, which last is practically a green. There is also a red sapphire, sometimes called a Ceylon sapphire. Further, many fine sapphires are yellow or white.

Wretched.

"Did you have a nice time up in the mountains, Marie?" "No. It was wretched. The only fellow worth looking at up there fell out of a tree the second day after my arrival and broke both of his arms."—Chicago Record Herald.

A Difference.

"I suppose you did lose a little money. Forget it! You ought to take things philosophically." "I always do, but it's hard to part with things philosophically."

Ah! There's the Rub.

"What do you mean by phonetic spelling?" "Spelling entirely by ear." "Whose ear?"

How to Save Time.

A well-known boarding house keeper on Jefferson Heights, Catskill, N. Y., had for a summer boarder a New York woman whose overwhelming dread of germs of all kinds caused her to sterilize almost everything that she fed her only child.

Madam.

"Madam," said the landlady one day, "why not permit the boy to eat everything on the table and then sterilize the youngster? See the time you'd save."

LETTER WAS FROM SISTER.

Husband's Wife Did Not Know This and Jealousy Cost Life. Charles Hepburn, of Neweast-on-Tyne hadn't the slightest reason for thinking his wife was jealous of him. Therefore when he received a letter from another woman asking him to meet her at a certain hour he carried the letter home in his pocket instead of destroying it. In going through his pockets at night the wife found the letter. She made no remarks, except to herself, but started to be at the place appointed and face the guilty pair. Everything was all right up to this point, but in walking to the corner mentioned in the letter the wife was run down and killed by an omnibus and the husband came along just in time to identify the body. She had the letter on her person and the husband speedily proved that it was his own sister he was going to meet. It is useless to point out the moral, in this. Wives have been going through their husbands' pockets ever since pockets were a feature, and they have also been finding letters from other women, and this sad tragedy will have no general effect. There is always hope in the womanly breast of catching the husband dead to rights, and if she keeps on long enough she will probably accomplish her fell design.

MORE THAN PAT COULD STAND

Rose in His Wrath When Mule Took to Throwing Stones. The author of "Very Far West Indeed" has many amusing stories to tell of his adventures on the Fraser river at the time of the gold excitement in British Columbia, now nearly 40 years ago. He was making his way through the mountains in company with an Irishman when this occurred: Two or three miles from the ferry we looked about for a suitable spot at which to camp for the night; and while thus engaged, Pat Kernan and I, with one of the laden mules, fell behind. Pat was 20 or 30 yards ahead of me, and I was upon the leading mule with gentle entreaties. Finding this unavailing, I adopted a more violent expedient, and threw a stone at him. The stone—it was a good-sized one—missed the mule, but hit Pat in the back. With many exclamations of rage, Pat descended from his perch, and proceeded to lick the mule. Hardly able to keep from laughing aloud, I inquired: "What's the matter, Pat?" "Matter enough! Here's this old black base, not contented with this trifling to upset me by my mule, has bin and trun a rock and hit me square in the middle of the back."—Youth's Companion.

Fruits and Vegetables.

The term "vegetable" has reference to the whole or any part of a plant cultivated especially with reference to use at the table. But the use of the word "vegetable" doesn't always depend upon cooking, for celery is a vegetable, and apples are fruit, whether eaten raw or cooked. One would suppose the tomato to be entitled to the term fruit, for the method of its raising resembles that of fruit. But it is usually called vegetable whether eaten raw or cooked. In spite of its appearance, the pineapple is so fruitlike in appearance, resembling apples, pears, etc.—that it persists in being called fruit, though eaten only when cooked. Sometimes the vegetable is a bud as with cabbages and brussels sprouts; leaves, as spinach; stems above ground, as asparagus; stems enlarged (tubers) underground, as common potatoes, or roots, as sweet potatoes, beets and carrots.—St. Nicholas.

"Bad for the Coo."

A railway accident, as novel as it was in its way sensational, is reported from Dunkirk, Scotland. "A herd of 24 horses and 27 donkeys and mules, tethered for the night on some open ground near the station, were so terrified by a storm that they broke loose and stampeded down the line. Into the dense mass of galloping animals a fast train from Calais dashed at high speed, killing 20 horses and severing the other beasts, of which the carcasses were horribly mangled. The slaughter forced the train to slow down, and it was impossible to get up steam again, as the remnants of the herd trotted calmly back in front to Dunkirk. The owner of the animals was one of the passengers.

Ahead in Post Offices.

The United States has more post offices than England and France combined. There are 71,131 post offices in the United States, France has 11,242, Germany, 38,610, and England and Ireland together have 22,050. The aggregate annual number of letters transmitted through the post offices of the world is estimated at 20,000,000. About 12,500,000 newspapers also pass through the world's post offices.

Harsh Rules Against Tobacco.

Strenuous efforts have been made in times past to stamp out smoking. Among the rules of an English school in 1629 it was laid down that "a master must be a man of grave behavior, neither Papist nor Puritan, no haunter of alehouses, and no puffer of tobacco." In Turkey, where the pipe is now omnipresent, former sultans make smoking a crime, and offenders were punished by having their pipes thrust into their noses, while in Russia a royal edict ordered the noses of the smokers to be cut off.

A Widow.

Landlord—You say you are a widow? Applicant for Flat—Yes. And by the way, do you mind if I pay my rent regularly on the 10th of the month, instead of the 1st? You see I got my check for alimony then."

MOSES A PHYSICAL GIANT?

On Biblical Authority He Must Have Had Immense Strength. Did you ever figure on the probable size and immense strength of Moses, basing your calculations on the dimensions of the tables of stone, as given by the Talmudic writers? In the Talmud (folio 38, column B) it is said that the tables of stone upon which the commandments were written were six ells long, six ells broad and three ells thick. In the Bible, Exodus xxii, 15, we are told that "Moses went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand." "Hand," mind you, not hands, though it must be admitted that it would have taken a strong pair of hands to perform the task of carrying them, even on the level. Now, we will put the Talmudic and the biblical accounts together and apply the mathematical rule. The Hebrew ell or cubit was, at its least estimate, a measure of 18 inches, which would have made each of the tables a stone block nine feet long, nine feet wide and four and one-half feet thick. If common stone weighed as much to the square foot then as it does now the tables would tip the beam at about 28 tons! Was Moses one of the giants of those days or has someone made a mistake in calculations or in the statement of supposed facts?—Exchange.

TO BREAK OFF BAD HABITS.

Druggist Explains Why Many Men Are Chewing Gum. "Do I sell much chewing gum?" said a Denver druggist in response to an idle question from a man who was in the store waiting for a car. "Well, I should say I did. And, queer as it may seem, a great many of those who buy it are men. Why do they get it? Well, I'll tell you. They buy it to use in breaking themselves of habits. A man will think he's smoking too much and will want to quit. He'll drop tobacco and take up chewing gum. The gum gives his mouth something to do and through its use he finds it easier to keep away from cigars. Another man will quit drinking. He wants something to do with his mouth—in fact must have something. Therefore he takes to chewing gum. I have even known dope fiends to use gum in order to quit using the drugs. Gum is a great thing as a habit breaker. Why, some day I even expect to see men chew gum in order to quit gambling, fighting with their wives, etc. Women chew lots of gum, but men use almost as much."—Denver Post.

Court of Last Resort.

"I am sorry," said the poet, "but I am obliged to call your attention to the fact that a line in one of my recent compositions was entirely perverted and the meaning painfully distorted by the compositor." "Young man," replied the editor, "that compositor has gone through more poems than you ever wrote, or ever read. He has put in his life setting up poetry of all kinds, spring and autumn styles, and heavier goods for winter. He may have changed your poem; but when you say he harmed it, you presume. When a man of his experience makes up his mind to change a piece of poetry, a person in your position should not attempt to criticize."—Stray Stories.

Richest Soil on Earth.

"Russia has the best farming land in the world," said a bureau of agriculture expert. "In her black earth region vast crops of grain have been grown for 60 or 70 years without the use of fertilizer. "This region comprises 150,000,000 acres between the Carpathians and the Urals. The soil is like chocolate—rich, smooth, moist, dark brown. On analysis it reveals 45,000 pounds of nitrogen to the acre. Soil is considered excellent that reveals 8,000 pounds to the acre. "Russia's black earth region, in a word, is nearly six times better farming land than any other in the world."

Unequal Human Eyes.

Many persons who think their right perfect have a greater visual power in one eye than in the other. With regard to the respective power of the right and left eye a well-known optician finds that a person occupied in writing all day has, as a rule, stronger vision in the left. Writing with the right hand, and his left arm resting on the table, his left eye is nearer his work, and its vision is more concentrated. This expert says our race will never become so short-sighted as the German whilst outdoor athletic games are encouraged in our public schools.

RECORD OF LYNCHINGS

FOUR THOUSAND PUT TO DEATH IN LAST 25 YEARS. Ninety-five Per Cent. of the Victims Have Been of Negro Blood—Texas Sets Example of Burning at the Stake.

Washington—Four thousand persons have been put to death without warrant of law in the United States. Ninety-five per cent. of them were negroes charged with assaults on white women. The methods of execution comprised hanging, shooting, flogging, burning at the stake and faying. In one instance, in Arkansas, the victim's arms were twisted from their sockets. As a rule, the more atrocious the crime the more atrocious the punishment. Before the wholesale lynching of negroes in Atlanta, Louisiana and Alabama held the lynching record. But Georgia now goes to the head with something like 55 victims. Burning at the stake has been almost as frequent as hanging and more frequent than shooting. The example was set by the people of Paris, Tex., in February, 1893, when Henry Smith, a negro farm hand, was burned alive after he had been tortured with red-hot irons. His feet were seared first and then the upper part of his body. His tongue was burned out and the irons, partly cooled, were then thrust into his eyes. Then he was slowly roasted to death on a pine platform saturated with kerosene. The flames were stifled from time to time with buckets of water so that his agony might be prolonged. Up to 1892 the commonest form of lynching was by hanging. In that year 235 men were lynched—200 in the south and 35 in the north and west. Of the 235, 14 were whites, who were shot to death for crimes ranging from horse stealing to murder. In 1894 there were 190 lynchings, 70 of them by fire. The lynchings averaged about 150 a year until 1901, when they dropped to 135, but in 1901 more negroes were burned at the stake for stealing white women than in any year since 1893. The example set in the south extended to the southwest. Kansas had a record of 15 lynchings, all by hanging, but in January, 1901, Fred Alexander, a young negro, was bound in chains for an attempted assault on Miss Eva May Roth. He was also suspected of the murder of Miss Pearl Forbes. Alexander protested innocence of both crimes, but he was not believed. His hands were shackled by the father of the Forbes girl and the brother of Miss Roth and his body was given to the flames. Gov. Stanley denounced the sheriff of Leavenworth county in unmeasured terms and offered a reward for conviction of the lynchers, but nothing ever came of it. In February of the same year, 1901, George Ward, a negro, was hanged in Terre Haute, Ind., by lynchers and before his life was extinct his body was hurled and cast into a flaming heap of brushwood and consumed. He had confessed assaulting and murdering Ida Finkenstein. Georgia's most noteworthy lynching by fire was in April, 1893, when Sam Hise, who married Alvin Cranford, and then assaulted Cranford's wife, was burned at the stake. The officials of the town of Newnan, saw him tied to a tree a few miles from Palmetto. It was first proposed to burn him in the garden of Mrs. McElroy, mother of Mrs. Cranford, but she objected to the litter that a fire would make, so he was taken to a field. After being bound one of the lynchers sliced off Hise's right ear and another man cut off his left ear. He never uttered a sound. Asked if he had anything to say, he said he had been paid \$20 by a negro preacher to kill Cranford and that the assault on the farmer's wife was an afterthought. Hise broke away from his bonds after he had been burning ten minutes and was kicked into the blazing logs and chained more securely. The embers were scattered and he did not die for 20 minutes. A state convention was called to meet in Atlanta to consider the question of lynching in a few weeks after Sam Hise had been put to death, but the movement came to nothing so far as denunciation of the practice was concerned. The majority of the delegates were rather in favor of lynching than opposed to it. This was illustrated in the summer of 1904 at Statesboro, Ga. Two negroes charged with murder had been placed under the protection of the state militia, but the militia offered no real resistance when a mob descended upon the prisoners, who were tied together, and burned alive by a mob of 1,000 citizens. The officers were court-martialed and Capt. Hitch, who was in command, was dismissed and Lieut. Kell was suspended for a year. The others were censured. Georgia averaged about 26 lynchings a year from 1901 up to the present year, the majority being by hanging or shooting.

Army Bans Pension Sharks.

Washington—A general order just promulgated by the war department positively prohibits the soliciting of pension or other claims against the United States on military reservations or at military posts, camps, or stations, and commanding officers are directed to take measures effectually to prevent such solicitation. Officers and enlisted men who give information with a view to aiding persons who solicit such claims will pay themselves liable to trial by court-martial.

SLANDER OVER THE PHONE.

Important Decision Made by the Austrian Supreme Court.

Seldom has a legal decision caused so much popular excitement as the recent ruling of the Austrian supreme court that a conversation over the telephone is to be regarded as speaking in public, because it might be overheard by a third party. The judgment was given in connection with one of those "Ehrenbeleidigung" or slander cases, which are everyday occurrences in that country. Speaking through the telephone, a man called the cashier of a bathing establishment "an impudent person," and was promptly haled up for "Ehrenbeleidigung" and compelled to pay a fine. He appealed against the decision, saying that the remark was made in private, but the court of appeal held it was not so, because the telephone operator or some other person might possibly have overheard it. So much interest was aroused over this decision that the minister of commerce, Dr. Forstner, himself made a personal inspection of the chief telephone office to see to what extent the telephone employees were likely to overhear conversations going on between the subscribers. The minister has now issued a stringent general order forbidding the employees to listen to conversations over the wires, and reminding them that in cases when it is impossible for them to avoid overhearing such talk it must be regarded as "service secrets," which all officials and operators are solemnly pledged to observe.

TO MAKE USE OF BARDINES.

Canning Establishments Will Be Started in Japan.

The sardine is caught in such numbers along the coast of Japan that hitherto the surplus catch has been used for manure. Attempts are now being made to turn this fish to some more profitable use. Canning establishments have been started at various places—notably Chiba and Noyago—with a view to ascertaining whether the Japanese product cannot, in some way, be made to compete with the Mediterranean product. At present the olive tree, a most important factor in this industry, is not cultivated by the Japanese, and at the same time the customs levy a duty on imported oil. This drawback could, of course, easily be overcome by the government allowing a rebate to canning establishments. As far as taste and quality go there is not much to choose between the Japanese product and the European.

Human Nature.

Madison C. Peters, clergyman and author was talking to a group of young men. Half the wrong things you chaps do," he said, "you do only because they are forbidden. If you didn't know they were forbidden, if you didn't know they were wrong, they wouldn't only seem to you disgusting and repellant. I stroled one spring morning in a beautiful park. Look here! I said to one of the guards, 'why do you have kept off the grass?' 'You don't seem to enforce the rule.' 'No sir,' said the guard. 'The object of the signs is to cause the people to know thoroughly enough, being on the grass.'—N. Y. Tribune.

Honors Went to Yorkshireman.

Ever since entering the train two stations back, the Yankee in England had been talking about the speed with which buildings were erected across the water. Finally to cap the climax, he told of a 22-story building which was started and finished in one month. His fellow passengers had given up all hope that he would ever stop, when a burly Yorkshireman turned to him, saying: "Why, mon, that's now! At home I've seen 'em layin' ' foundations for a row of houses in the morning when I'm goin' to work, and at night when I come back they're turnin' ' people out for back rest."—London Answers.

Admirable Frankness.

Commercial candor exists in the literary world. At any rate, a popular monthly has the following announcement stamped on its cover: "This magazine opens flat." The gifted author who supplies the opening contribution is consulting his solicitor. It reminds one of the enterprising Strand tailor who plastered his windows with the inscription: "Our gents' fancy trouserings will not last more than a week. They should be bought at once."

Journalism in Africa.

We quote this item from the obligatory department of the Gold Coast Leader: "One of the most pathetic incidents which closed the week was the sudden death of Madame Yarwah, which took place on Saturday, the 16th. It is said that she deceased, while sitting down preparing tea, had a fit and died. This is indeed a curious event. Surely man is but a toy. Her remains were interred on Sunday, the 17th inst."

They Knew Him.

Knob—It seems that Granter's acquaintances are all very shrewd people. Lucks—Did he tell you that? Knob—He implied as much. He announced the other day that he doesn't owe anybody a dollar.