

BEST ASSET POOR MEMORY

Why James is Regarded With Favor by the Inhabitants of His Boarding House.

James is a very popular negro in a boarding house and is accounted unusually reliable. He receives, therefore, frequent gratuities and is exceedingly prosperous.

This in spite of the fact that he has one of the greatest capacities for forgetting of any one to be met with even among the employees of a boarding house.

What, then, is the secret of his reputation for being a reliable man? One boarder has studied the problem and gives the answer:

"He never refuses to execute a commission, is always apparently attentive to any order given him, and when the angry boarder blows him up for his failure to do what he was told he takes it meekly and stoically.

"He seems such an easy mark that the boarder goes on and on with his abuse until he feels that he has gone too far. Then he grows ashamed of himself and slips James a quarter.

"Thank you, sir," says James, and they both feel better, and the boarder remarks, 'James is a pretty good boy after all.'"

GOT AHEAD OF THE PAPERS

Height of Wisdom Exhibited by Mr. Tobe Sagg on His Periodical Visit to Kansas City.

"Whenever I am in Kansas City," stated Mr. Tobe Sagg, of Goshkonong, "and feel stealin' goin' me a low, febrile yearning to put myself in the clutches of a total stranger, ramble 'round in apocryphal places and fill my system with aqua fortis and dog feed, to be found next morning by the pious monks of St. Bernard, groping dazedly and ready to burble to the police my real name and address and the customary lie that I have been trimmed of \$3,752 in cash and notes—well, when I feel any such microbes gnawing at my I order up to my room in the hotel a pitcher of ice water and lock the door, click the ice awhile, look through the bottom of the empty tumbler 46 consecutive times, and then go to bed with my \$25.15 under my pillow, to make next morning serenely content in the knowledge that I have deprived the newspapers of an interesting item and cheated the folks at home out of a story that would have been told on me unto the third and fourth generations of them that hate me."—Kansas City Star.

SEA SERPENT REAL

Hiram Maxim Is Firm Believer in Monster.

Famous Scientist and Inventor Thinks Time Has Come When Menstrous Creatures Should Be Credited—Two Kinds Seen.

London.—Sir Hiram Maxim is a firm believer in the sea serpent. The other day he gave out this interview: "I think the time has arrived when we must submit that there are certain large animals living in the sea that are not described in any works on natural history. Messrs. C. A. Nichols & Co., Springfield, Mass., published in 1882 a very remarkable work. In this I find that in 1851, and for some years following, the sea serpent, or sea serpents, appeared very often off the New England coast.

"It appears that there were two kinds of these monsters. On one occasion the animal that was seen had a fishlike head, very large eyes, gills, and a continuous fin extending the whole length of its back, supported by numerous spines, after the manner of a stickleback. It was simply a very large fish of an unknown variety.

"The monster that was seen a great number of times by numerous people had a body from eighty to ninety feet long, and about the diameter of a large oak, with a head closely resembling that of a snake.

"According to these witnesses, the monster was from eighty to ninety feet long, his head usually carried about two feet above the water; of a dark brown color, the body with thirty or more protuberances, compared by some to four-gallon kegs, by others to a string of buoys, and called by several persons bunches on the back; motion very rapid, faster than that of a whale, swimming a mile in three minutes, and sometimes more, leaving a wake behind him; chasing mackerel, herrings, and other fish, which were soon jumping out of the water fifty at a time as he approached.

"It has been suggested that this creature is a mammal. If so, it would have warm blood, and would have breath at least as often as a whale, but as it remains below the water for days and weeks at a time, it is safe to say that it has cold blood, and is probably some kind of a snake."

CHICAGO WOMEN NOW CHEW

Kansas City Girls Also Have Passed the Cigar Habit—Use Popular Brands.

St. Louis.—Kansas City and Chicago women who have taken up the clear smoking habit are novices in the nicotine line, according to local tobaccoists. The women in this city, according to the same authorities, have passed the cigar stage, and are now going in for chewing.

"Were I to give you the names of several of the West-End women and girls to whom we sell tobacco as regularly as we do to any of our men customers you would be tempted to discredit me," one dealer said. "Do you have to carry a particularly mild brand of chewing tobacco for the women users of the weed?"

"No indeed, the women folk can gnaw off a chew from a plug of any of the popular brands, and do it in a businestlike way."

PUT ON ICE; ASKS \$15,000

Boy Says He Contracted St. Vitus Dance on Being Forcibly Confined in Icebox.

Louisville, Ky.—Morris Brown, under fourteen years of age, alleging that he has contracted St. Vitus dance as a result of being forcibly confined in numerous times in an icebox, filed suit against Joseph Weisberger for \$15,000 damages. Young Brown charges that on several occasions Weisberger placed him in a huge refrigerator, thereby greatly frightening him and finally resulting in his prostration.

The petition states Weisberger threatened bodily harm to Brown should he tell of his enforced imprisonment.

HIGH COURT GETS \$4 SUIT

Telephone Company Appeals Service Case to Supreme Court of United States.

Little Rock, Ark.—Having lost once in the circuit court and twice in the Arkansas supreme court, the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone company has appealed to the Supreme court of the United States in a suit originally involving only four dollars.

It was for rent for two months' telephone service. The case presents some unique features, having been in the local courts for the last four years.

It involves the question of penalty for non-service and the constitutionality of the statute of 1886 is involved.

Business School for Girls. New York.—In accordance with the will of Miss Rosine M. Parmentier of Brooklyn, who left the Parmentier mansion and \$5,000 in cash to the Catholic sisters of St. Joseph, the sisterhood is about to erect on the property a building for the higher training of Catholic girls for business life. The new institution will be called the Parmentier Memorial High school.

GOOD FEED FOR THE INDIAN

Cactus Fruit Is Never Likely to Become Extremely Popular as a Delicacy for the Whites.

Nobody but an Indian knows how to eat a prickly pear. The fruit grows on the edge of a thick green leaf, and bristles with myriads of closely set thorns, sharp as needles and fine as hairs. Though they cannot be seen with the naked eye, they can certainly be felt, as any one who has tried the usual method of picking them with a pocket handkerchief can testify. The fine thorns penetrate the fingers and the flesh swells, festers, becomes inflamed and, if neglected, often develops into a serious case of blood-poisoning. When an Indian wants to eat it he cuts a small stick, sharpens it and thrusts the point into the ripe fruit. Slicing off the pear with a sharp knife and holding it on the stick, he peels it, taking care to avoid touching the rind with his fingers. He drops the peel on the ground to the bitter sorrow of any barefoot boy who happens to step on it. A liking for cactus fruit may be acquired, like the taste for olives, but it is not likely to rival the cantaloupe or even the humble grapefruit in popular favor. It resembles cracked walnut shells moistened with water, mixed with sawdust and cork and sprinkled with brown sugar, a little lemon juice and a dash of quinine. Any one who tastes it once is satisfied to let the Indians gather the entire crop.

OF THE DAYS OF BOYHOOD

Memory of the Oldtime Desserts Evidently Still Lingers With This Writer.

In the good old days, when life was simple and sincere, when people were happier than now and didn't make so much money, when society was friendship and home was love, there were two stated and popular desserts at all parties and particular dinner occasions, and they were float and tart.

That float! There was never anything to compare with it before or since. Those white, snowy islands floating on a golden flood were a dream just imported from elysium. It was almost profane to taste it, so like a vision of eternal happiness it seemed. But we did taste it, and the luxury of it skipped past the palate and melted into the mind, where it inspired thoughts of the loveliness of life.

And those tarts—little, crisp, white shells filled with jelly and jam or preserves of some kind. My, what gems of joy they were! We remember particularly the jellied tarts. They were winsome little desserts, as simple and modest as lilies of the valley, and sometimes we thought they were related, they were so modest and pure. Oh, the sad day when they were supplanted by ices, meringues, crackers and rotten cheese. No wonder pessimism spreads itself so vauntingly!—Ohio State Journal.

CASTING THE FLOATING FLY

It should go without saying that properly and effectively to cast and fish the floating fly it is essential that the tackle be correctly assembled. In this regard I believe the point most in need of emphasis is the question of the right way to fit the reel to the rod, says Samuel G. Camp in Outing; that this should be done so that the reel is underneath the rod with its handle to the right (in the case of the right handed caster) is in my experience the only satisfactory and thoroughly efficient way. With the reel thus placed it is never necessary, when playing a fish, to turn the rod over so that the reel is above, as in the case when the reel is fitted to the rod with the handle to the left. After a fish is struck if it becomes necessary to use the reel the rod is simply shifted to the left hand—without the awkward necessity of turning it over to bring the reel on top—and the fingers of the right hand fall naturally upon the handle of the reel.

SOAP KNOWN TO THE ANCIENTS

Soap in the form of vegetable ashes mixed with grease appears to have been greatly in vogue among the Egyptians in ancient days, and that the mineral alkali made by that people in the time of Pliny was composed of the ashes of plants seems pretty certain. A similar alkali was used by the Hebrews, and when the prophet Jeremiah said "Though thou wash thee with niter and take thee much soap (horsh), the latter material was probably the "borak" of the Arabs of the present day, which is procured from the ashes of the salt-works of the desert and other plants containing saponine. Some species of the fig marigold are called by these "people" the washing herbs, and contain the same cleansing property.

SLANDEROUS STORY

An elderly woman in the recent fuffage parade in New York became greatly fatigued in the last mile or so of the journey. Turning to one of her marching comrades, she wailed: "Harriet, I just can't take another step, I'm worn out. If I have to go a block more I'll die." "Don't despair, my dear," was her friend's pious exhortation. "Pray to the Lord for strength. She will help you."—Philadelphia Record.

VERY PLEASANT, INDEED

Father—How is it that I find you kissing my daughter? Answer me, sir! how is it? Young Man—Fine, sir; fine!

"HE'S ME BRUDDER!"

Pathos in the Self-Denial of Small, Neglected Waif.

Act of Officious Clerk, However, Resulted in Securing for Both of Them a Few Brief Moments of Pleasure.

Piercing walls were the rather unusual sounds in the toy department of one of the large city stores. "He stole this, didn't he?" asked a clerk who held the older of two future Americans citizens firmly by the collar of a remnant of a coat, indicating, as he spoke, a poor little painted toy held tightly against the breast of the smaller of the children, and whose walls were caused by a vague fear that he was about to lose his treasure.

"He paid for it," quietly responded the lady of the toys. The officious one's grasp upon the elder ragamuffin relaxed, while the latter promptly delivered a kick upon his captor's shins at one and the same instant. The clerk, looking a bit sheepish, drifted away.

An old man, tall and white haired, looked kindly at the two poor little specimens of neglect and poverty. "Why didn't you buy it for yourself?" he asked the older one. "Wasn't there anything you wanted?" "Sure 'nough, but he's me brudder, an' he's a kid," replied the future citizen. The old man took from his pocket a worn purse of the lank, lean variety. Abstracting from it a silver dollar, he handed it to the boy. "Here, son," said he, "use it as long as it lasts."

"With no other thanks than a shine of teeth and eyes through the grime of his face, the small ragamuffin turned to the toy counter, the baby ragamuffin toddling after. Soon the small one's arms were full of remarkable green horses and purple cows, for there are wonderful possibilities in a dollar at a five and ten cent counter, and this time the older boy did not forget himself, but held high carnival with jumping jacks and jacks in a box, etc.

Then came the little fellow's "thank you" which he had not known how to express in words. Coming to the old man, the baby as usual close at his heels, he selected from among his possessions the most gorgeous of the toys, a red and yellow monkey which would climb a string, and gravely presented it, the tall old man receiving it with grateful and dignified thanks.

WATER-SHOES

A German cabinetmaker has constructed a pair of water-shoes, with the help of which he walks upon the water. He has already crossed Lake Ammer, in Bavaria, 12,000 feet wide, in two hours.

These water-shoes are really two long, narrow boxes of pine wood, squared off at the rear end and shaped like the bow of a boat in front. To preserve his balance the traveler grasps two upright posts. At the outer edge of each box or shoe three small paddles, shaped like rudders, are fastened. These move on hinges and are worked by a sliding mechanism that is operated by the traveler pushing his feet forward alternately, somewhat like a boy learning to skate.

He can travel rapidly and with safety on smooth water, although the apparatus is probably not fit for use in stormy weather. Those who have tested it assert that it does not tax the strength as much as rowing a fair-sized boat. The inventor uses his water-shoes every day for crossing the lake and transporting his tools and a moderate amount of baggage.

HOW TO TAG YOUR TRUNK

A vacation crowd was sitting on the porch of a hotel and the discussion turned to the subject of baggage. Several had told of their annoyance at having trunks come a day or a week late and how hard it was to get baggage through on time.

"I don't have any trouble," said a woman who had been around the world and then some. "I work it this way: On every piece of baggage that I check I tie a conspicuous red tag, one that can't fail to be seen. I can always pick out my trunk and valise this way and I then hunt up the baggage man."

"See that trunk with the red bow on it," she says to him. "Here's 50 cents if you get it on the same train with me." And I never have any trouble with trunks coming late."

WANTED INFORMATION

For three solid hours the captain had been lecturing his men on "the duties of a soldier," and he thought it was time to see how much they had understood of his discourse. Casting his eyes round the room, he fixed on Private Murphy as his first victim.

"Private Murphy," he asked, "why should a soldier be ready to die for his country?"

Private Murphy scratched his head for a moment, and then a smile of enlightenment crossed his face. "Sure, captain," he said, pleasantly, "you're quite right. Why should he?"

MATTER OF DOUBT

"What's the matter with Podd-aleigh? He looks as if he had lost his last friend."

"I haven't been able to find out whether his depression is due to the fact that he became the father of twins last week or to the poor showing of the home team."

IMMIGRANT IS 7 FT. 2 INCHES

Ship Has to Provide a Special Berth for Giant Pole, Twenty-Two Years Old.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Ignatius Ziemasus, who arrived here with 514 other immigrants on the Prinz Adalbert of the Hamburg-American line, from Hamburg, came to the United States to grow up with the country.

His ambition would seem to be doomed to disappointment, for Ignatius, who is twenty-two years old, has thriven so well in his native land that he stands seven feet two inches above the earth.

Ziemasus comes from Poland, and is a farmer. He had to occupy a special berth because of his size, and at table no one could sit opposite him because of the length of his legs.

To the immigration inspectors he said he would go west to purchase a farm, and if he met a suitable young woman he would make her his wife. Ziemasus was well supplied with money.

Bad weather is chronicled for nearly every day of the voyage in the log of the Adalbert, which arrived one day late. Its 138 cabin passengers, mostly tourists returning home after a sojourn in Europe, remained below decks during a greater part of the passage.

The dark hold of the big liner was a veritable child's toyland, there being nearly three hundred big cases filled with playthings.

BOY PROVES GOOD SLEEPER

He Does Not Awaken When Thrown From Wagon into an Automobile.

Columbus, Ohio.—Ye wild-eyed victims of insomnia, who woo the soothing goddess sleep by all the means which fertile minds suggest, read this unadorned tale of an every-day event and wonder.

The strange phenomenon of an automobile running at a rapid rate, hitting the rear end of a vegetable wagon, lifting a sleeping boy out of the rear of the wagon, tossing him into the machine, which sped on for a distance, all without awakening the boy, occurred here.

The boy was Stanley Cramer, living fourteen miles northeast of the city. The automobile belonged to Walter J. Jeffrey, a local manufacturer. It was not known at first that the boy had been transferred to the automobile unharmed, and pedestrians rushed to the demolished wagon, expecting to find the boy dead and a search was commenced of nearby alleys and streets. In about an hour the boy returned and told of how he had awakened to find himself in a rapidly moving automobile.

TRUANT GOLDFISH IN RIVER

Pair 10 Years Old and 17 Inches Long Escape From Garden During a Flood.

London.—For five months now two monster Twickenham goldfish have had a lease of freedom in the Thames. They are the property of George Beale and his brother Stoneydeep house, who, since their disappearance, have offered £2 reward for the return of either of them.

"About a fortnight ago," Mrs. Beale said today, "a boy caught one of the pair. He grasped it and was startled beyond measure when he saw what a monster it was. Just then a policeman appeared and the boy, thinking he had done wrong, returned it to the water.

The goldfish swam away from home when the river overflowed into Mr. Beale's garden, where they had lived for many years.

INDIANS ADOPT BRIDAL PAIR

Journalist and Wife Are Remarried by Blackfoot Chief in Glacier National Park.

St. Paul, Minn.—Robert Heini, correspondent of Leslie's Weekly, and his bride of a few days, formerly Miss Helen Corbin of Indiana, were married again by Chief Three Bears of the Blackfoot Indians while the couple were honeymooning in Glacier National Park. The strange wedding, which means the adoption by the Blackfoot tribe of the "pale faces," was witnessed by about 100 tourists, including several from the old world. The name bestowed upon Mr. Heini is "Black Eagle" and his bride was named "Small woman."

IS TORTURE FOR OYSTERS

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley Hereafter Will Kill His Bivalves as Quickly as Possible.

Washington.—"Oysters on the half shell suffer untold agony when eaten," said Dr. Harvey W. Wiley.

"They suffer the most excruciating pains when you jab them with a fork. It is true that they are a very low order of life, but as they eat and drink they must be live animals and have feeling.

"However, this will not deter me from indulging in the delicious half shell habit. I am going to eat each of my oysters in such a way as to save it pain. One jab with a fork, put the sauce on quickly, and then gobble it."

BLAMES INSANE WIFE

New York.—Complaining that his wife, who is now in an insane asylum at Middletown, got him to marry her through fraud, Alfred Kopetre is now asking for a divorce.

CROWD SEEKS STONE

New Yorkers Join Search For \$500 Diamond.

roadway Denizens Dig in Excavation for Valuable Jewel for Which Reward of \$100 is Offered by Woman—Lost During Accident.

New York.—Workmen are diamond hunting in an excavation at Broadway and Thirty-ninth street. Every handful of earth they pass carefully through their fingers. Scores did the same thing and there was an amusing contest between the police and the crowd. For there is a \$500 diamond somewhere in that hole and there is a \$100 reward for the finding of it.

The big gem belongs to Mrs. Edward B. Walker, who owns the Knickerbocker line of sight-seeing automobiles. About 9 o'clock at night Mrs. Walker's private car nearly dropped into the hole. She saved her life, but one of her biggest diamonds fell into the dirt.

As her chauffeur, Edward Regan, dodged a pedestrian crossing Broadway, the automobile skidded on the pavement, just wet by the shower, and before he could regain control the front end of the car had plunged over the mouth of the pit. But for some pipes and scaffolding, the car would have dropped ten feet to the bottom of the hole. As it was the machine hung suspended in most remarkable fashion over the edge of the excavation.

Neither Mrs. Walker nor Regan was hurt, nor was the car much damaged. But in the shock of the impact Mrs. Walker had grabbed one of the stays of the cover of the machine, and the diamond had been jerked from its setting.

Shortly after they had started Mrs. Walker happened to notice her ring. With a cry, she exclaimed: "Oh, I do declare, I've lost my solitaire!" By way of proof she held up her hand and showed the ring, which had a yawning excavation big enough to take a fair-sized filbert. Then displaying another ring with a large stone, she cried:

"Boys, the lost diamond is larger than this one. It cost me \$600 and I'll give \$100 cash right here to him who'll find it for me."

It was some scramble that followed. All Broadway wanted to be in on that diamond ring.

"I see it!" yelled a man, diving for a glittering object under the car.

"Get back out of this everybody; all of you get back," ordered the police.

"Hi, hold your foot there for a moment," cried one of the policemen as he jumped at a piece of glass.

But despite all, Mrs. Walker had to go home and leave that \$500 diamond in the dirt on Broadway.

FIND FAMED WARRIOR'S BODY

Workmen Discover Tomb of Andrea Morosini in Venetian Church—Mummy Also Found.

Venice.—It always pays to scrape the walls of the churches and palaces of Italy, for almost invariably under the uninteresting outer wash are found frescoes of more or less value. This is just what happened here in the Church of Sts. John and Paul, where some frescoed figures of the evangelists have come to light near the high altar.

What is, perhaps, more interesting to the ordinary traveler is the discovery in the same church at the other side of the high altar of a Gothic sarcophagus of the fourteenth century in which a mummified body was lying on the back with the head turned to the right. One of the feet was detached from the body. From the description it was learned that these were the remains of Andrea Morosini, a famous warrior and a member of the family which gave four dogs to Venice. The remains have been left intact and the tomb will be exhibited to the public as soon as the restoration of the church is completed.

TRAMP LEFT HER A FORTUNE

Marshall McMurrin Remembered Servant Girl Who Gave Him a "Snack" With \$40,000.

Petersburg, Ind.—Several years ago a tramp appeared at the kitchen in which Maggie Drain was working and asked for something to eat. The family in which she was employed as a servant protested, but she gave the man his breakfast and an hour later he returned with a paper which he handed to her, charging her to keep it.

It proved to be a document giving to the girl the property of Marshall McMurrin at his death.

McMurrin owned a farm in an adjoining county, and when he died a year ago the document was presented and claim to his property made. The relatives of McMurrin sought to break the will, but it was recently sustained by the court and Miss Drain will get about \$40,000.

KINDNESS BROUGHT NEPHEW REWARD

Washington, Pa.—When Anton Kardos, an insurance agent, sent all his savings to an aunt in Austro-Hungary, who had reared him, to tide her over financial difficulties, he acted without hope of reward. He received his recompense a few days ago when a letter informed him that the aunt, Mrs. Susanna Kardos, had died and left him her entire fortune, estimated to be worth \$250,000.