

THE ACCURSED EASTER EGG.

An Ancient Belief Which Was Com-
-dently Held.

Angels From Heaven Would Supply
With Eggs the Homes of the
Worthy and Faithful.

From Wednesday Daily.
Several centuries ago it was generally
believed that on Easter morning, at the
sound of sweet bells chiming through
the sunlit air, fair angels with azure
wings descended from heaven, bearing
baskets of eggs, which they placed in
the homes of faithful and worthy per-
-sons.

Sometimes, however, the evil one
slipped into the basket an accursed
egg, which could not be distinguished
from the others.

Such a one forms the story of an
ancient legend of France.

There lived in a village a widow,
with a dear and beautiful daughter,
named Jeanne, who was beloved for her
many virtues by both rich and poor.
She used to visit the hovels of the un-
-fortunate and the sick, to relieve their
troubles and care for their distresses, for
which she received their blessings and
devotion.

One Easter morning, when returning
from early mass, Jeanne met an old
beggar woman, who asked for alms.

Jeanne gave her what she had, and
the stranger peered through her ragged
hood at the pretty young girl, saying:
"Beautiful damsel, do not disdain
the gift of a poor beggar. Take this
egg; and before this day 12 months a
young and handsome nobleman will ask
for you in marriage. You will become
a great lady. On your wedding day I
command you to break this egg. It
contains a nuptial present."

Not far from this village rose the tur-
-rets of an old castle, which had long
remained untenanted, but within this
year a young knight arrived at its
gates, proclaimed himself heir to the
estate, and returned with his bare and
shabby rooms.

The lord of the castle chanced one-
-day to see Jeanne, and, dazzled by her
beauty, sought her mother, saying that
Sir Robert de Volpac asked for her
hand in marriage.

The day was arranged for the wed-
-ding, which was celebrated in the
chapel of the castle in the presence of
the bridegroom's aristocratic friends.

When the feast was ended and all the
guests had departed, the bells of the
tower tolled out the 12 booming strokes
of midnight.

The bride and bridegroom went to
their beautiful room, and Jeanne, tak-
-ing her arm from that of her husband,
walked over to a carved oaken chest and
brought out a casket which she had or-
-dered to be placed there.

Her husband watched her movements
with great curiosity, and when she
said:
"My dear lord, I have promised to
break this egg on my wedding day,"
and told him its history, he begged her
to wait until morning.

Jeanne, however, would not listen to
his entreaty, and lifted the egg from
its place. It was burning hot. With a
cry she let it fall, and it broke.

An enormous toad leaped out of the
broken shell, vomiting flames, which
set fire to the curtains, and the wicked
tongues of fire soon spread from wall to
wall, until the whole castle was en-
-veloped.

The next day there was nothing left
but a heap of ashes, for the entire castle
burned, and all its inmates perished,
through the gift of that fatal Easter egg
from the hands of an evil spirit.—Boston
Globe.

The Self-Made Man.
Notwithstanding the self-made man
does not reflect unadulterated credit
upon his maker, he is himself fully
convinced that he is the perfect article.
Even if, as may sometimes be the case,
he is conscious of a few imperfections,
he refers them to his parents, who were
responsible for the man in the rough.
As to speak, before he began to mold
himself into the ideal creature that you
now behold and therefore not charge-
-able to his account.

It is a constant wonder to him that
others, with no worse material than he
had to found himself upon should have
turned out such inferior pieces of work,
and it is natural, therefore, that he
should condemn the droves of failures
that he sees about him.
But happily for him he only observes
others sufficiently to exalt his own
greatness by comparison. His best hold
and his strong suit is introspection.
By looking within he has ever before
his mental vision an object that swells

his bosom with pride to look upon, and
he makes the most of the show, which,
being a continuous performance, keeps
him ever busy and always supremely
happy.

To others he may seem a sublime
egotist and a conceited ass, but what is
that to him? How are these underlings
either to recognize or appreciate grand-
-deur which it is impossible to conceive
or to understand?

So he goes through the world worship-
-ing his creator incased in an armor of
self-sufficiency which is impervious to
the slings and arrows of the cynical or
the contemptuous.

If he could see himself as others see
him, he might discover many shortcom-
-ings and possibly some glaring defects,
but he has no use for other's eyes. His
own are good enough for his purpose,
which is to admire his own handiwork.

He is a continual satisfaction to him-
-self and is happy, and to others he is
not without its use. He gives them
something to laugh at and some thing,
besides, to avoid copying. In fact,
who knows how much worse the world
would be and how less amusing were
it not for the self-made man?

So, on the whole, we owe the self-
-made man a great debt for his work-
-manship, and therefore let us thank
him for his achievement.—Boston
Transcript.

PERSONALITIES.

M. Isopy, Lamartine's barber, is still
alive in France at the age of 92.

Bird S. Coler, comptroller of New
York city, is a prominent worker in a
Methodist Episcopal Sunday school.

George Gould is said to be with his
sister Helen, the most democratic mem-
-bers of his family, a thing which has
considerably shocked the Castellanes.

John Percival Smith is the smallest
man in the United States army. He is
stationed at Columbus, O., is five feet
in height and weighs 108 pounds.

President Steyn of the Orange Free
State first met Miss Frazer, who became
his wife, on board ship when she was
12 years old, and their romance began
at that time.

The little daughter of Harry and
Alice Havey, Charlotte Genevieve, of
Franklin, Me., could boast of five living
grandmothers among her ancestry if
her infant lips could frame the words.

Casimir Zaleski, who died in War-
-saw the other day, was the oldest law-
-yer and newspaper editor in Poland.
He was also noted for receiving the
largest fee ever given a Polish lawyer—
150,000 rubles.

Rev. Dr. W. R. Richard of Plain-
-field, N. J., was married recently.
When the bride cut the cake, she found
in the bottom of it a bag containing
\$1500, which had been contributed by
the parishioners.

Embassador Choate was recently asked
by a distinguished English nobleman,
"To what station in your country does
Mr. Vanderbilt belong?" He an-
-swered, "To the Grand Central station,
New York."

Miss Annie Peck, the woman moun-
-tain climber, wears in her trips above
the clouds a man's suit of duck canvas,
with leggings of the same material and
stout boots of the regulation moun-
-taineer description.

Lord Dundonald, one of the heroes of
the Acton Homes fight in South Africa,
has a curious notion that a military peer
should never take part in the debates of
the house of lords while holding the
queen's commission, and he never broke
his rule.

Sir William Walrod, the chief
"whip" of the present British min-
-istry, has as his chief duty to watch
the attendance of the house of commons
so as to know whether, if a division
comes, he will have enough men to give
the government a majority.

Thomas Yates of Toledo, is the only
American citizen who took part in the
famous charge of the Light Brigade at
Balaclava. He was in the seventeenth
lancers and maintained that the charge
was ordered out of Lord Lucan's insane
jealousy of Lord Cardigan.

Henry Frick, whose suit against An-
-drew Carnegie is attracting much atten-
-tion, is of Swiss descent. His father
was a Swiss farmer, who lived in West-
-moreland county, Pa. His mother was
a German, a daughter of Abraham Ober-
-holt, once a well known Pennsylvania
distiller.

Cleanings.

A common sight in Cape Colony is a
herd of ostriches accompanying a rail-
-way train as it speeds on its way.

A New Yorker who was in Kimberley
recently was cured of homesickness by
a familiar sight, nothing else than an
old Broadway horse car, still bearing
the legend, "Battery to Central Park."

A young man who was struck by
lightning in Berlin a few weeks ago re-
-mained unconscious a long time, but
shouted in his delirium that he was in
hell and begged to have the devil taken
away.

Thomas H. Gilbert, jr., of Orono,
Me., lately cut in Onawa a pine tree
that contained 3200 feet and is claimed
to be the largest pine or tree of any
kind ever cut for lumber on record in
the New England states.

A new method of preserving tele-
-graph poles is to surround the portion
in the ground with an earthenware pipe
like a drainpipe. Into the space be-
-tween the pole and the pipe is poured a
mixture of sand and resin.

There are well known families in
Devonshire, England, the Carews and

the Careys, and it is said that the mem-
-bers of the Carew family pronounce the
name "Care," while the Careys call
themselves Carew.

The Wounded in War.

Army doctors look out for good news
even more eagerly than the general in
command of the forces, for they know
that it makes the difference between life
and death to many of their patients.
Nothing hinders the recovery of the
wounded so much as depression of
spirits and anxiety. And when they
hear that things are going badly at the
front many of them who are on the
turning point grow worse and die.

On the other hand, the news of a
great victory will pull a man out of the
jaws of death. This fact was very
noticeable when both British and French
wounded were congregated at Antwerp
during the Waterloo campaign. When
news of Napoleon's complete defeat
reached the hospital, the French began
to die at about twice the rate of the
British troops.—London Globe.

Chinese Criminal Law.

Hsi was guilty of hushing up for
money the murder of one of his sons.
Another son brought the case to light,
and it was held that the father might
benefit and be excused, while the son,
on the other hand, was sentenced to
1000 blows and three years' transporta-
-tion for denouncing his brother's mur-
-derer, because in doing so he had
brought his father into danger of the
law.

A father who buried his son alive
was let off because the boy abused
him, and it is quite permissible for a
father to strangle his daughter if she
misbehaves.—Notes on Chinese Law by
E. Alabaster.

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-son's London Dry Goods and Millinery,
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-cisco, will be given some valuable in-
-formation if he will call at the Nugget
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Grand Charity Ball at Palace Grand,
May 24. c23

Same old price, 25 cents, for drinks
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Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

Notice.

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important. p21

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