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LOUIS NAPOLEON'S ESCAPE.

Disguised as a Workman He Fooled the Ham Fortress Guard.

From the researches made by M. Thirria come some interesting details of the escape of Louis Napoleon from the fortress of Ham, in northern France, on May 25, 1846.

It seems that the sole credit for the escape must lie with Louis Napoleon himself. He made his valet, Thelin, buy a black wig, some rouge, a cap which was scrubbed with pumice stone and a pair of sabots. Then he cut off his mustache, put on a blue apron, a blue pair of trousers and a close fitting shirt of coarse stuff.

Some workmen were carrying out some repairs to that part of the fortress where the prince lodged, and this gave color to his disguise, so much so that the two watchmen entertained no suspicions regarding the man who walked past them and out at the great gate, a pipe in his mouth and a plank on his shoulder. The sergeant on duty at the drawbridge was reading a letter as he passed and took no notice of him. It was then 5 o'clock in the morning.

Four times that day, the last time at 5 in the afternoon, did the governor, Demarie, send for the prince. Each time Dr. Conneau replied that the prisoner could not see anybody because he had taken medicine. When at last the governor lost patience and went himself to the prince's room and walked up to the bed on which the supposed invalid was lying he discovered that a very presentable dummy had taken the place of Louis Napoleon. The discovery was made too late. By that time the fugitive was over the Belgian frontier.—Paris Journal des Debates.

A REAL MAGIC CAP.

Curious Experience of a German Organist in St. Petersburg.

Not very long ago a German organist who went to St. Petersburg to live had there an experience with a new cap that for a time almost made him believe in the magic of the Teutonic fairy tales.

The organist bought the cap during his first day at the Russian capital and wore it the next day when he went out for a walk. On his return to his lodgings he was amazed to find two gold purses in his pocket, one of which contained a sum equivalent to \$50.

The next day, after his usual walk, he found four purses in his outside pocket, a find that caused him to doubt his senses. A third day, with a similar profitable result, sent him to the chief of police to tell his story.

The authorities detailed a detective to go with the German to the tailor who made the cap. Investigation disclosed the fact that it had been constructed of an odd piece of English cloth brought in by a stranger. From it the tailor had made fifteen identical caps to order. Having a bit left, he had constructed a sixteenth cap, which was the one sold to the organist.

The detective then followed the organist through the streets of the city, when the mystery was solved. The cap, it appears, was the emblem of a gang of pickpockets working co-operatively. The one who secured a purse dropped it into the pocket of the first confederate he saw. The cap had identified the German, and he had reaped the reward.

With this clue it was an easy matter for the Russian authorities to catch the whole gang.—Youth's Companion.

The Port of Workless Men.

One morning we passed through a square in Moscow containing nothing but men—well-eyed, long haired, long bearded men—men in rags, most of them, and all of them compelled to come there and wait to be hired to work.

To that square must all workmen go who seek work. The city feeds them while they wait a single small piece of black bread each day. Some never leave that square, but wait there their lifetime through. They gazed upon our handsome landau with hungry and wolfish eyes. I never before beheld so frightful, unkempt a company of hopeless, hapless, hungry human slaves as these Russian workmen who waited for a job.—William Seymour Edwards in "Through Scandinavia to Moscow."

Wrong, but True.

"Now, Johnny," said the teacher after he had explained the meaning of the word, "I wish you would write a sentence containing 'defeat'."

"After a struggle which lasted for about twenty minutes Johnny announced that he was ready to be heard."

"Please read your composition," the teacher directed.

"When you get shoes that's too tight," Johnny read, "it's hard on de feet."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Undecided.

"What struck you most forcibly during your visit to the city, Uncle Hiram?" asked the village oracle.

"Well," murmured Uncle Hiram, "when I came to the hospital I'll be gosh dinged if I could reflect whether it was a trolley car or one of them derned citymobiles."—Philadelphia Record.

Her Strike.

Mr. Benedict—Do you know, my dear, I think we have a pretty good cook. How does she strike you? Mrs. Benedict—For more wages about once a week.—Illustrated Elts

Showed It.

Dora—Do you think it would be conceded to me to say I made this dress myself? Grace (sweetly)—Not conceded, dear; only superfluous.—London Watch Dog.

SPARE TIME TO LAUGH.

Brooding Over Your Worries Won't Lighten the Burden.

It is the duty of mankind, even in depressing circumstances, to strive to be cheerful. It is the general belief that if a man is not naturally light hearted he cannot make himself so.

Yet this is far from being the case, and there is many a man who is at present a weary burden to his relatives, miserable through the carking care of some bodily ailment perhaps or some worldly misfortune, who, if he had grown up with the idea that to be cheerful in all circumstances was one of the first duties of life, might still see a pleasant enough world round him.

The worries of a morose person will shorten his days, and the general justice of nature's arrangement provides that his early departure should entail no long regrets.

On the other hand, the man who can laugh keeps his health. To the perfectly healthy laughter comes often too commonly, though, as childhood is left behind, the habit fails, and a half smile is the most that visits the thought lined mouth of a modern man or woman. People become more and more burdened with the accumulations of knowledge and with the weighty responsibilities of life, but they should still spare time to laugh.—Detroit Free Press.

SEED GERMINATION.

In Some Cases the Development Is Remarkably Rapid.

It has been said that the seed of the globe turnip when growing increases its own weight fifteen times within a minute. The seed of this turnip is exceedingly minute, being not larger than the twentieth part of an inch in diameter, and yet in the course of a few months the seed will be developed by the soil into twenty-seven millions of times the bulk of the original, and this in addition to a considerable bunch of leaves.

On peat ground turnips have been found to increase by growth 15,990 times the weight of their seed each day they stood.

The fungus offer an instance of remarkably rapid growth. The great puff ball will attain the size of a pumpkin in a single night, and Lindley calculated that the cells whereof it is composed will multiply at the rate of 40,000,000 a minute.

Many seeds germinate in a very short period—the cress in two days; spinach, turnips and kidney beans in three days, lettuce in four, melons and gourds in five, most of the grain seed in a week and hyssop at the end of a month. But others remain for a very long period without showing signs of germination.—New York Herald.

An Eye Arrester.

In this day of catch words and slogans, once in a while a roving eye will chance upon a phrase that sticks. Going down on a Broadway car the other day two tired looking men sat side by side, glancing disinterestedly out of the window opposite as the car sped past the signs in the wholesale dry goods district. All at once the gaze of both men focused at a certain point and they turned their heads to read the sign in full. On the door of one of the wholesale millinery houses was this legend: "Come in without knowing, but don't go out the same way." The eyes of both men met as they finished reading it, whereupon each smiled a bit. "Not such bad advice, that," said one, and his neighbor grinned approvingly.—New York Press.

Friday Dickens' Lucky Day.

Charles Dickens was not one of those who are superstitious concerning Friday. It was on Friday that many of the good things came to him, and it was on that day that he entered upon, paid the price and took possession of Gadshill, the one thing he cherished more than all of his other possessions. It was Gadshill that he had gazed upon when a wee bit of a boy with a hope, then giving little signs of fruition, that he might live to own it some day, and it was Gadshill whose walls he covered with mirrors in almost oriental magnificence.—Boston Record.

Unbalanced.

"What's the charge against this man?" asked the judge.

"We desire, your honor," replied the lawyer in the case, "to have him tried for insanity. His family is greatly worried about him."

"What has he done?"

"He has sold his automobile for the purpose of raising money with which to pay an honest debt."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Fly in the Ointment.

"I don't think I'll go to any more of my wife's parties," said Mr. Cummings.

"Don't you enjoy yourself?"

"Yes. Only some one always mistakes me for one of the guests and starts in making remarks about how I made my money."—Washington Star.

Comfort.

Mr. Flubdub—You women are mighty slow. During the time it took you to select that hat I went out and made \$200. Mrs. Flubdub—I'm so glad, dear, you'll need it.—Puck.

Learning.

Learning maketh young men temperate, is the comfort of old age, standing for wealth with poverty and serving as an ornament to riches.—Cicero.

"Cut glass for company and chipped china for the family" is not the best of rules for making a home attractive.

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