

Wept at His Marriage.

The following description of an amusing bit of experience is given in "Reminiscences of a Soldier." A dinner-party was given to Col. Stuart, just before his marriage, by some bachelor friends. In the hotel where the young man assembled a number of clergymen of the Presbytery of Aberdeen, then in session in the city were staying. Bent upon having a good time, the young fellows irreverently played what was termed the "cayenne trick" upon some of the worthy ministers. Col. Stuart had sent to London for a new suit of clothes in which to be married. He wore the suit on this evening, that he might do honour to his friends. We let him tell the rest of the story:

After the dinner I left Aberdeen and went to England, to be married. My father-in-law was so well known in the town in which he lived that the roads to the church were crowded on the day of the ceremony, and the church itself was crammed.

I took my place with my intended bride by the altar, and the ceremony proceeded. The clergyman had got about half through, when, having occasion to use my pocket-handkerchief, I put my hand into my pocket, pulled it out, and applied it to my nose. You can judge what my sensations were when I felt my eyes full of cayenne pepper, the irritation of which was almost intolerable!

On the night of the dinner at Aberdeen I had placed the paper of cayenne, with which we had committed the atrocities on the reverend gentleman, into the pocket of my dress-coat, and had thought no more about it. On the morning of my marriage, I put a clean silk handkerchief in that pocket, not remembering what I had placed there before. The cayenne had got loose from the paper, and, consequently, when I applied the handkerchief to my nose the miserable stuff flew into my eyes, and for a few moments caused most excruciating torments.

Water ran down my cheeks in streams, and I dare not apply the handkerchief again, for fear of getting another dose. Meantime the audience was staring at me, and I heard whispers,—

"Poor young man, how affected he is!" and other sympathetic remarks to the same effect.

I thought the ceremony would never be over, and when it was finished, the clergyman who married me came up, and, shaking my hand, said,—

"My young friend, I am sorry to see you so affected on this joyous occasion."

Forgetting everything except my agony, I replied, "Affected? not a bit! It's the cayenne pepper that I had in my pocket!"

I may as well add, that I suffered for two or three days in a way I cannot describe, leaving some bitter recollections connected with the happiest day of my life, and as a punishment, I suppose, for our trick upon the unoffending clergyman.

The Queen of Italy has given a large order for poplin dresses to a Dublin firm.

The story comes from Wurtsboro, Sullivan county, that a farmer stopped at the house of a friend, unhitched his team, and visited three hours, leaving the wagon standing in the barn yard. When he went out to hitch up, nothing remained of the wagon but the iron-work. There had been some straw, two horse blankets, and a milk can in the wagon, and the conclusion was that the bright milk can had focused the rays of the hot sun until it set fire to the straw.

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