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Athens, Nov. 17, 1897.

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A New Prop'r

D. R. REED
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THE REPARTEE.

How a Genial Wit Doth Make Life Pleasant to Those Within Its Benign Influence.

Even Dr. Johnson was won over by Wilkes' delightful manners, until they were found by Boswell "reclined upon their chairs, with their heads leaning almost close to each other, and talking earnestly in a kind of confidential whisper of the personal quarrel between George II. and the King of Prussia. It presented to my mind the happy days which are foretold in Scripture, when the lion shall lie down with the kid." When Boswell mentioned this brilliant simile to the Bishop of Killaloe, his Lordship said "with the goat," but "such was the engaging politeness and pleasantry of Mr. Wilkes, and such the social good humor of the Bishop, that when they dined together at Mr. Dilly's, where I also was, they were mutually agreeable." According to Boswell, "when Wilkes and I sat together, each glass of wine produced a flash of wit, like gunpowder thrown into the fire—puff." But Wilkes hardly confirmed this, for he thought the famous "Life" the work "of an entertaining madman," in which "much was put down to Boswell which was undoubtedly said by Johnson—what the latter did, and the former could not say." We can well imagine that an encounter with Boswell would have many charms for Wilkes.

No man ever lived who could adapt his wit better to his company. Compare his chaff of the Alderman, formerly a bricklayer, who was trying to carve a turbot with a knife—"Use a trowel, brother, use a trowel"—with his reply to Mme. de Pompadour when she asked him, "How far it was safe to go in England against the royal family?" "That is what I am trying to find out, Madame." There are few more really witty replies recorded than that made to the Prince Regent, who asked him at dinner when he drank to the King's health, "How long have you been so loyal, Wilkes?" "Ever since I knew your Royal Highness."—The Cornhill.

NOVEL DESK LAMP.

Two Lights Variously Regulated by the Same Switch.

A very convenient lamp for desk purposes is shown herewith, the subject of a recent patent. The apparatus consists of a bracket supporting an ordinary drop light and a cylindrical carefully shaded desk lamp. By means of a switch in the socket of the lamp four combinations are

NEW DESK LAMP.

possible. By giving the key a quarter turn the lamp in the cylinder is switched in, as use for reading or writing purposes. In case visitors call, by another quarter turn of the key in the same direction, the upper lamp lights up the office. Should it be desired to conceal the writing or papers on the desk from the visitor, another quarter turn of the switch will extinguish the lamp in the cylinder, and the cylinder itself acts as a shade between the upper light and the desk. In case more light is desired on the desk the cylindrical shade can be swung back and both lamps can be used for desk illumination. The lamp can be raised or lowered.

Iodine as a Detective.

Another use has been found for the vapor of iodine. This is the discovery of alterations in manuscripts, says Odds and Ends. Professor Bruylats of Louvain noticed that when a sheet of paper which had been sized and finished was moistened and, after being thoroughly dried, exposed to the vapor of iodine, the part which had been moistened became violet, while the unmoistened portion became brownish yellow.

It appears that when a manuscript has been altered, both the nature and extent of the alteration can be determined by the use of iodine vapor. Those parts which have been rubbed become brownish on exposure, and when the rubbed part is subsequently moistened, it becomes blue, the depth of the color depending on the length of time that the exposure had been allowed to proceed.

The process is believed to be due to the well-known fact that when iodine is put on starch the starch becomes blue, and the difference in the tint is dependent on the fact that a portion of the starch which is contained in the size has been removed in the process of the alteration of the manuscript.

The same process will reveal the extent of pencil marks which have been erased by rubbing. The iodine vapor brings out the lines which have been traced by the pencil point disturbing the surface of paper, even though the rubbing has been so carefully done that it has not removed any of the surface of the paper itself.

Sky-Scrapers as Lighting Rods.

Lightning is not dangerous to the steel skeleton building. The entire skeleton, in fact, is a lightning rod of the most efficient type. It is closely riveted together, forming a continuous rod. The steel columns extend through the basement to a broad steel foundation, below the basement floor, and are usually in a damp soil. The iron water pipes in the building, too, are connected with the iron street pipes of the city water supply, which form a very effective ground connection. The same is true of the gas pipes. —Cassier's Magazine.

When Life Began on Earth.

Lord Kelvin estimates the time since the earth became sufficiently cooled to become the abode of plants and animals to be about 20,000,000 years, within limits of error ranging from 15,000,000 and 80,000,000 years. From similar physical data Clarence King has made an estimate nearly agreeing with this. Warren Upham says that geologists generally regard this period as too short. Dana, Wolcott and others compute that the duration of time since life began on earth is from 60,000,000 to 100,000,000 years.

"The continued" reports that Spain is buying new war ships leads to counter reports that the naval authorities of the United States are considering similar purchases.

Eight old United States monitors, which have been lying in the back channel at League Island navy yard, are being examined, and these old fighters will be prepared for active service again.

Russia has demanded that China surrender to her all sovereign rights over Port Arthur and Ta-Lien-Wan for the same period and on the same conditions as in the case of Germany at Kiao-Chou.

The latest reports from the recent battle at Holguin, Province of Santiago de Cuba, stated that the insurgents were victorious and not the Spanish. The news has caused great rejoicing in Cuban circles.

A meeting is to be held at Ottawa on the evening of March 23 to arrange for the formation of a field officers' association, to be composed of officers of field rank in the combatant, medical and other branches of the militia service.

The London Daily Mail says: In America's unprepared condition, Spain could inflict appalling damage. Neither could conquer the other, and the utmost America could gain would be the equivocal triumph of securing Cuban independence.

It is understood that the whole of the Snider, Enfield, Peabody and other rifles now in store in Canada have been sold to parties in the United States. The Snider's still in possession of the rural corps will not be called in until some system is devised to allow the storing of the Lee-Enfields in proper armories

The Poet Tennyson at Cambridge.

I cannot remember—I wish I could—whether it was Longfellow or Emerson who introduced Tennyson in college. That first little, thin volume of Tennyson's poems, with "Airy, Fairy Lillian" and the rest, was printed in London in 1830. It was not at once reprinted in America. I think it was Emerson's copy which somebody borrowed in Cambridge and which he passed reverently from hand to hand. Everybody who had any sense knew that a great poet had been born as well as we know it now. And it is always pleasant to me to remember that those first poems of his were handed about in manuscript as a new ode of Horace might have been handed round among the young gentlemen of Rome.

Carlyle's books were reprinted in America, thanks to Emerson, as fast as they were written. Lowell read every one of them attentively, and the traces of Carlyle's philosophy of life are to be found in all Lowell's life, as in the life of all educated Americans of his time.—Edward Everett Hale in Outlook.

MISSIONARY WORK IN CHINA.

Notes from the Diary of Rev. Geo. E. Hartwell, Missionary at Chentu.

July 12, 1897.—"Sun rises—big, bright and red—a globe of fire." July was hot, but heat could not affect the work of the Lord. Thirty miles from Chentu is a walled city called Pen Hsien. This city was first brought to our attention by the number of students who visited our book-shops enquiring for scientific works. Their friendliness gave birth to the idea of opening a mission station in that city. To open a new station requires special tact and guidance. It often requires months of patience and anxiety, as every obstacle is put in the way, and when a shop or home is obtained so much ill-will has been aroused that it needs months and sometimes years before the work can make headway. The poor man who may be tempted by the sight of silver to rent to the foreigner is too often boycotted, until, fearing for his life, he knocks his head at the feet of the foreigner and begs to have his rental deed returned.

Whom should we send on this important mission? There was one individual, formerly my personal teacher, now an evangelist supported by the professors and students of Stanstead College. He came to the mission four years ago, a proud Confucian. Two years we studied together. Seemingly no impression had been made. Outwardly, he was just the same, viz: respectfully indifferent. The seed, however, had been soon, had taken root, and was soon to bring forth fruit. His relations with the foreigners brought him into prominence during the riots of 1895. The little persecution he received during our absence was the means, in God's hands, of bringing him to Christ. He was baptized in Chentu church on April 4th, 1897. He came as zealous in witnessing for Christ as he had been indifferent before. He entered enthusiastically into the plan of opening Pen Hsien, and offered to go himself.

July 5th.—After a season of earnest prayers, this proud Confucian teacher (that was) started on his journey with a bundle of religious and scientific books under his arm. Here is his own story:

"When I reached the suburbs of the city, I began to pray that my way might be opened up, when, to my dismay, I heard the people talking about a child that had been kidnapped. I knew the foreigners were accused of having agents through the country to kidnap children. Would I be suspected of being such an agent and be beaten as two men had been recently within twenty miles of Chentu? At first, I felt inclined to wait a more convenient season. In the midst of those doubts, I came to a tea-shop, put down my bundle and slowly let the books appear. The proprietor, as soon as he found that they were foreign books, asked me to find another place to exhibit them. The books were tied up and on I started. Presently I passed an old shop with an empty table. For 24 cash (2½ cents), I rented the table and spread out my books. The people gathered round and I had an opportunity to explain the contents. While thus engaged, an elderly man came along, looked at the books and then at me. I recognized him as an old friend of my father, and wondered what he would think if he should recognize the son of his old friend selling foreign books. The prospects looked so dark that my heart went out in prayer for guidance. Presently, my father's friend looked up and asked, 'Your honorable name?' 'Tsun,' I answered. 'O, O, Oh! I thought I knew your face, your father was a warm friend of mine. I see you have books for sale, why don't you rent a shop?' My heart nearly stood still—how did he know the thought uppermost in my mind was a shop unless God had sent him in answer to prayer? 'That is just what I am looking for,' I replied. 'Where are you staying?' 'Doubly Prosperous Inn.' 'Yes, yes, I know Mr. Ki—he is also a friend of mine—I will meet you there this evening and talk over matters.' He walked off, and my faith began to ascend. A few minutes later, I was hastening back to the inn with my bundle of books. Towards evening he came—the proprietor of the inn, who was also one of the leading street officials, was at home, and we three sat down to drink the landlord's tea. My friend made a good middleman, and before we arose I had deposited a lump of silver and the first arrangements for opening a Protestant preaching place in Pen Hsien were effected. The building belonged to the landlord, a man much respected, also a man of means. He had a son holding a B. A. degree, which in China is considered a most honorable position. I preached the Gospel and everybody was willing to listen."

The reader may imagine how an event of this kind must needs arouse the enthusiasm of the evangelist. It certainly did. On his return he was overflowing with the story of how the Lord had answered his prayers and opened the way. The church at Chentu was greatly strengthed by his testimony, and the feeling uppermost was that the Lord was going to do wondrous things through his servants.

To night, splendid meetings in the street chapel; one young man remained for prayers.

July 27th.—At the close of this warm meeting our workers assembled for a special prayer-meeting. On the morrow, two evangelists, Tsun and Liu, were to return to Pen Hsien to complete the arrangements and open the newly rented building. It was a season of earnest appeal.

Arriving at Pen Hsien, they found the landlord somewhat timid, but as he had partly committed himself, he handed over the keys, and seeing there was no furniture in the place, he supplied tables, chairs and benches to carry on the work of the Lord. A card was sent to the officials and presently a proclamation was posted on all the gates that Ho Sien Sung (my Chinese name) had rented a shop on West street; that he came to help, not to hurt; that all must be respectful while visiting the bookshop, etc. Why all this kindness? Surely the Lord had prepared the way. Yes, two or three years ago this official was in Kiating and Dr. Kilborn had pulled two teeth for his wife.

[Mr. Hartwell's present address is Chentu, via Chungking].

A Neighbor's Advice.

THE MEANS OF RESTORING A LITTLE GIRL TO HEALTH.

She Was Gradually Fading Away and Her Parents Doubted Her Recovery to Health.

From The Examiner, Charlottetown.

Perhaps the most remarkable cure that has ever been recorded is that of little Minnie Woodside, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Woodside, of Baltic, P.E.I. Mr. and Mrs. Woodside are members of the Princetown Presbyterian church, and are well and favorably known in the settlement where they reside. Mr. Woodside does an extensive business in oysters. A news-paper correspondent hearing of the remarkable recovery of this little girl, called on Mr. Woodside and ascertained the exact facts of the case. The following is substantially the result of the interview:—"About a year ago last June I first noticed that my little daughter was not as bright as usual and that she complained at times of pains in her head and chest. Up to that time she had regularly attended school and was remarkably clever for a child of her age. She did nothing except attend school and although I never supposed it would do her much injury, I allowed her to study too sedulously. Thinking she was only a little run down I kept her from school for a few weeks and expected that she would be all right again. By the end of that time I was badly disappointed in my expectations, however, as she rapidly grew weaker and lost flesh every day. I was alarmed about her condition when she complained of soreness of the lungs and began to cough. I was just preparing to take her to a doctor when an neighbor called to see her and advised us to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. She assured me that Pink Pills had restored her daughter to health after several doctors had failed to do her any good. I therefore resolved to give them a trial and purchased a couple of boxes that very day. I began giving my little daughter those pills being very careful to follow the directions. At the end of a month I noticed a decided improvement in her health and thus encouraged I continued using the pills three months more. Her health was quite restored by that time again. I regard my daughter's cure as almost marvellous and accord all the credit to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. For little boys and girls of delicate constitutions no better remedy can possibly be prescribed. What was done for my little girl could certainly be done for other people.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure by going to the root of the disease. They renew and build up the blood, and strengthen the nerves, thus driving disease from the system. Avoid imitations by insisting that every box you purchase is enclosed in a wrapping bearing the full trade mark, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

John Damm was married at a distance from home and received this telegram from the old folks: "Accept congratulations from the whole Damm family."

SURPRISED THE JAOLER.

His Wife's Rheumatism Had Baffled the doctors for Years—Half a Bottle of South American Rheumatic Cure Relieved and Four Bottles Cured Her.

Mr. L. A. VanLuven, Governor County Gaol, Napanee, Ont., writes: "My wife was a great sufferer from rheumatism. She was treated by best medical men, and used many remedies, but relief was only temporary. Reading of the cures made by South American Rheumatic Cure we procured a bottle and tried it. Half the bottle brought great relief and four bottles completely cured her. Its effects are truly wonderful." Sold by J. P. Lamb & Son.

Farmers say they never experienced better maple sugar weather. The sap is running freely and there is every evidence of an abundant supply of maple sweetness.

DEATH'S HANDS PINIONED.

Kidney Deaths Grow Fewer as the World Awakes to the Glad Fact that South American Kidney Cure Never Fails.

The unsuspected presence, the insidious character and the alarming suddenness of collapse and death from kidney diseases of so many men and women in apparently good health has baffled the most eminent physicians of the day, and not until South American Kidney Cure was introduced to suffering humanity could it be truthfully said that medical science had conquered this dreadful devourer of the human race. A thousand testimonials tell of its efficiency as a never-failing kidney specific. Sold by J. P. Lamb & Son.

A newspaper should be like a tooth brush—everybody should have his own and not borrow his neighbor's.

The queen's birthday this year will fall on Tuesday. Victoria will be seventy-nine years old.

POST-MISTRESS IN TOILS.

Indigestion and Dyspepsia Had Made Her Prisoner—Two Years of Distress Turned to a Joy Song Because South American Nervine Cured Her sufferings.

Maria Edge, Post-Mistress of Edge Hill, says: "For nearly two years I suffered agonies from acute indigestion and dyspepsia. I could eat practically nothing without its producing the severest pain. The doctors could do so little for me I about gave up hope of recovery. I was induced as a last resort to give South American Nervine a trial. Two bottles wonderfully helped me. Three bottles completely cured me, and for six months I have enjoyed perfect health. Sold by J. P. Lamb & Son.

PROHIBITION IN NORTH DAKOTA.

MAZA, N. D., March 3, '98.

Editor Reporter:

DEAR SIR,—Knowing you, some eighteen years ago, to be a temperance worker, I thought you might give me space in your paper to express my views on the prohibition question, which is being agitated at present in the grand old Province of Ontario.

I notice in a Kingston paper that the Rev. Mr. D. S. Moody says that if he could get prohibition in Chicago by turning over his hand he would not do it, and gives as his reason that he would not vote for any law that cannot be enforced.

Now, living as I do, in a state which has constitutional prohibition, I would most respectfully invite Mr. Moody to come to North Dakota if he wishes to see a prohibitary law that can be and is enforced. This state adopted constitutional prohibition in 1889, and undoubtedly has the best pohibitory law ever enacted by any state or province. At first a large per cent of the people were opposed to it, and its enforcement was difficult in some localities, but in other parts it was enforced from the first, and as its advantages soon became apparent, it grew in public favor until to-day the law is enforced all over the state. It is here to stay; for the people, having watched the workings of the law, and having seen every phase of it carried to the highest courts of the country and in every instance having heard it declared constitutional, will have no other.

The prohibitary law of North Dakota does prohibit and all the theories which were advanced against it have been thoroughly exploded.

L. J. RANSIER.

LIQUOR IN THE YUKON.

DEAR FELLOW WORKERS,—An appeal for help comes to us to-day from thousands of homes, from the hearthstones of which have gone forth adventurous young gold-seekers or tradesmen, bound to find a fortune in the inhospitable Yukon. There is hardly a city, town, or even village, in Ontario, that has not contributed its share to this tide of northern emigration. With this multitude of Canadians has gone, and is going, a very rabble from all lands. The perils of the use of alcohol in an artic climate, combined with the lawless character of too many of the inhabitants, has made most alarming the news that liquor is pouring into the district, and is being sold along the routes thereto.

Sir Wm. Dawson of Montreal, says: "If the mixed multitde expected in the spring should have free access to the whiskey, said to be already imported into the Yukon, one may expect the most frightful results in demoralization, crime, misery and death, besides much trouble and expenditure. To arrest this crisis, every temperance man, woman and child in the Dominion should strain every nerve and use every means, by the press and the existing temperance societies, by letters and petitions, and by personal influence, to impress the importance of the crisis on the members of the Government and Parliament."

Our Territories used to be all under prohibition, and were then an example of good government. They gained for Canada a wide repute for wisdom in the management of her half settled and border lands. But permits, followed by the license system, broke down the barriers, and soon these great acres of country were flooded by the streams of death that had done such deadly work elsewhere. Our Dominion Government has it within their power to enact prohibition laws. If they are convinced that public opinion demands such a step, they will surely do so, and thus prevent untold wickedness, misery and want. Should such an order go forth, the intoxicants now on the ground would have either to be sent out of the country or destroyed, and the difficulties attendant on the transportation of goods would make the subsequent smuggling of liquor, in large quantities, easy of detection.

Let all ministers who have not already done so, bring this subject before their congregations and secure the passage of a strongly-worded resolution, then let the woman's missionary societies and temperance organizations act promptly.

It is the same old story, "The churches are sending missionaries and the devil whiskey," and the latter has ten chances to win to the church's one. But the church is becoming alive to the disadvantages under which she labors, and enfolded within this growing conviction lies our hope of prohibition.

Forward these resolutions as quickly as possible to the Hon. Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior, and to the Dominion member for your constituency.

Yours in the work of saving humanity,

M. E. STONE,
Co. Pres. W.C.T.U.

WEBSTER'S SPELLER.

One Edition of the Book That Was Roasted by the Author.

The Providence Gazette of Oct. 6, 1798, contains an extremely amusing advertisement of Noah Webster's, denouncing an edition of his book published in New York. The advertisement reads:

TO THE PUBLIC.

Whereas, In the fourteenth edition of my Spelling Book, printed in New York, for Samuel Campbell, Robert Hodge, etc., the Publishers have inserted a declaration that the edition contains my latest corrections and that it is the most correct edition printed in the continent. This is to notify all persons concerned that the Declaration was inserted without my knowledge or consent, and that after examining the work I find it the most incorrect edition I have ever seen. There are in it between 200 and 300 errors in printing, great numbers of them very material ones, not to say anything of two or three sheets of the work which are printed on bad paper and old worn out letter. For the information of those wishing to have correct copies of this book I think it my duty to give public notice that on account of the multitude of errors in this edition I utterly disclaim it. NOAH WEBSTER, JUN.

Hartford, Sept. 15, 1798.

There was at times hot rivalry among the early publishers, as is visibly demonstrated by these two fiery invectives printed in the Pennsylvania Gazette in November, 1729, soon after Benjamin Franklin became its proprietor. The first is:

Whereas, William Bradford of New York, Printer, has basely and villainously forged an almanack in my name, and I will therefore take methods to prosecute the said Bradford.

TITAN LEEDS, Burlington.

The following week came Bradford's reply:

These are to inform all persons that the above assertion of Titan Leeds is a base and notorious falsehood, and Friend Titan is hereby advertised that he may expect to be handled in another manner than this advertisement for his so free charges of villainy, forgery, counterfeit, etc.

—Godey's Magazine.

The governors of the Kingston General Hospital have subscribed $5,000 towards the re-election of the Watkins wing, burned the day before Christmas. The citizens are asked to give $8,500.

INFECTION BY THIRD PERSONS.

Little Danger and Unnecessary Fuss Made by Health Officers.

Is all this fuss about infection by third persons necessary? The teaching of experience almost uniformly says it is not. Of course every one admits that infection can be carried by means of fomites, and that if a doctor sits upon a patient's bed and rubs his head against him in listening to his lungs or gets his hands soiled with infectious material while inspecting his throat and then straightway goes and rubs himself against another patient he may carry the disease. But suppose he does not do those things, and that he properly washes his hands—that is, the parts that have actually touched the patient. All experience goes to show that this infection by third persons is a mere bugbear.

It is perfectly well known that in general hospitals which receive infectious diseases, and in which, even if these are placed in separate wards, the doctors and the students pass direct from one ward to another, any diffusion of the disease throughout the house is of the rarest possible occurrence, while, we would ask, how often is it not the case that medical men take their own children with them on their rounds without any harm resulting? One of the most eminent of the physicians practicing in London used to take his children with him in his carriage when he visited the fever hospital and either leave them at the door or let them play in the garden till he came out, when—soaked with infection, as some people would say—he would get into the carriage and drive away with them. Did they catch scarlet fever? Not at all.

Let us put to one side all this dread and fear of infection by third persons. Such a thing may happen now and then, but it is not thus that infection is ordinarily spread, unless perhaps we make an exception in favor of varicella and of smallpox in unvaccinated communities.

We speak thus plainly because medical men, and especially medical officers of health, have shown themselves all too ready to encourage what we believe to be totally unnecessary restrictions of the ordinary work of daily life. But if such a mode of spread is only of occasional occurrence do not let us pass silly laws. We may perhaps best judge of the manner in which laws to regulate the movements of "casual visitors" to cases of scarlet fever would operate by recalling the very patent fact that the medical man is exactly such a casual visitor. Already people are to be found who are quite ready to attribute their illness to infection carried by the doctor, and we may imagine the endless actions at law which would be hurled at his devoted head if such prejudices were crystallized into form by legislative enactments.—London Hospital.

The Feminine Collar Button.

If the downfall of the new woman ever comes to pass—admitting, for the sake of argument, that she has ever had anything like an ascendency—and if the story of that downfall is ever written, it should be entitled "All on Account of a Collar Button." To such cause undoubtedly will the downfall be due, and to no other. Your strong minded woman can stand contempt and contumely; she cheerfully puts up with the inconvenience and ugliness of dress reform, and she apparently wouldn't mind being stoned or gridironed or otherwise martyrized, but when it comes to the sly, insistent and persistent attacks of the collar button she finds herself vulnerable; "no stronger, indeed," as one Sandow minded sister put it, "than a mere man."

Nobody can accuse the collar button of partiality. Unlike the ballot, it knows no sex distinctions. It evidently believes that both men and women have equal rights where it is concerned. You may have swathed your neck in crumpled velvet and tucked satin all your days, but no sooner do you take unto yourself the linen collar habit than you also take unto yourself all that it entails. It isn't just the dull half hour wrestle in the course of adjustment; it is the adorable sensation—always occurring at the most critical and undesirable of moments—of your collar suddenly breaking loose from its moorings, while the button slides down your back in eager haste to join the four or five already there. It is disheartening, too, to reflect that there is no likelihood of our ever solving the problem. Just look at all the time, energy and eloquence that men have lavished upon it; enough, if expended upon, well—some other things, to have brought the millennium several million years nearer. Why should women have hopes of getting the better of the collar button, unless, of course, they are as much the superior of men as they say they are?—New York Sun.

Leech and Du Maurier.

Well, I recovered from a long and distressing ailment of my sight which had been pronounced incurable and came to England, where I was introduced to Charles Keen, with whom I quickly became intimate, and it was he who presented me to Leech one night at one of Mr. Arthur Lewis' smoking concerts, in the winter of 1860. I remember feeling somewhat nervous lest he should take me for a foreigner on account of my name, and rather unnecessarily went out of my way to assure him that I was rather more English than John Bull himself. It didn't matter in the least. I have no doubt he saw through it all; he was kindness and courtesy itself, and I experienced to the full that emotion so delightful to a young hero worshiper in meeting face to face a worldwide celebrity whom he has long worshiped at a distance. In the words of Lord Tennyson:

I was rapt
By all the sweet and sudden passion of youth
Toward greatness in its elder.

—George Du Maurier in Harper's Magazine.

A Thoughtful Hen.

A lady who lived for some time when she was first married on a Mississippi cotton plantation says that among their poultry was a hen who developed a fondness for a more civilized way of living. She preferred the house to the henyard and never lost an opportunity of mounting the steps and entering. She was always "shooed" out, but this did not cause her ardor to decrease. Finally she conceived the idea of making an offering to the inmates of the house in return for accommodations, so nearly every day she would enter and lay an egg in the sheet trunk, which stood open at that time of day in the hall. The family were so amused at this performance that they allowed her to go in and out without molestation.—Exchange.

Life of a Court Lady.

Those who think that the life of a court lady is necessarily that of a butterfly may be surprised to learn that cleverness with the needle and culinary skill are required of those who wish to be maids of honor in the court of Russia. They have also to learn to read aloud and to stand for any length of time.

PURELY PERSONAL.

A Frances Willard memorial service was held in Hamilton on Saturday afternoon.

The Prince of Wales, who is on his way to the Riviera, called on President Faure at Paris, and the latter returned the Prince's visit.

The address of thanks which is to be presented to their Excellencies the Governor-General and the Countess of Aberdeen from the 60 societies and institutions visited by them during their recent stay in Toronto is now being signed by those interested.

The awards of the Royal Canadian Humane Society were on Saturday presented to three plucky Hamilton boys, named Ernest Kent, Willie Dallyn and Alfred Ecclestone, for saving a boy named Smith from drowning. All are under 14 years of age.

FOR MEN OF WAR.

The China Gazette says Great Britain will occupy Wei-Hai-Wei in the event of Japan withdrawing from that port.

Gen. Gascoigne, Commander-in-Chief the forces in Canada, is visiting Washington accompanied by Mrs. Gascoigne.

CASUALTIES.

Fred C. Wolf of Waterloo was killed by a tree falling upon him.

William Doris, who was so badly burned at Cobourg, is dead.

An epidemic of "black blister" has broken out in the State of Hyderabad, India. Fifty deaths are occurring daily.

A. Blackhall was killed on Saturday morning while repairing a car in the C. P.R. yards at Winnipeg. He was cut in two.

WITCHCRAFT STORY.

A MAN WHO BELIEVES HE WAS UNDER A HEX'S SPELL IN INFANCY.

A Ridiculous Story of the Power of a Pennsylvania Witch—The Doctor Who Got Rich Treating the Credulous and Superstitious Dutchmen.

"Speaking of belief in witchcraft," said a railroad official, "there is an employee of our company in this city, holding a very responsible place, who insists that when he was an infant he was bewitched. He is the son of an old Pennsylvania German family of Berks county, Pa. He remembers nothing of the matter personally, but has the narrative of it from his parents and other members of his family.

"The hexes, or witches, the belief in whom is so strong to this day in Berks and adjacent Pennsylvania Dutch counties, are always women advanced in years, who seem to have no other mission in life than to bewitch their neighbors, their neighbors' children, their horses, cows and live stock generally. Then, as a counterbalance to the hexes, there are many witch doctors, both men and women, who have the power to rout the evil spirits and lay the torturing spells for which the hexes are responsible. Directly opposite the parents of the man of whom I am speaking lived a witch woman at the time he was born. Until he was 3 months old he was the best and healthiest baby in the locality. This did not seem to be to the liking of the hex, and one day during one of her calls at the baby's home—for these witch women call where and when they like, their neighbors offering no objection for fear of offending them—she took the child in her arms, hugged him and kissed him, all the time muttering in the unknown language which the race of hexes is supposed to understand, the same language as the simple German farmer folk of Pennsylvania believe was used by the witches of the dark ages.

"The mother of the child was in mortal terror of the result of the witch's suspicious fondness for the babe, and when the hex went away the mother found that her fears were well grounded. The baby instantly began to cry as if in the most intense pain. His body had become covered from head to foot with angry spots as thick as those on a leopard. The only rest and ease the child got was at certain hours of the night, when it was supposed the hex herself was asleep. The baby could not eat, and he rapidly wasted away in flesh, although it seemed that the power of the hex maintained the little sufferer's physical strength so that his agonies were prolonged and intensified.

"Several witch doctors were called, and they tried their skill against the power possessed by the hex, but all failed. Then the family employed a witch doctor who had a wide reputation, and who still lives at Reading, enjoying a fortune made off the credulity and superstition of Berks and Lebanon county people. Before he made his call at the hex afflicted house he sent the family a note warning them that they must not speak a word to him when he arrived at the house, and must have nothing in the room where the child was when he entered except the family Bible. He attended the child, who was apparently suffering more than at any time since he passed under the evil spell of the hex. That was because the witch, having seen the famed doctor enter the house, was exercising more of her power to defeat him in his efforts to rescue the baby from the spell.

"The doctor's treatment of the case was very simple, according to the family account of it. He cut from the Bible the leaf on which the child's birth was recorded and wrote upon it some words in the language of the witches, closed it up between the Bible's leaves and placed the book under the baby's pillow. He then sprinkled over the baby a powder which he made by burning on a silver plate a bunch of pure white horse hair. After this he warned the mother of the child that the first thing the next morning—this was at midnight—the hex would in all probability send over or come over herself and ask to borrow a drawing of tea. The favor must be refused, for if she succeeded in getting the tea or in borrowing a flatiron her spell would still remain on the child. If she was sent away without getting the tea or the flatiron, her power would be broken and the child would get well unless the hex managed to have communication with him in some way.

"Sure enough, the next morning the hex came over, opened the kitchen door without knocking and asked for some tea and a flatiron. The child's mother was in mortal terror of the witch, but overcame it sufficiently to refuse the request. The hex went away. The doctor had said that if the witch could be kept away three days and three nights she would be powerless to do the child further harm. The baby grew better rapidly, but on the third night he again began to suffer, and the spots, which had nearly disappeared, became visible again, but were not so distinct as they had been. The parents were once more in despair.

"The pet cat of this family had a habit, when out of doors, of jumping up on the window sill and scratching on the glass to be let in, and some one of the family would let her in. About 10 o'clock on the critical third night a scratching was heard at the window, and there on the sill was a cat. The baby's mother was about to let it in, supposing it was the family cat, when her husband seized her by the arm, dragged her back, and at the same moment hurled one of his heavy cowhide boots through the window. The boot struck the cat and knocked it, yelling frightfully, to the ground.

"'That wasn't our cat,' he exclaimed to his astounded wife. 'That was the old hex herself, trying to get in here as a cat!'

"Almost instantly the baby became quiet. The spots faded away, and the child went to sleep and slept soundly the rest of the night. The next morning he was as well as he had ever been, but the hex came around, looking pale and haggard and limping badly. She said she had fallen down stairs during the night, but everybody knew, upon hearing about the cat and the cowhide boot, that she had not fallen down stairs at all, but was suffering from the unsuccessful result of her supreme effort to keep the baby under her spell. The child was never bothered by the hex again, but is living today, and believes firmly in this ridiculous story of Pennsylvania Dutch witchcraft."—New York Sun.

The Objection Stood.

It is said of an Illinois judge who, as an attorney, had been somewhat noted as an objector, that during his first term on the bench when an improper question was asked by a lawyer, he exclaimed, "I object." As the hilarity in the courtroom subsided, he said with great dignity, "That objection is sustained." No one took exception.—Law and Comment.

WHENCE THE CAT?

Probably Adopted by Man Subsequently to the Hunting Age.

It is impossible to trace the origin of the domestic cat with certainty to any existing species or variety of the wildcat. Indeed the time at which the cat was first domesticated and introduced to human society is simply a matter of conjecture. Professor Shaler expresses the opinion that the domestication of the cat must have been much later than that of the dog, while naturalists give reason for believing to the contrary.

Some people agree with Professor Shaler, and for this—that dogs were probably first domesticated in order to assist in hunting, and, therefore, probably, in what is called the hunting age of human society, whereas the cat has nowhere been generally used as a hunting animal. The dog is essentially gregarious. He loves to hunt in packs and when introduced to a human family he regards the family as his pack and hunts accordingly, so that he is easily made serviceable by the human hunter. The cat, on the contrary, is unsocial. It lives alone and hunts alone, so that it could not be expected to be easily trained to hunt, either with men or for men. In fact, the only member of the cat family that is known to have been trained to hunt is the cheetah, though an ancient Egyptian painting which may be seen in the British museum represents a cat which is apparently assisting a hunter to catch birds.

There is another reason for thinking that the cat must have been adopted by man after the hunting age—namely, the cat's wonderful attachment to localities. Animals, like the wolf, with which the dog is most closely allied follow their prey over vast tracts of country and seem to be entirely ignorant of local attachments. The wildcat, on the contrary, settles down in a particular spot and waits for its prey to come. When removed from its accustomed habitat, it seems to lose its skill, and therefore would be useless to men in a hunting age, because in that age men seldom had fixed habitations, but roamed abroad wherever game was to be found. Of course much of this is conjecture. Whether the cat or the dog was first adopted by men cannot now be certainly known, but the cat was well known as a domestic animal at an early period of human history.—Boston Journal.

WOMEN CLERKS MANAGED.

How a Young Frenchman Got Rid of Their Complaints.

A young and handsome man was appointed not long ago as chief of one of the bureaus in a department of