# ENEST FABLES IN SLA

Once upon a time Ferdinand Public 'Phone to spread the dismal breathed right into Adele's translucent Tidings. Listener those three Words which hold all Records as monosyllabic

They have a harmless look on the Printed Page, but when pulled at the Psychological turn of the Road, they become the Funeral Knell of Bachelor Freedom and a Prelude of cutting the Spring on whatever has been put by.
The Serpent, operating in the guise of Lover in a Serge Suit, had lured, cajoled, wheedled, and finessed until the poor trembling Child, only twenty-four years of Age, was alone with him in what the Landscaper had worked off on her Papa as a Formal Garden.

They stood climbed there to the Auli

They stood clinched there in the dull Sunset Glow, and a Pergola for a Background. It was all very Belasco and in strict compliance with the League Rules laid down by W. Somerset Maugham.

According to the \$2 Drams and every bright red Volume selling for \$1.18 at a Department Store, this

The Curtain began to descend very slowly, with Ferdinand and Adele holding the Picture. It seems, however, that they had not come to the real, sure-enough Finis. The Terminus was some dis-

tance down the Line. The Curtain refused to fail, "What is the idea?" asked Adele, somewhat perturbed. "We have hit the logical Climax of our Romance. As I understand it, we are now supposed to ascend in a Cloud and float thru Ethereal Bliss for an indefinite

"Right-ol" said Fiance. "According

"Right-oi" said Fiance. "According to all the approved Dope, we are booked to live happily ever after."

Just then Her Best Friend came rapidly down the Graven Walk with Anxiety stenciled on her Features.

The accepted Swain seemed to hear a low rumbling Wagnerian Effect from out the Clear Sky. In Music-Drama it is known as the Hammer Thems.

It is included in the Curriculum at It is included in the Curriculum at

She had no absolute Proof that he had carried on with a Front Row Floss in New Haven, but it was Common Talk that one of his Uncles had been a Regular at a Retreat where the been at been a Regular at a Retreat where the Doctor shoots a Precious Metal into the Arm.

Electric Chair, but a Reck.

Single Slap on the Back.

The only one evincing Interest was the Arm.

Whether the Arm.

true Friend hurried to the nearest Girl, even if she had given a couple He was strong for the Married thy Doubts flickered and disappeared

In the meantime the elated Lover had loped all the way to the University Club to spring it in the Navajos

and receive their Felicitations

# The New Fable of What Transpired After the Windup



every Fem Sem.

Ferdinand had a Hunch that somebody was geting ready to drop

Cyanide of Potassium into the Cup of

"Occasionally he saw her at one of the many Dinners decreed by Cushol tom. They had to sit miles apart, with mountains of unseemly Victuals

for ferdinand had a Hunch that somebody was geting ready to drop

Cyanide of Potassium into the Cup of

Adele!" said the Friend, just fairly incoherent, and he was gurgling of his Best Pals the Whillykathrow.

one and then find out that he Drank, the same as all the other Married Men.

Leaving Adele in a Deep Swoon, the true Friend hurried to the nearest constant of the same as all the other married Men.

Leaving Adele in a Deep Swoon, the true Friend hurried to the nearest constant of the said he had always liked the constant of the said h

State, but it was highly advisable to have the Girl analyzed by a Chemist and passed upon by a Board of Experts before a Bid was submitted.

The Sunflower Paths of Dalliance, were leading mostly to Reno, Nevada, and the Article commonly known as for a couple of There and the course of the course and the Article commonly known as

more,
The Course of True Love ran smooth
for a couple of Days, and then came a
Letter from His People, expressing the
hope that he had picked out a devout
Unitarian. Otherwise the Progeny Love was merely a disinclination to continue eating Breakfast alone. He said a Good Woman was a Jewel, but if one of them get a fair would start off under a terrible Handi-Run and Jump at a Check-Book she cap. He knew that Adele favored the Sufcould put the National City Bank on Probably it was all right to go ahead and take the High Hurdle, but

prepare her for the Ordeal, she sent for the Suspect to come up to the House and outline his Defense.

They put in a humid Evening. When the falling Tears had made the Drawing Room too soppy for further use, they moved into the Hallway and he continued to think up Alibis.

At 11 p.m. he had explained Everything, repudiated many lifelong Friendships, deodorized his College Career, flouted the Demon Rum, and resigned from all Clubs The birds were singing up and down the Main Stairway and Grand-father's Clock played nothing but

She lay damply pillowed on his She lay damply pillowed on his bosom. He was intensely relieved and yet vaguely conscious of the Fact that she had best him to it. There had been a General Settlement, and he had figured merely as Supreme Goat. In his anxioty to get the Kinks out of his own Recora he had failed to hold her up for anything except Pardon.

Before terminating the Peace of his Best Pals the Whillykathrow.

His advice was to put up and marry her before she had time to pull one of her temperamental Stunts and hand out the Rinkaboo.

Possibly if she could be weaned away from her eccentric Relations and soverned with a Firm Hand she would be nearly tipped his Hand. He gave

"Oh, Adele!" said the Friend, just like that. "Oh, Adele, may I speak to like that. "Oh, Adele, may I speak to like an after-dinner Percolator; but he finally made it evident that he had peeved, and the Friend expressed a Hooked.

A deep Silence ensued, most of those throw the Switch and avert the Wrecking of a Life.

Far be it from her to Switch, but it was her Duty to put Adele hep to what everyone was whispering Under Cover.

She had no absolute Proof that he had carried on with a Front Row Ficsin New Haven, but it was common Talk that one of his Uncles had been a Regular at a Retreat where the Electric Chair, but he couldn't get a been a Regular at a Retreat where the Doctor shoots a Precious Metal into

When Ferdinand got back to his

"His Rapture had rendered him fairly incoherent, and he was gurgling like an after dinner Percolator, but he finally made it/evident that he had been Hooked."

dinand. He resolved to make a Stand and issue a ringing Ultimatum. He might as well tip it off to her and the whole Tribe that he was to be Caesar in his own Shack.

So he went up to her House ready to die in the Lest Ditch mather them.

whole Tribe that he was to be Caesar in his own Shack.
So he went up to her House ready to die in the Last Ditch rather than yield to the advocates of Immersion. After viewing the Problem in all its Aspects, he and Honey compromised by deciding that the Bairns were to be orthodox Baptists.

Having spinged every Plot from the

Having sponged every Blot from the Escutcheon and laid out the Labels for all Generations yet unborn, the incipient Benedick thought there would be nothing more to it except. Holding Hands and watching the Calendar.

Just then p Dress-Maker swooped down and stole away the Light of his

Every time he went up to scratch on the Door and beg for a Kiss, a Strange Lady with Pins in her Mouth would come out and shoo him away, explaining that the learl of Womanhood was laid out in the Operating Room, being measured for something additional. frage Thing and that she had read a Book on how to recover from a Dance Probably it was all right to go ahead and take the High Hurdle, but the Percentage was against the Candidate, and the Cost of Living was never so altitudinous.

Ferdinand retired from the Royal Presence feeling that he had been duly authorized to walk a Tight Rope over Niagara Falls.

As soon as the Bride-Elect had taken enough Headache Powders to prepare her for the Ordeal, she sent

of the 40 words of standard Baby Talk comprising what is known as the Mush

roperty Smile every time that Charl crofide or old Mr. Platitude lifted shell of sparkling Vinegar and fervently exclained. "Thuh Bride"

Even after the Menu had been wrecked and the satiated Revelers had

laboriously price themselves away from the decorated Board, there was The Women Folks led Adele away to

some remote Apartment to sound a Few Warnings, while the Men sat around in the Blue Smoke and joshod Ferdinand to a fare-ye-well.

Each morning he found in his Mail
a few Sealed Orders from Headquarters and about as many Stage Directions as would be required for putting
on the Annual Show at the Hippodrome.

on the Annual Show at the Hippodrome.

When he was not begging some one to come and Usa for him, he was either checking over the Glove List with a terrified Best Man or setting measured for a full layout of dark Livery that made him look like a refined Floor-Walker.

It seemed that Adele had a Step-Mother who had been crouched for Years waiting for a chance to bust into the Papers. Nothing would do her but a regular Madison Square Phantasmagoria, with two Rings and an elevated Platform.

She wanted Ribbons down the Aisle and little Girls sprinkling Posies. Concert Orchestra buried under the Palms, and a few extra Ministers of the Gospel just to dress the Pulpit.

Every superfluous Accessory devised by the Nerve Specialist and approved by the Court of Bankruptcy was woven into the Nuptial Circus when Ferdinand and Adele were made one and Unhookable.

The Rehearsals somewhat resembled the Moving Pictures of the Durbar at

As a final Preparation for the stupendous Pageant, the Groom sat up all night in the Chamber of Horrors, watching the Head-Liners of the Blue Book demolish Glassware.

According to the dictates of Fashlon, one who is about to assume the solemn Responsibilities of Matrimony should abstain from Slumber for a week, devoting the time thus saved to a full consideration of Food and

Drink.

The Ambulance bore his Remains to the Church. A few faithful Hang-Overs lifted him thru the Portals with his Toes dragging somewhat in the Rear. They propped him against a Pilester and told him his Name and begged him not to weaken, no matter what the Preucher might put up to him.

Soon after, he saw a Haggard Creature all huffed about with White advancing unsteadily toward him. With the Make-Up, she did not look a Day over 47.

He did not hear any of the Service, but these who were more fortunate told him afterward that it was a very Postty Wedding, and that the Presents
they got were Simply Great.
Moral: Too many Trained Nurses
discommode Cupid.

# Some Old Medical Superstitions BY DR. GORDON BATES

It is an undisputed fact that credul- | a toothache or lost a life could ex- | ed person had been hanged. A certain ity is a notable human characteris- plain the unfortunate result by retic. Whether, as a certain famous circus impresario remarked, we like to be fooled is a mooted question, that we always have been fooled and are still gullible, any of us is likely to prove any day by, metaphorically speaking, of course, swallowing the first pink cat or lauded patent pill he happens to see in a side show or dred years ago. This delightful substance was made from the moss grown on the head of a thief who had been happed and left in the air. drug store. Many of us have overcome; our early belief that the moon the consistency of mouldy But both this and our mature belief in a great many other things proves that our modern sim-plicity is a trait inherited from forefathers whose belief in witches and ghosts has been transferred to us in ghosts has another form.

Talismans.

Perhaps the absence of any scien-tific basis for the treatment of disease accounted for many of the fantastic ideas which people in ancient times adopted in regard to its cure. Indeed, these were not confined to the

many centuries a highly regarded means of healing disease. A talisman was a stone, metal or other substance on which certain cabalistic characters were written, and differed in various under different circum-Usually their inscriptions were religious, astronomical or magical. They were supposed to possess marvelous characteristics which gave them, among other things, curative qualities. In like manuer it was supposed that certain plants were stamped by nature in order that mankind might know how to use them in the cure of disease. Thus, liver wort, having a leaf like the liver, was used in affections of that organ. Walnuts, since they seemed to re-semble a man's head, were good for affections of the cranium, and doubt-less healed many broken skulls. less healed many Prickly plants like thistles and holly cured the stab-like pains of pleursince they resembled front teeth, were a highly esteemed cure for toothache.

Astrology and Medicine. Astrology did much to give the encient physician the esteem which society afforded him. It was supposed that the planets played a sinister part in the production of most dis-

The virtue of the innumerable der which they were sown or gatheroffered to the earth. Healing Wounds.

Weapon salve was a greatly ex-tolled remedy of about three hun-dred years ago. This delightful sub-Warm human blood, linseed oil, and turpentine - this mixture was very carefully stirred with murderer's knife, then rubbed on the weapon which caused the wound — fortunately for the patient not on the wound itself. treatment is said to have affected remarkable cures. King James the First, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Buckingham are said to have given eloquent testimony to its remarkable virtues.

An amulet was something to be carried about the person. Often it was a jewel. A topaz worn about the neck Indeed, these were not confined to the people but utilized by the physicians themselves.

Of a lunatic for instance, would be him of his insanity. The smargdum worn about the neck prevented epilepsy. The agate, among other things, prevented the harmful effects of snake bite and would cure its possessor of any disease which happened to attack

Another amulet valued by no less a person than Burton was a spider in a nutshell wrapped in silk. Burton pays tribute to the ague-curing qualities of this remedy. Alexander of Thralles recommended a metal cross tied to the arm, altho he acknowledged that a bit was of sail cloth from a ship-wrecked ves-were sel was quite as useful if worn continuously for seven weeks.

Charma. The charm was related to the amulet in significance and power. It was not necessarily a material substance, but might be a gesture, look or condition. The medical term "carmina-tive," a comforting medicine, really means a charm medicine and has the

same derivation. Certain numbers constituted charm against disease; thus it was considered lucky to bleed a man an odd rather than an even number of times. Many numbers had particular virtues of their own, but the number two was very lucky indeed.

The homoepathic principle of "like cures like" seems to have entered into part in the production of most dis-eases. The plague, for instance, the doctor could glibly explain as due to a conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter in Sagittarius on October 10, and sim-ilarly a great many other diseases. tongues were given and portions of herbs given to counteract disease was ducks and water frogs and other anialso largely due to the planet unmals notorious for their loud talking. count 30 species of hydrangea, of which ed, and a doctor whose patients kept was the halter with which an execut- gea, is the best known

verse repeated by the eldest female of the family on St. Agnes Eve was also valuable; while if an ague-stricken person were to visit a cross-road five different times and each time bury a hen's egg his disease would disappear whether of tuile or of lace, is one at once. Similarly the "hair of the of the most active agents for the dog that bit" you was an invaluable remedy for hydrophobia.

There were several simple charms against whooping cough. A toad held for an instant in the mouth of a delighted patient would rob him of his disease. Roast mice, too, were said to have been very efficacious, and a specific instance is given of a poor woman's son who ate three of There were several simple charms them for this purpose with great relish and benefit. Many other instances of the super-

which has followed the development of medical science, such as the Queen's Touch, mesmerism, and other isms, might be described. Reminders of them occurring in recent years have been the exploits of John Alexander Dowie and pilgrimages to various shrines. If there is one compensation for them, however, it is the pensation for them, however, it is the fact that past and present superstitions, notwithstanding the attempt to play upon the credulity of those who worshipped them, have resulted and do result occasionally in the cure of people who would otherwise have remained ill. This, however, does not prove that magic is potent, but that faith is—in suitable cases. The fact remains that most of us must still remains that most of us must still follow the alternative of Mahomet and go to the mountain.

### Floral Visitor from the Orient

Left to itself and its own method of procedure, the hydrangea would not perform that expansion of its sepals that is usually taken for its blos-soming until late in the summer. But strawberries and asparagus in February mean August flowers in June, and nowadays, most vegetation, whether edible or ornamental, is not beautiful in its time only but ahead of time. So, when the horticultural displays of early summer are announced the hydrangeas are among the guests one is invited to meet. Some appear in their natural white or pink, others their natural white or pink, others wear the blue that chemistry produces. The true flowers, not borne by all the species, are nestled at the centre of the corymb and are apt to be overlooked alongside of their more showy

the circumference. Described flow as a native of Asia and America, the hydrangea is a very cld inhabitant of the earth, several species in fossil, belonging to the Miocene division of the tertiary or transition period when the mountains and the ferns were brought forth, having hear discovered in Europea. An excellent charm against the ague H. Hortensia, or the Chinese hydran-

neighbors, the sepals, that ruffle about

## Bernhardt Cries "Down With the Veil" .-- A Harborer of Disease

### By Madame Sarah Bernhardt

I am enchanted by a new discov- ably my optic nerve was irritated by ery that three famous English doctors have made. They declare that the veti - yes, the pretty little veil, spread of neurasthenia among women; and I am of their opinion.

the meshes of the tulle, and advised me not to wear a vell more, which, indeed, I have not. But, in this connection, three English doctors explain with great clearness how damage is caused by the use of veils.

It seems that the inequality of light passing thru the tuile or lace fatigues the optic nerve. Thus it produces strain, which reacts upon the whole of the nervous system, which, time, becomes exasperated and brings on neurasthenia.

It is a fact that statistics give one

woman of the people as a neuraswoman of the people as a neuras-thenic for 200 women who dress in the fashion. And, as this wretched malady is hereditary, men inherit a share of the affliction. Ought to Abolish Veil.

It is, therefore, better, if the discovery of these three illustrious doctors is confirmed, to abolish the veil

It is the net for all the dust from which it protects the face, but which, at the same time, it collects. It contains and holds the microbes to the prejudice of breathing and kissing. And everyone knows that the mouth is the most terrible harbor for the collection of microbes. Yes, the mouth; the seat of the kiss, that source of eleguence. that source of eloquence.

It is melancholy that it should be So, let me have so, and sad to reflect upon.

One must, therefore, begin to think about abolishing the veil, and, to conserves but to hids

vince my readers, I will tell them little anecdote that happened to my-self at Aix-la-Chapelle. Being invited to dine with Madame Von Hammacher, the most charming, the wittlest, and the most perfectly good among all the ladies of Aix-la-Chapelle, I wanted my hair, which

is always rather rebellious, to be a little more orderly than usual. So I put on a veil to prevent the strong wind from blowing it about. One of the little pieces of chemile, which held a microscopical iron mote. got into my eye and swelled the whole length of the eyelld.

I had to call in a celebrated conlist, who shut me up three days in the

dark.

It was a miracle, so they said, that my eye was saved.
So, let me have no more vells.
Down with the vell, which, after all, is only becoming to ugly women, and serves but to hide paint and wrinkles.



### Stories of Insects

(Selected from "Little Animal Stories," as compiled by Francis Weld Danielson. Reproduced by permission of Canadian publishers, Messrs, McClelland and Good-

ABOUT A GRASSHOPPER. Once upon a time there was a grasshopper, long, slim, and green, sitting on a stump by a cow-path leading up

a hill. He was thinking hard. "Look!" said he. "Here have I lived and fiddled all my life. All the rest fiddle, too, so no one takes a bit of notice of my fiddling. I shall not stay here any longer, but shall go where no one else fiddles. Then I shall be heard, and get some praise for my music." He set off without a word to his friends, and jumped thru the bars at the foot of the hill, into a corn-field. "Here is the place," thought, he, but he was mistaken, for in the corn-field were other grasshoppers fiddling as

"This never will do," said the grassopper, long, slim, and green, so he mped thru the corn-field into a po-"Here is the place," thought he, but he was mistaken for in the potato garden were other grasshoppers. fiddling as hard as he.

"This will never do," said the grass-

long, slim, and green

"Here is the place," thought he, but he was mistaken, for in the oat field were other grasshoppers fiddling as

hard as he. "This will never do." said the grasshopped, long, slim, and green, so he jumped thru the oat field into a berry

"Here is the place," thought he, but he was mistaken for in the perry patch were other grasshoppers fiddling as hard as he.

"This will never do," said the grass-hopper, long, slim, and green, so he jumped thru the berry patch into some woods.

"Here is the place," thought he, and sure enough, there was not a sound of any fiddling at all, so he jumped upon a log, and was tuning up for a fine solo, when along came a large, flat, brown toad to eat him. "This will never do." said the grass-hopper, long, slim, and green, in a great fright. He gave one jump away from the large, fat, brown toad, and hurried back thru the berry patch, the oat field, the clover meadow, the potato graden, and the coar field. potato garden, and the corn-field, to the hill

"This is the place, after all." him he was s'tting on the stump to a cow-path leading up the hill, ar was fiddling as happily as possible. Blanche Elizabeth Wade.

## ABOUT A FIREFLY.

This story is about a firefly, but it "Here is the place," thought he, but he was mistaken, for in the clover meadow were other grasshoppers fiddling as hard as he.

"This will never do," said the grasshopper, long, slim, and green, so he jumped thru the clover meadow into an oat field.

"Here is the place," thought he, but it begins about a brook. Once upon a time there was a brook, and because its name began with a B, too, for it bubbled, and babbled, and bounded, and bounded, and billowed over the stones.

Along the edge of the brook grew. Along the edge of the brook grew willows, and in the fields fireflies glow-

ed at night. One time a little firefly said to his mother, "I am not going to shine to-night."

"Not going to shine!" said she. "Why. "Not going to shine!" said she "Why, what is the matter? Are you ill?"
"Oh, no," said the little firefly, "but there are so many others that I shall not be missed. I shall just fly into the willows and sit and enjoy myself."
"But, my dear," said the mother, "it takes every one of us together to light up this meadow, for it is so large."
"There will be lots of stars," said

### CHILDREN'S COMPETITION.

For the best account, your own composition, of some bird, animal, flower, etc., which you have carefully observed or studied, we will give four hand studied, we will give four hand-some prizes, in books—first and second girls' prize; first and second boys' prize. No one who has passed out of the public school is eligible to compete. Contest closes July 31. Write plainly, on one side. plainly, on one side of paper only; have parent or guardian certify your work, age, and eligibility; mail answer to: Children's Competition, Sunday World, Toronto.

the little firefly. "and there comes the moon over the hill. It will be light enough without me."

The mother firefly said no more, but The mother lively said no how up left him. The little firefly flew up into the willows and laughed to himself. He sat on the end of a high levely and looked out over the field. branch and looked out over the field.
All the other fireflies were dancing and sparkling, and doing their best to light up the field. "Let them work if they like!" said

the little firefly. "I shall not tire my-self. Only mother will know if I do not work! Just then he heard a voice below. It was that of the brook which bub-bled, and babbled, and bounded, and boiled, and bumped, and billowed over the stones. The brook was talking to

the willows. "A fine night." said the brook.
"Yes." said the willows, "and how bright the firefles are! I never saw so many."

"That is true." said the brook, "but there is one missing. The others are looking for him. That is why they fit so fast. They need him in the bushes in the dark corner over there where the shadows live. The firefies are sad to lose him and his bright little light, for he was one of the best sparklers.

sparklers.' When the firefly heard that he was so ashamed that he flew to the bushes, in the dark corner where the shadows lived and glowed more bright-

ly than eyer. Later the brook said, "The missing firefly is back. There is joy in the meadows."

"That is good." said the willows
"Yes." said the brook, and merrily
bubbled, and babbled, and bounded,
and boiled, and bumped, and billowed over the stones.

Blanche Elizabeth Wade.

The most pe

known as the leafy trees. W and gorgeous cal of summer the mistresses and country h requently am elf as an ovely gowns extremely lovely lawn and inviting a large the noise and ing, where frag ger of disaster, wich or a cup hru a hercules tea on the law be doubled at in the labor of Ordinarily, a t 3 o'clock, ar becomes a diffic prolonged dancing, etc.
Special diversivided for guest
But if the gro roquet lawn o whose energy

Music adds grown of one of these orchestra of maguitars is lovely an be station secreted amid th The majority den party may p moving about, ar freshments as the disposed in gro of trees or law spread here an ort and sociabil From a long wers, dishes, acies, refreshm strawberries, ether with san ade, claret cup. punch or lem ready for the lawn in order, in house in order event of rain, she can transposinto an afternoon her guests away their entertainn pitious the weat At a tennis pa by a Toronto tennis" cakes,

Happ

Happiness is a

he soul-depend requent draught It is largely a ure a point of v Happiness mus with joy. Joys life now and Happiness is a r self upon it, and continual. I was petual; and will its of thought ly persist in ano ness may be a independent of transient guests. made an abidin are occasional welcomed, and comings and comings and comings and comings and comings are of mind, the befall us. Happ we ourselves orce Reviewing the persons I have their soul states me, I rank as those who did others for their these were husba parents or heath these were husba
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