

NOT WITHOUT ANNOYANCES.

The arrows of much sarcasm are discharged at the bill-collector. Surely he is an unwelcome visitor, but deserves quite as much sympathy as the man on whose spirits he throws a wet blanket. After climbing three flights of stairs, the collector enters the office of the *Arkansaw Traveller*.

"What is it young man?"

"I have a little bill here from Nogins & Co.," handing him a piece of paper.

"Well," taking the bill and looking at it, "I'll step in some time during the week and pay it."

"That's what you said last month, colonel."

"That'll do. I'm busy and don't want to be bothered."

The collector enters a lawyer's office.

"I've paid this thing once," says the lawyer.

"No, you said you would pay it, but you haven't done so yet."

"That'll do sir. I transact my business with the firm, and don't need any assistance."

"When shall I come again?"

"Never mind; I'll settle the bill."

Then the collector calls on a very polite man.

"Come in sir; come in. Have a seat."

"Haven't time to sit down. I have a little bill here."

"Yes. Well I declare. I intended to come round and settle it. The fact is, I haven't any money at present, but if you'll call round to-morrow afternoon, I'll probably be able to pay you. Good morning," and as the collector retires the polite gentleman muses: "To-morrow afternoon. Have an engagement in the country."

The collector stops a man on the street and presents him a bill. The man frowns and says:

"I never pay bills on the street. If you want to see me on business why don't you come to my office?"

Shortly afterward the collector enters the office. "Here you are again. Don't give a man any chance at all."

"You said you transacted business in your office."

"Never mind what I said. I shall tell your employers of your impudence. No use for further conversation. That'll do. I'm busy."

No, the bill-collector's life is not without its annoyances.

—The young men who receive promotion are the men who do not drink on the sly. They are not the men who are always at the front whenever there is any strike, nor are they the men who watch for the clock to strike twelve, and leave their picks hanging in the air. They are not the men who growl if they are required to attend to some duty a few minutes after the whistle has sounded. They are the men usually who pay the closest attention to the details of their business, who act as if they were trying to work for their employer's interest instead of to beat him at every crook and turn. They are the men who give the closest attention to every practical detail, and who look continually to see whether they can do any better or not. This class of men are never out of a job. They are scarce. They never strike, they never loaf, and they do not ask for their pay two or three weeks before pay day.—*Manufacturers' Gazette*.

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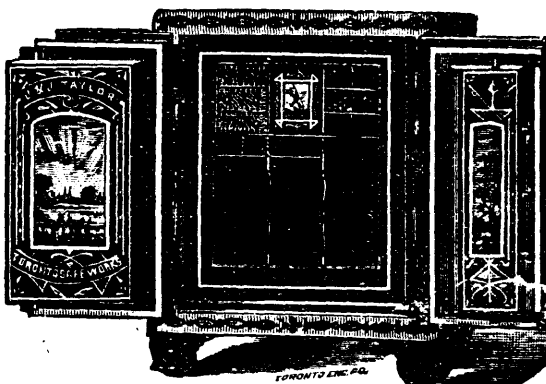
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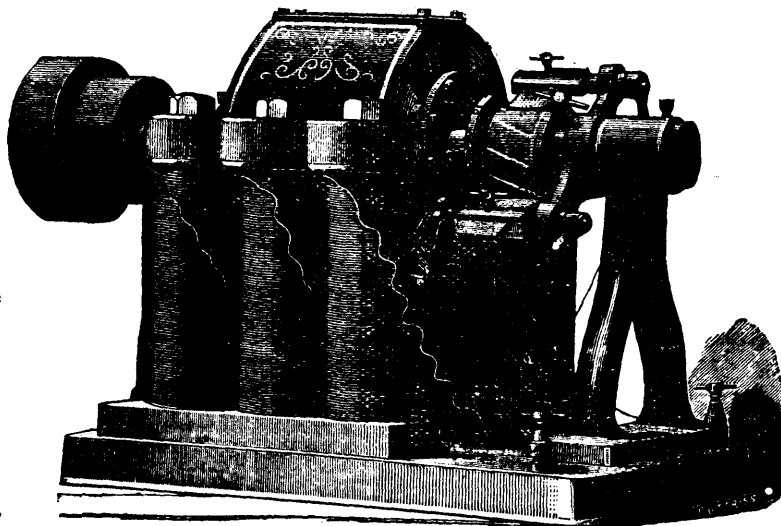
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