

COUSIN ANSELM'S RABBIT

Was Carefully Nurtured Although Only Imaginary.

When the Time Came to Eat It Anselm Was Seen Buying a Rabbit at a Market.

From Saturday's Daily.

"But what is the use?"

"The use! Decidedly you are not up in fine little psychological points. The charm in a lie, in a true lie, is precisely that it is 'useless.' A lie is its own reward, its own pleasure. What use? As though Anselm—Cousin Anselm, you know—had been influenced by any motive the day he benevolently invited us to help eat his famous rabbit! You, of course, remember Anselm's rabbit?"

To tell the truth, I did not remember it at all. My interlocutor was a southerner from the far south, a liar from excess of imagination and skeptical, as all liars are, for they believe only in their own lies. He is an agreeable talker, however, and his fancy gallops so gayly along that his tongue has difficulty to keep pace with it.

He begins a story, forgets it and suddenly replaces it with another. So, without occupying my mind any further with the subject on which we started, I prepared to listen to the adventures of Cousin Anselm and his rabbit.

"You don't seem to recall it. Well, never mind. It was one day last year. I had risen early, as is the habit of all our shopkeepers, and sold nothing. I was standing on the doorstep with you or someone else deciding about the weather when Anselm went by and said, 'How do you like rabbit cooked?'"

"I love it potted, with a great deal of thyme and wild thyme," I replied, and I think I said a bit of orange peel as big as a nail.

"Good! It just happens that I was looking for you to ask you to eat some potted rabbit with me at the Bastion." "Potted rabbit at the Bastion!"

Those words alone made my mouth water. One is so comfortable here, far from one's wife, for the meekest of men in our town would defend this peaceful refuge with Mohammedan ferocity against an invasion of the other sex. The only room serves as both diningroom and kitchen, and one can sit and watch his breakfast simmer and the coals in the oven glow, dim and die out with a last hot flame while outside in the scraggy pines of the slope a few parched grasshoppers croak despairingly.

"When shall we eat our potted rabbit—tomorrow?"

"What haste! Jest aside, yesterday I visited the rabbit hutch, and there is a mother who will have her little ones in two days. It is a precocious breed, and we will date the breakfast for five weeks from now."

"Well, in five weeks," said I, a trifle set back. During these five weeks I did not find leisure to forget the rabbit.

"The next morning Anselm came to bring the latest news."

"Six superb little rabbits have arrived—one especially, all gray, with a pink nose, already moved his ears like his father and mother at the sight of a cabbage stalk."

"He was the one we would eat."

"Two days later it as another matter. The male, in a jealous fury, had devoured his progeny. They had to imprison him under a basket, with a heavy stone on it."

"Three little rabbits had fallen victims to this modern Saturn, but by a miraculous chance the gray one with the pink nose had been spared."

"The next week Anselm came with a sad expression and said that three such strong and healthy little ones exhausted the mother, and he should have to sacrifice two of them."

"He felt bad over it, but the last would profit the more thereby."

"From this time the remaining rabbit filled our lives. At the cafe or on our promenades Anselm talked only of him, melting over his infantile graces relating his caprices, noting his progress."

"More than once at the hour of departure for the pastures, when the silent streets were awakened by tinkling goat bells. Anselm knocked on my window, crying, 'While you are lying snug in your bed I shall be gathering the herbs our rabbit is fonder of—groundsel and birdweed,' and on leaving, to prove his zeal, 'I shall spread the herbs out in the sunshine a minute, for you know dew is deadly to the rabbit.'"

"In the vapors of my interrupted

sleep this rabbit appeared gigantic to me.

"One morning the rabbit escaped, and Anselm, still much perturbed, came to tell me about it. After some hard running he had succeeded in recapturing him."

"At last Anselm announced that the rabbit would be just right in a week. The feast was set for Sunday. For the remaining time the rabbit was to have a dry regime—no more herbs, no greens, none of those water soaked plants that make the flesh of rabbits so soft and insipid—nothing but lavender and marjoram should be eat, an odorous diet gathered expressly for him on the mountain by Anselm. For nothing in the world would Anselm have charged another with this duty."

"Sunday came."

"Anselm wished to depart the first of all at dawn and dispatch the victim with a blow on the head classically, then clean him and put him in the pot."

"I was to come later at my ease with two friends, who would help me to carry the wine and other provisions."

"Was the rabbit good?"

"Alas, my friend, this rare rabbit, so fat, so round, so sweet smelling and daintily fed, never existed except in Anselm's imagination."

"I arose very early that Sunday morning, and by accident I surprised Anselm in the act of buying a rabbit of the meat vender."

"I have found since that Anselm never possessed either rabbit hutch or rabbit, and it was solely for pleasure that the good fellow had lied to me for a month, adding each day a new bead to his rosary of innocent deceptions."

"And what do you conclude?"

"Dear me! What with that rabbit and Anselm I have forgotten the point!"—Ex.

Liquor Imports to Yukon.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 28.—A return brought down today shows that during the past year 49 permits, covering 74,685½ gallons, were issued to take intoxicating liquors into the Yukon territory. Of this number 19 were commercial permits. Those to whom they were issued are: C. E. Carbonneau, Ottawa; Klondike Mining, Trading and Transportation Corporation, Victoria; T. D. Sayre, Montreal; J. H. Russell, Atlin; J. Barrette, Dawson; Canadian Development Company, Dawson; George Elliott, Dawson; 1000 gallons each.

Thos. O'Brien, Dawson; Alaska Exploration Company, San Francisco; E. E. Lewin, Ottawa; Macaulay Bros., Dawson; J. B. Simpson, Victoria; 2000 gallons each.

Wm. Chron, Dawson; A. McDonald, Dawson; 5000 gallons each.

J. S. Williams, Dawson; 10,000 gallons.

Murray and Ross, 3600 gallons.

North American Trading & Transportation Company, Dawson; 15,200 gallons.

Ala ka Commercial Company, Dawson; 17,000 gallons.

An office fee of \$10 is charged for a commercial permit, and \$2 for a personal permit. The other fees are \$2 a gallon on all spirituous or other intoxicating liquors, or spirits of the strength of proof or under, and so in proportion for any greater strength over proof, and 50 cents a gallon on beer and light wines forms part of the local revenue of the Yukon council. During the year Supt. Wood, of the mounted police, was authorized to import 500 gallons of beer to be sold in the police canteen.

Application was made by a firm to take in 25 gallons of alcohol, to be used in connection with the manufacture of soda water, with all the popular flavors of cider, ginger ale, etc.

The department was a little dubious as to the bona fide of this request. It will come as a great shock to temperance people, who have been pinning their faith upon the non-alcoholic character of ginger ale, etc., to learn that a number of manufacturers of soda water sent in declarations to the department to the effect that the use of alcohol as a preservative, and to cut the various extracts and oils used in the preparation of these drinks, was absolutely indispensable. If the compound of apple jack is used in making cider, one per cent of alcohol is required.

A French-Canadian miner, named Turenne, who had been living in the Yukon since 1898, appealed to the department for a permit for 50 gallons of liquor. He meant wine, but the department understood it to mean spirits, and decided to grant him a permit for five gallons. He writes:

"I am going to bring to Dawson my wife and three children, all raised on French claret. What can I do with 25 bottles for five persons for 365 days. I have been living in Klondike since 1898; I know by sad experience how

the climate exhausts the strongest constitution, and kills the weakest. Wine, beer and iron should be used to fight against it. Under the present system no California wine is to be had at moderate cost, and everyone is tempted to use alcohol. Claret or beer are now sold at 25 cents per small glass in Dawson and if Mr. Sifton will only taste it once, Canada would mourn a minister."

There was no resisting this appeal, and Mr. Turenne got his order to import 50 gallons of claret.

Mr. Chron's application to take 5000 gallons was refused at first, but finally granted through the influence of Senator Templeman. A Vancouver lady secured an order for five gallons of liquor for personal use, and then wanted the order to cover, in addition, one gross dozen Schlitz lager. She explained that the lager was really a necessity to her personally. The lady had to do without her lager.

Beats a Dutch Puzzle.

Walla Walla, March 20.—In the superior court Friday Judge Brents assisted in straightening out the affairs of a family which, to say the least, were very much mixed.

A few years ago Emma Clark, a widow with a grown daughter, married William L. Brown. After two children were born the couple separated, and Brown married his stepdaughter, Susan Kotz. As the relations now stand, Mrs. Brown is the present stepmother to her own half-brother and sister, and the wife of her own stepfather. The children are in doubt whether they are sister and brother of their stepmother, or son and daughter of their half-sister. The husband is father-in-law to his own wife and son-in-law of his ex-wife. He was not sure but that he would prove to be his own father before the courts got through with him. The family troubles were brought into court through the efforts of the former Mrs. Brown to get possession of her children, which were awarded to her by the Idaho courts, when she and her husband were divorced. The judge decided that she should have the custody of both children.

Her Criticism.

Mary is very stout, quite deaf and the trusted housemaid of a family in the East park section. Incidentally she seems to be something of an art critic. When she cleans the family rooms, she is heard to mutter and shake her head in dusting the pictures, and she seems to be especially severe on a few representatives of the "altogether" that hang in the little den. One day Mary was flitting her dust-cloth about in this little room when her mistress happened in. Mary was standing gazing intently at a beautiful photograph of Bouguereau's "Cupid and Psyche."

"And phwat pictur' is that?" asked Mary in hard, cold tones.

"Oh, that is 'Cupid and Psyche,'" said the lady rather indifferently.

"Moody and Sankey, is ut? Well, I hav' heered of them felleys. Sure, they ought to be ashamed of their selves."—Ex.

Fresh oysters. Selman & Myers.

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Sheriff's Sale.

In the exchequer court of Canada, Yukon territory, admiralty district.

Between

W. SIDNEY FRENCH, ET AL., Plaintiffs, And THE STEAMSHIP ELDORADO, Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE.

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with the command of the registrar of the exchequer court of Canada, Yukon territory, admiralty district, I will sell to the highest bidder by public auction on Tuesday the 9th day of April, 1901, at 2:30 p. m., at the sheriff's office, Dawson, Yukon territory, the following described steamboat, towit: Eldorado, official number 107,852, registered in Dawson, Yukon territory, May 29th, 1899. Previously registered in Port Townsend, Washington, U. S. A. Stern paddle-wheel steamship built in Seattle, 1898. Length 140.3 feet; breadth 31.3 feet; depth in hold from tonnage deck to ceiling at amidships 5.8; gross tonnage 466.03 tons; registered tonnage 260.48 tons.

One double engine, non-condensing, made by the Washington Iron Works, Seattle; two cylinders 16x72; length of stroke six feet; made 1898; two steel boilers 170 pound pressure.

Dated at Dawson this 4th day of April, 1901.

R. J. EILBECK, Marshal of the Exchequer Court of Canada, Yukon Territory, Admiralty District. Black & Smith, Attys.

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Cecil Marion, the operatic prima donna, is still enjoying a big hit at the Savoy.

Mumm's, Pomerey or Perinet champagnes \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club hotel.

Best assortment of Klondike views at Goetzman's the photographer.

Fresh eggs. Selman & Myers.

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BURRITT & McKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc.; Commissioners for Ontario and British Columbia. The Exchange Bldg., Front street, Dawson. Telephone No. 29.

MACKINNON & NOEL, Advocates, Second st., near Bank of B. N. A.

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building.

N. F. HAGEN, Q. C., Barrister, Notary, etc., over McLennan, McFeely & Co., hardware store, First avenue.

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MINING ENGINEERS.

J. B. TYRRELL—Mining Engineer—Mines laid out or managed. Properties valued. Mission St., next door to public school, and 44 below discovery, Hunker Creek.

SOCIETIES.

THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION of Yukon Lodge, (U. D.) A. F. & A. M., will be held at Masonic hall, Mission street, monthly, Thursday on or before full moon at 8:00 p. m. C. H. Walls, W. M. J. A. Donald, Sec'y

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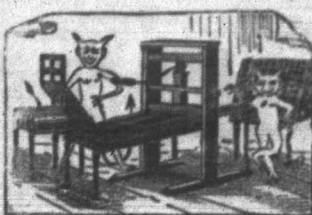
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