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The Nut-Shell

"MUTUM IN PARVO."

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THE NUT-SHELL

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This smallest journal is printed from the smallest type ever manufactured, being cast and imported from Europe especially for this publication. It is a marvel of mechanical skill, and a fair index of the rapid advancement of the typographical art. Text and figures are clear, and it is carefully preserved so that it will prove not only a curiosity, but will furnish an interesting and valuable amount of valuable information not to be obtained elsewhere.

TRIALS WHICH ADMIRER.

No doubt it was a severe affliction to old Grandfather Adam to be turned out of Paradise, though there are two sides to every question, and perhaps he was not wholly wretched over it. We are not going to argue that point at present.

What we want to get at is the fact that, though Adam lived so long ago, he had never so wretched with a set of false teeth which did not fit, and would not fit, and which felt, in spite of the smiling dentist's assurance that they looked perfectly natural, air, more and were like a bureau in his mouth every day.

He did not have any pretty girl neighbor, younger and more blooming than Mrs. Eve, who made him wish, whenever he looked at her, that he had waited a little longer before settling for life. Nobody asked him to subscribe for a cyclopaedia.

Nobody asked him to give a hundred dollars to a minister.

No friend wanted his name on a little bill, just for thirty days, as a token for you, know.

Nobody wanted to insure his life or set up a sewing machine, or a new kind of soap, or a patent churn, or a liver pad, or a new fangled apple parer, or any other thing of the stationery.

Nobody wanted to put lightning rods on his house. Chrome pediclers had not yet begun their trade. Organ grinders did not parade with their kazoos held out. Bills for French military and "sandwich" never clouded his brow.

He had never hankered after a 220 horse. He had no ambition to mount a bicycle. He had no desire to get into a bug. We may safely conclude that he did not use pills, or bittern, or restorative, or any of the other all disease nostrums ever used, or in a railway accident, where nobody was to blame, and the company was not concerned.

As was born grown up we may conclude he never had to contend with terting, or having bottles poured, or

the numps, or the measles, or the whooping cough, or the rash, and, so he had no number, of course he was never properly spanked, which may account for the mistakes he made in his career.

His heart was never torn by the pangs of jealousy. He never had to stand by and keep cool, while Miss Eve walked off with the "other fellow," for the simple reason that the matter fellow was not there to walk off with. He had not been born just then. He was in all probability never wore a stiff stand up collar, or a pair of pants in which he had not set down. He never ate anything under the food delusion that it was better.

He never attended any lectures on health, to learn that all food was poison, and that nothing was wholesome for man to eat. He did not know what vitamins, in all probability never were healthily we must eat, freeze and eat, and all things called happiness, and take cold-water baths and gymnastics and laxation tea daily.

He never got divorced. He never committed a murder when he was in jail. He never robbed a bank. He never ran away with another man's wife. He never had any of those other troubles he had read of, having been in existence at such an early stage of the world's history.

CURIOUS MARRIAGES.

Of the many interesting matters that come under the notice of the legirar general, there is nothing more surprising than the frequency with which youth and age try the paths of matrimony together. The unions of May and December is not nearly so rare as many persons suppose, and it is in no way "the young man's league" that takes the "old maid" of 2000 brides over 50 years of age who were married last year.

In one case of a party of 20, three were accommodated by men of 21, and four men others left their choice of strip-pled. In another case of 18, and four others kept under 21. Between 9 and 10 years of age 2000 men married, three of them took girls under 15, and twenty others were content with partners who did not reach their majority.

As many as seven marriages were arranged between 50 and 60 were also sought to the hymeneal altar, and have been a success. In other words, a hundred were not more than 21, and 215 were under 23. Amongst the most curious marriages were a couple of octogenarians, while three ladies of 85 and upwards got husbands who were under 20. In one case, respectively. Taking the gradation of 15 and upwards, we find that one of the most serious of bride-makers, even foreign contracts are to be seen in the venerable Adeline of 70 who got a mate of 18, and a French girl who was secured a blushing damsel of 18. At the other end of the scale we have a married couple of 19 and 20, and a girl of 15, another where the contracting parties were 16 each, and a third in which the bride was 16 and the groom with wife of 17. Two husbands of 30 took partners whose ages were under 15, while in the former case of husbands 40 found wives of from 16 to 20 years of age.

AFTER A BIG THING

About six weeks ago a man who claimed to be in hand luck entered a Detroit store and asked for money. The proprietor gave him a blunt and a blowing up at the same time, and asked him why he did not leave up and try to do something. "I say 'I'll do it'" was the reply. "I'm already working at a big thing. It is a coal stove and refrigerator combined—one side to cool your provisions in summer and the other to heat your bottles in winter."

He was encouraged to go on, and in about two weeks he returned to inquire. "Do you think it will make any difference which one of the stove and which the refrigerator?" He was told that it would not, and he went away to buy some another outfit, and then to return and ask.

Wouldn't it be a good thing to arrange to save the heat of the stove to run a washing-machine?" He was warmly complimented on the idea, and was then seen again yesterday when he returned with enthusiastic reply to ask for a private interview.

Get another idea. I'm going to make the cold air which passes off the fire and enter the elevator run at least six by fans in the dining-room. What I want just now is a capital of 1,000,000 dollars, and I am ready to experiment, and I shall write to parties in New York today. Meanwhile you may advance me the same amount and take a first mortgage bearing 12 per cent interest in gold!

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

Failures are always thick where love is thin. Deeds are fruit, words are but leaves.

Be slow to promise and quick to perform. The longest life is but so many moments.

One good mother is worth a dozen school-masters. He got afraid to die, for you will travel a life-learned track.

Life is comparatively idle who might be better employed. Never be security for more than you are quite willing to lose.

God tries every kind of food, but does not throw it into the sea. Lose your head and lose the battle. Love your heart and you have lost all.

You can lay it down as a sacred maxim that every man is wretched in proportion to the vice with which he is afflicted. The shafts of avarice are only effective when barbed with the truth tempered with justice and tempered with wit.

Money will make us work but money will not make us enjoy life. Work—nothing but love for our work or real good principle can make us do it.

Wisdom makes all the trouble, griefs and pains incident to life, whether they be physical or natural afflictions easy and supportable, by rightly valuing the importance and moderating the indifference which we have.

We are to remember that it is not so much by the words they speak, or by their deeds, or by their important actions, as by silent, unobtrusive influence, that friends help every man to his duty.

A bad daughter seldom makes a good wife. If a girl is ill-tempered at home, she will be so in the world. Men, their and others, and strike not only duty, the chances are ten to one

that when she gets a home of her own she will make it wretched. A smooth sea never made a skillful swimmer, neither does untroubled prosperity and success qualify us for usefulness and happiness. The storms of adversity, like the storms of the ocean, arouse the faculties and excite the invention, produce skill and fortitude of the weaker.

He who does the best he can allways improving. His best of yesterday is his best of today, and his best of today will be his best of tomorrow. It is this steady progress, no matter from what point it starts, that forms the chief element of all greatness and goodness.

The exercise of every faculty is necessary to its development, and therefore to its health. Inaction fully carried out, means stagnation and death. On the other hand, over-exercise of any part tends to exhaustion, and if the period of rest necessary to restore its vigor be denied, it will wear itself out. Health and happiness require that these laws be recognized and obeyed.

Pellets there is no more important art in all life than to review the varying events of wail and we in such a way that they may each develop something good for the world, and be a latent power of good in three all, but so often it is never brought into the light of day. We have a faculty that belong to property are to be wished, but the good things that belong to life are to be wished.

No matter the rank of life, any woman, be she prince or peasant, who actually does for her own benefit, and comes at once responsible for the welfare of that family, whether she actually does for her own benefit, as does the laborer's wife or simply oversees and augments the wealth of the world, she is one of all the goals of this world. The responsibility is there, and not one can be held to the living, and not on her own happiness and welfare, but those of all connected with her.

HEIGHTS AND DISTANCES.

There are doubtless a large number of intelligent persons every community, who, though not particularly interested or well versed in the study of mathematics, have often felt the importance of knowing some convenient and simple method for determining the height of a tree or the width of a stream, and to whom such knowledge would be very useful and desirable. It is related of Dr. Livingston, the famous explorer that when travelling in the wilds of Africa, he first came in view of the magnificent Victoria Falls, and found himself without instruments but the most jangling trial to him was that he had forgotten the simple mathematical rules of his schoolboy days, and in great sorrow of heart he had to resort to the most unscientific method of measuring river without being able to calculate or even "guess" its dimensions.

The following are the simple methods for measuring them, and many persons with a liberal education have been found to be unable to do so. The present publication of Dr. Livingston and regretted their inability to do so. The following are the simple methods for measuring them, and many persons with a liberal education have been found to be unable to do so.

The height of a tree may be estimated sufficiently exact for ordinary purposes by the following method. Being provided with a long string, the end of which you may wish to know, and in your hand you carry a walking cane or