

# CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

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## A LITERARY RIDDLE.

Who Was it Who Wrote the Tragedy of "Troilus and Cressida?"

Andrew Lang has just propounded a puzzle in circumstantial evidence. "Who," he asks, "wrote 'Troilus and Cressida'?" You may answer, as you please, Shakespeare or Bacon. If you answer Bacon, Andrew Lang comes back with the query, "Would Bacon have said that Aristotle lived before the Trojan war?" Bacon was too learned a man to make such a mistake, which would be as bad as placing Abraham Lincoln among the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

If you answer Shakespeare, Andrew Lang shoots another query at you: "The author makes Ulysses and Achilles quote 'an author' and discuss a pretty long and strange passage from that author, who was Plato. How could Shakespeare have read Plato?" For Shakespeare knew no Greek, and in his day Plato had not yet been translated into English.

It is quite conceivable that Shakespeare might imagine that Plato and Aristotle lived many centuries before Homer, but it is inconceivable that the erudite Bacon should fall into such an error.

Andrew Lang does not pretend to solve the riddle. He frankly says, "I give it up."—New York World.

## RISKY POSTAL SERVICE.

In Russia the Government Opens All Suspicious Packages.

Our own service of mails is well organized. There is little doubt in the mind of the average person that when he posts a letter it will reach its destination.

But in other lands he might well fear for its safety. In Russia, for instance, any letter or parcel that is regarded with suspicion is immediately opened and its contents noted. A clever machine guns it up again, so that the recipient does not know that it has been tampered with.

In Lapland the mails are carried in sledges drawn by reindeers. In the wilds of the Caucasus the postman holds a post of danger. He must be protected against brigands and against the weather, for he often has to climb mountains more than 12,000 feet high.

Asiatic Russia, which is apt to be marshy, has the buffalo post, and, of course, the progress made is very slow. Buffaloes are more powerful than oxen, and they are also used in Siberia for carrying the mail.

Other postmen in foreign lands are the swimming postman of India and the sking letter carrier of the Andes. For the latter place the Argentine government specially imports Norwegians.—Exchange.

## Mexico's Smoking Mountain.

In 1897 I climbed two volcanoes in Mexico, Popocatepetl, or "the smoking mountain," about 17,800 feet, and Orizaba, the former the most famous because within view from Mexico City and thus a source of especial pride and admiration to the inhabitants, who have been loath to believe that any other of their mountains could be higher. Popo has a really splendid crater, about half a mile across and 1,000 feet deep. The walls are generally vertical, but in one or two places it is possible to descend. When workers are engaged in collecting sulphur machinery is used to hoist them up and down. From Popo's summit there is a glorious prospect, not alone of the immense crater, but of the beautiful "White Lady" (Xitacchuatl) reclining a thousand feet below, of Orizaba on the far horizon and of the charming valley of Mexico.—Annie S. Peck in Christian Herald.

## Wellington's Integrity.

The Duke of Wellington was noted for his rigid integrity. Here is an instance which occurred in reference to his large estate. Some farm adjoining his lands was for sale, and his agent negotiated for him for the purchase. Having concluded the business, he went to the duke and told him he had made a capital bargain. "What do you mean?" asked the duke. "Why, your grace, I have got the farm for so much, and I know it to be worth at least so much more." "Are you quite sure of that?" "Quite sure, your grace, for I have carefully surveyed it." "Very well, then; pay the gentleman from me the balance between what you have already given and the real value of the estate."

## Strong Circumstantial Evidence.

A young wife was in tears a few mornings ago when her mother called. When asked what was the matter she replied that her husband was out late the night before and had been to a drinking party.

"What makes you think he had been to a drinking party?" asked the mother.

"He came home, sobbed the young wife, 'wearing a photograph horn for a hat.'—Kansas City Star.

## More Careful Now.

The young wife had given her husband a dance. "You've improved wonderfully, Jack," she said as they sat down. "Don't you remember how you used to tear my dress?"

"Yes," he replied, "I wasn't buying them then."—Boston Transcript.

## Barks.

The class in natural history being asked the difference between a dog and a tree, the head boy answered, "A tree is covered with bark, while a dog seems to be lined with it."

## Noisy Sleep.

Hub (angrily)—Here! What do you mean by waking me out of a sound sleep? Wife—Because the sound was too distressing.—Boston Transcript.

## UNFINISHED NOVELS.

Six Famous Stories in the English Language Have No Ending.

There are about six famous novels in the English language which only have a beginning. Like the grandfather's clock, "they stop short never to go again," because the author, when he had got so far, laid down his pen and died before he could take it up again.

The most famous of these is, of course, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," which some critics think would have been Dickens' masterpiece had he lived to finish it. But there it stands, unfinished, and the brain that conceived it carried to the grave the solution of the mystery, and a mystery it remains to this day, in spite of countless efforts to solve it.

Robert Louis Stevenson also left an unfinished novel upon which he was engaged when death interrupted his labors. The novel was entitled "St. Ives," but, happily, there was more to go upon than in the case of "Edwin Drood," and it is generally admitted that Sir Quiller Couch made one of the best attempts on record to finish another man's novel. He proved quite the ideal man for the job.

Whilst everybody knows that Dickens left a novel unfinished, few know that his great rival, Thackeray, did the same thing. The novelist had just started "The Cornhill Magazine," of which the most prominent feature was a novel from the editor's pen, entitled "Denis Duval," which he was writing month by month as the instalment fell due. Suddenly he died, and the serial was but half finished. Happily, however, the careful Thackeray had left full notes of the development of the story, which was finished by Frederick Greenwood.

Who has not read "Pride and Prejudice" and "Sense and Sensibility," the productions of a quiet, consumptive little woman named Jane Austen? The white scourge carried her off when she was in the midst of another masterpiece, entitled "The Watsons," which was found in her desk after her death.

What the world lost when Charlotte Bronte died, after a brief year of married life, who can say? It certainly missed a nameless novel which the gifted author of "Jane Eyre" had started. But so little had she done of it that none of her successors in fiction has had the temerity to attempt even to finish it, and it is likely ever to remain an interesting fragment.

In this respect it may be compared to another unfinished work—Edgar Allan Poe's weird story, "The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym." Who could finish that story? It is doubtful whether Poe himself could, for he lived eleven years after it was first published in its fragmentary condition, leaving the hero floating away southward into the then mysterious region which Shackleton, Scott, and Amundsen have lately revealed to the world.

## State Lines Paid.

A large proportion of the public debt of South Australia is represented by the capital expenditure on the state-owned railways. At the end of the last financial year this amounted, on the lines open for traffic, to about \$66,000,000.

What a valuable asset the railways are to the state is shown by the large profit resulting on their working each twelve months. Last year the percentage of net revenue to capital cost was 6.02, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure and interest was about \$1,500,000. A gratifying feature, in view of the active railway extension policy of the Government, was the highly successful result obtained from the working of the lines opened for traffic during recent years.

There is at present every indication that the result of this year's operations will also be very satisfactory. During the four months which have expired traffic has been well maintained, and the now almost certain prospect of another bountiful harvest makes the outlook for the railways and other trading departments of the Government very favorable.

## Cheeky.

"Cheek" in the sense of impudence is an old term. The earliest quotation in Sir James Murray's dictionary is from Captain Marryat (1840). But it has lately been found in the sixteenth century records of Galway, in the west of Ireland. The municipal rulers of that fighting city—the "man from Galway" has become proverbial for pluck and readiness to defend the hottest of corners—decreed that any person giving "cheek" to the mayor should "forfeit 100 shillings and have his body put into prison."

## An Appropriate Hymn.

The annals of unconscious pulpit humor will be enriched by an instance furnished some little time ago at St. John's Church, Keswick, England. A lady's watch had been found in the churchyard, and the vicar, in making his usual weekly announcements from the pulpit, referring to the find, stated that the watch could be claimed in the vestry. The next announcement was: "We will now sing hymn 362: 'Lord, her watch Thy Church is keeping!'"

## Grimy St. Paul's.

A blackish incrustation, in some places four inches thick, on the under side of the cornice of St. Paul's Cathedral, due to the action of sulphuric acid upon the stone, testifies to the effects of the smoke evil in London.

## Sold Baby For a Coffin.

Tan Teoo, a Chinaman residing in Malay state, was recently fined \$100, with the alternative of three weeks' imprisonment, for selling his adopted baby girl for \$50 to buy a coffin in which to bury his wife.

## The New Delhi.

Britain has sent a special committee of town planning experts to examine the grounds and submit plans for the new city to be constructed at Delhi. The area appropriated for this purpose is 125 square miles.

## Civil Service Examinations

These examinations are held every May and November and allow persons to enter the employ of the Dominion in Outside Service positions as: messengers, porters, sorters, packers, assistant inspectors of weights and measures, railway mail clerks, clerks in city post offices, landing waiters, excisemen, positions under Customs and Inland Revenue Depts., and post office inspectors' clerks, etc. A higher examination is held for those wishing positions as clerks in the different government departments at Ottawa. A special examination is given stenographers who do not wish to take all the regular examination subjects.

Last November one of our students passed his exam for Outside Service taking 100% on every subject, another of our students passed the exam for Inside Service standing 4th out of the list of the candidates throughout the whole Dominion.

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