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## CONCEIT.

It would be difficult to name a vice 80 innocent towards others an conceit. Your impatience, your apathy, your fretfulness, your carelessness, your garrulity, your exiravigrace, all thes-almost all faults and foibles in the catnlogue of human imperfections, hare it inevitally to them to inflict harms and vexatious on people jou have to do with; jour conceil never leaves them a whit the worse. And yet there is nothing man reseuts so much as conceit in his fellow-man. The dispiny of it arouses an nggressive desire for the reformation of the offender, which can ouly be satiated by his miserable abashment, and tc that end many will take, over a mere casunl acquaintance. an amount of trouble which few would think worth while for the cure of downright depravity in any person in whom they had not the immediate interest of near kiuship or responsible connection.

While there is a watshiul delicacy ahout even alluding to any other mental or moral defect in the presence of $a$ person known to be one of those possessing conceit, or rather possessed of it, not only pleasnntness, but reasonable kindn'ss is constantly set aside without compunetion for the sake of giving the conceited one the "giftic" of seeing themselves as "ithers" see them -with their least softening spectacles on. One would think it need not matter much to any one of us if our friend has more admiration for himself than we havo for him; yet his fault is one which it is scarcely in humnn nature to tolerate, asa for him charity bears the correcting lash. It is every man's mission to inflict wholesome discipline for his good on the conceited man.

It might be supposed that the peculiar annoyance caused by other people's conccit arises [rom its bringing with it the sense of offense agrinat our own. The sinner is, wo might take it, bs over-rating his own gifts, dicerowing our superiority or
claiming a veratious equality; or, if what he thinks much of in himsolf ins somothing which wo do not at all possess, his merit must, in his own mind, at all events, go to prove our deficiency. And probsbly some of the resent annt ngainst conceit does have its source in tinis feeling; and where the conceit has in it, beyond its own mere unalloyed self-gratulation the ill-flavers of arrogance and assumption, the resentment against it will consciously derive much fiom uch a suterce. But a homcopathic couflict of conceit against conceit does not account for all. Elso why aro teachers adi even parents so apt to use against tais particular evil an asperity which might seim more fitly measured to larger falults which go overlooked? Why do they so commonly infuse a sort of spitefulness into their rebuk's and their hints? Why do they feel in the culprit's mortification $\Omega$ pleasure akin to cruelty, which would be far enough from them if the mortification had been never so well deserved by naughtiness?
it is amusing to see the care with which parents, who never think of keeping watch for the young upshooting of other illweeds, guard against the tiniest growth of what might come to be conceit. Generally the plan taken is to smub the clever children. and to tell the pretty ones that thoy are plain and humely. Not much comes of it in any way; and good cannot come. When there is any rosult it is usually a morbid self-depreciation, which, though a less irritating phase of the malady to other people, is infinitely more harmful in lezsening the usefuiniss. as well as the happiness of the sufferir.
Bu: oftenest the clever and the pretty find themselves out betimis, and seeing :hrough the improvingly meant dispraises practiced upon them, taise them as compliments, and are the mire able to appreciate their gifts and t-vir graces. If their minds are actively employsd, they will lie none the worse for th: bnowledge. To be honesily aware of advantages, to feel a pleasure in thsir possession, cven, neod no mure be conc.it' than is the swallow's coufidence and plensure in its power of flight.


She-Come around and call on me at any tine.
Ho-Will you always be at home?
She-Not always; I snil for Earope tomorrow.

## SPRINC.

"Come, gentle spring! Ethoreal mulduess, ame!"
So sung the poct, and no sing we now. We ure tirel of the changeable March weather, soft and springlike one lay and cold and blustering the yext. Lest Monday was a perfect spring day, and, witis a sublime distegard for the old saw, "as goes Momalay, so go all the days of the week," the sun act in a soft huze of pink and yellow, gwing alluring promise of a fair to-morrow, and we anticipated a particularly cujugable trin aboget town. Jure now the shops are gorgeons in their display of spring noteliti心. so. t!s we watchod the soft twalipht come wtenling in, chasings away the rosy sumset clouds, Monday ovening, we resolvel that the following morning shombl fis. 1 un up bright and carly. So it did, but alas for the deceitfulness of human :hopes' lustend of the anticipated glormouly fring morning our eyea were greeted ly a whirling enowstorm. The sty w:as of a leaden hue, the ground wis covered by : rnowy mantle, and the sidewallin were wet aml slushy. Not an invitinu prospect. It is too brul that Easter comes so early thin year, in a way. We can scurely feel bright and fresh and blooming. and wear the gay springy air that so properly accon'mnies the festive season, when, ouly a gort time before, the snow foll fust and the wind blew keenly in our faces. We have not yet had time to accustom ourselves to the thought of soft, buliny breczes, bright suushine, clean, beautim stroch. guy througs of women clad in fresh, apotless attire. and flowers springing up and over in token of a changed season. Wic have held our dresses so long to protect them. that our arms have not yet lost tho weary feeling that has arison therefrom. But we sluall is far ahead of nature this year. That young damsel has not yet clothed herself in her new garments, and she seems luth to prepare herself for them. Whoreas we poor mortals huve not her mdependence and must perforce. willy-nilly, dou our smart attire at the appointed time. So begin to get ready, and letr me give you a few words of advice before you begiu. Make your Lat or bonnot. a go-between, not too do cidedly springy, nor yet not a particle *intry. To accomplish this you must procure one of thase dainty new straws, all inucifully iwisted and worn so that they encarely look like straw. Get a small one, and it will be all the more appre. priate. Then again, you are permitted this spring to wear a perfectly plain, tightfitting coat, if you 80 desire, that is Tolieved only by a velvet yoke or short cape, you inny wear it over your winter's gown, that can be freshened with new trimming at the feet, and no one will be the wiser when you stey forth on Easter with your new bonnet and gloves.

## In Society's Realm.

This is the last week of the diluted Len. ten atyle of make-ivelieve nou-festivity which has of late prevailed in society; next week will be one of actunl quiotude (for Holy Week is really pretty generally observed by the fashionable throng), and then we will have the joyous Enstertide. In one of Tennyson's most popular poeme there is a triplet of verses which tells about the blowing of the bugle, and then "Olt faint and far, from clifi and gcaur, the horns of elf-land taintly blowing." That is the condition of society. The horus are far away in the distance and their howing is very faiutly heard. It may be ancreligious to make so beautiful a poem berve the purposes of a social calendar, but to such baso ueen greatir than these hare descended, aud it remains a self-evident fact that society is quiescent. The social world is waiting for something. it scarcely knows what, and yet it waits paticutly, uncomplainingly hoping that the future will hold a little of pleasure for those who dote on pleasure and the joy it brings. Church socials, sewiug circles, and receptions pall upon the taste, and were it not that. the thentre allords diversion the rigorous quiet of Ient would perforce ive broken. The present Lenten season bas been at least $n$ trifle more active than that of previous years; and there will be weddings by: aud bye to give tho gossips lood for talk, and in another week Easter Sunday will dnwn to usber in a new leafe of life.

## Soeiety Notes.

Misn DuMoulin. daughter of the Rev. Canon DuMoulin. Toronto, is on a risit to Mrs. Rotterell, Dorchenter street.
Mr. A. W. Atwater has been confined to the house for several days with a severe cold.
Among the easily enumerated "doings" of the week just closing was $n$ snecessful "At Home" given by 3irs. Percival St. George on Monday last nt her residance on St. Catherine atreet.
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Munroe, of 940 Dorchester street. gave the last of their series of three recentions on Tharsdar. They were all Iargely attended.
Miss Matel and Miss Amy Ganlt, of Osborn street, left this week for Ashville N. C. Where they intend apending eeveral recks.
Mrs. Davidson Parker, mother of Mrs. Geo. Drummond, is sulfering from a sever? attach of grippe, hut is progressing farorably.
Mrs. Boswell and Miss Boswell, Quebec, accompanied hy Miss Ferrier, of Montreal, are Among the Canadian guests at the Battery Park Hotel, Aabville, N. C.
W. Lope Eabter we $k$ will contain several things of interest as an evidenze of social awakening. A very enjogable entertain. ment is expected on Easter Monduy at Mrs. Herbert Wallis residence, 80 Redpath street
Lovers of mutic will soon have an op. portunity $s$ ! inearing Christ Church Cathed. dral choir in a work out of the ordinary range of eorvice music. A sncred cantata entitled "The Lant Night at Bethany;" will be performed next Thursday evening, under the able directorship of Mr. Edgar Birch the organist and choirmastor.

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A Brantiond, Ontario, collector offers to pay from $\$ 10$ to $\$ 20$ apiece for Canadiau postage stamps of a rery carly dato.

## $+8 \rightarrow 0=-$ <br> Dress Chat

Black satin coats are to bo very fashignable this apring-there se:ms to be quite a mania for them at Nice-and it is said that thej are very benutiful. They are senerally of threequarter length and sometimes perfectly plain, while many are leautifully embroidered in fine cut jet. They have huge leg-o'mutton alenves and deep revers to make them smart, and they are worn with all sorts of skirts, from back chiffon to brondeloth. There is a fancy, too, for wearing thom with skirts of hight cloth, like tans and grays, or sometimes royal purple Small open jackets of black velret are also much worn. They are $n$ gort of Eton, made vith widepointed revers and very large sleeven. They are lined with black watered silk. and worn with all toilots. They are exceedingly rich lookiug and very becoming.
Black satin slecves are still anotber of the moments lancirs; they rppsar in all gowns and in combination with all fab. rics
One zown serell was unde of repped eloth. in a dull slaty blue shude with a ting areen rep running across it. The skirt was perfectly plain and in the new flaring bill shape. The hodice was round and belted with a folded lel of the cloth and had remarkably large sleeves of shining black atin that sat out stilly under $n$ unique epaulette arrangement of the cloth. The colle w was high and plain and of the cloth We illustrate $n$ walking gown in deep walnut-brown cloth, with goke and ohonlders of petunia relvet, edged with a ting frill of erepe de chen: in the same shade.

Six editors ara making
For the World's' Foir with a fuss. Ind theg're labelad llecir exhibits
"Whint the folks are owing us!"
Clemgaman-"Wilt thon have
tuis
woman ? etc., etc.
Rural Bridegroom-"dy. aurely! Whoy, Oi kummed n-puppts!"

## Fiecipes.

Fresh Fish Selad-Tako the remains of cold fish, pick out the bones and mince; eeason with pepper, salt, butter and vinegar; mix woll with the fish. Put in a emall baking prn and set in the stove ilve minutes. Thec set on ice to cool, and aerve with Worchestershire sauce.
Bibquo of Lobster-Propare, boil and open two lobsters; cat the meat into emal! weices; brenk the shells and small clave; put in a pad with a quart of boiliug water. Pound nud mix the epawn, the lat, part of the coral, two ounces of the lobater meat. an ounce ol butter and two of flour until rediced to a pulp. Strain the liquor from the saucepan over the pulp, gradual!s mixing it ; season it with a little ralt and cayonne, add the remainder of the meat and the coral rubbed fine and sorve immediately.

Omelets-All manner of omelets, stulfed and otherwise, are well suited for Lenten dishes; indecd, eggs under almost any ohape whatsoever. The following method of stuffing them is very much to be recom. mended. Boll some egge hard; when quite cold, remove the shelle, cut the eggs in half lengthwise, take out the yolks, ponnd them with some bread-crumbs, soaked and squeezed from all moisture, the fillets of a few anchovies, and a small piece of but. eer. stir in three or four yolkg, eesson rather plentifully, and work into the mixture some fiaely chopped herbs and a handiul of dry bread-crumbs. Fill the waites with the paste, put together so that they look whole, roll them carefully in beaten eggs, then in brend-crumbs, iry them and serve them en pyramide with a garniture of fried parsley.

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## Smiles.

'Has this new doctor jon've engagid been abroad and had udvantages-1
"Jcrusalem, yes; be told me lnst night that he was at sea on this case of mine."

If the balletr dnncer didn't kick for her salary whe wouldn'ti get a cent.

In the street car: Gentleman (entering)Winl jou kindly get up and give ne your seat?
Iady-What do you mean by aldressing me in that manner, sir?
Gentleman-When I offered you a seat last evening you said you preferred to stand. As I take you for a lady of your word, I will accomodate you by occapsing your seat while you aseume your iavorite attitude.

It's rather oul that ono has to lose his tomper before be can dipplay it.

## TRANSLATIONS OF

Heine's Celebrated Lywic.
(By Edgar Alfred Bowring.)
A llow'ret thou issemblest, So pure and finir and iblest;
But when I view thee, sorrow
Siraight creepeth to my breast.
I feel as though inspired
My hands on thy head to lay, And pray that God may keep thee So blest, fair, pure for aye.
(Sir Theodore Martin)
Thou art even as a flower'is,
So gentle and pure aud fair;
I gaze on thee, and suduegs
Comes over my heart unaware.
I fe6. as though I should lay, sweet, My hands on thy lend with a prayer
That God may keep thee alway, sweet,
As gentle, and pure and fair.
(Kate Frwiligrath Krosker.)
E'en as a lovely llower, So pure, so fair thou art;
1 gese on thee, and saduess
Comes stealing o'er my heart.
My hands I fain had folded Upon thy soft brown hair, Praying that God may keep theo So lovely, pure aud fair.
(Henry Jeffreys Bushby.)
Thou art to me a flower, So fair and pure and bright,
1 gase on ther, and sorrow
Comes stealing on delight.
I long to lay a moment My hands upon thy hair, Praving that God may seep thee So bright, and pure, and fair.
(James Geikie.)
So fair, so pare, $s 0$ gentle, Like some dear flower thou art;
I gase on thee, and sadness
Slides dumb into my heart.
I yearn, sweet one to blese thee, To prees thy aumy hair,
And prey God aye to keep thoe, So gentle, pure and fair.
(Charlea Dexter.)
As a beantiful ilower,
Pure, luvely thou art;
I gaze on thee, sorrow
Steals over $m y$ heart.
1 long, why I know not,
Our Savior to pray
Tu keep thee as lovely
And stainless alway.
(Charles G. Lelund.)
Thou'rt like a lovely floweret,
So void of guile and art,
I gaze unon thy beauty
And grief steals o'er my heart.

I faln would Iny, devoutly, Ny hands upon thy brow, And pray that God will keep rbee As good and feir as now.
(Jobu Snodgrass.)
Thou temest like a fl ver,
So sweet, and fair, ond pure;
Beholding thee, a dower Oi radness fills my henrt.

A ppirit bids me lay
My hands upon thy head;
Preserve her, God, I pray, As pure, and firir, nnd sweet.
(The Editor.)
So like a flow'r thou seemest,
so lovely, pure and bright,
I look on thee, and saducss
Ol heart doth dim my sight.
I long my hands to press then Lipon thy fair goung brow And pray God may preserve thee As pure and fair ns now.

THE FIRST OF APRIL.
All Fools' Day is traced through every country of Europe to the Hinde. 28 .

AN OYSTER SHELL IN A TEAKETTLE.
Another use for oyster shells beyond bordering rural flower beds has been discovered. A clean shell kept in a tea-kettle in which hard water is constantly, boiled will prevent the forming of the crust which will otherwise gather on the inside of the vessel.

CRADLES OF GOLD.
Some of the costly things in the 'riltan's treasure house at Constantinople are children's cradles of pare gold, inlaid with precious stones; divans covered with cloth of gold, embroidered with pearls; suits of mail, thickiy enernsted witt big emeralds and diamonds and other relics of former Ottoman eplendor.

## A CROTFN OF GOLD.

One of the presents which is to be given to the King and Queen of Denfinark on the occasion of their golden wedding on May 22, is a crown of gold, the gift of over 100,000 school children in Denmark, who have each contributed a penny.

## STOCKINGS MADE OF HUMAN HAIR.

Stockings made from human hair are worn by Chinese fisherinen as the best preventive of wet fert. They are drawn over ordinary cotton stock. :~ ; being too rough for putting near the skin.

ON BOTH SIDES.
When a woman is trying to write a letter on a hall sheet of paper, much may be said on both sides.-Siftings.

## A LONG WALK.

A well-known comedian one day, whilat fulfilling an engagement in Dublin, was walking with his wifu, a remariably stout, short lady, when an Irishwoman with a basket brushed rudely against he:.
"Fou had better walk over me," said the comedian's wife, irritably.

The Irishwoman turned around, coolly viewed her from head to foot, and then replied, "Faith, ma'am, it would be easier to walk over you than around you, anyhrw,'一a remark wh.ch made the comedian almost choke wits laughter.-London answers .

## CHinese tea-Making.

The following poetic direcilons lor teamaking aro painted on many of tha terpots used in the Celestial empire:
"On a slow lire set' a tripod; fill it witr clear rain water. Boil it as long as it wuld be needed to turn fish white and lobster red; throw this upon the delicate leaves of choice tea; let it remaiu as long as the vapor rises in a clond.
"At your case drink the pare lifquor, which will chaso away the five causes of trouble."

## a transformation scene.

A young mather catching her hasband in mute contemplation before the cradle of her furst-born, felt a thrill of infinite rapture, and said to herself:
"Oh, how Charles loves our little boyl"
Just then the husband tarned around, and exelaimed in a gruff voice :
"My dear, the more I look at it the more I am at a loss to understand how the furnituse dealer could have the impudence to charge you 20 sranes for this horrible cradie."-ILa Laquatte.

## A BRILLLANT CURE.

A doctor related how he had, with Orilliant succesi, restored the sense of hearing to a man who was dest from his birth. "Anci what Were his impressions?"
"The noises he heard affected him so terribly that he becume deaf again immediately "-II Carlino.

## LakEs OF indigo.

The most remar.anble sight witnessed on the face of the glove is afforded by the subterranean takes of Sinoia in Sambesia, in Central Airica. Lionel Gecle, the French explorer, hat returned from there, and reports that the watrer is of the dorpent indigo dye, and that the azure groto of Capri con in nowise compare with the leautiful color of these wonderiul lakes. -St. Loniא Post-Dispatch.

## CANES AT C.MMRIDGE.

The fad with Harvard students now is the Englinh hazel and German cherry. Some of the most fastidious affect the white ash, but nearly all who "are in it" carry a canc of some kind- Bostom Globe.

## a NEW C.MRD GANE.

Spades are not trmmps here, but musienl notes.

One of the musicians of the Marienot School of Harmony has invented a very ingenious zume of musical cards, which can be ersily learne din ten minates.

The game is comperal of 36 carals, divided into four scrics of nine cands each These sereer are distinguished by clefs, represented by difierent colors, as follows:
Nine cards of do (black).
Xine cards of nol (green).
Nine cards of re (blue),
Nive cards of in (rose).
The numerical value of each card is denotal by the number of notes which it contains. Tho notes emploged are thase of the diatonic scale.
For example: li a player plays do in green of the atl clel, bis adverwary must play a saml of tie same color with a higher note to take the trick. If he bas no green card in his hand he throws off, ns in ordinary games.
The value of theices, fours and fives, ote., is expresised in the iollowing manner:
Third to mi , to fa, to sol, ete. Quart to fa, to sol, etc. Qumt to sol, to in, etc. To make a point one must play three cards of the same color. they being the highest phyel. Four card, containing the same number of notes in the second measure are ealled "quatuor," and are equal to four aces, or four kings, etc. Three carls governed by the same conditions are called trio. The teus are replaced with cards, none of the notes of which surpass the
first mesoure, ayd this is called potpourri. Tramp is alechared the wame as in othur cames, and the musical carda an be used in all the divers combiuntions of caml fames. It is not necessary is tre a prosavional nusician to be alite to plas "ith these cards, but of course a knowledge of music is presupponerl.-St. Louis Post Dispuatels.

## A BEAR FIGHT.

On the top of Smoky Mountain, at least five miles from any sotllemest or farm, in the midst of the rildep part of this rougls, mountainous sectiou, there is an old humter mamed Jous Smbley. Smiley is at leant 65 years of age, but the yiars hang lightly on his stalwart firme. He stands six feet three ach:s in his stocking feet and hats unusually long and museular arms and legr. He carries uo extra flesh, olthough he weighs peringis two hundred and 'thirty pouads. Smaley's life had been spent in th wilds of the mountains, hunttag. fishing ad trappiact, and mang are the reminiscences of tough fights and marrow escapes the hats hatd One of the most interesting is this account oi his fight with two tull-grown black bears.
I was ont hunting as usund one day on one of the cross ridges of the nig smoky when 1 got on the trail of a bug Auck, which 1 followid for awo hours before I got close enough to shoot. When I did get the chance the buck was about seventy yards below me on a marrow shelf, which overhung a rocky precipice.
I dretr a head on the buck, and dropped him dead in his tracks. Then 1 did a very foolish thing, and that was this: 1 laid my gun down arginat a log, not even taising time to lad it, and climbed down to the spot where the buck lay. 1 got there anfely, and so did a couple of thundering big bears about the same time. Thes had a den in the sade of the :nountain close by, and ury shot alarmed them, or they had heen "laying" for the deer themselves. Well, they were there, and no was I, and, unfortunately, I was mithout a weapon. I faw there was going to be trouble, and that 1 couldn't get back wo my gua, so I looked about me quictly to see if I could find anything with which to defend myself.
Down close to my feet I saw a lig hickory limb which had broken off in some of the fearful wind storms so common oa the monntain. The stick was abont five fee: long and about :hre incles thick. Now. you can just imagine that I got hold of that stick mighty quick. It was fresh amid sound, and an excellent wrapou against one bear; but two-I had very serious doubts about the outcome in that cesse. This all occurred in a good deal
lase time than it tnkes to toll it-in fact, in lese titue than that the two hrutes were coming at me with open mouths. I waited until the first one rose to his feet, which they do when they are in for a fight, when I gave him a rap on the side of the head that .uweked hill down. Then I drew lack my club just in time to strike at the other one. Somehow that bar knocked that blow off, and he did it so quickly that the force I had given it came near making me lowe my lalance. As it was the infermal bute gave ane a "swipe" with him fortpan which tore my hunting shitt at my shoulder into sheestringe and ripped ing hide and flesh from the shoulder half way dowa my arm.
Before the lear could closs on me, how. ever. 1 spramg back and deew up my club ready for another blow. The lirst one I had knocked over was now on hie feet, and both to them, haviug sanelled the blood, were in mange earn st, and it who now a fight to the death. They both came at me on their hind feit, nbout six feet aprt and $a$ bout the same distance from we. As they got clum chough to rach, I sllung the big club down on a lovel and just as quick as I powibly could I gave oure of them a thendering poke nquare between the eyes. This was the fellow on my left Then I swung the club to the right and got in a pretty good one on the other one's neik. The twar I had wtruck between the eyes was badly hurt, as he lay right down and whined. I happened to turn my eyes in hia direction and this gave the other one an opportunity and the first I know I was knocked backward, and came near lalling, with the bear close upon me. There was no getting away this time. He had his forepaws around my left arm and waist almost before I knew it. Fortumately my right hand was free, and L shortened (he club and battered him over the hend, whits he clawed and bit me on the shoulder and across the lack. We had it forward and back, the bear trging his best to get hold ou my neck and face, while I kept beating him over the head and body with the club. at last down he went on the ground; but just. as I was going over, I fortunately streck the bear on one of his cyis and knocked it ont. Tlie pan made him loosen his hold, and he never got athother, for 1 got on my feet as quatily ats I icould and brought that beg dab down oquare across his throat and killed him. I was pretty badly hurt and nhort oi wind, but I kbion I had betier sinish the othro one mighty guick, for ii he got up and fairly at me again I should he wiped out; su 1 jumped ior him, and got close to him just as he was getting on his feet. Lord ! How I did batter that fellow! I knocked hum over and pounded hias antil I was out of wind and the bear benten almost into a jelly. Then I sat dowe and did what I
never did before-keeled right over and fainted. I munt have lain there un hour or more before 1 came to. It took two full hours to walk about two miles to my cabin, where, luckily for mo, I found old Tou Blakelock, another huntar, laying out a supper fur himself. Old Tom soon had me rpread out on a shakedown in the corner, and thou he went to work to was' my wounds and tie me together again. After he had fixed נne up in sonte sort of shay." Old Tom went to the place where I had the fight, and skiuned the bears and huus theil up. When he came back the old fellow was dragging along three cubs about three months old. He had found th: beare den and capiu.ed th cubs, which he pulled out with a w,ami of rop: that he alway, carried. That fight laid me up for abcut two months, buty I came out as sunul as cver.-Cincimnati Enyuirer.

[^0]"Spiggot threw up his hat as wildly as any boy at the temperance speech last pight."
"Ies, but this morniug le felt like throwing up has boots."

Old Soak-Velirium tremelis date back to the beginnug of the world.
Jagge-How do you make that out?
Old Soak-Evo suw makes, didn't sho?

Hand-organ music is nover cousidered fine, no matier how often it is ground.

Mamma-Why do you always run whou sent to the postoffice, Maurice?
Becuuse it takes so long to go wherr I walk that it tires me all out.

Now doth the buay little moth Bogin to smilo and smirk, And lay his plans for grettiug in His usual summer work.

Oh, why can't we all like in stage land, Where it don't either rain or blow, And they only tear up paper,
When they have the deepist mow.

Dickery, dickers, dare,
The piry flew up in the air,
So as noli to wet his fect,
There was so much mud in the street.

[^1]THE P,L. TX. EXPRESS.<br>From the French of Jacques Normand

Thore mas $n$ genernl astonishment in our little circie of friends wher wa heard of the approaching marriag of Valentin Sincere. Whatl het-the hurdened celibate, the areptic, rebolling against all matrimonin! ideas-the joyous frce-liver, Who had a hundred times swore that he would e yer have anything to do with it! Valentin, after all, was going to join the great brotherhood! And of all women, Whom was he going to marry? -at widowl We were bewildered.

So, the first time I met him I lbuttonpoled him and demanded explanetions.
'I've hardly time to speak to you-a heap of things to do. I hnve just come from the Mairie, and am on my way to the engraver's to get some invitation letters. If you'll go with me-"
"Il 111 go with youl" I arid.
We were in front of the Mad leine. We passed down the Boulevards, arm in arm.
"The story'ea very simple one,' he said. "Commonplace to the last dugree; lut since you want so much to know ahout it, here it is:-
crowd; but thanks to the properbial obligingness of M. Regroul, the station master, I was able to secure a place in the only coupe in the train. The only other occupant was a gentleman with a ted rosette in a button-hole of hia over-coat-a gentleman of severe aspect, and with an administ rative air, whose luggago cossisted nolely of a portfolio. Assuredly he was not going far with that outfit, and presently I should be alone. Alonel the only thing to make a railway journer supportablel
"All the passengers were in thoir places and the train was about starting when the sonnd of a diopute arose at the door.
"'No. Monsitur, nol' said the voice of a woman. fresh in tone, and with un almost imperceptible Southern necent. 'I orderad a sleeping compartment, and a slecping compartment I must have.'
"• But, Madame, I have tole you, we haven't one.'
"' Yon ought to have carried out the instructions in my letter.'
"'We lave not received any letter,

" we passed down the boulevards."
"In the mor'h of February laci I was going in Nice for the Carmevil fetes. I have the grentest aversion to travelinar by night, and I therefore tow the 850 morning train, due at midnight at Mar. seilles, where I proposed apending the following dny with my friends, the Rombauds, who expected me to breakfast. The next morning I was going on to Nice, where I was to arrive at two o'clock in the afternoon.
"At the station there was an excited

Madame!'
*•Inい. :nu.i.! e:rriage put on, : 1 n .

* l:mpo.. $h_{i} \cdot!-w$ hav'il:ady the regula ion number. Come, come, make haste; the tana is about to stert.'
"'W.ll, I must las a place found ior me.'
"' I have offored you iwo, Madame, in the coupe.'
"'There7'
"' Yea, Madame, there!"
"A little dark-linired moman appeared in the doorway, and instantly startrd back as if in alarn.
"'There are two gentlemen in it!'
"'Good heavens, Madame! I can't give you a whole carriage to yourself!'
"، Very well, then; I will not gol' ""As you please. The train is off-1 am going to give the sigual.'
"'Stay, Monsieur, stng. I must absolutely go, and since there is only tais coupe-hut jou'll let me have a sleeping compartment at the first etation we come to?'
"' Yes, Madame.
"'You'll telegraph for it?'
"' Ter, $y$ s, Madnme.'
"You promise me?"
"'Tea, Madame.'
"' You are sure?"
"" Yee, yer, yea, Madume!’
"The door was thrown open wide, and the little brown-haired lady, surrounded by hall a carriage lond of parcels and wraps, entered the coupe, a shrill whistle, an., we wre off.
"Gallantiy the adminisirative gentleman seated bimself by my side, so as to leave the opposite seat estirely at the eervice of the new arrival.
"Without even turning her eyes towards
us, fltusterd and red with anger, she arranged her parcele around her with the ordiuary haste of persons who have long boum to pass in a railway carriage.
"She had one bng, two bags, three bage, and. as to wraps-1
"Out of the corner of my eyos, I watched these dittle proceediugs, and I obselvid with pleasure that she was a churming little personage. I eny with pleacure; for, in trutb, it is always more agreenble to have a protty woman for a travelling companion than an ugly one. 'It was very cold. The country, covcred with nnow, and lit up by a very pale-faced sun, flew rapidly by on cither rid. of the carringe. The little lady, muffled up to her chin in rugs and other wraps, turned her gare obstinately out of the farther window; the administrative gentlimau put his papers, yellow, green and bue, with printed headings, in order, and read them attentively; as to my self. comfortably installed in a corner, with my feet on the foot-warmer, I waced through the file of newspaperts I had bought at the station to pass the time.
" 1121 ; Laroche. The train atopped. The administrative gentleman gathered up his papers, rose, bowed and descended from the carriage. His feet had hardly touhed

"SHE ARKANGRD HER MARCELS."
the platform before he was recived by the etation-master, who called him ' Mr. Inspector.' The lady leaned ont of the door:-


## "' Mr. Station-master!'

"' Madame?"
"'They ware to telcgraph you from Paris for a sleeping carriage.'
"، They have done so, Madame, and I have sent on the message.'
"'Sent it on! Am I not to have a sleeping-carringe at once, then?'
"' rmpossible, Madame; we have no carriages here. They can only furnish gon with one at Lyons.'
"'At Lyons ! At what o'clock?'
"'At 5.46, Stadame.'
"'At the end of the journey! But, Monsieur. l an't remn in athis comps unill
that time! Impossible- I won'tl'
"'Take care, Madame, the train is starting I"
"it started.
"Sle threw berself into her corner again, in a furious pet, without casting a glauce at me. I plunged once more into the contents of my newspapers--into the contents of the tenth, that is to say.
'Shall I confess it ! That paper took me longer to read than its nine predecessorn. Twenty timos I began the same line; I believe that at least for some time the paner was upside down. Hang it, one can't be shut up for a long journey with a. pretty woman without feeling some sort of enotion l

## is

"I greatly wanted to enter into conversation with her, but what pretext for
doing it could I find? Tho classic resources of putting up or down the windows, in such a state of temperat ire, were non-available. What was there to do?launch a commonplace rewark of aome kind? Bettor a humared times keep silent than do that. My companion, I had seen at a glance with my Parisian eyes, was a woman of the best society. To rpenk to hor brusquely, without being known to her, would bave made me appar in her cyes no better than a valgar commercial traveller. The only way of drawing her into convenuation would be to find something atrikingly original to any to her; lut what?-what? I sought laboriously, but did not find.
"I was still continuing that sensob, when the train stopped suddenly, thanks to the powers of the new briak-so good against accidente, but so bad for passengers.
"، Tonnerra!-t weuty-five minutes' stoppage!' cried a porter, opening the car. riago door.
"My companion arose, threw off 'ser rugs, which, with her three begs, ehe inft in the carringe, and descendid on to the platform. It was noon. Hunger had begun to make itself felt. She moved toward the buffet on the left, across the line.
"I followed her. I was then enabled to admire at my ease the clegance of her figure, well net off by a long for mantle. I remarked also that she had $a$ pretty neck, a groy felt hat and very tiny feet.
"At the entrance to the buffet stood the manager. Wearing a velvet cap and hearing a striking resem², lance to Nepoleon III., he pointed out with his hand and with a napkin a long table to be taken by nesault.
"I entered with a crowd of travellers -ruffled. hurried; in short, thist strenin of persons essentially grotesque and derogatory to hamnn beanty, of an express train, bent all ois devcuring food of some soms.
"I seated myself ind hastily awallowed ${ }^{t}{ }^{\prime}$ e succession of dishes set before me; my lady traveller took mome soup at a sepa. rate table.
"I was amongot the firgt to rife, and went out on the platform to smole a cigarette. The twenty-five minutes-reduced to twenty according to ralo-were quickly spent. Tho passengers came in groups from the refectory and returned to their places in the carriages. I reinstalied my-. self in mine. My fellow traveller did not appear.
"I perceived her at the littlo bookstall on the opposite side of the line looking over the volumes displayed. Although I could see nothing of her but her back, I easily recognized ber by her pretty figure, her otter-skin mautle, and her gray hat. Her hair seemed to be a little less dark than I had imagined it to be: but that was. the effect of distance, no doult.
"All the passengers hud resumed veir eests, and the porters werc banging to the doors.
parcels have not been stolen; thoy-they have been left bihind at Tonnorre.'
""At Tounerre! ILow?

"she rook some sour at a separate talile."
" 'She'll be left" behind,' I thought, - She's mad!' 'Mradariol Madnmel' I called to ber out of the window.
"She was too fir off and didn't hear me.
"The whistle soundel; the train was going to start. What was to be done? Prompt as a flash of lightning, an id ${ }^{2}$ a shot thrërot my brain. She would be lett there in the horrible cold without her laggagel Let her, pour womnn, at least have her amaller belongings.
"I gathered up in an armiul her throe bags and rugs and threw the whole to a man in the uniform of the railway, who Was on the line near the carriage.
"For that lady over there,' I cried.
"The man in the uniform carried the articles in the diection of the lady at tho bookstall. At the sume moment th. carriage door on the cpposite side, th. side next the wlatform, was opened, and my travelling companion. grumbled at by a stition porter, hurried into the carriage, and the truin started. Horror! I had mistaken the traveller. The lady at the hookstall was not the right one; the same mantle, same hat, same figure-but not she 1 It is perfectly absurd how much women resemble ons another-the back view of them. I had made a pretty mess of it!
"Sho had hurdly entered the curriage before she uttered a shriek.
" © My parcels! Somehody has stolen my parcels !
"And, for the first time she turned her oyes on me, with a look-good hearensl -with a look nover to be forgotten.
"'No, Madame', I atainmered, 'your
" I explained nll to her. By Tovel My dear fellow, I can't deseribe the second look sho darted at me; but I assure you i firmly believe I shall remember it even longer than the firat.
" I am distressed, Madnme; I further ntammered 'distressed exceedingly; but the moti. a was a good one; I thought
short-forgive me, and do not be uneasy in regard to your property, which is in safo linnde-a mau in uniform. At the vert gtation you cat tolegraph, we will telegraph - and your thinge will bo immodiately sent on. Ahlyou shall havo thom, I vow, even rhough I havo myself to go back to Tonnerre to fetch them.'
" Enough, Monsicur: I know what I havo to do.'
"Stormily oho destranged hersell in her cornor, tugging pottishly at her gloves.
"But, alas 1 poor little thing $I$ she had counted without the cold-whe no longer had her varm rugs and wrups about her. At the ond of ten minutes ohs began to ahiver. It was in vain that t'o tried to huddle herself up, and draw her otter-skin mantle closer to ler form; she positively shivered with the cold.
"' Madnme,' I said, 'I beg of you, on my knees to accept $m y$ rug. Iou will catch cold-aud it will bo mg frult-and I should nover, to the end of my days, torgive myself:'
"s I did not speak to you, Monsiour," she said sharply.
"I was nervoug-exciled. In the first place she was charming ; in the next placo, I was furiously amoned with mysell for the atupid blander I had made; in short, I found myself in ous of those predicements that call for the taking of atrong resola. tions.

1
"' Madame,' I skid. 'acco;)t this rug, or

that you were gaing to miss the trainthat you would be cold-and-and I did not wish that gou thould bo cold; in

I swear to 5cn I will throw myselt out on to tho ling.'
And flinging the rug between hor and
me I opensd the window and soisod the outer handle of the door-lock.
"Was I determined ?-betwecn onrselves,
noticed her! Good heavens! where had my eyes been?
"She spoke simply, aminbly, with tho

"you are mad, monsirur."
not altogether, I think: but it nppeared that 1 had the air of being so, for she instantly cried out:
"• Tou are mad. Monsieur, you are mad!'
.. s The rug, or 1 throw myself out 1 .
She took the covering and in a softened tone said:
"eBut sou, Monsieur-you will catch your desth of cold.'
" 'Do not be uneasy ou my account, Hadnme, I am not in tho least chilly-and
 a just punishment for my unpardonable stupidity.

1
" Sey your over-hastiners; for, as you beve said, your motive wha a good onc. But how came jou to mistake another lady for me?'
"، Becance she appeared to me charm. ing.'
"She smiled. The ice was broken-tho ice of conversation, that is to say; for in other raspects I was shivering with cold.

1
"But how quickly I forgot the cold, the jouracy-ercrything! She was delicions, exquisite, adorable! She possessed a cultirsted mind, keen, gar, originall Sbe lored travel, like myself. In literaturc, in music, in evergihing, in fact, we had the same tastes! And then, only imagine! we found we bad a heap of acqunintances in common; she was intimate with the Saint-Chamas, with the Sarenois, above all with the Monntbasons! Only to think that I had perhngs met ber twenty times in tueir drawiag-rooms without baring
frsukuess I so much love. A. slight, very sligh: provincial accent, almost imperceptille, a chirp rather, siving to her prouunsiation something of the singing of a bird. It was intoxicating!
"But though 1 mould bave given all in the world not to appear cold-great heareas ! how. cold I was!
"At Dijon, (2.20) my right foot was half-irosen. We telegraphed to Tonnerre for the articles lolt behind.
"At Macon (4.80) it was the turn of my lefr foot. We received a message from Tonnerre eaying that the luggage would arrive at Marseilles the next day.
"At Lyon-Perranche (5.48) my left hand became insensible; she forgot to demand her sleeping carriage.
"At Valence (8.8) my right hand followed the example of the loft; I learned that sho was a widow and childiess.
"At Avignon (9.50) my nose bocamo violet; I fancied she had never wholly loved her first husband.
"At Marseilles (12.6 a .m.) I sneesed threo times violently; she handed me back my rug and said graciously: 'An rovolr.'
"'An revoirl' Oh, I was mud with delight.
"I epent the night at the Hotel de Noailies-an agitated night, filled $\begin{aligned} \text { rith }\end{aligned}$ remembrance of her. The nuxt morning When I awoke, I had the most shocking cold in the head imaginable.
"Could I, in such a state, present myself to my friends, the Rombands? There was no help for it; it whs one of the accidents of travel; they must take me as I was, and to-morrow' 1 would go and seel my cure in the sun of Nice.
"Oh, my Iriend, what. n gnepriso! That sood fellow Romband lad invited a few iriends in my honor, and among them was my charming fellor-traveller! 3 y charmer!
$i$
"When I was presented to her, a smile passed orer her lips; I bowed, and asked in a whisper:
" 'Tonnerre-ycur parcels?"
"' I have them,' she replied in the samo tone.
"We sat down to table.
" What a cold in the head you have got, my dear fellum!' cried Romband, aympathetically; 'where the deuce did you pick it up-iu the railway carriage, perbaps?'
" \& Very possibly,' I said, 'but I don't regret itl'
"Nobods comprehended the sense of this veiled reply; but I felt the tender glance of my fellow-traveller reach me through the odorons stean of a superb turecn of soup majestically posed upon the table.
"What more have I to tell jou? Next day I set off for Nice; $\Omega$ fortnight henco I am to be married."


WALTER KAVANAGH'S AGENCY, st. francois xavier st., montremal.

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A SERINKLE OF SPICE.
Afrs. Driver-Did you hear what Mrs. Newrich said to me?
Mr. Driver-No; what did she nay?
Mrs. Driver-She ankel me if that was our "cafe au lait" we were driving in?
"Do gou think, Sclimidt, that your affection for Fraulien Goldstein is recipatcd?" "I really cun't say; I am loving her at prosent on credit."-Lustige Blatter.

A man with a broken leg is apt to do a good aleal of darning while the las is lnitring.

Wife-l're mado a fool of myself.
Lusbond-How?
Wifo-Here Ire carrial all tho besyage, so that peoplo rould not think we were newls marriad, and all the whilo my back hair was foll of rice.

Among the early, epring openloges in the itnit veoriane morthi.

## A BORE IN SOCIETY.

Dear Mr. Antidote:
I mas so provoked at a quiet "musicale" a few erenings ago by the ill-manneni shown by an amateur pianist tiat. I expressed my fealings in a remote corner to my friend 3 rrs. K , whose little garherings are the admiration of all who are farored mith an invitntion. Mrs. Xinformed me that men of that character hare been the torment of her existence. Why doa"t you write about it to the "Antidote?" I asked-"I wish jow would do so," replied Mrs. X, and here I am.
One descriptiun. Mr. Editor, will serion for all: The amateur is a secker after inritations, and he is sure to bring his banjo or his violin whererir invited. The lostess who is gitted with nufailing sellpomession scizis upon bim as soon as he enters and introduces him to Mrs. Blank, who is slightly deaf and asks him to eatertain her in the hall or in an sateroom. But all hare got the tact and manage ment of 35 m. F. and the amateur conbequentis impoes himeell on tho entire compans. Et is in a way mater of cere monier; he directe the mraciane what to
play or sing, and is alwags ready to do one or other himself. His banjo or his zither or his violin has a history, or is claimed to have. and when he is not playins upon it himself-after half an hour of picking and scraping-he is not happy if the player of the moment is not testifring to its particular merite, and his gloom is terribly infoctions.

The bore singsi on tip-toe, especially in the higher notes. All of bis songs are of the maudlin, love-jorn, sentimental class; his pinno playing of the kind heard by people who occasionally have to pase late at night nlous thoroughfares where rents are low, nud his banjo nul riolin playing such as many be henrd in places where ooal is used chicfly in washing off burnt cork duet.

I hope 3fr. Ealitor that the holding of this little "mirror up to nature" may have the cifect of making the Bore see himmell as "ithers" eee him, and reliere many at one of what in more of a torment than chrintian patience can endinto

> Yours in suspense,

MABTIRA
Montreal, March 28, 1898

| L \& LONDON \& G | DHEENIX FIRE INSURANCE C |
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## A Lhiance assurance company. <br> ESTABLISHED IN 2594

HEAD OFFICE, BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, ENG.

N. E-This Company har.on reinoured the Canadian bosinezs of she Royal Capodian lacurance Comp.ny, assumer all liability uddet existige policies of that Compring as ax be ze of March, sey

O, IL McHENRY, Meagor lor Canada.

O. A. ROERERTS, Sub-Maagge
 Cindan


[^0]:    'Have you hearal Mas I'rancer in light opera!"
    "Ios, whe appearui in a duet alone last night."
    'How could she maurge that?"
    "Well, it was between hor voice and toes to see which could go highest.".

[^1]:    "Listen, Roblic; this rich cake is rery unhealthy, and I-_"
    Robbie-Well, s'pose wa put it right out of its nursery, mamma.

