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THE JUDGE'S TROUT.

Why He Fed It to the Charcoal Burner's Daughter

"Scholastique!" "M. Sourdat."

"Take the utmost pains in cooking the trout-short boil, white wine, parsley, thyme, laurel, oil and onions in full strength."

After having uttered these last injunctions to his cook, Judge Sourdat crossed the chief street of Maryville with alert steps and gained the palais de justice, which was situated back of the Sous prefecture. Judge Sourdat was about ferty-five years of age; very active, notwithstanding a tendency to stoutness; square of shoulders, short in stature, with a squeaking voice and a round, closehaven head; eyes gray, clear and hard under bushy eyebrows; a mouth closely shut, with thin and irritable browned cheeks, surrounded with whiskers badly trimmed; in fact, one of those mastiff faces, of which one says: "He can't be good every day." And surely he was not very kind, and he boasted of it. A despot, he used all of his little realm in the palais. Hard as stone toward the guilty, rough with the witnesses, aggressive with the advocates, he was a veritable furnace who fanned himself constantly into a glow. He was feared like the fire, and he was loved very

However, this man of iron had two vulnerable sides. Firstly, he responded to the pastoral name of Hemorin, which exposed him to ridicule, and secondly, he was a gourmand, and gave points to Brillat Savarin. His gastronomy, which was profound, had

become a mania. It was he who imagined that to plunge shellfish into boiling water before cooking them in their ordinary dressing gave them a richness and velvety savor particularly exquisite. On the day when he taught that latest refinement to the priest of St. Victor the latter could not help blushing, and raising his puffy hands to heaven he eried: "Too much! This is too much, Judge Sourdat! Assuredly it is permitted to taste with discretion the good things which divine wisdom has provided, but such sensuality as this borders upon mortal sin, and you will have to render account for it to the good God.

To the scruples of the excellent priest the judge responded with a misanthropic laugh. It was one of his malign joys to expose his neighbors to temptation, and this very morning the priest was to breakfast with him, the recorder being the only other guest. Judge Sourdat had received the evening before a two-pound salmon trout taken from the beautiful clear water of the rocky Semois. It was his favorite fish, and had fully occupied the first hours of his morning. He had demonstrated to the cook the superiorty of a quick boil to the slow cooking in Geneva or Holland sauce of the books. The trout must be served cold and in the seasoning in which it was

This was with him a principle as well as a dogma, as indispensable as an article of the penal code. He continued to repeat it to himself after having clothed himself in his robe and taken his seat, though he was turning over the leaves of a document bearing

upon an important case now pending. This was a criminal affair, the dramatic details of which contrasted singularly with the epicurian speculations which persisted in haunting the cranium of Judge Sourdat.

The case was thus: During the previous week at sunrise there had been found in the thicket of a forest the body of a gamekeeper, who had evi-dently been assassinated and then concealed among the brumbles of a ditch. It was supposed that the crime had been committed by some strolling poscher, but up to the present time there had been elicited no precise evidence and the witnesses examined had only made the mystery deeper.

The murder had taken place near the frontier, where charcoal burners were at work. The suspicions of the judge had, therefore, been directed toward to cat." them. The depositions thus far had revealed that on the night of the murder these people had been absent from their shanty and the furnaces had remained in the care of a young daughter of the charcoal burner.

Toward ten o'clock the door of his cabinet opened, framing the cocked hat and yellow shoulder belt of the

"Eh! well?" grunted the judge. "Eh! well, judge, I cannot find the girl. She has disappeared. The charcoal burners pretend utter ignorance.' The judge consulted his watch. The business was at a standstill; the case could not be called, and be wished to give a glance of oversight to the matters of the dining-room before the arrival of his guests. He disrobed him-

self and hurried home. The pleasant dining-room, brightened by the June sunshine, presented a most attractive aspect, with its white woodwork, its gray curtains, its high store of blue falence with its marble top, and its round table covupon which were placed three covers artistically trimmed.

This spectacle softened the ill-humor of the judge, and he was calming little by little, while laying upon the silver salver a dusty bottle of old croton, when the hall door opened violently, and he heard in the vestibule a girl's voice, which cried: "I tell you I wish to speak to the judge. He expects me."
"What does this racket mean?"
growled the judge, secwling.
"It is that little charcoal burner,"

responded the recorder, Touchboeuf. "She arrived at the palsis just after you left, and she has followed me as far as here, in a state of wild excitement, in order that you may take her

"I had my reasons," she said, easting hungry eyes upon the table.

"We can better appreciate your reasons later," replied the judge, furious at the interruption. "Meanwhile we can listen to your report."

He drew out his watch. It was 10:45. Yes, we have time, Touchboouf. You will find at your side all that is necessary for writing. We will question

The notary seated himself at the writing table with his paper and inkstand and the pen behind his ear, waiting. The judge, sitting squarely in a cane-seated armchair, fixed his clear, hard eyes upon the girl, who cript.
remained standing near the stove. Who

"Your name?" he demanded.

"Your age and your residence?" "Sixteen years. I live with my fa-ther, who burns charcoal at the clearing of Onze-Fontaine." "You swear to tell all the truth?"

"I came only for that." "Raise your right hand. You were near your home on the night when the guard Sourrot was murdered. Relate all that you know."

"That is what I know: Our folks had set out to go with the charcoal to Stenny. I watched near the furnace. Toward two o'clock, at a moment when the moon was hidden, Manchin, who is a woodcutter of Ire, passed before our lodge. 'See me! Am I not watching at an early hour?' I cried. 'How goes all at your home? All

"'No,' he answered. 'The mother has a fever and the children are al-most dying with hunger. There is not a mouthful of bread in the house, and I am trying to kill a rabbit to sell in Maryville.' That is on the other side of Onze-Fontaine. I lost sight of him then, but at daybreak I heard the report of a gun, and 1 was just clearing the ashes to shield the char-coal. Then, immediately-after, two men came running toward our lodge. They were disputing. 'Scoundrell' cried the guard. 'I arrest you.'

" 'Sourrot!' cried the other, 'I pray you let me have the rabbit, for they are dying of hunger at my home." " 'Go to the devil!' said the guard.

Then they fell upon each other. I could hear their hard blows plainly. Suddenly the guard cried: 'Oh!' and then he fell heavily.

"I had hidden behind our lodge, terribly frightened, and Manchin ran away into the great forest, and from that time to this he has not been seen. He is in Belgium, for sure. That is

"Hum!" growled the judge. "Why did you not come to tell this as soon as you received the summons?"

"It was none of my business-and I did not wish to speak against Manchin." "I see; but you seem to have changed

your mind this merning. How is that?" "It is because I have heard that they secused Guestin."

"And who is this Guestin?" The girl reddened and answered: 'He is our neighbor charcoal burner, and he would not harm a fly. Do you not see," she continued, "that the thought of fastening on him the guilt of another aroused me? I put these great boots ou, and I have run all the way through the woods to tell you this. Oh, how I have run! I did not feel tired. I would have run till tomorrow if it had been necessary, because it is as true as the blue Heavens

that our Guestin is entirely innocent, "Hallo!" cried he, seeing her suddenly grow pale and stagger. "What's

the matter?" "My head swims, I cannot see." She changed color, and her temples

grew moist. The judge, alarmed, poured out a glass of wine and said: "Drink this quickly!" He was whotly absorbed and very much moved before this girl who was threatened with illness. He dared not call Scholastique, for fear of disturbing his cooking. He looked help-lessly toward the clerk, who was gnaw-

ing his penholder.
"It is a swoon," observed the latter. "Perhaps she needs something

"Are you hungry?" demanded the judge.

She made a sign of assent. "Excuse me," she said in a feeble

since yesterday. It is that which makes me dizzy."
"The deuce!" he cried at last heroically. Violently he drew toward him the platter on which lay the trout. After separating a large piece, which he put on the table before her, he made the charcoal burner sit down.

"Eat!" said he, imperiously. He had no need to repeat his comnand. She ate rapidly, voraciously. In another minute the plate was empty, and Judge Sourdat heroically filled it

The scribe Touchbouef rubbed his eyes. He no longer recognized the judge. He admired, though not without a sentiment of regret, the robust appetite of the charcoal burner, who devoured the exquisite fish without any more ceremony than if it had been a smoked herring, and he murmured: "What a pity! Such a beautiful

At that moment the door opened, The third guest, the good priest of St. Vincent, in a new cassock and with his three-cornered bat under his arm, entered the dining-room and stopped questioningly before the strange spectacle of that little savage scated at the judge's table.
"Too late, M. le Cure!" growled the

judge. "There's no more trout." At the same time he related the history of the little charcoal burner. The cure heaved a sigh. He comprebended the grandeur of the sacrifice, but half mournful, half smiling, he tapped upon the shoulder of the judge. "Judge Hemorin Sourdat" cried he,

"Eh!" groaned the judge. "You are in a great hurry, my girl, after keeping me waiting three days. Why did you not come sooner?"

"You are better than you thought. In truth I tell you that all punishment for your sin of gluttony will be forever remitted because of that trout which we have not eater."

SAVED BY HIS RUSBER BOOTS. A Man Was Struck by Lightning and Livad.

Propped up with pillows in a large willow rocking-chair, with his eyes tightly bandaged, sits a young man of Cambridgeport, who was struck by lightning but lived to tell the story. His name is Horace W. Folger; be lives at 258 Green street and he is one of the keepers on the pilot boat Florence. It is not too much to say that a pair of rubber boots saved his life, says the Boston Trans-

When a storm came up on an afternoon recently the pilot boat Florence was moored a quarter of a mile from Boston light. The keepers of the boat put on their oil clothing. sou'westers and rubber boots and Mr. Folger, who is about twenty-five years old, stood on deck observing the storm, his left hand clasping the back brace, a wire cord half an inch in diameter. There had been only two flashes and no one aboard thought danger near.

Then came a third, and Mr. Folger knew nothing for over an hour. The current evidently selected the highest object-the bamboo pole above the main topmast, and tore it into small pieces after it had ripped the flag off. Then the electricity came down the backstay into Folger. His rubber boots, however, offered resistence, and so part of the energy branched off in another direction. As it was, his left side caught the force of the charge. Luckily three women were aboard, comprising a summer pleasure party, and one of them proved an expert in this emergency case.

After an hour of rubbing and dosing Folger began to show signs of life and complained of a violent headache, the sensation of seasickness, a paralyzed condition of his left side and throat and a prickly feeling through his whole body. It was evening before he became altogether himself and then he was taken ashore in the physician's boat Vigilant and carried to his home in an ambulance.

It was not until the next night that even water passed his lips. In the meantime his left eye began to pain him intensely when he opened it and his skin felt tough as leather. His face gradually assumed its normal color after the deep purple flush caused by the flash had faded. He is feeling much more like bimself and there is a good prospect of his speedy recovery. He says that the hour following the stroke is a blank to him.

NORTHMEN AND VINELAND. Proofs of an Ancient Norse Colony

Near Boston. The late Prof. Horsford published several books in which he undertook to fix the spot on which the Northmen landed, says the Philadelphia Ledger, and identified their Vineland with a locality on the Charles river, near Boston. His daughter, Miss Cornelia Horsford, has followed in her father's footsteps, and has recently published. through Damrell & Upham Boston, her proofs of the site of Leip's house in Vineland, and her results of the opening of the graves of the Northmen on the banks of the Charles river, near the city of Norumbega, where her father proved to his own satifaction and to hers that Northmen founded a colony. Miss Horsford gives the steps of the process of reasoning by which she reaches the results set down in her attractive publication, illustrated by reproductions from Du Chaillu's "Viking Age," and from other archæological authorities, largely from the collections in the Peabody museum at voice, "but I have had nothing to eat Harvard, and other sources of

knowledge. Both Prof. Horsford and his daughter have gone to work so thoroughly, have mastered every detail of the subject, have studied it on the spot and gathered evidence as well as from the results of the best explorers in other fields of archmological and ethnological investigation, that there is a special interest in seeing the results aunounced by the father thus, after his death, confirmed by the daughter. It is an example of filial piety that well deserves recognition, and is so purely a labor of love that it is entitled to the gratitude of all who like to see continued effort to solve a problem which has puzzled students at home and abroad for many years. Miss Horsford's sbare in her father's investigations and her own are marked by scholarly ability, zeal and earnestness, and her example may well inspire others to pursue archeological research in other sections of this country, rich in fields that have not yet been exhausted, and thus reap its own exceeding great reward.

Precaution.

She (whispering nervously)-Now, Dick, I-I hope you haven't lost the ring-you are so absent-minded,

He (confidently)-Eh? Oh, no; not upon this occasion. I locked it in the time-lock safe at the bank and aw-er-it's there ret!-Judge.

ELECTRICITY IN MEDICINE. The Use and Abuse of the Mys-

terious Fluid. The fact that a society of physicians has just met in New York to discuss the use of electricity in therapeutics is a little straw which shows, says the Boston Advertiser, which way the wind is blowing among some practitioners. There is no doubt that the discovery of electricity increased the number of forces that may be used in the art of healing; and although electricity as a medicine may be abused as well as used, it is an unquestionable fact that the electric fluid acts beneficially in a number of diseases. It can hurdly be said to be a specific for any disease, as its action is physical rather than chemical; but its use is now sanctioned by all the regular medical associations and there are few Boston hospitals in which the battery is not used, under the direction of a competent physician.

As electricity itself is even yet a mystery to science, so far as its real character is concerned, it is perhaps fitting that the use of electricity in nervous affections, the most mysterious of modern diseases, should have increased so notably in recent years. An indiscriminate use of the electric fluid is, of course, worse than no recourse whatever to such a source; but a proper application of the current acts as a decided stimuulant to weak nerves and the effect of such a treatment, continued over any satisfactory length of time, is usually beneficial.

The use of electricity also is not confined to curative work, but is seen in pathology also. The electric current catches the sound of respiration and reproduces it by means of a telephone or phonograph. A small electric light is now employed in determining physical conditions which cannot be discerned by the unaided eye or even by other methods of exploration. As time goes on, it is probable that electrical science will make further and perhaps more notable achievements in the interest of medical and surgical advancement.

#### The Newspaper Necessary.

The libraries are permanent storehouses of knowledge in all its branches-of literary wealth in all its forms. Yet to the library there is a certain chronological limitation, comparatively remote or comparatively recent, as the case may be, in breadth, and bearing the address and the student of the times will not at which the post card is to be deinfrequently find himself at a loss for information relative to the world of progress which has not yet been entered upon the librarian's catalogue. Only the well conducted newspaper, with its epitome of events and opinions and all that is latest and best in human endeavor, in scientific discovery, in artistic and musical composition, in every department of intellectual activity, in the affairs of nations, in philosophy and reform, will supply the want and enable him to keep full pace with what is going on in the world about him. It bridges the distance between the past and the present, the lapse that otherwise exists between what has happened or has been written and what is now happening or being written, between yesterday and today, as it were, so there is no break in the continuity of the student's inquiry .- Washington Post.

## A Lesson in Patience.

Mrs. Bella Cooke, the Englishwoman who has been patiently and uncomplainingly lying on her back bedridden for nearly forty years in a little room on Second avenue, near Twenty-eight street, does not believe in suicide. Recently she remarked that although she was seventy-three years old, suffered much pain, and had not moved from her bed in nearly two score years, she would not quit the world if she could do so by merely moving her finger. This sweet-faced, suffering woman lies in bed planning how to help the poor around her. Her rich friends have amply provided for her, and it is her pleasure to aid and encourage others whenever she hears they are in distress. Some members of the Four Hundred visit this cheerful but suffering woman and endeavor to make her remaining days as comfortable as possible.-N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

#### Mexican Lands.

Some recent statistics of Mexico show that there are 7,200 schools within the republic. The land of Mexico is held in feudal tenure by about 7,000 families. Patents are issued to all who ask for them and the government leaves the question of priority to be fought out in the courts.

Iron Ore.

The production of iron ore in the United States in 1803 was 11,587,602 gross tons, against 16,296,666 tons in 1802, a decrease of 4,709,037 tons. The shipment of iron ore from the Lake Superior min's in 1893 amounted to 6,060,402 tons, against 9,009,-560 tons in 1892, a decrease of 3,000,-004 tous.

PRIVATE POST CARDS. The English Government Now Sanctions Their Use.

Recently the post office authorities have granted permission to the public to make use of private post cards and reply post cards, and the following are the rules which apply to them: 1. On all post cards there shall be charged and paid the rate of postage of one halfpeuny. 2. On all reply post cards there shall be charged and paid the rate of postage of one penny. 8. A private post card and a private reply post card must, respectively, be made of ordinary cardboard, not thicker than the cardboard of which the thickest inland official post card and inland official reply post card, respectively, are, for the time being, made. 4. The maximum size of a private post card shall be (as near as may be, having regard to variety of form) that of the inland official post card for the time being in use; and the minimum size of a private post card shall not be less than three and onequarter inches in length, and two and one-quarter inches in width. 5. The maximum size of a private reply post card shall be (as near as may be, having regard to variety of form) that of the inland official reply post card for the time being in use, and neither part of a private reply post card shall be less than three and onequarter inches in length, and two and one-quarter inches in width. 6. Nothing shall be written, printed or otherwise impressed on the side of a post card or reply post card, which bears the postage stamp, except: (a) The address at which such card is to be delivered; (b) the name and address of the sender of the card; and (c) any direction as to the mode in which the post card is to be dealt with-such, for example, as "immediate," "local," "forward," "O. H. M. S." 7. Nothing shall be written or printed or otherwise impressed across the postage stamp. 8. Anything (including a letter) may be written, printed or otherwise impressed on the side of the post card or reply post card which does not bear the postage stamp. 9. Nothing whatever shall be any manner attached to a post card or reply post card, except (a) postage and inland revenue stamp, in payment of postage or stamp duty; and on the side which bears the postage stamp (b) a gummed label, not exceeding two inches or three-quarters of an inch

livered.

Lincoln's View of the Moon From 1862 to 1866 Hall worked on the nine-and-a-half-inch equatorial at the Naval observatory under Mr. James Ferguson, making observations and reducing his work. One night while he was working alone in the dome, the trap-door by which it was entered from below opened and a tall, thin figure, crowned by a stove-pipe hat, arose in the darkness. It turned out to be President Lincoln. He had come up from the white house with Secretary Stanton. He wanted to take a look at the heavens through the telescope. Prof. Hall showed him the various objects of interest, and finally turned the telescope on the half-full moon. The president looked at it a little while and went away. A few nights later the trap-door opened again, and the same figure appeared. He told Prof. Hall that after leaving the observatory he had looked at the moon, and it .. as wrong side up as he had seen it through the telescope. He was puzzled and wanted to know the cause, so he had walked up from the white house alone. Prof. Hall explained to him how the lens of a telescope gives an inverted image, and President Lincoln went away satisfied. - Popular Science Monthly.

#### To Identify the Tramp.

A plan for distinguishing between genuine scekers for work who go on the road through necessity, and the tramp by trade, has been devised in England. Its object is to enable police officers and poor law-administrators to identify each class, that the unfortunate workman may be aided in his search for work, and the tramp be compelled to find it for a time whether he will or no. It is proposed to give workingmen cards upon which their last employer shall indorse a certificate of character, and on which shall be printed instructions where to go in every town and city in the United Kingdom for shelter and food. The possession of such a card is to give the tramping workman a right to this aid, while the tramp who does not have it is to be set at work in the workhouse or for public benefit some

#### Last But Not Least-

Chrysauthemums, it is said, live longer than any other flowers after being cut. Yes, and another of their titles to consideration is that they bloom out of doors later in the season than any other flower. They require touches of frost, if not an actual powdering of snow to deepen the vividness of their varied color- lngs.—N. Y. Telegram.

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