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FREAKS OF THE MIND.

Curious Pranks Played by the Imagination.

Student Who Fell Dead from the Mere Touch of a Cane Under Exciting Circumstances Some Queer Cases.

Some years ago a number of students in Europe were concerned in the charge which demonstrated the powerful effeets of imagination. In a frolic they donned disguises and arrested another student, whom they tried in a theatrically-arranged and dimly-lighted chamber, and condemned to death. For several hours they kept their horror-stricken victim in a darkened room, and, having informed him that he wasto be beheaded, bandaged his eyes and led him to another apartment.

A crowd was assembled, but restrained their mirth, as the victim of the practical joke was forced to kneel down, and placed his neck across the spindle of a three-legged stool. They prepared for a great outburst of laughter as the neck of the poor young fellow was touched with a slender cane; but, instead, had to shed tears of regret for the action, as immediately upon being touched with the cane the young man fell dead.

A man had been cured of a somewhat serious illness, but had the misfortune to consider himself dead, and refused to converse with his friends or take the food and stimulants they provided. He was fast sinking when they hit upon a plan, and, hiring a coffin, they placed him inside, and with due formality proceeded to inter him-in the dark coal

Shortly afterward one of his friends was carried into the cellar also in a coffin, which, in addition to his body, contained a liberal supply of wine and food. The man who believed himself dead was surprised when he saw his "companion corpse" sit up and feast upon the good things placed in the coffin. He remonstrated with him, but being informed that it was customary to indulge in food in the world in which they were as well as in the world in which they had left, he joined in the feast. Shortly afterward he held rational conversation with his friend, and was soon recovered.

A lady holding a high position in society suddenly imagined that her husband had sustained a serious financial reverse, and, notwithstanding the protests of her husband, set about adapting herself to the supposed change in her circumstances. She disposed of her jewelry, discharged her servants and rented a small cottage and in its window displayed a card bearing the intimation that she was prepared to undertake plain sewing.

Various devices were adopted by her anxious family to convince her of the actual state of her affairs, and ultimately a friend presented her with a check for many thousand pounds. This broke down her craving, and induced her to undertake a prolonged journey on the continent. Her overstrained brain was restored to its normal condition, though she always believed afterwards that she had been in straitened circumstances.

The effect of pernicious literature upon the young lads has often been illustrated by disclosures in police courts, but it would scarcely be believed that the sensational stories published by some "boys' journals" could have serious effect upon the imagination of a man of over 60 years. Yet such actually occurred in the north of England. He had spent a large portion of his

time in reading such "literature," and eventually came to the conclusion that venture, like many another "hero." In astonishing to a dainty woman. the first stage of his vagaries he played tricks, such as were described in the stories, upon his neighbors, banging their knockers and ringing their bells, etc., and afterward he became an amateur highwayman, having as the implements of his adopted profession a small crape mask and a large horse pistol.

When he adopted his knickerbockers, cutaway coat, slouched hat, with the mask over his eyes and pistol under his arm, he walked through a crowded thoroughfare in midday searching for some one to hold up." He attracted a crowd, and was taken in charge by a friendly constable. He was cured of more than a couple of drops per mornhis powerful imagination by ridicule ing. Provided the oil is pure any sort

Another man came to the conclusion that he had lost his head, and was only convinced that such was not the case by having a heavy lead hat, which had been expressly made, placed upon it, and the pressure after a time made him understand that he had conceived an erroneous impression.-Cincinnati En-

Feigned Deafness.

In a regiment in India a private wanted to get home and saw no other way than shamming deafness. He reported himself sick and was sent to the hospital. The doctors tried all sorts of ways to find him out, but he was too sharp for them. One day the doctor determined to try him by firing a pistol. off just behind him, but he got to hear of the experiment and of course was other smoking the doctor stole into the room unawares as he thought, and fired the pistol close to his ear. He, however, took no notice of the report, but on seeing the smoke he turned to his chum and said: "Put your pipe out, you fool, the doctor will be round directly." His ruse worked .- N. Y. Post.

-A toe post is an English boot-maker's ingenious device for correcting distortions in the feet of men and women. It is a thin, yertical steel plate, covered with leather, which rises from the inside of the sole and separates the great toe from the toe next to it, thus N. C., before contracting. Plans, correcting the tendency of the great toe specifications and estimates made to become twisted round. Of course. hosiery having a separate compart-ment for the great toe is also necessary.

CARE OF THE HAIR.

Course of Treatment That May Give Beneficial Results! It is not necessarily a sign of incipient baldness or premature age when

woman's hair, in the spring of the year, begins to fall out with amazing rapidity. This is an alarming manifestation, but one is moulting, changing the heavy winter suit for a lighter spring covering, and the quantity and quality of the new growth depend very much on the discreet and careful treatment given one's head at this critical juncture. Deluging with more or less trustworthy tonics and panicky trips to the hair specialist are not of so much avail as simple home remedies, and all along in these days, when the sap is rising in the trees, sensible women cliptheir tresses once in every 15 days. They merely trim the edges, with a pair of very sharp seissors, and then singe the raw ends over a candle flame. This has exactly the same effect as pruning a hedge. It forces a fuller growth on the

Another word to the wise. In the spring wash your hair at least once every fortnight and don't wash it before going to bed, for hair must dry rapidly and in the light. It is not only healthy to shampoo the head frequently, but at this time of the year nothing so stimulates the sprouting strands.

Wash your head in a warm bath and use either castile or sulphur soap. If you don't care to use a soap, the next most cleansing process—and invigorating, too-is to beat the yolk of an egg and pour it over the dry scalp. With your finger tips rub this in, and then plunge your head and tresses into the basin of tepid fluid, dashed with one teaspoonful of cloudy ammonia or borax. Directly the water grows discolored, a fresh bath must be drawn and a basin of the clean fluid used, until the last one is quite cold and the scalp is quite free of sticky egg or soap suds. After wringing out the bulk of hair a couple of big Turkish towels, if used hot from hanging before a fire, will all but completely dry the head.

Hair washed in ammonia, borax, or even with soap, though left light and shiny from the effect of the egg, is apt to fluff and fuzz as though every strand had been separately through hot tongs. To allay this a little cocoa oil or any pure grease ought to be rubbed into the scalp and a vigorous brushing put in train. Excessive dryness is indeed a peculiarity of many American women's hair, the result of our climate and rather second-class digestions, and to correct this a steady cocoa oil or grease treatment ought to be kept up for two or three months at a time, applying a very little of the emollient once in six or seven days and brushing it out in the length of hair.

It is absolutely only by regular matutinal grooming that dandruff can be kept down and that the gloss and color of hair is retained after the vital juices of early youth are ceasing to flow. It requires two brushes to do this business well; one meant only for the scalp, and this one must be a rubber affair It is a new invention, the rubber brush. Back, handle and bristles are all of rubber, pliable indeed, but sternly aggressive, for the bristles get right down to first principles and stir the dandruff from its hitherto inaccessible strongholds. Moreover, the rubber brush is delightfully clean, for after use every morning it can be washed under the faucet and laid white and dry back on the dressing table. The second brush ought to be a conventional longhandled, stout bristled affair, to use for stroking the length of hair, where the rubber one will not go and where the daily accumulation of dust, lint, straws he was fitted for a life of frolic and ad- and thread is a matter shocking and

What with this careful brushing and washing anyone's spring crop of hair can be induced to come forth in unusual luxuriance and beauty of quality, but for the women who have long ignored the simple cleanly precautions for preserving their hair and are in danger of having soon to thatch their crowns with borrowed tresses, a more rigid course of treatment must be followed. Clip skimpy, fading, splitting hair once a week and every morning fill a basin with clear cold water and treat the head to a plunge bath. Dry out quickly and brush in a little oil, ever so little, not will do, and for as many hours as possible wear the hair hanging loose or very lightly done up with tucking combs.-Detroit Free Press.

Curiosities About Coins. Herodotus says that Croesus was the first ruler to order gold coins made. In the year 450 B. C. round copper coins States cents are those of 1793, 1799, 1804, 1809, 1811, 1813, 1823 and 1827. The rurest and most valuable United States series" is the silver dollar of-1804. A Tribune. silver half dime of the year 1802 is worth \$30, if in good condition, and from \$10 to \$25 if in only fair shape, The only valuable nickel five-cent piece is that of the year 1877, which the collectors purchase at one dollar each. The little silver three-cent piece was first dime, one of the last one dollar. The in young lady residing in Philadelphia. Her name is Anna W. Williams, and she is a teacher of kindergarden philosophy. The very oldest coin in the British museum is an Aegian piece of the year 700 B. C. It is not dated, of course, dating Times.

-Two farmers met on the highway stopped to swap horses. The trade was agreed on finally by one farmer re-ceiving the other's horse and a shepherd dog, a rooster, 50 cents and a pint of whisky to boot,

A UNIQUE ENTERPRISE.

The Paying Investment of a Smart Chicago Man.

He Buys Postage Stamps at Whole Rates from Big Houses and Sells Them Off at a Nest Profit-A Bright Idea.

A wholesale brokerage in stamps has etted \$300,000 a year and the business has had a 17-years' history in Chicago. The publication of hundreds and hundreds of papers of all sorts and circulation gave birth to this absolute necessity—the cashing of postage stamps in

all quantities. Consider for a moment: In one day, when the world's fair picture coupon craze was at its craziest, one of Chicago's morning dailies received \$3,800 in postage stamps. What could be done with them? They were not good at the. banks. The paper had no time to peddle them, and the cash must be realized at once to run business or at least to save interest.

Such a state of affairs, only of somewhat milder character, happening daily, nearly a score of years ago, came to the knowledge of one George II. Owens, who was looking for something easy. Sweeping together some bits of capital into a bank account, Owens quietly circulated among the heavier stamp receiving business concerns of the town and bid all the way from 95 to 97 cents on the dollar for all the odd job lots of vault stored stamps that he could get track of.

At first the tedious recount of the great quantities of stamps at the time of purchase was made with the aid of the merchant selling them. This, however, proved a torment - detached, wrinkled up and stuck together as most of the big lots were. After wasting of much valuable time on the part of their cashiers over what was everywhere considered an utter nuisance, the banks, newspaper offices and business houses gradually shifted the count on him altogether-save a cursory sizing up of

the "pesky torments" as they came in. Owens simply called around, picked up the bundles of little government photos, gave his check for the count indicated on the bundle, and when he got home, if there was a mistake, he charged it up to the customer, and it went as a discount on the next deal, without a question. The same thing ruled, after a time, in the matter of the packages retailed. They were paid for unhesitatingly, and any mistake his customers might afterwards speak of finding Owens would cheerfully allow. Thus absolute confidence was estab-

Chicago mail order houses and newspaper counting rooms were not slow in advising their other city friends of the Chicago cure for the stamp curse, and thus the stamp broker was freely and without expense advertised from Maine to California, until after years of much profit the "old man" retired on his pile, to be succeeded by his son, who in his stock exchange office the other day showed the writer an order he had just received from an eastern brewing company for 400,000 two-cent stamps (\$8,000 worth) at one per cent. discount.

Most of the stamps handled are ones, twos and threes; other denominations only as the broker has customers for them. -Great quantities of Canadians are trafficked, showing an immense mail order trade for Chicago with Can-

Many counting rooms in Chicago and over the country cash \$1,000 worth of stamps every few days at either 98 cents or 99 cents, and are glad of the chance. After reaching the broker's hands there is but one feature of interest connected with the repacking of stamps for retail delivery. This is absolutely wonderful counting by sight that is done by the girls who attend to this part of

Opening upon the table before her a big envelope stuffed with all sorts of stamps, as they are brought from the merchant, the girl with one dexterous dash of her right hand sweeps the heap to a single stamp level; an instant, not more, she looks at them; then one finger darts through the broad layer with evidently no more system than a streak of lightning, but that leaves the carpet of stamps looking like a colored map of the United States. Another pass or two of the infinitely dexterous fingers, and the stamps are gone. Not 20 seconds

What did she do? In that 20 seconds she counted, sorted, piled and rewrapped 5,000 unattached, mixed-up stamps of three denominations. It was without question the most marvelous feat of counting the writer ever witnessed-and he has seen many of the were first made. Each weighed 12 famous United States treasury finger ounces. The most vaulable United | counters. The counting of the stamp instance was done entirely with the eye -a fact that only increases the mystery, considering that the stamps were coin of what is called the "regular mint | all in a crazy-quilt jumble. - Chicago Prize Poker Story.

Capt. John A. Duble, an old Mississippi steamboat man, tells a story of a game of cards played by a cotton broker named Weed, during the war. "He boarded my boat," he says, "at Cairo, after he had prepared for it. As he and his chum coined in 1851. It was discontinued in the cotton for the landing. He placed other smoking the doctor stole into the face on the silver dollar is that of a a box about the size of a candle box, but securely nailed and strapped with iron bands. Weed hailed me as I was passing through the cabin. 'Captain,' said he, 'send me a boy and your carpenter.' When they were on hand he told the boy to bring the box being a modern innovation, extending out and the carpenter to open it. It was back only 500 years.—Philadelphia full of crisp greenbacks. Then he proceeded to run up against the game of a gang of old river sharks, and by the time we got down stream he did not have in Gibson county, Tenn., the other day, a dollar. He told me he lost \$500,000 beand, after the custom of the region, tween St. Louis and New Orleans. The last time I saw Weed he was river re porter in New Orleans, and he seemed as perfectly happy as though he still had his \$500,000."—Washington Post.

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Who may wish nice shampening or hair dressing done, will do Literature, Sports, The well to call on W. M. ALSTON Turf, etc. & I. E. THOMAS. Ladies bave your bang cut right. We have Dr. White new hair grower. Mailed Postage Paid to any part of the Van's Mexican Hair Restorative. Ayer's Hair Vigor, Tricopherone for the bair and skin, nothing to beat it to keep the hair from fall-

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A desirable building lot for sale. Situated on Main Street. For particulars, apply to

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Groceries Cheap, Heavy Groceries,

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-BOTTOM PRICES .-

I am now handling the nicest line of heavy and fancy groceries ever before handled in Louisburg, with prices to suit all, my "Roanoke Flour" will talk for its self. Fresh polk sausage always on hand (except Mondays). Nice lard at 9c. per. pound, others sell same at 10 to 12c. Fresh water ground meal. You will fine a nice line of plain and fancy candies, cakes, crackers, tinware, dates, cheese, apples, oranges, lemons, raisons, cigars, cheerotts, cigaretts, in fact everything you need to make you enjoy a good need to make you enjoy a good meal at home, call to see me before purchasing your groceries I can save you money. All goods will be and tobacco farms in Warrencounty, which delivered in the corporate limates, delivered in the corporate limates, and balance on long time if desired to the corporate limates. Yours respectfully,

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We thank our friends most cordially for their past patronage and earnestly request a continuance of Give us a trial.

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