

'Tis the custom to praise of the saddest, The sins and the sorrows of life; But I'd rather speak of the gladness, And beauty with which it is filled...

—Idleness is only the refuge of weak minds and the holiday of fools.— Chesterfield

—If we exclude sympathy and wrap ourselves round in a cold chain armor of selfishness, we exclude ourselves from many of the greatest and purest joys of life.— Sir John Lubbock

—When you get into a tight place, and everything goes against you, till it seems as if you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up, for that's just the time that the tide'll turn.— Harriet Beecher Stowe

—A Spirit does actually exist which teaches the ant her path, the bird her building, and man, in an instinctive and marvellous way, whatever lovely arts and noble deeds are possible to them: Without it, you can do no good thing.— Ruskin

—No one can make the most progress in a dead calm. Better have contrary winds than none at all. Surrounding difficulties strengthen our courage, and temptations tempt us to a blessing to us. — My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.— Greenboro Christian Advocate

—For more than a thousand years the Bible, collectively taken, has gone hand in hand with the science, law—in short, with the moral and intellectual cultivation of the species—always supporting and often leading the way.— Sir John Lubbock

—That young widow next door has bought a bicycle. — Isn't that a trifle odd? — No; she says she had to have it so she could carry flowers out to the cemetery.— Chicago Record

—It must be such pleasure to sing as you do. Does your husband sing and play to you? — Well, John—John wants to sing awfully—and he does.— Harmon Life

—"DR. MILES," Through His Nerve is a Benefactor to Thousands.

The Weekly Star.

BLACKBERRYING. When I was but a wee, shy boy, My hands and mouth had full employ...

EARTHQUAKE SCIENCE. The Internal Fire of Earth and the Cracking of the Upper Crust.

It has long been the popular belief that volcanoes are the cause of earthquakes, and many scientists have held to this theory.

He explained that the earth's crust was in perpetual motion, and the tremor was caused by the shifting of blocks of rock.

—It is not by turning over libraries, but by repeatedly perusing and intently contemplating a few great models, that the mind is best disciplined.— McCausley

—Fireflies shine only when in motion. It is only the active who can hope to shine. Doing nothing is an apprenticeship to come wrong.— Rev. W. F. Crafts

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PECULIAR ROBBERIES.

Now and again it happens that a genius in crime arises who considers the ordinary robbery unworthy of his abilities, and therefore he goes in for removing articles of an extraordinary nature.

The stall stood before its owner's home, and behind some old railings of iron and wood. The full audacity of the robbery will be realized on learning that the thief did not take down the railings or even wait for a suitable time.

Quite recently there have been two or three cases recorded in the papers of cab stealing. This we can quite understand, for a horse and cab are a nice little property where with one can earn a decent living.

There are at least two cases on record of a man stealing a house. One of these was a portable corrugated iron structure, which ran on wheels and belonged to a great con tractor, whose manager used it as a pay box.

Horses and vans have been stolen, of course; so have whole houses of furniture, if we may use the term. The latter unique robbery is worked in this way: A householder going abroad will perhaps warehouse his furniture at some well known repository.

An attorney from Springfield, Ill., was at the capital the other day, and the subject of sensitiveness about age came up. "The most remarkable instance of that," he said, "was a man—not a woman—and a very able man mentally too. Judge Sydney Brees, for many years one of the justices of the supreme court of Illinois, died at a very advanced age, but no one ever knew how old he was.

—Judge Brees arose from the table, his face livid with anger, and saying fiercely, 'I would consider it the height of impertinence, sir!' left the room and would not appear again when Judge Wright was present.— Washington Star

Weather and Crime. Do you believe this? Mr. Robert G. Doan says that violent barometric changes and other meteorological conditions are, therefore, dependent largely on the atmosphere. When the barometer is up, the winds are cheerful, and maladies are less likely to occur.

Some. a cellar's outflow. Wife (having for the second time, with a basket on her arm)—An die ye think, John, that I've mindod everything I'm to get when in the toon? — John—Ye might mind to bring me in half an ounce of snuff. — "Do, do, John," replied his better half, "the times are too hard for sic extravagance. Ye man should ye have a straw!"—London Tit-Bits

A Snagstone. "No," said the young man of vaulting ambitions, "I do not care for what the world says. I am simply a searcher for truth!" — "A searcher for truth?" — "Certainly!" — "Then you don't want to miss Soob-cam's criticism of your latest book?"—Washington Star

Sublime is the dominion of the mind over the body, that for a time can make flesh and nerves impregnable and string the sinews like steel, so that the weak become so mighty.— Mrs. Stowe

Too many, through want of prudence, are golden apprentices, silver journeymen and copper masters.— Whitefield

The Highest Step in good and profitable house-keeping is the use of the famous cleaner— GOLD DUST. No woman who wants to make a success in conducting her household affairs, in saving time and money, fret and worry in keeping her work well in hand, can afford to do without it.

MAKES CHILDREN FAT & TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. IS JUST AS GOOD FOR ADULTS. WARRANTED. PRICE 50c.

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GENERAL SHERMAN'S JOKE. How He Gave Two West Point Cadets a Bad Quarter of an Hour. Anecdotes of America's great generals are always good reading, and the following story, illustrative of one of the best traits in General Sherman's character, is no exception to the rule.

"You know," said the Lieutenant, "that all the rooms occupied by cadets in the barracks have big open stone fireplaces, with correspondingly large chimneys. In these chimneys the boys, even since the academy was established, have been in the habit of rigging up shelves as storehouses and places of concealment for luxuries in the nature of food and drink, which are forbidden by the exceedingly strict military regulations imposed upon us. This smuggled provender we were in the habit of devouring with great gusto late at night, after final inspection was over.

"Now, it so happened that my roommate and myself occupied the quarters which had once sheltered General Sherman when he also wrestled with his comic sections and military engineering at the 'Point.' One day, some time before examination time, we were both surprised by a smart rap at the door. I opened it, and in walked the illustrious former occupant, with a party of ladies and gentlemen, who were anxious to see what a cadet's quarters looked like. Of course my chum and myself saluted and stood at attention all the time the old general was bustling about showing his friends around.

"The veteran looked happy enough as he pointed out the hard mattresses and iron bedsteads which constituted the young West Pointers' sleeping accommodations and illustrated the manner in which we folded up our trousers and slept on them to keep them from becoming knee sprung, closing his explanation with a detailed account of the cadets' method of sweeping out and keeping their rooms in order. We both thought he was through, but he wasn't.

"Just as the party was about to leave the room, the experienced doctor went up to the fireplaces and said in an exasperatingly cool way: 'When I was a cadet, the boys used to secrete all sorts of plunder that was contraband of war in their chimneys. I wonder if they do it now?' Then he took his cane and poked it up the chimney. Chummy and I looked at each other with anxious eyes, and nearly had a fit.

"The eminent strategist's reconnaissance was the career of the most successful in his order. He knew just where to look, and his cane hit the mark at almost his first poke. The pipes, oaks and bottles of prohibited fluids fell on the hearth with a clatter and dull thud, breaking to pieces. By this time chummy and I were ready to faint. The old general must have observed it, for he turned to us with a hearty laugh and a merry twinkle in his eye, saying: 'You needn't be afraid, young gentlemen. It was all my fault. I shan't say anything about it.'

"We were on tenterhooks for several days, fearing court martial and dismissal. But our distinguished visitor religiously kept his word, and we heard nothing more about the incident. Sherman's humbers burned my grandmother's house at Columbia, S. C.," concluded Lieutenant Gaillard reflectively, "but I liked the dear old fellow all the same. He was so genial and considerate of others."—New York Herald

Men boast of their costly wines, while women brag of bargains in tea. Yet tea is a staple article of diet and wine is a luxury in the opinion of the average number of folk. Recently a connoisseur of that article who declares that it is the cheap teas that ruin the nerves, although many of them are pleasant to the taste. The same author gives some useful hints as to the kind of tea which is best to buy, and to the way in which it should be brewed. No sooner had tea balls become universal than we were told of a new and harmful and the clean, sweet bag of cotton cloth was correct. Now comes this latest statement, that all the water must be added to the leaves at once. Adding it after the drawing ruins the tea. Either the exact quantity must be made or the tea steeps off into a second hot pot and there weakens.

The water, too, is essential. It is not enough that it should boil; it must have just boiled and must be drawn fresh. To be allowed to flow slowly, to stand or to continue to boil is to lose the essential quality necessary to perfect tea.— Exchange

Why He Was Sick. Teacher—How are you, were not at school yesterday? Have you any excuse to offer? William—I was sick, ma'am. "Was you are sick, your parents usually send an excuse." "Parents didn't know it, ma'am." "How is that?" "I was taken sick until after I left home." "And why didn't you return home?" "I was afraid to, ma'am." "Why was the matter with you?" "Cigarettes, ma'am."—Yonkers Statesman

A Short Story. Teacher—I should like some scholar to read this sentence, expressing the same meaning, in fewer words. "When Mr. Flood, accompanied by his wife and children, stopped the horse before his barn, he threw down the reins and they all slipped." Scholar—Please, sir. Teacher—Well, Johnnie, how would you express it? Scholar—"The reins descended and the floods came."—Boston Budget

BLACKWELL'S I WANT BLACKWELL'S DURHAM AND NO OTHER. SEE? You will find one coupon inside each two ounce bag, and two coupons inside each four ounce bag of Blackwell's Durham. Buy a bag of this celebrated tobacco and read the coupon which gives a list of valuable presents and how to get them.

CLEVELAND. The President of the greatest nation on earth to-day, is quietly sitting in his big arm chair of State, enjoying his wealth and position, while there is raging even at his very door the greatest political war on record, and he is taking life quietly and easily; and this is the case with many of our well-to-do Dry Goods merchants. They have their stores in fine apple pie order with the brush of neatness on every shelf and counter. They are not realizing the fact that there are others in the Dry Goods line who are cutting the prices of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes and Underwear. We are in hopes that they will not wake to realization until one day after the feast.

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Fine Beer regardless of expense in material and production. We now ask the public to judge of the result. ROBERT PORTNER BREWING CO. OF ALEXANDRIA, VA. OTTO BANCK, Agent, Wilmington, N. C.

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