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## Where is Yesterday?

"Mother, some things I want to know, Which puzzle and confuse me so. To-day is present, as you say; But tell me, where is yesterday?"

"I did not see it as it went; I only know how it was spent— In play and pleasure, though in rain; Then why won't it come back again?"

"To-day the sun shines bright and clear; But then to-morrow's drawing near. To-day—oh, do not go away! And vanish like dear yesterday."

"Tis when the sun and all the light Has gone, and darkness brings the night, It seems to me you steal away And change your name to yesterday."

"And will all time be just the same? To-day—the only name remain? And shall I always have to say, To-morrow you'll be yesterday?"

"I wonder, when we go to heaven, If there a record will be given Of all our thoughts and all our ways Write on the face of yesterdays?"

"If so, I pray God grant to me That mine a noble life may be; For then I'll greet with joyous gaze The dear lost face of yesterdays."

## A DUEL OR A WEDDING.

I am an ardent admirer of female beauty. I ought to have been an artist or a sculptor but I am neither. I was bookkeeper for Brown & Co., wholesale dealers in hides and tallow. Henry Bower, a young man of very lively disposition, was employed in the same office. We boarded and roomed together.

One night Henry and I attended one of the lyceum lectures in W—. We had hardly been in the hall five minutes before the lecturer, a tall, thin, and pale man, came upon the front seat. She was a little to the right of me, but as she was talking very earnestly to the lady next to her, her face was turned toward us; and susceptible as I am, I could not but be impressed with the beauty of it.

Indeed, I couldn't withdraw my gaze from the beautiful young lady before me. She had golden hair, and her bluest of eyes swam full of love and sweetness. Her nose was small and straight, and she had just the prettiest dimple among the blushes on either cheek. And then such a mouth! What red lips! teeth of pearl, flashing between the roses. Her forehead was smooth and broad, and her neck, I saw, as the fur cape drooped low on her shoulders, was white as alabaster, and smooth as marble. In brief, I did not hear a word of the lecture.

A month passed without my seeing anything of the beautiful stranger. But about that time I received an invitation to visit my friend Mrs. Segard in M—. She is a widow of forty, and is the mother of a certain Miss Segard, familiarly called Clara. I knew that Mrs. Segard had tried to bring about a marriage between Clara and myself, and I believe I was not much opposed to the match. Clara was a good girl, everybody said; a very pretty brunette, with flashing black eyes and hair, but her form was short, thick and dowdyish. I admire a handsome form quite as much as a handsome face. I might have married her—I really think I should, but for a little affair which happened at U—.

The morning I started for M—, Bowers accompanied me to the depot. While I was buying my ticket I noticed another gentleman come into the waiting-room. My first thought was that it was my shadow that I saw before me. He was about my height, had a light complexion like mine, and eyes of grizzly gray, and one of them turned in, just like mine. He had on a tall silk hat, tipped on one side of his sandy locks, and so did I; and furthermore, he carried in his hand a small carpet bag, with a tag marked "J. McD." tied to the straps. So did I.

I looked at him, and he returned the compliment. "I say, sir," said the stranger, looking down at the carpet bag that I held, and examining the tag, "are you John McDolan, or am I?" "My name is McDougal. I hope you are an honest man, for you see if you should happen to rob a bank, forge a note, pick a pocket, or cut somebody's jugular, I might have to suffer, perhaps swing for it."

"I can give you reference as to my character," I answered.

"Yes, that's very good. But, Mr. McDougal, which way are you going?"

"Down. I have bought my ticket." "Then I'm going up. I don't think we'd best travel together. There's the train starting now. Good-bye, Mr. McDougal, I wish you success, and for my sake don't spoil your character."

To get to M—, which, by the way, is a rather out-of-the-way place, a small, one-horse town, with one tavern, two churches and a poorhouse, I had to leave the cars at T—, and then take a private conveyance to M—, five miles distant. I could have gone by the stage, but that only leaves U— once a day, at five o'clock in the morning.

So when the cars stopped at U— I took my carpet-bag in my hand, and got out upon the platform.

There was quite a large number of people at the station, but I took no notice of any of them, except a tall, brawny man, in a brown overcoat and slouched hat, who started for me as soon as I stepped off the cars.

I was about to move away, when the slouched hat laid his hand heavily on my shoulder.

"You're a villain!"

"Sir?"

"I repeat it—you're a villain!"

"A miserable scamp!" said a corpulent gentleman, coming forward and scowling fiercely.

Now, I felt that I was a match for the latter, but as to the other one, I didn't doubt but what he might work me up into shoe strings in less than three minutes.

"Will you explain yourselves, gentlemen?" I asked, trying to smile.

"Yes, I will," answered the big one, putting great stress on the "will."

"Certainly," growled the corpulent gentleman, with a grim smile.

"Get, or bring me another with you." His companion followed us out back of the station, where we were out of sight and hearing of the rest of U—.

"Now," said the tall gentleman, turning and confronting me, "I'll introduce myself. I am Captain Augustus Boynton. This gentleman is my father, John Boynton. Do you know us now?"

"Well, really," I replied, wondering in my own mind what the deuce was to come; "really, I don't know anything more about you than what you've just told."

"Hush!" said the captain; and he bent down and hissed in my ear, "I am Carrie Boynton's brother."

"And I am her father," growled John Boynton.

"Ah, really, do you say so!" I could not help smiling, the whole affair seemed so ludicrous. "Give my regards to Carrie."

"Hal! you laugh at us, do you, villain?" cried the captain. "Look here," said he, lowering his voice to a horrid whisper. "Look at these."

I did look; for just then he drew from the pocket of his brown overcoat a handsome case, and opening it, displayed a pair of splendid silver-mounted dueling pistols.

"Take your choice."

A cold tremor ran through my frame. Was I to be murdered?

"Choose quick," urged the captain.

"Sir," said I, in a tremulous voice, while the cold drops of perspiration stood out upon my brow, "there must be some mistake. I'm bookkeeper for Brown & Co., dealers in hides and tallow. My father was Norton McDougal, my mother was Mary McDougal, my grandfather was—"

"Confound your grandfather! Either marry my sister as you promised to do a month ago, or take one of these pistols and—"

"Oh! help!"

"Dry up, you whelp," and the captain clapped his broad hand over my mouth.

"Choose quick, youngster," said the older Boynton.

"I won't fight," I cried.

"Then marry my sister, or we'll drag you through the mill pond."

It was hopeless for me to remonstrate. I could not convince the enraged father and son that I was not the villain McDolan. I dared not say a word for help.

What should I do? Marry a woman whom I never saw before, whom I knew nothing about? I had little time to consider. Life was sweet to me, a ducking was disagreeable, and as to a duel I should have been a dead man at the first shot.

"Choose," said the captain, giving me a kick with his boot.

"I'll marry her."

"All right."

And the captain, with grimly as he returned the pistol case.

The elder Mr. Boynton went after the carriage; but before he had ceased to tremble he returned.

The captain held me in, and then seated between the father and son, I rode away. There were plenty of people on the street; but I was warned not to show. I knew what was healthy for me.

We rode at a smart pace for about two miles I should think, and then the captain drew rein before a large two-story white house, that stood near the road, surrounded by a high fence. There was a gravel walk up the front door, and several large trees stood in the front yard.

"Here we are," said the captain, getting down, and motioning me to follow.

The door opened just as we reached it, and who should jump into my arms but the identical young lady who had made such a strong impression upon my heart the night of the lecture in W—.

"Oh, John! I knew you would be true," she cried; and the captain snickered as he led the way into the parlor.

But once there I succeeded in convincing Miss Boynton that I was not McDolan. Her father apologized, and so did the captain and the upshot of all was that I consented to stop over night with them, and I am happy to state that I passed a very pleasant evening indeed.

I learned, too, that this John McDolan, for whom I had been taken, was a gentleman of wealth and leisure, with only one fault, and that was promising to marry every pretty woman that he became acquainted with. Then I told

him, especially when I offered to stand in McDolan's shoes. And—well, my dear reader, I did about a month afterward. We had a great wedding, and Clara Segard was one of the bridesmaids, and Henry Bower was groomsmen. And I am very well satisfied that McDolan took the up train instead of the down.

## POPULAR SCIENCE.

Platinum is the heaviest of metals.

A series of experiments described in a German chemical journal indicate that the mellowness of old wine is not so much due to a decrease in the proportion of tannin which it contains as to an increase in the proportion of glycerine.

Gold is the most ductile and the most malleable, iron is the most tenacious and titanium the hardest of metals in their native state. Titanium, discovered in 1791, is rare and little used in science or industry.

There is no uniformity in metals, as regards weight or specific gravity. While platinum and osmium, which are the heaviest bodies known in nature, are twenty times heavier than water lithium, potassium and sodium are lighter.

When potatoes are frozen the amount of sugar they contain is doubled, the starch undergoing a corresponding diminution, while part of the protein passes from the coaguable into the soluble form. During the process of rotting the potato loses halits nitrogenous constituents and the whole of the sugar.

By passing air through a fermenting mash E. C. Hesen has observed that the number of yeast cells is increased twice or thrice as much as when no air is bubbled through, and that about twice the quantity is fermented. A constant supply of oxygen is, therefore, very favorable to fermentation.

The cables Europe has enabled geographers to fix definitely and with almost absolute precision the longitude of six places on the eastern coast of South America—Para, Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio Janeiro, Montevideo and Buenos Aires. These observations show that the longitude of the Brazilian coast, as determined by a French expedition twenty years ago, was about two-thirds of mile too far east.

A Philadelphia man has perfected an invention whereby sour-kraut can be boiled in a house without any of the inmates smelling it. The invention consists of small liver-like pad of limburger cheese worn under the nose.

## Advice to Young Husbands.

The Rev. C. C. Goss, during a lecture in New York on "The Honeymoon, and How to Perpetuate It," said: Look out for your habits, young man. Don't get into the habit of neglecting the little courtesies of life in your home. Just see the young men in a bobtail horse-car sit forward on the edge of the seat, and when a pretty young woman enters the car they watch for the first chance to put her fare in the box. Why don't you watch just as eagerly to wait on your wife? Again, my young husband, you and your wife must cultivate mutual confidence. Distrust of each other is the bane of human society everywhere. Of course, you and your wife ought to hold different opinions. I was forty years old before I married my wife, and I knew a thing or two before I knew her. When we were married we did not empty out our brains and become fools. When she comes to vote I want her to vote on the side opposite to me, because if she votes just as I do what's the use of her voting? She might have just as well voted through me as we do now. But don't fight. Husbands and wives do fight and bite and claw each other, and pull each other's hair, and all about a little thing that they would be ashamed of if they hadn't got heated. Cultivate the habit of cooling down. Finally, be honest and upright with your wife, young husband. You ought to be honest in courtship, but if you have had an outside for your girl to look at, and you have all the time kept a bit and bride on your passions only to be a brute after marriage, then you have deceived her. Be as innocent to your wife as though she was a little baby. You wouldn't hurt a baby. Stand up for your wife—if any one says anything against her, knock him down. Well,

## Census Figures.

The census returns show that our aggregate population has advanced from 38,555,983 in 1870 to 50,160,000, in round numbers. The number of States having over a million inhabitants has risen from 15 to 19, but there is no change in the relative position of the first eight, which are New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, Massachusetts and Kentucky. Iowa has risen from eleventh place to ninth, Michigan from thirteenth to tenth, Texas from nineteenth to eleventh, Georgia has dropped from twelfth to thirteenth, Virginia from tenth to fourteenth, North Carolina from fourteenth to fifteenth, Wisconsin from fifteenth to sixteenth. The four States that have passed the million line in the ten years are Texas, Alabama, Mississippi and New Jersey. The number of cities having more than 30,000 inhabitants has increased from thirty-six to sixty-four. The number having over 100,000 is twenty against fourteen in 1870. New York, Philadelphia and Brooklyn hold their relative position at the head. Chicago has risen from fifth place to fourth, and St. Louis has fallen from fourth to sixth. Boston has come up from seventh to fifth, and Baltimore has dropped from sixth to seventh. Cincinnati continues to hold the eighth position, and San Francisco takes the ninth, crowding New Orleans from that to the tenth. Those which have passed the 100,000 line in the ten years are Cleveland, Pittsburg, Jersey City, Detroit, Milwaukee and Providence.

## Swiss Criminal Laws.

The criminal and prison systems of Switzerland are as diverse as the cantons of which the Confederation is composed. Within the very wide limits laid down by the Federal constitution every canton is a law to itself. While in Geneva the utmost punishment awarded to murder is twelve years' seclusion, the penalty for the same crime in Zurich is imprisonment for life, and in Zug death by decapitation. In Schwytz, the most primitive of the primitive cantons, which recently, like Zug, has re-established capital punishment, the only jail is an old farmhouse, where prisoners are placed in charge of a rural policeman and an aged man, the latter of whom accompanies them on pilgrimages, takes them for walks in the country, and trusts to their honor not to run away. The canton most in advance in these matters is probably Vaud, whose reformatory and penitentiaries might well serve as a model for neighboring States.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

California has now seven legal holidays, Admission day, September 9, having recently been added to the six already existing.

The tea crop of India this year is estimated at 700,000,000 pounds, nearly double the yield of 1878. Ten years ago it was only 14,000,000 pounds.

It is better to praise a man for his virtues, although they may be few and his faults many, than to condemn him for his faults and forget his virtues.

A lioness kept in confinement at the Dublin Zoological gardens was the mother of fifty-four cubs, and she succeeded in raising fifty of them.

A family never becomes extinct in Japan. If there are no male descendants, a young son of another family is adopted, and takes the family name.

Ex-Queen Isabella, of Spain, takes a deep interest in M. de Lesseps' Panama canal scheme, and was one of the first to subscribe to the stock. "Money placed in it will reap fortunes," she tells her friends.

Mrs. United States Senator Logan superintends her husband's correspondence, dictating to a stenographer for hours at a time. She also assists the senator in collecting materials for reports and addresses.

General Garibaldi's health has been entirely restored by his residence on the Genoese coast. He frequently visits the villages along the shore in a canoe or small boat. His friends believe that he will live ten years longer, at least.

The bonanza kings of the Comstock mine, of Nevada, are assessed as follows: James G. Fair, \$42,200,000; Jas. C. Flood, \$36,550,000; J. C. Flood & Co., \$10,500,000; J. C. Flood & Co., trustees

A firm at Winnipeg have received instructions from their London agency to make preparations for the reception of sixteen Irish families, to be sent out, with a good farming outfit, by the Duchess of Marlborough, in the spring.

They fish now by telegraph in Norway. Stations have been built along the coast, and during the herring season which is at its height for about six weeks, a sharp lookout is kept for shoals. Wherever one is sighted word is sent along the line, and the available fishermen promptly give chase. The old way was for the fishermen to cruise along the shore, trusting to luck or the reports they might hear to come upon the herring. Now, every morning during the season, the position of the shoals which are watched is noted and posted at the principal telegraphic stations.

In 1611 Holland offered a reward of 25,000 guilders (about \$10,000) for the discovery of that northwest passage which Professor Nordenskiold, the Swedish explorer, has at last in our day accomplished. This offer was long forgotten, but it was never recalled; and it is now probable that Holland will pay the promised reward to the successful explorer, little though he dreamed of the possibility of such compensation when he started on his enterprise.

Official statistical returns of the Australian colonies for 1879 show an area of 2,560,294 square miles, with a population of 2,659,779, and revenue of £15,927,488, of which £5,927,036 was raised by taxation. The value of imports was £47,378,763, and the exports, £41,276,856; miles of railway open and in use, 4,338½, and miles under construction, 937¼; 26,841½ miles of telegraph lines were worked, and 1,386½ miles were in course of building. Of sheep there were 65,914,236; of horses, 1,061,640; of cattle, 7,878,556; while of pigs there were but a little over 822,000. The public debt is £77,898,183.

## Gems.

Jewels in heraldry represent colors. The topaz represents ore (gold) or the planet Sol.

The pearl or crystal represents argent (silver) or the planet Luna.

The ruby represents gules (red) or the planet Mars.

The sapphire represents azure (blue) or the planet Jupiter.

The diamond represents sable (black) or the planet Saturn.

The emerald represents vert (green) or the planet Venus.

The amethyst represents purpure (purple) or the planet Mercury.