

THE PAST.



An elderly giraffe born in foreign parts was in the habit of entertaining with his conversation a large captive bred baboon, By agreeable persiflage and well chosen anecdote he did much to relieve the tedium of off hours in their menagerie life. The baboon, silent, but singularly accurate, would listen for hours to tales of what would have been his native land if only he had been born there.

"Would you not like to hear now something of the desert?" asked the giraffe.

The baboon, terse, but by no means indifferent, nodded his head.

"The desert," said the giraffe, "is composed of sand. Some deserts are furnished also with a neat and convenient oasis, an arrangement of trees and fountain singularly grateful and refreshing to the weary and parched traveler., Others are provided with a mirage, an ingenious optical delusion, but, judged by the hard test of results, of no practical value. Others, again, are without either of these annexes and may be considered as vast plains of sand, extending, as a general rule, over a space greater than the whole of this island, where at present we are being exhibited at prices sadly incommensurate with the pleasure and instruction that we provide for the young. An alligator of my acquaintance once attempted to cross one of these deserts. He took his chance of finding an oasis, but as it happened this desert was all sand, pure sand and nothing but sand. I would not harrow the feelings and depress the spirits by recounting all the agonies that the alligator endured from thirst. Suffice it to say that a point was reached when he knew that in another hour he would be dead for want of water. The point to which I wish to call your attention is one which has a curious psychological interest. Unable to endure the suspense of waiting the approach of death, the misguided and desperate reptile anticipated he decree of nature and committed sui-

"How ?" asked the baboon. The giraffe cleared his throat to gain time and then murmured, with a pathetic ook in his eye: "Drowned himself."

And then no sound was heard but the snapping of the bars of the cage by the justly incensed baboon. A moment later he air was thick with shreds of decen ratized giraffe.

Immoral.-Never begin to tell a lie until you see your way to the end of it. . ..

There was once an almond eyed prinse of great beauty, considerable wealth G. average principles. And when the e drew near that she should be marshe bade her grand vizier bring beher suitors, that she might hear

to remark, "Oh, if they would only waam beautiful in color, graceful in shape, deligious in perfume. You are cheap and gaudy and untidy, and you smell bad, and there is no wear in you."

The poppy was on the point of inventing one of those humble but pathetic answers that are so common in fables when a wind arrived and took most of the poppy's face along with it.

Possibly immoral, but quite true and frequently overlooked.-The braggart sometimes speaks the truth about himself, and humility with no other concomitant merit is not necessarily triumphant.

Easy.

A worthy old colored woman of Atchison, who is very religious, was recently asked. "When you go to heaven, how are you going to fix the old prejudice between the whites and blacks?" The old woman thought awhile and replied, "They ain't going to be no whites there."-Atchison Globe.

A Mere Surmise.

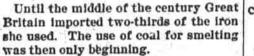
Bobbles-What does this author mean by saying that the hero had "well carved" features?

Dobbles-Perhaps he shaved himself .--Baltimore American.

An Even Chance,

Bystander-Poor fellow! One of his wounds is fatal, I believe. Policeman-So it is. But the other

wan ain't, so he has an aven chance .--Philadelphia Press.



When a man insists on "explaining" a thing, it is a confession that it worries him.-Atchison Globe.

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Served

In Any Style

you right:

FORLAW





it they had to say, at the not binding herself to accept the lowest or any tender.

When the day came, there were but when the day came, there were but three who had the courage to step for-ward and urge their claims. The first was middle aged and portly and spoke after this manner: "Princess; if you will be mine I will give you the finest palace in this country and the largest diamond and the fleetest house "

The second was younger and would have been nice looking if he had not had

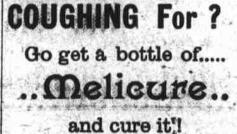
a shifty eye. "Princess," he said, "if my suit finds favor with you I will do all that this mershant has promised, and, moreover, by a private arrangement between the court physician and myself, I will succeed my father as king, and you shall be my

"Mumber three," the visier called out, and very shyly the third man stepped forward. He was very young and as beautiful as a young god. He was sim-ply but tastefully attired in a suit, no longer new, of his Sauday clothes. "Oh, princess." he said in a rich and fruityivoice, looking round absentminded-by for the limelight. "I have no treasure to off of you nor power net title-only an shifting love."

"Number two wins, of course." Journal,-The highest feelings are the

thest out of reach:

The neck and thrown it out. U was a sommon and self sowed poppy. If they have the finest lot of stock in Kinston. Come and see. They would have thought it of no value. Bey would have thought it of no value. Management of the poppy permitted itself. Management of the poppy permitted itself.



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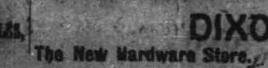
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