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The Mountain Banner

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BETWEEN THE LEAVES. BY JOSEPHINE POLKARD. I took a volume, old and worn, From off the library shelf one day; The covers were defaced and torn, And many a leaf had gone astray.

A SEVERE TEST. A Story of the Melbourne Force.

Some years ago—a good many more, in fact, than I care to recall now—I was wandering very disconsolately through one of the main thoroughfares of Melbourne, debating with myself the advisability of walking down to the quay and offering my services as steward to the Captain of the first homeward-bound vessel on which I might see the "blue-peter" hoisted.

as to his appearance were followed by a pretty plain implication that my career in the force would very largely depend upon my success. I felt, as may be easily imagined, in anything but high spirits. The prospect of a single-handed encounter with a man of whose resources I knew nothing, and who might blow my brains out before I had a chance of attack, was not cheering.

Next day, which was Sunday, I accordingly procured a horse from the station, and, taking my revolver with me, started out to try my luck as a policeman, and about 2 o'clock in the afternoon came near the place mentioned.

After going two or three yards, I turned back. Hearing my step, the prisoner of state documents turned round. "Well, mate, what is it?" "Can you oblige me with a pipe of baccy?" I asked.

I nearly emptied the pouch and handed it back; and, as the owner put out his hand for it, I slipped my foot behind his heel and pushed him. He tripped and fell splendidly. I was pretty quick in wrestling, and I took hold of the man's throat with my left hand, put my knees on his chest and with my right hand felt in the breast-pocket of his coat.

"I see your game; and there's only one way of dealing with the police. Dead men tell no tales; so over you're going, youngster."

The report was satisfactory, and I was appointed permanently. Mr. Superintendent's test caused me to be sent on various duties which led me into many rough experiences; but I never believed myself to be so near death as when I was deciding my future with my superior officer.—Chamber's Journal.

CHRIST'S SENTENCE. The Alleged Copy of the Most Memorable Judicial Sentence Ever Pronounced.

The following is a copy of the most memorable judicial sentence which has ever been pronounced in the annals of the world, namely, that of death against the Savior, with the remarks which the Journal Le Droit has collected and the knowledge of which must be interesting in the highest degree to every Christian.

- 1. Jesus is a misleader. 2. He has excited the people to sedition. 3. He is an enemy to the law. 4. He called himself the Son of God. 5. He calls himself, falsely, the King of Israel. 6. He went into the temple followed by a multitude carrying palms in their hands.

Orders from the First Centurion Quirillus Cornelius to bring him to the place of execution forbid all persons, rich or poor, to prevent the execution of Jesus.

Jesus to be taken out of Jerusalem through the gates of Tourne. The sentence is engraved on a plate of brass in the Hebrew language, and on its sides are the following words: "A similar plate has been sent to each tribe."

The results were so wonderful that another meeting of the same sort was suggested, and was held on the Muddy river, and still another was held on what was called the Ridge, both having been attended by great crowds who came for many miles around.

THE ELDER BOOTH. Upon the elder Booth's acting Mrs. Mark's most significant remark is that he was always in the soul of the character and never resembled Boileau's writers, who, "inspired by self-love, forms all his heroes like himself."

Old gent—"Well, my good man, I could never buy a horse with legs like that." Gypsy dealer—"Wot! Legs! Wot! I thought yer wanted a fast one, and you'll never see 'is legs when 'e gits a trottin'!"

ORIGIN OF THE CAMP-MEETINGS. There are those who trace the origin of the camp-meeting to Old Testament times, and refer to many passages from Genesis to the days of John the Baptist for proofs.

The first camp-meeting in the United States was held in the year 1739, on the banks of the Red river in Kentucky. The way it came about was somewhat peculiar. Two brothers named McGee, one a Methodist and the other a Presbyterian, were on a religious tour from Tennessee to a place called in those days the "Barrens."

On Dec. 12, 1833, the statue was raised and placed in its present position at the apex of the dome. Thousands of citizens and soldiers were assembled. A national salute of thirty-five guns was fired from a field-battery in the East park, and this was followed by a reverberating salute by the shotted, heavy guns of the whole chain of forts surrounding the Capitol.

The lantern on the dome of the Capitol contains three rows of powerful gas jets, and is very much frequented by strangers, particularly young married couples. The view therefrom in the daytime is magnificent, and even at night, notwithstanding the glare of the gas jets, one may obtain weird views by shading the eyes with the hands and pressing the face close to the glass.

MEXICAN JAILS. In the department of jails there is a deficiency. As at present arranged they can present but moderate terrors to evildoers. The really fine penitentiary at Guadalajara is the only one in which modern ideas of penal discipline are followed.

STONEWALL JACKSON'S TOBY. Having lingered to the last allowable moment with the members of my family "heretofore mentioned" as the legal documents would term them—it was after 10 o'clock at night when I returned to headquarters for final instructions.

MISSIONARY AVERAGE. It is said that the percentage of missionaries who have gone from various theological seminaries is as follows: Oberlin (Congregational), 10 per cent; Andover (Congregational), 10 per cent; Hamilton (Baptist), 10 per cent; Union (Presbyterian), 9.5 per cent; Newton (Baptist), 7.8 per cent; Virginia (Episcopal), 8 per cent; Rochester (Baptist), 7.5 per cent; Princeton (Presbyterian), 6.2 per cent.

THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL. The dome is the most impressive feature of the new Capitol at Washington.

It was designed by Walters, to replace the smaller one removed in 1856, and ranks fifth in height and size among the notable domes of the world. It is, in fact, 360 feet high above the west gate of the park at the foot of the hill on which it stands.

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DIFFERENT KINDS OF BENEFITS. "Who is this well-dressed man with the sealskin overcoat, hat and gloves? He carries a gold-headed cane, and is followed by a bulldog in a scarlet blanket. Do you know him?"

A RASH PROMISE. A local editor had printed an article severely reflecting upon a prominent citizen of the place, who vowed that he would take summary vengeance upon the man of types, bought a horse-whip and proceeded to the hotel, where the editor was boarding out a big advertisement.

PROFITABLE LITIGATION. Lawyer—"Hurray, let me congratulate you. You are the luckiest of mortals. Embrace me."

TAXATION for education provides less than \$1 for each pupil of the public schools of Georgia. There are three ways of getting out of a scrape—write out, back out, and the best way is to keep out.

DILATORY LOVERS. The impatience of the parents of the young lady over the long and fruitless visits of the chronic caller was pictured in comic colors some years ago by a funny writer.

"Wanted to creep up stairs without my hearing you, eh? Didn't think I knew it was an hour after midnight, did you?" The girl made no reply, and the mother continued: "Did he propose this time?"

Occasionally such visits become so burdensome that the young lady talks to the young man herself. At least they had such a girl out in Colorado. She had been receiving the attentions of a young man for about a year, but becoming impatient at his failure to bring matters to a crisis, she resolved to ascertain his intentions.

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THE SORROWS OF SINGERS. The lot of the famous singer is not always a happy one. From the days of Malibran, who was in America over a half a century ago, to those of poor Christine Nilsson, trouble and sorrow have spared none of the great singers who have been popular idols.

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