

**JOURNALIST AS AN ADVISER**

Day Is Almost Gone When He Is Made the Confidant of Rulers.

The recent appointment of Dr. G. E. Morrison, the well-known English newspaper correspondent, as adviser to the new Chinese government, is an exception which emphasizes the fact that the day is almost gone when the journalist is the confidant of rulers. Of course, one reason is the passing of master journalists of the type of Delane, Blowitz or Greeley. It is probable that none of those men could flourish today as they did in their time, for the reason that journalism itself has undergone a tremendous change.

When Henri de Blowitz got his famous "beat" on the Berlin treaty of 1878 it was the result of years of intimate contact and service to statesmanship. There were "leaks" in those days that spelled fame and fortune for the man who caught the leakage.

Such a relationship is well-nigh impossible now. Today, and especially in our own country, the whole machinery of government is press-gauged, so to speak. Every great department of our national life has a man whose function is to disseminate to the public, and through the press, a knowledge of its activities. Rarely, indeed, does a great piece of exclusive news come out of Washington—or, for that matter, from the European capitals.

All which simply goes to show that news, like everything else, has come to be a matter of system.—Munsey's Magazine.

**WHY HE SHED TEARS**



Drummer—I attended a funeral in a little village the other day at which even the undertaker shed tears.

Gunner—Was he a relative?  
Drummer—No; but the deceased was the only doctor in the town.

**CHARM OF TURGENEV.**

"Turgenev," says William Lyon Phelps in his essay on the novelist, "although an uncompromising realist, was at heart always a poet. In reading him we feel that what he says is true; it is life indeed; but we also feel an inexpressible charm. It is the mysterious charm of music that makes our hearts swell and our eyes swim. He saw life, as everyone must see it, through the medium of his own soul. As Joseph Conrad has said, no novelist describes the world; he simply describes his own world."

**CONSTITUTIONAL POINT.**

The Learned Counsel—Yes, the constitution certainly forbids cruel and unusual punishments.

The Plain Vag—Den how about dia rock pile sentence of mine? It sure is cruel to put me to work, 'cause work is de most unusual thing dat could happen to me.—New York Globe.

**NOT HIS CLASS.**

"Why should that author have an automobile?"

"Why shouldn't he?"  
"Because he's a hack writer."

**NO TIME WASTED.**

"The dog you sent here this morning bit at us and then ran away."

"He evidently determined he would show a case of snap and go."

**PALPABLE HINT.**

"I think a woman ought to make her clothes match her means."

"Dear me! Are your means as narrow as that?"

**NICE DISTINCTION.**

"Hubby, am I as dear to you as when we were courting?"

"Not as dear, wifey, but more expensive."

**DESK USED BY HAWTHORNE**

Famous Author Worked at It When He Was Surveyor of the Port of Salem.

The desk at which Nathaniel Hawthorne worked when he was surveyor of the port of Salem, during a period in the Polk administration, is still in existence in Salem, carefully preserved by its custodians. Hawthorne secured the appointment as surveyor through the intervention of his Democratic friends, who were influential at Washington at the time. Senator Fairfield of Maine was especially active in the matter, and the munificent salary of \$1,200 enabled this somewhat financially straitened literary genius of the first rank to live in comparative comfort during his four years of incumbency.

With the election of Taylor and Fillmore the Salem Whigs conspired to have Hawthorne supplanted by an official of their own political stripe, and the result of this unnecessary proscription against one of Salem's most noted native sons was his greatest story, "The Scarlet Letter." Appropriately, too, "The Scarlet Letter" is prefaced with an introduction, a reminiscence of the author's experience at the dingy seat of Salem's customs. The collector at the time was Gen. James Miller, the hero of Lundy's Lane, and Hawthorne's references to the man who could say in an exciting emergency, "I'll try, sir," lends interest to what is really one of the most attractive portions of the book.

Hawthorne refers to this identical desk in his minute description of the business room of the custom house. "An old pine desk with a three-legged stool beside it," is the way he referred to this equipment.

**HIS ONLY CHARITY**



Dinks—Old De Close is a sort of miser, they tell me.

Winks—Yes; but there is one thing he dispenses liberally.

Dinks—What is that?  
Winks—His pessimistic talk.

**HORSE SENSE.**

"Why is it that the dog is always referred to as the most intelligent animal?"

"Because he knows how to get a good living without doing any work," replied the horse.—New Orleans Picayune.

**WITHOUT HER.**

"He said he couldn't live without her."

"He seems to be doing it, all right."

"Why, she married him?"  
"I know, but she's a club woman."

**ENOUGH IS PLENTY.**

Casey—Do you iver play cards, O'Brien?

O'Brien (a gardener)—Faith, no! Oi get me full av handlin' spades in the daytime.—Boston Evening Transcript.

**WHY?**

"I permit my wife to run out house exactly to suit herself."

"Why do you drag in the word permit?"

**AFLUENCE.**

"Is she rich?"

"Heavens, yes! A specialist gets \$10,000 a year for doctoring her poodle."

**CRAMPED FINANCIALLY.**

"Why don't you keep a car, Plickin?"

"Well, for one thing, I'd hate to beg my gasoline from door to door."

**PITY 'TIS, 'TIS TRUE.**

Greene—Some day I'm going to have a chicken farm.

Brown (who had)—On your hands!—Puck.

**ODESSA YOUNG BUT LUSTY**

Great Commercial Center of Southern Russia Has Over Half a Million Inhabitants.

Odessa is one of the youngest of European cities—only a hundred and twenty years ago Hdji Bey, a little Turkish settlement, nestled on the cliffs that overlook the harbor and dozed under the sultan across the Black sea. The long arm of Russia reached out and took it, and planted there, upon the plateau overlooking the bay, the beginnings of a commercial city that now holds between five and six hundred thousand. The revolution in France soon sent refugees scattering over the world, and noble names came to Odessa, and one may read them still on street corners—Daribas, Richelieu and Langeron. Later Englishmen came and brought ships to carry away Russian grain; and then the Crimean war swept across this friendly relation. But the English stayed when the war had passed, and then Germans came, and afterward Americans, with reapers and plows and steam traction engines, to help the Russians to grow more richly the grain that the English and the German ships carried out to the world. Last of all came the Jews, and they cut the business so fine that the English starved and gave up; so the business of exporting today is mainly in the hands of the Jews. A few hardy Germans and English are left.—Sydney Adamson, in Harper's Magazine.

**ALL EXPLAINED**



Lady—How long were you in your last place?

Girl—Jisht a month.

Lady—Indeed? What was the trouble?

Girl—The trouble was, ma'am, that I got sick an' couldn't faw sooner.

**CIVIC JEALOUSY.**

Squire Durnitt (of Lonelyville)—They tell me you felt that earthquake in your town th' other day. It didn't bother us none.

Uncle Welby Gosh (of Drearyhurst)—Should say not. Ther' hain't no woy o' gittin' to your blamed little village 'ceph travelin' by dirt road, an' no decent earthquakes would take th' trouble to do that.

**HIS JOB.**

"There goes a man who was once pulling down a salary of \$15,000 a year as a baseball player."

"What is he doing now?"

"Serving as a horrible example for those who think they may as well spend their money as fast as they get it."

**VARIOUS STRATA.**

"I'm digging a well in my back yard."

"Struck water yet?"

"Not yet. I expect to strike hoopakirts by tomorrow noon."

**TRYING TO PLEASE.**

"I told Will I would like to see him kiss me."

"What did he do?"  
"Did it before a looking glass."

**IN THE CONSERVATORY.**

"Don't say anything now. Remember, walls have ears."

"Yes, and I notice all around are rubber plants."

**SOME PUNISHMENT.**

"What punishment did that defaulting banker get?"

"I understand his lawyer charged him \$40,000."

**AMBIGUOUS.**

"Can you stake me off to a good dinner?"

"Yes, if you're content to go without the steak."

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