

WOODLAND VOICES.

Across the woodlands here and still a... As if some hand with tender skill a... And back! the shivering silver trees...

ful, but she agreed, and it was fixed... "She died this morning," he added... "I don't know exactly what happened...

BIGGEST OF DIAMONDS.

DISCOVERY SUGGESTED BY DISCOVERY OF THE GEM. A Peril and a Nuisance to Possess, 4. Teaches to All the World a Free Lesson in Political Economy.

THE PULPIT.

A BRILLIANT SUNDAY SERMON BY DR. M. W. STRYKER, PRESIDENT OF HAMILTON COLLEGE. Subject: Service.

ANTIQUEITY OF FOOTBALL.

Played Many Years Ago by Italians, Who Introduced It in Britain. Did modern football, the Rugby game, come to England from the Italy of the renaissance and does its history reach back to ancient Greece?

STRANGE TRICKS OF HELPLESS ANIMALS.

Instinct of Self-Preservation Causes Them to Use Deceit Instead of Courage. There are a surprising number of Quaker animals—animals whose method of self-protection is to offer no resistance to their enemies.

THE STORY OF SHYLOCK II.

The clerks in our office decided today that the story of Shylock II. must be given to the world. It was also agreed that the literary part of the work must be done by me, Jack Slade, because last year I won a silver watch in a competition by guessing almost exactly the number of peas in a bottle.

Well, to begin with, four years ago, Harry Heywood was the best-hated fellow in our office. Four months ago he was the best-hated man in the place. This loss of popularity was entirely due to himself. From a bright, cheerful kind of a chap, up to no end of larks and always impetuous between pay days, he became a quiet, miserable-looking beggar and a regular miser.

But, anyhow, you can understand that Heywood gradually ceased to be a favorite with us. Some one christened him Shylock II., and the name stuck to him like a leech. We knew for a fact that he lived in lodgings and had not a relation in the world, so that the venerable yarn about supporting a poor old mother and a bundle of sisters wouldn't answer in this case. It was also known that he had been engaged to be married, but so one had seen with the girl for a long time—several years. The most plausible explanation was that a broken engagement had soured his heart and turned him into a misanthrope.

His clothes were worn to the very last stage of abjectness. It was five years since he had had a new overcoat, and as for his gloves, they were extinct altogether. And yet, somehow, most of us liked him, although we were ashamed to admit it. There was something so sad about his face. Not that I or anyone else ever heard him complain; he'd too much pride for that. But as for his miserly habits, we think they were...

ARMY OF 400,000 LED BY PHONE.

Every Stroke Correctly Timed by Field Marshal Oyama Utilizes Up-to-Date Methods. Among many things which the Japanese have done during the war which they are now waging and which have attracted the attention of the world, their use of the telephone is one. As each advance was made or a trench was dug connections were made with headquarters by telephone. Thus, not only was all important information transmitted immediately to the commander, but fighting was directed from the latter point by the same means.

Now it seems to me that this diamond is chiefly valuable, not because it is a jewel which it is a peril and a nuisance to possess, but because it teaches to all the world a free lesson in political economy. We are assured by Lord Alfred that the property of South Africa depends upon the completion of the railway lines, which will attract capital into the country. The discovery of this diamond should mean good dividends, and yet it is preposterous to suggest that South Africa is richer after the diamond has been exported than when the diamond lay buried, like British soldiers, in the sacred earth. What has happened is that a certain definite value has passed from one country, having no power, to another country, having no power. There has been no "over-spill" except the wages paid to the detectives and one or two railway fares. Let us suppose that the diamond worth half a million had been a more useful kind of carbon, as, for instance, coal worth half a million. The weighing of that coal would have necessitated the payment in wages of say \$250,000—assuming a figure merely for the sake of argument. The margin for dividend would have been smaller by that amount, yet the prosperity of South Africa would have been greater by that amount, whence we see that where there are foreign bondholders the smaller the profit and the higher the wage, the more of an "over-spill" will be left in the country where the industry is carried on. This anything like Chinese labor, which keeps up profits and keeps down wages, instead of developing the country, deprives it of its resources and leaves it a desert. The case is on a par with the export of rubber from the Congo slave state. At present that diamond is supposed to be in London. The wealth of London is supposed to be greater by half a million pounds—a fact which should be a consolation to West Ham. But let us suppose that somebody, as, for instance, Mr. Yerkes, buys the diamond and wears it in his shirt-front, with a revolver in each waist-pocket, chain armor next his skin and the Japanese Ambassador handy with his jin-jitsu. Mr. Yerkes, let us hope, goes to the Albert Hall, gets converted and decides to build a garden city for the staff of the District railway. In order to do this he has to sell his diamond to the richest Frenchman in the Channel and immediately there is work in this metropolis for bricklayers, laborers, carpenters and architects.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

In some parts of India sheep are used as beasts of burden, and are found to be capable of carrying from 17 to 25 pounds a day. A Missouri paper claims that farmers nowadays walk and stand much straighter than they did 30 or 40 years ago. The reason is that they are using machinery and more methods of farming are credited to them.

IN OLD KENTUCKY.

A representative in Washington tells this story to illustrate "the strenuous life" as it exists in certain parts of Kentucky: A well-to-do farmer once invited an acquaintance from a neighboring town to dine with him. The recipient of this courtesy was a man well known in that region for his general crankiness and his propensity to use his gun at the least evidence of what he considered an affront. The farmer, well aware of the touchiness of his guest, with whom, for business reasons, he desired to remain on good terms, always kept a wary eye on his visitor. One afternoon the testy individual, in conversation with his host, remarked: "I can't account for the queer feelings and impulses that come over me at times. Do you know, the first time I took dinner here I had as much as I could do to master the impulse, when one of your sons made a certain remark, to whip out my gun and let go." "Oh, don't you worry about that," said the farmer; "I know all about your little falling in that line. My son Jake was standin' in the hallway just back of you with a shot-gun. You did well to change your mind. At the first motion toward your hip pocket my son Jake had instructions to blow daylight through you!"—Harper's Weekly.

NO FARE FOR DOLL UNDER THREE.

True kindness does not abound in any particular place. A conductor on a Rindge avenue car the other day gave an example of how the ordinary things of life may be made attractive by the presence of a little kindness. The car stopped and a little girl carrying a large doll got on. The conductor came in to collect her fare. The little girl, who was about six years old, handed him a nickel. He looked at it and then at her. Her expression was that of perplexity. The conductor then leaned down and asked for her doll's fare. That request made the little girl's perplexity even greater. But the conductor quickly asked her whether the doll wasn't over three years old, and to her negative reply he said: "Oh! I thought she was, and I was waiting for her fare." Then he smilingly pulled the register strap, and the other passengers who had witnessed the occurrence somehow or other felt better for this little touch of whimsical comedy.—Philadelphia Record.

UNDER BOTH FLAGS.

Not long ago at a Confederate campfire in New York an elderly man approached General Wheeler, who was the guest of honor. "I want to shake hands with you, General," he said, putting out the only one he had. "Gray or Blue?" laughed the general, grasping it promptly. "Both," was the reply, "I fought with you under the Stars and Bars, and I fought with you under the Stars and Stripes."—New York Press.

BODIES IN CEMETERY GROUPED ACCORDING TO RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS.

An ancient custom still prevailing in many old burial grounds was described recently by a Richmond gentleman who has been making a study of the subject. He said that in many of the old cemeteries the bodies of the dead were grouped according to their religious affiliations. In many old burial grounds was described recently by a Richmond gentleman who has been making a study of the subject. He said that in many of the old cemeteries the bodies of the dead were grouped according to their religious affiliations.

ONLY CAMEL STATUE.

This is probably the only statue in which a camel figure that has ever been made. It is of General Gordon, who perished in the Sudan, mounted on the "ship of the desert," and was the work of the late Onslow Ford. After having been set up in London it was transported to Khartoum, where it marks the spot where "Chinese" Gordon tragically perished.

A TRUE SNAKE STORY.

The affair happened on Saturdays night, says the Bulletin of Charleston, in a room on the outskirts of Harton. Four card players were intent on a game of whist and the window was open to allow of some fresh air. Suddenly, out of the darkness, five feet of black mamba hurried itself through the open window into the room. For a moment every one was paralyzed, and then one of the occupants seized hold of the most handy weapon and flung it at the intruder. It happened to be a water bag and the snake received a cold douche, which was evidently not to its liking, for it vanished just as suddenly as it had come, by the same route. A search of the premises discovered the creature in an adjoining room, but it again made its escape, and, as the police would say, is still at large.

WAIT TILL IT DRIES.

Father Graham, as everybody in the village called him, was one of the old-fashioned gentlemen of whom there are so few left now. He was beloved by everyone, and his influence in the little town was great, so good and so active was he. A good many of the village had been badly insulted and came to Father Graham, full of angry indignation, declaring that he was going to act and demand an apology. "Father Graham said, 'Take a word of advice from an old man who loves peace. An insult is like mud; it will brush off much better when it is dry. Wait a little till he and you are both cool and then you can depend upon it the thing is easily mended. If you go now, it will only be a quarrel.'"

A THOUGHT.

I wish cities would teach their best lesson—of quiet manners. It is the fable especially of American youth—pretensions. The mark of the man of the world is absence of pretension. He does not make a speech; he takes a low business tone, avoids all brag, is nobody, dresses plainly, pronounces not at all, performs much, speaks inappreciably, hugs his fact. He calls his employment by its lowest name, and so takes from evil tongues their sharpest weapon.—From Emerson's Essay on "Culture."

A QUESTION DECIDED.

"Which," said the man who used to belong to a debating society, "exercises the greater influence—love of reward or fear of punishment?" "Love of reward," answered the member of the grand jury. "Nearly every investigation of graft shows that the fear of punishment is scarcely in evidence."—Washington Star.

OPINION OF THE FELLOWS WAS ENTIRELY HOSTILE.

My opinion of the fellows was entirely hostile. I think we could have justified myself, but he never tried to do so, and perhaps that turned us against him; and after a while we had drifted so far apart that no one in the office spoke to him except about business. He stood it I don't know. I expect he felt bad sometimes, but he gave no sign, except that he seemed to grow thinner and shabbier every day. But all this time he must have been saving nearly a hundred pounds a year out of his princely income of one hundred and fifty.

ONE EVENING I HAD TO MEET A TRAIN AT IT.

One evening I had to meet a train at it. An old rabbit-warren of a place it is, so you will understand he is only found the platform at the last minute. The porter told me it was No. 7, and so I fixed myself there with a cigar so as to impress the girl favorably when she looked for me as the train came in. I struck a grand attitude and hung on to it until the train stopped. The guard skipped out to see that I was to make certain I asked him if he had come from Chapham. "Not exactly," he answered; "this is the south coast express."

THE NEXT MORNING I FORGOT ALL ABOUT EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE SHOCK OF SEEING SHYLOCK II.

The next morning I forgot all about everything else in the shock of seeing Shylock II. He was shaking hands with a fellow who had just come in by the train. They walked down the platform together as friendly as could be, and when I saw the other man's face you could have knocked me down with a feather. He had formerly been employed by our firm as a lift man, but was discharged for making bets with the clerks in the office. He used to "make a book" at every race in the year, except the human race, and that he said, was too uncertain to bet about. I felt downright sorry at seeing these two together. The instinct that had told me Heywood was saving for some straightforward purpose oozed out of me at once on receiving such a squeeze as this.

IT SEEMS THAT A PITY TO THINK THAT A FELLOW OF HIS ABOUT BEING SO IRRIFABLY ENTANGLED.

It seems that a pity to think that a fellow of his about being so irrefably entangled. A slave to gambling, a mere low-class plunger? But it couldn't be so; there must be a better explanation. I was trying to think out some excuse for him all the way out of the station. As for the girl, I forgot all about her, and that's the truth. Half-way across Waterloo bridge I collided with a chap who was staring miserably at the river. And when he turned round I saw to my amazement that it was the very man who was troubling my thoughts. "Looking at the river?" I said, trying to speak in a friendly tone. "Yes," he answered, drearily; "it flows very smoothly, doesn't it?" "Why, yes, I suppose it does. But look here, Shy—Heywood, what's the use of being such a miserable soft as you are? Look at me, I've far more troubles than you, and yet you don't catch me moping."

THE TWO SIDES OF A PERSON'S FACE ARE NEVER ALIKE.

The two sides of a person's face are never alike, according to the Indianapolis News. The eyes are out of line in two cases out of five, and one eye is stronger than the other in seven persons out of ten. The right ear is also, as a rule, bigger than the left.

PARIS IS POORER BY THE PRESENCE OF THE JEWEL.

Paris is poorer by the presence of the jewel and that London is richer by its absence. In other words, capital locked up in the luxuries of the wealthy is a curse and capital released for the service of the community is a blessing. It is exactly the same with pictures. A Madonna, let us say, is worth \$20,000. This means that somebody is paying \$20,000 to get the pleasure of possessing that Madonna. For the same \$1000 it may be that the Madonna is looked at once by one marquis for five minutes; or it may be that the Madonna, by being placed in the National Gallery, is looked at by one million Englishmen and five million American globe trotters in the course of a single summer. The public view and the private view cost just the same, the only difference being that the glance of a marquis is worth many thousand times as much as the glance of a plebeian (which is obvious). Now, the difficulty of popularizing diamonds lies in the fact that it is so very hard for many people to see them at the same moment. This little bit of bottle glass which is creating so much fuss is no good to any one at a distance of more than three feet. If wherever that diamond goes there will its light be reflected back in envious glances at the wearer. If that diamond should come your way, my friend, sell it. If no one will buy it, then give it to your worst enemy and pray to be forgiven. If your worst enemy won't have it, bribe her with all the pocket money you can get out of your hands. If, finally, your enemy sends the stone back to you by parcel post, then stamp upon it with the heel of

POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

The census office estimates the present population of the United States at \$3,518,000. It is not insisted that the estimate is absolutely accurate, as it is based upon the theory that the annual increase of population since the last census would be one-tenth of the decennial increase between the last two censuses.—Philadelphia Ledger.

THE FIRST FANCY WILL UNCONSCIOUSLY INFLUENCE YOU TO CARRY YOUR SHOULDER LIKE A MILITARY MAN.

The first fancy will unconsciously influence you to carry your shoulders like a military man bent on exhibiting his gold buttons. The second will teach you to stink into a chair gently and gracefully, instead of hunching into it. Also, it will train you to climb stairs erect. You can't twist, or bend over, as women usually do, or go upstairs, if you have a basket of eggs on your head—even an imaginary one—can you? So put on the flashing gold stars, which is worn to be seen, and not the basket of eggs on your head, and see what the combined fancy will do for your carriage.—Philadelphia Bulletin.