

TIT-BITS.

How it Happened.

Customer—"How does it happen that you give me only half as much balsam of flumgumfoozle for fifteen cents as you did a few months ago?"

Druggist—"It has advanced in price on account of the McKinley bill."

"But the McKinley bill didn't make any change in the duty on flumgumfoozle balsam. It affected only the extract."

"Well, the balsam went up—h'm—it went up on account of sympathy."—[N. Y. Mercury.]

Always Faithful.

Querious—"What's that machine that I stumbled over as I came through the hall? Some new ventilating apparatus? It was buzzing round like an old electric fan."

Cynicus—"Oh, no; that's only our gas meter. The man removed it in order to put in a new one, but it keeps going just the same."

Very Accommodating.

Mrs. Wedyear (with a small attack of the grip and a large attack of the blues)—"And if I should die, Earnest, would you come and sit by my grave?"

Ernest—"Oh, gladly, gladly."

Very Lovely.

"I love that Harry Smith." "Do you really?" "Yes. He has the loveliest monogram." "What is it?" "S."

The Woes of a Dejected Citizen.

"Water," said the dejected citizen, "is the cause of all my troubles."

"How was that?"

"I was once seckary of the Order of Tramps, with good prospects in life. But I got to be a suspect. They thought I had gone over to the enemy."

"How was that?"

"I stood so long in a rainstorm that they thought I was tryin' to sneak a bath on them."

Only Hearsay Testimony.

Colonel Percy Yerger—"So I've caught you smoking cigarettes. You are only fifteen years old and indulge in all these vices."

Tommy Yerger—"But, father, you must remember that you were a boy once yourself."

Colonel Yerger—"I was, eh? How did you come to find that out? What do you know about my boyhood? Did you ever see me smoke when I was a boy?"

Just What He Wanted.

Jack Hardup—"Oh, Miss Ploutot, may I hope at all?"

Miss Ploutot—"No, Mr. Hardup, this must go no farther; but I will be a sister to you."

Jack Hardup—"Well, then, Miss Ploutot, just remind the old gentleman that I'm his son. I'm afraid he might forget me in his will."

A Sensitive Tenant.

Indignant Landlord—"If you don't pay up, out you go. I'll have you fired right out into the street, bag and baggage. You haven't paid a cent in six months."

Delinquent Tenant—"Don't do that. I'll be disgraced in the eyes of the neighbors. Rather than have you fire me out, I'll stand your raising the rent from twenty to thirty dollars a month."

Her Custom.

Mrs. Prentice—"How do you always manage to have such delicious beef?"

Mrs. Binyhre—"I select a good, honest butcher and then stand by him."

Mrs. Prentice—"You mean that you give him all your trade?"

Mrs. Binyhre—"No, I mean that I stand by him while he is cutting off the meat."

Apropos of the Eikon Basilike.

"I don't believe Charles I ever wrote it. I don't believe Charles I could have written it," began Shilley Higgins.

"Oh, rodents, Shelley, rodents! You overwhelm me with ennu,!" retorted Penelope Adams.

The "Ad." Which Never Came.

He was tall, gaunt, and seedy, and he had a sore eye and carried his right hand enveloped in a bandana which had evidently travelled afar. He walked up to a man who was standing at one of the windows in the Post Office corridor, and extending a piece of wrapping paper and the stub of a pencil, he commanded:

"Write me a personal to be inserted in the papers. You see my right hand is useless."

"I'll oblige you, certainly," replied the other. "What will you have?"

"Write it thusly: 'Will the lady who had on a sealskin ulster and diamond earrings, and whose front teeth were filled with gold—'"

"I've got it."

"—and who is doubtless way up in G. and who stood for a moment on the corner of Fifth avenue and Fourteenth street three weeks ago Tuesday—"

"I have it down."

"—and who was smiled at by a gent, evidently the victim of adverse circumstances, and who seemed to regard him with favorable consideration—"

"I'm waiting."

"—please send her address to: 'Crushed, But Not Conquered, City Post Office.' She can write in confidence. Object: Mutual advancement, and possibly matrimony."

"Exactly. Here it is. Is that all?"

"That's all, thanks."

"And do you think it will work?"

"It's got to. I've staked my all on the throw, and desperation always brings success. If you could advance me a dollar to buy a bouquet of roses to hold in my left hand at our first meeting I think—"

But the other had gone, and the soft April breeze crept in at the open doors and gently climbed up the long, thin body of the unconquered until they reached his ear and soothingly whispered "Next."

Sleep.

The condition in which we pass at least one-third of our lives is certainly one of the highest importance and interest, and it is, even with our present knowledge, not devoid of a certain amount of mystery. We know that in sleep the amount of blood circulating in the brain is considerably diminished, and it is, undoubtedly, the time when the waste of nervous system is repaired, and a store of vital force—whatever that may be—laid up for the labors of the ensuing day.

The profound influence which the state of slumber has upon the human system, is evident to anyone who has ever passed one or more nights without the presence of "tired Nature's sweet restorer;" and the feeling of strength, vigor, and well-being with which one awakens after a period of sound, dreamless sleep, shows that the restorative influence extends to every part of the body. The need of sleep is an imperative one, and, in many cases, is almost irresistible. Instances are on record of soldiers sleeping on horseback, or even in the midst of a battle, and many a sentry has been sentenced to death for sleeping at his post, and who was in no way to blame for his neglect of duty, but was simply overcome by a demand of Nature which he was unable to resist, even at the peril of his life. Similar instances are known of railroad engineers and steamboat pilots sleeping when on duty, with the knowledge that the lives of many others, as well as their own, depended upon their wakefulness.

The proper amount of sleep required by anyone is an individual peculiarity, and no general rule can be given. The new-born infant sleeps nearly all the time, but the periods of wakefulness soon grow longer, through childhood and youth, until the full-grown adult devotes a minimum time to the recuperation of his bodily energies, while in old age the need of more time for sleep is again felt. The feelings are the best guide in this respect, and if one awakes completely refreshed after six hours of slumber, that amount is doubtless sufficient for his bodily needs, while another person may require nine or ten hours of each day to restore the balance of vital profit and loss. Nothing, however, can be worse than to regularly deprive one's self of needed sleep, in order to have more time for work or pleasure. This is like expending one's capital instead of the interest, and although the final result may be postponed, it can only end in physiological bankruptcy.

The time of sleep is of no particular consequence, and is largely a matter of habit. The darkness and quiet of night naturally lead to repose, but large numbers of people must, necessarily, reverse the usual practice and devote the daylight hours to slumber. Neither is there any particular hygienic virtue in early rising. The familiar old couplet is only true in a very general sense, and there are a great many cases where a man would be healthier, wealthier, and wiser if he delayed the time of his rising to an hour consistent with his own feelings and inclinations.

Dreams, undoubtedly, occur during disturbed sleep, or during the interval between sleeping and waking, and—although it is not easy to prove this—it is more probable that a sound sleep is a dreamless one. Unusual mental anxiety or excitement, or a disturbed state of the bodily organs, such as an overloaded stomach, may cause a certain activity of the mental processes, which will become manifested in dreams. The sudden awakening of a sleeper will often cause a dream in the brief interval before full consciousness is attained. Dreams more often relate to daily and important occurrences in our daily life; but, on the contrary, the most trivial incident, forgotten for many years, may be, as it were stored up somewhere in the brain, to be afterwards revived in a dream, with all the accompanying circumstances.

The literature and curiosities of sleep and dreams are, however, very extensive, and it would be impossible to refer to even a fractional part of the observed phenomena. A simple falling asleep, if it were not so common, would be a most wonderful and even alarming occurrence. Although the vital processes of a sleeper go on as usual, yet the mental life, the self-consciousness is suspended, and the sleeper is practically dead to this world, or else wandering in another and stranger world—that of dreamland. A dreamer may be said to be in two places at once, and if from any cause, he should not awake, but continue to dream on indefinitely, it would be hard to say why he would not be living just as true and real a life as the one which he knew in his waking hours. Hamlet's chief argument against suicide was that "In that sleep of death who know what dreams may come?" and Bryant, in his poem, Thanatopsis, speaks of welcoming the approach of death,

"Like one that wraps the drapery of his couch About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

It is noble, and perhaps the most logical conception we can form of the great and inevitable change that must come to us all, to consider it as but the awakening from the dream of our present life into a higher state of existence, with a comprehension of the laws governing the universe and our individual being, which shall lead us to look back upon the experiences of our present life as we now vaguely remember the visions of a disturbed slumber, and with as little regret that we have forever passed away.—Popular Science News.

Competition.

In order to ascertain the views of chemists throughout Great Britain as to which of the remedies for outward application had the largest sale and greatest popularity, "The Chemist and Druggist" instituted a post card competition, each dealer to name on a post card the preparation which had the largest sale and was the most popular with customers, and the publisher received 635 of these cards, with the following results:

Table listing various medicinal products and their sales figures: St. Jacobs Oil (384), Elliman's Embrocation (172), Holloway's Ointment (32), Alcock's Plasters (19), Bow's Liniment (7), Pain Killer (7), Vaseline (4), Cuticura (2), Scattering (2), Total (635).

The continued bad weather in New York has given the gripe a firmer hold there and in the New England cities. Twenty-two deaths in one day and 108 in one week from the malady in New York alone is rather serious.

Capital and Labour.

Thoughtful observers of the perpetual and disastrous struggles between capital and labour must often have wondered why a proximate solution of the whole problem has not long since been found in the principle of profit-sharing. The wonder still grows, for this system, in some of the many forms in which it has been and is now being successfully applied, must have in it the essential qualities of the remedy so sadly needed. Carried to its logical results the principle of profit-sharing should develop such potency for the correction of whatever is unjust in the ordinary distribution of the fruits of industry as would make it a veritable panacea for all troubles arising from this source between employers and employed. A Parliamentary return which has been recently published in England gives much interesting information with regard to the extent to which profit-sharing has already been carried in different countries. The chief forms in which the system is adopted may be briefly characterized as the bonus, the provident fund, the joint ownership system and the cash payment out of net profits. The bonus system, which consists simply of the distribution of a yearly gift or thank-offering to the workers, is fitly described as the "chrysalis stage of profit-sharing," and we shall not probably be far astray if we regard the order in which other methods are named above as indicating successive stages of its development. The cash payment system, under which a percentage of the profits is added to wages, is said to be probably the most popular among working men. A good many firms combine different systems. For example the great undertaking of M. Leclaire, house painter and decorator, of Paris, combines, in its present development, the cash system, the stock system and the provident fund. According to the present organization of the Leclaire firm, 5 per cent. of the capital of 400,000 francs is deducted, like wages, to find the net profit, and of the net sum 50 per cent. goes to reward labour in cash, 25 per cent. goes to the management, and 25 per cent. to a great provident society, which, by the liberality of M. Leclaire, has become half-owner of the capital of the firm. M. Leclaire's business, like that of some other eminent firms which have adopted the principle of profit-sharing, has been a splendid success. It is easily understood why this should be so when we consider some of the sources of the advantages to be derived from the system. These are classified as follows: 1. Reduction of waste of material. 2. Superior excellence in the work done. 3. Diminished expense of superintendence. 4. Greater stability in the staff, and consequent reduction of risk in commercial enterprise. 5. Increase of practical information connected with the business, the workers being stimulated to aid the managing staff with suggestions as to improvements and information as to new processes. Mr. William E. Bear, of London, to whose article in Bradstreet's we are indebted for the foregoing particulars, says that some strong evidence as to the success of the profit-sharing system is given in the report. Fifty-two English, seventy-nine French and twenty-three American firms are named as profit sharers. As the system first came into operation more than forty years ago in France and about twenty years ago in England, it must be confessed that its evolution has not been so rapid as the sanguine might have hoped and expected. Still, the fact that it has made so much progress, and has proved undeniably successful in so many instances, affords good ground for hoping for far greater results in the future. Profit-sharing is next of kin to co-operation, but combines with it the advantages of capital and business ability—the want of which have so often proved fatal to cooperative enterprises.

Snow Statues.

Boys and girls who make "snow men" may not be aware that they are artists, but in a humble way they are, and many stories have been told of sculptors who have obtained the inspiration of their career from the making of figures in snow. Thorwaldsen, the great Danish sculptor, was one of these. He was instinctively an artist in snow before he became an artist in clay and marble. Furthermore, trained sculptors have condescended to make statues in snow.

Pietro de Medici, a great patron of art in Italy, employed Michael Angelo, during a particularly severe winter in Northern Italy, to make snow statues, and the sculptor executed these singular commissions with fidelity.

Under the reign of Louis XIII. of France a splendid statue in snow was erected at the crossing of several streets in Paris with verses in neat raised letters upon it which may be translated thus:

"Remember, you who pass, the day When you, like me, must melt away; And pray that while rule the sky, For when it thaws, alas! I die."

During the severe winter of 1784, King Louis XVI. of France ordered his finance minister to use the public moneys to alleviate the condition of the poor of Paris; and in return the Parisians raised to the King a fine statue of snow in one of the most public places of the city. The pedestal bore some very ordinary and perfunctory verses, somewhat like the following:

"Great Louis, the poor, whom thy bounties protect, To thee but a statue of snow may erect; But to thy generous heart it is pleasant, sure, That the marble should pay for bread of the poor."

Six years afterward another very cold winter came, and the people then cared very little for the benefactions of King Louis. Snow statues were again the order of the day, and one of them, a representation of the goddess of Liberty, was said to have borne this somewhat ironical but prophetic inscription:

"This is Liberty! Worship her, for to-morrow she will be gone."

The young German Emperor is going in for authorship. He has just finished a history of the reign of his grandfather. The work is in two volumes, and not more than 200 copies will be struck off. These his Royal Highness will not sell, but will present by way of compliment to members of the Imperial family and reigning princes of Europe. It is understood that the Royal author, who doubtless has to draw the line somewhere, will draw it at the Presidents of Republics, and therefore President Carnot will not have the pleasure of criticizing the Imperial style. Beyond doubt the Emperor would experience a mauvaise quart d'heure if the Paris journalists got possession of a copy.

Sketch of Barnum's Life.

Phineas Taylor Barnum was born in the town of Bethel, Conn., July 5, 1810. His father, Philo Barnum, was a captain in the revolutionary war. When 6 years old Phineas began to go to school, and when 15 years old he went to work at a little town called Grassy Plain, a mile from Bethel, as boy in a country store. He soon gained the good will of his employers.

Barnum's first business venture upon his own behalf was a retail fruit and confectionery store which he opened in February, 1828, in Bethel. He was also the agent for several lotteries, which afterwards proved so profitable that he neglected his shop to go round the country establishing lottery agencies in Stamford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Middletown, and Danbury. It was at this time that he issued the first number of his own paper, a weekly called the Herald of Freedom. With the energy of a young man he got into a number of libel suits, and after passing sixty days in jail as the result of one of them he sold out his paper in November, 1834, and moved to New York. He had expected to go into business as a grocer, but finding no opening and hearing of a wonderful old woman in Philadelphia named Joice Heth, who was said to be 160 years old, and who had been the nurse of George Washington, he engaged her to give exhibitions, and took her through New York, Boston, and other places, the old lady finally dying of fatigue in February, 1835. Barnum at last found his profession.

A circus man named Aaron Turner, whom he had met in his travels with the old woman, offered him \$30 a month and one-fifth of the profits to act as ticket-seller, secretary, and treasurer. The next five years were passed in this business. In 1841 he opened a saloon in New York and during his spare time peddled illustrated bibles. He also wrote advertisements for the Bowery museum, receiving \$4 a week as salary, and articles for the Sunday papers. What he saw of the Bowery museum led him to believe that the American museum, an old curiosity shop at Broadway and Ann street, now the site of the Herald building, could be made to pay if managed in a more energetic manner. He got the museum on credit. It was in the museum that he first showed the famous woolly horse, which afterward turned out to be an unfortunate donkey to which the wool had been made to stick. Within two years Barnum was making a fortune at the museum. It was in November, 1842, that he first heard of a remarkably small child at Bridgeport, Conn.

Charles S. Stratton was then 2 feet high and weighed less than sixteen pounds. Barnum engaged him for four weeks at \$3 a week, and he first appeared at the museum under the name of Gen. Tom Thumb on Thanksgiving day, 1842. Tom Thumb remained with Barnum many years.

The most famous enterprise to Barnum's name is connected with the visit of Jenny Lind to this country. Barnum had heard of the famous singer while travelling in Europe with Tom Thumb and engaged her for seventy-five concerts at \$1,000 a concert and a certain share of the profits. He was required to deposit \$187,000 in advance in the hands of Jenny Lind's London bankers.

Jenny Lind arrived in this country Sept. 1, 1850. Her first concert was at Castle Garden Sept. 11. She gave ninety-eight concerts in all, the total receipts being \$712,181.

Having made half a million dollars, Barnum built himself a beautiful house in Bridgeport and became a partner in the Jerome Clock company. The company wanted \$110,000, ostensibly to extend its business, but its affairs were so managed that within a year poor Barnum, who was never much of a business man in the ordinary sense of the term, found himself responsible for half a millions dollars' worth of the company's bad debts. His whole fortune was wiped out at a blow, leaving him in debt for more than \$130,000. This was in 1856. With characteristic energy Barnum undertook the personal direction of the old American museum again, and having sold the ground lease to Bennett for nearly \$200,000, he built another museum up-town and by endless ingenious devices for attracting public attention made money steadily.

He took another trip to Europe with Tom Thumb and lectured all over Eng and upon the art of money-making and money-losing. During the years after the collapse of his Jennie Lind fortune, Barnum was a great sufferer by fire. The old American museum at Broadway and Ann street was burned down in July, 1865, and the new museum up-town met with the same fate in March, 1868. Twice his own country house in Bridgeport was burned to the ground. The history of the shows with which Barnum has been since connected, and through which in the last ten years he has made more than a million dollars, is almost a matter of history. He has certainly made a million dollars or more by "the greatest moral show on earth."

For many years he lived in a handsome house on Fifth avenue, in New York, above the door-pull of which are the three letters, P. T. B., which the initiated understand to be Phineas Taylor Barnum, and the rest of the world translate "Pull the Bell." Within the last few years his peculiar genius for discovering just what the public would go wild over led him to import Jumbo, to secure baby elephants, and to get hold of the only genuine sacred white elephant ever exported from Siam. What Barnum really paid for this beast and whether he was whitewashed or not will probably not be known.

It is well known that Barnum employed Dr. Doremus some years ago to bleach an elephant, and that the experiments were carried on until it was evident that Barnum's artificial white elephant would certainly be a dead elephant. As a public-spirited citizen Barnum had always been a great favorite in New York and in Bridgeport. He was twice married and had two married daughters and a number of grandchildren. The showman's instinct is inborn in him. It is said that when he was last married his wedding trip consisted of a trip around the hippodrome with his new wife in one of his gorgeous chariots. There was an immense audience present and Barnum could not resist the temptation to mingle business with pleasure. Probably the same spirit induced him to invite King Kalakaua of the Sandwich Islands to ride around the ring and show himself to the audience. The king seemed to find nothing improper in the invitation and was tremendously applauded. Such colossal audacity as Mr. Barnum displayed on this occasion stamped him as no ordinary man.

During the last forty years of his life Mr. Barnum was a strong advocate of temperance and delivered several lectures on the subject.

Dyspepsia

Intense Suffering for 8 years—Restored to Perfect Health.

Few people have suffered more severely from dyspepsia than Mr. E. A. McMahon, a well known grocer of Staunton, Va. He says: "Before 1878 I was in excellent health, weighing over 200 pounds. In that year an ailment developed into acute dyspepsia, and soon I was reduced to 162 pounds, suffering burning sensations in the stomach, palpitation of the heart, nausea, and indigestion. I could not sleep, lost all heart in my work, had fits of melancholia, and for days at a time I would have welcomed death. I became morose, sullen and irritable, and for eight years life was a burden. I tried many physicians and many remedies. One day a workman employed by me suggested that I take Hood's Sarsaparilla, as it had cured his wife of dyspepsia. I did so, and before taking the whole of a bottle I began to feel like a new man. The terrible pains to which I had been subjected, ceased, the palpitation of the heart subsided, my stomach became easier, nausea disappeared, and my entire system began to tone up. With returning strength came activity of mind and body. Before the fifth bottle was taken I had regained my former weight and natural condition. I am today well and I ascribe it to taking Hood's Sarsaparilla."

Intense Suffering

8 Years. N. B. If you decide to take Hood's Sarsaparilla do not be induced to buy any other.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists, \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

The Grocers' Journal, of London, Eng., in an article last week on the position of cheese, refers to the rapid strides Canadian cheese is making in the estimation of the English buyers and congratulates the Canadians on the appreciation shown their products in the English markets and the fact that they "have established their produce so firmly on our markets."

"August Flower"

How does he feel?—He feels blue, a deep, dark, unfading, dyed-in-the-wool, eternal blue, and he makes everybody feel the same way—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels a headache, generally dull and constant, but sometimes excruciating—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels a violent hiccupping or jumping of the stomach after a meal, raising bitter-tasting matter or what he has eaten or drunk—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels the gradual decay of vital power; he feels miserable, melancholy, hopeless, and longs for death and peace—August Flower the Remedy.

How does he feel?—He feels so full after eating a meal that he can hardly walk—August Flower the Remedy.

G. G. GREEN, Sole Manufacturer, Woodbury, New Jersey, U. S. A.

The desirability of making small social entertainments useful as well as ornamental appears to press from time to time on the minds of hostesses. The question, what is the best thing to do at a small function that is neither a dance nor a dinner, nor even a formal reception, has been solved in many American houses by the introduction of readings as the piece de resistance, preceded and followed by the best available music. Considering the growing taste for eloquence there is no wonder that such evenings are popular.

St. JACOBS OIL THE GREAT REMEDY FOR PAIN

SPRAINS, STRAINS, INJURIES.

It is an erroneous idea to suppose that great force is required to produce a strain or sprain. There are so many delicate muscles and tendons which hold together the ankle and foot, and direct the vehicle of locomotion, that a very slight thing often causes not only a very painful, but a very serious sprain, which St. Jacobs Oil will cure.

SURELY AND PERFECTLY. Weak Spots.—A large number of cases is reported of accidents to the ankle or foot, more than to all the rest of the body. The knee is also a very delicate centre of action, and injuries thereto very frequently result in acute pains, enlargements, stiffness, and sometimes permanent stiffness, unless St. Jacobs Oil prevents, and its

BEST CURES ARE CHRONIC CASES. Definition.—Sprain or strain is to weaken, as a joint or muscle, by sudden and excessive exertion; to stretch muscles or ligaments without dislocation, and St. Jacobs Oil cures

EASILY AND WITHOUT RECURRENCE. Treatment.—Rub with St. Jacobs Oil freely and thoroughly the part affected. Protect the body from cold and draft.

THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md. Canadian Depot: Toronto, Ont.