

### A Romantic Thief.

It will be recollected that a young Frenchman was arrested on board the Allan steamer *Polynesian*, on her arrival at this side recently, and held for extradition on grave charges of embezzlement in Paris. We find in our European exchanges the following account of his career:—

The facts of a long continued system of robbery by a confidential employee have just been brought to light in Paris. A certain Teschemacher, a German by birth, has long enjoyed the entire confidence of a great Anglo-French firm, Messrs. Poissot, of Bradford and Paris. Though but twenty-eight years old and boyish of appearance, Teschemacher occupied the position of chief cashier, and was even trusted with authority to sign for the firm. Just before the war, in a public place, he made the acquaintance of Marguerite Chauvin, a young person of some attractions and superior education. Led for her sake into large expenses, he began to gamble on the turf, with such luck as to win nearly £4,000 in a very short time. Thereupon he bought two ponies, a basket carriage and other knickknacks of the sort, and hired a charming little house in the Avenue Bourdon—a neighborhood very retired. There he sat up a staff of servants, passing under the name of Baron Alphonse. Speaking English excellently, he was supposed, in the Avenue Bourdon, to be a wealthy and eccentric mildred, whose ruinous expenses were a subject of gossip. Going out early in clothes of the latest fashion, he passed the day at his desk in a coat almost too ancient for respectability, dined for a franc and a half, and returned home late, fashioned and clad as he had set out. His bachelor chamber, modest beyond what his position authorized, was known to all in the office at 81 Boulevard Magenta. But fortune changed. Cards and horses turned against the cashier. He began to falsify his books. But for three years the double life was led without discovery, though the servants of Baron Alphonse are wonderfully suspicious since came the warning of a catastrophe inevitable, though so long deferred. M. Poissot arrived from Bradford, and proposed to go over the books. Teschemacher saw his game was up, opened the safe, took out £12,000 in notes, and caught the night mail for London. Having taken care to balance the book, he still left no suspicion behind, until his non-appearance caused alarm. Before the telegraph overtook him, he had taken ship for Quebec on board the *Prusian*. His companion even was too late to catch him, having delayed too long over her trunks. She came back to Paris, and was arrested with 22,000 francs upon her. Of course the Atlantic cable had been brought into requisition, and it is to be hoped that when the runaway lands at Quebec he will find certain persons with arms wide open ready to receive him.—*Montreal Witness*.

### Witiccisms.

What throat is the best for a singer to reach high notes with?—A soar throat.

It is said that necessity knows no law. This accounts for people making such a virtue of necessity.

"With all thy faults I love the still," as the man said to his wife when she was giving him a curtain lecture.

A gentleman who has a scolding wife, in answer to an inquiry after her health, said she was pretty well, only subject at times to a "breaking out in the mouth."

A physician once defended himself from railery by saying, "I defy any person whom I ever attended to accuse me of ignorance or neglect." "That you may do safely," replied an auditor, "for you know, doctor, dead men tell no tales."

The following is a specimen of II-bernian epistolary composition:—

"O'Regan, march 32—'Im if yerc didd wrighte how it happened an eyere alove thin cum out here immadiately or sooner. Im farmin 50 acres o' land an have 2 cows and a horse givin milk. Yer own brother,  
PAT HOULAHAN."

A stranger from the country observing an ordinary ruler rule on the table, took it up, and inquiring its use, was answered that it was a ruler for "counting-houses." Too well bred, as he construed politeness, to ask unnecessary questions, he turned it over and over and up and down repeatedly, and at last in a paroxysm of baffled curiosity inquired, "How in the name of wonder, do you count houses with this?"

### An Audacious Quack.

One of the most audacious quacks that Great Britain ever produced was John Harrison Curtis, "aunist." He knew almost absolutely nothing of the profession that he adopted, but he got something of a reputation, and was once summoned to attend Sir Robert Peel, who was suffering from temporary deafness. He went provided with two watches, one that ticked very weakly and another that made as much noise as a clock. Peel began to question him as to his mode of treatment, but Curtis, giving him a dig with a syringe, told him that if he didn't hold his tongue some injury would befall him. The quack at first applied the weak-ticking watch to Sir Robert's ear, and of course he couldn't hear anything; but after working for some time he used the other one, and Peel could hear perfectly well! It was a marvelous cure!

A Milwaukee woman's bonnet costs, upon an average, about \$15, but she has the bill made out for \$30 or \$40, in order to show it to the woman next door.

### Grasshoppers in China.

We find in an exchange the following account of the way in which locusts—that is, grasshoppers—are dealt with in China: "The local authorities, whether civil or military, are held responsible for the stamping out of these insects as soon as their appearance has been reported. They are required to summon a large body of men, and at once surround and destroy the locusts, the expenses of the maintenance of the men and compensation for the crops trodden down during the chase being supplied by the Provincial Treasury. Should the local authorities succeed in stamping out the locusts within a limited time, their services are favorably reported to the Emperor; but should they fail, and the locusts spread and do damage, they are liable to be deprived of their posts, arrested, and handed over to the proper board for punishment. A certain sum per bushel is paid to peasants bringing in winged locusts, and half that sum when the locusts are able to fly, while compensation is given for crops trodden down in the chase. The locusts are swept with besoms into trenches dug at the sides of the corn-fields, in which a vigorous fire is kept up. The best time to capture locusts is when they are feeding at dawn of day, when their bodies being heavy with dew and their wings wet, they are unable to jump or fly." If the Western States or any parts of them are to be visited by the locusts in the future as they have been of late years, some system of defence will have to be adopted. Under existing circumstances the use of men in large numbers is impracticable, and the ingenuity of inventors or scientists is our only hope. The prospect, it must be confessed, is not very cheering, for the vast uninhabited regions afford breeding grounds which effectually defy all attempts at extermination.—*Christian Union*.

### Rare Sentiments.

Forty years once seemed a long and weary pilgrimage to make. In now seems but a step; and yet along the way are broken shrines where a thousand hopes fade to ashes, footsteps sacred under their drifting dust, green mounds where the grass is fresh with the watering of tears. We will garner the sunshine of these years, and with chastened steps and hope press on toward the twilight where the waters are still and the storms never beat.

When the summer of youth is slowly wasting away in the nightfall of age, and the shadows of the past years grow deeper and deeper, and life wears to its close, it is pleasant to look back, through the vista of time upon the sorrows and felicities of our earliest years. If we have a home to shelter and a heart to rejoice with us, and friends, then the rough places of our wayfaring will have worn away in the twilight of life, while the sunny spots we have passed through will grow brighter and more beautiful. Happy indeed, are they whose intercourse with the world has not changed the tone of their holier feeling, or broken the musical chords of the heart, whose vibrations are so melodious, so tender and touching in the evening of old age.

### Veteran Jokers.

The Duke of Wellington and Lord Brougham were utterly unlike in temperament and tastes, and used to say sharp things to each other, though with perfect courtesy and good nature. Here is a specimen of their method of joking:—

Lord Brougham, who invented the vehicle now known by his name, was met in the House of Lords by the Duke of Wellington, who, accosting him with a low bow, said:

"I have always been under the impression that your lordship would go down to posterity as the great apostle of education, the emancipator of the negro, the restorer of abused charities, the reformer of the law. But no—you will hereafter be known only as the inventor of a carriage."

To this Brougham replied by which he had imagined the Duke would be remembered, adding—

"But no—your Grace will be known as the inventor of a pair of boots."

The duke was defeated and made a strong remark about having forgotten the boots.

### Cure for Diptheria.

The ravages of diptheria in Australia have been so extensive within the last few years that the government offered a large reward for any certain method of cure, and among other responses to this was one by Mr. Greathead, who first kept his method a secret, but afterwards communicated it freely to the public. It is simply the use of sulphuric acid, of which four drops are diluted in a tumbler of water to be administered to a grown person, and a smaller dose to children, at intervals not specified. The result is said to be a coagulation of the diptheritic membrane and its ready removal by coughing. It is stated that where the case has not advanced to a nearly fatal termination, the patient recovers in almost every instance.

### A Good Suggestion.

A writer in the *London Builder* suggests that thick glass might be easily and cheaply cemented to the walls of hospitals, etc. It would be non-absorbent, imperishable, easily cleaned, readily repaired if damaged by accident, and, unlike paper and paint, would always be as good as it first. Glass can be cut or bent to conform to any required shape. If desired, the plates may be colored to any cheerful tint. The non-absorbent quality is the most important for hospitals and prisons, and, we should think, is worthy the consideration of architects.

### Miscellaneous Items.

When does a cow become real estate?—When turned into a field.

Eleven persons perished in the snow on the Great St. Bernard, in the Alps, recently.

Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, is mentioned as an excellent winter resort for those who desire to flee from Northern climes. The city is about 3,000 feet above the sea, and the atmosphere mild, dry, and bracing. The days are warm, the nights cool and refreshing; and there is good society, also, at Caracas.

The recent autumnal rose show at Lyons, France, surpassed the most sanguine hopes of its projectors by its brilliancy and by the interest which it excited. For many years autumnal roses have not been seen in such perfection. A magnificent yellow seedling tea-rose, which is to be called *Perle des Jardins*, received one of the highest prizes.

The German government has relaxed the rigor of Count Von Armin's imprisonment. He is no longer under police surveillance. The public prosecutor has decided to ask the court to conduct the trial of the accused privately, as it will be necessary to read official documents, the publicity of which would be injurious to the state.

The *London Standard* says there is reason to believe that the recent interview between Bismarck and Gortschakoff resulted in the removal of their personal difficulties; also in the adoption of a common policy by Russia and Germany, in consequence of which the former will speedily recognize the present government of Spain. Russia's previous refusal to do so having been owing to Gortschakoff's personal influence.

The election of Mr. Disraeli as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow adds another to the roll of distinguished men who have enjoyed that honor. Among his predecessors were Burke, Adam Smith, Jeffrey, Brougham, Mackintosh, Peel, Macaulay, Lytton, Palmerston, and the present Earl Derby. Lord Macaulay's inaugural address, delivered in 1849, was one of the most brilliant oratorical performances of his life.

The Wanzer F. Machine that fastens its own thread, and sews backwards as well as forwards, has now become a general favorite. We notice from the various destinations the cases are marked for that these machines are having that wide-spread circulation they so richly merit. We are not surprised to learn that many ladies having American makes of machines are anxious to exchange for the Wanzer F. They run very beautifully and smoothly. The little noise they do make seems to add character to the machine.

A California Justice was asked to fix the bail in the case of a thief. He wanted to know the value of the property, and the complainant said five hundred dollars. So the bail was put at two thousand. The court afterward learned that the property consisted of a bull dog, wherewith he released the prisoner on his own recognizance. This roused the anger of the owner of the dog, who remarked that "the Jestis as can't appreciate an animal what's whipped everything with whippin' on the coast ain't fit to sit."

A writer from Berlin thus describes a German military bow: "Imagine an oak plank six feet in height, with a hinge in the middle, draw it up to a perpendicular, and with a quick movement snap the hinge so that the upper part suddenly springs forward and back again, and you will have some idea of the gracefulness of the executed movement, and of the shock one has at first, when he fears that the performer has been seized with a sudden cramp that is about to get the better of him at the very moment he is being introduced, and you wish to play the agreeable."

Mr. Moncreu D. Conway, in a late letter from London to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, says that one of the reports current as to the object of the visit of the Prince of Wales to France is in reference to a project set on foot by the Bonapartists for a marriage between the Princess Beatrice and the Prince Imperial, and that Wales has gone to see what the P. L.'s chances are for the throne. It is also mentioned as one of the bits of chat current in London that her Majesty recently offered the hand of her daughter to the son of a very wealthy duke, and that it was politely declined! The proud family, it is declared, were unwilling to see their son, for whom they anticipate a "career," shelved, even on a shelf of purple and gold, after the manner of one who has, in Western vernacular, "been there."

Landseer possessed the gift of making off-hand sketches with marvelous skill and rapidity. The *British Quarterly* mentions the following incidents: "Once Landseer was kept for a few minutes at some door in Windsor Palace waiting the convenience of the Queen. To pass the time, he seized a pen and dashed off two sketches of little dogs. And what little dogs! Not only as little as life, but full of quietest humor. One of them seated on his haunches, had a suppliant look, and holds in his mouth a card inscribed with the name 'E. Landseer.' The other looks to the door, listening eagerly for some footstep to assure him that he has not been quite forgotten. We don't know whether Sir Edwin was kept waiting at doors in Windsor Palace after he executed those symbolical works. On another occasion her Majesty asked him to give her some idea of the hippopotamus which had just arrived in the Zoological Gardens. He scribbles and blots on a piece of paper for five or ten minutes, and hands to the Queen what he has produced. There are no fewer than four vividly characteristic sketch portraits of the creature, swimming in its bath, standing knee-deep in water, or lying becalmed upon its side ashore."

### John Quincy Smith's True Love.

Monday afternoon a young man named John Quincy Smith, who works in a carriage factory, called upon Justice Potter and asked His Honor to appear at a certain house on Macomb street at a certain hour that evening and weld two fond hearts together. "The Court" said he'd be on time, and he was, but he found the lover looking disconsolate, and the bride's mother flushed and annoyed. "Isn't this the place where I was to come to unite two sympathetic souls?" inquired Mr. Potter in an anxious voice, thinking that he might have made a mistake. "You see, I'll tell you how it is," explained the old lady. "Betsy Jane's young and foolish, and she's afraid some one will make fun of her if she gets married!" His Honor thought it was rather strange, and went off, feeling about as blue as the lover felt. Wednesday morning John Quincy entered Justice alley again to tell Mr. Potter that he could come up to the house that evening, and that there wouldn't be any backing out again. "It's dead sure, is it?" asked His Honor. "You can bet on it," replied John Quincy; "bet a hundred to one." His Honor was on hand again at the appointed hour, and he found the lover and her mother looking about as sad as before. The girl herself was concealed behind the door, and as soon as Potter entered she pulled the door back so as to expose the hider and exclaimed: "Now, then, Judge, look at her—look at the big boobey, and see what a fool she is making of herself!" The girl made a skip and jumped under the centre table, and from thence shouted back: "I hain't no more of a fool than you are, and you know it!" "Then why don't you come out and get married?" asked the parent. "Do you s'pose I want to be made fun of?" squeaked the daughter. After a while the Justice put in his voice, telling the girl that it was the lot of woman to marry; that she'd live a happy life and that it wouldn't take two minutes to tie the knot. "Come, Betsy Jane!" called the mother. "Come, my love!" pleaded John Quincy. "Come, my dear girl!" added the Justice, raising the table-spread and extending his hand. "Oh, go away!" she sobbed, with her hands over her face, "go away and leave me here to die! I can't bear to think of gittin' jined and leavin' mother!" They coaxed and pleaded and scolded, but Betsy Jane was firm, and she was still resting under the table when His Honor left. John Quincy put on his hat and walked down the street a piece, and when Potter remarked that he guessed there wouldn't be any marrying in that house the young man responded: "That's what I think, and I wouldn't tarn my hand over if I knew that a buzz-saw was a-coming slap for me."

### The Coroner's Boy.

He is a boy of deep thought, and is much given to deductions. The coroner is not his father, but he is a lad who was engaged to mind the office, shake up the coal stove and answer inquiries. He is a good boy, and he has learned to sympathize with reporters. When there has been an inquest the boy puts on a cheerful look, and has the whole case so that he can rattle it off from beginning to end.

"A wifid sad case," he says to the reporter. "They found the old man hanging to a beam in the woodshed, stiff and cold. Splendid chance for you to say that his wide-open eyes seemed to glare down upon the coroner, and that he had one arm stretched out, as if to shake hands with the grim monster death. You can say that the body swayed to and fro in the night breeze blowing in through a broken pane, and that an owl sat on a beam over the corpse and uttered his mournful hoo-hoo!"

And then he rubs his hands, his smile grows broader, and he continues: "Business has begun to pick up, and there may be an inquest every day for a week. Hope so, for I like to see business moving and money coming in. I'm looking every day for a case of murder—throat cut from ear to ear—blood stains on the wall—blood-stained knife on the floor—marks of a fearful struggle—desperate villain, and so forth—If you don't happen to be around I'll send a boy down."

But there are other days when he is sad, and he says to the reporter: "Nothing to-day. I'm sorry, but you know we can't push business as grocers do. Advertising wouldn't help us a cent's worth, and the holiday season is no better than any other season. I wish we had a case for you, and if anything turns up I'll come down myself and give you the points. There's lots of folks who might as well commit suicide as not, but they don't seem to care whether the coroner has one case a month or not at all. Be patient and we'll try and turn up something tomorrow."

Who could help but contract a reverence for such a boy?

### Desertion in the British Army.

Last year 743 soldiers were sentenced for desertion from the British army. Some of the reasons given for desertion by the men are curious. Fifty-seven were annoyed by comrades or harshly treated by non-commissioned officers and others; 44 married without leave, or had "love affairs;" 87 were led astray by drink; 229 deserted from dislike to the army; 81 were persuaded by comrades or bad company; 64 alleged refusals of leave as the cause; 29 deserted to better themselves; 30 went on spree and did not return; 43 were tired of the army; 18 deserted on account of whims and folly; and 32 gave no cause.

"Off she goes!" said a lady. "You mistake the gender," said a gentleman, "this is the mail-train."

### Red Chaff Spring Wheat.

Millers are beginning to see the necessity and advantage to themselves and the country of holding meetings from time to time to discuss the qualities of the different kinds of wheat grown in the country and how to grind them to the best advantage so as to make the best profits to themselves and thereby enable them to give the highest prices to farmers. A few years ago a wheat known as *red chaff spring wheat* was introduced into this country, which was found to yield better to the acre than the old field wheat, and in consequence of this it was sown to a very large extent in this country, and is now brought to the market, for sale. The appearance of the wheat is a very fair sample and was bought by millers at the same price as life wheat. It was however soon discovered that it did not yield near as much flour nor of as good a quality as the life spring wheat, through which some millers who had bought considerable of it had sustained heavy losses. In view of this a miller's meeting was held at Waterloo last week, which was attended by the majority of the millers in the County, to get their opinions as to the real value of the red chaff wheat compared with the old field wheat and to establish a fixed difference in the prices. After a short time spent in talking about milling business in general, and the experience each has had in grinding the red chaff wheat, it was decided to make a difference of *five cents* a bushel. It was also the opinion of the meeting that a greater difference should be made in the price of clean and unclean wheat, that the dirty and inferior wheat is always paid too high in proportion to the better and cleaner samples of wheat. As no rule could be framed for each buyer to follow, it was agreed that each one must exercise his own judgment and all try and make more difference. The meeting had the effect of causing a friendly feeling and a better acquaintance among the milling brotherhood and a desire to hold similar meetings in the future.

### Causes of Dew.

If dew fell it would fall for the same reasons that rain falls; but dew does not fall—it is simply a deposit by moisture always contained in the air to a greater or less degree, and which, when there is enough of it, will always form on any cold body exposed to the moist air, in precisely the same way that a cold bottle or stone, taken from a cold cellar and suddenly exposed in the shade to the moist, warm summer air will become wet. This is not sweating, nor does this moisture come out of the bottle or stone, as many people believe, but from the air. It is for the same reason that moisture will condense against the window panes when the air is cold outside and moist inside, the moisture slowly freezing, while its deposits from crystals of ice, which we so often admire in winter. When the weather is cool enough the moisture deposited will even freeze on plants and grass, and then we call it hoar frost; if it does not freeze it is simply dew. The only point left to be explained is, why does the ground become so cool during the night, so much cooler than the air above is as to cause the latter to deposit its moisture? This was for many years a vexed problem, till Wells first suggested the radiation of obscure heat, which takes place from the surface of the earth through the clear atmosphere in the space above, and so causes the surface to become much cooler than the air itself. He demonstrated this by means of the thermometers placed at different heights, and also by the fact that dew is only deposited on cloudless nights. When there are clouds they reflect the heat, or prevent it from escaping. The surface of the earth thus being kept from cooling, no dew is deposited.

The Mohammedans believe that old mounds have no chance of heaven.

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HALES' VEGETABLE SICILIAN HAIR RENEWER.

The standard article is compounded with the greatest care.

It restores as so wonderful and satisfactory as ever. It effects gray or faded hair to its youthful color. It removes all dandruff, itching, and itching, and the scalp by its use becomes white and glossy.

By its tonic properties it restores the cellular glands to their normal vigor, preventing baldness, and making the hair grow thick and smooth.