

READABLE PARAGRAPHS.

Exhibition at Antwerp—A Jealous Husband—The (Old) Inhabitant—An Intelligent Horse—Buried Alive—&c., &c.

The Roman Catholic clergy no longer oppose cremation, which is becoming very common in Italy.

The plans of the great exhibition to take place at Antwerp next year have been decided upon, and the work will begin next month.

The electric lights on the high masts at Los Angeles, Cal., can be distinctly seen from the island of San Clemente, eighty miles out at sea.

A petition signed by 10,000 Scotchmen against the abolition of the feather bonnet in the British army is to be presented in Parliament very shortly.

The London Medical Times says that a hundred deaths have been probably caused by carelessness as to dairy drainage and water supply, for one that is traceable to adulteration.

The newspaper columns headed "Born," "Married," and "Died," have been variously paraphrased in the West. One paper has it: "Hatched, Matched, Dispatched," and another "Buds, Blossoms, Cypress."

A jealous husband slapped a man's face in a Providence street car because the man's eyes had been staring at his wife's face. The car stopped a block further on, and a little girl entered and led the man away. He was totally blind.

Detroit has been boasting of its oldest inhabitant. There seems to be no doubt that he is 105 years old. He was born on St. Patrick's Day, 1779, and was in the Irish rebellion of 98. He drinks whiskey and smokes a black and wicked-looking pipe.

At the meet of the Southdown fox hounds at Fortside, in England, the other day, a fox went straight for Poynings, ran into the church, and took refuge in the pulpit. He was quickly brought out of the sacred edifice and trued loose, when he was immediately run into by the hounds and killed.

A man named Chenworth, who lives in the village of Cowboy, Kan, owns a horse which he sends to a store three miles distant for provisions. A note tied to the horse's mane has a list of the articles wanted. They are strapped in a bag to his back. The animal never stops to nibble grass, but goes the whole distance at a brisk trot.

A young Parisian who lately came suddenly to his end by the knife of a comrade was found to be curiously tattooed. Beneath his breast a serpent raised his head in the direction of the heart, and all around were inscribed: "I have been deceived in the past; the present torments me; the future frightens me." The death wound was at the words, "I have been deceived in the past."

There are five spiritualistic organs in France, four in Belgium, two in Holland, eight in Spain two in Italy, and three in Germany. In addition to several journals devoted to the cause in England and the United States, it has one organ each in Austria, Russia, Mexico, the Antilles, Chili, Brazil, Uruguay, the Argentine Republic, Australia, India, and Cape Colony.

At Brussels lately an elderly porter, who bore an excellent character, was sent by his employer to take some money to the bank. He did not return, and his wife found his body at the Morgue. He had been found dying of cerebral apoplexy in the street. It is surmised that he had been robbed of the money, and had wandered around in great mental agony, afraid to go home.

An interesting ceremony took place at Birmingham, England, recently, on the occasion of the "home coming" of a man named Hall, after twenty years' penal servitude for wife murder. Thousands of people, it is stated, met Hall at the railway station and gave him an enthusiastic reception, greeting him with loud cheers until he was driven off in a cab with his relatives. These tokens of sympathy and esteem must have somewhat surprised Hall. Wife murder was, twenty years ago, looked upon as a rather serious offence, even when, as in the case of Hall, it was committed under circumstances of extreme provocation.

A peer's daughter, who is the wife of a Lieutenant Colonel, and has lived with her husband for seven years in India, and accompanied him to the Mediterranean, in a letter to the London Standard, declares that "the moral tone of English ladies (especially of those whom one is forced to associate with in military life and at military and naval stations) is decidedly low. Most of them, from their school days, have wasted their time poring over dangerous novels and immoral books, and their everyday conversation is such as most gentlemen in civil life would blush to hear."

A singular instance of kleptomania was brought before the Criminal Court in Paris the other day. An Englishman and his wife, the former aged 67 and the latter 63, were arrested for stealing some objects of trifling value at the Magasins du Louvre. They live in the neighborhood of Paris, and are in possession of an income amply sufficient for all their requirements. Both of them declared that the impulse to appropriate the stolen articles was irresistible. They were consequently examined by physicians, who gave their opinion that this statement, extraordinary as it may appear, was perfectly correct, as regards both husband and wife. The prisoners were in consequence acquitted on the ground of irresponsibility for their actions.

The writer of a paper recently read before the French Academy of Medicine expresses the opinion that one in every 5,000 persons is buried alive, while official statistics show that the mortality among sailors from shipwreck averages one in 4,000. The question has of late been much discussed by the medical body just mentioned; and it seems to be settled that none of the accepted indications of death, with the single exception of the unmistakable decomposition of the body, are to be regarded as perfectly conclusive. It is certain that the possibility of such a frightful death weighs on the mind of many of the French, as, according to a recent declaration of the President of Chamber of Notaries, express instructions are given in one will out of every ten to have the testator's heart pierced by a qualified surgeon before the lid of the coffin is screwed down.

Floods and Forests.

For two successive years the dwellers in the valley of the Ohio River have been visited by the disaster of destructive floods. Whole villages have been submerged beneath the swelling waters. Thousands of persons have been made destitute by the ruin these floods have wrought and many lives have been lost.

The flood this year exceeded in volume, in violence and destructiveness that of last year, and caused greater distress. Scarcely, too, had the Ohio begun to subside when the news came of a frightful cyclone, sweeping through several of the Gulf states, and carrying widespread desolation with it.

Each of these calamities carries with it a distinct warning. Both were rendered possible, and even inevitable, by the reckless destruction of forests, which has been going on for years in the regions visited by flood and tempest.

The same result, indeed, follows wherever the woods are cut down regardless of their uses to the land, and of their protection of the safety and health of man. Floods and cyclones are now common in California, where the forests have been wantonly destroyed. Once these dread visitors were almost unknown, on our Pacific Slope.

The bed of the beautiful river Ural in Asiatic Russia has become in process of time the channel of frightful torrents, which rush down and wreck the human settlements on its picturesque banks. The river used to be broad and clear, and full of fish. The destruction of the forests in the upper valley has caused it to dry up into a small and sluggish stream, no longer navigable, and deprived of its finny habitants. When the deep snows upon the Ural Mountains begin to thaw, there is no longer any barrier to the freshets which come roaring down to the river-hasin.

The floods which, overflowing the banks of the river Danube, carried such havoc and misery to the Hungarian dwellers on its banks a few years ago, must be attributed to the same cause. In many parts of Europe, Asia and America, indeed, regions may be found, once flourishing and fruitful, which are now dreary wastes, deserted long since by human beings, as a result of the cutting down of the forests.

In Norway alone, of European countries, is great care taken by the Government to restrict the wholesale destruction of the timber growths; where floods of a serious character are unknown.

The reason why floods and wind-tempests invariably follow the disappearance of forests is a very simple one. Forests hold the moisture which proceeds from heavy rain-falls. They enable that moisture to be gradually distributed, and to filter slowly to the river valleys, instead of rushing into them from mountains and hills. They hold the snow, and protect it from the rays of the sun, so that it takes weeks for it to melt and flow down the slopes.

The rivers, when thus protected, are supplied with only a moderate and normal amount of water. As soon as the forest disappears the rivers and streams inevitably dry up; and the floods pour from the highlands down through the channels, when the thaws come, unimpeded by the protecting trees.

It is stated that for some years past there had been a wanton and reckless cutting down of the forests in the region of the Alleghanies, and near the sources of the Ohio River; and we can easily trace the recent floods to that unwise policy.

Cyclones, too, are necessarily more violent and desolating in districts where they sweep, unchecked by the barrier of dense forest growths, over many miles of open country. They thus acquire a force which, if broken by meeting in their progress the obstacle which the woods interpose, would lose much of its violence.

A Chinese Wedding Procession.

I had not been to the hotel in Hong Kong five minutes before my attention was distracted by a terrific noise. Rushing to the front balcony I was just in time to see quite a remarkable wedding procession. At first from the noise and general style of the affair, I thought it was a funeral, but I soon discovered the difference. A funeral procession is a more cheerful institution than a wedding procession, with the possible exception, perhaps, of the hired mourners. Besides this there is the other difference; the corpse at a wedding is a live one instead of a dead one. I think if I had my choice I would rather be the dead than the live corpse.

The inferiority of the female sex is one of the fundamental principles to which the Chinese hold. Even Confucius does not seem to have had a very broad and elevated sentiment in this regard, for he is quoted as having said:—"Of all people women are the most difficult to manage. If you are familiar with them they become forward, and if you keep them at a distance they become discontented." Many women are, in the habit of praying that they might be born men in the next world.

But this wedding procession. First came a dozen musicians who were beating gongs and blowing fish-horns, each apparently without any reference to the rest. They followed a company of men and boys bearing flags and lanterns, after which came a series of gilded tables with elaborately carved and pointed canopies over them, and all sorts of eatables upon them. The display of fruit was quite tempting, and I longed for a slice of the roast pig and the roast sheep. But there were also native dishes, which, by experiment, I found to be far from appetizing. Thus far everything was arranged just as the funeral procession would be, and was composed of the same features.

But now there was a slight departure from the funeral order of things. There came a magnificent sedan chair, the windows of which were thoroughly curtained, but which I was told contained the happy bride. This gorgeous sedan chair was followed by others, also by gaily decorated jirikishas, in which were seated the relatives of both the contracting parties. More so-called musicians followed, and the processions wound up with a load of boxes, which I inferred contained the marriage offerings, and, perhaps, the trousseau of the bride.

A Terre Haute, Ind., man employs his divorced wife as a servant girl, and the neighbors say that she has a better wardrobe than when she was his wife.

In a fit of rage Adelbert Clark, of Elba, N. Y., beat his wife cruelly. The neighbors who were attracted by the noise took Clark into the woods, thrashed him, tarred and feathered him, and sent him home.

PEARLS OF TRUTH.

Order is heaven's first law. Silence never yet betrayed any one. A good smile is the sunshine of wisdom. Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet. A quiet conscience makes one so serene. Conscience is man's most faithful friend. The worst men often give the best advice.

The worst of slaves is he whom passion rules. A man may smile, and smile, and be a villain.

Who will adhere to him that abandons himself? Charity comes too late that comes for the asking.

Books, like friends, should be few and well chosen. To rule one's anger is well; to prevent it is better.

To know how to wait is the great secret of success. Don't eat in less than two hours after bathing.

Charms strike the sight, but merit wins the soul. A man as he manages himself may die old at thirty or young at eighty.

Youth is a continual intoxication, for the fever of reason. If you intend to do a mean thing, wait till to-morrow. If you intend to do a noble thing, do it now.

The superiority of some men is merely local. They are great because their associates are little.

Let us enjoy the fugitive hour. Man has no harbor, time has no shore; it rushes on and carries us with it.

Some old men like to give good precepts to console themselves for their inability no longer to give bad examples.

Reason can not show itself more reasonable than to cease reasoning on things that are above reasoning.

As the light goes out with the exhaustion of the oil, so fortune fails with the cessation of human endeavor.

It does not follow that you must do a mean thing to a man who has done a mean thing to you. The old proverb runs, "Because the cur has bitten me, shall I bite the cur?"

The most lucrative commerce would be to buy men for what they are worth, and to sell them for what they estimate themselves. Despotism does the contrary, and that is why it always becomes bankrupt.

Health is the bed-plate on which the whole mental machinery may rest and work. If this be displaced or cracked, all the mechanism that stands on it will be jarred and disturbed and made ineffective.

Good luck is good sense and good courage with industry, inspired by noble impulses, guided by intelligence and fore-thought. Bad luck is laziness, stupidity, carelessness, recklessness. It is but another name for the penalty for bad management.

The White Elephant.

From the published descriptions and illustrations we have now a good idea of what Barum's so-called white elephant is like. Mr. Tegetmeier, of the Field, has described it as having patches of colour, caused by the absence of the usual colour cells about the head, ears and forelegs. Properly speaking, the animal is a pied elephant, and I have seen several in India marked very like it. Mr. Sanderson, who has great experience in elephant catching, says it is not very uncommon to find such, and denies that there are any white elephants in existence. He has caught, I think he wrote, about two thousand elephants and had only come across two that were entirely of a much lighter colour than usual. One of these gradually grew dark with time, and the other, which had sandy coloured hair, died. This may be his experience; but Mr. Carl Bock, author of "The Head Hunters of Borneo," has just published his "Temples and Elephants," being a narrative of explorations in Upper Siam and Lao. He arrived in Bangkok in June 1881, a few days before the arrival there of an albino elephant, a coloured portrait of which he gives in his book.

The King of Siam has for one of his titles "Lord of the White Elephant;" and the Order of the White Elephant was sent to her Majesty Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales in 1880 by his Majesty. For many years pied animals, such as the one brought here lately, have had to do duty in Bangkok for the real sacred albino, which is very rarely found. Mr. Bock says there is a record of one having been caught in 1655, and another two years later. His description of the arrival of the rare animal is as follows:—"Then came the hero of the day, the white elephant himself, in company with three others, all so-called white elephants, in comparison with which he certainly deserved the proud title. Were I to describe him as white, I should lay myself open to the charge of colour blindness, but he was quite an albino, the whole body being of a pale reddish-brown colour, with a few real white hairs on the back. The iris of the eyes, the color of which is held to be a good test of an albino, was a pale Naples yellow."

It is strange that the Siamese, who regard the white elephant as sacred, have not long ago established a race of them; for although the elephant will not readily breed in captivity, by enclosing a large tract of suitable country and turning into it such as were heavily marked with large patches, a sure sign that they were inclining towards albinism, the desired result would be attained in time.

The delays of good and dutiful intentions, which ultimately lead to the defeat of them, cause more regret and repentance in men's lives than any other class of causes.

A FIRST-CLASS ARTICLE. This is, and must continue to be, the exclamation of every one who has used PUTNAM'S PAINLESS CORN EXTRACTOR, for it is, without exception, the only remedy in the market that will remove corns without pain. All we ask for the Corn Extractor is a fair trial, for it will give you what it has already given to thousands of others suffering from corns, unbounded satisfaction. Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is sold everywhere. Beware of cheap counterfeits. Polson & Co., Kingston, props.

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\$1,000.00 REWARD.

In "Ladies' Journal" Competition No. 5, Closing April 21st.

The proprietor of the Ladies' Journal offers another long list of rewards, by far the most valuable yet given. This is likely to be the closing competition of the season.

THE QUESTIONS. 1.—Of the world grandmother occur in the Bible; if so, where. 2.—Is it recorded anywhere in the Bible that a prophet or prophetess had anything to do with a college. 3.—Give the name of an Uncle of Aaron.

The valuable and costly articles given below will be cheerfully handed over to the first two hundred and twenty-one persons who send correct answers to the above Bible questions, just as quickly after the closing day, April 21st, as possible.

- THE REWARDS. 1. One Grand Square Rosewood Piano, \$500 00 2. One Fine Cabinet Organ, value ... 225 00 3. One Beautiful Silver Tea Service ... 110 00 4. One Gentlemen's Solid Gold Hunting Case Stm Winding and Stem-winding Genuine Elgin Watch, Box Case, latest style, elegantly engraved ... 100 00 5. One Lady's Solid Gold Hunting Case Watch, Genuine Waltham ... 90 00 6. Six Elegant Black Silk Dresses, 60 pieces from Pettley's Great Silk House, Toronto, \$30 each ... 180 00 7. Five Beautiful Triple Silver Plated Ice Pitchers, valued at \$30 each ... 150 00 8. Five Ladies' Elegant Coin Silver Hunting Case Watches, valued at \$19 each ... 95 00 9. Five Gentlemen's Heavy Coin Silver Hunting Case Watches, valued at \$18 each ... 90 00 10. Six Elegant New Spring Print Dresses, patterns from Pettley's, Toronto, \$5 each ... 30 00 11. Five Solid Aluminum Gold Hunting Case Watches, valued at \$17 each ... 85 00 12. Five Hunting Case Solid Nickel Silver Watches, \$16 each ... 80 00 13. Five Open Face Solid Nickel Heavy Bevelled Crystal Watches, \$15 each ... 75 00 14. Seven Renowned Waterbury Watches, \$5 each ... 35 00 15. Twelve Sets, (half dozen each), Triple Silver Plated Tea Spoons, \$4 each ... 48 00 16. Thirty-nine Beautifully Bound Volumes of Shakespeare's Complete Works, \$2.50 each ... 97 50 17. Fifty-six Volumes, Beautifully Bound, Tennyson's Poems, \$2.25 each ... 125 00 18. Sixty-one Elegant Triple Silver Plated on Solid Steel, Butter Knives, \$1 each ... 61 00

Every competitor must send fifty cents in Post-office order, scrip or small coin, (no postage stamps), for which the Ladies' Journal will be sent for one year to any desired address. Post-office orders are procurable at any post-office, and are an absolutely safe way of remitting. Letters should be registered unless remittance is made by post-office order.

Since the above was written, we notice that in addition to the costly rewards offered above, the sender of the middle correct answer of the whole competition from first to last, and the twenty persons next following who send correct answers—will receive the following rewards, respectively:—

- MIDDLE REWARDS. 1. One Wanzel Sewing Machine, \$60 ... 60 00 2. Six Hunting Case Solid Nickel Watches, valued \$15 each ... 90 00 3. Eight Open Face Extra Heavy Crystal Solid Nickel Watches, \$12 each ... 96 00 4. Six Well-Bound Volumes of Tennyson's Poems, \$2.25 ... 13 50

Then even the last ones are to be remembered in a long list of consolation rewards. These rewards will be given to the last seventy-seven persons who send correct answers to the Bible questions given above.

- THE CONSOLATION REWARDS. 1. To the last correct answer received, One Elegant Silver Tea Service of six pieces, latest design ... 100 00 2. One Gentlemen's Beautiful Solid Gold Hunting Case Genuine Waltham Movement, cases finely engraved ... 97 00 3. One Lady's Solid Gold Hunting Case Watch, Genuine American ... 80 00 4. Seven Fine Solid Coin Silver Hunting Case Watches, value \$20 each ... 140 00 5. Six Hunting Case Solid Nickel Silver Watches, \$15 each ... 90 00 6. Eight Solid Aluminum Gold Hunting Case Watches, value \$14 each ... 112 00 7. Six Open Face Solid Nickel Watches, Heavy Crystal, value \$12 each ... 72 00 8. Twenty-five Elegant Triple Silver Plated Pickle Forks, value \$1.10 each ... 27 50 9. Twenty-two Solid Triple Silver Plated Butter Knives, value \$1 each ... 22 00

Each competitor must, in every case, send fifty cents for one year's subscription to the Ladies' Journal with their answers. It may be of some advantage to you if you mention where you first saw this notice. The letters must all be post-marked where mailed not later than April 21st, the closing day of this competition. The correct address is Editor Ladies' Journal, Toronto, Canada. The names and post-office addresses (and street and number, when in the city), of those who are successful in obtaining these rewards, will be given in the May number of the Journal. Our readers may be assured that all the rewards, as given above, will be promptly and cheerfully handed over to the successful ones, as soon as possible after the close of the competition. We know the publisher of the Ladies' Journal, and we are certain he will do as stated above, or we would not give all this space to this long description of this plan. The Ladies' Journal is a 20 page Monthly Fashion and Domestic Magazine. Two full pages of newest music are given in each issue; large illustrations of the latest things in fashion circles; one or two serial stories and a short story; domestic and household hints; besides a large quantity of miscellaneous reading, particularly to interest ladies. In short, it is the cheap-

est publication, and the best for the money we know of. So if you don't succeed in obtaining a reward, you cannot fail to be pleased with your fifty cent investment. Don't forget that the regular annual subscription to the Ladies' Journal is fifty cents. So you pay nothing additional for the privilege of competing for these costly rewards.

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