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THROWING THINGS AT CATS. Mr. Glimberton Notes That the Custom Has Not Been Abandoned. "It's a long time," said Mr. Glimberton, "since I've read anything in the papers about throwing things at cats. There used to be frequent mention about how men threw bootjacks, boots, water pitchers, coal scuttles and fire irons at them. I knew a man myself once that threw a lighted lamp at a cat on a fence. He never touched the cat, but set the fence afire and had to pay \$7. "But the custom has not fallen altogether into disuse. There is a cat in our neighborhood that walks along the back fences at night, weeping and wailing in a manner most distressing to hear. For a long time these unpopular concerts were not disturbed, but one night by last we heard the sound of a mighty blow upon the fence: it sounded like the crash of an immense rock. It evidently missed the cat, but it ended the concert. The cat didn't come back that night—we hope it never will. How the man got the rock over there, we don't know. Surely he never could have thrown it that distance. He must have rigged up a catapult of some sort; a catapult would be very appropriate for the pur-

Jeremy York.

Eight months have passed, and the scene is now on the broad equinoctial ocean, with the fiery atmosphere of the Antilles in every cat's-paw that furnishes the polished heaving mirror let the fair air blow whence it will; a sky of copper brightening into blinding dazzle round about the sun, that at his meridian shines almost directly over the mast-heads, and transforms the vast spread of sea into a sheet of white fire, trembling into the blue distance faint with the haze of heat.

There was a small West Indian named the City of Glasgow, that had been lying stagnated on these fervid parallels for hard upon four days. There was no virtue in awnings, in wetted decks, in yawning skylights, in open portholes, and the heels of windsails to render the atmosphere of the "ween-decks and cabin tolerable to the people aboard the ship. The air was sickly with the smell of blistered paint, the brass-work was fiery hot, and took the skin off the hand that for a moment unconsciously touched it; their pitch was like putty between the seams; the fresh water in the scuttle-butts was warm as newly-drawn milk, but quite without dairy fragrance. It was time, indeed, for the wind to blow: The mere detention was nothing in those pleasant times of groping. In cooler climes the mate would have been satisfied to whistle for wind for a month, and go below every time his watch was up with a feeling that he had done everything that was necessary and that all was well. But the heat made an enforced resting-place off the Cuban heights insufferable.

It was half-past eight o'clock in the morning watch; the hands had come up from breakfast and were distributed on various jobs about the deck. There was not a breath of air; but there was a run of glassy folds from the south-west, which within the past hour had somewhat increased in weight; and upon these long-drawn heavings, the ship, that was a mere tub in form, as all vessels were in those days, saving, perhaps, the piratical barco longos, rolled as regularly as a pandulum swings, swelling out her canvas to one lurch, only to bring it in to the masts again at the next with sounds like the explosions of nine-pounders in the tops.

The captain of the City of Glasgow was a small fiery-faced man, with deep-set eyes that glowed like cairngorms under the shaggy tatches of the brows, a nose that not a little resembled a small carrot both in shape and hue, and a mouth with a set of the lips that indicated a highly peppery temper. He walked to the mate, who stood near the wheel fanning himself with a great straw hat.

"When is this going to end, sir?" "I don't know, sir." "Blood, sir! Is there no limit to calms? Thunder and slugs! If this goes on, we must tow—d'ye see, tow, I say—get the long-boat over and crowd her with men. What though they frizzle? We must get out of this, or—"

He was probably about to launch into a piece of profanity, but he was interrupted by a cry coming down from aloft, delivered by a man who had been sent on to the mainroyal yard to repair some defect that the vigilant eye of the boatswain had detected. "Sail ho!"

The little fiery-faced captain started and looked as if he scarcely credited his hearing; then running to the rail, he thrust his head clear of the awning and bawled up to the fellow, "Where away?"

"Right astarn," was the answer of the man, swinging with one hand from the tie as he pointed with the other directly over the taffrail to the gleaming haze of sea-line there.

"Well," said the skipper, "that should be a sign there's wind somewhere about." "It is some craft," said the mate, "that may be bringing a draught of air along with her." "Don't talk of a draught of air, sir," said the captain passionately; "what we want is wind, sir, a fresh breeze—a gale—a howling hurricane, by thunder! Hant' we had enough of cat's-paws? Draught of air!" he muttered under his breath with a look of loathing in his eyes as he made them meet in a squint upon the compass card.

over hand, as though her crew were warping her up to a stationary object. Presently she was showing fair on the water, a big yellow craft, with great curling headboards and a double line of batteries. Then, when she was plain in view, puff! blew a white ball of smoke from a fore-chaser, followed by the dull thud of the distant gun; and a minute after, the mate, who was working away at her through a long perspective glass of the period, cried out that she had hoisted the Union Jack at her fore.

"Well, and what's that to me?" bawled the fiery little captain. "Anybody observe if that gun was shot?" "There was no answer. "What do they mean by shooting at us? Wounds, but it may be a trap! Hoist away our colors and keep all fast!"

Five minutes later, the stranger fired again; but observing that no notice was taken of the summons, she waited until she was within range, then, yawning, let drive with such good aim as to bring the West Indian's mizen topgallant-mast down with a ruzzen. The sight of the wreckage struck a panic into the soul of the little fiery captain.

"Down stunsails; man the braces!" he roared; "bring her to, or he'll founder us!" In a few moments the City of Glasgow lay with her foretopsail to the mast, docilely waiting for what was to happen.

It was not long before the ship had ranged alongside, and she then proved to be a great fifty-gun man-of-war, an Englishman on a West Indian cruise, with crowds of pigtailed heads looking over her bulwarks forward, and a quarter-deck brilliant with the quaint naval uniforms of that day—if, indeed, it can be said that any approach to a uniform was then established. A stout man in a cocked-hat, white silk stockings, handsomely laced coat, and a big white wig, mounted on to the rail of the man-of-war, clapped a huge copper speaking-trumpet to his lips and bawled out, "Ship ahoy! What ship are you?"

The little peppery captain sprang on to a hencoop and answered, "The City of Glasgow of London, from Havana." "Keep your topsail to the mast; I'll send a boat," cried the other. "A boat?" cried the little chap, turning to his mate. "What does he want to send a boat for? Does he question my papers?—Zounds! if there be any sort of law still a-going in the old country, I'll make him pay for that mess up there;" and he sent a fiery glance at his topgallant-mast.

The boat plunged from the man-of-war's side; a crowd of sturdy fellows armed to the teeth, jumped into her; a young marine exquisite, with a hanger on his hip, and a cambric pocket-handkerchief in his breast, his laced hat airily cocked upon his head, and a flash of jewels upon his fingers, took his place in the stern-sheets, and with a few sweeps of the long oars, the boat was alongside. The dandy lieutenant stepped aboard.

"Why did you not heave to," he exclaimed in an affected drawl, "when you were summoned by our cannon?" "How did I know what you fired for?" cried the irritable captain. "Look how you've served me," and he pointed aloft. "Honour!" exclaimed the lieutenant, "you deserve that we should have sunk you." He applied the scented pocket-handkerchief to his nose, as though he could not support the smell of the hot pitch and blistered paint rising into the atmosphere in a voice as if he should swoon. "Lust' your men, sir, and for the Luder's sake be quiet about it."

The little captain fully understanding the significance of this order, was about to remonstrate, but seemed to change his mind on catching the glance that was shot at him from under the seemingly sleepy lid of the languid, perfumed sea-dandy, and repeated the lieutenant's order to his mate, turning sulkily on his heels afterwards, and starting off into a sharp fiery walk betwixt the binnacle and the mizzen rigging. The boatswain's pipe shrilled to the silent hollows of the canvas aloft; the men stood along the deck, and the lieutenant with six armed seamen at his back fell to picking and choosing. The man-of-war wanted twenty men to complete her complement, and of these the Indian must contribute ten. There was no help for it; and the little captain had presently the mortification to witness ten of his best-seaman descend the side with their bundles and bags and enter the boat, which forthwith carried them aboard the fifty-gun ship.

fixed upon one of these sailors; his bundle fell from his hand, his face turned to a deathlike white, his shiver after shiver chased his form, they saw his fingers convulsively working, and his eyes, filled with horror, dismay, incredulity, seemed to start from their sockets with the intensity of his stare. They believed he was seized with a fit and would fall to the deck in a minute; and amongst those who sprang to his assistance was the fellow on whom his gaze was riveted. He shrieked out at his approach, and fell upon one knee trembling violently, swaying to and fro, to and fro with his hands pressed to his eyes in the posture of one wild almost to madness.

"Is the man ill?" bawled a lieutenant from the quarter-deck. "If so, bear him, below, and let the surgeon attend him." York staggered on to his legs, and looking at the man at first sight of whom he had appeared to have fallen crazy, he cried, in a weak, faltering voice, "Your name is Worktop? You were bo'sun of a West Indian?"

The other, full of amazement, with a slow bewildered stare at York and then round upon his shipmates, answered in a hurricane tone, "That's so: I ain't ashamed. My name's Worktop, and I was bo'sun of a West Indian, as ye say." "Look at me!" cried York. "O man, look at me! What have I suffered through you! Do not you remember me?"

Anyone would have laughed outright to have witnessed the perplexity that lengthened yet the longdrawn countenance of Worktop. "What's all this?" cried the lieutenant in charge of the deck, coming forward angrily.

"Sir," shrieked York. "I have been hanged for the murder of that man!" "Mad, by Heaven!" cried the lieutenant, sunstroke, no doubt. Take the poor devil below, and see to him."

"Sir," cried York, clasping his hands, "I beg you to listen to me one minute. I am not mad indeed. Mr. Worktop there will remember that one night more than eight months ago he gave me a share of his bed at an inn at Deal called the Lonely Star."

Worktop started and looked intently at the speaker. "I quitted the bed to get some water; when I returned, my companion was gone. Blood was found in the bed; there were bloodstains down the staircase, along the roadway to the beach; there was blood upon my shirt, although as God is my witness, I knew not how it came there. They found his knife upon me, which I had taken from his pocket whilst he slept to prise open the door with; and also a gold coin belonging to him they found, though how I came by it, I vow, before Heaven, I know not; and on this evidence they hanged me!"

He faltered, hid his face, and fell to the deck in a dead faint. "Hanged him, hanged him for me!" shouted Worktop in the voice of a man about to suffocate. "Hanged him for me!" he repeated. "But, Lord bless my soul and body! I was never murdered, mates!" and in a very ecstasy of astonishment, he hooked an immense quid out of his cheek, and flung it overboard.

"Rally this poor fellow, some of you," exclaimed the lieutenant, and hastened aft to the captain to make his report. A bucket of cold water topped with a dram of rum served to restore York to consciousness; and when he had his wits, he and Worktop were conducted by a midshipman to the captain's cabin. "What is all this?" inquired the gray-haired commander, levelling a piercing glance at York, as though he made up his mind to be confronted by a madman. "D'ye mean to tell us that you've been hanged for the murder of yonder seaman alongside of you?"

HERE AND THERE

Most of the patients in Canada have been brown or black eyes. Everybody in Denmark, over 30 years of age, can read and write. Up-to-date suits for dress and telephone attachment, so that the merged person can converse with his aids at the surface. A friendly wrestling match between brothers, John and Frederick, in Webster City, Iowa, resulted in the death of the former.

Twenty-five years ago the States supplied 15 per cent. of the world's coal consumption; now supply 30 per cent. The champion sneezer is John G. of Yonkers, N.Y. During a sneeze he sneezed so violently that he ejected his right shoulder. The coarsest human hair is the thickness of human hair varies from the 250th to the 600th part of an inch.

An uncommon disease caused the death of Mrs. Rose Funk, a resident of Bloomington, Ill. Portions of her flesh had become as dry and hard as bone. The longest tunnel in the world is that of St. Gothard, and on the Milan of the railroad between Lucerna and Milan. Its length is nine and one-half miles.

The value of human life is not high in Connecticut. A jury in that State awarded ten dollars to the relatives of a man who had been killed on a railroad. The highest active volcano in the world is that of the smoking mountain, Popocatepetl, in Mexico. It is 17,784 feet above the sea. Its circumference is three miles in circumference, and its height is 1,000 feet deep.

Farm hands in Yucatan wear garments of spotless white. They hasten to change them. Work is plentiful there, farm laborers are well paid and they can afford to be tidy. The explosion of a soda fountain at Avon, N.Y., resulted in fatal injuries to George Hunt, a druggist. A three inches in diameter was torn in his right chest, his left arm was broken in two places, and his right arm was left hanging by shreds of flesh.

Queer things happen in Chicago. Not long ago the Chicago River was actually burst forth in flames, and the bridge at Kinzie street took fire. They were damaged to the amount of \$1,500. A fire boat had to play stream on the river, which at the time had its surface covered with oil. An immense tar was caught by O. Mygott, at Boca Grande Pass, Florida, and he was trying to haul it into his boat. In his vigorous efforts to escape it made a high leap, and fell into the boat its tail struck Mygott, knocking him senseless. He remained unconscious for three hours.

There was great fun at Kottlach, Switzerland, a short time ago. A prisoner escaped from the jail, and the warden let out about fifty convicts to hunt for him. The people of the town supplied intoxicants to the prisoners, and they became so gloriously fitted that they were unable to find the fugitive, and had to be escorted back to the jail.

A very peculiar lady and a rather queer horse were referred to by a writer in a Sacramento paper. He announced that a good price would be paid for "a horse for a lady of dark color, a good trotter, and of stylish action." The advertiser further stipulated that "the horse must be young and have a long tail about fifteen hands high."

A man with a poor memory died in McPherson, Kansas. After buying a safe, for the storing of his valuables, he penciled the combination on the plastered wall near the safe. A few days later he sent a kalschmer to whitewash the walls, and of course the penciled figures were obliterated. He had to have the safe blown open, and his wife blew him up for his stupidity. Forty-eight years ago, in Adams, Ohio, Col. E. P. Warren and Miss Parsony Lentz were sweethearts. A love quarrel caused them to separate, and several years later both married other partners. In time they became widower and widow, and recently the old lovers again met, and they have just been married, at Cameron, Ohio. His age is sixty-eight and she is one year his junior.

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