## TWO EXPERIENCES AT THE CAPITAL.

**A Young Woman Who Came to Pay an Extended Visit to an Entire Stranger.**

"We had some remarkable experiences in Washington," said a lady whose husband had, through two administrations, held a high office in the government.

"Insane claimants come to Washington by the hundred with preposterous demands of every kind. Of course at the departments and in their houses the president and his cabinet are guarded as far as may be from these intruders, but they sometimes gain access to the people they desire to see, and give a great deal of trouble.

"Owing probably to my name having been more or less in the newspapers, I had not a little annoyance from these people myself, and women as well as men used to deluge me with the most absurd applications. One very funny incident, which, however, was most annoying at the time, occurred after we had been in Washington only a short time, and before I had warned my servants against these eccentric gentry. We had had a big dinner, and I was alone in the drawing room about 11 o'clock, just after our guests had departed. I heard a little bustle in the hall, but fancying that it was some one going away did not disturb myself about it.

"Presently the door opened, and the footman announced, 'Miss Clark.' And, quite as if she were an expected guest, in walked a very ladylike looking woman, who calmly informed me that she had a claim against the treasury department for a million dollars, and that she had come to stay with me until she had arranged matters satisfactorily. 'I have brought my trunk,' she explained very composedly, 'as I suppose I may have to stop with you for some time.' And to my consternation I found that the cabman (for she had arrived in a carriage) had brought her box into the hall, and that she had paid and dismissed him. Her whole demeanor was so quiet and assured that the servant who opened the door never dreamed but that she was expected.

"To have a crazy woman in your house at midnight is not a pleasant position I assure you. I felt that she must be humored, and making some excuse, hastily sought my husband and acquainted him with the situation. Fortunately Dr. ——, our good neighbor, lived within a few doors, and writing him a line to ask his advice and assistance, we entertained our strange visitor until he arrived with a carriage to take the poor lady to a safe shelter for the night. With great tact he persuaded her to go with him, and she took leave of us with many apologies for her short stay and abrupt departure.

"My next experience was more serious. My daughter was to be married, and on the afternoon before the wedding I had gone up to my room for a little rest when I was disturbed by one of the servants who informed me that a gentleman was down stairs who insisted upon seeing 'Miss Mary' (my daughter) or myself. 'He wouldn't give his message, ma'am,' exclaimed the man, 'although I told him that you did not wish to be disturbed.' Thinking that it might be something of importance, I went down to the reception room, where I found a tall, very good looking man, who in an agitated manner told me that he had long loved my Mary, had seen her marriage spoken of in the papers and had traveled night and day from his home in the west to be in time to prevent the sacrifice.

"He insisted upon seeing my daughter at once. He was so excited that I was terribly frightened, but kept my presence of mind, and contrived to ring for the footman. 'Show this gentleman out,' I said, and fairly flew upstairs. Some way or other they got rid of him, but that evening he returned, and again the next morning. Of course he was not admitted, but I was made so thoroughly nervous that my husband sent for a couple of policemen in citizen's clothes, who remained with the wedding party until the young couple were fairly off on the train."—New York Tribune.

### Why She Couldn't Buy.

"While I was doing some shopping," says a man, "I encountered the typical woman shopper. She was with another woman and they reached a counter where some charming little teakwood cabinets were displayed.

"'There!' exclaimed the type enthusiastically, 'the very thing of all others for Mrs. C. Only last week she was admiring a little one of mine and wishing for its fellow for her dressing table.'

"'How fortunate!' exclaimed her companion. 'I should get it directly, and it will be off your mind.'

"The other hesitated, looked at the price and commented: 'They're not at all dear, and they're certainly very pretty and I know she wants one, but,' putting the cabinet back, 'I feel as if I hadn't looked quite enough—you know I had planned to give up the rest of the afternoon to Mrs. C.'s present.'"—New York Times.

### A Horrid Man.

In a debate on the woman question a horrid man said: "No man in his senses loves a petticoated philosopher or wants to have anything to do with her. I would as soon hug a grizzly bear as to touch such a woman, and I would as soon go on a stroll locking arms with a locomotive as to try to keep company with such a woman." And it never occurred to the old porcupine that all the women just as soon he would too.—New York Sun.

### Legends of the Wandering Jew.

The old Jewish story is that Cartaphilos, the bookkeeper of the Judgment hall under the employ of Pontius Pilate, struck our Lord as he was led from the hall, saying: "Go faster! Get on!" Jesus turned to him and said, "I go, but you tarry until I come again." Cursed though he was he afterward became a Christian and was baptized. In tradition he still lives, falling into a protracted trance every thirty years.

Another legend tells us that Jesus, almost overcome by the weight of the cross as he was carrying it to the place of execution, stopped before the shop of a cobbler, and rested his hand against the wall of the building. This enraged the cobbler, whose name was Ahasuerus, to such an extent that he threw a last at the Man of Sorrows, crying to him: "Get off! Away with you!" Jesus rebuked him, saying, "I go and go quickly; but command thee to wander over the earth until the judgment day." This last legend is the one given by Paul von Eitzen, bishop of Schleswig, in the year 1547.

A third legend says that Ahasuerus had been detailed to bring Jesus into the judgment hall of Pilate, and that he was rushing our Lord along at a swift gait when Jesus complained of weariness and requested to sit down on a stone by the wayside. This request was refused by the heartless wretch, who exclaimed: "Move on, Jesus, move on! Thou shalt not rest." Jesus replied, "I go my way unto everlasting rest, but thou shalt go away and never rest until I return to earth again."—St. Louis Republic.

### Work Done by Invalids.

Have you ever thought that much of the useful work of the world is done by people comparatively invalids? Richard Baxter, by reason of his disease, all his days sitting in the door of the tomb, yet writing more than a hundred volumes, and sending out an influence for God that will endure as long as the "Saints' Everlasting Rest." Edward Payson, never knowing a well day, yet how he preached, and how he wrote, helping thousands of souls like himself "to swim in a sea of glory!" And Robert McCheyne, a walking skeleton, yet you know what he did in Dundee, and how he shook Scotland with zeal for God.

Philip Doddridge, advised by his friends, because of his illness, not to enter the ministry, yet you know what he did for the "Rise and Progress of Religion" in the church and in the world. Wilberforce was told by his doctors that he could not live a fortnight, yet at that very time entering upon philanthropic enterprises that demanded the greatest endurance and persistence. Robert Hall, suffering excruciations, so that often in his pulpit while preaching he would stop and lie down on a sofa, then getting up again to preach about heaven until the glories of the Celestial City dropped on the multitude, doing more work perhaps than almost any well man in his day.—Rev. T. De Witt Talmage.

### The World's Largest Telegraph Office.

The biggest telegraph office in the world is that of London. It is located in the general postoffice building and is not accessible to the general public. It contains more than 3,000 operators, and its batteries are supplied by a plant of 30,000 cells, or enough to make three solid glass rows of cells from the Capitol to the White House. This office does more business than any office in the United States. It dispatches its business much quicker and more quietly than our offices do.

Of these 3,000 operators about 1,000 are women. They have a room to themselves, and do their work with American Morse instruments with registers and paper reels. In the other parts of the office all sorts of instruments are used, and the Hughes printing instruments are the most popular. In the big telegraph operating room of Paris 1,000 operators are at work. Nearly one-half of these are women. The day operators work only seven hours, while the night operators work ten hours, but they get bigger pay than those who work during the day.—London Cor. Pittsburg Dispatch.

### Wanted to Thank the Box Office Man.

I remember, as a law student, dining with Wills at the Cock in Fleet street, and inducing him to take me to a theater afterward. He was loath to go. He loved to take his ease in his inn; but his good nature was stronger than his sloth. We arrived at the theater very late. A locum tenens occupied the booking office. Wills handed his card, and asked that we might be given seats. The young man could not take upon himself to pass us. The acting manager was away. Wills gave a sigh of relief; but I was more strenuous, and insisted that the card should reach the proper official.

We were given the best seats in the house. It was not an historical play, and Wills sat it through very stolidly. As we came out and passed the booking office he paused for a moment. "I am looking for that kind hearted young man," he said, "who was for not letting us in; I would like to give him a shilling." And he meant it.—Pall Mall Mall Gazette.

### A Bad Way to Light a Match.

Morris Greenbaum, thirteen years old, tried to scratch a match on his knickerbockers yesterday afternoon and the flame caught his jacket. He was severely burned about the body and was removed to the Presbyterian hospital.—New York Sun.


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### By a Greater Crook.

"I have made arrangements with a number of miners in Siberia to buy gold dust and small pieces of gold of them. They are able to secrete these in the folds of their dress, take them home and there sell them to me for a nominal price. After having collected a quantity and brought it here, I now offer it to you for sale. I do not propose to sell you the precious metal for a trifle, but I will guarantee that the metal shall pass the frontiers of both Russia and France without paying any tax or duty. Thus your profit will be the amounts total of these government charges."

Such were the contents of a letter received by a Parisian jeweler from Riga, in Prussia. He went to see the dealer. He had the powder and gold pieces weighed with care, chemically examined, and, after paying for them, had it well packed under his own eyes. The man had promised to take the goods over the frontiers to escape paying duty. He traveled with the Parisian by way of Belgium. Having passed the French frontier, he took his leave at the first depot on French soil. When the Parisian arrived home and opened his precious box he found in it nothing but copper dust and copper pieces. The clever crook has not yet been found.—Chicago Herald.

### One Man's Food Another's Poison.

Why will people insist in laying down one rule with regard to cures and dietary and not considering that both must vary according to constitutions? Some will tell you that Welsh rarebits are most indigestible and cucumbers will give you the nightmare. I always find toasted cheese a most excellent dish for supper and have eaten a whole cucumber late at night without feeling any evil effects.

You often find certain things get a bad name which they never deserve. Port wine has long been considered the essence of gout, but years ago I recommended it as a cure for the gout and I have known many persons who have used it for such a purpose with signal success.—London Graphic.

### A Bright Future.

Father—You want to marry my daughter? What are your prospects?

Lover—Splendid! I consulted a fortune teller yesterday, and she says I am going to be rich.—Exchange.

### Two Points to Observe in Walking.

There are two vital points indispensable to a good walk, which, if the student will observe, he will acquire a free and elastic carriage. These two points are to let the chest lead, and to feel the balls of the feet as one walks. I do not say point the toes downward, for this will give a strained and lumbering gait at first. But as you walk, so poise yourself that the heels touch but lightly, and, as it were, incidentally, and all the weight and strain coming on the balls. This, with a forward and erect chest, will give the main items for a good walk, and the minor points, such as controlling the hips, restraining the arms slightly, etc., may follow as incidentals.—Chicago Woman's News.

### Secrets of Comfort.

Though sometimes small evils, like invisible insects, inflict pain and a single hair may stop a vast machine, yet the chief secret of comfort lies in not suffering trifles to vex one and in prudently cultivating an undergrowth of small pleasures, since very few great ones, alas! are let on long leases.—New York Ledger.

### The Largest Bible.

A German lady living in Manchester, England, possesses what is supposed to be the largest Bible, in one volume, in the world. It is an heirloom, 200 years old, with pages two feet long and but little less in width, and at the head of each page is a line in red ink which translated reads, "This is a history."—Mechanical News.


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