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A YANKEE.

Various Views in Various Places as to What He Is.

"I was greatly amused," said a New Orleans citizen who has lately made a visit abroad, "to notice how the term 'Yankee' widens in application as one gets farther and farther away from the habitat of the real thing.

"In New York a Yankee is commonly supposed to be a native of Connecticut, Vermont or Massachusetts, and I have noticed that the name is applied to mean skinflints rather than to the people in general. In St. Louis a Yankee is understood loosely to be any one from the extreme northeast. Here in New Orleans the term includes pretty nearly everybody above Mason and Dixon's line—in short, 'northerner' and 'Yankee' are more or less synonymous.

"Now comes the really absurd part of it, although quite in line with what I have just remarked. While I was in London I found myself continually referred to as a 'Yankee' by natives who had learned I was from New Orleans. 'I think you Yankees are very charming people,' said a big wholesaler who wanted to be extra pleasant. 'I know several from your state.' I tried to explain at first, but I soon got tired of that. I was sure to be greeted by a stare of amazement. 'But I thought all Americans were Yankees, doncherknow,' would be the usual protest.

"Later on I met a very intelligent hotel keeper at Bern, in Switzerland, and in the course of conversation he remarked that he had an extremely agreeable countryman of mine staying at his house the previous season. 'As you are both Yankees,' he said, 'you may by chance know him.' 'Where does he live?' I asked. 'In Buenos Ayres,' replied the hotel keeper."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

INDIAN SIGNAL SERVICE.

They Have Long Telephoned by the Use of Drums.

Travelers in uncivilized countries have often wondered how some savage tribes were able to transmit news for hundreds of miles with no apparent facilities for doing so. An interesting light is thown on this subject by Jose Bach, who tells of the means by which the Indians on the Amazon communicate with each other at a distance. The natives live in groups of 100 to 200 persons in settlements half a mile or a mile apart. In each dwelling there is a wooden drum, which is buried for half its height in sand mixed with fragments of wood, bone and mica, and has a triple diaphragm of leather, wood and rubber. When this drum is struck with a wooden mallet, the sound travels far and is distinctly heard in the other drums in the neighboring dwellings.

It is beyond doubt that the transmission of the sound takes place through the earth, since the blows struck are scarcely audible outside of the houses in which the instruments are placed. After a "malocca," or dwelling, has been "called up" by an initial blow conversation is carried on between the two drums. Mr. Bach's explanation is that the communication is facilitated by the nature of the ground, the drums doubtless resting upon one and the same stratum of rock, since transmission through ordinary alluvial earth could not be depended upon. This method furnishes an ingenious modification of the process employed by Indians for perceiving distant noises, such as the gallop of a horse, which consists in applying the ear to the earth.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Straining Milk.

There are some points about straining milk that are not generally thought of, and therefore the milk is not wholly cleared of its bacteria. In the first place it is important that the milk should be put through the strainer and set where its cream is to rise as soon as possible after it comes from the cow. It often accumulates bacteria very rapidly if left in stables exposed to foul odors. Besides, if left long some of the cream will rise and will be so mixed with the milk that what does not cling to the strainer cloth or wire will not rise as cream again. The strainer should be thoroughly washed by dipping it first in cold water and moving it rapidly through both ways, so that bacteria will not adhere to the underside, as they are apt to do if the rinsing water is merely poured on the strainer from above. Then repeat this process with water pretty near scalding heat. In that way if there are any bacteria on the strainer they will be killed.—Boston Cultivator.

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Expressions.

Scotty—Oh, gang your ain gait!
Bowery—Oh, come off the gate!—Boston Courier.

A Night of Horror.

They trampled on their victim and
They tore him with their claws;
They swooped upon him in a band;
They pecked him without pause;
They stalked across his aching form;
They made him roll and shriek;
They swooped upon him in a swarm,
And ripped with claw and beak.
He rolled and tumbled all about—
At last he gave a scream
That in a jiffy put to rout
That horrid turkey dream!
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

There are too many firecrackers who imagine they are 13 inch guns in society.—Atchison Globe.

He Couldn't Grasp It.

Harry, aged 5, was taking his first ride on the cars, and was curious to know the meaning of certain signposts along the track. "Papa," he asked, "what does W. and R. mean?"

"It means for the engineer to ring and whistle," was the reply.

"Well," said the little traveler, "I can see that W. stands for wring, but I can't see how R. stands for whistle."—*Chicago News.*

Uses of Adversity.

It is something new to discover that a bodily affliction can assist one in mastering the difficulties of learning a foreign language, but there is a case of the kind on record.

Miss Gertrude came down stairs one morning with red eyes, a swollen nose and a generally distressed appearance.

"What is the matter, Gertrude?" asked her mother.

"An awful cold in my head," she replied.

"I am very sorry," said her sympathizing parent.

"I was when I got up," cheerfully rejoined the young miss, "but I'm not now. I can get that French nasal sound exactly. Tray be-ong. Bong zhoor. How's that?"—Youth's Companion.

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Each man's life may be the ascending of a throne. The measure of each man's success is its strength and noble manhood.—Rev. James W. Fifield, Congregationalist, Chicago.

Christianity's Chief Aim.

The paramount aim of Christianity is not to prepare for heaven, but to make this earth better, wiser, happier, holier. Be not simply good, but good for something.—Rev. M. C. Waddell, Methodist, Omaha.

God's Mercy.

God has mercy, and none of his children need want for it. It is within the grasp of all, and the only thing needed to secure it is the thing which is the key to everything, even heaven—sincerity.—Rev. Alexander Blackburn, Baptist, Portland, Or.

A Motto.

Let me give you a motto—Difficulties are opportunities. All successful men have found this to be true. We need the strengthening of life by struggle. This makes life heroic, worth living.—Rev. Cornelius H. Patton, Congregationalist, St. Louis.

Solitude.

Solitude is good—that is, a measure of it. I read a book, and then I find another who has read it, and we talk the book over. And then I know more than twice what I knew after my lonesome silent communion.—Rev. Myron W. Reed, Independent, Denver.

Christ as Our King.

If we could realize that Christ, whose throne shall stand eternal, worshiped by the angels, and to whom all treasures are tributary, is our King, how small all our strifes, our quarrels and our bickerings would seem!—Rev. Dr. J. L. Withom, Presbyterian, Boston.

Doubts.

If we have doubts, let us face them squarely. If they are dishonest doubts, we shall look them out of countenance. If they are honest, we can deal with them in safety. If we bring them to God, we shall have help.—Rev. D. F. McGill, D. D., Alleghany, Pa.

Man's Love For God.

Man's love for God must find its manifestation in action, in doing and suffering. We cannot help being zealous if we love God. All the pain of Gethsemane and Calvary could not quench Jesus Christ's love for man.—Rev. W. J. McCaughan, Presbyterian, Chicago.

Thankfulness.

Thanksgiving is the divine side and courage the human. There is no better way to get up courage than to stop and count our blessings. If we did this, we would no longer be dull and low spirited, but bright and happy, even though the future hang heavily with disappointment before you.—Rev. Dr. W. W. MacMillan, Presbyterian, Louisville.

What the Bible Reveals.

The Bible reveals the true God, tells us of man, points to the plan of salvation, brings us a Saviour, gives a true system of living and hands us the key to immortality. On these topics it is supreme. Whoever would be wise on them must surrender to the Book. Read, ponder, act—in these lines is life.—Rev. Harlan K. Fenner, Lutheran, Louisville.

Influence of Personality.

The greatest power in the world is a living personality. Man, made in God's image, is greater than any of man's works and is God's own greatest creation. We all know the magnetic influence of personality. Christ felt that power was imparted from him when the woman touched the hem of his garment—Bishop J. H. Vincent, Methodist, Detroit.

Faith That Regenerates.

It used to be taught that there were different kinds of faith—faith with testimony and faith without testimony, faith in miracles, faith of devils and saving faith. We are troubled with no such nice distinctions. The faith that regenerates character is the simple acceptance of him who gave himself for us that will lead us to give ourselves for others.—Rev. Earl C. Lindsay, Methodist, Pittsburg.

Courage.

Blessed the man of whom in that hour it shall be said, "You have been faithful in a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things." Courage, then! In God's name, courage! This life is the smelting pot in which the gold is separated from the alloy. Courage, and you shall enjoy as much sweetness and light as this lower life affords.—Rev. George H. Hepworth, Congregationalist, New York.

Power of Habit.

Even Christ was a creature of habit He would not have taken upon himself our common humanity had he not come under the law of habit. A man weaves for himself his own web of habit. Habits, like a hickory nut shell, are formed by a natural, silent growth, but it takes a hammer to break them. Habits are formed like the deep trough of the burro's mountain trail, by frequent walking in the same path. They are like the river's current that has washed long in one channel. — Rev. James A. M. Crouch, Baptist, St. Louis.

Gold Dust.

We are not in this world merely to do the pieces of work, large or small, that are set over against our hand. We are here to grow in strength and beauty of character. And it is not hard to see how this growth may go on continually amid life's daily toil and cares. If we are diligent, careful, faithful, prompt, accurate, energetic in the doing of a thousand little things of common life, we are building these qualities meanwhile into our soul's fabric. Thus we are ever learning by doing and growing by doing. There is an unseen spiritual building rising within us continually building rising within us unending tasks. Negligence in common duties mars our character. Faithfulness in all work builds beauty into the soul.—Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D., Detroit.

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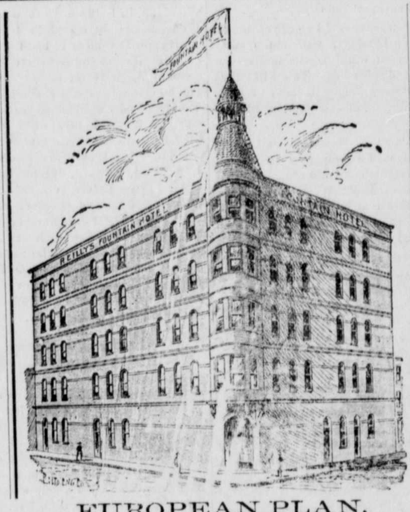
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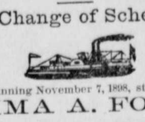
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