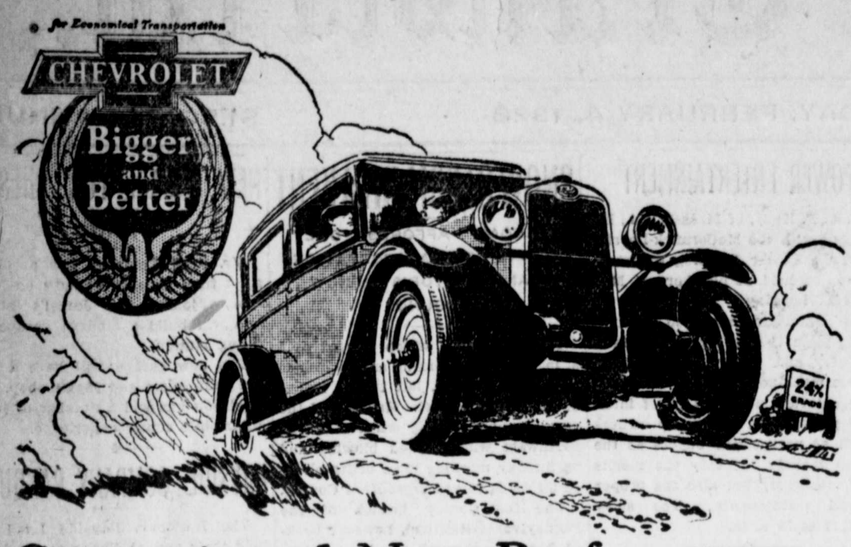


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Our Winters Past And Present

What has become of that famous driving horse,
You raced so much on our High Street course?
Always right in trim, fed on home-grown hay,
And those musical bells and the old basket sleigh?

With horse shod all around with steel toes and caulked,
My! how it could travel, until possibly had balked,
Then you would urge with the reins or perhaps use the whip,
Doing your utmost to win the heat and save the tip.

As like most all kinds of races, either on dirt or snow,
Your horse was always the best and you told the folks so,
As they lined up on the street and exclaimed far and wide,
My selection has won, as yours was either tired or tied.

And even at night, after a hasty meal,
You would get your sweetheart of whom you thought a good deal,
Drive to town in a cutter or on an old fashion sled
And race and laugh until your face was red.

And even the Ice-Skates seem to have passed away,
Like many other pleasures, they have had their day,
For if you will glance on our river, no crowd will be seen,
As very few now indulge in skating on the stream.

Then think of the steamboat, as down the river it went,
Which the folks did enjoy and to them much pleasure meant,
Going down to the wharf to see the boat coming in,
Having been to the city and returning home again.

And now who knows, but that our trains before long,
May likewise disappear and so will the gong.
Or the toot of the engine, just before they pull out,
As the Conductor cries "all aboard" with a shout.

But just think what we now have and love so dear,
As the above mentioned pleasure, are about to leave here,
For with trucks of all kinds and automobile of the best,
Which affords untold happiness and stands the test.

Or perhaps you may have in that place called home,
Some radio program, coming throuhg a megaphone,
With some musical artist, whom to hear is a treat,
Or a comical ministrel, which cannot be beat.

Also look up above, when the sky seems to shout,
And see an airplane soaring all about,
Lindburgh may be in it, with his message of peace,
On his way to New Zealand or possibly to Greece.

JESSE MEDDERS.

Hid Surplus Coin in Jars of Baked Clay

One of the most interesting items in a coin bank collection is an ancient "botijuela" or baked clay jar about a foot high obtained from San Juan, Porto Rico. It is round in shape and with an opening of about two or three inches in diameter. It was brought to Porto Rico from Seville and Cadiz during the colonization period of the island and served for a long time for the carrying of olive oil. Later, they were used by families; in the homes of the poor to carry water from the brooklets and rivers, and in the homes of the rich to store money. When filled with gold and silver coins, a cork or wooden stopper was put in them and then sealed with sealing wax. After this they buried the "botijuelas" in the ground or hid them in the ceilings of their homes.

The custom was brought over from Spain, where money was also buried in the ground. The use of the "botijuela" in Porto Rico started about the middle of the Sixteenth century, when the first settlers began to realize profits from their farms and from the sale of fruits.—Exchange.

Both Wondered

It is natural for many of us to stand off and wonder how our neighbor can live as he does. Because he has different standards and doesn't enjoy our kind of games, we wonder how he can possibly have any fun in life.

There is a delightful story which Jonas Lie, the artist, told. The artist was at the seashore working at a sketch, when he noticed an old fisherman who seemed to have no luck, but just constantly fished all day long, rebaiting his hook at intervals.

When the day ended, the fisherman said to the painter: "Hi, neighbor, been watchin' yer! How has yer the patience to stand and paint all day?" —Exchange.

Book Buyer Got Bargain

A recent issue of the Boston Herald announces the presentation to the Harvard College library of "A Book for Boys and Girls," by John Bunyan, and published by "Nathaniel Ponder at the Peacock in the Poultrey, London." Ordinarily a child's story book would not be of great interest to Harvard librarians, but this book is different. Perhaps Miss Miller, the former owner of the book, can best realize just how different this book is from the other books, for she purchased it from a peddler for about six cents and only a few months ago sold it at auction in London for $10,000.—Market for Exchange.

Easy for This Student

A school inspector in Hampshire, England, having set the children some sums to do, and having gathered the answers for correction, demanded silence, during which the class might write a description of a cricket match. Looking up a moment later he saw a boy with folded arms, regarding his paper with satisfaction. "Well, my boy," he said, "surely you can find something to say about cricket." "Oh! I've finished, sir!" was the answer, and the essay was handed up. This is what the inspector read: "Match postponed on account of the wet."

Nahant's Town Seal

The town seal of Nahant, Mass., is supposed to depict a white man purchasing the peninsula from an Indian sagamore for a suit of clothes or a pair of breeches.

This transaction occurred in 1630 and the white man shown on the seal is Thomas Dexter.

Dexter's title to Nahant was denied from the start by the town of Lynn, and, after a contest lasting 30 years, Lynn prevailed. The town seal, however, is based on this transaction.

Organization Counts

The Baldwin locomotive works got an order for a monster locomotive. It was shipped in 15 days.

"How did you do it?" one of the officials was asked.

"Organization," he responded. "Organization is the art of getting men to respond like thoroughbreds. When you cluck to a thoroughbred he gives you all the speed and strength of heart and sinew he has in him. When you cluck to a jackass he kicks."

Here is an illustration worth while, which surely applies to men as well as lower animals.

A wonderful thing is the ability to respond with complete efficiency whenever called upon.

And a more wonderful thing is to be able to get other men to respond that way when you call upon them. That is what the great men of industry—as well as of war—have been able to accomplish.—Gulf Coast Lumberman.

It Was a Good One

It was our custom in English class at school to choose a certain person to read his theme aloud before the class, writes a correspondent. On this particular day the girl who sat across the table from me had let me see her paper before class started. It was a good one, so when the teacher asked whose theme we would like to hear, I promptly suggested that the girl across from me read hers. She arose, but instead of reading the one I had seen, she took another one from her book. It was a wonderful ode to the president of the senior class, praising him to the skies and throwing oratorical bouquets at him. I was the president.—Chicago Tribune.

Idea for Searchlights

In the night, when low clouds float in a thin veil above the river, where searchlights on battleships throw their beams upon them, a curious round patch of light can be seen on a cloud. Airmen flying above these clouds would also see the patch of light and, in clear weather, the long beams cast upward into the sky.

The suggestion has been offered that air-lighthouses should be provided with vertical searchlights of great power. Even in moderately foggy weather the light would penetrate the cloud of mist and be visible from above.—Popular Science Monthly.

Tourmaline Peculiarity

The crystal, tourmaline, is capable of attracting small bits of paper and straw in much the same way as amber. This attraction is, of course, due to an electrostatic charge.

When the crystal is exposed to sunlight of a low temperature it loses its electrical charge, but regains it upon being heated again. If it has a negative charge at first, it will have a positive charge when it is reheated.

Several other precious stones exhibit phenomena along this line, but tourmaline is the most interesting and spectacular of all.

Fake Teeth for Bears

Animal dentistry, says a dentist correspondent, is as risky as it is fascinating. The filing of rough or uneven teeth of a lion or tiger requires not only strength but nerve, for you cannot put a wild animal under gas as you can a man or woman. To extract an animal's tooth is far from an easy business, and in many cases it is easier to pull a screw from a piece of oak by means of a pair of pliers. A well-known menagerie owner once had an old pet bear fitted out with a complete set of false teeth. The plates had to be "glued" to the mouth of the beast in order to keep them in place. —Exchange.

Vituperation Had Big Part in Old Campaign

When a man was a candidate for President in the early days of the United States it generally was with the knowledge that the campaign would be hot, with the air full of lusty invective. One of the warmest tilts was that between the supporters of Andrew Jackson and the friends of John Quincy Adams. Adams had had a long public career and apparently had given satisfaction until the campaign started. Then everything that could be raked up against him was hurled in a merciless storm of abuse.

It was claimed among many other things that Adams had, while minister to Russia, given up an American servant girl of Mrs. Adams to the emperor and that he had applied the White House funds to the purchase of gaming tables (he actually had bought a billiard table). The Jacksonites found plenty was also known about their candidate.

The general's quarrels, duels, his gamecocks, his swearing, his "murder" of deserting militiamen at Mobile, his contempt of court at New Orleans, his insubordinate invasion of Florida, and his marriage. That was the big talking point, his marriage.

Tact and good sense were forgotten. Venomous pamphlets, countless editorials, the verse and chorus of endless shameful ballads all told of "that brazen hussy, that no-account, vulgar, disreputable little frump, his wife." The general managed to keep most of these cowardly attacks from her and did not countenance the invective that his supporters hurled in return.—Kansas City Star.

Put Personality Into Tokens of Friendship

There's always just one more story about any of America's former Presidents. This time there is another about Andrew Johnson, Lincoln's tempestuous successor.

Johnson, while governor of Tennessee, once resumed his vocational implements. He had formed a strong friendship in the Tennessee legislature for W. W. Pepper of Springfield, a stanch Whig, and once a blacksmith. Despite their irreconcilable political creeds the personal relations of Johnson and Pepper were extremely cordial. Pepper became a judge in 1854, and after a visit to Johnson, then governor, set about fashioning a shovel, which he sent with a note explaining it was intended as a memento of a friendship proof against all political differences.

Johnson, to show his appreciation, took up his scissors and needle and made a handsome beaver cloth coat which he sent to Pepper. It was a splendid piece of workmanship, probably the last of that kind of work Johnson ever did, and exists to this day.

Right View of Life

It is time to get over the idea that we have to be comfortable because we were brought up that way, while others were predestined to misery and are so hardened to their condition that we needn't bother. One effect of travel—if the traveler is impressionable, and some travelers are not—is to show us that no country has a monopoly of certain homely virtues that take root and flourish in the bleakest, as in the richest soil. Nor is any other country particularly interested in our introspective studies of how good we are and our ingrowing imagination of our greatness. Boastfulness is a posture as unlovely for the millions as it is for one. Let us give credit to others for possessing some of the qualities we admire so much in ourselves.—Exchange.

Knew His Nightingale

One time on the Texas frontier a man came into a camp riding an old mule.

"How much for the mule?" asked a bystander.

"Jist a hundred dollars," answered the rider.

"I'll give you five dollars," said the other.

The rider stopped short, as if in amazement, and then slowly dismounted.

"Stranger," said he, "I ain't a-goin' to let a little matter of ninety-five dollars stand between me and a mule trade. The mule's yourn."—From the Outlook.

Has Had Ten Capitals

North Carolina has had at least ten capitals, including Bath, Edenton, Brunswick, Wilmington, Newberry, Hillsboro, Smithfield, Fayette and Raleigh. The reason for so many lay in the custom prior to 1791 of transferring the seat of government to the place of residence of the governor or the temporary meeting place of the assembly.

In 1791 one square mile of land was purchased for the foundation of Raleigh as the permanent seat of government. At present the city covers four square miles.

Something Like an Egg

If the average husband eats two eggs every morning for breakfast and the wife uses six eggs in a cake and devils a dozen more for the family dinner and bakes two cream custard pies every week, it would take nearly five weeks for the average family to consume the contents of an ancient giant ostrich egg that reposes in the Natural History museum of the University of Illinois.

Mystery of Egg Lines

Why are some birds' eggs pure white and unmarked and others variously and highly colored, with all sorts of marks upon them, from minute dots to scraggly lines? asks the American Forestry Magazine. How are those spots and markings produced? Nests of birds run all the way from the female laying a single egg on the bare rock on the coast, to those laying ten or more eggs in a very elaborate nest built in very different localities.



That Constant Backache

Is Often a Warning of Sluggish Kidneys.

DOES every day find you lame and achy—suffering nagging backache, headache and dizzy spells? Are the kidney secretions too frequent; scanty or burning in passage? These are often signs of sluggish kidneys and shouldn't be neglected.

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Mrs. K. S. Ohler, 109 John St., Hagerstown, Md., says: "For years I was greatly troubled by pains shooting across my back. My kidneys acted irregularly, too. When I read about Doan's Pills I gave them a trial and they helped me greatly. I have used Doan's off and on ever since and they have kept my kidneys in good working order. Doan's Pills are the best preparation of the kind I have ever used."

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