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LEE AND M'CLELLAN.

An Incident of the First Meeting of the Two Soldiers.

The first meeting between General George B. McClellan and General Robert E. Lee happened in Mexico during the war with that country. McClellan was a lieutenant of engineers, and Lee was a major on the staff of General Winfield Scott.

One day McClellan was walking across a field when he saw General Scott and his staff approaching on horseback. As they drew near Major Lee reined up his horse and asked the lieutenant if he did not know that he was disobeying orders. His tone was sharp and angry. McClellan answered that he was not aware of any disobedience and asked for an explanation. Lee replied that all officers had been told to remain in their quarters, awaiting orders, and asked for the lieutenant's name.

McClellan gave his name and said that no order of that kind had reached him. But Lee in a peremptory tone ordered him to go to his quarters and remain there. Then he rode off and rejoined General Scott and the staff, who had not stopped. McClellan went to his quarters, as he had been directed to do, but was quite indignant at the way in which Lee had treated him, for he had not knowingly committed a breach of discipline.

He had just finished telling his brother officers the incident when he was informed that an officer was outside the tent asking for him. On going out he was much surprised to see Major Lee, who saluted him with respect.

"Lieutenant McClellan," the major said, "I am afraid that I was not courteous in my manner to you a little while ago, and I have called to apologize."

"I assured him that it was all right," said General McClellan in telling the story, "and he rode off after making a low bow, leaving me in admiration of a superior officer who so promptly and generously repaired an error."—Chicago News.

AN AERIAL HORROR.

The Very Dreadful Thing That Strohschneider Did.

A group of aeronauts were talking aeronautics.

"Did you ever hear of Strohschneider?" said a German. "He did a dreadful thing once. I'll tell you about it.

"Strohschneider appeared in a certain village and advertised that he would take the landlord of the village inn up with him on a trapeze hanging from the car of his balloon.

"Though the landlord's wife made a kick and the authorities, upholding her, forbade the man to accompany Strohschneider, the landlord sat in state on the trapeze beside the famous aeronaut when the ascension began.

"But those nearest to him noticed that he was paler than a ghost and that his arm was thrown around Strohschneider's neck as if in terror. And, noting these things, the people nodded ominously to one another.

"Up and up went the balloon, and now a murmur of horror arose among the multitude. The aeronaut and the landlord were quarreling; they were fighting. High up there in the clouds, perched on the swaying trapeze, they struggled, thumped, kicked.

"Suddenly the aeronaut, in a mad burst of rage, seized the landlord by the throat, thrust him backward and flung him into space. Down the poor fellow dropped like a stone, turning over and over. He alighted on his head.

"The people, mad with horror and rage, rushed to the spot. And there, to their amazement, stood the landlord laughing heartily. The figure that had fallen was a manikin dressed up in his clothes.

"And this," the speaker concluded, "is the only practical joke that has ever been played from a balloon."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Perils of Crinoline.

The dangers of the historic crinoline are illustrated by a story told by Lady Dorothy Nevill in her "Reminiscences." Going too near the firepiace, her voluminous skirt caught fire, and in an instant she was in a blaze. There were no men present, and the women could not help her, because if they had gone near enough to be of use their own skirts would have been ignited. Fortunately Lady Dorothy had sufficient presence of mind to roll herself in the hearth rug and thus subdue the flames.

A Judge of Land.

Proud Father—Welcome back to the old farm, my boy. So you got through college all right? Farmer's Son—Yes, father. Proud Father—Ye know, I told ye to study up chemistry and things, so you'd know best what to do with different kinds of land. What do you think of that flat medder there, for instance? Farmer's Son—Cracky, what a place for a ball game!—Kansas City Independent.

Pity the Poor Wolf.

"Why is it," asked the fox, "that you always look so gaunt?"

"Oh," replied the wolf, "it's all due to the business I'm in. I always have to keep away from the door until there's nothing left in the house to eat."—Catholic Standard and Times.

The New Yorker.

"You New Yorkers don't seem to know anything about the rest of the country," said the visitor.

"The rest of the country?" echoed the New Yorker. "What's that?"—Philadelphia Ledger.

Equality may be all right, but no human power can convert it into a fact.—Balzac.



Rapid changes of temperature are hard on the toughest constitution.

The conductor passing from the heated inside of a trolley car to the icy temperature of the platform—the canvasser spending an hour or so in a heated building and then walking against a biting wind—know the difficulty of avoiding cold.

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THE DOLLAR.

Its Evolution From the One Time Bleat or Bellow.

The dollar took some rounding. Nor did it formerly ring true, but, much alive, simply gave a bleat or bellow. Cattle, among country folk, at one time constituted the dollar, while primitive man generally made use of any article sufficiently abundant for the standard payment of all merchandise.

Thus, in ancient Greece, a fine bronze tripod had the value of a dozen oxen. A good hardworking woman, on the other hand, was given in exchange for only four such beasts.

When metal took the place of money the dollar clung to its traditions, and coins were still called after live stock. Thus "pecunia," applied to metal money, derived its origin from "pecus" (cattle). From the custom of counting heads of cattle came the present designation of a sum in cash—capital or "capita" (heads). In Sanskrit roupa (herd, flock) made roupya or the Indian rupee, while ingots of electrum or admixture of gold and silver when first in use as money bore the impress of an ox or cow.

Not clumsy, but too fragile, were the shells in use as money by the negroes of Africa and throughout ancient Asia, where the natives, taken by its beauty, gave the shell a money value.—R. Holt-Lomax in Harper's Weekly.

THE MINE PACK BURRO.

Information Gleaned by the Newcomer In Camp.

He was a newcomer in the mining camp, and as everything he saw appeared novel and interesting he kept up a rapid fire of questions that seemed mighty foolish to the boys.

The placid little pack burros, mostly ears and voice, pleased him immensely, and he supposed they were kept as pets or else as camp scavengers to nibble the labels from old cans and eat stray newspapers. He came across one packing a wheelbarrow secured on its back with wheel and handles in the air.

"My good man," he asked the owner, "can you tell me why the little donkey is tied to the wheelbarrow in that odd fashion?"

"I shore can, stranger," replied that accommodating individual. "This here jassax has been acquired by old Walapai Huggins for a house pet at the Bully Boy mine, an', bein' as the annimule is too dellycat' to walk all the way over them rough trails, the old man drives him uphill an' at the summit jes' naterally turns him down the other side. Yessir, it do come hard on old Walapai, but it's mighty restin' for the jassax."—Success Magazine.

Eating on the Train In Spain.

As even express trains seldom attain a higher rate of speed than twenty-five miles per hour travel is slow and tedious, though fairly comfortable, and to enjoy Spain one must assume the leisurely indifference of the Spaniard to whom manana is always the chosen time. He is wise who carries his own luncheons, and never are dainty tea baskets more indispensable than on these long journeys. Spanish etiquette demands that the traveler before partaking of his food must politely offer it to those who share the compartment with him. It may either be graciously accepted or declined. In no country is it so difficult to travel and to secure information, as but little English is spoken even by important officials.—Travel Magazine.

Not Business.

Two highland farmers met on their way to church.

"Man," said Donald, "I wass wonderin' what you will be askin' for yon bit sheep over at your steadin'?"

"Man," replied Dougal, "I wass thinkin' I wad be wantin 50 shullin's for that sheep."

"I will tak' it at that," said Donald, "but, och, man, Dougal, I am awful surprised at you doing business on the Sawbath."

"Business!" exclaimed Dougal. "Man, sellin' a sheep like that for 50 shullin's is not business at all. It's just charity."—Dundee Advertiser.

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THE FEATHER BED.

It Is a Poor Thing to Use Either In Summer or Winter.

"Few people, even physicians themselves, seem to know the principal reason why medical science condemns the use of feather beds in winter as well as in summer," said a New York physician recently.

"It is because feather beds are highly hygroscopic—a rather formidable word, but one meaning simply that feathers readily absorb and condense moisture. The body is constantly throwing off waste matter through the skin and the lungs. The feathers in the bed will absorb this waste matter as readily as it will simple atmospheric moisture. The feathers retain the waste matter during the day, when the bed is cold, even when it is aired, unless also warmed by sunshine during the time it is exposed to the air.

"At night, when the body of the sleeper warms the bed, the feathers renew their hygroscopic action and throw off the waste matter absorbed the night before. The susceptible body of the sleeper is soon surrounded by a dense and highly poisonous atmosphere, the accumulative effect of which cannot help but be very injurious.

"The skin, like the lungs, is continually breathing and is very sensitive to external influences; hence arises the need for air baths as well as for water baths. The entire body should be exposed to fresh air every day for as long a time as you can make possible, and all beds should be thoroughly ventilated."—New York Times.

COTTON IN INDIA.

The Way It Was Discovered by a Man Who Was an Observer.

A remarkable story is told about the discovery of the cotton plant in India some years ago. Two gentlemen were driving out to dinner near Bombay, one the host and the other his guest. On both sides of the road were hedges.

It was getting dark, but the guest noticed some white stuff on the top of the hedges all the way along and at length told his friend that he thought it looked like cotton. His friend ordered the native driver to stop, and the two Englishmen got down and examined. The guest was right. It was cotton of an extraordinary strong staple.

Both men were cotton experts, and yet the host, who had driven along the same road for years, had passed the cotton without recognizing it. The guest immediately proceeded to buy up these hedges, for except them there were none that he had seen during a twelve years' residence in India.

During his investigations he discovered that natives often had one or two cotton trees in their gardens, and the English club compounds possessed three or four in different parts of India, but nowhere except in this Bombay district did he see cotton growing in such luxuriant abundance.

He bought up every tree and plant he could, for not a single native European imagined that it was a cotton tree that he possessed in his garden.—Cotton Age.

Lighted Streets In Europe.

The best lighted street in Europe, declares a weekly paper, is Unter den Linden, in Berlin. Perhaps it is, but we would not be sure. In the torrent seamed hills of the Jura, where water power is as cheap as anywhere in the world, there are little French villages in which every tiny cottage has its electric light installation, and the central street, that one could almost jump across, is flooded by the beams of arc lamps that would do credit to the Strand. However, the Berlin boulevard, otherwise a disappointing thoroughfare, is certainly well illuminated. Plate glass, Pilsener and policemen are the three most striking features of that capital, but the lighting of the streets is a good fourth.—London News.

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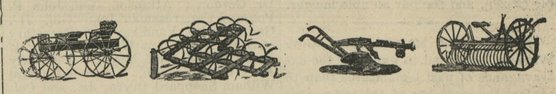
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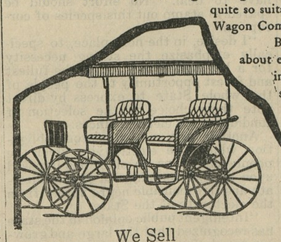
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