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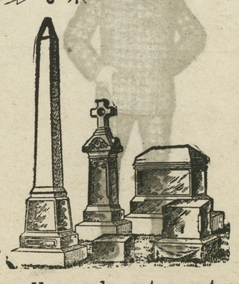
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Very respectfully,
ALFRED L. DAVIDSON, Manufacturer.
☞ SALESLADY IN ATTENDANCE.

HANGMAN'S PAY.

The Way an Oriental Executioner Helps to Fill His Purse.

In the east a hangman's trade is very profitable. As soon as a person is condemned to be hanged notice is sent to the executioner, who has the privilege of erecting the scaffold wherever he pleases, and at sunrise the next morning he begins his work. Accompanied by his assistants, who guard the condemned man and carry material for the scaffold, he goes to some prominent place in front of a large dwelling and there proceeds to erect the scaffold.
A few minutes later the owner of the large dwelling rushes out and implores him to go somewhere else.
"I don't want to have a man hanged in front of my house," he explains.
"All right," says the hangman. "I'm willing to go elsewhere provided you pay me for my trouble in coming here and for the time which I have spent at the job."
Though the sum which he names is pretty large, the owner of the large dwelling pays it without a word, whereupon the hangman goes to another large dwelling, where a similar scene is enacted.
In this way several hours are spent by the executioner in extorting money from all the magnates in the neighborhood. When his purse is at last well filled he erects the scaffold in some dark wood, and soon the unfortunate man, who has been tramping after him all day, is at rest.—New York Herald.

The Kind of Ear That Is Rare.

The ear that Darwin illustrates in his "Descent of Man" as being allied to the pointed type belonging to our simian relatives is not as uncommon as many may imagine. It is my observation that this peculiarity of the fold in question is oftener to be observed in women, and in many of these cases the persistence of the wisdom teeth is also a characteristic. I have in mind two cases of this sort, one of a man, the other of a woman, both residents of one of our leading cities and among their social and intellectual forces.
The latter is a remarkable reversion to an earlier type in ear, in teeth, in length of arm, in painless childbirth, in flexibility of hand joints and in other marked characteristics. It appears to me that the ear, like the vermiform appendix, the suspension of the viscera, the position of the orifice of the bladder and the unprotected condition of certain main arteries, is yet in a transitional state and not fully adapted to the newer human conditions imposed by the erect position and the artificialities of civilization.—Science.

A Mortified Wife.

The Rev. John Mathews, who was a pioneer Methodist preacher of Alabama, has been remembered for his strict views and many peculiarities, according to Lippincott's. His wife, who was more liberal in her ideas, was fond of dress and once sold a bureau and with the money bought a new hat. The following Sunday Brother Mathews, being disturbed at the beginning of his discourse by several of the congregation turning to see the late arrivals, said: "Brethren and sisters, don't bother to look around any more; I'll tell you who comes in." This he did, calling each one by name, much to the mortification of the tardy members. His wife was among the last, and when she walked down the aisle he said: "Make way there for Sister Mathews. She is coming with a bureau on her head."

Philadelphia's First Book.

The first book of any kind published in Philadelphia was Atkin's Almanack for the year 1686. It was an unpaged pamphlet of ten leaves, only two copies of which are now known to be in existence. The first copy of the Almanack printed was sent to Colonel Markham, Penn's deputy, who reported to the council that the book had erroneously declared Pennsylvania to have been founded by "Lord Penn." The council disapproved such a high sounding title and directed the author and printer (William Bradford) to "forthwith and effectually blott out ye words 'Lord Penn.'" This had the effect of recalling the whole edition and the abolition of the obnoxious words.

Throwing the Slipper at a Wedding.

The throwing of the slipper after the bride comes apparently from barbarous times, when the relations of man and wife were really very much akin to those of master and slave, for it seems that the shoe was an emblem of authority, and at an Anglo-Saxon marriage a shoe was given by the bride's father to her husband in token of transference of power over her, the groom usually indicating his appreciation of that fact by tapping his new wife lightly on the head with it.

Coral From Italy.

Much of the costly red, white and pink coral used for ornamental purposes is obtained from the coast of Italy. Men go out in boats and drag the rocky bottom of streams with wooden frames or nets, in which the coral becomes entangled, but the delicate branches are crushed in this way. The finest coral is obtained by diving.

One View of Dialect.

Dialect tempered with slang is an admirable medium of communication between persons who have nothing to say and persons who would not care for anything properly said.—Thomas Bailey Aldrich in Century.

Where there is one scholar who becomes insane through overstudy, there are hundreds who remain inane by reason of understudy.—Boston Transcript.

No man who needs a monument ever ought to have one.—Hawthorne.

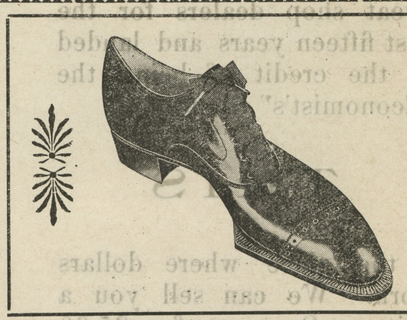
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