

MADE FAMOUS BY A BULL.

Personalities of a Montana Man Who Got Into the British House of Commons.

Mike Flavin many years ago was one of the characters of Butte, Mont. Now he is a member of the British house of commons and has achieved considerable distinction in that body.

While living in Butte Mike's personality led many of his friends to bespeak for him wider success when he went away. In this they were not disappointed, for he has intruded upon the stage of fame no small distance during his career as a statesman, says a western exchange.

Mike is a robust sort of a person. He weighs 210 pounds and it takes six feet and three inches of string to reach from his massive head to his ample feet. Such pastimes as juggling a 150-pound dumb-bell come easy to his powerful muscles, and he has reason in Butte as a boxer that will beat for years to come.

About six years ago Mike departed from Butte and by easy stages traveled to Ireland. He got married and settled down in the Emerald Isle and was elected from North Kerry to the house of commons.

Soon after his election he gained considerable notoriety on the floor, and lately he has earned additional fame by being the author of an Irish bull that has gone the rounds of the press. He was interested in some measure that had been delayed and one day served notice upon the house that he desired to have the matter called up for debate.

"The gentleman from North Kerry will remember that I addressed a letter to him a few days ago stating the reasons why this bill should not be brought up at this time and requesting him to postpone his action in the matter for a time. Has the member forgotten the contents of the letter?"

It was then that the boy from Butte opened his mouth and put his foot in it, with such exquisite effect that his verbal creation has become famous. "I remember the contents of your communication perfectly," said the big man who had slapped Ike Hayes to sleep.

"I regret that I have been the cause of any inconvenience to the speaker. My only excuse for my oversight at this time is that I have not opened his letter yet, owing to the pressure of other business."

The Saturday Evening Post gave space to this ludicrous tangle of words in a recent issue and announced that Flavin had carried off the honors for bulls as far as the record of the house of commons could show.

SUPERSTITION AMONG WOMEN.

A Majority of the Members of the Sex Have a Strong Vein of Credulity.

In all ages women have been superstitious to a degree and in these days of enlightenment they are distinguished as far more credulous in everything pertaining to the supernatural than the members of the opposite sex. One would be surprised to learn the number of fair ones who make a practice of consulting the dream book.

With a credulity worthy a dark mammy, if their sleep has been visited with unusual visions, they seize this volume as soon as their eyes are fairly opened and look for an explanation. If misfortune is foretold by it the seeker after knowledge assumes a bravado she is far from feeling, says the Chicago Chronicle.

"I don't care," she says to herself by way of bolstering up her courage. "I'm not superstitious, anyway, and I don't believe in such arrant nonsense."

But she's nervous, just the same for a couple of days, until other troubles have driven this mythical one out of her mind.

There's one young woman known to the writer who never dreams of a young child without shivering and shaking for days after, in fear of some dreadful thing happening to her.

She has not consulted a dream book on the subject, and so she doesn't know how infants and bad luck became connected in her mind, but nevertheless, after she's had a visitant of this sort while sleeping, she says prayers of unusual length and then makes up her mind to be patient under afflictions sore.

She's an intelligent woman, mind you, but she doesn't attempt to explain the terror that besets her at this particular dream.

She doesn't call herself superstitious—of course, so woman does, not even the one who won't walk under a ladder—but her friends do not make a delight of her until she exposes some fetch of theirs, when the subject is carefully avoided afterward.

GOOD FOR UGLY MEN.

Holland's Queen Selects a Plain Looking Husband.

Many Instances of the Choice of Ordinary Looking Consorts by Women Possessed of Rank and Beauty.

Queen Wilhelmina's selection of a husband is the least handsome of the brothers Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

Gossips whisper that the duke was not taken by surprise, and yet it was not the first time, in spite of being a good deal of a detriment, that he has been admired by royal ladies. Everybody knows that when pretty Princess Helena of Russia suddenly broke her engagement with Max of Baden it was because she hoped to persuade her parents to let her marry the stout blonde young dukeling whom Wilhelmina has selected, and the youngest daughter of the duke of Edinburgh has loved the young duke in vain.

In short, Heinrich of Mecklenburg-Schwerin is a good deal of a lady killer, and he knows it. Fat and plain of face, and for a royal person, distinctly poverty stricken, he has a fascination for womankind. The sort of fascination that there is no use trying to explain, because it is not perceptible to any but the persons fascinated, says the Chicago Chronicle.

One of the men who possessed this faculty to a most surprising degree was Napoleon Bonaparte's rival in the affections of Marie Louise, the infamous and all powerful Neipperg. He was an ugly creature, with small abilities and yet smaller fortune, and he had broken many hearts about the Austrian court before Marie Louise saw and felt furiously in love with him.

With everything to lose and nothing to gain by her encouragement of the man, she left no stone unturned until she was able to make herself Neipperg's wife. In the eyes of the world it was a terrible degradation for the widow of the French emperor to become the wife of an Austrian count, but she cared not a whit what the world said, as was the case with the women who ran after the ugly spendthrift, Wilkes, and the mad Duc De Richelieu.

Wilkes was famous in his day all over England, not only as lord mayor and chamberlain and a very loud talking patriot, but as the ugliest man of his time and the most admired by women.

He flouted and ill treated all of them with the exception of his daughter, but it had not the desired effect of cooling their affections. As to Duc De Richelieu, though men could not tolerate him, when he was shut up in the bastille crowds of women, old and young and rich and poor, used to collect every day at the hour when he took his exercise on the parapets and adore him from a distance and deplore the incarceration of so charming a person.

Theodore Hook was another ugly man who was irresistible to the softer sex, for it is proven clearly that when a man is agreeable to women they care not the least what his personal appearance may be. Liszt proved this; when an old man with a hard, ugly face, women begged permission to kiss his ugly hands, and raved and sentimentalized over him as though he were Adonis' self.

Dozens of school girls and countesses who worshiped at his shrine cared not a pin for his music, nor understood a note of it, but were keenly alive to the charm of his personality, which no woman so far as we know was ever able or willing to withstand.

BAD TIGER A MUSIC LOVER.

Straits of the Violin Have a Soothing Effect Upon an Angry Bear.

A student of animal habits made some experiments with music at the London Zoo. Here is his account of the effect on a tiger:

"The violin player approached a sleeping tiger, which was lying on its side, with feet stretched touching the cage bars. He played so softly that the opening notes were scarcely audible. As the sound rose the tiger awoke, and raising his head without moving his body, looked for some time with fixed attention at the player. It remained for some time in a very fine attitude, listening to the music, and then making the curious sound that, in tiger language, does duty for 'purring,' it lay down again and dozed. The soft music was played on, while the great beast lay as if lulled to sleep.

"The violin was then put aside for the piccolo. Judge of our surprise, when, at the first notes of the new instrument, the tiger sprang to his feet and rushed up and down the cage, shaking his head and ears and lashing its tail from side to side. As the notes became still louder and more piercing, the tiger bounded across the cage, reared on its hind legs and exhibited the most ludicrous contrast to the calm dignity and repose with which it had listened to the violin.

"Then came the final and most successful experiment. The piccolo was stopped and a very soft air played upon the flute. The difference in effect was seen at once. The tiger ceased to 'rampage,' and the leaps subsided to a gentle walk, until the animal came to the bars, and, standing still and quiet once more, listened with pleasure to the music.

"There are many men," the student remarks, on summing up his experiments in music at the zoo, "there are perhaps many races of men, who could not detect a discord and would be alike indifferent to harmony and its opposite. Yet among the brutes on which the experiments were tried the sudden start of displeasure at a discord was general from the snakes to the African elephant."

REALM OF THE NURSERY.

Advice to Mothers on the Care of Infants—The Healthy Child.

It is claimed by medical men generally that the average child is born healthy, and the mother who aims to provide over a well regulated nursery will put forth every effort to keep her child in its normal condition, says the New York Tribune.

There are training schools for nurses and for cooks, but for a young woman to be trained to proper motherhood is something yet to be accomplished in the new century. The careful mother begins by being systematic and punctual in all that is done for the baby. She has a time for everything, and sees that everything is done at the proper time. She has learned that the important things necessary for the healthful development of any child are exercise, air, cleanliness, correct food and sleep.

The most beneficial exercise for a baby to indulge in is a good, healthy cry. The mere fact that an infant breathes is not enough; the lungs must be expanded, and this healthy cry is the thing intended to do it, but a whining, fretful cry is not a healthy one.

It is claimed that a baby cannot have too much oxygen, and while a very young infant ought not to be taken out in the open air, yet the air in the nursery can be changed frequently, at least twice every day, when the child can be taken from the room while the bad air is "blown out" through open windows. If the temperature of the room is lowered too much, wrap the child up in a blanket when returned, until the right degree is reached.

A most important item in the baby's training is the bath, which means more than a little sponging off once a day. The child should be allowed to splash in a tub of water each morning about an hour after feeding. Fancy soaps should be avoided, a pure Castile or white soap being the best, and the massage of the muscles and rubbing of the skin which a bath makes necessary bear a large share toward making the healthy child.

A baby whose food is received with absolute regularity seldom suffers from indigestion, if the nature of the food is carefully looked after. The feeding hours should be so arranged that the evening meal will come at seven o'clock. Before feeding, baby should be made ready for the night, with no wrinkles in the clothing or safety pins to irritate the tender flesh, and with both hands and feet made warm. A young infant generally requires feeding twice during the night.

Milk that is to be used for food for infants should never be put in an open vessel in the refrigerator where meats and vegetables or various things are kept, for nothing will absorb odors more quickly than milk. Neither should it be kept in tin, but in covered glass bottles or jars. The simplest way to preserve milk for infants is by Pasteurization. This is done by submitting the milk to a temperature of about 155 degrees for 15 minutes, and then allowing it to cool rapidly. The bottle of milk may be placed in a vessel of boiling water at the right temperature to Pasteurize it, thus destroying ordinary germs without giving the milk a boiled taste. It is best to prepare the food for an infant in sufficient quantity each morning to last through the day.

When the baby is old enough to be taken out for an airing, the wrappings must be carefully considered. It is found that the majority of infants in their baby carriages on the streets in winter are too warmly wrapped up. The child that is so incased in fur that it perspires from every pore is in fair condition for an attack of pneumonia or any one of the throat troubles which attack infancy. It is of vital importance, however, that the feet and hands should be kept warm, in which case the child is not likely to suffer from cold. Better than a fur rug under the child is a hot water bottle, not laid close up against the feet, but far enough off to let the heat radiate from the bottle. The small hands, incased in woolen, can be tucked under the carriage blanket in extra cold weather.

When the baby is taking an airing, the strong wind should be avoided—that is, facing it. The sun or strong light should never be allowed to shine upon the baby's eyes when asleep in its carriage, as much harm results from this, often seriously if not permanently injuring the sight. This is an unfortunate mistake which is constantly being made by ignorant mothers among the poor.

Don't Be Sparing of Your Love. The power to love is one of the greatest gifts to humanity. It generates the sunshine of the moral universe, without which life would be a desert waste. Use this divine power without stint. Be prodigal of your love. Let it radiate freely. It will brighten the dark places. It will gladden the sorrowing. It will lift you above petty, grinding cares that so soon corrode the mind and sap the energies. It is the golden key that will admit you to the palace of the true life.—Success.

A Tactful Milliner. "I wish to see a bonnet," said Miss Passee, aged 40. "For yourself, miss?" inquired the French milliner. "Yes." "Marie, run downstairs and get me hats for ladies between 18 and 25." Bonnet sold.—London Tit-Bits.

UNCLE SAM IN LEAD.

Exports of This Country Exceed Those of Any Other Nation.

A Comparison of the Commerce of the Principal Countries of World Shows Wonderful Development of Our Own.

Commercial conditions throughout the world in the closing months of 1900 are pictured in a table presented in the last number of the Monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance, just issued by the treasury bureau of statistics. The table shows the imports and exports of the principal countries of the world during each part of the calendar year 1900 as can be shown from the latest available data, and compares the same with the corresponding month of the preceding year, thus presenting a picture of the growth of the world's commerce in the present year as compared with that of the preceding year. The table which thus presents the latest available data for the current year necessarily includes only those countries which publish monthly or quarterly statements of their commerce.

A comparison of the commerce of the principal countries of the world with that of the United States in 1900 and of the growth or reduction of their commerce with our own development during the year presents some facts of especial interest in considering the wonderful development of our own commerce in the year just closed.

Taking the countries in their alphabetical order as arranged in the table, the facts presented are as follows: CANADA: The imports of three months ending with September, 1900, are \$47,735,000, against \$43,899,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of three months ending with September, 1900, are \$53,623,000, against \$48,494,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

FRANCE: The imports of ten months ending with October, 1900, are \$708,388,000, against \$716,102,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of ten months ending with October, 1900, are \$647,074,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

GERMANY: The imports of nine months ending with September, 1900, are \$523,013,000, against \$533,014,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of nine months ending with September, 1900, are \$714,020,000, against \$723,014,000 in the corresponding months of last year. In the case of Germany alone, specie and bullion are included in this statement.

BRITISH INDIA: The imports of five months ending with August, 1900, are \$21,018,000, against \$21,018,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of five months ending with August, 1900, are \$128,388,000, against \$144,006,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

ITALY: The imports of ten months ending with October, 1900, are \$239,331,000, against \$239,331,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of ten months ending with October, 1900, are \$210,367,000, against \$222,109,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

MEXICO: The imports of two months ending with August, 1900, are \$3,561,000, against \$3,485,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of two months ending with August, 1900, are \$1,922,000, against \$1,423,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

RUSSIA: The imports of six months ending with June, 1900, are \$144,441,000, against \$145,334,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of six months ending with June, 1900, are \$146,965,000, against \$134,263,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

SPAIN: The imports of nine months ending with September, 1900, are \$113,485,000, against \$124,372,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of nine months ending with September, 1900, are \$88,031,000, against \$102,269,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

SWITZERLAND: The imports of nine months ending with September, 1900, are \$157,107,000, against \$161,408,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of nine months ending with September, 1900, are \$117,706,000, against \$111,037,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

UNITED KINGDOM: The imports of 11 months ending with November, 1900, are \$2,322,633,000, against \$2,162,377,000 in the corresponding months of last year, and the domestic exports of 11 months ending with November, 1900, are \$1,934,140,000, against \$1,190,720,000 in the corresponding months of last year.

UNITED STATES: The imports of 11 months ending with November, 1900, are \$199,151,507, against \$178,293,577 in the corresponding months of last year, and the exports of domestic merchandise of 11 months ending with November, 1900, are \$1,399,323,330, against \$1,131,557,910 in the corresponding months of last year.

STUDENTS TURN BEGGARS.

Play the Part of Mendicants at Hartford City, Ind., and Get Arrested.

Police officers at Hartford City, Ind., the other night arrested as suspicious characters two young men who were begging on the streets. A number of complaints had been made to the officers by persons who had been accosted in remote parts of the city. After a watch had been kept on the men until a late hour they were arrested. They proved to be students at Taylor university at Upland, seven miles west of Hartford City, and explained their actions by stating they were out on a lark. Being strangers here they decided to try the experience of street begging. They begged piteously to be released, and after proving their identity, were allowed to return to the college.

Want to Be Doctors.

There are 23,774 young men in the medical colleges of the United States, less than half as many—11,874—in the law schools, and only about one-third as man—8,261—in the theological seminaries.

Italian Prisoners Liberated. Nearly 13,000 prisoners were liberated on the occasion of the new king of Italy's birthday. Forty thousand others were granted reductions in their sentences.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A Mexican newspaper declares that when Mexicans visit the United States in winter they suffer more from the overheated houses than from the cold outside.

Last year it cost three-tenths of one per cent, to collect the revenues of this government from customs, which includes the losses as well as the salaries and other expenses. From among 600 fragments of writings discovered in the ruins of Nippur, Prof. Hilprecht has obtained knowledge of the first king known to man—En-shag-shur-ana, lord of the Kengi, now known as Babylon, who reigned about 6,500 B. C.

America's share in the imports of wood into Germany is lamentably small, compared with that of other countries. While in 1898 Austria-Hungary furnished 43 per cent, Russia 36 per cent., Sweden 11 per cent., the United States had only 7 per cent.

While New York state is first in point of population, it is seventh in miles of railroad, according to one authority. Illinois, the third in population, is the greatest railroad state, with nearly 11,000 miles of track. Pennsylvania is second, both in population and railroad tracks.

Chickens are never in their prime, says a veteran market man, until after cold weather sets in, for they run about too much in the warm days to get fat. When the brisker autumn weather comes they sit more and gain avoidupis. The same is true of turkeys and all domestic fowls.

Kaffra, in the southern part of Abyssinia, is given as the native home of coffee. It was not until it had been in use for centuries by the Arabians that a plant was carried to Java. In 1766 a tree from Java was sent to Amsterdam, and when it flowered and ripened seeds a young seedling was presented to Louis XIV.

HIS COURTESHIP WAS BRIEF.

Real Estate Man Tried Straight Business Methods and Met with a Rebuff.

One day lately a little South side widow called upon a real estate man who has charge of some of her property. They engaged in some earnest conversation relating to business matters. The widow's telephone rang the next morning, and the real estate man said that another call at his office would be necessary. In the course of the second visit a rest or two interrupted the talk on rentals and taxes. The widow has a gay, little laugh, and it sounded like music to the weary ears of the man. He asked if he might not bring certain facts which he would glean during the next 24 hours to her personally. In other words, he wanted to call, and, being a good-natured body, the widow said he might, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

"And this is how he did it," the widow explained afterward. "I certainly am in love with you," he said. "When you came into the office I said to myself: 'My, but she's a fine piece of furniture. She would be an ornament to my house.'" Now I am going to go at this matter right, and what I've got to say I'll say quick. You suit me. Your clubs and societies must go, for I must be all. I want to marry you to-morrow. Any time after ten a. m. will suit me. What do you say? Here's my hand. Is it a go?"

The astonished woman replied: "Why, I don't know you."

"Oh, that's all right; don't let a little thing like that stand in the way," the man said. "You just come down to my office to-morrow morning. I'll take you over to the bank, then I'll introduce you to some of my friends. That's no trouble. Will you be there?" "Why, the very ideal!" said she. "No." Then he was very indignant and felt he wasn't appreciated.

"That's like a woman," he growled. "Never knows when she's got a good thing."

SHE WAS BLAMELESS.

But Circumstantial Evidence Was Too Strongly Against Her to Escape Conviction.

"My whole heart goes out to anybody who is convicted on circumstantial evidence," said the lawyer's wife, relates the Washington Post. "I know how it is myself, and in my case I can't even hope for a new trial. A fortnight ago I dined out, and I happened to sit beside the guest of the evening, who is a famous author rather newly come to town. I suppose I have read every line he has ever published, and I am one of his most ardent admirers. I ventured to let him see this, and we had a most delightful talk about his newest book. I read it at the seashore this summer, and the copy I read belonged to my cousin. I told the man how much I had enjoyed it, how many times I had read and reread it, and how I felt that no book in my library was more true and valuable to me than it. I didn't lay all this on with a trowel, of course, and I meant it—every word of it. The author suggested that he'd like to write something in the book for me, and asked if he—no, come to think of it, I asked him to call, and he seemed pleased with the idea, as if I, and not he, had been the famous one. Well, I bought a copy of the book and laid it on the library table all ready for him. I was dressing one day when his card came up. I hurried down as fast as I could. Monsieur wasn't a bit as he had been at the dinner. He was cool as a November twilight, and stayed not a minute longer than civility demanded. I didn't dare suggest an autograph in the book. He didn't mention it. When he went away I picked the book up. His card was in it, and he had, with meaning, laid the card between two folds of uncut leaves. I'd forgotten to cut a leaf in the book, and never, never shall I be able to explain matters."

THE COUNTY MORGUE.

A Growsome Place Visited by Many Morbid Curiosity Seekers.

Women Are in the Majority Among Those Who Daily Go to Gaze Upon the Faces of the Unidentified Dead.

Of all queer and objectionable show places on earth for taking children the morgue would seem to rank first, but little folks are constantly being taken over to the Cook county house for the unidentified dead and shown through the chamber of horrors, as if it were designed as a place for juvenile entertainment, says the Chicago Chronicle. Every day, from eight o'clock in the morning until six o'clock at night, the morgue, just back of the county hospital, is open to the general public and anyone who so desires may roam through the big apartment where are kept the dead and gaze to his heart's content upon the ghastly sights.

Years ago the bodies were kept upon unprotected slabs covered only by a sheet. Upon a toe of each corpse was fastened a tag. This tag bore the name of the deceased if this was known, the date upon which the body was brought in and a number corresponding to the number of the register page upon which appeared all of the known details of the case. Visitors could walk about and lift the sheets whenever they desired to get a better view of the corpses. Often the bodies were crowded so thickly together that it was scarcely possible for a person to walk down an aisle without brushing against the feet or head of the dead.

All of this arrangement is now changed for a much improved one. The bodies are now placed each in a separate compartment with a glass cover, through which the corpse may be perfectly seen. A refrigerating plant in the building is employed to furnish the low temperature necessary for the preservation of the bodies. Pipes encircle each compartment, keeping the interior as cold or colder than it could be kept by the use of ice. Usually there are about a dozen or fifteen bodies in the morgue at a time, and this number is sufficient to draw a constant stream of visitors. A very small per cent of the visitors comes because of any actual business there. Most of them are impelled by an idle or morbid curiosity to visit the place and look upon the distressing sights. Perhaps there are more of the morbid curiosity seekers than there are of the idle variety. The faces of the dead have a strange fascination for them and they are drawn to gaze at them as steel is drawn by a magnet. If the faces of the corpses have been mutilated or are badly distorted the attraction is so much the stronger, and before such a body the visitor will stop and stare twice or three times as long as before the un mutilated corpse.

Women and children are by far the most numerous visitors at the dead-house. Numbers of men come in and wander up and down before the glass cases, but they are few and far between compared with the women. There are numbers of females who are regular visitors at the morgue. They go there just as regularly as they go to the grocery store, and exhibit the greatest anxiety not to let a corpse get into the morgue and out again before they have seen it. Sometimes certain of these women stop for a quarter of an hour or more at a time and wonder who the deceased is, whether or not he took his own life, and if they come to the conclusion that he was murdered, who committed the act, and how did he do it and what did he do for? It takes a long time for the morbid visitor to figure out all of these points to her satisfaction, and as she is engaged in the fascinating task she stands and gazes intently into the face of the dead.

Most pitiful of all visitors are the little children. In nearly every case the child is accompanied by its mother or some other woman who has brought it there for the purpose of shocking it, or, presumably, because she thinks it will entertain the little one to look at the distorted and horrible faces of the dead. Sight is presented to the children which, in many instances, they will not forget the rest of their lives. Time and again the children will see the sickening sights in their dreams as vividly and distinctly as they saw them in the morgue. Oftentimes the fear and sense of horror betrayed upon the face of the child when looking at a corpse is distressing in the extreme, but on the other hand they sometimes seem to be affected with only the same morbid curiosity manifested by the mother.

Like a Car Window.

George—Just look, father! Isn't our baby the finest in town?

Father—It may be, George, but I hope it won't turn out to be like a car window.

"How is that, father?"

"Hard to raise, and after you do raise it unmanageable."—Philadelphia Record.

Wouldn't Hold Much.

Mamma—Why are you so quiet, Robbie?

Robbie (aged six)—I was thinkin' how glad I am Christmas don't come in the summertime.

"Why?"

"Cause I wear such teeny-weeny little socks in the summertime."—Catholic Standard.

The Passion for Investigation.

Mamma (in Boston)—We had a great deal of trouble with little Emerson last night. His nurse told him something about a bugaboo.

Friend—Was he frightened?

"Not at all; but he cried bitterly because she couldn't show him the bugaboo."—Puck.