

WHO DID ALL THE TALKING.

Not the One in This Case Who Is Generally Supposed to Do the Most of It.

"Jemima," grumbled Mr. Chugwater, fumbling in the chest of drawers, "I'd like to know where in the name of common sense, you keep my socks?"

"What pair do you want, Josiah?" inquired Mrs. Chugwater, relating a humorous exchange.

"Any pair, if they are only mates. Here's an odd gray sock and an odd black one, and down here in the corner is an odd pair of last summer's socks with holes in the toes. I don't see why my things can't be kept in the same order as other men's."

"If you had only told me—"

"Now, there's no use of your getting excited about this thing. If you know where I can get a pair of half-way decent socks, just say so, and I'll hunt 'em up; and if you don't know, and will have the kindness to put the fact in plain English, I'll go out and buy a pair. That's all."

"If you hadn't tumbled these things all out of shape, Josiah—"

"Tumbled them out of shape, have I? What's a chest of drawers for anyway? Is it to hold things in, madam? If I don't find what I want on top, haven't I got to look down under? I'd like to know? Any woman that will pack and jam a drawer full of things, and arrange them so you've got to dig all through the whole business to get what you are after and then don't get it, hasn't got the right idea about arranging a man's haberdashery. If you don't know where my socks are, Mrs. Chugwater, why don't you say so, instead of standing around like a post and doing nothing?"

"I could have found them for you in a minute and saved you all this trouble if you had given me a chance," said Mrs. Chugwater, as she straightened out the tangle in the drawer and brought to view from one of the bottom corners five pairs of clean socks.

"When you want anything of this kind hereafter, Josiah, if you'll let me know—"

"The trouble with you, Jemima," growled Mr. Chugwater, as he jerked a pair from the top of the pile and went off to one corner to put them on, "is that you talk too much."

THE AMERICAN HUSBAND.

Well Spoken of by an English Writer Who Doubtless Has Made Him a Study.

An American young man does not as a rule look forward to matrimony, nor prepare for it by saving any considerable portion of his ante-nuptial income. When he marries, says the London Telegraph, it is usually on short notice and because he has fallen very desperately in love with some one and cannot find it in his heart to wait until cold caution declares the venture inadvisable. Even when an engagement is a long one he usually squanders so much on gifts and entertainments for his fiancée that there is only a very moderate amount to begin housekeeping on.

The middle-class husband in America rarely interferes with the affairs of the household. He hardly knows the cost of staple articles of food. As a rule he does not make his wife a regular allowance either for household or personal expenses, but gives her as much as he can spare, freely, but with a lack of system that is not conducive to the best outlay of their income.

The young American husband is also very indulgent to his wife's fondness of fine clothes. He would far rather have an extravagant wife than a dowdy one, and although he grumbles occasionally at a millinery bill, in reality he glories in the resplendent appearance of his wife in her fine feathers. The American husband is rare who does not concede his wife's right to expend a much larger sum with her dressmaker than he does with his tailor. Indeed he often leaves his tailor altogether and cheerfully repairs to the ready-made clothing house in order that his wife may have more money for extravagant finery.

The Russian Peasant.

The economic condition of the Russian peasantry may be shown by the Russian novelist, Uspenski, once wrote a story of peasant life, which he called "A Quarter of a Horse," and which was intended to set forth, in the guise of fiction, the social and economic status of an agricultural population that had only one horse to every four families. Statistics compiled by the zemstvos of the central provinces show that even before the agricultural crisis became as acute as it is now 20 to 30 per cent of the peasant farmers in the former rich provinces of Chernigof, Voronezh, Poltava, Saratof, Kursk and Tambof did not have even a single horse, while nearly one-third of the entire population of Voronezh had neither horse nor cow. In the province of Riazan 32,000 peasant proprietors out of 80,000 had no horse, and 21,000 had neither horse nor cow.

It's Different Now. Broker—What shall I do? My wife won't be dictated to. Friend—Don't blame her. "But, man, I married my stenographer."—Princeton Tiger.

ISLAND OF SAKHALIN.

WHERE FOES TO RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT ARE CONFINED.

Chance for Japanese to Liberate Convicts Who Have Plotted Against the Czar—The Siberian System.

Japanese naval victories have already demoralized Russia's exile system, and they soon might deal it a staggering blow by throwing open its chief Siberian prison. After sinking a few more Muscovite ships Japan would be able to land troops on the convict island of Sakhalin, just north of the Japanese archipelago, and release the 40,000 men and women imprisoned there, says the New York Tribune of recent date. Once free, the murderers, traitors, nihilists and revolutionists who compose the population would be able at last to avenge themselves to some small degree upon the government which has doomed them to a living death.

The convict island is situated at the northern end of the Japan sea, like the keystone of an arch. Southwest is the Asiatic coast of the Russian-Siberian province of Amur and the seaport of Vladivostok. Southeast, across a narrow strait, lies the Japanese island of Yezo. Although 600 miles long, Sakhalin is so narrow that it has the shape of a pikehead on the map. In area it is equal to the state of South Carolina, in climate it may be likened to southern Greenland or northern Norway. If dug up and laid down on the Atlantic coast, between the same parallels of latitude, it would stretch from Bangor, Me., to central Labrador.

To this cold, inhospitable remote part of the earth Russia banishes her worst enemies of state. When a peasant commits an atrocious murder the penalty is Sakhalin. When a bank teller embezzles a fortune he is doomed to exile in Sakhalin. Should some high official prove a traitor to his government, he exchanges his splendid St. Petersburg drawing rooms for the log huts of Sakhalin.

There was a secret military conference between Russia and France a little more than a year ago, when the two powers agreed on a mode of attack on Germany should either nation go to war with the kaiser. Not long afterward it was discovered that Germany by some mysterious means had learned the stratagem. Col. Grimm, a trusted Russian officer, was suspected of treachery, and in the face of indisputable evidence he confessed himself a traitor. It was estimated that the changes in fortifications made necessary by his treachery cost the Russian government \$5,500,000. Yet he was not hanged or shot. His fate was worse. He was banished to Sakhalin.

Since Russia has completed the continental railroad across her Asiatic domain she has sought to change the character of Siberia from a penal colony to a great industrial province. She has endeavored to wipe out the wretched associations which haunt the name of Siberia because of its past, and which has stunted its growth. As long as Russia continued to found penal settlements within this region, to which were condemned murderers as well as refined men and women banished thither because of their political views, voluntary immigration into Siberia from the civilized parts of Russia amounted to little or nothing. For the reason that the convict settlements were adjacent to towns, a Russian citizen of good standing had no desire to emigrate to such a community, where his family must needs associate with the outcasts of society.

Accordingly, Russia in recent years has been sending her chief offenders to the far distant island of Sakhalin. The war, however, has put a stop to further deportation of convicts to the island. If Russia attempts to send her convicts by ship, as was once her custom, from the Black sea port of Odessa, the Japanese warships will hold them up somewhere along the Pacific coast. If she sends them by railroad to Vladivostok, the mikado's ships are likely to capture them after they have been put on board ships for the island.

Russia began sending exiles to Siberia in the middle of the seventeenth century. Instead of branding them with hot irons, impaling them on hooks, cutting out their tongues or amputating their limbs, as she had done before, in the middle of the eighteenth century the Muscovites abolished capital punishment, and instead of executing their worst criminals, they banished them to Asiatic Russia. They populated vast tracts with sparsely scattered colonies of convicts. Between the years 1823 and 1887 nearly 800,000 men and women were torn from their homes in Europe and driven to faraway Siberian settlements.

Sizing Up the Situation.

A young benefactor dropped into a Brooklyn cafe the other night in spite of expostulations from friends who tried to coax him home by assuring him it was only necessary to assert himself to be morally strong and forever afterward he the boss there. It was his first offense, and after repeated urging from the friends he declared himself thus: "It's no use, fellers—hic—I can't do it. She's shert'nly my s'p'erior, an' nuzzler thing, her mother's there. Zat dushes me I absolute zero. Wife's all rite, but mother is it, positively it, and I—well I—am nit, negatively nit!" And they only did get him out when the proprietor closed up.—N. Y. Sun.

Morgan to Blame.

Judge—You admit you sandbagged the man. Have you any excuse? Prisoner—Yes, yer honor. De sandbag wuz me own property, and J. P. Morgan says a man has de right to dot wot he pleases wit' his own property.—Punch.

CASH VALUE OF ANIMALS.

Record Prices for High Class Quadrupeds Owned by Members of English Nobility.

The accomplished chimpanzee Consul was so valuable to its owners that it was insured for \$100,000 and its death at Berlin from bronchitis will cost the insuring companies that amount. This is the largest sum at which an animal of two years old has ever been valued and the amount was in no sense a fancy price, says the London Spectator. It cost almost nothing to keep, and its performances often brought in a clear \$1,000 in a single day. The "boxing kangaroo" rose in value from about \$10 to half that number of thousands when he was in the heyday of his popularity at the Westminster aquarium.

Apart from their earnings at the stud there is always a chance of thoroughbred winning great sums in stakes. Isinglass, who closed his racing career by winning the Ascot gold cup in 1895, won 11 great races out of 12 between 1892 and 1895, and the total sum credited to him was \$285,925. In two seasons Donovan nearly reached the figures of Isinglass, for he won \$274,675, not including some "seconds."

Recently Mr. Stevier's Sceptre, which cost \$10,000 as a yearling, passed all previous records in being offered at \$120,000 in the middle of her racing career.

Curiously enough the record price for a bull was for a Hereford, not a shorthorn, the sum being \$19,000 for a bull called Lord Wilton. But a short-horn bull named New Year's Gift, bred by Lord Lovell, sold for \$10,000 from Queen Victoria's farm in 1892, and her late majesty's Royal Duke was withdrawn at \$7,500. The record prices for sheep are for two Lincoln rams, each of which was purchased for 1,000 guineas by great firms in Argentina.

Prices paid for wild animals as such, apart from any accomplishments they may have acquired are much less now than formerly. Perhaps the cheapest purchase ever made for the "Zoo" was when M. Thibaut procured for the society its first four giraffes for £700. In 1867 one of these with a young one, perished in a fire, and the Sun Insurance office paid £545 in compensation for their loss. The young hippopotamus won in Regent's Park gardens cost £500 when an infant Jumbo, when he was the finest elephant in Europe, was sold for just £1,000, which is exactly two-thirds of the sum of fered and refused by the wish of Queen Victoria for her late majesty's splendid shorthorn bull Royal Duke.

JAPANESE WOMEN PATRIOTS

In Time of War They Are Brave and Do Not Shirk Duties Imposed Upon Them.

The women of the mikado's kingdom will figure more prominently in the Eastern war than is generally imagined. Alas, they will suffer most! Says the Boston Globe.

Though small in stature, like the men, the Japanese wives and maidens are brave and patriotic. In time of war they do not shirk the new duties imposed upon them. Many thousands of them will be found close to the battle fields in the role of nurses and general helpmates to the wounded and sick.

The patriotism of these women, according to the testimony of those who have observed their mode of life, is of the highest order. Indeed, a prominent missionary states that they are even more patriotic than American women. However that may be, all former American residents of Japan agree that when a war breaks out the women like the men, lay aside all social differences and are united for the good of the common cause.

It is difficult for foreigners to understand the depth of the patriotism of the Japanese women, because it is something more than mere love of country, being part of the reverence they have for their ancestors and for a history that antedates the Christian era. This patriotism has been aptly styled "the spirit of Japan."

A Japanese mother, for illustration, is more proud than grieved if her son is brought home dead from a war. To her it is an honor that her son died for his country.

America as Italians See It.

The Italian people have no true conception of America," says Mr. Brandenburg, telling of his experience as an immigrant in Leslie's Magazine for January. "Though Italy is flooded with books of stews principally of New York and the Pan-American exposition, and there is a brave effort made by the Italians in America to write home adequate descriptions of the new land. Once I was called upon to settle a most bitter and acrimonious dispute between two men as to what America was like. One who had a brother in Wilkesbarre, Pa., thought it was all coal mines, steel mills and railroads, while the other, whose cousin worked to a New York barber shop, maintained America was all high buildings and railroads which run over the house-tops.

Debt and Happiness.

Blodgett—I should think it would be awful to be in debt the way you are. Tidding—Oh, I don't know! I've known lots of people who owed money and I've known some who had money owed to them; and the latter always seemed to be the more unhappy.—Boston Transcript.

COASTWISE SAILORS.

HARDSHIPS ENDURED BY THEM IN CHANGING CLIMATES.

From the Tropics to the Northern Ports in Winter and from Linen to Woollens in a Few Days.

An attractive story is that told by Lafcadio Hearn of a voyage from New York to the Spanish Main in winter, leaving the city in the midst of a cold spell such as has been experienced this week, waking each successive morning to greet a warmer air caressing his cheek, the water becoming greener and the sky bluer, until one can feel the warm languor and luxuriance of the tropics creep into his very veins as he reads.

There are, however, says the New York Post, many men in this city to-day to whom the charms of travel between the tropics and New York do not appeal. They are the crews of the many vessels that ply regularly between this port and the islands that lie off the coast of South and Central America, and that coast itself.

Their calling makes them wanderers, a week or ten days being a long time to stay in port, and then they are off, always for a climate greatly changed from the one they are leaving. Changes of clothing are frequent, and the shivering, muffled-up man cowering around the deck of a steamer lying at a pier in the East river, his teeth chattering from the icy blasts across the water so that he can scarcely hold a pipe in his mouth, will in a few days develop into a graceful lounge against the rail, linen suited and straw hat, idly rolling a cigarette for occupation, and wondering how he managed to live through his experience in New York.

These coastwise sailors can stay in no port long enough to become accustomed to the temperature, be it warm or cold, let alone becoming acclimated, and it is a commentary on the ability of the human animal to adapt himself to his environment to see these men shivering here under a stinging northwest wind and a temperature of 15 to 20 degrees, knowing that within six or eight days they will be sweltering in linen and drinking cooling draughts at a temperature of 90 or 100 degrees and a moist atmosphere that is most unhealthy, even when a man lives in it the year round. There is no nobility on board one of these ships when it comes to suffering from climatic changes, though the engineers and firemen, naturally, have the least changes to contend with. They are used to a fierce heat at all times, and their only problem is to take care of their health when they go ashore. But throughout the ship, with these exceptions, there is a democracy in the suffering of the crew. The captain on the bridge and cargo on his hands, unable to lessen his vigilance for an instant, suffer even more, if possible, than the poor routabout on the forward deck, who has no cares beyond trying to keep warm and wondering how things are going down in the cook's galley.

It is truly a hard life that of a coastwise sailor, and the wages paid to men sailing from this port to South America are much higher in proportion than those paid to other sailors going in and out of New York harbor. The discomforts of the life, no matter what time of year, are the reasons for that high wage, and the men certainly earn their money.

ONLY DANGEROUS ANIMAL.

The Grizzly Bear Said to Be the One Most to Be Feared in This Country.

The grizzly bear is the only animal in America that is really dangerous. We all know, says the Illustrated Sporting News, that any animal will fight if cornered; a bull moose may be ugly and charge; a black bear will fight for her cubs, or if wounded, but the grizzly, "Old Uncle Ephraim," the "mountain man" call him, is always ugly and ready for a fight. So well is the fact recognized that very seldom do any of the old-timers take a chance unless everything is in their favor. Their immense size, coupled with their ugly disposition, makes them indeed very dangerous. There are many cases on record of grizzlies weighing 1,500 pounds. I have never seen one that weighed actually that much, but have seen several that weighed over 1,000 pounds, and have seen skins that were much larger than any I have killed; so do not doubt the statement that they grew to weigh 1,500 pounds.

The most common methods of killing grizzlies are to watch a bait at night or to trap them, either with a large steel trap or a long pen with a falling door made of heavy timber. The steel trap is the most successful, although not considered very sportsmanlike. I know of two cases where a grizzly was shot through the heart and yet lived long enough to run 150 yards and, in one case, maul a man very badly. These bears, although killed early in September, were in good fur, the large one (estimated to weigh 1,200 pounds) particularly so, the fur being long, clean and very well marked. The smaller bear (estimated to weigh 800 pounds) was very thin, but had good fur. The large bear was a veteran surely, as on skinning him eight bullets and several buckshot were found, two of the bullets being round—such as were used by the Indians many years ago in their old smooth-bores.

Mutual.

Puffkins—My wife is an unusually smart woman. Duffey—She is, eh? "She considers me a wonderfully smart man and, of course, she must be a very smart woman in order to realize how smart I am."—Chicago Daily News.

THE MANDATES OF FASHION

Notes of the Modes for the Guidance of Feminine Devotees of Dress.

Shaped and stitched bands of the material make a simple but pretty finish for an afternoon suit. They outline fronts, cuffs and cape of the bolero and the edges of the skirt and of all flounces.

Skirts are of many patterns. Some are smooth-fitting round the hips, but into others creeps the Victorian fullness. Some of these full skirts have the width held in by plaits to the depth of a hip yoke. Some have a flat yoke and front panel set in, the fullness starting on the sides at the lower edge of the yoke.

Some beautiful effects have been arrived at with shot taffetas decorated with floral patterns in silk and chenille. Such trimmings, however, are apt to look old-fashioned unless they are very cleverly manipulated. Still they play a part in the fashions of to-day and tomorrow and therefore have to be considered.

There are some individual women who look charming in 1830 garb—pale shades of lavender taffeta, old embroidered flens, with the quaint drooping shoulder, but the ordinary modern type would do well to avoid these modes. The bouncing, healthy, athletic young woman of to-day looks terribly out of place in fashions of the early Victorian era.

A good ostrich fall makes a good flower spring; it is an old saying with milliners, and the spring of 1904 will bear out the truth of this statement. Roses promise to take the lead this spring. The tiny button variety, in single and double garlands, edge the brims, encircle the crowns or otherwise trim the hats. Medium-size roses are used as garniture in single or double wreaths, and large roses are often used singly. When the large flower is employed tiny green leaves bridging the brims make a charming effect.

The difficulties of the blouse problem are greater than they used to be, for, unless of a very smart order, we do not seem anxious to have much in the way of collars. The hour of the transparent yoke and decollete neck for day wear is happily over, though there are still a few women who persist in showing favor to this most incongruous fashion. High collars are de rigueur now, and even our capes and ruffles have softening plisse effects brought up high at the back of the neck, held in place by a buckle, they are sometimes even finished with a wide Medici collar.

As one notes carefully the various new fabrics and modes in spring displays it becomes a noticeable fact that the all-white fad is being pressed hard for first place by the beautiful pale tints now so artistically presented in dainty stuffs for millinery's inspection. In the new transparent collars, in the pleated collars and the very fine blues, greens and lavenders are most daintily wrought or printed. And while, of course, the all-white gown will be a favorite in the summer girl's wardrobe, it will not monopolize her fancy as it did last summer.

"PENNY-A-LINE" HUMOR.

Gems Turned Out by Reporters Without Knowing They Were Writing Something Funny.

Here are a few of the specimens of the humor of "penny-a-liners." As is well known, says London Tit-Bits, the journalist of a certain type depends upon verbosity to fill his column, and upon pompous diction to affront his reader. With him, verbosity is a literary crime. A bad fire is always a "terrible conflagration," a night is a "desperate struggle" and fire and water respectively become "the devious element" and "the watery grave."

But occasionally he produces a real gem of unconscious humor. The report of the murder of a man named Duncan once contained this amazing statement: "The murderer was evidently in quest of money, but luckily Mr. Duncan had deposited all his funds in the bank the day before, so that he lost nothing but his life."

Another liner writes, in reference to a street accident: "The unfortunate victim was taken to Guy's hospital, where he now lies progressing favorably, although he is sedulously attended by the resident surgeon and some of the leading members of the medical staff."

The writer's meaning was by no means plain, but it can easily be understood. He had intended to say that, although the man had been so terribly injured as to require the services of several doctors, he was progressing toward recovery.

A Glasgow paper contains this equivocal statement concerning a shipwreck: "The captain swam ashore and succeeded in also saving the life of his wife. She was insured in the Northern Marine Insurance company, and carried a cargo of cement."

Married a Good Business.

Mr. Sapp—What is the secret of Giddiboy's success? Miss Hank—Why, he knew a girl who spends a thousand a year on dresses. "Oh, I see; he married her?" "No, no; he married her dressmaker."—Comic Cuts.

Two of Them.

Mistress—I've told you before, Ellen, that nothing gives me a nervous headache more quickly than a nervous contradicted. Ellen—'Lor', ma'am, it's just the same with me.—Pick-Me-Up.

Pepperpods for Cage Birds.

Cage birds are partial to cayenne pepper pods. Hank one in the cage so that the bird can help himself. It helps to keep him in good condition.—Michigan Farmer.

TO INOCULATE RATS.

WILL CHECK SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG US.

Project of French Scientist for the Extirmination of Vermin May Have the Desired Effect.

For several years past M. Danyez, superintendent of the Pasteur Institute at Paris, has been engaged in experiments with a view to the discovery of a means by which rats may be exterminated. As is well known, says a scientific paper, these pests are among the most active agents in existence that spread infectious and contagious diseases among human beings. They carry pestilence from one seaport to another on the ships that ply the ocean, and no amount of vigilance on the part of vessel captains has been sufficient to prevent their emigrations or migrations. Prof. Danyez's discoveries are yet to stand the test of practical experience, but as explained they are worthy of consideration. The chances are that in a very little while the whole rat tribe will become extinct. We shall be as free from the ravages of the pestiferous rodent as was the little German village of Hamelin after the visit of the Pied Piper.

Prof. Danyez, however, does not rely upon the dulcet strains of the pipe for the destruction of the modern rat. He has chosen the gay and festive bacillus and purposes to bring about annihilation by inoculation.

The spread of plague in the east has proven to be due to rats, and scientists have long appreciated the fact that ship rats are frequently the means of bringing disease from one port to another. The health authorities at Manila, recognizing this fact, have endeavored to kill all rats in infected localities. Ferrets, traps and other means have been employed to rid towns and incoming ships of rats, and in a number of instances the rats have been apprehended on ship by carbolic acid. This method, however, is expensive and difficult of application.

M. Danyez has been working on the problem, and thinks he has at last discovered a method that will be effective without being dangerous. He has found the bacillus of a disease fatal to rats but harmless to other animals and human beings. This bacillus is capable of culture, and with it grain may be poisoned. When the rat eats this he is doomed up the ghost from five to 12 days thereafter.

Already Prof. Danyez has tried his germs upon rats in the Paris sewers and in the Bourse de Commerce, where they are attracted by the grain supplies, and has met with success.

It is recognized that if rats can be destroyed the spread of diseases in Europe and the civilized portions of the east can be checked, and scientists are watching closely the experiments of the Frenchman.

Prof. Danyez has not yet found a method of application that will be entirely effective and satisfactory, but he thinks his experiments will prove entirely successful before a great while, and that in due time sections of the rat will be on exhibition in all the museums along with other extinct species.

BITS OF KOREAN WISDOM.

Proverbs in General Use Among the People of "the Land of Morning Calm."

The Cosmopolitan is indebted to a edition of Korea, says that journal, for a number of proverbs and sayings which afford an interesting insight into Korean modes of thought, and in this way illustrate the intellectual aptitude and power of observation of the people.

"A thing is good when it is new, a man is good when he is old."

"He who hath eaten salt drinketh water."

"One can paint the fur of the tiger, but not his joints."

"One knows the face of a man, but not his interior."

"If one is not observing, one sees nothing."

"Even the blind man can find his way through an open door."

"When the tiger is gone, the fox is master."

"As soon as the moon is full it begins to grow smaller."

"The higher the mountain, the deeper the valley."

"Does smoke come out of a fireless chimney?"

"Even a hedgehog says his young ones are weak."

"A single high wheat stalk is not distinguished from the rest in the field."

"A basketful of gold is not so valuable for a son as instruction in one of the classics."

"It is only the thirsty who dig a well."

"When the ox has broken through the stall repairs are first made."

"A family who has no sickness for ten years must be rich."

Vanishing Languages. President Wheeler and Prof. Putnam, of the University of California, in describing the recent ethnological and archeological work of that institution, say that nowhere in America has there been such a diversity of Indian languages as in California. But these languages are now rapidly disappearing. Several of them at the present moment are known by only five or six, and others by only two or three living persons, and hardly a year passes without some dialect, or even language, ceasing to exist through the death of the last individual able to speak it. It is regarded as important to record all these languages at the earliest possible moment for the sake of the light they throw on the ancient history of the Pacific coast.