

QUEER KANSAS MONUMENT

Marks Where a New Yorker Took a Steamboat on the Sandy Kaw River.

"Forty-eight years ago a New Yorker named Thaddeus Hyatt did a wonderful thing in Kansas, which made him talked about all over that section. Did any of you ever hear of Thaddeus Hyatt?" asked a Kansas man of a New York crowd that was showing him the sights.

No one in the crowd had ever heard of Mr. Hyatt.

"Well," continued the Kansas man, "there is a crumbling monument to his memory on a sandbar in what is now called on the maps the Kansas river, but when Hyatt was out there it was known as the Kaw river.

"It was not so wide as the Harlow, but it was put down in 1837 as a navigable stream, the only navigable stream in the state. You can stand on one side of the river now and throw your hat across to the bank opposite.

"Hyatt was a good type of the hustling easterner when he went out to Kansas. The country was suffering from a grasshopper plague.

"A lot of eastern people who had gone out there to seek fortune lived on the Kaw river. They wanted something to eat. Hyatt built a steamboat of light draft for the purpose of supplying the people with the necessities of life.

"He named his boat the Lightfoot. She was to run from Kansas City to Lawrence. She made only one trip. Her passengers were men who afterward became famous in the west. The captain of the boat, some years later, was governor of New Mexico.

"As the Lightfoot ascended the Kaw the people turned out and saluted her, and when she reached her destination the town of Lawrence made the event a holiday and gave the captain and his passengers a ball to commemorate the event.

"On the return trip the Lightfoot struck a sandbar and stuck. The waters were rapidly receding. No other boat could get to her to pull her off. She was finally deserted and later dismantled.

"But the remains of the hull are still to be seen at low stages of water, sticking out of the sand, and a few people are still living out there who point out the wreck as Thaddeus Hyatt's monument.

"Near the site where the Lightfoot landed and discharged her relief cargo there was, until some years ago, a huge post which marked at that point the boundary line between Missouri and Kansas. On the Kansas side of the post was the word 'Freedom'; on the Missouri side was the word 'Slavery.'

"Of course the railroads killed business on the Kaw river, but if no railroad had ever been constructed the Kaw as a navigable stream was doomed. It had the sand, but that was about all. Most of the time there was not enough water in the course for a canoe.

"If you gentlemen will show me the way, I want to open up a few bottles to the memory of that New Yorker who had the pluck to go to the relief of Kansas when it was hungry. We know his name better than his own town knows it."

MENTIONED OF MATRIMONY

Oracular Observations Upon the State Which is Not Always Blissful.

To keep orange blossoms from fading, never put them in hot water.

When a girl marries an Englishman she frequently spells altar with an H.

Married folks cannot live on rice and old shoes as a steady diet, writes Tom Masson, in Life.

It is almost impossible for the best husband and wife not to have an occasional understanding.

After the first year the sofa never cracks.

About the only thing in a honeymoon that can be renewed is the trousseau.

It makes a great difference whether the girl's father gives her away, or her friends.

Sometimes, through her husband, a woman meets people delightful men.

The wedding ring is no respecter of persons. As the first wife sows, the second wife reaps.

Marriage between a man and a woman is often a good thing—it prevents them from detaching themselves with the idea that they could ever be good friends.

It always takes about a year for two people to discover that they are not suited to each other.

No matter how many husbands a woman may marry, if they should all meet and talk it over, they never would come to any agreement about her.

Once in a while we hear of our ideal marriage and disbelieve it.

Marriage certificates are never put in the safe-deposit vault—they take up too much room.

Marriages are made in heaven and unmade in South Dakota.

An unhappy marriage may be cured by divorce. But what cure is there for two people living apart?

Birching in British Navy.

We say unsubstantiated that 24 strokes of the birch, as applied in the service, is a disgusting and brutal affair. We have not so go an ounce of sentiment in the matter. Boys who do wrong have to be punished. But 24 with the birch! We have seen it inflicted dozens of times, and never without feeling sick and disgusted at the exhibition it entails. Boys who can't be kicked into shape without the birch are of no use to the navy and had far better be put on shore.—London Fleet.

RADIUM AND BACTERIA.

Curious Results of Experiments Recently Made at Cambridge University.

The English newspapers record some curious and interesting results of experiments with radium at Cambridge university. Some time ago a son of Sir William Crookes showed that the emanations of radium were usually fatal to bacteria exposed to their influence, particularly those encouraged to grow in the broth or jelly of gelatin—the usual medium employed for their cultivation. One Mr. Butler Burke reversed this process in the Cavendish laboratory at Cambridge. His proceeding is thus described:

He sterilized some of this gelatin food, deprived it of every vestige and sign of life—and there is no reason to doubt that he did it thoroughly—then into it he placed some fragments of radium. If both the gelatin substance and the radium were sterilized nothing should have happened. But, according to Mr. Burke, in a few days something did happen. Something like tiny growths appeared, which in appearance, when scrutinized under the microscope, were not unlike bacterial growths—that is to say, the radium appeared to have been influential in creating a form of life where there had hitherto been no life.

Mr. Burke then made the experiment with greater deliberation and more care to avoid sources of error. He plugged with cotton wool tubes of gelatin containing radium and tubes of gelatin without radium, and then subjected them, under pressure, to a very high temperature. That, according to theory, ought to have killed any form of life in either tube. It did so in the tubes without radium, but in those which contained radium the gelatin began to show the peculiar growth that usually is characteristic when the gelatin is infected with bacteria capable of growing in it.

These bodies were examined by Prof. Sims Woodhead, among others, and though Prof. Woodhead has decided that they are not bacteria, they seemed to have some of the characteristics of living things. They seemed to grow, though they do not grow to a size greater than the sixtieth part of an inch. They appear, like cells of living matter, to contain nuclei—but crystals might be mistaken for these things; crystals grow. These small bodies, however, have one characteristic which marks them off definitely from crystals. When they reach their greatest dimension, the sixty-thousandth part of an inch, they split. The subdivision has been photographed. Moreover, when portions of the growth are removed from the influence of the radium and placed in new gelatinous matter, these portions continue to grow.

In other words, radium does not appear necessary for the support of the life of these things; it seems to act as the initial force which creates a sufficient change in the arteries or the molecules of the gelatin to set in motion something that has the power of assuming some of the attributes of living things. There may be some fatal flaw in Mr. Burke's precautions against error, but his experiments are deeply interesting, and it does not seem illogical to suppose that since radium is capable of upsetting the atomic constituency of inorganic matter, like metals or glass, and of producing what is called acquired radio-activity in them, it may also be able to disturb the atomic constituency of inorganic matter, and force it to take new forms resembling living forms.

The Old National Road.

When the panic of 1837 swept over the country the national road was barely half way through Illinois. No work was done on it after 1841. Two years before, however, a line of stages and post routes had been started from Cumberland, in Maryland, to Terre Haute, in Indiana. Maryland, which latter place there was a mail weekly service for passengers and a tri-weekly service for mail, was carried to Springfield, Ill. This marked the first overland travel from east to west. Passengers and mail bags were jolted along in cumbersome coaches, each with four strong horses. On account of the high rates, travel was confined mainly to merchants and lawyers. The passenger with an allowance of 50 pounds of baggage paid at the rate of ten cents a mile. It is noted that Clay and Lincoln were among the frequent passengers.—Philadelphia Ledger.

How Owls Catch Chickens.

When I was a chunk of a boy I shot a horned owl the spread of whose wings was four and one-half feet, and to the surprise of the boy who had carried it for several miles the weight was only four pounds. They were rather numerous at that time in that section of the country, and were troublesome about carrying off chickens, which mostly roosted in apple trees about the farm buildings. The belief that they could carry away full-grown hens was a common one. It was also commonly believed that an owl never picked a chicken off the roost, but alighting on the limb, crowded the chicken off, and as it flew toward the ground caught it on the wing.—Forest and Stream.

Fine Amusement.

Friend—Now that you have made millions, what will you do? Old Bullion—I shall retire, and amuse myself telling people what a burden wealth is and how happy I was when I was poor.—Chicago Journal.

Followed the Rule.

Franklin—My dear sir, you must return good for evil. Penn—Didn't I give \$10 to the preacher who married me?—Chicago Journal.

ARE FAKE TROPHIES.

MEDALS AND CUPS "WON AND WORK" FOR CASH ONLY.

Prizes Obtained for Strength and Skill in Contests Are Not Always Secured in a Legitimate Way.

The treasurer of a university athletic association went into a jeweler's store in Fifth avenue the other day to inspect some prize cups and trophies. His inquiries were met with hesitancy until he presented his card. Then the attitude of the salesman changed altogether, says the New York Press. He became frank and communicative. He remarked casually that the number of prizes that were purchased and inscribed that were never even contested for were a blot on the jeweler's trade.

At a meeting of the athletic club that evening the treasurer reported what he had been told by the jeweler, and as this particular university was engaged at the moment in cleaning up its athletic games a committee was appointed to look into the subject. It frequently happens that men engaged in contests of skill and strength fail to secure prizes in a legitimate way, and, wishing to have some memento of the affair, cause to be engraved medals which bear their names and the date of the event and its character. This has been done by college men, and notably by boat crews that have not been placed in races. A Harlem river four, which rowed second in a hotly contested race some years ago, carried this spirit to the limit when they purchased a trophy cup, which they had inscribed with their names, and displayed it at their boathouse. The club objected to this form of doing honor to its oarsmen, but finally compromised by sending the cup to the silversmith, who added the line to the inscription: "Race won by the H. and W. Boat club," the winning club. In this form the cup was permitted to occupy a place in the silverware cabinet in the club room.

Only one case of a college athlete providing his own medals was discovered. The young man was a sprinter, and became a professional bicycle rider. After he entered the profession, all ranks he invested in an array of medals that must have cost several hundred dollars.

Outside of college circles the committee learned of many fake medals. One man who was an unsuccessful pigeon shot, although an ambitious one, had a set of cups engraved and dated over a period of years, not one of which was a bona fide prize. The inscriptions carried false records of shooting and indicated that he had won at all distances, in all countries and under all conditions. He had these locked up in a glass case alongside his armory of guns. He told the story of his success so often that he really believed it himself.

Another incident is furnished by the medal displayed by a summer resident at Manhattan beach. It purports to have been given to the holder by the United States Humane association for saving three persons from drowning. There is no such society and the owner never saved any lives whatever. In his convivial moments he produces the medal, which is of gold, and cost \$100, and passes it carelessly about for inspection.

The most curious case of the committee learned of was that of a life-saver in Harlem, who has, indeed, received some honors in this way, for he has saved several lives. But he has such a love of medals that he has provided himself with an additional supply of cheap ones, which he wears alongside the honestly acquired ones that testify to his bravery.

Jewelers say their best customers are professional athletes who give public exhibitions, lion tamers and balloonists, for example. These men do not regard themselves properly dressed for a performance unless they are bespangled with medals. Some of these trophies are presented to them by friends, but most are purchased by the wearers.

American Women's Heads.

The Greeks believed that the length of a woman's head should be one-eighth her total height. American women's heads average longer in proportion. Some foolish student of Greek art announced that this bigness was all wrong, and that the American women were of bad proportions. The answer is, of course, that the American women have bigger brains and need more room for them, and anyway, if you take the American woman for the standard the Greek statue will be all out of proportion. Discretion and experience impel us to decide in favor of the American woman.—Everybody's Magazine.

Terrible Threat.

"And if I should break the engagement," said the Hyde Park Romeo, "tell me truly, what would you do?" "I—should take poison!" cried the beautiful girl. "You would really go to the nearest pharmacy and get poison?" "No, no! Worse than that. I should allow a young man who smokes cigarettes to kiss me."—Chicago Daily News.

Whistler's Idea of Hands.

Whistler, the artist, said: "I always use Irish models for hands, with their long, slender fingers and delightful articulations, the most beautiful hands in the world. I think Irish eyes are also the most beautiful. American girls' hands come next, English girls have broad, fat hands, and the German girl has broad, fat hands, and the Spanish hand is full of big veins."

SANITIZATION OF CANAL ZONE

Necessity of This Work as Part of Task Undertaken by the United States.

But what about the two great lethal diseases, malaria and yellow fever? Practically every other disease can be obliterated by the supply of pure water and the simple obedience of hygienic rules; but these are of a different nature and demand more radical attacks, writes Dr. Albert B. Hall, in Reader Magazine. They are both parasitic in nature; both before they invade man, must pass through an intermediate host, and that host is the mosquito; stegomyia for yellow fever, and anopheles for malaria. One should no longer doubt the essentially important role of the mosquito. To-day all scientists agree that to exterminate the mosquito is to destroy these diseases; that no other means excepting this insect has been demonstrated as a carrier of either. Cling to old beliefs as we may, we can render the country free from epidemics only by killing the host. And it can be done here in Panama.

It has been done in Ismailia, on the Suez canal. It has been done, to be sure, in more favorable circumstances and a smaller area—in Havana. We must do it. It will be an eternal disgrace to our government if we shrink our responsibility, for it is as much a part of our canal project as is digging the ditch. We are not a commercial concern cutting a highway between two oceans merely for profit. If we are, better let our task by contract at once. But we are a nation, the people of that nation pay the taxes that supply the money for canal construction, and we should demand that this sanitary scheme be an integral part. But it means work. To take a strip of land ten miles wide and 50 long and to free it from mosquitoes means brains as well as brawn, and money to back the brains. It means to clean the dirty towns all at once by concerted action not bit by bit. It means destruction of nasty houses in Panama and Colon and the filling in of slimy pools which to-day render futile so much of the effort of disinfection. It means action as we acted in Cuba, as Mexico acted at Mazatlan, as Japan acts to-day. There must be no short-sighted policy or broken promises about it. The employes must be protected at any cost.

ONE CENT WASTEFULNESS.

Two-Cent Stamp on Picture Card Nearly Broke Off an Engagement.

"I have just had a great jolt," said the betrothed young man, relates the New York Sun, "and incidentally a lesson in economy.

"You know, they make mailing cards nowadays that are beautiful, and I have been sending daily to the object of my affection a pretty mailing card with a few words from myself on it.

"The other day I got a letter from the old man—I mean the young lady's father—saying that he would like to see me. When I went up to call on him I found him looking very solemn.

"Young man," he said, "I have given my consent to your engagement to my daughter, but I shall now have to withdraw it."

"What's the matter?" I asked. "You are wasteful and extravagant," said the old gentleman. "Look at that!"

"And he held up one of my daily postal cards. I didn't see anything until he pointed at the stamp. Then a light broke on me. The stamp was a two center. I hadn't happened to have any one cent stamps around, and so on all the mailing cards I had sent her I had been putting two-cent stamps.

"I had simply thrown away a cent, and that had impressed the old man far from pleasantly. He could afford to spend dollars where I couldn't have spent mills, and there wasn't a mean fiber in his body, but he hadn't accumulated his money by wastefulness, and my carelessness worried him greatly.

"After a long wrestle with him I did finally persuade him to give me another trial. And now I'm sending her not one, but four mailing cards daily, with not a two but a one-cent stamp on each. I'm showing him that I can economize."

Plain Words to Motorists.

Motorists are a very small fraction of the population, and they all inflict some annoyance upon the population at large. The best of them cause smoke, smell and dust, while adding very appreciably to the tear and wear of the public's nerves. Smoke and smell are nuisances in towns and the clouds of dust attending for a mile or more is a danger to the country. If motorists could only be made to travel in their own dust their recreation would lose much of its attraction.—London Times.

Shameful Penuriousness.

The statesman was in a towering rage. "The blamed scoundrel," he exclaimed, crumpling in his hands the newspaper in which he had seen the item. "They're trying to cut down my mileage fees to actual traveling expenses!"—Chicago Tribune.

Possible Vegetarian.

"Could you ever become a vegetarian?" "I might, sir," answered Col. Stillwell, of Kentucky. "So long as whiskey is made from corn it is not impossible."—Washington Star.

JAP AND RUSSIAN HEROES.

Generals of Both Armies Who Have Won Distinction in the Great Battles.

Kuroki was the favorite with the foreign audience when the land fighting was in its early stages. Oyama will apparently be the most important figure of the war in history, but he is not so picturesque a figure to the popular imagination, says Collier's Weekly. Nogi is perhaps best fitted to arouse sympathetic interest. He is an old man, whose hair is white. When he had lost his two sons and his only nephew, he smiled, but when he thinks he is unobserved it is said that he bows his head and sobs. "God took my sons," he said, "in order that I might be better able to sympathize with my countrymen who are likewise bereft, and so that I may be better answer to the souls of the many brave men whom I am sending to their graves." He took Port Arthur, doing things that military experts agreed in advance were impossible. He then hurried north to take a central part in the bloodiest fight in modern history. Next to him, among the Japanese, in the personal nature of the interest which he inspires among foreigners, comes Togo, who has the naval glory to himself. What the Japanese think—the public or the army—of their officers, we do not know. They do not talk and criticize. They go ahead and do. Their generals will probably not write books or deliver lectures. On the Russian side criticism is so public that no general's fame in this war is free of doubt. Stoesel was first in license for a moment. His final placing is for the future. Kurupakin's reputation has had its ups and downs, but the general opinion outside of Russia is that his accomplishments have been considerable, and that his failures have been due to obstacles that it would have taken a genius to surmount.

ABOVE THE SNOWDRIFTS.

Height at Which the Weather Cannot Affect the Operation of Trolley Road.

"Throughout the western mining country aerial tramways built of wire rope are becoming popular," said E. E. Hickok, traveling representative of one of the largest independent wire-rope manufacturers in the country, reports the Milwaukee Sentinel. "To anyone acquainted with the topography of the western mining districts this mode of conveying ore will appeal forcibly. It can be operated more economically than the usual track and car equipment and at the same time is not dependent on weather conditions. At Encampment, Wyo., we have built an aerial tramway 22 miles in length over hills and dales, and it has not lost a single day in operation. A series of steel or wood derricks towers are necessary, those at Encampment varying from 11 feet to 60 feet in height. The principle of operation is the same as that of the cable lines, except that the method under discussion is up in the air instead of on and beneath the surface. The speed of the car is regulated at the terminals.

POLYGAMY IN CONGOLAND.

Nothing But the Spirit of Christianity, It is Said, Will Ever Wipe Out the Evil.

It is the general opinion of competent observers that polygamy will survive for many years. Nothing but the spirit of Christianity will overcome the evil, writes Henry Wellington Wack, in "The Story of the Congo Free State." The native mind cannot be induced by ordinary argument to see any wrong in it. Why a man should not have just as many wives as he can afford to buy and keep is too much for his comprehension. He regards woman as created solely for his pleasure and profit and trades in her accordingly. He buys her from her father for one or two goats or a cow, she becomes the mother of his children, and prepares and cooks his food for him. This is her career, and she shares it with as many other wives as her husband's inclination and resources permit him to buy. When she dies she is buried—sometimes. Certain Central African tribes regard burial after death as a superfluous ceremony for women, and place their bodies where they will be devoured by hyenas and vultures. From two to three wives is the average quantum of the ordinary Central African barbarian, and between 30 and 40 for a chief.

Fruit for the Future.

Forty-six carloads, amounting to more than 300,000 fruit trees, have been received here for planting in the orchards in this neighborhood this spring. Nearly all of the shipments were to men from eastern states who have recently moved to western Colorado for the purpose of fruit raising.—Hochstim (Col.) Cor. Denver Republican.

Excellent Exercise.

"Yes," said the good old professor, "the memory may be perfectly trained by proper study."

"But," asked the absent-minded scholar, "what do you consider the best exercise for the memory, professor?"

"Remember the poor."—Catholic Standard and Times.

PERSIAN BOY WIDE AWAKE.

British Diplomat Relates an Instance of His Acute Observation.

Sir Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador at Washington, is a student of child life, and wherever he is stationed, he never fails to gather some interesting data about the manners and methods of the juvenile population. He has found infinite amusement in observing the street gamins of New York, particularly the vendors of papers, and even in the staid and quiet American capital the diplomat has discovered young arabs to study.

But Sir Mortimer gives the palm for infantile intelligence to the little folks of Persia. For many years the present envoy to the United States represented the kingdom of Great Britain at Teheran, and he is loud in praises of the modern descendants of the fire worshippers. Sir Mortimer has embodied his impressions of Persia in a clever book, and Lady Durand, his wife, has written a dainty sketch called a "Dairy of Travels in Southern Persia." Both volumes show deep sympathy and intimate knowledge of the people and pay high tributes to the qualities of the children of Iran.

The other day, however, the British ambassador told some friends an anecdote not included in his memoirs. One day the British folks determined on a picnic and the cook was told to get up a luncheon. That functionary is as important in Teheran as he is elsewhere on earth, and he told his children to knead the dough for the bread—that they knew the ways of the British just as well as he. Sir Mortimer was willing and a tempting array of sandwiches and fruits was set forth when luncheon time arrived.

Sir Mortimer himself unpacked the drinkables, in which claret and brandy figured, and securely tied to each bottle was a package of peppermint drops, bought of the English druggist in Teheran. Sir Mortimer says he felt very uncomfortable for a time to think how carefully those youngsters had studied his ways.

TWO CLASSES OF OAK TREE

One Notable for Its Wood, the Other for Its Brilliance of Coloring.

The great oak family might be divided into two classes, writes Edwin W. Foster, in "Our Friends, the Trees," in St. Nicholas; those that ripen their acorns in one season, such as the white, post and mossy-cup oaks, and those which require two full years, such as the red, scarlet and black oaks. To the first class belong the chestnut oak and the live oak of the south. This latter tree for generations played an important part in ship building, but has now been superseded by iron and steel. The live oak is an evergreen, is entirely without indentations, and is thick and leathery. The wood is very heavy and strong, has a beautiful grain, and is susceptible of taking a high polish. At one time this wood was so valuable that our government paid \$200,000 for large tracts of land in the south, that our navy might be sure of a supply of live oak timber.

To the second class of oaks we are largely indebted for the gorgeous colors of our autumn leaves. The red, scarlet and pin oaks, with their brilliant reds, scarlets and browns, are close competitors with the maple in giving our American landscapes the most wonderful autumn colorings to be found anywhere in the world. These three trees are quite similar, but by careful examination may always be distinguished.

RAIN WHEN COW SNEEZES.

Tennessee Negro Discovered Remarkable Accuracy of the Act as a Weather Sign.

"There was an old negro slave on my uncle's farm down in Tennessee who was a peculiar chap, and of whom the youngsters about the place—white as well as black—stood in fear," said Senator Carmack, in conversation with a group of friends, relates the Washington Post.

"This aged Senegambian, Uncle Tom by name, could give all the modern weather sharps cards and spades and beat them, for he could predict with almost unerring accuracy what the elements would be doing. One day I was standing out in the cow pen beside the old man, when he suddenly exclaimed: 'Did you hear that?'

"'Hear what, Uncle Tom?'

"'Hear that old speckled cow sneeze. She's yo' am bilbin, boy, it am agwine ter rain befo' morning, kase whenever you hear a cow sneeze dat means rain.'

"Sure enough, it poured down from the skies, as Tom had foretold. Prior to that I had never taken note of a cow's sneezing, and there may be skeptical folks who would doubt that this was a bovine habit, but my own belief in it is firmly established, and I am equally sure that old Uncle Tom had good cause to establish a connection between it and wet weather."

New Korean Railway.

Japan subsidized a company to build the Korean railway lately opened. All the rolling stock came from the United States—the locomotives from the Baldwin works, Philadelphia, the cars from the various American car factories, and the 90 pound rails from the Carnegie steel works. The cost of the Seoul-Fusan line, 276 miles, has been about \$50,000 a mile, or \$13,200,000. There are 28 tunnels, 96 long bridges and about 500 smaller ones. The two chief construction engineers were Japanese.

National Pride.

Sir Rottyn Rowe—All your—haw—really brilliant marriages are contracted in England, I know. Miss Gaysett—Perhaps, but that's pass. All our brilliant separations are strictly American.—Puck.