

HELPLESS WHEN ON ITS BACK

Predicament of Camel Means Much Hard Work and is Conducive to Profanity.

The "ship of the desert," like any other ship, may be capized, and in that predicament the camel is said to be absolutely helpless under certain conditions.

The queer beast's manner of lying down to rest is to fold his legs beneath his body. If he happens to roll upon his side he cannot recover his feet again. This infirmity of the animal was amusingly illustrated in the experience of a French explorer whose caravan was made up of camels.

The leader had bought some new ones and had no idea of taking any other animals into a country largely composed of loose sand. Trouble began at the very outset. One camel, as awkward as any of the species, managed to tumble into a ditch of thick mud between the road and a wheat field. When once fallen a camel can only get up again if he can arrange his feet conveniently under him and if the ground is nearly flat.

In this case it was not so. The animal lay with all four feet in the air, perfectly resigned and incapable of a single movement to help himself. To draw him out required more than half an hour and took the united efforts of many men with cords passed under the camel's back.

SAW GOLDEN FUTURE AHEAD

Young Man Had Absorbed Knowledge, as Directed, and Was Ready to Apply It.

The bright young man had tried several business ventures and promptly failed in each.

"You're not well grounded," said a friend who had been watching his commercial tumbles. "What you need is technical knowledge."

So the bright young man sat himself down and ate up the six best sellers of the commercial library. They told him how to do business in every way known to the gods of supply and demand, and they plainly showed him that if he had efficiency and energy and enthusiasm on his side he could take the limited to success and get there ahead of time.

So the bright young man read these helps to prosperity forward and back and down the middle.

One day he met his friend.

"Hello," he said; "I've got all the success dope I can carry and don't intend to shake down for any more."

"Good," said the friend. "I suppose you'll be right back in business again."

"Nothing doing," laughed the bright young man. "I've got something better on hand than that."

"But aren't you going to apply the principles you have just absorbed?"

"Yes, yes."

"By working?"

"No, by lecturing!"

tole Hubby's False Teeth.

Daniel O'Connell is a wire worker in the Rankin mills and naturally stands for things being long drawn out, but the tenacity strength of his patience snapped and broke after being stretched beyond the limit of endurance by Mrs. O'Connell when she got away with his false teeth while he slumbered. Her alleged purpose was the evening up of a grievance she was entertaining. Now a man who is a wire worker has, as a rule, a very good appetite, and requires solid food. O'Connell sucked in milk and soup as long as he could stand it. Mrs. O'Connell remained obdurate and he becoming thin and weak, applied to the Brad-dock police to assist in the recovery of his store molars. But Mrs. O'Connell has not yet attained the full measure of her revenge.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

"Big Men and Crime."

"Big, healthy men seldom go wrong," says a Kansas City judicial oracle. "It is the thin, shrimpy type who are the criminals." Yet a New York financier recently convicted was a 240-pound shrimpy; another recent Boston financier caught in Bombay and brought back to Charlestown prison was an anemic wisp weighing 250 pounds; still another Boston broker who trimmed everybody in State street before going to languish at the Charlestown reception house exceeded the 250-pound limit of physical delicacy.

More and more frequently it is being proved that assertions are totally independent of information.

The Real Story.

Anciently there lived a certain man by the name of George, who was much pestered by a dragon.

The dragon's colors were never twice alike, and by that the creature got on George's nerves in a particular manner.

At length George fell to thinking, and the very next time he was asked what he would have he replied:

"Never again."

Moreover, he stuck to it.

"St. George," sniffed his boon companions ironically.

But positively spoke of him without irony, remembering only that he had, by the exercise of a superb courage, slain the dragon.

Being Pressed.

"I like to examine the dictionary during spare moments. You find many unexpected things in it."

"Yes; I've noticed that I sometimes find queer-looking feminine apparel in ours."

TRAVELED AS YOUNG LADY

Miss Six-Year-Old Fully Conscious of the Dignity That Henceforth Was Hers.

Looking much like a pretty picture in colors that had stepped right out of a fashion plate a dainty little miss stood on a street crossing in Yonkers and signaled a motorman to stop his car. He brought it to a halt so the child would not have to walk in the muddy street and the conductor helped her up the high step, for the small traveler was alone. More than that, he refrained from jerking the bellows until she was seated, so she was not thrown off her feet at the sudden turning on of electric power. But she was short of stature and was obliged to sit on the edge of the seat to let her legs hang down, for otherwise they would have stuck out straight. Selecting a nickel from a tiny purse she extracted from her white fur muff, she extended it to the conductor when he came along. He gave her 2 cents change.

"You'll soon be a young lady and pay full fare," he said, with an attempt at gallantry.

I've seen a little hand, holding the two pennies between finger and thumb. The conductor was puzzled, until the child spoke.

"I don't want any change," she explained. "Mamma says I'm a young lady now, 'cause I'm 6 years old today."

With an indulgent smile the conductor took the coins.—New York Press.

SPANISH JEWS IN NEW YORK

Ten Thousand of That Race and Faith Known to Be Residents of the Metropolis.

Almost unknown to the general community is the steadily increasing immigration into New York of Spanish speaking Jews from the Orient. It is estimated that these descendants of the Jewry expelled from the Iberian peninsula over 400 years ago now number about 10,000 in New York city.

Others are spreading abroad throughout the country, and a body of these Jews who have vung so faithfully to their Spanish tongue held religious services according to their own minhag, last, Wash. Hashona so far west as Portland, Ore.

In New York they are at least numerous enough to support two newspapers printed in Ladino-Spanish in Hebrew characters, one appearing weekly, entitled L'America, edited by H. S. Gadol, the other a daily paper entitled El Aguila, edited by Mr. Mizrahi.

This immigration has become so considerable that the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigration Aid society has recently been compelled to form an Oriental bureau, through which the immigrant Jew speaking Spanish, Greek, Turkish, Arabic or Sephardic Hebrew can receive proper care.

Comedy in Maryland's Senate.

"Down at Annapolis the other day the legislators had a bit of comedy furnished them that does not ordinarily enter into the deliberations of a legislative body," remarked Charles Hamilton of Baltimore at the Raleigh.

"It seems that Senator Blair Lee, who was a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination last year, started to dress in evening attire to attend the reception given by Governor Goldsborough. He was impatient, the story goes, and in attempting to fasten his collar lost his only collar button. He looked around his room for an hour, and when he recovered the lost button it was mashed so that it could not be used. The senator had trod on it. He finally succeeded in borrowing one, but when he got to the governor's reception most of the guests had departed.

"One of Senator Lee's friends heard of the occurrence, and he rose in the senate and with the severest dignity offered a resolution. It provided for an appropriation sufficient to purchase a gross of collar buttons for Senator Lee 'that he might in the future be in time at official functions.'"

—Washington Post.

Speaking Conscientiously.

Senator La Follette during his recent visit to Philadelphia said to a reporter, apropos of a flagrant piece of hypocrisy:

"Why, the man's as bad as a Newport groom I heard of the other day. This groom stood beside his master while a veterinary examined a costly cob. The veterinary, at the end of his examination, pronounced the cob incurable and took leave. Then the master, sighing heavily, turned to the groom and said:

"Well, James, what am I to do with the poor beast now?"

"Conscientiously speakin', sir," the groom replied, "I think you'd better part with him now to another gentleman, sir."

On the Job.

Representative Hamilton of West Virginia paid a tribute to Republican Leader Mann that is a gem in its way.

"The gentleman from Illinois," said Mr. Hamilton, "only eats on Sundays and never sleeps at all. If he had been a marshal under Napoleon at Waterloo the battle might have resulted differently, because he would have discovered the absence of Grouchy at the proper time and suggested the absence of a quorum. And, if necessary, he would have halted the hosts of Wellington by a well-interposed demand for the yeas and nays."

No Use.

Johnnie was out walking with his nurse, who stopped with him to look at a funeral on his block. As the coffin was carried down the stoop Johnnie asked, "What is that?" Nurse replied, "That's the box Mr. Brown is in."

When asked that Mr. to say his prayers he refused to do so. After much coaxing and questioning he was prevailed upon to tell the reason of his refusal.

"Cause God won't have time to-night to hear them, he'll be too busy unpacking Mr. Brown."

EVERY MOVE CREATES SOUND

Scientific Fact Not Known to All—Acuteness of Hearing Among the Lower Animals.

It is very difficult to make some persons believe that nothing can move without making a sound, although it may seem to be absolute silence to them. Everything that moves disturbs the air around it and sets up a kind of wave motion that spreads through the atmosphere in all directions. When these wave motions are strong enough a sound is heard. That nothing is heard is no evidence that there is no sound, for other living things may hear what men cannot.

The motion that is started in the air when anything vibrates or moves suddenly has often been compared to the motion of the surface of still water when we drop a pebble into a pond. But there is this great difference. The eye can see the wave made by the smallest glass bead you can find, but the ear is not nearly so sensitive, and unless the waves are pretty high in the atmosphere the human ear cannot detect them as sound.

The lower animals and birds have much better ears than human beings. A dog will prick up its ears at the sound of its master's voice, or a faint whistle, when it is an astonishing distance off. A man in Baltimore put his head out of the window and called his dog Jack, which he thought was chasing cats in the grounds of the blind asylum opposite.

The dog was sitting on the steps of a friend's house with the man's daughter, nearly half a mile away, and instantly jumped up and tore off home. It had heard that call.

A deer has been known to look up at the sound of a footstep that was still half a mile away in the woods.

BLIND MAN'S SIGHT RESTORED

Piece of Cornea From Dead Animal, Transplanted, is Hailed as Triumph of Surgery.

The French Academy of Sciences announces the success of an operation on a blind man, performed seven months ago and watched carefully ever since.

A workman had an eye burned by quicklime, so that the cornea had become opaque. It has long been the dream of scientists to transplant the cornea from animals to man, but so far this has been tried without success.

This transparent cornea is one of the most delicate parts of the human organism. Very soon after death, or after the removal of the eye from a living person, for that matter, it becomes opaque and begins to break up.

But M. Magitot has found a way to preserve its transparency. In the case in question it had been kept a week before a piece of it was fitted into the depression made by removing a quarter-inch square section of the cornea of the blind man's eye.

Now, after seven months' observation by the surgeon, the eye is pronounced well, and he can see with it dimly, it is true, but still he sees.

Venetian Palace Where Wagner Died.

Apropos of the return from her chateau in Styria of the Duchessa della Grazia to her palace in Venice, a Paris contemporary gives an interesting account of Vendramin, which is not only one of the most beautiful residences on the canal, but it is closely associated with the history of the city of the doges.

It was built in 1441. German princes occupied it at first. Then it passed into the possession of the duke of Mantua, who purchased it for 50,000 ducats of gold. It was the scene of great social events under the Archduke Charles Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Anne de Medicis, in 1652, and through them the palace has come into the possession of the present owners through marriage. It was here that Richard Wagner died in 1883. The desk at which he wrote "Tristan and Isolde" is carefully preserved. Some years ago a plaque was affixed to the palace showing its connection with the great composer.

Discomfited Masquer.

A gray-haired masquer, easily over sixty years of age, was given a cold reception when he endeavored to become acquainted with the wife of a well-known newspaper man recently.

The day was cold and rainy. The newspaper man's wife was standing holding an open umbrella. She was waiting for her car. The gray-bearded individual unannounced stooped under her umbrella, and stood beside her for an instant before he remarked:

"You seem to be waiting for some one."

He was nearly taken off his feet when the woman with a quick reply said, "I think you are mistaken. Santa Claus."

The gray-bearded individual left suddenly.

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REALLY NOT SMITH'S FAULT

Mrs. Commuter Had Blamed Him Unduly, and Now She Wants the Law Changed.

Even in town the commuter's wife had been subject to violent likes and dislikes, but in the suburbs her prejudice seemed intensified. Their neighbor on the left was the object of her sincerest aversion. "I think he is the most selfish man I ever met," she said. "Such a contrast to Mr. Brown, on our right, who is the soul of neighborly kindness."

"On what do you base your estimate of their character?" her husband asked.

"Fences," said she. "Just look at Mr. Brown's fence. He has kept all the ugly posts and crossboards on his own side and has presented the smooth finished surface to us. But you don't catch Mr. Smith doing that. No, indeed. He looks out for number one and keeps the nice side for himself, while we get all the rough patchwork."

"But that is not Smith's fence," her husband argued. "It is ours."

"Ours?" she echoed. "How does that happen?"

"It happens through a legal statute which provides that every man who wants his property fenced in must build part of the fence and keep the ragged edges on his own side. That is the law."

"How perfectly ridiculous," she said. "If we continue to live in the country isn't there some way it can be changed?"

GETTING AHEAD OF SCANDAL

Peace and Dignity of Congregation Secured by Recommendation Made to Pastor.

Parson Henderson, an evangelist of color, was caught one bright morning holding the hands of one of the ewe lambs of his congregation, who was a very popular young lady, and it created quite a stir among the colored population, relates a writer in Norman E. Mack's National Monthly. So the parson was brought up for trial and was questioned by the officers of the church as to what he meant by his action, and this is what he had to say in answer to the question propounded to him: "My brudders, you have seen these great pictures. I suppose, so you know that the great Shepherd am always pictured with a lamb of his flock in his arms."

"Yes, sah, parson, dat am so," admitted Deacon Jones.

"Den, Brudder Jones, what am wrong in the shepherd of his flock holding a lamb in his arms?"

This was too much for Brudder Jones, so he proposed the officers of the church have a call meeting that afternoon. After the point was discussed fully the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, Dat for the future peace and dignity of the congregation dat the next time Parson Henderson feels called upon to take a lamb of his flock in his arms, dat he pick out a ram lamb."

Truly a "Nervy" Youth.

A New York barber says he has discovered the nerviest man alive. He is young yet, but when he is fully developed with a mature growth of nerve he will be a startling prodigy.

"This fellow came into my shop the other day," said the barber, "and asked me to shave his neck. I speedily accomplished the gentle task, and called out, 'Next.' While I was adjusting a towel around the neck of the next customer I saw the other youth going out the door.

"Haven't you forgotten something?" I asked him.

"He felt in his pockets and said he had all that belonged to him."

"I mean you forgot to pay me for that shave."

"Pay for that! Just shaving my neck!" he said, with astonishment. "I never heard of paying for so little a thing as that. I could have done it myself with my safety razor, only I couldn't reach back there."

No Occasion for Surprise.

This story is told of Forrest, the great tragedian:

Forrest was playing in "Richard III," and the part of Catesby had to be taken by a low comedian, who sauntered on the stage at the wrong moment and uttered the famous words, "My lord, the duke of Buckingham is taken," in the wrong place.

Forrest clenched his fists in rage, but otherwise took no notice of the remark.

Later on the comedian repeated the words in the right place, and when the king expressed surprise at the news Catesby folded his arms, walked boldly down the stage, and remarked to the great actor in loud tones:

"I told you so before, Mr. Forrest, but you wouldn't believe me."

How China Lives.

No natural resource is too trifling to be turned to account by the teeming population. The sea is raked and strained for edible plunder. Seaweed and kelp have a place in the larder. Great quantities of shell fish, no bigger than one's finger nail, are opened and made to yield a food that finds its way far inland. The fungus that springs up in the grass after a rain is eaten. Fried sweet potato vines furnish the poor man's table. The roadside ditches are bailed out for the sake of fishes no longer than one's finger.

READY TO FOLLOW LEADER

Unless It Is Fear, There is No Contagion So Quickly Spread as That of Emotion.

George F. Bass used to tell a story that illustrated the contagion of emotions.

A old darkey sat by his fireside in a dejected frame of mind ruminating on the miseries of the human race. Towser, his faithful hound, lay on the hearth with his jowl on his paw, absorbing the heat in blissful somnolence. Presently the master groaned emphatically. Towser courteously opened one eye for a second and tapped on the floor with his tail. A silence. Then said the master: "Houn, man am bo'n to trouble as de spak's fly upwad."

Towser shook off slumber for a moment, lifted his head and evinced his sympathy by a steadfast look, then settled down to dreams again. Another silence. Then the master inspired to fuller expression of his woes by the response of his auditor, continued:

"Houn, dis y' arth am a place o' trouble an' a vale o' tears; de debil he roams, up an' down like a honry lion seekin' who he may devour, de ways of de weeked am shorely full o' tribulation."

This time Towser's nose was lifted toward the ceiling and a long, lugubrious woo-o-oo-woo-woo! expressed his acquiescence to his master's sentiments.

"Yes," was Mr. Bass's conclusion, "emotions are contagious; all that is needed is a proper leader."

PRACTICAL GIFT FOR BEGGAR

Stranger May Have Meant Well, but His Kindness Was Not in the Least Appreciated.

After suffering excruciating tortures for six months from doubling up a perfectly sound leg to fit on a wooden stump the crutch-bearing beggar finally succeeded in eliciting sympathy from a passerby. With kindly eyes the stranger eyed the cripple from top to toe.

"You seem to be in a pretty bad way," he said.

"Yes, sir," whined the cripple. "Couldn't be much worse."

"Too bad," said the sympathizer. "I must see if something can't be done for you."

Hope beat strongly in the beggar's breast and he murmured "God bless you," with unusual fervor.

Two days later the sympathizer appeared again and ostentatiously presented the cripple with the materialization of his benevolent intentions. He gave him a new crutch.

Sterilized Coal.

Coal in the mines is one of the things treated from germs. Old-time doctors used to notice coal miners' wounds healed fast, though begrimed and besmeared with coal dust. For a long time it has been thought that breathing in coal dust caused lung diseases in miners. Some experts find fresh coal as good as sterilized, and say miners have lung trouble because they do not take the trouble to put off their damp and sweaty clothing before going from the mine to their homes, thus taking cold in the open air walk. Experts say our miners ought to put on warm and dry clothes at the mouth of the mine. But it seems the miners have minds of their own, and although the coal companies in some places fixed up hot and cold water baths and dressing rooms at the mouth of the mines the men would not use them, but went home to wash and dress, as had been their custom for generations.

Amazon River.

It has been stated in official consular reports that the aggregate navigable waters of the Amazon and tributaries for all sorts of craft is estimated to exceed 45,000 miles. The average depth is from 40 to 150 feet and the average width from 6 to 40 miles.

At the mouth near Para the river is 138 miles wide, including the island of Marajo and the northern and southern outlets. The immense volume of water discharged marks a path of yellow water in the blue of the Atlantic easily distinguishable for 150 miles at sea, creating a fresh water sea while out of sight of land. This yellow or old gold colored water uniting with the equatorial current trends to the north at the rate of six miles an hour, and entering the Caribbean sea forms what is recognized as the Gulf stream.

Overculture or No Culture.

Overculture, even if it borders on affectation, is better than no culture at all. It is less offensive to hear a woman talk with grand airs than to hear her converse in common English of the streets, with all its slang and cheap wit. The English language contains quite a few words. Anyway there are enough to furnish one with an excellent vocabulary. A good set of dictionaries is a good investment. Have them near you and whenever you find a word you are not sure about its meaning or pronunciation investigate. It is worth-while habit.

Giving Man Credit.

"I don't believe any man is really good," she said. "When you find one who doesn't go wrong it is because he is afraid."

"Oh, it isn't always because they are afraid," replied her friend, who was married. "Very often it is because they haven't the price."

Misapprehending a Title.

He was barefooted, his trousers were fringed at the bottom, his face was dirty, his years eleven. He approached the librarian with a confident air:

"Got Shakespeare?"

"Yes. What volume would you like?"

At this he looked puzzled, and the librarian took him to the alcove where she showed him row upon row of Shakespeares. As he still looked puzzled at the number of volumes, the librarian took one down, "The Merchant of Venice," and gave it to him. He looked it over critically.

"Now, that ain't the one. I want the one about Dr. Jay Killin' Mr. Hyde."—The Sunday Magazine.

CHILDHOOD A VARIED PERIOD

From Twenty Years, in the Human Race, It Grades Down to a Few Weeks Among the Birds.

The childhood of animals varies with the total length of life, with the size, and especially with the position, in the life scale. Long lived animals, large animals and highly developed animals usually have a long youth. The educated human being requires 20 years to grow up; the savage about 15; the higher monkeys—the gorilla and the orang—12 to 14 years, the baboon, 8 years, and the small monkeys, about half that time. The less intelligent cat race has a youth of but 4 or 5 years among the larger kinds. The vegetable-eating animals, mostly of small intelligence, grow up quickly, the buffalo and all the big antelopes and deer having only about 2 years of childhood, and the chamois somewhat longer, although the giraffe has 5 or 6 years. The elephant, the largest of land animals and one of the most intelligent, is not grown up until 20 to 27 years old. All birds have a short youth, looking after themselves in 3 weeks to 3 months, but becoming grown up in 1 to 4 years. Many reptiles—like the tortoise, crocodile, and alligator—seem to grow all their lives. Certain other creatures have a short adult period—the mayfly, for instance, spending 2 years on the bottom of a pond, and living but a few hours after emerging fully grown from its skin covering. Still more extreme is the American cicada, which gropes 17 years underground, and lives but 2 or 3 weeks after emerging.

A colored couple was taken before the juvenile court and against the man was placed the charge of neglecting his children. Judge Taylor gave advice as to what should be done to straighten out the family trouble so the couple could continue to live together and support the children.

"You are earning \$8 a week, and have three children to support on that," said the judge. "It is evident that you must cut your expenses down as low as possible. You are paying for a piano by installments. You will have to stop that, for people in your circumstances can't afford to have a piano."

"You must leave the house you are living in and move to a smaller one with lower rent. You ought not to pay over \$5 or \$6 a month for rent."

The mother objected to this, saying that she could not live in a respectable neighborhood under such conditions.

The judge found that they belonged to different churches, and he advised that the wife join the husband's church. He added that it was proper that the husband hold the purse strings. After many other difficulties had been smoothed over the case was continued two weeks to give the new methods a trial. The couple left, but at the door the woman turned to the judge and said:

"Dat will be all right, but Ah must insist dat de pinch his mouf an' stop talking about me."—Indianapolis News.

STILL HAD A POINT TO MAKE

Domestic Difficulties Being Settled, Woman Insisted Upon One Other Understanding.

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Daytime Somnambulists.

The latest product of our complex civilization is the daytime sleep-walker," said a hotel clerk. "The New York habit of turning night into day and vice versa is responsible for him. He is particularly likely to haunt hotels and lodging houses. Night hawks with somnambulant tendencies are frequently numbered among our guests, and maids and porters now add to their regular duties a vigilant patrol of halls and corridors which the daytime sleep-walker would be most likely to choose for a promenade. Nobody seems to know just what to do with a person whose daylight slumbers send him strolling about the hotel in a state of subconscious activity.

"There are prescribed rules for the treatment of a nocturnal somnambulist. Speak to him softly, touch him gently, lead him back to his room. Just so. In the case of a midnight sleepwalker that usually works, but just try it on a man parading around in broad daylight and see what happens. Daytime somnambulists seem unusually high-strung, and no matter how gentle the attack, most of them have to be escorted back to their rooms in a hysterical condition."

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