

# The St. Tammany Farmer

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## CUPID IN THE ELEVATOR

By Carroll Watson Rankin

THE inhabitants were chary of intrusting themselves to the elevator in Bailey Mansions, for it was of so unstable a character that the initiated had lost all confidence in it as a means of transportation.

Katherine, however, was not an inhabitant. In her own home elevators pursued the even tenor of their way without vagaries of any sort; so, when her call on the top floor was completed, with every reason to expect a swift and uneventful journey she stepped confidently into the elevator.

At the fourth floor it stopped to admit a second passenger, a man named Westcott. Westcott differed from Katherine in that he entered the cage like a man with a full knowledge of its treacherous tendencies, but Westcott was that morning in a frame of mind to court disaster. He assured himself as he stepped in that it was a matter of complete indifference to him whether the elevator shot suddenly upward and crashed through the skylight, or dropped without warning into the basement.

The elevator, however, did neither of these things. Under the guidance of a chubby, blue-eyed youth, it pursued its



THE BOY GENTLY DISCOURAGED FURTHER CONVERSATION.

downward career until it reached the space between the first and second floors; there it stopped.

At the sight of her fellow passenger Katherine turned pink with embarrassment. The man had muttered something under his breath and bowed frigidly, for, before courting disaster, he had amounted to the same thing. They had parted forever only the evening before, and the ring she had worn for three months was at that moment in Westcott's vest pocket, where he had thrust it savagely at the end of their quarrel.

"Why are we stopping here?" asked Katherine, turning to the elevator boy of cherubic countenance.

"Cause we can't go on," returned the boy, producing a bag of nuts and a comic paper and proceeding to make himself comfortable. "The power's off again."

"Has it ever—does it often go off like this?"

"Oh, yes," replied the boy, cheerfully. "There's nothing to be scared of. Sometimes it runs all right for as much as a week; then, again, she won't budge for six or seven hours at a stretch."

"Six or seven hours?" gasped Katherine.

"Yes," replied the boy, settling himself more comfortably on his stool. "Once it was longer, but finally they got her going in an hour or two. There's no danger at all miss."

The boy gently discouraged further conversation by burying himself in his paper. Katherine moved to the end of the long, leather-covered seat, Westcott, at the extreme other end, stared gloomily at the wall.

Katherine looked at her watch; it was already past luncheon time, and she had been too miserable to eat much breakfast. Still—she brightened at the thought—she should not starve, for she had with her a box of chocolates she was taking home to her sister's children.

### NEW CAVALRY TRAINING.

Novel System of Instruction to Be Introduced for Benefit of the British Horse Soldier.

Apparently as the result of the admirable experiments in cavalry training made by Lieut. Col. de Lisle at Hounslow, the new system of instruction is to be introduced into the First British army corps, writes an Aldershot correspondent.

The innovation will do away with much of the useless routine work which in the past has occupied so much of the cavalryman's time. From the beginning of the training the aim will be to develop the cavalryman's power of initiative and resource and general intelligence in the field. One of his first lessons will be to catch his horse when turned loose, to train it, and ride it across country instead of around the riding school.

The care of horses is also to be taught. Men are to be instructed in the treatment of minor horse maladies, how to judge and treat lameness, and to tell good forage from bad.

Outpost and advance guard duties, reconnaissance duties and map reading are to be taught thoroughly. Parties of men are to be sent out to find their way to fixed points entirely by the map. The art of scouting will be instilled by the "flag stealing" game and practical trials of scouting, in which special stress is to be laid on intercepting moves of the enemy, learning his strength without being seen, dispatch riding and making intelligible verbal and written reports.

More attention is to be paid to firing, the proper appreciation of cover, rapid shooting, natural rests, and the effects of wind.

She looked at her watch again. Only four more minutes had passed, but the pangs of hunger were becoming unendurable. The chubby boy munched nuts with apparently no thought of his fellow sufferers. Katherine untied the pink string that bound the chocolate box, unfolded the paper, lifted the lid, and ate a chocolate.

When she had eaten three she glanced at Westcott. He was still gazing at the wall. The walls in elevator shafts are seldom interesting; this one was tinted a bluish green—a color that Westcott abhorred.

"How he must hate me," thought Katherine, eating another chocolate, "when he'd rather look at a wall than at me. I wonder what I ought to do? If we were utter strangers, cast away on a desert isle, and he had one biscuit and three drops of water, I should think him horrid if he didn't offer me half. I suppose I ought to offer him some of these chocolates, even if we're not on speaking terms."

Katherine, sitting very erect, and gazing straight ahead, pushed the box along the seat. Westcott paid no attention.

"Will you have a chocolate?" asked Katherine, somewhat unsteadily.

Westcott was so sure that he was dreaming that he did not make any answer.

"The lady spoke to you," prompted the elevator boy.

Westcott looked inquiringly at Katherine.

"Will you—will you have a chocolate?"

"No, thank you," replied Westcott, returning to the contemplation of the green wall.

There was another long pause. The neglected box remained half-way between the suspended passengers.

"I think you're very ungentlemanly," said Katherine at length.

"So you said last night," responded Westcott, coldly.

"You're more so to-day."

"How?"

"You—you know I'm too polite to eat these chocolates and let you go hungry, and I'm fairly starving."

Westcott, with an air of exaggerated politeness, took a chocolate and ate it, with his eyes fixed unobscurely upon the green wall. He dared not trust himself to look at Katherine. Katherine nibbled a bonbon, waited in silence for ten minutes, and again offered the box to Westcott, who gravely helped himself.

This operation was repeated until only one remained in the box. The remaining one was heart-shaped.

"It's a heart!" exclaimed the elevator boy, who had read too many "dime shockers" not to recognize an interesting situation when face to face with one, and who was unable to contain himself longer. "You'll have to toss for it. It is a heart, isn't it?"

"Why, so it is!" replied Katherine. "Will you have it, Bob—pardon me—Mr. Westcott?"

Westcott shot a quick glance at Katherine, who had gradually moved two feet away from the end of the leather-covered bench, and was consequently that much closer to the man she had jilted the previous evening.

"Do I understand that you are offering me a heart?" asked Westcott.

"It's your turn," said Katherine, flushing a beautiful crimson.

Westcott took from his pocket something that glittered, laid it in the box beside the chocolate bar, and pushed the box toward Katherine.

"Do we play fair?" he asked, with his eyes on Katherine's.

The elevator boy, agog with excitement, retired discreetly, but with reluctance, to the pages of his paper, but not before he had recognized in the glittering object a ring.

And when he looked again the box contained two hands, although only one was visible; the man was no longer gazing at the wall.

The hand of the indicator above the boy's head was leaping from number to number in curious fashion, sounds of ringing bells and impatient voices drifted from the elevator shaft; but the man and the maid paid no heed.

Then the boy moved the lever slowly, even reluctantly, and the elevator dropped gently to the ground floor.

"Oh!" exclaimed Katherine, drawing her hand gently from Westcott's and giving a long sigh. "We're actually down."

"Yes," beamed the boy, "and you might have been down 15 minutes ago just as well as not; but I seen how things was going, and I thought I'd help them along some."

"You shall come to the wedding, Cupid," said Westcott, slipping a heavy coin into the chubby boy's hand. And he added, as they stepped out of the elevator on to the solid ground: "If I ever own an elevator you shall run it!"

—Pearson's Magazine.

### SKILL AT ARMS IS NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN.

and mounted combats and competitions are to be instituted. To render charging a little more scientific, an interesting game, somewhat after the idea indulged in by the German infantry, will be practiced. A squadron of dummies in line will form the objective, and the squadron bowling over the greatest number of the enemy will be declared the winner.

### COURAGE.

Where crowds rushed in at noon to eat. The clerks, the scribes and all the others. He came and hunted for a seat.

And jostled with the hungry brothers. His hands were large and red and rough. His coat was frayed along the border. A bowl of soup he deemed enough. Apparently, for him to order.

There, where the hungry hundreds sat. With elbows touching as they hurried—The clerk, the scribe, the fat, the fat. The unheeded and those that worried.

There, where the hard-faced infidel Partook beside the mild agnostic. And flouted Heaven and laughed at hell. And flung out grim remarks and caustic.

There, crowded in among them, he Whose hands betrayed the marks of Not caring who might turn to see, And ebowed by his thoughtful neighbor.

There, in the noise that they who ate And they that fed the crowd were making. He closed his eyes above his plate. And bowed his head before partaking.

His hands were rough, he was not blessed. With greatness as we think we know it; But oh, that I such faith possessed. As dared as he could dare to show it.

—S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Record-Herald.

### General Opinion.

A man who expresses himself contented is looked upon as lacking in ambition.

## Superiority of Women's Clubs

By MRS. CHARLES HENROTIN,  
President of Chicago Woman's Club.



WOMAN'S club is little more than a school to teach her many things for the advancement of the home. While men at their clubs spend their time drinking, smoking, telling stories, perhaps gambling, women are planning in their organizations for the establishment of kindergartens and for caring for their unfortunate sisters.

The general idea that a woman's club causes her to neglect her home, disregard maternal duties, and forget the obligations of a married woman seems to have originated with those who do not stop to consider it a part of the natural trend of civilization. Fifty years ago women spun and wove their own cloth, and a few hundred years ago they made their own cooking utensils from clay.

At one time woman made everything for home use. Now the establishing of factories for the manufacture of home necessities has taken those duties from her, and we find that she gives more time to social and educational projects, and endeavors to make her home brighter and more pleasant and the members of her family better. Hence the clubs.

A woman's club offers the only opportunity to a woman for a post-graduate education, and in the clubs are music, art, literature and culture. Besides, a woman learns much that directly benefits her home in teaching her to care for her children and rear them properly, and in some clubs, cooking schools, and instruction in sewing and house-keeping are taught. Instead of its causing deterioration it is a revelation of good which can only be reckoned by a comparison of the woman of yesterday and the woman of to-day.

### SUN AS HEALTH RESORT.

The Great Luminary is Not a Molten Sphere, But a Shining Sanitarium.

The western astronomer who announces that the sun is not a molten mass, but, on the contrary, a delightful place to inhabit, will receive more respectful attention than would have been possible ten years ago, says the Philadelphia Inquirer. That the sun is the source of practically all the light and heat we receive is undoubted, but the nature of these two forces is not only a mystery to us, but the theories which have from time to time been advanced concerning them have been found untenable. Although we have immeasurably increased our knowledge concerning the universes and some of its laws in the last four centuries, we are not much nearer any appreciation of the causes underlying them.

The ignorant talk glibly about the "subtle ether," gravitation, light, heat and electricity, but the wisest admit that mighty little can be positively ascertained about any of them aside from observed phenomena. No reasonable explanation has ever been given that explains the law of gravitation, which alone of all these in the universe seems to work exactly the same at all times and under all conditions. No one can explain how the rays of the sun pass through the fringed space for 90,000,000 miles and yield us the warmth and light without which life is impossible. Very plausible theories have been advanced to explain how the sun maintains its volume of heat in spite of the constant loss through emanation, but they are theories only.

The atomic theory was used for decades to explain many things, but since that has been destroyed or made doubtful through the discoveries attendant upon the Hertzian waves and the emanation of ions, scientists are at sea where once they felt secure. Radium exhibits phenomena that are thus far inexplicable, and it is probable that the western astronomer has arranged his theory of an inhabitable sun largely because of these recent discoveries, which have done much more to destroy former views than to construct new ones. He thinks that the sun is the great dynamo of our system, and that light and heat are mere effects of electricity as locally manifested when in contact with matter. This sounds well, but it means little. It does not dispose of the difficulties attendant upon the theory afforded by other known conditions.

What can be said is that no one with any intelligence will at once categorically dispute the theory. That period has gone by. What is demanded is that he who propounds this or any other hypothesis shall back it up with reasonable proof of a scientific nature. We are unlearning many things just now, and are preparing to learn new ones, and we must all approach any subject with an open mind, devoid of prejudice. The sun may or may not be inhabitable. It is going to be difficult to establish either proposition.

### FRENCH DETECTIVES.

Police Service in Paris Much Superior to That of Many Other European Cities.

When the emperor and empress of Russia had arranged to visit Paris and Compiègne the efficiency of the French detective police was thus tested: The chief of the Russian police came secretly to Paris with orders to lie quietly by in a hotel and only to report himself at the embassy after a stay of a week. But he had not been three hours in Paris, says London Truth, before the prefect of police learned of his arrival from a French detective. At St. Petersburg they thought this a satisfactory result, and the imperial party ventured to come to Paris and drive down the Champs Elysees without cavalry round their carriage. A similar test applied in Rome brought to light a police weakness there. The head of the Russian police lay by there for a whole week without his arrival being suspected. On the evening of the sixth day he called on Count Nelloff to report himself, to the great astonishment of that ambassador. They both agreed that if the Roman police had not scented out the head of the greatest police force in the world, they could not be depended upon to know much about the goings on of anarchists and nihilists. Nicholas is glad to be, they say, relieved of the weariness of an official visit to Rome, but nettled at the hatred manifested by the Italian socialists.

### Retort Sarcastic.

Spartacus—What would you advise as the most effective disguise that I might assume for the masked ball to-night?

Smarticus—You might put on an intelligent look.—Baltimore American.

### Factories in Hungary.

Hungary has 2,612 factories, which employ 259,464 persons.

## RELIC OF THE PAST.

The Talamancans a Forgotten People of the Isthmus.

Their Ancient Usages and Customs Have Not Been Affected by Four Centuries of Medieval Spanish Civilization.

Within less than 100 miles of where the United States intends to complete the greatest interoceanic ditch the world has seen, in territory where the newly created republic of Panama is situated, there dwells an Indian nation that is to all intents and purposes identically the same to-day as it was when Columbus first discovered the western hemisphere. These are the Talamancans, who inhabit a few square miles in the mountains almost midway between the two oceans and but a comparatively short distance from the Panama railroad, though it is much to be doubted if they have ever seen it or are aware of its existence. The Scientific American says that although four centuries of Spanish civilization have surrounded them on all sides, they have never been exterminated by its influence nor exterminated by its kindness, as was the case in Cuba and other Spanish colonies. Their language is still their own, and seems to have lost little of its original character through contact with the exorable mixture of English, Spanish and French spoken by the lower classes throughout the West Indies and along the Spanish Main. Living in virtually an unknown region, at least three days' journey from the nearest settlement, their solitude is seldom broken. The visitor is received with the greatest hospitality, and is welcome as long as he desires to remain. Their visits to the outer world are infrequent, rarely extending beyond the nearest port, and are undertaken only in quest of luxuries. Extra fowls and porkers are bartered on these occasions for tobacco, segways and ammunition. The spear and blow-gun are used more than firearms for various reasons. The former are not only infinitely cheaper, but usually more effective in the hands of the Indian than the cheap muzzle-loading fowling piece of French or German origin with its paper-like barrel—the only arm he can afford to purchase besides the machete. Their language and customs in some respects resemble those of the score or more of widely differing peoples that are scattered over the territory lying between the Mexican border and the Isthmus. Their ancestors doubtless

probably be a plaything in its hands. To some monkeys, despite their lack of good looks, the expression "cute" may apply, but it is not possible to so describe the gorilla. With his flat nose, enormous jaws and protruding teeth, the thick neck and bulging chest, this ape is far from the human ideal of a handsome animal.

When he can, the gorilla will run from a man, and as no one has been particularly anxious to come to close quarters with him, it is not possible to speak with assurance of his mode of life. It is said that he travels for the most part on all fours, and only rises on his hind legs to resist attack. It is also said that he builds himself a home in the trees.

The collection contains three specimens of the chimpanzee. One is the ordinary chimpanzee, another the bald chimpanzee and the third a variety called the Koola Kamba.

The chimpanzees are more intelligent than the gorilla, and have been trained in captivity to do tricks. Naturalists have been long at odds as to the number of their species, as well as those of the orang-outang, of which a fine specimen is included in the collection presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia by Dr. Biddle. The specimen presented by Dr. Biddle has a great lateral expansion of the cheeks.

### BISMARCK OF JAPAN.

Marquis Ito, Whose Death is Alleged to Have Been Planned by a Tokio Assassin.

Marquis Ito, a plot against whose life has just been disclosed, is a statesman of great renown, and also an able naval and military officer. He commanded the fleet in 1894 when the Japanese ships, though considerably fewer in number, destroyed the Chinese navy.

They are not idolaters in any sense of the word, nor do they profess religion or hold public worship of any nature, though their belief tends more to fear of an evil spirit than faith in a good one; in fact, the Talamancans present an instance of a nation without doctor, lawyer or priest, the "soke," corresponding to the medicine man of the North American tribes, usually combining the functions of all three. Polygamy is the most important feature of their domestic relations, few if any of the members of the different tribes being content with less than three to half a dozen wives, while his Talamancan majesty might well exclaim with Launcelot: "Alas! Fifteen wives is nothing." His seraglio is usually better provided in point of numbers.

The government of this Indian nation is entirely hereditary, and it is astonishing to learn of the many points of the doctrine of primogeniture as practiced by the reigning families of Europe, with which they are familiar. Their laws are naturally few in number, both the legislative and judicial power, as is usually the case where no fixed principles of either have been acquired, being vested exclusively in the king. In common with others in his position the world over, he is a despot, and rules according to royal whim where this does not conflict with long-established custom. The marital relation is held sacred. The engagement of a girl begins within a few hours of her birth, the bridegroom-to-be making a contract with the parents at that time. It is usually consummated when she reaches the age of ten or twelve, a custom that is responsible for great disparity in the age and longevity of the sexes.

Found After Many Years. A pocketbook containing \$50 in gold was lost eight years ago by Mrs. Davolt, of New Boston, Mo. She never heard from it until the other day, when the money was found in a peculiar way. A young man rode up to the Davolt home and tied his horse to a tree near the house. When he returned for the horse he found that it had pawed a pocketbook out of the earth. It was the one Mrs. Davolt had lost eight years before.

Fig with Elephant's Head. A remarkable animal was lately born at Rye, England. It is a boar pig, with the head and features of an elephant. One ear is of immense proportions, and a trunk protrudes from the forehead. Between the trunk and the snout there is a huge eyeball containing two pupils.

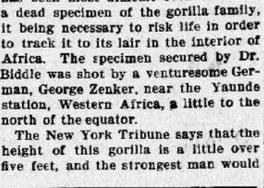
The First Step. A failure to start often saves a miserably fish.—Chicago Daily News.

## SOME MIGHTY APES.

Valuable Collection Recently Presented to Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

The Darwinian theory of the descent of man may soon be studied at a close range, owing to generosity of a prominent Philadelphian, Dr. Thomas Biddle, who has just returned from Europe with what is believed to be the most complete collection of anthropoid apes ever owned by one person. The specimens were obtained from various sources and prepared by the German taxidermist, Unlauff. Among them is a fine specimen of that rarely secured animal, the gorilla. On account of its immense strength and ferocity when cornered it has been most difficult even to obtain a dead specimen of the gorilla family, it being necessary to risk life in order to track it to its lair in the interior of Africa. The specimen secured by Dr. Biddle was shot by a venturesome German, George Zenker, near the Yande station, Western Africa, a little to the north of the equator.

The New York Tribune says that the height of this gorilla is a little over five feet, and the strongest man would



AN AFRICAN GORILLA. (Posed for the Camera by the Native Who Killed Him.)

probably be a plaything in its hands. To some monkeys, despite their lack of good looks, the expression "cute" may apply, but it is not possible to so describe the gorilla. With his flat nose, enormous jaws and protruding teeth, the thick neck and bulging chest, this ape is far from the human ideal of a handsome animal.

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