

DICKENS' FLOWERED GRAVE.

A Story of Remarkable Interest to the Novelists' American Admirers.

A recent magazine contained the touching story of Miss Annie Dickens concerning the last days of her father, in which occurs the following paragraph referring to the floral decoration of his last resting place in Westminster abbey: "Dean Stanley wrote, 'There was a constant pressure to the spot, and many flowers were strewn upon it by unknown hands, many tears shed by unknown eyes.'"

Visiting Chenango county in this state a few weeks since, I met the sister of the American lady above referred to and persuaded her to furnish a copy of the following correspondence for publication, with the proviso that "no names be mentioned."

DEAR MR. DICKENS—I have been exceedingly pleased to receive your letter of the 20th of the month, and I have been glad to know that you must receive a great many such letters, and doubtless find them a source of pleasure and interest.

I have suggested burning the schoolhouse or painting the superintendent, but the building is brick, and the superintendent is young and handsome, and so in despair I can do no less than present their case to you. Now, I can hear you at Cleveland, but my pleasure will be very much increased if we can all go together, and if you will only read at Pittsburgh we can go there in the time given, and we shall be three of the happiest persons in this town."

Second P. S.—I hope Mr. Dobly will not be so hard hearted as to destroy this letter, thinking it is from a foolish young girl, but if you fall to receive it, you may know that he has and if you fail to read it, Pittsburgh I shall know it too. I did not intend to sign my name, but on second thoughts I will. Very truly yours,

DEAR MADAM—Mr. Dobly has not come between us, and I have received your letter. My answer to it is unfortunately brief. I am not coming to Cleveland or New York. Every thing on which I can possibly read during the remainder of my stay in the States is arranged for, and the fact that I am in New York with two smaller ones in tow, is still in my mind to be shared with the two smaller ones if she approves, but not otherwise, and seriously I cannot say that her pleasant letter has been most welcome. Dear madam, faithfully yours,

It is hardly necessary to say that the lady realized the longest for pleasure of hearing Mr. Dickens read by going to Washington. It may be of interest also to know that the veritable Master Humphrey's clock, which was supposed to be the receptacle of so many of the manuscripts which have amused and charmed the public, is still in existence, the property of Mr. Isaac H. Bailey, editor of The Shoe and Leather Reporter, a warm admirer of Mr. Dickens. It was presented to him some 16 or 17 years since by an English friend. On the arrival it was put in good running order and located. To celebrate the event a feast was prepared, which was attended by hosts of the admirers of Mr. Dickens in the "swamp" and elsewhere, and probably the more heartily enjoyed was ever paid to the great author than on that occasion. And still Master Humphrey's clock, duly and appropriately labeled, can be seen at the office of The Shoe and Leather Reporter, 17 Spruce street, New York, where its tick at each night and day, year after year, accurately records the time for the benefit of the inmates.—E. H. Purdy in New York Sun.

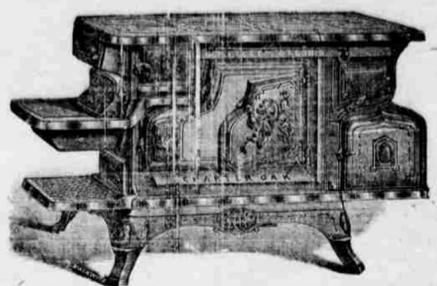
Something About Sunstrokes. "What are your methods of caring for cases of sunstroke?" was asked of the surgeon in charge of the dispensary yesterday afternoon. "We at once strip the patient of all clothing," said he, "place him on a wire mattress and freely sprinkle the body with ice water, after which, in several cases, we place ice bags on the head and over the region of the heart. In such cases the temperature runs from 101 to 110 and the pulse from 110 to 130 or over 140, and the chief point is to reduce these. We give bromide of sodium until the quantity of blood in the head is lessened and reduced to a normal condition. The patient must be kept quiet, for there is a tendency to delirium."

"The first symptoms of sunstroke are dizziness, then the face looks green, after which the blood vessels of the brain dilate and unconsciousness soon results. The danger of treatment come from collapse, which sometimes results from a sudden application of ice to the victim. Then brandy and atropine must be given until there is a revival. The chief preventives are to be found in the selection of airy bedrooms, for most cases occur in bed at night, strange as this may seem."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Plaint of a Society Woman. "We are coming to a pretty pass with the young people of the present time," said an irate mistress the other day, "and if this state of things goes on one might as well give up entertaining, for it seems to be the accepted code of manners nowadays that the modern society man should not dance and the modern society girl should not talk. This is a combination that is not exhilarating, to say the least! I feel that I could shake half the young people in my drawing room for being such automatons. They don't seem to think it incumbent upon them to make the slightest effort. They are there simply to be amused and not to amuse others, and feel no obligation whatever to the mistress of the house. In fact, the favor is quite on the other side, and although it is conventional and correct to thank a mistress for an entertainment the words are a mere form, and it is the giver of the feast who feels grateful, not the recipient."—New York Tribune.

The Dog Played the Queen. The following story is from a Helena paper. Recently the finely bred Gordon setter Faro, owned by John Kepple of Helena, Mont., entered the Capital gambling house with a \$10 bill in his mouth. Going to one of the faro tables, the dog dropped it on the queen. To say that the suave dealer was surprised would be putting it mildly. But recovering himself after a few moments, he asked the dog if he wanted a copper on the \$10. The dog backed as if in the affirmative, so placing a copper on the money the dealer made the turn. The queen came up with a smiling lower, and the dog won. Taking two \$10 bills in his mouth, Faro gave them to his master.

JOHN NOTT.



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