

Life Histories.

A NEW JERSEY MILLIONAIRE. The Paterson Press has the following:—"One of the most financially successful of Patersonians is Peter Donahue, who learned his trade in the Rogers Locomotive Works in this city. Nearly twenty years ago he set out for California, going overland, and arriving there before the gold discovery. He started the first blacksmith and machine shop on the Pacific coast, and when the tide of gold had ebbed, he was ready to take advantage of it, and turned his iron products into gold—proving more successful in that way than the thousands who dug directly for the yellow metal. He now immensely profits by his possession of a mine valued at three or four million dollars, but he is no profligate when he toiled and sweated in the locomotive shops in this city. He recently came east, and for two weeks he has been busy with his business affairs in this section. Last night he came to Paterson, and this morning went again, accompanied by a brother, sister-in-law, and young son, intending to sail to France to-day to join his aged father, who has been contemplating there for some time. Honest, skilful industry, directed by an excellent judgment, has in this as hundreds of other cases accomplished wonders."

A CHECKERED LIFE. The Toledo (Ohio) Blade says:—"Thirty years work toiled in the among men and things—they consume the life of generation, but not always do they sever the silver cord with whom to whom a release from life would be welcome. Thirty years or more ago a young man came West, he stopped at a certain place, and made it his place of residence; but after a time he became weary of the little village, and left it for more active scenes. He possessed sufficient means to enable him in those cheap times to engage in business, and he had no doubt would have succeeded in almost any undertaking; but he was avaricious, and to become suddenly wealthy was his chief desire. He left Toledo for the South, and while travelling in a stage coach, he was attacked by a certain gentleman, to whom he confided his brief history, and received much advice, which, if he had followed, would have made his life very different from what it has been."

The London Telegraph relates the following curious case of a strange murder case, which, it says, was one of the most remarkable and unexpected crimes. The crime in question is known in England, where it happened, as the Sturtevant murder. "It appears," says the Telegraph, "that for some years past a peddler, who, if we may judge from his name, was of German origin, had tramped the district round about Birmingham, Bernhard Zussman was travelling agent for a jeweler in that town, and used to hawk watches, chains, and rings from house to house. He started on his tour on the 15th of October, and on the 15th he left the Crown Inn at Trowbridge, stating that he meant to return there on the 17th. He did not appear, and his wife was received from him either there or at Birmingham; and after a few days his employer came to the conclusion that the man had absconded, and he believed, offered a reward for his apprehension. On the 20th a gentleman, who was out shooting in Sturtevant, village not far from Trowbridge, discovered the body of a dead man lying in a ditch under a hedge, and covered over with grass and earth. The body, which was not yet cold, was that of Zussman; his pockets were empty; his watch, filled with its contents, was picked up in another ditch near by; and on a post-mortem examination it was shown beyond a doubt, that the poor fellow had been shot in the back of the head. In fact, the indication seemed to show that the murderer had come behind him, had shot him before he could offer any resistance, and had concealed the body close to a stile that the man probably passed in the act of crossing when he was struck down. So far all was clear; and the suspicions of the police were immediately directed to the prisoner, who has just been acquitted after a five days' trial. This man, Harris had not, as we said, in the evening, been in the neighborhood. In his neighborhood, he had inherited, some years before, a considerable sum of money, and was supposed to have pretty nearly spent it. He was acquainted with Zussman, and some few days before the murder he had been in his shop, valued at £28, paying a deposit of ten shillings and agreeing to pay two pounds a month. This watch he had pawned the day after its purchase for a sum of eight pounds—a fact which was certainly not forgotten, and which was very short of money. On the morning of his disappearance Zussman called upon Harris to discuss some business matter, whether relating to the watch or not is unknown, and then Harris, who had been in the habit of visiting the watchmaker, called upon him at his residence. Indeed, the prisoner was the last person who was absolutely proved to have been seen in the peddler's company; and after the fact, he was taken to the police station, where he was taken to imply that he knew more about the crime than was known to the world at large."

How to Treat the Hair. (Dr. Serravallo's "Beltracina.") Beyond combing and brushing, what are the best expedients for hair cleaning? In man there is nothing so good as soap and water; but the plan cannot be recommended for ladies. The hair of soap is not congenial to the gloss and beauty of human hair; moreover, to some extent, alkaline contact affects the coloring matter, and changes its tint. Men are above or beside these considerations, but they are not in the case of women. Glycerine and lime juice, so-called, is very objectionable, and is merely scented oil and lime water. Glycerine and rose water is much better. The advantage of glycerine is that it imparts to the hair a soft, silky brilliancy, the so-called brilliantine. In point of fact, which gentlemen—vain young ones—use for their whiskers and moustaches is only glycerine scented. For bandolines, nothing is better than the use of good, or even very small fragments of gun-powder dissolved in water, and perfumed. The fragment must be very small, otherwise the solution will turn the hair into a veritable horn, as uncomfortable to the touch as it is to the eye. People who use pomades should be very careful that they do not apply injurious coloring matters to the hair. The fashion these some years past has been in use of using yellow or straw-colored pomades. These are clean to the eye, and some of the yellow that is imparted by palm oil, as it should be, they are, suitably considered, unobjectionable. I fear, however, that in many instances the peculiar tint of yellow which is imparted to the hair by incorporation with some injurious metallic compound, roseate pomades are never, on account of their coloring matter, objectionable, the tint being always imparted by alkali root, the coloring matter which is contained in the oil-saline composition of pomades that varies greatly. Spermatoc, and almost any animal oil or fat—except mutton fat—may be employed in their composition. I believe the very best oleaginous hair application consists of a mixture of castor oil and alcohol, two parts by weight of the former to one of the latter, the whole permeated according to taste. The circumstance should here be mentioned that castor oil is the only oil which is not treated by heat. For example, if one were attempted to combine oil with alcohol, the operator would soon find that he had taken trouble in vain. Between the two no union would ensue; and the same remark applies to every oil, with the exception of castor oil.

The Mystery of an Old Fort. A letter writer, in describing Fort Marion, one of the defenses of St. Augustine, Florida, gives the following story:—"Fort Marion has an old, solemn, and rather threatening appearance. The outer wall, five feet thick, of the material called coquina (co-ke-na), found in great abundance on the beach near the lighthouse, has quite a slant or inclination inward of several degrees from a perpendicular. The walls are so thick, standing perpendicular, keeps in position a bank of sand some 8 or 10 feet between the outer and inner walls. Behind these walls are arranged the casements, strongly arched and covered with iron plates. Upon these arches and the walls a floor of brick, stone, and concrete is laid, whereon the heavy guns of the fort are placed; very few are in position now. Within the enclosure of the fort below are the quarters of the garrison, a number of old Spanish guns, partly eaten by rust. In 1865 when putting some heavy guns in position on the fort, an arch gave way, making a hole some five feet wide, disclosing a cell hitherto unknown. No signs of life were seen in the new and strange apartment were found one or two gun carriages made of mahogany, finely wrought. During the excavations made by the officers, one of them accidentally discovered the appearance of a door that had been masoned up. They determined to test the reality of the suggestion, and removing a few stones, revealed an opening into another cell, where was found a bedstead, and a large wooden chest. The chest was found to be a large mahogany chest five feet long, two and a half feet wide, sides of plank two inches thick, mounted with hinge iron hinges and three enormous locks. No signs of life were seen in the history of this case, or of the offense of this terribly punished victim."

Anecdote of Mr. Disraeli. HIS FIRST DINNER WITH MR. BULWER.—THE SILENT The August number of Blackwood contains the first part of a biographical notice of Mr. Disraeli, from which we extract the following interesting anecdote:—"Mr. Disraeli launched his first tale and found it to be a great success. Lord Lytton, then Mr. Edward Lytton Bulwer, had achieved the proud place as a novelist which he has ever since retained. The apartment for literary discussions had been reserved for a distance of the removal of his senior, and encouraged by the recognition which his own woman effort had received, he did what many young authors under similar circumstances are apt to do. He sent to Mr. Bulwer a copy of "Vivian Gray," writing, at the same time, an apologetic note, and giving reasons for the liberty he had taken. The letter, with its accompanying gift, were at once acknowledged, and Mr. Disraeli was requested to name a day for dining with their recipients. It happened that Mr. Disraeli had arranged for quitting Eng-

land on the day after receiving the invitation. He wrote to say so, and the morning was fixed for the symposium. Four gentlemen sat down at Mr. Bulwer's table on that occasion—one being, of course, the host; another, Mr. Disraeli; the third, a man, shy, but evidently intelligent, for though he said comparatively little, his remarks, as often as he hazarded them, were keenly to the purpose. The fourth, a private friend of the host, need not be specified. It was an evening not to be forgotten, because then as now, both Lord Lytton and Mr. Disraeli shone in conversation. The party broke up about midnight, and the host and his friends were left alone together. After discussing Disraeli, the question was put, "Who is your silent guest?" "He is one of the ablest men I know," was the reply. "He is my contemporary at college. He is now a barrister; and mark my words, he will stand in the ranks of his profession. His name is Cockburn." The climax to this little bit of domestic history or gossip is very remarkable. The two brilliant novelists and the painstaking lawyer who did not know the name of more than two comparatively obscure men, have all risen to positions of eminence in the State. Mr. Cockburn is Lord Chief Justice of England; Mr. Bulwer, after serving as Secretary of State for the Colonies, has become one of the ablest and most successful statesmen of more than one previous occasion Chancellor of the Exchequer and leader of the House of Commons, is now First Lord of the Treasury. So much for the practical utility of the conversation which Mr. Disraeli, as a barrister, as a statesman, as a man of letters, and as Mr. Gladstone, forgetful of what it has done for himself, seeks to overbrow."

Undetected Crimes. The London Telegraph relates the following curious case of a strange murder case, which, it says, was one of the most remarkable and unexpected crimes. The crime in question is known in England, where it happened, as the Sturtevant murder. "It appears," says the Telegraph, "that for some years past a peddler, who, if we may judge from his name, was of German origin, had tramped the district round about Birmingham, Bernhard Zussman was travelling agent for a jeweler in that town, and used to hawk watches, chains, and rings from house to house. He started on his tour on the 15th of October, and on the 15th he left the Crown Inn at Trowbridge, stating that he meant to return there on the 17th. He did not appear, and his wife was received from him either there or at Birmingham; and after a few days his employer came to the conclusion that the man had absconded, and he believed, offered a reward for his apprehension. On the 20th a gentleman, who was out shooting in Sturtevant, village not far from Trowbridge, discovered the body of a dead man lying in a ditch under a hedge, and covered over with grass and earth. The body, which was not yet cold, was that of Zussman; his pockets were empty; his watch, filled with its contents, was picked up in another ditch near by; and on a post-mortem examination it was shown beyond a doubt, that the poor fellow had been shot in the back of the head. In fact, the indication seemed to show that the murderer had come behind him, had shot him before he could offer any resistance, and had concealed the body close to a stile that the man probably passed in the act of crossing when he was struck down. So far all was clear; and the suspicions of the police were immediately directed to the prisoner, who has just been acquitted after a five days' trial. This man, Harris had not, as we said, in the evening, been in the neighborhood. In his neighborhood, he had inherited, some years before, a considerable sum of money, and was supposed to have pretty nearly spent it. He was acquainted with Zussman, and some few days before the murder he had been in his shop, valued at £28, paying a deposit of ten shillings and agreeing to pay two pounds a month. This watch he had pawned the day after its purchase for a sum of eight pounds—a fact which was certainly not forgotten, and which was very short of money. On the morning of his disappearance Zussman called upon Harris to discuss some business matter, whether relating to the watch or not is unknown, and then Harris, who had been in the habit of visiting the watchmaker, called upon him at his residence. Indeed, the prisoner was the last person who was absolutely proved to have been seen in the peddler's company; and after the fact, he was taken to the police station, where he was taken to imply that he knew more about the crime than was known to the world at large."

California Society and its Peculiarities. The San Francisco Golden Era says:—"One of the principal defects in the manners and customs of California society is the absence of social amusements and reunions in which entire families, old and young, may participate. Our balls, parties, theatres, concerts, and exhibitions, and even the church services, are such that children are considered out of place among them. They must be left behind while the older folk are engaged in the night time, when the children are packed off to bed or left in care of servants. Our men are so absorbed in the cares of business and the pursuit of wealth, that it is only when darkness comes on and prevents further attention to such matters that time can be devoted to their families or recreation. The result is that children are too frequently considered as undesirable, a sort of nuisance, making no account of their presence. Almost all efforts to prevent their parents enjoying the pleasures of society during the evening. "The fault, certainly, is not with the children. We imagine our California boys and girls are as good as any in the world. They are trained in respect and affectionate as these in other countries where the same feelings and customs do not exist. The fault is with the parents and the customs they have adopted, which engender the feelings and habits that we are now endeavoring to correct, and to eradicate these growing and unnatural feelings. Our self-styled workmen have made a long step in that direction by the adoption of the eight-hour day, but it is not enough. Almost all can be advantageously performed daily in eight hours, and so can other classes of the community who do more work. There is no reason why the whole business of San Francisco might not be transacted in eight hours. The habits of our fathers, however, are not so easily changed. But with or without such a rule, a decided change should be made in the character of the amusements indulged in among us. Social and domestic recreations, such as dancing, singing, and other amusements, should be made a part of the birthday of each child in the family, should be made a holiday in which every member and the relatives and intimate friends should participate. The old folks, or the young heads of families, as is often the case in this State, should accustom themselves to take their pleasures and diversion with their children, and to have their ultimate friends. If this was done their pleasures would be more innocent and much less expensive than they now generally are. There would be more real and warm affection existing among us. There would be more sympathy and love among our friends. Our homes would be more attractive and our young people just entering upon the stage of active life would not have to go from home in search of what they consider pleasure. Amusements and recreations would be multiplied among us, because the ideas with which such amusements were connected would be more moderate and reasonable. We need to have more of the old-fashioned amusements, and to make fashion and display unobtainable, and to learn that the home circle is the only place in which true happiness need ever be sought. Instead of contracting our home circle, let us extend it to our friends, and admitting to them freely all such as we find worthy to be trusted and confidential friends, that we may benefit them and they us. California contains the material for a society inferior to none in the world, and we are to be congratulated on the places in which we most frequently meet and welcome our friends and acquaintances, and there in free converse learn to know and appreciate each other more thoroughly, the reform will have been more than half accomplished."

Beyond Cheyenne. From Mr. Bowles' letter in the Springfield Republican we make the following extract:—"But no sympathetic eyes require to be told that we are now entering upon a new order of scenery. The outlook is a succession of novel beauties for the eye, from Cheyenne; and, as we advance, those beauties are multiplied upon the eye, the top of the cars, or at least the platform of the rear one. In this distance the road passes the Black Hills, the first range of mountains, the highest point, at Sherman (588 miles) their highest point, and the highest point that the entire road has to mount in all its passage from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean—and then turns on a level, the Cheyenne and Platte rivers, altogether the most interesting and novel portion of the route so far opened. Rich black mountains bound the horizon North and South a dash of snow on peak or side occasionally catches the eye, the view is a succession of broader plains, rich in grass and flowers; Nature has fashioned it for a railroad; scattered around in valley or plain, as the track approaches the Cheyenne, are the most grotesque or symmetrically arranged; here a wall as if for a bulwark, there the ruin of a cathedral or fort, again a half-finished building, anon the fashion of a huge dismantled screw with its arms extended, and a tower of iron ahead; over all an atmosphere so pure that the eye seems to take in all space, and so dry and exhilarating that life painfully dilates, and every sense is as if bathed in inebriating champagne. Here would seem to be the fountain of health, and among these hills and plains is surely to be made a summer resort for the invalid and the pleasure-seeker in the by no means distant future. The hills are not distant, the plains are bare of it, and the water runs pure and bright and carries trout in abundance, as plains and mountains give deer, mountain sheep, antelope, and grouse. This whole white pathway up and over the mountains and down the hills, is a most beautiful and interesting prospect, the hills have wasted into plain; those solid walls of feldspar and granite disintegrated and dissipated into a fine gravel that is the very perfection of a railroad bed, and the deep, dark, and numerous of remaining rock that is scattered about with such picturesque effect are all that are left, very few, so to speak, of the hills. The hills are not distant, the plains are bare of it, and the water runs pure and bright and carries trout in abundance, as plains and mountains give deer, mountain sheep, antelope, and grouse. 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