

THE GRADE CROSSING AGAIN.

It is to the survival of the grade crossing that the pitiful deaths of the Newark schoolgirls must be attributed.

The Lackawanna's Morris and Essex line is as well watched by gatesmen probably as is any road running through populous suburbs. But even the most careful gatesman cannot avert an accident of this kind when the conditions combine to invite it.

The penalty not of some one's immediate carelessness, but of the Lackawanna's traditional policy of parsimony by which the road so long delayed the improvements that would have made this meeting of train and trolley car impossible.

There is probably no other railroad of consequence in the country that has been run so entirely in the interests of its stockholders and with so little regard for the welfare of its passengers and of the public dwelling along its line as the Morris and Essex division of the Lackawanna.

The new management may have the just excuse that the burden of improvements left it to inaugurate has been too great for immediate accomplishment.

THE VANDERBILT SUBPOENA.

More than passing interest is likely to be taken in the failure of Reginald C. Vanderbilt to appear in the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court in obedience to a subpoena.

Mr. Vanderbilt is a young man of very great wealth, living in an environment where the possessor of riches comes naturally to regard their possession as tangible evidence of power carrying with it immunity from ordinary legal proceedings.

There seem to be some doubts as to whether the young millionaire was properly served with the legal paper; the etiquette of the subpoena is subtle and sometimes needs a judicial interpretation.

In the eyes of the English law a nobleman of whom the authorities have taken cognizance has no privileges over a commoner.

THE CHEERFUL PASSENGER.

The cold snap as it has affected local transportation has thrown in high relief the consoling cheerfulness of the passenger and his disposition to make the best of adverse circumstances.

The unheated car chills him, the blown-out fuse delays him, the broken-down truck blocks his car for half an hour, but he does not lose his temper more than, in extreme cases, to fume inwardly.

Whatever the cause, the improvement is there. He is patient and long-suffering. It is only when he is forced to see empty cars go by marked "No Passengers" or obliged to "change to the car ahead" that he shows symptoms of revolt.

THE HUNGRY PARK SQUIRREL.

We are called upon to pity the sorrows of the poor park squirrels left without a food supply by the deep fall of snow. The tender-hearted keepers are reported to have purchased various bushels of peanuts to distribute to the hungry little animals.

Possibly it would benefit their digestion to undergo a fast for a few days, with spring almost in sight. The park squirrel is probably the best fed of all New Yorkers. He has gorged himself to repletion on nuts offered him by park visitors even up to midwinter, and he is fat and sleek and over-tame.

One Company Deposits.—The practice of gas and electric light companies of requiring a deposit of \$5 from customers is made the subject of a bill at Albany.



THE OLD JOKES' HOME.

By Roy L. McCardell.

YESTERDAY was our busy day. Despite the icy weather, the ambulance bell chimed merrily, and the old jokes were trundled in, bundled in, rammed in, slammed in, jammed in, and crammed in!

Exhumed in the Subway. Here are a few old fellows that were dug up by workmen on the subway:

When you fall in water, what do you get? Wet.

What is black, white and red all over? Newspaper.

When is a man not a man? When he is shaving.

What is smaller than an ant's mouth? What goes in it.

Why does a fireman wear red suspenders? To hold up his pants.

More Antiquities. What is the difference between a pill and a pill? One is hard to get up and the other is hard to get down.

A boy went into the butcher's the other day and bought five cents' worth of dog meat.

The butcher said: "Do you want to eat it here or shall I wrap it up?"

Max Glutz and Isaac Cohen were in a fight the other day. During the quarrel, which lasted for about an hour, Isaac bit a part of Max's ear off.

How many shirts can you get out of a yard? It all depends whose yard you go in.

An ice wagon weighs, fully loaded, 1,500 pounds. The man in front weighs 145 pounds. What does the man in the back weigh? Ice.

Just for a Kid. What is the difference between a barber and a mother? One has razors to shave and the other has shavers to raise.

Mr. Gottseger's Candidates. "What is the difference between Christian Science and a thin girl?"

"What is the biggest conundrum in the world?"

"I don't know. What is the biggest?"

"Life."

"That's right. Life is the biggest conundrum. You have to give it up."

"Yes. But I won't give it up."

"Not Why?"

"Because I'll die first."

Picked Up in the Street. A lady walking along a certain street loses her pocketbook.

Smith—Old Skinner promised his daughter a check for four figures if she married according to his wishes.

NATURAL SEQUENCE. Husband (dritably)—It isn't a year since you said you believed our marriage was made in Heaven, and yet you order me around as if I wasn't anybody.

VIEWED WITH ALARM. Housekeepers, viewing with alarm the rise in the price of coal, may find some comfort in the fact that there is a big drop in the price of radium any way.

Some of the Best Jokes of the Day.

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THE TRICK OF THE SUSPENDED KNIFE.

ENIGMA—A WORD. I am composed of eleven terms.

WHAT PHYSICIANS SAY. The liquor from oysters, being salt and water simply, has no nutritive value.

THE PROGRESSIVE SPECULATIONS OF MR. GET-RICH-QUICK.



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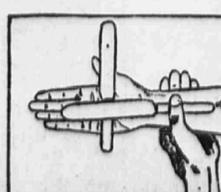
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HOME FUN FOR WINTER EVENINGS.

THE TRICK OF THE SUSPENDED KNIFE.



Fig. 1 looks as though the hand had some magnetic power which mysteriously keeps the knife suspended, but



a glance at Fig. 2 shows that it is a very simple matter after all.

ENIGMA—A WORD.

I am composed of eleven terms. My first is in rag, but not in cloth. My second is in arc, but not in bow. My third is in ace, but not in deuce. My fourth is in apple, but not in orange.

WHAT PHYSICIANS SAY.

The liquor from oysters, being salt and water simply, has no nutritive value. The head of cholera infantum waits upon the growth of the simple practice of sterilizing baby's milk and bottle.

PREDIGESTED WORDS.

In the Breakfast Food Language.

In enriching the vocabulary of the common language by such mellifluous terms as grabachunka, takabita, swipaboxa, etc., there is no doubt that the health food manufacturers of Battle Creek have greatly simplified the problems of everyday life by doing away with many unnecessary words.

A man comes into a drugstore, visibly distressed. The druggist anxiously inquires, "Helpheada?" as he reaches for that article. The customer replies, "No. Gotta-coffa," and in a few minutes departs with the required life-saver.

His wife meanwhile has been busy with the marconiphone ordering her supplies for dinner and such words as porters, steakine, lofabreda, Gettenbutter, digestacabbage, folbo-coffee, pleecapya go whizzing through the atmosphere, and when the lord and master returns for his noonday refreshment his wife invites him to takacasta.

WOMAN AND THE MAN SHE LOVES

How She May Make or Mar His Life.

By Helen Oldfield.

SINCE the day when Adam made the excuse to Jehovah's "The woman whom thou gavest me, she tempted me, and I did eat," woman's influence over man has been a potent factor in the public and private history of the world.

What a volume might be written of the unknown wives of great men! Women who have persistently sacrificed themselves, merging every hope and ambition in the strenuous effort to further their husbands' careers, content to give up all else, until, when they are left behind in the race of life, the fine new friends and parvenu relatives of the self-made man.

And pity him for being tied to such a wife.

Such women as these stand silently and heroically holding the foot of the ladder, straining every nerve to keep it steady that the husband may climb higher and higher. Theirs is faith of the sort which moves mountains and which accomplishes what it expects by the force of its belief.

But let no fond and foolish young creature imagine that her lover is as wax in her hands. He may yield faster to her influence and entreaties of the best and wisest woman who ever lived would be powerless to move except in the chance of their own choosing.

None the less, it behooves all women to be careful that what measure of influence they may exert over the men who love them is for good. "A man goes as much faster to hell when a woman helps him on the road," says the original proverb. Neither can any one tell how great may be the influence of an apparently little thing.

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