

MR. OWEN PEPPER LOST HIS NERVE

And Laid Down a Royal Flush Which He Held Against Four of a Kind.

THOUGH IT WAS HIS DEAL

By DAVID A. CURTIS.

"How come you all don't never play poker?" Jake Winterbottom inquired of Mr. Owen Pepper as they sat one evening in old man Greenlaw's little saloon in Arkansas City.

There had been nothing to lead up to the question and the others in the room looked up in some surprise, for as a rule no one of the party encouraged Mr. Pepper to talk, excepting the old man himself, and he only did so when he was desirous of getting some information concerning current matters outside of Arkansas City.

Considerable interest attached, however, in the minds of those who heard it to the question why any American citizen should not play poker, and they knew that Mr. Pepper did not. Therefore they listened for his reply with more attention than they usually gave him.

"Oh, I don't know," said Mr. Pepper. "I ain't got no 'bjections in p'ticular to the game. 'Pears like it's somethin' what suits them that likes it to be well. But I don't like it."

"Don't like draw poker?" exclaimed old man Greenlaw in great amazement. "What kind of talk is that? If a man is got any blood in his bones at all he's just natchally 'bleeged for' to like it. Might as well say 'you'dn't like to breathe air. I ain't sayin' but what they is mebbe some other reason for 'em not to play, but they can't nobody help 'em from it."

"Oh, I don't know," said Mr. Pepper, a little doubtfully. "I reckon it's like enough true what everybody likes it first off. I did my ownself when I begin to play, but I seen things into it 'em time to time what I didn't favor none."

"I reckon you all must ha' done lose money 'casionally," said the old man with a pronounced sneer. "Mebbe that counts for it. Them that's tightwads just wouldn't natchally 'njoy not gettin' every cent."

"Oh, I don't know," said Mr. Pepper rather resentfully. "I ain't never been reckoned no tight wad, nor I didn't never look for to win all the time, but they is things comes up in poker now an' ag'in what shakes a man's confidence in his fellow man, not to say nothin' 'bout a overruln' Providence. 'Pears like I'd rather keep away from it."

"Them things is just natchally to be 'spected," said the old man philosophically. "Thing to do is to learn yourself the proper way to deal the cards an' then they'll be liable for to happen to 'other feller. Don't make no difference if his confidence is shook 'long as 'you git away with his wad."

POEMS WORTH READING.

The Wisdom of the Foolish.

As falsely a fond mother promises When pleading child the thing for which he frets.

So nature leads us an appointed way With promise of the things our hearts improve.

Now No Bird Sings.

Now no bird sings From the hedges spray, And no leaf clings To the ashen blear.

When the Old Gods Awake.

Think not that when the old gods reign had ended.

The Case Stated.

From the Baltimore American.

Just a little winter, Just a little freezing, Just a little snowing,

Good Old Tom Thermometer.

From the Indianapolis News.

Good Old Tom Thermometer.

Cathedral Windows.

From the Edison Monthly.

Bolled Cider "Apple Sass."

Go to, thou, filippary, to you Adieu—saucy so unenduring!

Does one reader recall the record, or at least, the champion's name?

What special name is used to designate that type of humor which is usually the result of "inspiration" and is illustrated in the parody presented above?

When Mindy, Harriet and Lou Made cider "apple sass."

Oh, sweetest, thou art a dream, Oh, sweetest, thou art a dream!

When Mindy, Harriet and Lou Made cider "apple sass."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

How did the island of Jamaica come into the possession of the English and when?

The English admiral Penn and Venables captured and held the island in 1655. The Spanish were entirely expelled in 1658. The capture was part of the effort under Cromwell to crush Spanish power in the West Indies.

An unfortunatly German marries an American woman, loses the American woman her citizenship and becomes a German citizen, and are their children Germans or German-Americans or what?

The American woman has become a German subject. The children are Germans unless born in this country.

What is the secret of the rope trick of Indian jugglers? A rope is tossed into the air and a man walks up it and vanishes.

Did you ever see the trick performed as described? Did anybody? John Nevill Maskelyne, an authority on conjuring, says that the juggler is not really on the rope.

As a rule, a minor suit bid in this position asks the partner to go no trumps if he can stop the adverse suit, but it is a better two spade bid.

T. E. H. says: Dealer holds five spades to the ace, king, jack, four hearts to the ace king, two small clubs and three small diamonds, bidding one spade.

Is there any scientific explanation of the potato failure in Ireland in 1845, the year of the great famine, or is it still merely attributed to the "blight" of the potato?

Failure of the potato crop was simply the result of neglect due to ignorance. The potatoes rotted in the ground because the people knew little about keeping them and customarily left them in the soil at the mercy of frost and damp, digging a few as needed.

Among payments to various officers for services in the war of the Revolution I find in the State Library at Richmond, Va., record of a payment in the year 1775 to an anonymous "gentleman" of America (Va.) a militia for himself and command while "guarding the Convention troops."

The Convention troops were prisoners taken when Burgoyne surrendered, and so called in reference to the convention signed at Saratoga by which they were to be paroled and allowed to embark for England.

In a bound volume of original editions of the works of the late Dr. J. W. L. G. I have what is doubtless a copy of the original edition of "The Cork Leg."

On the next page is this: "Written by Thos. Hudson. The Mass Arranged and Synopsized Composed by J. Bennett."

At the end of the song is: "Hudson's Come Songs with Music" followed by the names of more than a dozen of them.

If murder is done in any State in the Union and brought before a Federal court, has the President the right to pardon or commute sentence?

The President has power to pardon or commute the sentence of persons convicted in a Federal court, and only those persons.

Some years ago I saw a story in THE SUN of a record made cutting wood by a man in northern Vermont.

Pinchelle. A. W. says: Playing two hands a trick is a bad habit and in two more tricks marries all but the trump.

Does one reader recall the record, or at least, the champion's name?

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SCHOOL FOR CARD PLAYERS.

Auction Bridge. W. T. L. asks if a bid of eight is to be classed as an impossible bid.

The opinion of the Court of Appeals of New York, in affirming the conviction of Hans Schmidt for the murder of Anna Amuliler, as the result of which he must die during the week of February 14, passes on many interesting questions.

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NOVEL POINTS OF THE LAW.

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CHESS FOR PLAYER, LOVER AND STUDENT

Thirteen Chess Masters Will Draw Numbers in Rice Tournery To-day.

PLAY BEGINS TO-MORROW

The Rice Memorial Masters tournament will be formally opened this afternoon at the apartments of Mrs. Isaac L. Rice at the Hotel Ansonia when Harold M. Phillips, the president of the chess club, will introduce the thirteen competitors to Mrs. Rice and the players will be requested to draw their numbers in order to prepare the schedule for the sixteen rounds which will be necessary to complete the contest.

Second round, Tuesday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Friday, February 11, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Third round, Wednesday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Saturday, February 12, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Fourth round, Thursday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Sunday, February 13, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Fifth round, Friday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Monday, February 14, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Sixth round, Saturday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Tuesday, February 15, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Seventh round, Sunday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Wednesday, February 16, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Eighth round, Monday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Thursday, February 17, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Ninth round, Tuesday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Friday, February 18, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Tenth round, Wednesday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Saturday, February 19, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Eleventh round, Thursday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Sunday, February 20, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Twelfth round, Friday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Monday, February 21, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Thirteenth round, Saturday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Tuesday, February 22, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Fourteenth round, Sunday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Wednesday, February 23, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Fifteenth round, Monday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Thursday, February 24, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Sixteenth round, Tuesday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Friday, February 25, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Seventeenth round, Wednesday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Saturday, February 26, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Eighteenth round, Thursday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Sunday, February 27, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Nineteenth round, Friday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Monday, February 28, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Twentieth round, Saturday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Tuesday, February 29, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

Twenty-first round, Sunday, at the Manhattan Chess Club, Wednesday, March 1, at the Manhattan Chess Club.

PROBLEM NO. 624. BY H. KUENNE

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM NO. 625. BY J. KIMPE

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 624.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 625.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 626.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 627.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 628.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 629.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 630.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 631.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 632.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 633.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 634.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 635.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 636.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 637.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 638.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 639.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 640.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 641.

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SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 664.

TORCH TO TOP CAPITOL

Plan to Utilize Old Ohio State Building at Columbus.

Ohio