

# STARTLED BY KISS

## Long Distance Courtship Rounds Up With a Mishap.

### WRONG FELLOW IS HUGGED.

Victim Utters Incoherent Words of Inquiry When Prospective Husband Comes Along, and After Apologies He Hurries Her Off to Minister.

Parsons, Kan.—Marcella Howland kissed the wrong man. And inasmuch as Marcella at the time of her osculatory performance was engaged to be married and the man she kissed was not her prospective husband, she found herself in an embarrassing situation when the real groom hove to and made anxious inquiry as to her affection for another man. If it had been in the good old days of rapiers and swords perhaps there would have been a duel, with much blood, but there was none of that, and only a few people at the Katy station were aware of the near tragedy.

The story of the kissing and Marcella and the man she kissed and the man she should have kissed adds another chapter to the volumes that have been written about long distance love making. This episode might have been labeled "Courtship by Mail, or Wooing by Correspondence." The story is this, duly attested and sworn to by at least one of the parties concerned:

Marcella lives near Joplin and is a helper in a grocery store. A year ago she found the name of James Vandyeke in a case of eggs, the said James not being a barber, as his name might indicate, but a raiser of chickens and corn near Anacardo, Okla. Marcella wrote to James, and James replied. Then followed a correspondence with each succeeding letter ripened into love. A month ago it was decided to meet in Parsons and have a minister here perform the ceremony, an eloquent being considered the proper thing to do.

James arrived and spent a restless afternoon waiting for his bride, who was to come from Joplin on the evening train.

Came 7:45 o'clock, and with it the train from Joplin and Marcella. James was a bit confused in time and was not at the station. Marcella, wearing a pink carnation by prearrangement, went to the waiting room and sat down to await the arrival of her husband to be.

Now enter the other side of the triangle, whose name for the present is unknown, as he absolutely refused to divulge his identity. His name will be John Doe for this occasion. John entered the station and gazed over the crowds. Marcella saw him, and after giving him time to discover her tripped across the room and stood enraptured before the astonished man.

"Well, here I am, James," she said demurely, waiting for her fiancé to take her in his arms, etc., etc.

John gasped, but made no move toward her.

"Why, you bashful thing," the girl exclaimed, and with that bounded over to the man, threw her arms about him and planted a kiss upon his lips.

John extricated himself as best he could—or would, and was mumbling some incoherent words of inquiry when in came a breathless Vandyeke, who had come up just in time to behold the performance, and, convinced that some one was making away with his bride to be, rushed up to thwart him.

As he approached misgiving spread over Marcella's face. She had a faint suspicion that she had kissed the wrong man, and this suspicion grew with each step of the excited Vandyeke. He stood before her. She looked at Doe and then at Vandyeke. Yes, the last man was certainly the one she had come to meet. How could she have mistaken the other fellow for him, although their resemblance was quite marked?

Then apologies, explanations, assurances by Doe to Vandyeke that he was an innocent party and had no intention to "steal" Marcella, and then Marcella kissed the right man, right there in the station, with a score of people watching her.

The couple decided to take the 8:22 train back to Joplin and be married there. They hurried to a telephone, made an appointment with a minister there and left.

### GETS BACK HIS SIGHT.

#### Blinded by a Fall, a Man is Recovering After Eight Years.

Philadelphia.—Unable to see for eight years, Edward Claycomb, a painter, of Altoona, Pa., is recovering his sight by degrees.

In 1908 he fell from a house he was painting, and in addition to his other injuries he detached the retinas of both eyes. He became blind. Specialists of a dozen cities were consulted, and they all told him his case was hopeless.

For the last several weeks his sight has been returning, and now he can see and read large letters and distinguish between colors. Physicians are puzzled. Claycomb is hopeful that his sight will become normal.

#### Sells Hidden Money With Potatoes.

Mantou, Cal.—W. A. Cleland placed \$20 in \$20 gold pieces in a potato bin for safe keeping. Forgetting about the money, he sold some potatoes. Later a search for the coin proved unsuccessful. Cleland now thinks banks are a safer proposition than potato bins.

# CITES U. S. GROWTH

## Uncle Joe Cannon Tells of Some Changes in Forty-four Years.

### SHOWS AGE IS NO HANDICAP.

#### Says Uncle Sam is Two and One-half Times Bigger Than When He Broke Into Congress—Has Retained Subtleness Despite His Eighty Years.

Washington.—Reclining on the sofa in his office just off the chamber of the house of representatives, this well known cigar at the proper angle in his mouth, Uncle Joe Cannon, who recently celebrated his eightieth birthday, told a correspondent on that occasion of some of the changes which have occurred in the United States during the forty-four years he has been in public life, forty of which have been spent in congress.

Taking his cigar out of his mouth, Uncle Joe squinted at the end of it a moment, and then, replacing it most carefully at its accustomed angle, he said:

"I suppose you want to know something about the changes which have taken place since I first entered congress back in 1873. Why, my boy, the

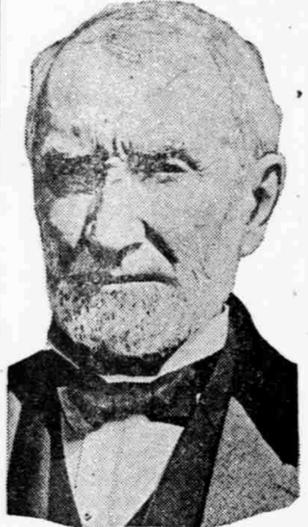


Photo by American Press Association. UNCLE JOE CANNON.

changes have been like those of an infant growing into a stalwart man or a sapling into a tree.

"Uncle Sam is two and a half times as big as he was when I broke into congress. I mean by that in physical stature as measured by population. In other ways the country has multiplied four, five and even ten times.

"We had thirty-seven states and less than 40,000,000 population when I came to congress. We now have forty-eight states and 100,000,000 population at home, with ten or fifteen millions more in Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines. Our total wealth then was given at \$24,000,000,000, gold basis, or \$30,000,000,000 currency, but now it is \$187,000,000,000, without any distinction as to the unit of measure.

"This enormous wealth is not in Wall street or within a thousand miles of it. It is not gathered into banks or trust companies, but is scattered over the broad land—the prairies, the plains and the mountains as well as in the factories and commercial centers. In fact, there is more of this wealth west of the Mississippi river than in New York and New England combined. So you can see that Uncle Sam has grown, and it has been something of a job for congress to keep up with the development of the country."

"What do you think has been congress' most far-reaching act during this period?"

"I would hardly call it an act. I would call it a discovery," replied Uncle Joe. "It was the discovery of the general welfare clause of the constitution. We used to have long constitutional arguments against any kind of internal improvements by the federal government, but now we just read the general welfare clause of that old document and appropriate money for any scheme that may be proposed.

"This change of sentiment is pretty general, but it is marked in the delegations from the south."

The correspondent met with this answer when he mentioned legislation:

"I am not going to discuss politics."

Getting up from the couch, he stretched his arms, and then, just to show he is eighty years young, Uncle Joe kicked as high as his chin.

"Can you do that, young man?" he asked. And then in reply he said:

"No, and there aren't ten other men in the house who can."

The correspondent expressed the belief that when a person reached the fourscore milestone it was time to take it easy, and Uncle Joe replied:

"Well, I do take it easy. I'm entitled to it, am I not? I have things just about as fine as any man could wish. I have lots of friends, no enemies that I know of, and lots of hope and ambition."

Although he has been mixed up in every great political fight since the election of Lincoln in 1860, Uncle Joe declined to discuss politics in the concrete.

"It would be hardly fitting," he said. "People insist I am a partisan. I am a Republican, but this isn't a time for me to talk party politics. My friends are in all of the parties."

# SAVED THE NIGHT IN YEARS AGO

## Spanish Annie Breaks All Records, Delighting Her Owner.

### Spanish Annie, called because she is of the black Spanish variety, hasn't laid an egg in years. However, within a year she got her name in the newspapers and her picture in many of them when she hatched out a fine brood of chickens and was hailed as the world's champion Biddy.

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Colonel Blanchard, who is proud of his famous hen, has discovered from his poultry records that Spanish Annie was hatched July 4, 1887, and for years contributed generously to the Blanchard daily egg supply. Some years ago her shiny jet black feathers began turning white and her eggs were fewer. Then she lost her quick, dashing gait, and at present her feathers are a mottled gray.

Spanish Annie made no particular commotion after laying her egg, but her happy owner arranged a special feed for her.

# CONSTRUCT HOUSE IN OHIO IN TWELVE HOURS

## Two Hundred Workmen Complete Structure, Gift to a Bride, While Thousands Look On.

Toledo, O.—Seventy-two carpenters began to build a house from the ground up at 4:30 a. m. At 4 p. m. the same day it was completed in every detail and Mrs. Emma Plessner-McCann was serving tea in it to Mayor Milroy and others.

The house and lot were a wedding present from the Toledo Real Estate board and contractors. Mrs. McCann was Miss Emma Plessner until a few hours before the house was finished, when she became the bride of John J. McCann. She was assistant secretary of the real estate board for several years.

After the carpenter work had progressed a short time plumbers, gas fitters, painters, paper hangers, electricians and other workmen got busy and did their share of the building work within a given time. More than 200 workmen helped build the house. It is a five room house, with a bathroom, costing \$4,000. Ordinarily it takes two or three months to finish such a house.

Thousands watched the construction work. Three hundred gallons of buttermilk and a cartload of sandwiches were served.

In addition to the lot and house, built in less than twelve hours, considerable furniture was presented by friends.

# FAITH IN DIVINING ROD.

## Treasure Hunter Says "Tip" is Right and Keeps on Digging.

Shreveport, La.—Having discovered evidence of what he believes is buried treasure or a gold mine on a piece of ground on Fairfield avenue and owned by Dr. J. M. Comegys in the most exclusive residence district of the city, a Shreveport contractor named Farmer spent all day and part of a night digging in the plot for hidden wealth. Farmer claims he was led to the spot by a divining rod, and he further maintains that his divining rod hasn't played him false because it leads him to the exact spot every time he moves.

Farmer, with the assistance of three negro helpers, labored far into the night in search of the treasure or mine or whatever it is, and spadeful after spadeful of dirt had been removed without results. Late bulletins from the scene indicated that no treasure had been disclosed as yet, though the hole measured four feet deep and as many feet in width when the search was concluded temporarily.

Shreveport is too far inland to have been the haunt of Captain Kidd or any other of our well known pirates, and the next best guess is that it is a gold mine. Farmer won't quit until he is either convinced to his own satisfaction that his divining rod has pulled a "bone" or that there is really a treasure at the spot.

# BIG ROOSTER CRIPPLES MAN.

## Resents Intrusion of Angler, Who Was Crossing Barnyard.

Pendleton, Ore.—L. A. McClintock, local implement dealer, is among the wounded and helpless as a result of an encounter with an angry rooster.

While he was crossing through a barnyard near the Furish dam, en route to the river with an angling outfit, a big Buff Cochon rooster, resenting the intrusion, flew at him. Unable to pierce his rubber boots with its beak, the rooster jumped into the air and drove his spurs home just above McClintock's knee, one on each side.

The spurs struck a tendon and crippled him. He was helped to an auto and brought home.

# Pushes Junk Cart Miles.

Holton, Kan.—Sherman Crawford, an industrious junk gatherer of this city, loses none of his profits to the railroads. He loads his cart with 800 pounds of material and when weather and roads are good pushes the cart to Topeka. By leaving Holton at 8 o'clock in the morning Crawford can make the thirty-two miles to the capital city by sundown.

# HEN 29 YEARS OLD LAYS EGG.

## Spanish Annie Breaks All Records, Delighting Her Owner.

Hartford.—Spanish Annie, the grand old hen of twenty-nine years (duly authenticated), owned by Colonel James Blanchard of Dayville, is quite content to die because recently she performed what is probably her last labor in this world, something beyond "all the king's horses and all the king's men," for she laid a nice brown egg.

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# PEARL 5,000,000 YEARS OLD.

## Found on the Seacoast and Sent to Stanford University.

Stanford University, California.—A pearl estimated to have been formed 5,000,000 years ago and to be the oldest specimen of its kind in the world was found by Stanley C. Herold, a Stanford student, six months ago. The pearl will be presented to the Stanford museum.

The pearl and the cockleshell in which it was imbedded came to Stanford in a consignment of geologic material from the coast of the state of Washington.

According to university authorities, the pearl is of little value as a gem, but the oyster in which it was found originated, they said, probably in the paleozoic period.

"We have no record," said Herold, "of pearls having been formed before the time this one was created. It retains considerable luster and when thoroughly polished will regain more, but its 5,000,000 years of existence has taken out about 50 per cent of its luster.

"At the time this pearl was made the dinosaur, mastodon and sabre toothed tiger were in existence."

# ROBINS ACCEPT HUMAN AID.

## Man Replaces Fallen Nest and Birds Occupy It.

Seattle, Wash.—"I had always understood," said Crawford E. White, the attorney, who lives at 4203 Mead street, "that birds would invariably abandon a nest which had been disturbed by human hands.

"Something that happened in my yard the other day is a distinct exception to this rule. Two robins had a nest in the branches of a cedar tree. The cross limb which held up the nest fell away and let it down on the ground.

"I thought that would be the end of that nest. But the two birds stayed near it all the next day, and finally I got the idea of rebuilding it. I took a foot ladder and fastened the nest back securely in place with some ordinary hay baling wire.

"The robins apparently liked the rough job I made of it, for they came back and have been working together rebuilding the old nest."

# GIRLS TOO BASHFUL.

## Make Inquiries Over Phone Regarding Man Wishing to Wed.

St. Paul.—"Ambitious, but bashful," is the characterization Joseph Mounts, secretary to Chief of Police John J. O'Connor, made of a St. Paul young woman after a day of telephone calls regarding Elmer Johnson, rancher, of Sidney, Mon., who wrote to the chief making an offer of matrimony to a suitable St. Paul girl.

"Many girls," said Mr. Mounts, "called me asking about Johnson, but none would give me her name. I think the girls are passing up a good thing, because I think the man is on the level."

Johnson has 320 acres of fertile Montana land, two miles from a railroad, and says he is "well fixed."

"Some of the girls talked real fine, too," added Mr. Mounts, "and if Johnson had heard them maybe he would have liked to look them over. It's too bad they are so bashful."

# FINDS DIAMOND IN TOBACCO.

## Railroad Engineer Discovers Gem in Tin of the Weed.

St. Mary's, Pa.—Patrick Fehey, an engineer on the Pennsylvania railroad, stationed here, considers himself a very lucky individual.

A few days ago he bought a ten cent tin of tobacco. While replenishing his pipe he was surprised to see a ring imbedded in the weed, and examination proved it to contain a setting which looked suspiciously like a diamond. He took his find to a jeweler, who appraised the stone to be worth at least \$50.

# With Choir, No Gift.

Topeka, Kan.—Property held for the Church of Christ in this city will revert to the original owners should there come into existence within the body any choir or other organization, according to the terms of the deed by which it was conveyed for church purposes, and which has just been filed for record.

# GIRL GOES FIFTEEN MILES ON SKIS TO MARRY

## Travels Over Deep Snowdrifts to Become Bride of a Young Los Angeles Business Man.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Skiing fifteen miles over deep snowdrifts to be a bride, Miss Helen Skinner, eighteen-year-old daughter of F. C. Skinner of Pine Knot Lodge, Big Bear valley, arrived recently in Los Angeles and was married to Wesley P. Turner, a young business man.

Miss Skinner, who passed last summer at Big Bear valley, had intended to leave there for Los Angeles earlier in the season, but was detained until all roads down the mountain had been washed out by the rains and lost under many feet of snow. When she learned that none of the roads would be opened until nearly summer she declared her intention of walking down to Los Angeles, no matter how far the snow extended.

It was then learned that a stage could make its way to Dobbie, a dead mining camp on the crest of Big Bear, hanging 6,800 feet above the Mohave desert. So the dauntless little bride elect, accompanied by her mother and father, donned skis and walked from Pine Knot Lodge to Dobbie, fifteen miles, over snow that lay an average depth of three feet. At Dobbie the party was met by a stage from Victorville.

# BIT OF GALLANTRY WINS HIM \$200,000

## Frank H. Canning, Who Protected a Woman in Fight, Remembered in Her Will.

Philadelphia.—As a result of a bit of gallantry to a woman more than three years ago Frank H. Canning, formerly of this city and later of Clarksboro, N. J., is to receive \$200,000.

Mrs. J. T. Elkins of Detroit, widow of a wealthy ranch owner, died several weeks ago, leaving an estate of \$400,000. Half of the money goes to Mr. Canning, the remainder to a charitable institution in Detroit. Mrs. Elkins was formerly Miss Irene Chadley of this city.

Miss Chadley was returning to her home on a trolley car late one night. She was the only woman on the car, the other passengers being half a dozen intoxicated men and Mr. Canning. Suddenly a fight started, and one of the men brushed against Miss Chadley and threatened her. Mr. Canning placed himself in front of the woman and, with the aid of the conductor, managed to overcome the rowdies.

Miss Chadley was so upset that Mr. Canning called a cab and rode with her to her home in West Philadelphia.

# LIGHTNING STRUCK HOUSE.

## Russell, His Wife and Baby Have a Narrow Escape.

Brady, Tex.—Bob Russell, his wife and baby, who live six miles west of Brady, had a narrow escape recently when lightning struck their home, giving them a severe shock and setting the wall paper and bedclothing afire.

The electric bolt passed across the roof and came down the wall inside the room where the family were asleep and passed to the ground by way of a telephone wire and two shotguns standing near a bed.

Russell was rendered unconscious, and when he recovered he found the bed clothing and wall paper afire. He was able to extinguish the blaze with but little difficulty. The barrels of both guns were melted, as was also the telephone ground wire.

# SEEKS REMEDY FROM SEA.

## Physician Dips Thirty Fathoms For Pure Salt Water.

San Francisco.—To save the life of a patient in St. Winifred's hospital Dr. Winslow Anderson, accompanied by fourteen doctors and nurses, went out to sea in a Crowley launch for thirty-six gallons of the purest of pure sea water.

The ailment from which the patient is suffering will give way only to a treatment in which pure salt water from the sea forms the chief element. The party carried twelve three-gallon jugs with heavy lead sinkers, by means of which the water was lifted from a depth of thirty fathoms. The launch went nearly to the Farallone islands, and the party did not return until late at night.

# ROBBER THANKS VICTIM.

## Sends Back Keepsake and Keeps \$500 He Stole From St. Louis Resident.

St. Louis.—The thief who robbed the home of L. L. Whittemore of jewelry valued at \$500 mailed a letter to the family. Inclosed was a miniature pair of opera glasses, used as a watch charm. His letter reads:

To Whom It May Concern.—Very sorry to take this little keepsake. Thank you for the other articles. With best wishes, AN OUTCAST.

# Fish Makes Long Swim.

London.—A salmon which had been marked and returned to the water at Kinradwel, north of Brora, Sutherlandshire, was caught fifteen days afterward on the Aberdeenshire coast. The minimum distance covered by the fish was 140 miles, and it had lost one and one-half pounds in weight between the date of marking and its recapture.

# COURAGE WINS HER

## Stand Made by Suffragists Impresses Pearl White.

### ONCE SCORNE THEIR FIGHT.

#### Her Views Changed When She Saw How Bravely the Women Marched in a Parade in New York Despite a Cold, Miserable Day.

New York.—"You see, it was like this," said Miss Pearl White, curling her slender figure up on a corner of her couch. "I was one of those who found suffragettes funny. They handed me a laugh many a time just because I thought they were pulling a speech off to get themselves heard. But I tell you I didn't think that after their October parade. It was on an awfully cold, mean day, if you recall it, and the way those women came up the avenue beating against the wind, with their white dresses on, fairly gave me a thrill.



UPPER PHOTO SHOWS MISS PEARL WHITE IN A CHARACTERISTIC POSE, LOWER IN ONE OF HER STEEPEJACK STUNTS.

There they stood, hour after hour, waiting to get into line, and there weren't six of them that 'beat it for home,' I'll make my guess.

"I like to see women who dare to do things. There are hundreds of women working for their living, and most of them don't dare say what they think. But those suffragettes, they've got their courage right with them, all the time," went on the plucky, daredevil "movie" star.

She it was who took up the dare when some one said no girl could be a steeplejack, and on April 15, dressed in the part of a sign painter in overalls and cap on which "Votes For Women" gleamed across the visor, Miss White let herself down an electric sign twenty-two stories above Broadway.

Miss White is as lithe as a panther. She can twist her pliant figure into more curves than most women. Half Italian and half Irish, she comes from Missouri, and so she adds keenness to her Celt and Latin traits. "I pay taxes," said she thoughtfully. "Why shouldn't I say something about what is to be done with my tax money? I pay income tax, too, just as if I were a man. I earn money too. In my profession a woman star earns more than a man, yet I have nothing to say about the income tax law nor about any other law. Why shouldn't I vote? Women are doing every kind of work men do, and over in Europe they are suffering as much as men suffer. If war should come to America they would suffer here. I want to vote for president of this country, for I know who I think ought to govern us. But I shan't have anything to say about the president. I'll have to abide by the decision of men, who may not care half as much as I care."

# WIND IMPRISONS WOMAN.

## Locked in Closet and Near Collapse When Rescued.

Bridgeville, Del.—Imprisoned in a closet by the wind slamming a door fast, Mrs. Mollie Cordery, who lives near Bridgeville, had a narrow escape from death and when discovered was nearly overcome by the shock.

Mrs. Cordery was cleaning the attic, and while she was looking in an old closet a gust of wind slammed the door and locked it from the outside. There was no one but herself in the house, and it was nearly an hour before Mrs. Cordery's screams happened to be heard by a gang of men who were repairing the road. With all the doors locked downstairs, Harley Rickards climbed to the second floor and got through by a window. When Mrs. Cordery was found she was in a pitiable state. She is still seriously ill from the shock.

# Sentences Himself to Jail.

Visalia, Cal.—Ernest Stevenson, a Visalia laborer, sentenced himself to a year in the county jail in Judge Knox's court after pleading guilty to a charge of drunkenness. The verdict was set aside by the judge as excessive. In passing sentence on himself after the judge had asked him to do so Stevenson said treatment in hospital did no good and perhaps he could "sober up right" in a year.