



Politicians ought to tell the truth. Put a small man in a big position and he will forget himself. Why is justice in Washington like the weather?

Because it is changeable. The justice that is meted out to the white man not given to the negro. There is but little hope for the negro in the South.

The Bee editor is not looking for an office and neither does he want one.

Unhappy is the man who hangs on official favors.

Abolish the office of justice of the peace.

It is better that they are abolished.

All offices in the District of Columbia should be filled by election.

The negro vote will divide in 1900.

Our new leadership is made out of that which cannot be seen.

In union there is strength.

E. M. Hewlett is the most manly negro attorney before the District bar.

He is not the man to cater for favors.

If there was more manhood in negro attorneys they would succeed better.

Be truthful, it will pay always.

There is too much treachery among certain negroes to succeed.

This world was not made for the white man alone.

It is not well to tell all you know.

Be careful of what you say and to whom you say it.

Don't be too hasty in coming to a conclusion.

The Maryland politicians have not been cared for as yet.

Will the negro vote ever become a factor in American body politics?

Be what you say you are nothing more.

Deception is sooner or later detected.

An honest man is a truthful man.

You should do nothing that is distasteful to good society.

It is not the person who grins in your face, that should be regarded as your friend.

Don't place too much confidence in the person who pretends friendship.

Be honest with your fellow man.

The best policy is when you can not do a thing say so.

It will never effect you to be truthful.

Don't be alarmed at the noise.

The try daily has been struggling hard since its publication.

It came out one day and has been trying hard ever since to make its appearance daily.

Can any one tell the difference between the old school and new school of politicians?

Well out of the great number of fliers appointed in the army not one negro was appointed.

What has become of the repeal of the civil service law?

Don't forget how the negroes fought on San Juan Hill.

General Miles thinks well of the negro soldiers.

And yet not a negro officer has been appointed in the regular army.

The man who speaks the truth is the man to trust.

Don't be too impetuous in your deliberation.

The man who thinks he knows it all is generally affected with the big head.

There was tyranny in the schools on the part of certain school officers.

There are some school officials too much on the old woman order.

The day will soon come when all will be placed on a level.

It is not the wise man who makes a fool of himself.

Our head swells some times beyond the usual size.

THE HINDOO EDITOR.

THE DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS TASK.

He is Fond of Extravagant Expressions and Leaves Blank Pages When He Can't Fill Them—Suspends Publication When He Takes a Holiday.

The Indian press is of ancient origin. Ages before the European conquest, every court had its weekly, in some cases its daily journal, which was sent out to the principal towns and attentively read by nobles, wealthy people and officials. These journals contained proclamations and decrees, and chronicled the movements of the court and all things likely to be of interest to the faithful subjects of the rulers of the various principalities.

Newspapers, in our meaning of the word, were first published in 1818. But these were in English. The first native newspaper was not issued until the middle of the century. The native press of the present day may be divided into two classes, papers edited and published by natives, the matter being generally half in English and half in a native language, and those journals which are published entirely in a native language, this class being much more numerous.

As a rule, these last are small, very poorly printed on cheap paper, often on only one side of the sheet, and not infrequently the same journal varies in size, according to the amount of news obtainable and the personal circumstances and convenience of the editor.

Generally speaking, the native is very anxious to acquire a knowledge of English. It not only opens the way to appointments in the government service, but also makes him a person of great importance in the district, as comparatively few of the millions of natives read English or even understand it when spoken. A working knowledge of our tongue is indispensable to a native editor, because all the important news is first published in the Anglo-Indian newspapers.

The native writer is fond of extravagant expressions, and makes use, whenever he can, of quotations from Shakespeare or Milton and the religious phrases he has seen in missionary literature. In the use of metaphors he often gets much mixed up.

The editorial page of the Indian country paper is a literary curiosity. For instance, the reader is assured, in an article on a political crisis, that "all the crowned heads of Europe are shaking in their shoes." Sometimes we read that "the editor expects, with divine help, to have more reading suited to the intelligence of his subscribers in the next issue."

But the editor is seen at his best in his own announcements. His whole vocabulary is brought into play to impress the readers. Sometimes the announcement takes the tone of apology as in the case of the editor who innocently declared: "This is only the beginning of our paper. We were not sure how much matter was required to fill it up, and, thinking we had sufficient, we did not exert ourselves much to get any more. We therefore beg that our readers will excuse us this time for the space left blank, and promise to do better and get more in the future."

Still more curious was the announcement of a paper which came out for the first time with two columns blank, the editor making the bold announcement that "a large quantity of exceedingly interesting matter had been left out for want of space."

When the native editor wants a holiday he suspends publication until it is convenient to resume, and, taking his readers into his confidence, informs them plainly why the paper was not issued on the expected date. "With the consent of our readers, we now propose to take our annual holiday. We are sure none of them will begrudge us our relaxation."

If it were not for the English newspapers published in Calcutta, Bombay and other large cities, which are edited by cultured Englishmen and Anglo-Indians, the native journals would be very poor productions, as nearly all the news and much of the other reading matter is translated in order to fill them.

Cannibal Parakeets.

One fine day a batch of tiny parakeets from a neighboring island arrived, and I congratulated myself on having at last acquired some amiable members of my bird community. Such gentle creatures were never seen, says the Cornhill Magazine. With their pale green plumage and little gray-hooded heads which easily explained their name of "capuchin," they made themselves quite happy in one of the many domes or cupolas of the Arab cage. In a few days, however, a mysterious ailment broke out among all the other birds. Nearly every other bird seemed suddenly to prefer going about on one leg. At last it dawned on me that many of the canaries had actually only one leg. An hour's careful watching showed me a parakeet sitting up to a canary, and after feigning to be deeply absorbed in its own toilet, preening each gay wing feather most carefully the little wretch would give a sudden swift nip at the slender leg of its neighbor, and absolutely bite it off then and there. Of course, I immediately turned the capuchins out of the cages with much obloquy, but too late to save several of my poor little pets from a one-legged existence.

Soup Said to be Unhealthy.

One is always learning. Did you ever suspect that nature varies over with wax not distinguishable from that of the bee? She does this to prevent chills, too quick evaporation, and so to keep the blood thin enough to run in and out of capillary arteries. Alkalies and all "cleansing" destroy this natural varnish. I quent warm baths are injurious, but cold salt-water baths brace the skin. They remove no impurity, but give functional activity. The new doctrine is that a healthy skin cleanses itself. The best help to it is underclothes of soft cotton, such as Asiatics wear. This soft raiment absorbs rapidly what the epidermis throws off.

Cost of Calling a Man a Liar.

It costs \$25 to call a man a liar in Nebraska, according to a recent court decision in that state. This has been when such pleasantries in Nebraska cost lives.

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MAKING PEARLS TO ORDER.

Mussel and Oyster Being Domesticated and Taught the Jewelry Business.

Diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires have all been produced in the laboratory and it is now the turn of the pearl. The chemist, however, is not himself the maker of the new artificial pearls; he is only the collaborator. It is true that false pearl are made from mother-of-pearl, but their lustre is not up to the mark. The Chinese have long introduced grains of sand and little knots of wire into the shell of the pearl oyster in order that the animal, to relieve itself from the irritation so caused, may coat the foreign substance with pearl. If this matter be inserted between the shell and the mantle of the oyster can eject it by contractions of his body. To prevent this M. Boutan, a French experimenter, has trepanned the shell and introduced a small bead of nacre, which might, however, be a true pearl of a small size, through the hole, and fixed it by means of cement to the shell. This bead was in course of time covered with nacre by the oyster, and a fine large pearl was the result. Dealers cannot distinguish it from an Oriental pearl. The question of making pearls in this way was recently discussed at a meeting of the Academies des Sciences, Paris, and M. Berthelot, the famous chemist, observed that such a pearl could only be considered a true pearl if it had at least a hundred layers of the pearl nacre; otherwise it would only be a foreign substance covered with nacre. Of course, if the foreign matter is a pearl itself this objection disappears, and we have the means of producing pearls at will. According to M. Lacaze Duthier, some two years would be required for a ballotide to produce a big pearl. The artificial pearl of the trade, fabricated from nacre, could also be coated in the same way. Evidently the pearl mussel and oyster are about to be domesticated for the production of pearls, as the spider for silk. Pearl divers may become a legend of the past.

The First Post Office.

The fact that there is a regular mail route through Alaska, and that even remote towns in Africa are not without postal facilities, is in these progressive times accepted quite as a matter of course. Yet this wonderful system, which has reached out until it includes every country on the face of the earth, had its beginning in the mind of an ingenious Frenchman who lived less than two hundred and fifty years ago.

In 1678, early in the reign of Louis XIV. M. de Velayre established a private penny post, says the writer in Harper's Round Table. Boxes were set up at the street corners for the reception of letters. Offices were opened in various quarters of Paris; collections were made once a day from the street boxes, followed many hours later by a single delivery, and thus the first Post Office in the world was established.

M. de Velayre was so greatly encouraged by the success of his enterprise that, in order to develop it still further, he printed certain forms of billets or notes which were intended to cover all the ordinary requirements of business in great towns. These forms contained blanks which were intended to be filled up by the pen with such special matter as might be necessary to complete the writer's object. The idea at once became popular, and the printed forms accompanied the expansion of the postal service throughout the larger cities of France, and it was many years before they fell into disuse.

Snakes Do Swallow Their Young.

I met with a curious incident some years ago while hunting snakes in the swamps at Melrose. I came across a male and female striped, with numerous young ones. The parents were near each other, the family crawling over and around them. I was going for them, when, on second thought, I concluded to watch them. They did not appear to be frightened, but went on gambling about for some time. I went a little nearer when both snakes turned toward me, making a faint noise, and placed their heads flat on the ground. It was a curious sight to see these snakes, not long born, some of them a foot or two away, turn at the noise, and instantly seek refuge in their parents' wide-open mouths. I am certain it was a note of warning of danger. I caught both snakes and put them in separate bags. The female had ten young and the male had swallowed five. This is the first instance of any notice of a male snake performing this affectionate duty for its young. I placed the whole family in a box, where they lived peacefully a long time. —From Forest and Stream.

The Typewriter's Spread.

There are probably few even among those who use the typewriter who have any proper conception of the variety and universality of the ingenious substitute for the pen. Although only in its very early youth, it has already penetrated into every corner of the earth. It has gone with invading armies and explorers in to the very heart of Africa. Lieutenant Peary has introduced it to polar ice and it has travelled thousands of miles over Siberian snows. It travels with every army and fleet, and it was one of the first things rescued from the sunken Maine.

Two of the most costly typewriters belong to the Queen and the Czar of Russia. They are exquisite machines of white enamel and gold, with keys of ivory. The Queen Regent of Spain uses one for her correspondence, the Khedive possesses one, and, in fact, there is scarcely a court in Europe where the typewriter has not a place.

Vegetable Electric Plant.

A German professor by the name of Leipsic has discovered in India a tree which is a natural electric battery. When the dark green leaves of the tree were touched with the fingers a tiny spark was emitted, and a distinct electric shock was felt. Professor Leipsic found that even at a distance of eighty feet the tree had a strong influence upon the magnetic needle. These magnetic variations varied according to the time of day. They were strongest at noon, but almost entirely disappeared at midnight. The electricity also disappeared in wet weather. No explanation of this strange phenomenon is attempted.

Where Weakness is Strength.

In many employments requiring dexterity and quickness with the hands women are far more valuable than men. For instance, when the folding of large quantities of books or magazines is required one woman can do as much as two men.

MUCH-NAMED FEBRUARY 2.

Otherwise Known Throughout the Country as Ground Hog Day.

February 2 is a much named day. It is Candlemas Day, Purification of the Virgin Mary, Presentation of Christ in the Temple and colloquially in England the Wives' Feast, but the name that is possibly most familiar to us is Groundhog Day. The celebration of Candlemas is observed in the Anglican, Roman, Greek and Lutheran churches, its principal feature being the distribution of candles and a procession of lighted candles and a more than probable that it is from this custom that the name Candlemas Day originated. Some authorities claim that the institution of the feast antedated the manner of celebrating it, claiming that this festival was first observed in 542, during the reign of Justinian, whereas the first procession of lighted candles did not occur until the seventh century. Another authority says Pope Gelasius, in the latter part of the fifth century, had the first procession of lighted candles. The ceremonies of Candlemas Day in England have been very much modified since the time of the Reformation. An order of Council, passed in the second year of the reign of Edward VI., abolished the candle-carrying in that late in our century, the candles were blessed and distributed with much pomp and ceremony, accompanied by a great procession of ecclesiastics.

Unlike the majority of weather prognostications taken, as is a usual custom, from these set days, Candlemas weather signs go by contraries. Fine weather betokens a continuance of winter and cold days, while an inclement day is a sure promise of an early spring and bright sun. One well-known name, particularly among our rural and foreign population of Groundhog Day for the second of February, comes from an old proverb the early Germans brought to America from their Fatherland, that "the badger peeps out of his hole on Candlemas Day, and when he finds snow shining he draws back into his hole." East of the Mississippi the badger is scarce and little known, so the farmers transferred the mantle to the woodchuck, or ground-hog.

Facts Concerning Copra.

Copra, which is one of the chief products of the Philippine islands, is the dried meat of the coconut. The industry, while comparatively young, presents some unique features, and the production of it is the outgrowth of attempts made a few years ago to find some convenient method of exporting the surplus quantity of coconut oil produced in the islands. The earthen jars in which the oil arrived at Manila were too easily broken to be transported with any degree of safety. The only available alternative was a crude form of barrel made in China for the purpose, but these leaked so profusely that they gave very poor results. These difficulties led to a search for a more convenient form in which to export the product. It was for the purpose of supplying this need that M. Eduard Vidal taught the natives how to prepare the coconut in a dry form such as is known on the market as copra, basing his process upon some experiments which he, together with some planters in the province of Misamis had carried on with considerable success in the year 1882.

The method of preparing the copra is a comparatively simple one. When the nut is perfectly ripe it is cut into halves and placed in the sun without further preparation. In a few hours the meat of the nut is contracted by the effect of the heat and becomes detached from the shell. The morsels of nut kernel are then collected and exposed to the sun for several days so that all the water which they contain may be evaporated, care being exercised to guard against moisture and dew, which would soften the material. When the substance becomes brittle, it is considered ready for the market.

In ordinary times it is claimed that a thousand cocoanuts will give, in the province of Visayas, about 600 to 700 pounds of copra, but actual experience hardly bears out these claims, the average being from 420 to 480 pounds per 1,000 cocoanuts. The export industry during its comparatively short history of fourteen years in the Philippines has attained considerable dimensions.

He Needs a Bracer.

"Old man, I'm a goner. Yes, I'll have a drink, but don't you get two for a quarter drink. I should feel that mine cost 13 cents and couldn't do it. No, I'm not superstitious, but I can't brace up against nineteen hoodlums. This is Friday, the 13th of January, and I'm a marked man. I wanted to go over to Brooklyn, and, like an idiot, took a 'Greene avenue line' car."

"Now, there are just thirteen letters in the name of that line. I got on the car and was the thirteenth passenger. There were thirteen advertisements and thirteen straps on each side of that car. The name of the maker of the car had thirteen letters in it. The conductor's uniform had thirteen buttons on it and there were thirteen divisions on the face of the fare register."

"No, I don't want 'a nice cocktail.' Count the letters in that combination of words. Gimme 'a bromo seltzer.'"

But another count settled even that drink, and he took "Milwaukee beer" and nearly died of fright.

Books in the British Museum.

People often ask how many books there are in the British Museum, but nobody seems to know. In fact there are so many that it is impossible to count them. Some years ago it was estimated by measurement that there were 2,000,000 books there. Since that estimate was made the number has considerably increased, so that at the present time the total is probably nearer 3,000,000.

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