

FLOATING FANCIES.

Love in a cottage beats jealousy in a brown stone front.

Old maids are described as "embers from which the sparks have fled."

"Go away, you naughty boy," said the cook to young Gaston, who was trying to kiss her, "your father is jealous."

In a bar room dispute it appears to be necessary for one to make a blackguard of himself to prove that he is a gentleman.

Denis Flynn, an ex-policeman of Buffalo, is anxiously sought for but cannot be found. Denis evidently thinks he is still on the force.

No Hottentot is permitted to marry more than eight sisters out of one family. This is right. Somebody else might want a chance.

A Philadelphia man has perfected a plan for bringing coal out of the cellar without exerting any of his muscle. He makes his wife cart it up.

The defeated candidate is like the old bachelor, who said he once fell in love with a beautiful young lady, but abandoned all idea of marrying her when he found that she and all her folks were opposed to the match.

"A kiss," said young Charles, "is a noun, we allow, but tell me, my dear, is it proper or common?" Lovely Mary blushed deep and exclaimed, "Why, I vow, I think a kiss is both proper and common."

A Philadelphia man has perfected an invention whereby sour kraut can be boiled in the house without any of the inmates smelling it. The invention consists of a small liverlike pad worn under the nose.

A darkey who was stopping to wash his hands in a creek, didn't notice the peculiar actions of a goat just behind; so, when he scrambled out of the water and was asked how it happened he answered: "I dunno 'xactly, but 'pears as if de shore kinder h'isted and frowd me."

A South End woman hunted two hours for a needle she had dropped on the floor, and couldn't find it, and then her husband came in, and had hardly taken his boots off before he could tell where it was. Queer how men can do things that women can't.

One of the prettiest compliments ever reported was paid recently to the owner of a pair of bright eyes who lives on Prairie avenue. She took a child upon her lap, and after gazing intently into her face for a few moments, the little one asked, naively: "Are your eyes new?"

A Danbury man has a Boston lady visiting him. Sunday evening, on coming out of church with her, he extended his arm, and with a delicate deference to the prejudices said: "Will you accept my upper limb?" With a grateful look from her glassy eyes she accepted.

A candidate, who became very affectionate with colored voters during election, told an influential darkey in an outburst of election excitement: "I would rather ten times over take the hand of an honest colored man than that of a white loafer." "Dat's where we differs, judge. I'll take de hand of de white loafer fust ebry time. Shake!" And they shook.

When a young man at a West End boarding house found the girl he adored was flirting with another man he didn't try to make either believe the other false. He hired the waiter to bawl out in the kitchen, loud enough to be heard in the dining room: "Second plate o' pork, an' another helping o' onions, an' some more pertaters, an' a fresh plate o' bread for Miss Blank." And the other fellow of course, heard it and dropped her.

What an invaluable gift it is to be able to say the right thing in the right way at the right time. A man who was instructed to inform a lady that her husband had been killed by a railroad accident, and was cautioned to break the news gently, is credited with writing the following letter: "Dear Madam:—I write to say that your husband is unavoidably detained. An undertaker will call on you to-morrow with full particulars. The funeral sermon has been arranged for."

He stood twirling his hat in his hand in the hallway. It was about time for the morning-stars to begin their songs together. "Well," and he moved one step nearer the door. "Well," she replied, as she stepped to the door also. "Well, I—I must be going. If—" "That's right, John, if," and she leaned her head on his shoulder. "If—you—have—any—conundrums—to—ask—ask them—now." He was measured for a new hat and a pair of kid gloves on that same day.

An Incident in Bartley Campbell's Life.

The Washington Republic tells the following domestic story about Bartley Campbell, in which Bartley's wife, an excellent lady, and thorough disciplinarian, figures as defendant. Her dramatic lord and master had been out to a late supper and missed his cue. Next morning, instead of the usual remonstrances, his wife uttered not a word. Now, Bartley is one of the best humored fellows in the world, and had no idea of breaking in on the programme of silence, so they got through the entire morning without speaking. Late suppers encourage a tendency to headache and that particular morning found Campbell with a head two sizes too large for his hat. Believing that a "John Collins" would work the necessary reduction, he went to the bath room, where he applied the string of a soda water bottle to the gas burner. The cork went off with a bang that

reverberated in the halls like the report of a pistol. In rushed the excited wife, who was laboring under the impression that he had shot himself. Throwing her arms excitedly about his neck she exclaimed in genuine tragedy: "Oh! Bartley! Bartley! Forgive me! I never meant it!" "When she beheld that innocent bottle of soda water," says Bartley, "she was the maddest woman you ever saw!"

MEN OF STRONG MUSCLES.

Some of Their Famous Feats of Strength.

Among the Greeks the successful athlete was crowned with laurels and loaded down with wealth and honors. When Egenetus, in the ninety-second Olympiad, triumphant in games, entered Agrigentum, his native home, he was attended by an escort of three hundred chariots, each drawn by two white horses, and followed by the population, cheering and waving banners. Milo six times won the palm at both the Olympic and Pythian games. He is said to have run a mile with a four-year-old ox upon his shoulders, and afterward killed the animal with one blow of his fist, and ate the entire carcass in one day! So great was his muscular power that he would bind a cord around his head and break it by the swelling pressure of his veins. An ordinary meal for Milo was twenty pounds of meat, as much bread, and fifteen pints of wine.

Polydamus, of Thessalia, was of colossal height and prodigious strength, and, it is said, alone and without weapons, killed an enormous and enraged lion. One day, it is recorded, he seized a bull by its hind feet, and the animal escaped only by leaving the hoof in the grasp of the athlete.

The Rom n emperor Maximus was upward of eight feet in height, and, like Milo of Crotona could squeeze to powder with his fingers and break the leg of a horse by a kick. His wife's bracelet served him as a ring, and his every day repast was sixty pounds of meat and an amphora of wine.

While a prisoner in Germany, Richard I. accepted an invitation to a boxing match with the son of his jailor. He received the first blow, which made him stagger, but, recovering with a blow of his fist he killed his antagonist on the spot. Tophan, also an Englishman, born in 1710, was possessed of astonishing strength. His arm-pits, hollow in the case of ordinary men, were with him full of muscles and tendons. He would take a bar of iron, with its two ends held in his hands, place the middle of the bar behind his neck, and bend the extremities by main force until they met together, and bend back the iron straight again. One night seeing the watchman asleep in his box, he carried the man and his shell to a great distance, and put them on the wall of a church yard. Owing to domestic troubles, he committed suicide in the prime of life.

The famous Sanderberg, king of Albania, who was born 1414, was a man of great stature, and his feats of sword exercises have never been equalled. On one occasion with his cimeter, he struck his antagonist such a blow that its force cleaved him to the waist.

He is said to have cloven in two men who were clad in armor from head to foot. On one occasion the brother and nephew of a certain Ballaban, who had been convicted of cruelties toward the Albanians, were brought to him bound together. Transported with rage, he cut them in two with one stroke of his weapon.

Maurice, count of Saxony, the hero of Fontenoy, inherited the physical vigor of his father, and was especially noted for the surprising muscular power or "grip" of his hands. On one occasion, needing a corkscrew, he twisted a large iron nail round into the required shape with his fingers and opened half a dozen bottles of wine with it. Another time, when stopping at a blacksmith shop to have his horse shod, he picked up a number of horseshoes, and with his hands snapped them in two as readily as if made of glass, much to the disgust of the smith.

If history is to be believed, Phayllus, of Crotona, could jump a distance of fifty-six feet. The exercise was practiced at the Olympic games, and formed part of the course of the Pentathlon. Strutt, an English authority on games and amusements, speaks of a Yorkshire jumper named Ireland, whose powers were marvelous. He was six feet high, and at the age of eighteen leaped, without the aid of a spring-board, over nine horses ranged side by side. He cleared a cord extending fourteen feet from the ground with one bound, crushed with his foot a bladder suspended at a height of sixteen feet, and on another occasion lightly cleared a large wagon covered with an awning.

Colonel Ironsides, who lived in India early in this century, relates that he met in his travels an old white-haired man, who, with one leap, sprang over the back of an enormous elephant flanked by six camels of the largest breed. A curious French work, published in Paris in 1745, entitled "The Tracts Toward the History of Wonders Performed at Fairs," mentioned an Englishman who, at the fair of St. Germain, in 1854, leaped over forty people without touching one of them. In our own day we are familiar with many remarkable exhibitions of strength and endurance. Dr. Winship, with the aid of straps, lifted a weight of 3,500 pounds, and with the little finger of his right hand could raise his body a considerable distance from the ground.

Sealskin saques are worn short. A man is also short after he buys one.

MRS. GARFIELD.

The Next Mistress of the White House.

She is an accomplished hostess, as well as an accomplished woman—they're two very different things. Living as the Garfields have had to live, in the most economical way, doing without elegant clothes, fine furniture, sumptuous food, good, new, and rare old books, dearer than all else to them, they have contributed more to make Washington winter life pleasant and profitable than many other families who have supplemented less taste and culture with more money. Mrs. Garfield's receptions have been the largest ever held by the wife of a mere representative. They have far surpassed those of more ambitious senators' wives, and have approximated those of the ladies of the supreme court and cabinet families, in size merely. In attractions they have stood abreast of any of them. This is simply because Mrs. Garfield is a sweet-tempered, cultured, refined woman, in whose smile it is a pleasure to bask. When we consider that, without allowing her manifold cares to interfere with the performance of her social duties, she has managed her establishment alone, and personally conducted the training of her boys for college, we can conceive her superiority, with all her social success, to the mere "society leader." Gen. Garfield is the president of our Literary society, and during the past year it has met at his house. It was more pleasantly entertained there than it had ever been before. Mrs. Garfield exerted even her latent social powers that night, and it was difficult for her guests to break away from her delightful parlors. The latter, *entre nous* were and are furnished in the style of Noah. That makes no difference, of course, although the contrast between them and those which some of the guests had left at home was marked. There was something really pathetic to me in the information telegraphed from Cleveland that Gen. and Mrs. Garfield were purchasing furniture and a sealskin saque. However, they can afford to gratify their taste for four years now, and forget the pinched past. What we here rejoice in is, that when Mrs. Hayes steps out and Mrs. Garfield steps into the white house on the 4th of March next, there will be no abrupt change in the presidential, or rather the Mrs. Presidential, social customs and decrees. Whether the diplomatic corps has its delicate palate tickled with lemonade and water at state dinners or not, we may be sure that whiskey and the white house, divorced four years ago, will not be united in unholy bonds during Mr. Garfield's administration. It is needless to say that Mrs. Hays will be missed. She will be missed by many of whom the world knows nothing, wants to know nothing—the naked, hungry, sick and in prison, unto whose wants she had ministered "all so silently;" but regret will not be so poignant as it would be were she to be succeeded by an inferior woman.

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