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The Joke on Carnegie

Andrew Carnegie, at a recent dinner, told the following story:

"I was traveling Londonward on an English railway last year," he said, "and had chosen a seat in a non-smoking carriage. At a wayside station a man boarded the train and came in to my compartment, and lighted a villainous pipe.

"'This is not a smoking carriage,' said I.

"'All right, governor,' said the man. 'I'll just finish the pipe now.'

"He finished it, then settled it.

"'Now mate,' I said, 'I told you this wasn't a smoking carriage. If you persist with that pipe I shall report you at the next station to the guard.'

"I handed him my card. He looked at it, frowned it, but lighted his pipe nevertheless. At the next station, however, he changed to another non-smoking compartment.

"Calling the guard, I told him what had occurred and demanded that the smoker's name and address be taken.

"'Yes, sir,' said the guard, and hurried away. In a little while he returned. He seemed rather awed. He bent over me and said apologetically:

"'Do you know, sir, if I were you I would not prosecute that goat. He has just given me his card. Here it is. He is Andrew Carnegie!'"

Pinchot's Fish Story.

When Gifford Pinchot returned to Washington from the west he was visited by a score or more of anxious correspondents. They all expected some expression from the chief forester on the Pinchot-Ballinger row. Nothing of the sort was forthcoming, however. Finally one of the correspondents noticed that Mr Pinchot had a finger bandaged.

"What happened to your finger?" he asked.

"Oh, that big fish bit it," replied Pinchot.

"You mean," replied the facetious one, "that Ballinger bit it when you offered to shake hands with him at Salt Lake."

But Pinchot stuck to his fish story.

Two Smokers.

"I had a big surprise today," said a bellboy in a Denver hotel yesterday afternoon. "This mornin' I was called to a woman's room to bring her some writin' paper. When I handed it to her she slipped me a dime.

"'It's for cigarettes,' she says.

"'Much obliged,' I says droppin' the coin in my pocket. 'I'll spend it for cigars. I don't smoke cigarettes.'

"'Well, I don't care what you smoke,' she says. 'These cigarettes are for me.'

"Ah! I got 'em for her, too."—Denver Post.

Sweet Day of Rest.

"And now," said Mr Fishback of Billville, "let us be thankful for one day of rest and get ready for church."

"Yes," said his wife, "you go and chop some wood, and milk the cows, and light the fire, and make the coffee, and wash the children, while I hang out my hair!"—Atlanta Constitution.

A Proposal.

A Dem-mition youth who was studying the approved methods of proposal asked one of his bachelor friends if he thought that a young man should propose to a girl on his knees.

"If he doesn't," replied his friend, "the girl should get off."—Everybody's Magazine.

Something Coming Sure.

Mistress—You know, Mollinda, we're all very fond of you. I hope you like your room and are content with your wages. I'm thinking of giving you my silk petticoat.

Cook—Yes, Ye Lawd, Mis' Howard! How much fellows has you been asked an' asked fo' dinner?—Puck.

Found.

Mr. Poop—Jonnie! The case in my life I know where my cuff links are.

Mrs. Poop—Oh, a case like that, eh?

Mr. Poop—The baby's swallowed 'em.—Cleveland Leader.

Place for Her.

Mrs. Nagging—May I stay at the Thousand Islands this summer, dear?

Nagging—Yes, stay a week on each of 'em.—Chicago News.

The Immortal Bard.

One of the million men Shakespeare could never have written the words of a popular song. We are inclined to believe he might have done even that. In one of his sonnets he makes "Cast-off" rhyme with "sweets."

Very Considerate.

Lady (to mermaid)—Don't let the children sit on the wet grass, nurse, they might catch cold. If they are tired, sit on the grass yourself and take them on your knee.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

VOYAGE of L'ABBÉ CHAPPE to CALIFORNIA to OBSERVE the TRANSIT of VENUS IN 1769

BY PAULY

[Editor's Note: This account of a seventeenth century scientific expedition was published in the Aztlan (Salt Lake City, Utah) in 1886, as an item of local interest, there being at that place at that time many descendants of Paulx, the engineer—the Pulys, Parkins, Foulers, and other families being represented in the set. The original manuscript in French was in the possession of John Pauly of Kansas, who was at the time of the publication visiting his Illinois kinsmen.

This account is particularly interesting at this time, as it describes the conditions prevailing on the coast of California, in 1769, an event fittingly celebrated by the Golden Gate City.

The malady described by Pauly, which decimated the ranks of the French expedition, occurred at the same time as several other writers mention a very severe prevalence of scurvy in California, and was probably the same.]

THE observation of the transit of Venus on the 24 of June, 1769, was an object of interest to all the learned. The Royal Academy of Sciences proposed to the king, Louis XV., to make the necessary outlay to send to California for this purpose. The late M L'Abbe Chappe undertook this voyage with a courage worthy of his zeal for the progress of science. I was selected to accompany him and we set sail for Mexico in the month of September, 1768.

After a perilous voyage of about 3,000 leagues, we arrived in Mexico on Easter day, 1769. Time was passing; we stopped but eight days to refresh ourselves. The viceroy procured us mules and provisions, and we undertook to perform by land a part of the remainder of our travels, which was about 300 leagues. Amid lofty mountains, dreadful precipices and arid deserts, we encountered new dangers every day. We failed from fear a thousand times. We were also oppressed by the excessive heat, which left us hardly strength enough to drag ourselves. A thousand insects of every species gave us no rest by day or night, and we had constantly to be on our guard against the very ferocious beasts with which the country is covered. Moreover, we lacked the necessaries of life, for the provisions that we got in Mexico had been spoiled by the heat. We were obliged to live on wild cattle and whatever fruits we could find here and there. We made our halts near some river or spring, that we might slake the burning thirst with which we were constantly consumed; to find one it was often necessary to march a whole day's journey.

Arrived in the evening in some valley, or on the side of some hill, we might endeavor to take upon the ground not a la belle etoile, the repose which our cruel fatigue rendered so necessary. When scarcely asleep we were often aroused by storms and then on the impetuous torrents that came down upon us from the heights of the mountains. Many a dark night we had to save our selves and our equipage, fearful at every step of tumbling down some of the precipices.

After running a thousand risks we arrived at last at the port of San Jose, on the Pacific ocean, where we embarked for California on a brigantine which the viceroy of Mexico had had prepared. The Pacific ocean, although very tranquil in not the less dangerous on account of the violent winds which it is filled.

The great calm which prevailed at that time caused us to despair of arriving in time to accomplish the object of our voyage. After six weeks' sailing, during which we made but 120 leagues, on the greatest breadth of the sea, the shortness of the time caused us to risk a hazardous expedit.

The port of California near which we land our selves was the port of San Jose—so dangerous that no one had ever landed there. The waves in it is guarded by the incessant waves that break impetuously against the rocks.

The Spanish astronomers who were of our company wished to wait for a favorable wind to land at Cape St Lucas, which was distant but ten leagues. The landing there is indeed less dangerous, but we did not follow their advice because we were pressed to arrive at the place of our destination; we resolved to attempt to disembark at the first land we should discover.

While these gentlemen were yet deliberating, four indian sailors and myself let down the long boat we took with us half of the instruments. I agreed with the Abbe Chappe that if we perished he might find other means to land elsewhere with the rest, which would be sufficient for making his observations. I embarked then in the long boat with my four sailors, steering directly for the coast; the nearer we approached it the more we were sensible of the difficulty of landing.

We were constantly thrown back by the accumulated waves, and our boat threatened all the while to ship water. When on the point of losing courage, one of the sailors discovered, at a distance, the mouth of an unknown river. This discovery animated us; we reached the coast by this mouth but with great difficulty. I sent back the long boat for the Abbe Chappe and the Spanish astronomers, who arrived safely enough.

Arrived on the peninsula the twenty-first of May, 1769, 13 days before the epoch of the transit of Venus. We found a vaste a pouvoir nous mettre a labri; the inclemency of the weather.

The savages that resolved to us said that a contagion was prevailing in the country which ravaged it completely. The interpreter who translated this added that the said that in order to withdraw ourselves from the influence of this terrible malady, it was necessary to remove some hundred or more leagues farther to the north.

The means of undertaking this new journey, broken down with fatigue as we were; we had neither horses nor carriages to transport our baggage; it was impossible to march on foot, and we shrank from a journey through a desert. All these reasons decided us to occupy ourselves with no business but that which had brought us.

We labored to construct an observatory, which was ready the twenty-eighth day of May, six days before the epoch when we would have need of it.

We made our observations on the third of June, with the greatest exactitude.

The contagion made no progress every day; a general corpse reigned in all this part of California; we were so long without participating in it in a distressing manner. This dreadful malady came upon us six or seven days after the observation. We were wholly without succor, we could not be cured to me month, because we were attacked almost all at once.

The little medicine that we had brought from France was useless, from want of knowing how to apply it.

Nevertheless, the abbe, at sick as he was, continued his observations all the time. After observing an eclipse of the moon, he at last yielded to his fatigues, the delirium of his disease left him but little time, he exhausted himself; he died the first of August, 1769. We were all dying (I and the companions of our voyage), when I had the power to close his eyelids.

Our situation and our want of strength induced us in this case to bury him without much ceremony. I devoted some moments to regret for the loss I had suffered, and in the height of a disease from which I did not expect to recover, I took the precaution to collect all the papers relating to the object of the voyage. I placed them in a casket with an address to the viceroy of Mexico. I earnestly begged some Indian chiefs who were about me to make this casket safe in case we should all die, and to transmit it to the vessel which ought to arrive in the month of September to take us. My intention in this was to secure to my country this valuable depot. I remained in my condition of sickness, pain and wretchedness until the twenty-ninth of September.

At last the captain of the vessel arrived; he had landed at the island of Ceralvo, which is situated some 30 leagues from San Jose. My joy was so much the greater in seeing him that he pressed me to quit the fearful place where M. L'Abbe Chappe and all the rest had died. We were carried to Ceralvo. I forgot to say that this cruel contagion had taken from us the chaplain and nearly all the persons that formed our little company.

Although sick and oppressed with grief, I was compelled to undertake the perilous route which I had followed in coming, sometimes upon mules, sometimes upon the backs of the Indians, when it was necessary to cross the streams. With all this trouble, I reached Mexico the twenty-third day of November, 1769.

There I was received by monsieur the marquis de Croix, the viceroy of that country, with a compassion worthy of that good patriot. He had had the kindness to send to meet me a carriage and his physician. Arrived at the capital of Mexico, and having paid my respects to the viceroy I was lodged by his orders at the expense of the city.

When I left Mexico the marquis de Croix recommended me cordially to the commander of the Spanish fleet, in which I embarked. We landed at Cadiz the twenty-first of July, 1770. The court was at the Escurial. I had myself taken thither, and presented myself to the marquis d'Ossun, then French ambassador in Spain. He received me with marks of kindness and consideration, and gave orders to show me whatever they have to show strangers in this royal house.

He caused me to dispatch in advance of the party, the strictest orders through the minister of customs, that at no pass on my route must be searched either myself or the chests in which were the observations which I bore.

I did not arrive in Paris till the fifth of the following December. I sent to the Academy the observations that we made in California. This society expressed the greatest satisfaction with my zeal and my services. They presented me to the king, and to all his ministers. They solicited for me a recommendation of my labors. His majesty Louis XV. granted me a small pension of 500f. "The government is too equitable to leave me to want in the flower of my age, afflicted with the evils which I have incurred for the service, and indispensably obliged to have a servant to lead me. I hope, then, from his justice and from his goodness, that he will grant me an increase of the pension sufficient to enable me to accomplish with decency the rest of my public career.

Tempora Mutantur.

A certain young man, wishing to be very thrifty, quit eating meat. "Franklin abstained from meat," quoth he, "and so will I."

But he didn't stop to consider how prices have gone up since Franklin's day, and especially within the last few years. The result was that when he hadn't eaten meat for about six months he was so much money to the good that he lost his head and became one of the gilded youth.

The outworn ideals of yesterday should be taken up very guardedly, if at all.—Puck.

Experienced.

Non-Com (in pantry)—I don't suppose you ever smelt powder, have you?

Recruit—Oh, yes. I was in a drug store before I enlisted.

The nearest approach some fellows make to getting a job is to go around with a snow shovel in summer and a lawn mower in winter.

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