



Taking It For Granted.
The night was warm and the porch was wide
And the soft wind wafted the music's tune,
As a youth and a maiden sat side by side
'Neath the witching light of the summer moon.

Said the youth: "There's a maiden I dearly love;
She's as fair as the daybreak and pure as gold,
With a voice as soft as a cooling dove
And a mouth like a bud with one leaf unrolled."

"The gleam of her eyes makes the starlight pale,
And she's witty and clever, well read and bred."
The maid's cheeks flushed at this glowing tale
And—"I love you, too," she said.
—Love, Laurels and Laughter.

Mary Stuart's Watch.
Many fanciful shapes have from time to time been given to the external cases of watches, but it is difficult to account for the peculiar taste which prevailed some centuries ago for timepieces in the shape of skulls and coffins.



These watches were called memento mori. One, which we give the drawing of, was presented by Mary, Queen of Scots, as a token of her affection to, pretty Mary Seaton, her faithful maid-of-honor. The watch is in the form of a skull, the dial occupying the place of the palate, the works that of the brain. The hours were marked in Roman letters, and a small silver bell did the striking.

Coffer Fish.
This strange looking fish is well protected against attack. The body is covered with defensive armor, consisting of six-sided plates, set together so as to form a kind of mosaic. They are only found in the seas between or near the tropics. The horny box in which the fish is enclosed gives it its proper name—the coffer-trunk fish. Scarcely any of the big rapacious inhabitants of the deep could crush it, though possibly a shark might swallow it. Even in that case the coffer would not improbably eat its way out of the sides of the shark.

Odd Autograph.
W. H. Hill writes his name so it reads the same right side up or upside down.

Cloud of Locusts.
A Dutch traveler, Kurt Dinter, who has just returned from southern Africa, says that one day, while in camp in Hottentot land, he heard a rushing sound as if rain were falling in torrents. Not far away it seemed to him as if a cloud had actually begun to fall upon the earth. The cloud turned out to be locusts. The planters and cattle raisers soon appeared with their men and gathered them in bags. They smoked the insects to kill them, and then dried them in the sun, after which they were fed to the dogs, chickens, pigs, goats and cattle. The traveler found that oxen and horses are especially fond of locusts, and get fat and strong during the locust season, as do the natives, who also gorge themselves.



This is the hood Princess Henry of Pleiss wears when automobiling.

Bears Eat Workmen's Dinners.
A hungry Catskill mountain bear and two half-grown cubs ate up the dinners of a score of Philadelphia mechanics who arrived the other morning at the hotel on South Mountain to make repairs. The bears escaped.

The English Language.
So far from there being any real danger of the defilement of the language by the profusion of Britishisms and Americanisms, of Canadianisms and Australianisms, of New Zealandisms—if such exist, as no doubt they do—English is really the most fortunate of all modern tongues in that it has so many sources of refreshment, so varied, so remote from each other.

New Method of Lighting Fires.
A new method of lighting the fire from the top so that it may burn downwards is said to economize the fuel. This is arranged by laying the coal at the bottom—always leaving spaces for air. Mix with a few good cinders, then put the wood at the top with another layer of coal, and some paper over it. Light the fire in the usual way, and it will soon burn down to a very good fire.

Respect for Spinners.
We in England have for some time past recognized the social and, shall it not be said, economic value of the spinner. She has long since ceased to be disparaged, and, indeed, we see every year how our girls cling to freedom and voluntarily constitute themselves what but a generation ago would have been described as hopeless old maids.—Lady's Pictorial.

Deaths from Plague in India.
Throughout India there were over a hundred thousand deaths from plague during the past month. The Punjab, Bombay, and the united provinces were the worst affected. The disease is everywhere confined to the natives. Preventive measures have failed, but it is hoped that the approaching fierce heat will, as usual, reduce the mortality.

Lots of Old Uniforms.
One of the big problems now before the quartermaster's department at Washington is the best and most economical method to supply the army with the new regulation uniform of green cloth and at the same time prevent the loss of the \$2,000,000 worth of supplies of the old-style uniform now on hand.

The First Use of Needles.
The first needle used in England was made in Queen Mary's reign by a negro, who unfortunately died before imparting the secret to anyone, says Home Notes. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the art of needle-making was rediscovered by a German, who imparted it to an Englishman.

Floating Islands in Massachusetts.
An island 125 feet by 30, in Lake Garfield, in the Southern Berkshire town of Monterey, floated three-quarters of a mile last week to the other side of the pond. Lake Quota in Pittsfield also has a floating island. Real estate in that section seems to be need nailing down.—Boston Transcript.

Natural Conclusions.
"Ef dey's milk in Paradise dey mus' have cows dar," said Brother Williams, "en ef dey got honey dar dey sho mus' have bees, en whar bees is dey's blossoms, an whar blossoms is dey's always watermillions in season—bless de Lawd!"—Atlanta Constitution.

Make a Costly Bonfire.
The Bank of Austria-Hungary has just burned a vast accumulation of bank notes withdrawn from circulation, amounting in all to the face value of nearly \$70,000,000. This is said to be the largest amount ever represented on such an occasion.

Evil Dismounted.
A woman in Richmond, Va., horse-whipped a masher while her former husband held a pistol on him. A family reconciliation may soon be looked for. Thus do the plots of the evil redound to the glory of the righteous.—Buffalo Express.

Document Not Authentic.
A Baltimore man claims to have the original death warrant of Charles I. of England. It is written on thin parchment, but has the misfortune to be dated Jan. 24, 1648, while Charles I. was not beheaded until Jan. 30, 1649.

Ours Is Too Rough.
Football, not the American college game, but the English game, is to be taught to the French soldiers. The sport has proved popular in the regiments in which it has been introduced.

Woman Dean of Women.
Miss Theodosia Ammons, who represented Colorado at the national suffrage convention at New Orleans, is dean of women in the Colorado Agricultural College.

To Advance Cause of Science.
The Swedish government has appropriated \$20,000 for the publication of the scientific results of Dr. Sven Hedin's journey through central Asia.

Onslaught Upon Society.
Not content with selling worthless shares, ill-conducted horses, impure wines and unsmokable cigars the "ladies" and "gentlemen" of the day apparently sell each other to middle-class aspirants for social distinction and to tradesmen. They complain that their servants receive commissions, and accept commissions themselves. Our selling society is a combination of touts for all the trades.—London Truth.

Kentucky's Aquatic Hen.
Mrs. Annie Lawrence of near Winchester had a chicken hen to go to the creek and wade in the water and spread her wings out on top of the water and laid five eggs. The first time Mrs. Lawrence saw her she thought a turtle or something had hold of her. When she went to lay her sixth egg Mrs. Lawrence had company to come, and she killed her for dinner.—Winchester Democrat.

Barnum's Practical Joke.
P. T. Barnum was a great practical joker. On one occasion he notified the dealer from whom he bought a large amount of supplies that half the pepper he sent him was peas. The dealer indignantly denied the charge and quite a warm correspondence followed, it being finally ended by Barnum, who inquired whether half the letters to the word "pepper" were not p's.

Case of Jar.
In China a jar placed on the roof of a house with the bottom end toward the street indicates that the daughter of the house is not yet of age to marry. As soon as she has developed into a marriageable maiden the jar is turned with its mouth toward the street. When the young lady get married the jar is removed altogether. Wouldn't that jar you?

Growing Pacific Coast Trade.
There are few more striking facts than the growing importance of Puget sound customs districts. In the year that has just closed all the customs districts of the United States showed a decline of exports and grain products except the Pacific coast ports, the shipments from Puget sound ports increasing 45 per cent.

Balfour on Municipal Ownership.
In speaking recently on the subject of municipal ownership, Prime Minister Balfour said: "Although I am not opposed to municipal enterprise, I confess I sometimes ask myself whether it is possible to view with absolute serenity the extension of the municipality as an employer in its own constituency."

Record for Woman Hunter.
Mrs. Donnett, wife of an English army officer, a slender young American woman, has the distinction of shooting the largest tiger ever killed in India. It measured 10 feet 8 inches in length. She has killed two tigers, four panthers, four bears, eight boars and several other wild beasts.

Range of Human Sight.
Standing on the highest mountain, which is slightly over five miles above sea level, a man can see to a distance of 200 miles on a clear day. To see objects a distance of 100 miles, the observer must be standing at a height of 6,667 feet above the level of the sea.

Downfall of the Omnibus.
An excellent motor omnibus has just made its appearance in London, and from the moment that its speed, reliability and comfort are proved that utter abomination of locomotion, the bus, the despair of all students of traffic problems, is doomed.

Uncle Sam as a "Good Fairy."
Uncle Sam has purchased 250,000 pounds of Richmond tobacco for his "blue jackets." This recalls the old story about Jack Tar's three wishes—all the 'baccy in the world, all the rum in the world and for the third, "a little more 'baccy."

Professor Popular With Students.
Prof. George E. Woodberry of the department of comparative literature of Columbia University has been elected for the fifth consecutive year the most popular professor at that institution by the vote of the senior class.

Honor for Retiring Officer.
When Gen. Ludington retired from the quartermaster's department of the United States army he received from the officers who served under him a gold and silver loving cup.

New Cattle Food Popular.
Machinery has been ordered for the Argentine Republic to turn out 250 tons a week of "molasscut," the new cattle food made from molasses and sugarcane fiber.

Death of Former Diplomat.
James O. Putnam, who was made minister to Belgium in 1880, on the recommendation of William M. Evarts is dead at Buffalo, N. Y., aged 84.

Quick-Growing Plants.
Cress is the quickest growing of plants. Under perfect conditions it will flower and seed within eight days of planting.

Hundreds of dealers say the extra quantity and superior quality of Defiance Starch is fast taking place of all other brands. Others say they cannot sell any other starch.

"I see a Jersey man is complaining because his wife thought more of the dog than she did of him." "Well, perhaps the dog growed less."

Look for this Trade Mark: "The Klean, Kool Kitchen Kind." The stoves without smoke, ashes or heat. Make comfortable cooking.

It's bad enough for a man to have an impediment in his speech, but worse to have one in his wits.

A smile of satisfaction goes with one of Baxter's "Bullhead" 5-cent cigars.

Scientists now assert that people sleep one piece at a time. In other words, when they think they are sleeping in peace they are sleeping in pieces.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

The Chicago millionaire who offers \$1,000,000 for an ideal servant girl is quite as likely to get one as the servant would be who offered \$1,000,000 for an ideal millionaire.

Piao's Cure is the best medicine we ever used for all affections of the throat and lungs.—Wm. O. ENDALBY, Vanburton, Ind., Feb. 10, 1906.

He—Are you superstitious? She—Not a bit. He—Well, then, I can make a clean breast of it. You are my thirteenth bride.

Hall's Catarrh Cure
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Many a man rushes frantically to his uncle after saying farewell to his ante.

All creameries use butter color. Why not do as they do—use JUNE TINT BUTTER COLOR.

One swallow doesn't make a spring, but one grasshopper can.

Storekeepers report that the extra quantity, together with the superior quality of Defiance Starch makes it next to impossible to sell any other brand.

A lawn dress is very appropriate for a grass widow.

Smoke Baxter's "Bullhead" 5-cent cigar.

"Did Miss Pert invite you to tea?" "More than that; she invited me to tease."

Heredity of Crime.
A professor at Bonn University, Germany, in tracing the posterity of habitual drunkards, has found 834 descendants from a woman who for forty years was a "thief, a drunkard and a tramp," and whose miserable life came to an end in the last year of the eighteenth century. The professor has traced the lives of 709 of this woman's descendants from youth to old age, and of these 142 were beggars and sixty-four more lived on charity. Among the women 181 lived respectable lives and there were in the family seventy-six convicts, including seven murderers. The professor estimated that in seventy-five years this family has cost the German authorities in almshouses, law courts, prisons and other institutions about \$1,250,000.

Improving the Breed of Cats.
The very latest wrinkle in the cat world is the breeding of short-haired cats, just the common or garden variety of cats. It is marvelous what a few short generations of care and breeding will do for poor pussy, who takes her outing on the alley wall or moans about the door of some deserted house. After scant joys and many hardships she is at last to see high life. She is to be bred for the same points as the Persian.

This Will Interest Mothers.
Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children, used by Mother Gray, a nurse in Children's Home, New York, Cure Feverishness, Bad Stomach, Teething Disorders, move and regulate the bowels and destroy Worms. Sold by all Druggists, 25c. Sample FREE. Address A. S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

A gold brick is not usually a gilded investment.

"It beats all" how good a cigar you can buy for 5 cents if you buy the right brand. Try a "Bullhead."

A butter maker uses a Mexican dog as his trade mark, to indicate that his butter is hairless.

Dealers say that as soon as a customer tries Defiance Starch it is impossible to sell them any other cold water starch. It can be used cold or boiled.

Wigg—He's rather dense, isn't he? Wags—Yes; he wouldn't recognize the point of a joke if he sat down on it.

If you have smoked a Bullhead 5-cent cigar you know how good they are; if you have not, better try one.

The market report says that live spring chickens are active. This is lucky, for the grasshopper season is at hand.

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