

THE WORD MELODRAMA.

It Has Drifted From Its Derivation and Original Significance.

Nowadays "melodrama" is in general use as denoting a purely sensational play, with an all but impossible hero, heroine and villain among the characters represented.

It signified a play, generally of the romantic school, in which the dialogue was frequently relieved by music, sometimes of an incidental and sometimes of a purely dramatic character.

In the second place "melodrama" was applied to a peculiar kind of theatrical composition in which the actor recited his part in an ordinary speaking voice, while the orchestra played a more or less elaborate accompaniment appropriate to the situation and calculated to bring its salient features into the highest possible relief.

The Ordeal of a Doctor.

It is often claimed by outsiders that having a profession dulls a woman's sympathies, but I cannot believe that this is true in the practice of medicine, where one side of the work is so immeasurably sad.

Storms of Old England.

In the year 944 in London alone 1,500 houses were blown down; in October, 1091, a great number of churches and 500 houses were destroyed; in 1235 it thundered for fifteen days consecutively.

Blind Swimmer's Straight Steering.

It is a standing puzzle that all blind swimmers are able to hold an almost perfectly straight course for very considerable distances, though no more guidance is given to them than some species of call or whistle coming from the winning goal.

Moths and Butterflies.

Butterflies are active in the day and fold their wings together when they settle. Their antennae end in clubs. The fore and hind wings never hook together.

Moths, on the other hand, are usually active in the dusk or at night and do not fold their wings together on settling. The feelers are very various in shape, but rarely clubbed.

A Serious Game.

"Papa," said little Tommy Taddells, "what is the game of authors?"

His Will Power.

"Henpeck has given up smoking, eh? I didn't think he had so much will power."

The highest liberty is harmony with the highest laws.—Giles.

DANGER IN SODA SIPHONS.

They May Explode and Cause Injury to Those Who May Be Near.

Do you know that the siphon bottle ordinarily used for vichy, soda water and other effervescent drinks is usually charged with a pressure of from 120 to 160 pounds to the square inch?

There are two or three things to remember in handling siphons: Never keep your siphons near the range, for the unusual heat is more likely than anything else to cause an explosion.

That these bottles are considered a great source of danger is evidenced by the fact that the courts inevitably hold the bottlers strictly liable for all damages resulting from the explosion of one of them if even the slightest defect in the manufacture of the bottle can be shown.

This Horse Knew.

A doctor was returning home from visiting a patient late one night in company with a clergyman, when the horse stopped short at one of the most dangerous grade crossings within the city's limits.

It was a close call for the occupants of the carriage, who sat breathless through the moments of terrible suspense, but the horse maintained its attitude of a half circle until the danger had passed.

When the Poor Ride in Coaches.

In the east side tenement house region coaches are associated with only two things—weddings and funerals. The coach is an indispensable feature of the wedding, and only the very poorest are buried without the attendance of a mourning coach.

The whole block knows when a wedding is to take place, and everybody is on the watch when the coach and pair come dashing around the corner to receive the bride. The vehicle draws up before the narrow entrance to a tenement and presently is entered by the bride, half hidden in her white veil and all nodding with orange wreaths.

Canine Intelligence.

A striking instance of canine intelligence is reported from Paris. A male schoolteacher named Dillaz was waylaid one evening near Charenton bridge by two roughts, who set upon him and, after rifling his pockets, flung him into the Seine.

Rank Heresy.

He—So the engagement is broken off? She—Yes. He told her he thought she should stop reading novels and read something more substantial—something that would improve her.

Her Lost Opportunity.

Mrs. Noolywed—And if I had really thrown you down then would you have given me up?

Noolywed—I should say not. I would have kept right on trying to win you even if you had thrown me over half a dozen times.

Mrs. Noolywed—My, what a lot of fun I missed!—Baltimore American.

VERY LENGTHY SHAVES.

Razor Travels Many Miles Over the Average Man's Face.

The distance a man shaves in an average lifetime, or the distance his razor travels over his face, will be a surprise to most people. From a multitude of examples an average measurement around the chin from ear to ear is found to be twelve and one-half inches.

So, multiplying the number of strokes by the number of times the razor is passed over the entire face, you get the figure 4, and four times the two above mentioned measurements gives you the figures 50 and 18 respectively, which, added together, produce 68. Therefore the average man, whether dark or fair, shaves 64 inches every twenty-four hours.

The Foot Astray.

William F. Cody was once relating a story which concerned an Indian who had met with an accident in a Buffalo Bill show. It was necessary to amputate the Indian's leg, and in the description of this operation Cody was interrupted frequently by a young doctor who injected technical and medical terms into the straight vernacular of the scout.

"I jumped upon the doctor with both feet," explained Cody, "in order to distinguish him from the other hospital physician, who had only one foot, having put the other into people's affairs so often that he lost it."

The Way Home.

When the bishop of Truro, Dr. Gott, was dean of Worcester his absent mindedness was so notorious that he earned for himself the sobriquet of "Dean For-Gott."

On one occasion he had invited some friends to dine with him. On their arrival, a short time before the dinner hour, he suggested that in the interval of waiting his friends would perhaps like to walk through the grounds.

"Ah!" said the dean to his astonished guests. "This will be a much nearer way for you to go home than by going back to the front!" And, forgetting his invitation, he opened the door and bowed them out.

An Offensive Cravat.

A good story of Whistler and his peculiarities is told in the Free Lance. A gentleman went to Whistler with a letter of introduction and sent up his card with the letter. The servant presently brought down the card with a note in pencil on it—"Who is the greatest painter?"

Lucky Man.

In crossing the ocean a father and son both became very seastick. The father recovered quickly, but the son was so exhausted with the attack that he sank into a state of apathy, from which it seemed impossible to arouse him.

Explained.

"Our air mattresses," said the dealer, "are all filled in the months of April, May and June. That accounts for their remarkably resilient qualities."

"They are the spring months, you know."—Life.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR ORDERS COLUMBIA LUMBER & MFG. CO. COLUMBIA S. C.

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY. NORTH SOUTH -- EAST -- WEST. Two Daily Pullman Vestibuled Limited Trains Between SOUTH and NEW YORK. FIRST-CLASS DINING CAR SERVICE. The Best Rates and Route to all Eastern Cities Via Richmond and Washington, or via Norfolk and Steamers.—To Atlanta, Nashville, Memphis, Louisville, St. Louis, Chicago, New Orleans, and All Points South and Southwest—To Savannah and Jacksonville and all points in Florida and Cuba. POSITIVELY THE SHORTEST LINE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH. For detailed information, rates, schedules, Pullman reservations, etc., apply to any agent of The Seaboard Air Line Railway, or J. J. Puller, Travelling Passenger Agent, Columbia, S. C. C. F. STEWART, Asst. Genl. Pass. Agt., SAVANNAH, GA.

SUMMER RATES ON THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY. THE LINE FOR BUSINESS, THE LINE FOR PLEASURE, THE LINE FOR ALL THE BEST. Complete Summer Resort Folder Mailed Free to Any Address. W. A. TORR, Pass. Traffic Mgr. WASHINGTON, D. C. B. H. HARDWICK, Gen'l Pass. Agent, WASHINGTON, D. C. W. H. TAYLOR, Asst. Gen'l Pass. Agt., ATLANTA, GA.

Table with columns for routes (Charleston and Western Carolina Rwy, Augusta and Asheville Short Line), times, and directions (Read Down, Read Up).

Table for BLUE RIDGE RAILROAD, H. C. BEATTY, Receiver. In Effect June 8, 1902. Lists stations and times for various routes.

Table for COLUMBIA NEWBERRY & LAWRENCE F. R. CO. Stations and times for routes to Atlanta, Savannah, and other points.