SHORT STORIES

In Modern Lore.

While James McNeil Whistler, the eccentric American painter, was trying on a hat in a London shop one day, a customer rushed in, and mistaking Mr. Whistler for a clerk, exclaimed: "I say, this 'at doesn't fit." The artist eyed him for a minute and then replied, scornfully: "Neither does the coat, and I'll be hanged if I like the color of your trousers."

Mrs. George Whipple, a niece of Daniel Webster, says that when Webster was visiting in the country he attended a little church morning and evening. A fellow senator said to him: "Mr. Webster, I am surprised that you go twice on Sunday to hear a plain country preacher, when your pay little attention to far abler sermons in Washington." Webster replied, "they preach of Daniel Webster the statesman, but this man has been telling Daniel Webster, the sinner, of Jesus of Nazareth, and it has been helping him."

On one occasion, in trying an abduction case, Lord Morris, once chief justice of Ireland, addressed the jury as follows; I am compelled to direct you to find the verdict of guilty in this case, but you will easily see that I think it is a trifling thing, which I regard as quite unfit to occupy my time. It is more valuable than yours. At any rate, it is much better paid for. Find, therefore, the prisoner guilty of abduction, which rests, mindeye, on four points—the father was not averse, the mother was not opposed, the girl was willing, and the boy was convaynient." "The jury found the prisoner guilty, and the judge sentenced him to remain in the dock till the rising of the court. Hardly had he delivered centence than, turning to the sheriff, Lord Morris said: "Let us go," and looking at the prisoner, he called across the court: "Marry the girl at once, and God bless you both."

According to the Paris Figaro, it was at Compiegne, where the czar was recently entertained by the French, that the King of Rome, the Eaglet, granted the first petition that was presented to him. He had reached the mature age of six months, when an old soldier who had already received many favors from the emperor, decided that he wanted more, and thought it would be a good scheme to address his petition to the heir to the the throne, and thus work on Napoleon's sympathies. He addressed his petition to his majesty, the King of Rome. Napoleon smiled when he read the address, and ordered the Duke of Frious to take the paper to the king and read it to him. This was done with due solemnity and state and the duke returned to the emperor. "What did his majesty say?" asked Napoleon. 'Nothing,' replied the duke. "Silence gives consent" said the emperor; "see that this old rascal of a soldier gets what he wants."

Miss Isabel Lavoro tells in her book "A Sportswoman in India," a story of a hen that was sitting, but unluckily for her hatching operations, was interrupted by a cobra, which entered through a chink in the hen house. The cobra made a fine meal of well warmed eggs, but when it essayed to retire by the same hole through which it had entered it found those eggs in the way. It was much too large to get out, so it stuck in the hole, half in the hen hen house and half outside. There it was discovered the next morning in a surfeited condition. It paid for its greediness with its life, and then it paid back the eggs it had stolen; for when the body of the snake was opened the eggs were all found unbroken and warm. They were replaced under the hen, and in due time they were hatched, none the worse for their pecular incubation.

Some years ago, Judge Jeremiah Wilson who was acting as counsel for Admiral Schley when he passed away suddenly at Washington, D. C., a short time ago, was defending a contractor accused of defrauding the government and as the case developed, the law and the testimony seemed to be closing around his client. But when Mr. Wilson made his appeal to the jury no calendared saint wore a brighter crown of glory than that with which he invested his client. The judge's charge was not auspicious for the defendant, but the jury remained out a surprisingly short time. "We find the defendant not guilty," they reported. The judge and prosecutor were astonished. Addressing the defendant, the judge said: "Though it is my painful duty to discharge you, I cannot refrain from congratulating you upon having retained so eloquent an advocate!" Turning to the jury, the court added: "But it gives me pleasure to discharge you, for a more unconscionable jury never dragged a verdict through a temple of justice!"

Chauncey M. Depew once sat at a dinner on the right side of the earl of Aberdeen, who wore the Scotch national costume and kilts. Ambassador Choate was next to him. "Just after the earl seated himself," says Mr. Depew. "Choate whispered: 'Chauncey are Aberdeen's legs really bare?' I raised the tablecloth cautiously and gave that scratch that all Scotchmen appreciate and said: 'Yes, Joey, they are.'"

When Choate got up to speak he said: "Gentleman, my invitation did not convey to me the information that the earl of Aberdeen was to be here tonight in full regalia. If I had known it I would have left my trousers at home."

"Well, you never saw a madder crowd of Scotchmen. They thought it a reflection on the national costume of the earl, who had done the diners honor to appear in it. Well four years have passed since then, and now the earl regards that as a joke, and tells it at least once a day 365 days in the year."

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A. A. Herren, Finch, Ark., writes: 'Foley's Honey and Tar is the best preparation for coughs, colds and lung trouble. I know that it has cured consumption in the first stages." Sold by Hall & Lyles.

They are going to present Cecil Rhodes' favorite pipe to the British museum. And was this, asks the Cleveland Plain Dealer, the source of his airy dreams?

It is now in order to have a life insurance trust, thinks the Chicago Sun. Fortunately, the life insurance companies cannot put on the squeezer as long as there are savings banks.

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It was the young daughter of an East side saloon keeper, innocent of any theories about Sunday opening," but perfectly familiar with the practice, says the New York Post. She was in her class in the Mission School and in the course of the catechism "quiz" the question came to her:

"Who made the world?"

"God did," was the prompt answer. "He made the world in six days and was arrested on the seventh."

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