

Little Stories of Big People.



LORD KITCHENER

The arrival in this country recently of Field Marshal Lord Kitchener of the British army recalls a good story about him. He once visited the Indian frontier defenses to inspect a new fort and was astonished to find that it had been so placed as to be commanded by a nearby hill. The officer who had chosen the site was present with the party, and Kitchener called him forward. In stead of the outburst that the staff expected, however, the general merely held out his hand and said:

"I congratulate you, colonel. What a capital piece for a fort! But when do you begin to remove the hill?"

John D. Rockefeller is growing old. He is now close to seventy-two, and his very latest photo, shown here, gives one some idea of how it ages a man to have so much money that he has to sit up nights devising ways to dispose of it to the best advantage. Along with Mr. Rockefeller's latest photo comes his latest story.

"As quick witted a man as I ever knew," he said recently, "was one of



JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER TODAY.

our drivers—Timothy—back in the business' early days. We liked to keep our teams looking nice, and so we instituted an annual prize for neatness.

"Timothy seemed certain of this prize, and when midyear inspection came sure enough his splendid work left nothing to be desired.

"But as the inspector took one last look around just as he had made up his mind to give the prize to Timothy he frowned, for his eye had fallen upon a cobweb in the corner of the gray mare's stall.

"Timothy saw the inspector's face change and saw the cause of the change, and he spoke up briskly:

"I keep that there web there, boss," he said, "to catch flies. The way they torment the mare is sumpin' fierce."

A new movement that is attracting considerable attention in this country



HENRY W. ROSE

has recently been introduced by Henry W. Rose, a newspaper man from Oxford, England. It is an educational effort designed to benefit mankind by giving instruction in certain lines which have hitherto been but little touched upon. Mr. Rose's hobby is the training of boys, and the undercurrent of the whole idea is to teach the rising generation the value and need of physical purity.

The movement is known as the Brylow plan. The first syllable in the names of the American poets Bryant and Lowell have been taken for a motto. Mr. Rose aims to establish branches all over the country.

MARK TWAIN'S WIT.

How the Famous Author Got Even With a Neighbor.

While it had been known for some time that Samuel L. Clemens, better known as Mark Twain, was in poor health, his return from Bermuda recently in such a serious condition came as a great shock to the country, almost everybody having read and enjoyed his works. His books have made the whole world laugh.

Probably no other author has been the subject of so many anecdotes as Twain, many of them bringing out that great wit and humor for which he became famous. Some years ago the humorist asked a neighbor if he might read a set of his books. The neighbor replied ungraciously that he was welcome to read them in his library, but he had a rule never to let



SAMUEL L. CLEMENS.

a book leave the house. Some weeks later the same neighbor sent over to ask for the loan of his lawn mower.

"I should be very glad to lend you my lawn mower," said Mark Twain, "but since I make it a rule never to let it leave my lawn you will be obliged to use it there."

In his lecturing days Mark Twain reached a small eastern town one afternoon and went to a barber's to be shaved.

"You are a stranger in town, sir?"

"Yes; I'm a stranger here," was the reply.

"We're having a good lecture here tonight, sir," said the barber. "A Mark Twain lecture. Are you going to it?"

"Yes; I think I will," said Mr. Clemens.

"Then, sir, you'll have to stand."

"Dear me," Mr. Clemens exclaimed, "it seems as if I always do have to stand when I hear that man Twain lecture!"

One day Twain was talking about the famous robbery in his beautiful country house.

"Had I been living in Hartford," he said whimsically, "some of my Hartford friends would certainly have accused me of robbing myself. They had a poor opinion of me in that town."

"Marshall Jewett, the ex-governor, used to take up the collection in our Hartford church. They never asked me to take it up. I fretted a good deal over this matter."

"See here, Jewett, I said one day, 'they let you take up the collection every Sunday, but they would never let me do it.'"

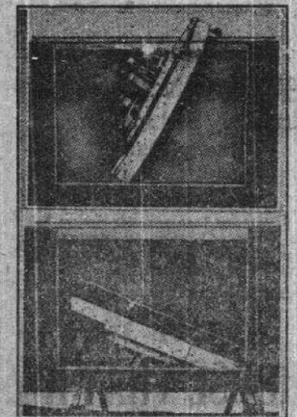
"Oh, yes, they would," said Jewett. "That is, with a bell punch such as the horse car conductors use."

NEW NAVAL DEVICE.

Self Releasing Buoy Tells Where Sunken Ship Lies.

Almost everywhere we look the fertile brain of the inventor shows itself. From the safety ink pot on our desk to the improved battleship on our seas. To the navy in particular there has been brought forward in recent years a larger number of improvements and suggestions than to almost anything else.

The latest device in matters naval is a self releasing buoy for locating wrecks. It consists of a buoy which is carried on the vessel, and if the vessel sinks the buoy releases itself



BUOY RISES AS STEAMER SINKS—SUNKEN STEAMER LOCATED BY BUOY

and floats immediately above it on the surface of the water. The inventor is Charles Taplin of England, and if the idea is practicable it will certainly obviate in the future the vast expenses of fruitless salvage operations of the past.

The illustrations show a model vessel in a tank after sinking, with the released buoy floating on the surface.

Books and Authors

A Conservation Novel. Octave Thanet's New Book -- Girdling the Globe Without Money -- Hallie Erminie Rives' Early Work



HAMILIN GARLAND.

Hamilton Garland's new story, bids fair to take rank as the great conservation novel. As the title indicates, Cavanaugh, the hero of the story, is one of Gifford Pinchot's forest rangers, and the main theme of the tale is the great battle, that has raged and is still being waged between those who would make free use of the government's forests, grazing lands, water power, sites and mineral rights and those who would have Uncle Sam keep them for his own uses and those of coming generations. The story is strictly up to date, for it carries the conservation fight past the date when President Taft dispensed with the services of Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot.

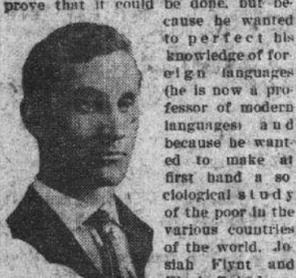
Miss Octave Thanet, who in real life is Miss Alice French, has taken the negro problem as her theme in "By Inheritance." Like Harriet Beecher Stowe, Octave Thanet has accomplished her task not by preaching and precept, but through an absorbing story in which unforgettable characters live and move. Lily Pearl, the heroine and a "woman of color," is easily the strongest and the most original of this author's creations. Her skill, her beauty, her love for Sydney Danton, the negro graduate of Harvard, her heroism, endear her to the reader as no negro character has been endeared since Uncle Tom himself. A delightful Boston spinster, a punctilious southern gentleman of the old regime and a pair of interesting young lovers are the chief white characters. Picturesquely set on an Arkansas plantation, the story moves to its climax amid scenes and incidents of rarely graceful and engaging charm.



OCTAVE THANET.

In Harry A. Franck's book "A Vagabond Journey Around the World" is set forth just how he started from Detroit with a cash capital of \$104 and made the circuit of the globe. This money was practically all spent for a kodak and photographic supplies, so that in reality he worked or beat his way around the world.

Franck made his trip not merely to prove that it could be done, but because he wanted to perfect his knowledge of foreign languages (he is now a professor of modern languages) and because he wanted to make at first hand a sociological study of the poor in the various countries of the world. Joseph Flynt and Wyckoff had experimented along the same lines, and what they had accomplished spurred Franck on to his undertaking.

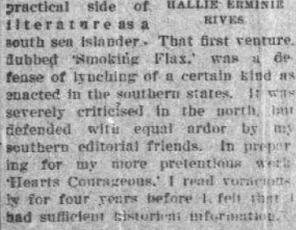


H. A. FRANCK.

He was twenty-two years old when the trip began, twenty-four when it ended. And now that he has achieved what he set out to do—prove that "a man can girdle the globe without money, weapons or baggage"—he has written an account of his adventurous trip.

Hallie Erminie Rives is the maiden name and pen name of Mrs. Post Wheeler, whose husband is a diplomat and a writer who has just been advanced from secretary of the American embassy at Tokyo to the same office at St. Petersburg. Mrs. Wheeler's latest novel, "The Kingdom of Slender Swords," is the fruit of her residence in Japan. In speaking of her early work recently she said:

"When I carried my first book to New York to find a publisher I was as ignorant of the practical side of literature as a south sea islander. That first venture, dubbed 'Smoking Flax,' was a defense of lynching of a certain kind as enacted in the southern states. It was severely criticised in the north, but defended with equal ardor by my southern editorial friends. In preparing for my more pretentious work, 'Hearts Courageous,' I read voraciously for four years before I felt that I had sufficient historical information.



HALLIE ERMINIE RIVES.

Plays and Players

The Boy Who Is Not a Boy. Ways of the Author-Managers -- A Famous Irish Tenor's Start -- America's Youngest Leading Actress



"MARK" SHORT.

The story of how Gertrude Short came to be signed for the part of Kiddie is unique. The first time she went to the Shubert office to apply for the position she wore girl's clothes and was informed that she would not do, as the part must be played by a real boy. The very next day she went back again, with her hair cut short and wearing one of her brother's suits. It was not until after she had read the lines of Kiddie and had been accepted for the role that she admitted the deception. It is almost needless to say that the stage director felt that if she could fool him at such close range she could surely be trusted to create the illusion across the footlights.

Recently Annie Russell at a meeting in New York gave some of her experiences with George Bernard Shaw and told what she thought of him.

"I had had experiences with author-managers before," said Miss Russell. "I remember one instance when I was afraid that there would not be room enough on the stage for a horse and carriage that was to be introduced. Well, there seems to be room enough on the stage for a lot of jackasses. I replied the author manager with the other experiences I feared that Mr. Shaw would annihilate us with his tongue, but in stand I found a courteous gentleman with a kindly, humorous eye. Never once did he fall us in kindness."

Miss Russell told of a certain actor in the cast whom they nicknamed the "Ghastly Baby" and whose methods of work were sometimes disturbing. To reassure Miss Russell, Mr. Shaw said to her of him:

"Jones is a very different man when he has the public in front of him to keep his liver active."

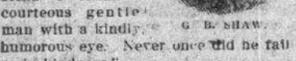
John McCormack, the young Irish tenor who is gaining much fame in New York this season, told recently as follows how he began his operatic career:

"One day I was singing some Irish songs for some of my friends in Dublin when one of them asked me why I didn't compete in the Dublin music festival, in which medals were given to those considered the most proficient in various branches of musical art."

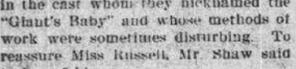
"I replied that I didn't have the money to pay my entrance fee, and my friend said he would attend to that."

"I did, and so I did—an air of Handel's with a run of twenty bars in it, which I sang without taking my breath, something which I could not possibly do now. I have tried it since in vain. But I staggered the judges and won the medal."

Probably the youngest leading actress in America is "Baby" Davis, who takes the part of Martha Calvert Beach in "The Bachelor's Baby," the new play in which Francis Wilson is starring. The manager of the company reports that "Baby" Davis takes a keen interest in the posters which picture her and Mr. Wilson posed together, especially that one which shows them in the attitudes of Raphael's cherubs. Little Miss Davis is only just old enough to be permitted to appear on the stage, but she is no mere puppet, coached to speak her lines and perform her stage business by rote. She is a real actress of ability quite sufficient to warrant her title of leading lady. She is able to make stage baby talk and baby ways real and winning without being childish, and she invests the character of Baby Martha with the charm and sweetness necessary to make the lesson of the play convincing.



JOHN MCCORMACK.



"BABY" DAVIS.

EDMUND HALLEY.

Son of a Soap Boiler Who Became a Famous Astronomer.

The return of Halley's comet has naturally aroused much interest in the man after whom it was named and who predicted that it would come back again.

Edmund Halley was the son of a soap boiler. Educated at St. Paul's school and Queen's college, Oxford, he began in early youth to study astronomy. His fame rests chiefly on his knowledge of comets and especially on the fact that he inferred that the so-called comets of 1531, 1607 and 1682 were the same body and that it would reappear in 1758, a prediction that came true. From that day the comet in question, has been known as Halley's. The bust shown is by Henry



BUST OF EDMUND HALLEY.

Pegram and is in the Higginston Branch library of the borough of Shoreditch, England.

It is open to speculation what part the present visit will play in our history. Will Halley's comet take a hand in the investigations and strikes, or is it a tariff reformer or no, or will it join the ranks of the suffragettes? If only it would lend its gorgeous tail and allow "Votes For Women" to be blazoned upon it, what a splendid sign it would be!

TRAINING A PUGILIST.

Knights of the Mitt Insist on Modern Conveniences.

When Corbett once started training for a battle in the ring he came in after his first run on the road and demanded to know where the bathroom was located. They took him around to the back of the building and pointed out a big rain barrel about half full of black water, and then the carnage began. "Pompador Jim" thrashed every man around the place regardless of age, color or size, and when the excitement had died down a bit he said:

"D'ye think I'm a pollywog or a bull frog to take a chance in a thing like



A BIG TUB FOR A BIG FELLOW

that? I'm a gentleman, I am, and I propose to bathe like one too! Send for a gentleman's tub at once!"

Jeffries' trainers and assistants, who have heard this story, are taking no chances with the big boiler-maker in this direction. Weeks ago a big bath tub was ordered, and the accompanying illustration shows it being hustled to his training quarters before there is a demand for it.

NEW BRENNAN CAR.

Inventor of Gyroscope Train Further Improves His System.

The many new improvements made recently in the Brennan gyroscope monorail car have brought that marvelous invention back into the limelight again, and the accompanying illustration will give one an interesting view of the underneath part of it.

A new car has just been built by the inventor, the system further improved, and the tests being made in London



NEW VIEW OF THE BRENNAN CAR.

are attracting great attention. The mechanism by which it obtains its stability when running on a single rail consists of two gyroscopic wheels which rotate at 3,000 revolutions per minute in opposite directions. In a recent test the car attained a speed of twenty miles an hour and ran satisfactorily on uneven tracks, making curves at thirty-five foot radius with ease.

In the opinion of one of the scientists present, the monorail is destined to revolutionize railway engineering.

The Crusade For a "Sane Fourth."



THE recent order of Mayor Gardner of New York forbidding the sale of fireworks, firecrackers, etc., from June 10 to July 10 and edicts along the same lines by the authorities in other communities have started a nation wide movement to make the Fourth of July hereafter a noiseless one. One of the plans to bring this about is the forming of a national organization, the work of which will be to call to the attention of every community the long list of independence day casualties caused by the use of explosives and in other ways induce them to confine the celebrations to parades, field sports, pyrotechnic displays safely and skillfully conducted, etc.

This matter of having what is called a "sane Fourth of July" has been agitated for several years, but not since it started have so many executives taken it up and expressed their approval of the move as at present. President Taft has indorsed it and expressed his interest in it in a letter as follows:

"I am heartily in sympathy with the movement to rid the celebration of our country's natal day of those distressing accidents that might be avoided and are merely due to a recklessness against which the public protest cannot be too emphatic."

Last year, owing to the work of those who are agitating the "sane



AFTER THE CELEBRATION.

Fourth" idea, there were fewer accidents than on any independence day in some years, the statistics showing thirty deaths. This was an unusually small number, but in 1909 a number of cities had adopted the plan. Figures gathered show the number of people killed and maimed in the last seven successive observances of the national holiday was much greater than the combined losses of the American forces in seven important battles of the Revolution.

During the last five years the death list totals 1,153 and the list of injured 21,520. Of the injured, 88 were totally blinded, 389 partially blinded, 388 lost legs, arms or hands and 1,067 lost fingers. During the last seven years blank cartridges alone have gathered in a death harvest of 794, mostly boys between the ages of six and eighteen years.

"But, gee, ma, how kin us feilers show how we licked the British!" mournfully asks the small boy of us mother when the matter is laid before him.

A way is being found all over the land. Here is how Washington celebrated the Fourth last year: During the day there were patriotic public entertainments at which the Declaration of Independence was read and patriotic addresses delivered. Then there was an automobile floral parade, the cars being decorated with flowers and flags, and many other affairs that delighted both young and old in the capital. At night there were many displays of fireworks, the abolition of which is no part of the program of those desiring a "sane Fourth." They want fireworks, but want them handled by experienced men so as to avoid accidents. Not one gunpowder accident was reported in Washington during the day, while on the Fourth of 1908 there were 194.

In the cities that adopted the "sane Fourth" plans last year and in those preparing to do so in 1910 the pagan idea predominates, with floats representing local historical scenes as well as those of national interest. In Pittsburg over \$100,000 will be expended on the coming Fourth along these lines. The historical and artistic displays now being arranged promise to exceed anything of the kind ever before shown there. Besides the historical scenes, other floats will show the city's industrial greatness. Many excellent field sports have also been arranged to interest the boys.