

Married Without Money.

Bill Nye, in New York Mercury. There are a good many singular incidents connected with the administration of matrimony, especially as it is dealt out by a justice of the peace in a young territory. During eight years in my official capacity as general agent for substantial justice and durable wedlock, I was called upon a great many times to fiddle out my blessing as much per bless under very peculiar circumstances. I've done a noble work as a coppler and applier. Looking back over those eight years, it seems almost like a dream. Whenever I was called to go, I cheerfully put on my overcoat and went.

I married people in the light and the dark of the moon, in the office and at home, on horseback and afoot, young and old, tender and tough. I married them all. I was never inquisitive beyond what the statute required, and I never had any one come back to me or complain. It always seemed to give satisfaction.

The ceremony wasn't very imposing, though. I used to think sometimes that the groom was imposing on the bride. (This is a little epigram. I have quite a number of this style which I am keeping for the holidays.) We never had much of the orange-blossom and swallow-tail coat business in my studio. I generally invited the couple to sit on the wood-box till I got through with the simple drunks, and then we would call in the marshal and the janitor as witnesses and proceed.

I remember, one day, a gentleman named Chiblain Henry, came in from the head of the Chung Water and brought with him a Mexican woman commonly called Beautiful Snow Colorado Maduro. She was of a rich brown color with a wonderful wealth of raven hair, which she combed whenever the sign was right, but it hadn't been right for a good while. She was dressed plainly, but neatly in an old lap-robe, caught back with safety-pins and held in place by means of a broad horse-hair cluch, which had been an heirloom in the family. She was about forty-eight years old, and I asked in a bantering tone if she had her parents' consent. She did not understand me, as she only knew a little broken cigar-box English.

Thinking perhaps she might be more familiar with the early history of her race, I asked her if she remembered Pizarro, but she only laughed and displayed her tottering ruin of a mouth. I believe she was the most sorrowful-looking hulk I ever saw. She was rather thin in flesh, and her nose looked like the breast-bone of a sand-hill crane.

Her union with Chiblain Henry did not seem to saturate her with a great wild joy. She stood there through the imposing ceremony with her cute little Mexican feet just peeping out from under the heavy drapery of her lap-robe, and mechanically answered the legal questions propounded to her in a rich, deep and resonant tone of voice. Somehow I could not help wondering if she did not love another. Perhaps she had given her young heart to some neighboring greaser and smiled on him, perhaps, and it had thrown him into convulsions from which he never had recovered.

When I got through, Chiblain Henry saluted his bride. I had heard before that he was a very brave man. Then he cordially invited me to ditto. I told him that it might occasion talk. He said he didn't want any foolishness or funny business. He allowed that a magistrate had the right to salute the bride and it looked kind of outré to waive it. He would not pay me, he said, unless I saluted the bride.

"Never mind the pay, Henry," I said, "between old friends; so it don't matter. Hand it in any time. I don't care if you never pay it; but to tell you the truth, Henry, I'm afraid to kiss Colorado Maduro. I am a man of strong impulses and I do not dare to salute her. When I caught her in my arms I might forget my own home ties and kidnap your fair young bride and dash away with her to the mountains. I know my own failings, Henry, better than you do. It wouldn't be right, and it would certainly make talk. However, if you insist, I will give my proxy to a friend of mine, who is totally blind, and who is accustomed to all kinds of horrors."

He went away with his wife, intending to come back and kill me, he said; but after I had stayed in the office, behind the fireproof safe, two days, with the doors locked, some friends came and told me Henry had done the whole thing on a bet that he would get married and that I wouldn't charge him a cent.

The Discovery of Coffee.

Toward the middle of the fifteenth century a poor Arab was traveling through Abyssinia, and finding himself very weak and weary from fatigue, he stopped near a grove. Then, being in want of fuel to cook his rice, he cut down a tree covered with dead berries. The meal being cooked and eaten, the traveler discovered that the half-burned berries were very fragrant. He collected a number of these, and on crushing them with a stone he found their aroma increased to a great extent. While wondering at this he

accidentally fell full the substance in a can which contained a small supply of water. Lo, what a miracle! The almost putrid liquid was instantly purified. He brought it to his lips; it was agreeable, and in a few moments after the traveler had so far recovered his strength and energy as to be able to resume his journey. The lucky Arab gathered as many of the berries as he could carry, and having arrived at Arden, in Arabia, he informed the Mufti of his discovery. The worthy divine was an inveterate opium smoker, who had been suffering for years from the influence of the poisonous drug. He tried an infusion of the berries, and was so delighted with the recovery of his own vigor that in gratitude to the tree he called it *cafecha*, which in Arabic means *force*. And this is the way coffee was discovered.—Electric Magazine.

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TIME TABLE. In Effect May 25th, 1884. (Central Standard Time.) Table with columns for Eastward and Westward, Daily No. 2, and Daily No. 4, listing stations and times.

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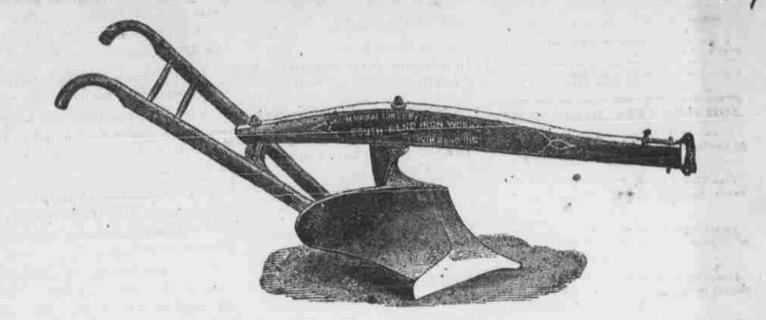
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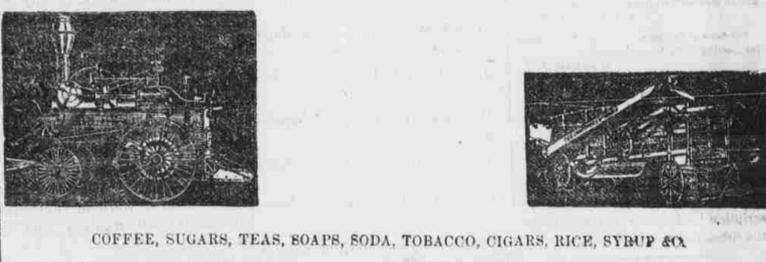
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