

NEW SHORT STORIES.

Meaning of Letters on the Clouds. Custom Versus Liberty—A Play Upon Names.

The colonel has been among the preachers some more and has brought back another story. It may be new or old, but here it is: A western council was examining a candidate for ordination to the ministry, and one of the councilors wanted to know why he thought that he had a call to preach. The candidate said that he had felt from his childhood that he ought to be a preacher and that as he grew older he had visions which had removed all doubt from his mind.

"What were those visions?" asked the hard hearted old moderator.

The young man replied that as he sat on the fence to rest while he was hoeing corn he would see visions on the clouds. He had seen the letters "G. P. C." as distinctly as if they had been painted there.

"But what do those letters stand for?"

"Why, they mean, 'Go preach Christ,'" was the reply.

"You mean, 'Go plant corn,'" said the moderator, and the council adjourned.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Custom Versus Liberty.

Congressman Smith of Illinois told this story of an incident that occurred at the president's last New Year's reception: "Wu Ting Fang, minister from China, stood in the east room after greeting the president and held a regular reception of his own. Everybody knew the minister's inclination to ask questions, and when I saw Dr. Mary Walker in her male costume come advancing toward Wu I knew there would be something doing. She was presented to Wu.

"Wu looked at her in surprise, in not astonishment, and then blurted out:



"YOU ARE A LADEE?"

"You are a ladee" and when she said with dignity that she was Wu asked, "Then why do you wear men's clothes?" Dr. Mary looked at the minister for only a second and then retorted, "You are a man?" And when the minister held declared that he was she retorted, "Then why do you wear women's clothes?" Wu was taken back for a moment only and then replied, "Because the custom of my country allows me to do so." Dr. Mary heard, and then she switched her head and walked away she said proudly, "Well, the liberty of my country allows me to wear men's clothes." That closed the incident.

A Play Upon Names.

A bonnet survives the passing of administrations and, like the bread cast upon the water, sometimes returns after many days, as Robert W. Taylor of Ohio can testify. From a group of congenial spirits gathered in his committee room just before the holidays one gentleman recalled a story of a congressional visitor to the department of the interior soon after Mr. McKinley's first inauguration. Mr. Bliss was then the head of the department and was found in earnest conversation with Mr. John S. Wise of New York, formerly of Virginia. "I am entirely ignorant on that subject," protested the secretary after a long parley, during which the congressman was waiting. "I am sorry I can give you no information about it."

"Ah, where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise," interposed the congressional caller, as the former Virginian walked away.

Mr. Taylor's eyes twinkled at the remembrance of the story, in which he had been the central figure. "It is a true bill," he rejoined, "but, truly, I had forgotten all about it."

One Way of Avoiding Trouble.

H. S. S. Pearce, a London war correspondent, is responsible for this story of General Buller. The general and Mr. Pearce came home in the same boat. Each evening the band played "God Save the Queen" after dinner on deck. Of course every Briton stood up and removed his head covering. A number of Hollanders, however, remained seated and covered. The Britons were very angry, and it was feared that serious trouble might follow. The anxious captain privately consulted General Buller.

"Sir," he said, "I wish you would tell me what you would do under the circumstances if you were commander of this ship."

"Me," replied Buller. "I should ask the band not to play 'God Save the Queen.'"

Umbrellas were not known in this country until a year or so before the Revolutionary war, and it was more than a century thereafter that they came into general use.

WAR BUREAU FRICTION.

General Miles is not the first occupant of his position to be at odds with the head of the war department. Indeed it is a tradition that there should be irreconcilable differences of opinion between the secretary of war and the general commanding the army. When Sherman was in charge of army headquarters, the conflict of authority became so acute that the doughty hero of the march to the sea, driven to desperation by the slights he felt were put upon him, packed up his belongings and moved the army headquarters bodily from Washington to St. Louis, where he remained in solitary splendor during all the later years of his incumbency. Sheridan was as unfortunate as his predecessor in his relations with the secretary of war. He was not quite testy enough to allow himself to be driven from Washington, but there were continual clashes between him and Secretaries Lincoln and Endicott down almost to the day of his death. Schofield was able to get along with his civilian superiors without friction. He had tact in abundance and was a born diplomat. Nothing else could have saved him. He alone of all the officers recently in command of the army had understood the true relations of the general commanding with the secretary of war. He appreciated the fact that the commanding general was, after all, subject to the orders of the secretary of war and was to all intents a chief of staff, whose duty it was to see that those orders were carried into effect. Sherman and Sheridan were never able to adjust themselves to this relationship. They were soldiers and nothing else. Accustomed to command and to have their orders obeyed without question, it irritated them and angered them that a mere civilian untrained in the practice of war should be in a position to overrule their judgment in matters relating to a profession to which they had devoted their lives.—L. A. Coolidge in Ainslee's.

An Invention to Facilitate Cheating.

We are in receipt of a communication from a correspondent in the city of Boone, Ia., who sends \$5 and some sketches of a table he is building, evidently intended for some gambling establishment in that town. A plate of soft iron is located about the middle of the board under the cloth, and electric wires pass up the legs of the table and connect with the plate. By pressure of the foot or by some similar means the electric current may be established, and the plate becomes magnetized. The loaded dice can thereby be manipulated at the will of the operator. The correspondent had had some difficulty in carrying out his plans successfully and desires us to assist him in overcoming the defects by specifying "the amount and sizes of wire or ampere turns and size and shape of magnets necessary."

We have returned the amount of the bribe offered and take this opportunity of informing him that we do not wish to become an accessory in his crime.—Scientific American.

New York Railroads.

If anything were wanting to make the people of New York realize that they live indeed in an empire state, the last report of the state board of railroad commissioners would supply it. The gross earnings last year of the steam railroads reporting to the state amounted to \$247,000,000. Only three nations in the world possess railroads earning so much yearly. France, Great Britain and Germany are the three, and there is not much difference between the gross earnings of all the railroads in France and the earnings of the railways which report to the state of New York. The earnings of the railways in Austria are about one-half that amount, and Italy can show only \$50,627,195 as the earnings of her railways against New York's \$247,000,000. The earnings of the railways of Russia, including the trans-caspian lines and the Finland lines, amount to nearly \$40,000,000 less than those of New York state.—New York Press.

Fish Enemies to Mosquitoes.

Now that special efforts are being made to exterminate mosquitoes, owing to the belief that certain species of those insects are responsible for the spread of malaria, the fact that small fish are great destroyers of mosquito larvae assumes increased interest. This fact is vouched for by Dr. L. O. Howard of the department of agriculture. He tells of two small lakes formed nearly side by side in Connecticut by an invasion of the sea, one of which contained half a dozen small fish, while the other was fishless. Subsequent examination revealed tens of thousands of mosquito larvae in the fishless lake, but the other contained not one.—South's Companion.

Wisconsin's Trade School.

An educational department in Wisconsin next summer will be the opening of a summer school for apprentices and artisans at the State university. It will be for the benefit of machinists, carpenters or sheet metal workers, stationary, marine or locomotive engineers, shop firemen and superintendents, superintendents of waterworks, electric light plants, power stations, factories, large office and store buildings in cities and for the young men who wish to qualify themselves for such places.

The Survival of Bicycling.

Bicycling as a fad has disappeared. The monkey back scorcher are a thing of the past. The century run has retired into history. The riders of today are those who believe in rational exercise and those who use the bicycle as a measure of economy in the direction of saving car fare. The bicycle craze has ended, but there will continue to be riders just the same.—Savannah News.

HARRISON IS DEAD

FORMER PRESIDENT SUCCEUMS TO PNEUMONIA AFTER A BRIEF ILLNESS.

End Was Quiet and Painless After Several Days of Total Unconsciousness and All Efforts to Arouse the Patient Were Without Avail—His Children Failed to Reach His Bedside in Time to See Him Alive.

Indianapolis, March 14.—General Harrison died at 4:45 p. m. without regaining consciousness. The ex-president's death was quiet and painless, there being a gradual sinking until the end came, which was marked by a single gasp for breath as life departed from the body of the great statesman. The relatives, with a few exceptions, and several of his old and tried friends were at the bedside when he passed away.

The general's condition was so bad after a restless night that the attending physicians understood that the end could not be far off and all the bulletins sent out from the sick room were to this effect so that the family and friends were prepared when the final blow came. The gradual falling of the remarkable strength shown by



the patient became more noticeable in the afternoon and a few moments before the end there was an apparent breakdown on the part of the sufferer as he surrendered to the disease against which he

Had Been Bravely Battling

for so many hours. The change was noticed by the physicians and the relatives and friends who had retired from the sick room to the library below were quickly summoned and reached the bedside of the general before he passed away.

News of the death spread quickly through the city and several of the more intimate friends at once hurried to the residence to offer services, which, however, were not needed. The announcement produced the greatest sorrow, nearly everyone having nurtured the hope that General Harrison would recover. Within a few minutes all the flags on the public buildings and most of the down town blocks were hoisted at half mast and other outward manifestations of mourning were made.

None of General Harrison's children were present at his death. Neither Colonel Russell Harrison nor Mrs. McKee had reached the city, although both were hurrying on their way to the bedside of their dying parent as fast as steam would bear them. Elizabeth, the little daughter, had been taken from the sick room by her nurse before the end came.

The group at the bedside included Mrs. Harrison, W. H. H. Miller, Samuel Miller, his son; the Rev. M. L. Haines, pastor of the First Presbyterian church which General Harrison had attended for so many years; S. M. Tibbitt, Doctors Jameson and Dorsey, Colonel Dan Ramsdell, sergeant-at-arms of the United States senate; Clifford Artick and the nurses, who were in constant attendance

at the bedside. General Harrison's two sisters and an aunt were also present. Mrs. Harrison knelt at the right hand side of the bed, her husband's right hand grasped in hers, while Dr. Jameson held the left hand of the dying man, counting the feeble pulse beats. In a few moments after the friends had been summoned to the room the end came. Dr. Jameson announcing the sad fact. The great silence that fell on the sorrowful watchers at the bedside was broken by the voice of Dr. Haines raised in prayer, supplicating consolation for the bereaved wife and family, mingled with the sobs of the mourners.

General Harrison had been unconscious for hours before his death, the exact time when he passed into a comatose state being hard to determine. He spoke to no one during the day and failed to recognize even his wife. All efforts to arouse the slowly dying man to consciousness failed and he died without a word of recognition to any of the loved ones who surrounded him.

COMMITTED TO EARTH.

Funeral of General Harrison Attended by Thousands of People.

Indianapolis, March 18.—The funeral of General Harrison took place on Sunday and his remains were laid to rest in Crown Hill cemetery. Many thousands of people attended, including President McKinley and distinguished men from all parts of the country. The honorary pallbearers were General Benjamin F. Tracy of New York, John W. Wainwright of Philadelphia, W. H. H. Miller of Indianapolis, John W. Noble of St. Louis, Charles Foster of Fostoria, O. General Lew Wallace of Indianapolis, Judson Harmon of Cincinnati and William A. Woods of Indianapolis.

NEWS CONDENSATIONS.

Wednesday, March 13.

O. J. Angus, a prominent business man of Oshkosh, Wis., committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor.

The transport Hancock has arrived at San Francisco with the Thirtieth volunteer infantry and has been sent to quarantine.

C. T. Gorham, minister to the Hague under President Grant, is dead at Marshall, Mich. Mr. Gorham was 89 years of age.

Congress appropriated a year's salary, \$5,000 each, for Mrs. Gear and Mrs. Davis, the widows of the senators from Iowa and Minnesota.

The new census report shows the population of the Bombay presidency, which, according to the last returns of 1891, was 18,826,820, to have declined 1,500,000.

The stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, at their annual meeting, decided to vote on the question of increasing the capital stock of the company \$100,000,000.

Thursday, March 14.

A locomotive on the Lehigh Valley railroad exploded near Hayes Creek, Pa., instantly killing three men—the crew of the engine.

John Stoval, the alleged Manila (Ia.) express robber, who escaped from the Denison jail Saturday night, has been recaptured near Denison, Ia.

The Japanese house of peers has passed the taxation bills of the government, but the hostility felt towards the Ito cabinet shows no abatement.

Mrs. Nation visited the Topeka club, a fashionable men's organization, and created consternation among the members before she was summarily ejected.

The senate bill taxing insurance companies has passed the New York assembly. As the bill was suggested by Governor Odell, it is sure of the executive signature.

Friday, March 15.

It is rumored that a crisis is imminent in the Portuguese cabinet.

The Maine house of representatives has refused to submit to the people the prohibition amendment of the state constitution. The senate will concur.

Mrs. Richardson has been indicted by the grand jury for the murder of her husband, Frank Richardson, a wealthy merchant, at Savannah, Mo., last Christmas evening.

The king of the Belgians has convoked a general chapter to meet at Ghent, June 25, for a discussion of the situation of the Dominicans in the Philippines, France and South America.

It is announced that Former Congressman W. E. Fuller of West Union, Ia., has accepted and not declined, as recently reported, the appointment of President McKinley as assistant attorney general.

Saturday, March 16.

Germany's population is 56,000,000, an increase of nearly 9,000,000 in the last five years.

St. Edwin Saunders, president of the Odontological society and dentist to King Edward and Queen Alexandra, is dead.

The New York chamber of commerce will visit England as the guests of the London chamber of commerce early in June.

The British government has issued a public invitation to societies and others having claims against China to present them to the government.

The bubonic plague continues to increase with alarming rapidity at Cape Town. The plague has also made its appearance at other points in Cape Colony.

Sunday, March 18.

Nearly 3,000 troops sailed from Southampton for South Africa Saturday.

Patrick Donahue, publisher of the Boston Pilot, is dead. He was 90 years of age.

The census of Austria-Hungary shows a population of 40,310,835, which is an increase of 10 per cent during the last decade.

Reports from Moscow represent Count Tolstol's condition as desperate. The novelist loses consciousness several times daily.

An ammonia tank on the American liner New York exploded and as a result 15 men were overcome by the fumes, two of them dying.

Mrs. Carrie Cobus of New York city was killed by a pet bull terrier while lying in an epileptic fit. The animal seized her by the throat and severed the jugular vein.

Tuesday, March 19.

Gilbert Anderson, aged 105, is dead at Clermont, Ia.

F. G. Larimore, the bonanza farmer and one of the best known citizens in North Dakota, is seriously ill and in a critical condition.

A special dispatch from Cairo, Egypt, says a new Dervish movement is said to have occurred in the southern part of the Sudan.

A Berlin dispatch reports that the German navy, like the British, has decided to abandon the use of Belleville boilers on warships.

The Vienna Neue Freie Presse reports a serious rising in Teheran, Persia, because certain reforms have been attempted by the shah.

Chief Justice Fuller of the United States supreme court has announced that the court will take a recess from next Monday for a fortnight.

A dispatch from Shanghai announces the sailing of United States Minister Conger. The condition of Li Hung Chang has improved.

ORDER FOR HEARING PROOF OF WILL STATE OF MINNESOTA.

COUNTY OF MORRISON.

In Probate Court—Special Term, Feb. 18, 1901.

In the matter of the estate of Johann Valentin, deceased.

Whereas an instrument in writing, purporting to be the last will and testament of Johann Valentin, deceased late of said county, has been delivered to this court.

And whereas, Friedrich Valentin, has filed therewith his petition, representing, among other things, that said Johann Valentin, died in said county on the 28th day of December, 1896, testate, and that said petition is one of the executors named in said last will and testament, and praying that the said instrument may be admitted to probate, and that letters testamentary be to him issued thereon.

It is ordered, That the proofs of said instrument and the said petition be heard before this court in the Probate office in said county on the 23d day of March A. D. 1901, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, when all persons interested may appear for or against the probate of said instrument.

And it is further ordered, That notice of this order be placed of said hearing be given to all persons interested by a weekly newspaper published in said county, and that the said notice be published in the Little Falls Herald, a weekly newspaper printed and published at Little Falls, in said county, on the 16th day of February A. D. 1901, and on the 23d day of February A. D. 1901.

By the Court: R. C. JOHNSON, Judge of Probate.

PROCEEDINGS IN BANKRUPTCY

In the District Court of the United States for the District of Minnesota, Fifth Division.

In the matter of Packey H. McCormick, Bankrupt.

To the Honorable William Lochren, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the District of Minnesota.

Packey H. McCormick of the city of Little Falls in the County of Morrison and State of Minnesota, in said District, specifically represents that on the 22d day of December A. D. 1900, he was duly adjudged a bankrupt under the acts of Congress relating to bankruptcy; that he has duly surrendered all his property and rights in property, and has fully complied with all the requirements of said acts and of the orders of the court touching his bankruptcy.

Wherefore he prays that he may be discharged by the court to have a full discharge from all debts provable against his estate under said bankrupt acts, except such debts as are excepted by law from such discharge.

Dated this 13th day of March, A. D. 1901. PACKEY H. MCCORMICK, Bankrupt.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT District of Minnesota, Fifth Division

On this 14th day of March, A. D. 1901, on reading the foregoing petition, it is

Ordered by the court, that a hearing be had on the same on the 14th day of April, A. D. 1901, before said court at Minneapolis in said district at two o'clock in the afternoon; and that notice thereof be published in the Little Falls Herald, a newspaper printed in said district, and that all known creditors and other persons interested may appear at the said time and place and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said petitioner should not be granted.

And it is further ordered by the court that the clerk shall send by mail to all known creditors copies of said petition and of this order, addressed to them at their places of residence as stated.

Witness the Honorable William Lochren Judge of the said Court, and the seal thereof, at Duluth, in said District on the 14th day of March, A. D. 1901.

CHARLES L. SPENCER, Clerk.

By THOS. H. PRESSNELL, Deputy Clerk.

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NOT FOR PASSENGERS.

Trolley Car Telephone For Wrecks Instead of Messages.

They were almost the only occupants of the swiftly moving suburban trolley which ran from somewhere back in the Jersey hills to the shore of the Hudson, whence the passengers reached the great city by ferryboat. They were husband and wife. You could tell that from the way they talked. One did not have to be a Sherlock Holmes to infer that she was on his way to business and that she was coming in for a day's shopping. Both had been over the same route many times before, so the saleswoman of the Jersey landscape did not impress them. For some reason or other she turned around in her seat and began to study the other end of the car.

"John, will you look at that?" she exclaimed suddenly.

John looked in the direction indicated, but failed to see anything of startling nature. "Look at what?" he demanded.

"There's a telephone back there," she gasped. "Who ever heard of a telephone in a street car before?"

There was no mistaking it. The telephone was there, securely fastened to the wall beside the rear door. For once John was not ready with an explanation.

"I think it's a fine idea," began the wife. "Just think, if you've forgotten something you can telephone back for it without getting off the car."

There was silence for a moment, then she began again:

"John, I've forgotten something. I meant to tell Mary to give Cecil that cough medicine."

"Cecil hasn't any cough," insisted the husband.

"But I'm afraid he will have. There's so much grip around. I'll telephone to her about it."

John knew there was no need of telephoning, but he said nothing about it. They had been married a long time, and he had learned a thing or two. His wife went to the conductor without delay.

"I am sorry, madam, but it's a private line, only to be used in case we break down and have to telephone for a wrecking car," was the conductor's answer to her request.

She did not quite understand, and John went back to ask more questions. The conductor told him that the idea originated in the brain of the general manager of a line out of St. Louis. He showed him two at the side of the road. He pointed out a bamboo fishing pole which had two metal hooks at the upper end. Then he continued:

"To connect with the telephone in the car I hang the fish pole over the top wire and attach that long coil of wire which hangs over the receiver. We can get the barn inside of two minutes, and it has saved an hour or two of valuable time in the last two weeks."—New York Tribune.

NEWS IN MINNESOTA

Fire in the business part of Barnua caused a loss of \$10,000.

Joseph Fairchild, a pioneer real estate dealer of St. Paul, is dead.

The Northwestern Supply company of Duluth has made an assignment.

The president has appointed W. M. James postmaster at Breckinridge.

William J. Sheppard, aged 72, a Civil war veteran, is dead at Spring Valley.

Mrs. Amborne, aged 60, perished in a snow storm four miles north of Chokio.

William H. Harries of Caledonia has been elected department commander of the Minnesota G. A. R.

One of Duluth's public schools has been closed because of the prevalence of diphtheria in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Margaret A. Pillsbury, widow of the late George A. Pillsbury, is dead at Minneapolis, aged 83 years.

Colonel Robinson, the oldest resident of Pine City, was burned to death in a fire which destroyed his residence.

James E. Markham, a Republican, has been chosen to succeed himself as city attorney of St. Paul. The city council has a Democratic majority of one.

Jammie Hasbrook of Milton pointed a gun that he supposed was not loaded at his 14-year-old sister Florence and shot her through the heart, killing her instantly.

The reports received by the state board of health show that during the two weeks ending March 11 there were 328 new cases of smallpox in 2 communities in the state. The number is growing less each succeeding two weeks, and the reports indicate that the health authorities are gradually stamping out the disease.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

Tuesday, March 12.

Bill taxing express companies 5 per cent on gross earnings recommended for passage in the house. Pennington's bill to abolish hyphenated names of political parties also secured favorable action. The teachers' retirement and pension bill reported from committee without recommendation.

Hurd oil inspection bill, amended to take effect two years hence, passed the senate without debate. The Bush "renovated butter" bill caused a lively discussion and was finally placed on general orders.

The house and senate conferees on the reapportionment bill held a meeting but failed to reach an agreement.

Wednesday, March 13.

The house spent three hours discussing the board of control bill. The opposition developed a surprising strength and the passage of the bill is doubtful. On the Hurd oil inspection bill the house refused to concur in the senate amendment. A bill fixing the penalty for train robbing was recommended for passage.

The Fitzpatrick bill, authorizing city councils of cities of from 10,000 to 50,000 to acquire electric light plants, recently killed, was resuscitated in the senate and laid on the table. A bill to appropriate \$200,000 for two additional cottages at the Hastings and Anoka hospitals, was recommended to pass.

Thursday, March 14.

The board of control bill passed the house after one of the warmest debates of the session. An amendment putting every state institution under the board's control was defeated by one vote. A bill in the interest of direct legislation was introduced by Representative Sageng of Otter Tail county.

The drainage bill, appropriating \$50,000, was recommended for passage in the senate after a hard fight; also the Stockwell measure providing for a uniform system of accounting in state institutions.

A new conference committee on the reapportionment bill was named in the house.

Friday, March 15.

House again postponed action on Senator Young's adjournment resolution. Among the bills passed were: For resale of land unsold at forfeited tax sale; raising gross earnings tax on express companies from 3 to 5 per cent; to abolish hyphenated political parties.

The senate passed Daugherty's bill to prohibit adulteration of liquors; also a bill allowing lawyers a wider latitude as to time in taking exceptions to the charge of the judge or instructions to the jury.

Messrs. Wessels and Viljoen, Boer representatives, addressed both the house and senate during the day's session.

Saturday, March 16.

No sessions held by either house or senate.

Monday, March 18.

The Armstrong anti-winneroom bill, intended to abolish winnerooms, was amended beyond recognition and passed—75 to 5. Other bills passed were: Levying a state tax on all dogs; to label prison made goods; voting a medal to Miss Mae Arvill of Itaska Lake for heroism in saving a child's life at the risk of her own.

In the senate the day was devoted to general orders and a large number of bills were acted on. Among those recommended to pass were: The Bush "renovated butter" bill; to legalize the foreclosure of mortgages in certain cases; providing for the destruction of tax lists six years after issue.