

### QUEER FORMS OF MAKING OATH

Eastern Countries Have the Most Peculiar Ideas.

Every monarch has to take an oath when he ascends the throne. Any man is liable to break his mere word—kings and emperors as well as anyone else.

In England, Spain, Italy and Austria the oath is taken on the Bible; in France and Belgium the oath is taken with the right hand raised over the head.

Mahometans are much opposed to swearing. When they do swear it is a solemn ceremony, and is performed by holding the Koran in the right hand, placing the left on the forehead and bringing the head down to the book. A Mahometan seldom commits perjury.

The Buddhist swears "in the presence of Buddha," and says: "If I speak false, or if by coloring the truth others are led astray, Dharma and Pro Sangha, together with the devotees of the 22 firmament, punish me also and my migratory soul."

Hindu law says: "Let the judge swear by his veracity, and the soldier by his horse or weapon; the merchant by his cattle, grain, gold or other possessions, and the servile man by imprecating curses upon his own."

In Mexico many people still adhere to an ancient form of oath, says Stray Stories. They touch the earth with the tip of their finger and then place the finger on the tongue, which signifies, "If my tongue speaks false, then may I be turned to dust."

The Chinese swear in many ways. A solemn oath is made by writing certain secret characters on a paper and burning it, praying at the same time that he be burned likewise if he does not speak the truth. Sometimes he swears by burning a piece of straw.

### PRINCE GALITZEN'S GREAT LUCK

How Fortune Turned in the Nick of Time for Russian Gambler.

The fickleness of fortune, especially at cards, is well illustrated in this story, told in a new book by Count de la Garde-Chambonas, which is attracting great attention abroad.

"Prince Galitzen, one of the richest of Russian nobles, was playing on one occasion with the most persistent bad luck. Estates, serfs, revenues, townhouses, furniture, jewels, everything had been swallowed up. He had nothing left but his carriage. That was waiting for him outside; he staked it—lost that in a few throws of the dice. A few minutes afterward the horses were also gone.

"I did not stake the harness," he said. "It is all in silver, and has just come from St. Petersburg."

"His adversary nodded, and a game was begun for the harness. At that moment, though, the luck turned as completely in the Prince's favor as a few moments previously it had been against him. In a few hours he not only won back the horses, the carriage and the family jewels, but everything else he had lost so rapidly, and that, thanks to the harness, which literally seemed to be attached to the wheel of fortune."

### The Craze for New Bills.

"Gimme new bills for these," requested a man at the paying teller's window of a Caestnut street bank yesterday. The teller impassively accepted the roll of frayed and dingy paper, says the Philadelphia Record, and counted out its equivalent in crisp, new notes. After the caller had departed the teller smiled wearily. "People like that make me tired," he remarked. "I'm kept busy some days changing old notes for new to oblige a certain class of depositors. They are people who have recently acquired a little ready money. Let a man get unexpectedly wealthy and he immediately insists on having everything brand-new. This applies to his personal attire and his money. He thinks clothes with the tailor's crease and shine on them and notes that crackle make a gentleman of him. The mania for new bills spreads throughout his family. His wife and daughters demand new notes for use on their shopping expeditions and he and his sons like to make a flash with the crisp bills. That's one class that has a mania for new notes, but there are others, and between them they take up considerable of my time changing old money for new."

### Lack of Clothing in Uganda.

A lack of clothing was—and probably still is—the most salient characteristic of the Wa-Kavirondo. "I am afraid you will find them very naked," said a missionary to me on the borders of their country; and so we did, nothing could have been nakeder. From their walled villages they issued in swarms, and crowded round the tents to gaze upon us, monsieur, madame, and Bebe, without a rag to their names nor a clout between them, unless indeed a bead necklace, or a hippopotamus tooth stuck behind the ear, could be accounted clothing. An airy, buoyant folk, verily, and to missionary eyes a sad contrast to the semi-civilized Waganda, with their gaudy draperies of bark-cloth.—Cornhill.

### Accident or Design?

A woman's editorial association had a dinner in Topeka and one of the toasts was "Woman: Without Her Man is a Brute." It must have been a cynical printer man who set up the type, for this was the way the toast read in print: "Woman, Without Her Man, is a Brute." Just how much of a rumpus this raised may possibly be imagined; it certainly cannot be described.

### The fault is great in proportion to him who commits it.

### ALL OWING TO CERVEZA.

Spaniard in Cuba Had Novel Idea of "What Might Have Been."

"Now and then I meet a Spaniard who is full of ideas. One of them was a Spaniard who lived in Cuba for a year or so, and then he always came off victor. On one occasion, while I was walking my beat in front of headquarters, having just donned a new uniform and feeling that I had a dignity to maintain, a Spaniard strutted past me and gave me a good and muscular 'Carrañal' between his teeth. I gave him no attention, and five minutes later he returned to stand and stare and stare. When he had kept it up for some time I politely inquired:

"Do you observe any flies on your trousers?"

"No flies do I see," he replied, "but I was thinking."

"Of taking a drink?"

"Carrañal, no! I was thinking that if Admiral Cervera had not been sent to sea, he would have had his ships sunk by you and have been noted as a senator in your own land."

### TOOK HIM AT HIS WORD.

Sons of Victorious Congressman Had Fun at His Expense.

A Western congressman, who has just been renominated, and who has returned to Washington to receive the congratulations of his colleagues, tells a good story on himself on condition that his name be not mentioned.

When the nominating convention concluded its work, the ex-senator telegraphed to his family: "Now you can pat my name red." He thought nothing more of the telegram until the next day, when, reaching his home, he found it covered with brilliant carnations. His sons, who love a practical joke, had taken him at his word, and had covered everything—house, fence, hencoops, and even the trees in the yard—with red paint. And to add insult to injury, the boys presented their father with the bill, amounting to \$100.

"I paid it without a murmur," says the congressman.—Washington Post.

### What They Did.

"We had a delightful time last week," said the city cousin, who was describing the joys of metropolitan life. "One evening we trilled out to a suburban home and prolonged until nearly midnight, and next day we ambled to the cofraty club and soiled until dark."

"De had a purty good time last week, too," ventured the country cousin, with a sarcastic smile. "One day we bungled over to Uncle Josiah's, and us boys got out in the back lot and baseballed all afternoon, and after we had dimmed we sneaked up to the loft and lit a candle and pokedered until I had every blamed cent in the crowd."

### Woman and the Postscript.

There is an ancient and more or less substantially founded tradition that no woman can write a letter without adding a postscript of more importance than all the rest of the missive. A witty Frenchman contributes the latest story on this fruitful topic. One morning he received a long and charmingly written letter from a woman whose handwriting he failed to recognize. She was evidently acquainted with him, for she wrote of persons and things in which he was interested. At the end of some dozen pages of feminine prattle came this postscript: "You will see by my signature that I am married."

### Good Epitaph for Morgan.

A member of parliament is said to be circulating about the London clubs a typewritten copy of an epitaph, which he solemnly declares is intended for John Pierpont Morgan, and should be taken by him as a warning not to push his world-grabbing enterprises too far. The epitaph is as follows: "Here lies his head at last upon this earth; he now belongs to what he made his own; he bought the world for what he thought it worth, and God once more is running things alone."

### A Fortunate Soldier.

Lieut. Carl F. Busche, now serving in the Twenty-ninth United States Infantry in the Philippines, will soon come into a legacy of \$1,000. Some 200 years ago an ancestor left a fund from which the sum named is paid to any member of the family who obtains a commission in any army. Lieut. Busche's father is Baron Busche of Berlin, who has written to Secretary Root for proof that his son has been appointed an officer. The young man enlisted as a private.

### Kaiser Wants American Quail.

A Berlin dispatch says that Emperor William has given orders to stock his game preserves near Potsdam and Berlin with American quail as an experiment. The emperor is quoted as saying that he wants American quail, because, like American citizens, they are satisfied with their surroundings, while German quail, like a great many German citizens, emigrate every fall.

### Samuel Gompers, the Labor Leader, is Master of Five Languages.

Samuel Gompers, the labor leader, is master of five languages. At a convention of the American Federation of Labor some years ago delegates made speeches in Italian, in French, in German and in Spanish. Mr. Gompers was at home with them all. He made notes on their addresses and, when necessary, interrupted them on obscure points in their own tongue.

### Advice to the Aged.

Age brings infirmities, such as sluggish bowels, weak kidneys and bladder and TORPID LIVER.

## Tutt's Pills

have a specific effect on these organs, stimulating the bowels, causing them to perform their natural functions as in youth and

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to the kidneys, bladder and liver. They are adapted to old and young.

### THEY CRUSH THE POWERS

This is written in mid-October. The long, oppressive summer is quite gone. Fading leaf, withering tree and the rustling corn in the fields are signs of the season. Fog, frost, rain, snow—they are coming. You remember last winter, of 1900 and 1901. The weather was cruel. Ah! the thousands it killed, and the hundreds of thousands it maimed and crippled. Oh, the rough grasp it laid on men at work, women at home, and children in cribs and cradles. Coughs that began before Thanksgiving Day are racking and tearing them still; yes, and growing worse as they dig deeper into the poor, tired throat and lungs. Many were cured by using Benson's Plasters. For the soothing and healing power of these Plasters is wonderful. They conquer the complaints

### THAT ARE KILLING THE PEOPLE.

No other plaster, no other medicine or application, can compare with them. Coughs, colds, backache, rheumatism, lumbago, kidney and liver troubles, asthma, influenza—they all go down before Benson's Plasters like a snow image in the sun. You can't throw money away on a Benson's Plaster. Everybody is going to use them this season. But make certain you get the genuine. All druggists, or we will prepay postage on any number ordered in the United States on receipt of 25c, each. Seabury & Johnson, Mfg. Chemists, N.Y.

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Quart	..... .60
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Drink	..... .15

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## WON IN SLOT MACHINE.

Fortune of a Young Woman Who Answered an Advertisement.

A business man who wanted a book-keeper stated his need in an advertisement. The notice was seen by a young woman who was out of work, and who had searched for employment day after day without success. She had just one cent left. This she spent for a postal card, on which she wrote a reply to the advertisement, and dropped the card in a street letter box.

Her application impressed the business man favorably, and he wrote to her, asking her to call at his office. She did so and secured the position. Her modesty and worth, no less than her capability, so won upon her employer that before many months had passed he offered her his heart and hand, and she accepted and became his wife.

"And to think," he said one day during the honeymoon, "that it all came from your spending your last cent for a postal card and mailing it at a street corner!"

"Yes," she replied with a smile and a blush. "I dropped a penny in the slot and got a husband."—Youth's Companion.

## WANTED "ONE SMALL SHRIMP."

Good Story Told of Youthful New York Housekeeper.

A very young and very inexperienced matron—a well-known society woman of this borough—recently undertook to assume the entire management, even to the smallest detail, of her household affairs, and her directions to the servants are conveyed to them in writing. A few days ago, wishing to have some dainty dish for luncheon, she thought a nice shrimp salad would be the thing, and accordingly wrote her instructions to the cook to prepare the salad and for the purpose to order from the market man "one small shrimp." The story leaked out, and it will be many days before she will be able to look into the eyes of any of her friends without seeing the small shrimp twinkling therein.—New York Times.

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## Not Just What She Meant.

A story that is now going the rounds is laid to the door of a piquant and dainty little French lady who was more or less in evidence at such places as were visited by the Rochambeau embassy. The humor of the situation lies in the extreme diffidence of the French woman. She is sensitive to the point of a double nervousness, and, realizing the liability to err in a foreign tongue, she was generally careful to make selection of each individual word. Wherefore she was but the more amusing one evening, feeling moved to remonstrate with a gentleman upon the civility of our northern May, she said: "Really, set ces so cold here all ze time zat I have sat all ze day weath by feet over ze transome."

## Li Hung Chang's Successor.

Li Hung Chang's successor in the title and honors, his eldest son, Li Ching-hsu, did not live long to enjoy his great position and wealth. The Peking and Tientsin Times contains the announcement of his death in Peking from kidney disease. The titles and honors of the great viceroy now devolve upon a youth of sixteen years of age. At one time the boy was given a western training, and promised to become an efficient English scholar, but certain occult and anti-foreign influences in the family stopped his studies.

## Cattle in America.

In an introduction to a recent bulletin on American breeds of beef cattle the broad statement is made that prior to the discovery of America there were no cattle in the western hemisphere. On one of his voyages Columbus is said to have brought a number of domestic animals with him. The escape from captivity of some of the early importations of cattle was the means of establishing the famous native cattle herds of the West Indies and Mexico, and the long-horned herds of Texas. The wild horses of the plains were similarly founded.

## Brandy That is Brandy.

Brandy of the vintage of 1793 was sold recently at auction in London for the handsome price of \$18 a bottle. Was it Dr. Samuel Johnson who first called cognac the drink of heroes, a characterization quoted with emphatic approval and much smacking of the lips by that great German hero, Otto von Bismarck? Eau de vie of the \$18 a quart quality should stimulate the doing of wonderful things of one sort or another.

## Were Ancient Games.

What is described as an "ancient draught board" has been discovered in Crete. It must by all accounts be a fine piece of work, since it is composed of natural crystal, ivory, gold and silver, but it is by no means unique. Chess, draughts, or the game from which both are derived, was known to nearly all the ancient civilizations, and Greek and Egyptian boards are by no means uncommon.

## Statesmen of Similar Names.

There were two Richardsons—one from Alabama and the other from Tennessee—in the House last session and they were constantly being mixed by inexperienced correspondents, the Tennessee man getting a great deal of credit which belonged to his colleague of the same name. The latter, in view of his own experience, had much sympathy for the four Smiths in the House.



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