

THE KITCHEN DRESSER.

It Was Originally a Bench on which Meat Was Dressed.
 Dr. Johnson tells us that the kitchen dresser was a bench in the kitchen on which meat was dressed or prepared for table and gives the following lines in support of his view:
 'Tis burnt, and so is all the meat.
 What dogs are these? Where is the rascal cook?
 How darest thou, villain, bring it from the dresser
 And serve thus to me that love it not?
 —Shakespeare.
 A maple dresser in her hall she had,
 On which full many a slender meal she made.
 —Dryden.

Wright in his "Domestic Manners of the Middle Ages" says: "One of the great objects of ostentation in a rich man's house was his plate, which at dinner time he brought forth and spread on the table in sight of his guests. Afterward to exhibit the plate to more advantage the table was made with shelves or steps, on which the different articles could be arranged in rows, one above another. It was called in French, or Anglo-Norman, a dressoir, because on it the different articles were dressed or arranged."
 It is this to which the modern poet refers:
 The pewter plates on the dresser
 Caught and reflected the flame as shields
 of armies the sunshine.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

The Way Two Englishmen Captured Four Hundred Prisoners.

Toward the close of the peninsular war 400 prisoners were captured by John Colborne, afterward Field Marshal Lord Seaton. Colborne, who was wounded at Talavera, had been disabled for some time, but in 1813 he was in active service again, and when Wellington's army crossed the frontier into France he performed what was indeed the most amazing feat of his career.

When riding, with no comrade but the famous Sir Henry Smith, separated from his column, he saw 400 French soldiers passing along a ravine below him. "The only way was to put a good face on the matter," he wrote. "So I went up to them, desiring them to surrender. The officer, thinking, of course, the column was behind me, surrendered his sword, saying theatrically, 'Je vous rends cette epee, qui a bien fait son devoir.' (I surrender this sword, which has done its duty well.) The 400 followed his example."

Sir Henry Smith used to declare that he had never seen such cool presence of mind as Colborne displayed on this occasion.—London Spectator.

Sanger's White Elephant.

"I was exhibiting the only white elephant ever seen in the western world," relates Lord George Sanger in his book, "Seventy Years a Showman," "when I was honored by a visit from King Edward, then Prince of Wales. After the performance I conducted the prince through the stables and showed him all there was to see. When we came to the 'white elephant' stall his royal highness suddenly turned to me and said, 'Sanger, is this really one of the sacred white elephants?'"

"To this I replied: 'Well, your royal highness, a showman is entitled to practice a little deception on the crowd, but I should never think of deceiving my future king. It is certainly a 'white elephant'—in fact, a very white elephant, but only because we give him a coat of special whitewash twice a day!'"

The Bacteriologist.

A Richmond negro chanced to meet on the street a friend who complained of much "mis'ry." Indeed, the afflicted one was in despair, so "tuckered out" was he.

"'Wot seems to be de matter?' asked the first negro.

"Jim," said the other with a moan and a gesture indicating the portion of his anatomy that was giving him so much trouble, "I's got sech awful pains in mah back heah!"

Jim assumed an air of great solemnity and wisdom. "In dat case," said he, "dere's only one thing fo' yo' to do. Jes' yo' put yo'self in de hands o' dat Doctah Blank. I hears dat he's de finest bacteriologist in de whole souf."—New York Press.

Buddhism.

Buddhism started with Gautama Buddha about 600 years before the Christian era, and it numbers among its adherents more than a third of the human race. Buddhism is confined mainly to Asia—Manchuria, Mongolia, Korea, Tibet, China, Japan and the large islands off the Asiatic coast. Though born in India, Buddhism is not strong in that country today, being driven out by the old Hinduism of which it is the offshoot.

Distraction Needed.

"You don't seem to be making much progress in golf."
 "No," replied Mr. Cumrox. "It worries. Do you know I sometimes wish that I was back in business so as to have something to take my mind off the game."—Washington Star.

Rich, but Not Beautiful.

Bacon—She wasn't around when they were giving out good looks, was she? Egbert—No; she was at the other place where they were giving out money.—Yonkers Statesman.

Foot Notes.

"There is nothing in this book but footnotes."
 "Strang! What is the title?"
 "Every Man His Own Chiroplast!"

Heaven takes care that no man secures happiness by crime.—Alford.

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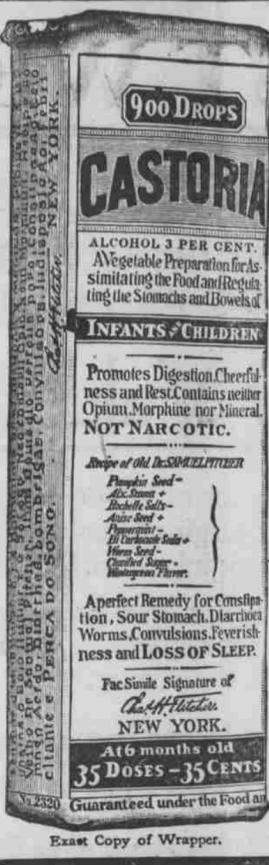
Willie Howard and wife, of Butter creek, visited Heppner on Tuesday.

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Dan P. and A. K. Smythe, of Pendleton, are looking over the sheep market in Heppner this week.

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