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ALPENA COUNTY
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—GENERAL—
Real Estate Dealers
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Alpena Argus

VOL. XXII. NO. 34. ALPENA, MICH., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1893. WHOLE NO. 1126.

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There is no misgiving in the marriage of a widow.—Picayune.

There is more in a clock than appears on the face of it.—Picayune.

The man who married a church choir singer says that they met by chants.—Siftings.

Oddly enough, it is the conversation with no point to it that bores quickest.—Phildelphia Record.

She—Diamonds are like women,s hearts—the richest jewels in creation. He—And the hardest.—Fun.

Tilly (to Lizzie)—"Why do they always eat them turtles green? Ain't they good when their ripe?" —Life.

Jagson says we never know how bad our friends can be till we see them in parlor theatricals.—Elmira Gazette.

One reason why some people belong to a church is because they haven't been put out yet.—Ram's Horn.

Man is never out of danger. Even when he goes to a church fair he has to take a great many chances.—Troy Press.

"I can dispose of a whole boat-load of sailors," remarked the whale, "but it's when I swallow their yarns that I feel worsted."—Gazette.

Ethel (the heiress)—"I received another proposal last night. Clara—Dear me, dear me, what it is to have money!—New York Press.

"Let's see, Henpeck, what is it we call a man who marries two wives—a bigamist?" "Some call him that. I call him an idiot."—Vogue.

"What do you think will be the biggest thing you will see at the World's fair?" said Mrs. Fucash. "My hotel bill," replied her husband. —Washington Star.

When a man eloped with Biggs wife, he exclaimed, "Well, I can't blame him, poor fellow! I was infatuated with her myself once."—Boston Transcript.

The two most exciting periods in woman's life are when she is listening to her first proposal and bidding on a basket of broken crockery at an auction.—Siftings.

"Do you believe man is made of dust, Mr. Snip?" "Not all of hem," said the tailor. "Dust always settles, and I know men who do not."—Harper's Bazar.

"This is a nice time to come home," she said. "I am glad to hear you say so, dear," he answered; "I thought you might think I was rather late."—New York Press.

The Friend—What have you that elbow on your head for?

Comic Artist—I can't draw very well, so I put that on to see if it would make me draw better.—Ex.

Peddler—"Is your mother in?" Boy—"Yes; but she's got three callers, and they've got to takin' 'bout servant girls. Guess you'd better come around next week."—Good News.

Yaysley—"Miss Passay seemed offended at you last evening. What did you say?" Mudge—"Blessed if I know. I only asked her is she didn't dread having to wear hoops again."—Indianapolis Journal.

The idea of employing pretty women for bill collectors looks feasible, but it would not work. The delinquent debtors would all want them to call again.—Somerville Journal.

A teacher was explaining to a little girl how the trees developed their foliage in springtime. "Ah, yes," said the wee miss, "I understand; they keep their summer clothes in their trunks."—Harper's Bazar.

Rural Justice—I sentence the prisoner to be hung. Lawyer—But you can't do that, your Honor; he must go before a higher court. Justice—Well, ain't that jes' where I'm going to send him? Swing him up an' call the next case!—Atlanta Constitution.

He—"Would it make you very sad is I should tell you I was going to marry some one else?" She (who doesn't show the desired anxiety about accepting him)—"I would be, Jack, if the girl were a very near and dear friend of mine."—Texas Siftings.

Objecting Parent—"Yes; I know how it is with you young people. You'd get along so long as the sea is calm and it is smooth sailing; but what would you do in a squall?"

Practical Suitor—"Well, if the worst comes to the worst, we can employ a nurse."—Puck.

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10 30	10 48	Ossineke,	8 52	1 42
10 00	10 27	Black River,	9 16	2 20
9 30	10 14	Roe Lake,	9 30	2 40
9 12	10 07	Henry,	9 36	2 50
9 00	9 50	Mud Lake Junction,	9 43	3 03
8 40	9 30	West Harrisville,	9 51	3 25
8 15	9 41	Gustin,	10 00	3 40
8 00	9 35	West Greenbush,	10 06	3 55
7 45	9 29	Handy,	10 13	4 05
7 05	9 08	Au Sable, Oscoda,	10 36	4 45
	8 45	Bristol,	10 56	
6 00	8 38	East Tawas,	11 03	6 45
4 50	8 32	Tawas City,	11 11	7 05
4 10	8 20	Hale,	11 21	7 25
3 50	8 13	Arn,	11 28	7 40
3 35	8 08	Emery,	11 34	8 08
3 20	8 00	Whittemore,	11 43	8 38
2 55	7 52	Mills,	11 50	8 53
2 35	7 40	Prescott	12 02	9 25
2 05	7 28	Shearer,	12 13	9 45
1 48	7 20	Moffatt	12 19	10 00
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The Poison Berry.

My chum, Hal Trip, often relates the following incident:

"In April, 1855, we anchored off the Ascension Islands for wood and water. The natives came aboard in canoes loaded with fruit, which they traded for tobacco, etc. The girls who visited us were very pretty. Many wore wreaths around their foreheads. Their hair was very long and black, shining with cocoanut oil, and their forms light and graceful.

"My chum and I persuaded one of the girls, named Wikoola, to take breakfast with us. We were much amused at her manner of handling her knife and fork. She would hold the latter like a pitchfork and the other by the end of the blade. She was a merry little creature, with large black eyes, and a voice like the noise of tinkling bells. When she laughed she revealed a row of teeth as white as pearls and perfectly even. Her hands and feet were small and beautifully shaped. Before she left us I made her a present of a silk mantle, and a china teacup, which I procured at Hong Kong. She was much pleased with her presents, and said she would always be my friend.

"On the next day two boats were sent ashore for wood. I pulled the bow oar in one of them. We glided swiftly along a beautiful stream, winding among breadfruit and cocoanut groves, the branches of the trees in many places dipping into the water. Birds of variegated plumage, fluttered among the branches, and the odors of curious flowers greeted our nostrils.

"Soon we arrived at the spot where two sturdy islanders had piled up for us a pyramid of logs chopped from a neighboring wood.

The poor natives were much fatigued by their exertions, and each sat panting by an axe. I could not help admiring their stalwart frames and well devoloped arms and legs, the muscles of which stood out like bands of ribbed steel.

"Suddenly, one of them pulled a handful of red berries from a bush and swallowed them, when his companion uttered a cry of horror and disappeared in the woods.

"Such behavior surprised us until we saw the man who had eaten the berries, jump to his feet, trembling in every limb, and his eyes rolling wildly. Soon he commenced dancing about the banks of the stream, flourishing his axe above his head, and uttering the most terrible cries. His motions became more violent every minute, and suddenly with a yell that reverberated like the shriek of some unearthly ghoul through the woods, he sprang into the boat and made a blow at me with the axe!

"I dodged it, and caught his arm. My shipmates then endeavored to seize him; but before they could do so, he threw his arm around me and dragged me into the stream. Up to our necks in water we struggled desperately, until the islander succeeded in forcing my head beneath the surface. My friends, however, now came to my assistance, the native was dragged ashore, and I was helped into the boat, bleeding and nearly senseless. Suddenly, I heard a terrific scream, something dark passed my head, and the next moment there was a loud splash in the water, as the islander, who had succeeded in breaking loose from my shipmates, and had a second time sprung toward me, missed his hold, and fell headlong into the stream.

"He never rose alive. When we pulled him out, we discovered that he was quite dead.

"Subsequently, I learned the cause of the singular behavior of the native. It seems that the girl to whom I had given the presents, was the betrothed of the dusky woodman, to whom, ever since her visit to the ship, she had spoken many times, of me, in such a manner as excited the jealousy of her lover.

"Accordingly, when he saw me, he resolved to put an end to his own life and mine at the same time, and thus accomplish a terrible vow of revenge, formed against his pretty, but fickle-minded betrothed. The bad effect of the poison berry of which he had eaten, was well known to all the islanders; I have shown you how it operated upon poor Mundie, for such I soon learned was his name.

"He was buried among the cocoanut trees, and often when we went ashore afterwards, we saw the pretty Wikoola hovering near his grave. I think she really loved him."

Spoiling a Good Story.

A good listener never interupts, except to applaud, but a poor listener is preferable to the one who spoils a good story by discovering its flaws, which a great many good stories have.

There was a social party gathered in the porch of a pleasant country house, and one of the gentlemen had just told the story of the criminal condemned to death by some ancient ruler. He was to be beheaded, and, as the executioner stood beside him with drawn sword, the culprit was given a goblet of wine to drink. He turned to the king and asked, as a last favor, that the executioner be directed to hold his hand until the goblet of wine had been drained. "You have my royal word," said the king; "you shall not die until you have drained the cup."

Thereupon the ingenious criminal dashed the goblet to the stone floor, spilling its contents, and thus deferring his death sentence indefinitely. The story happened to be new to some of the party, and was greeted with so much favor that another gentleman endeavored to cap it.

"An ancient Persian king," said he, "had brought before him a traitor to the throne, who after a brief hearing was condemned to be strangled. "'Mercy, oh king!' cried the unhappy man.

"'No,' responded the king, sternly. You have conspired against me, and you must pay the penalty with your life. The clock is now trembling on the stroke of twelve; when it sounds the hour you must bid farewell to earth.'

"Quick as thought the prisoner turned to the clock, which stood by the throne, and with a mighty push, threw it from its pedestal, and it fell with a crash to the floor.

"'I bow to your will, oh king!' he said, calmly. 'When this clock strikes I will die and not before.'

"As a tribute to his presence of mind the king spared the prisoner's life, and, after a brief imprisonment, gave him his liberty."

"Quite as interesting as the other," exclaimed a lady, when the narrative had finished.

"Shows that there is nothing new under the sun," chimed in another.

"Hump—yes," said a small quiet man in the corner, after the comments had run their course; "very good story, and I hate to spoil it, but I must do it."

"What?," exclaimed the story-teller.

"Yes; must do it. There were no clocks in ancient Persia, so the prisoner could not have smashed one."

A Queer Protector.

The following anecdotes will interest those who are fond of that sagacious and benevolent animal, a "live elephant":

An elephant, belonging to an English garrison in the Indies, was amusing himself with a chain in an open part of the town, when a man, who had committed a theft, and was pursued by a great number of people, ran under the elephant.

Apparently delighted with the poor man's confidence, the creature instantly faced about and met the crowd. Erecting his trunk, he threw his chain in the air, after the manner of these animals when engaged with the enemy, and became so furious in defense of the criminal that, notwithstanding the gentle arts made use of by the surrounding multitude, neither they nor even his mahout, who was sent for to manage him, could prevail with him to give up the malefactor.

After three hours' contest, the governor heard of this strange rebellion to the laws of the land, and came to the scene of the struggle. He was so much pleased with the generous perservance of the honest quadruped, that he pardoned the criminal.

The poor man in an ecstasy of gratitude, testified his acknowledgment by kissing and embracing the proboscis of his kind benefactor, who was apparently so sensible of what had happened that he became perfectly tame and gentle in an instant, and suffered his keeper to conduct him away without the least resistance.

A gentleman who crossed the Atlantic a few years since on a German steamship found himself a passenger with a large elephant. The voyage was long and tempestuous. To while away the time, he often visited the elephant's quarters, and at dinner filled his pockets with tid-bits, crackers, or refuse from the table, to carry to the sagacious quadruped, who soon learned to expect and fish his pockets for the same.

At his coming she would throw out her trunk and show signs of gratitude and pleasure. But at length land was reached, and business cares left little time for thought of his campagnon de voyage.

Several years afterwards some elephants were quartered in Central Park, New York, for the winter, and several children of the household desired to visit them. He accompanied them, and obtained permission of the keeper to go into the building where they were kept tied to heavy posts.

As soon as he entered, one elephant at once became restless, threw out her trunk, tossed her ears, stamped her feet, etc.

The keeper looked for a dog, and ordered her to be quiet, then asked the gentleman, "Have you ever had anything to do with elephants?"

"No," was the reply.

Then his voyage was recalled.

"That is it," said the keeper; "you can go to her without danger." It was the elephant that came over on the same vessel.

The visitor went to Nellie, as the keeper called her; she became quiet and expressed her pleasure. From an apple-woman near he procured fruit and filled his pockets. She had not forgotten the old tricks, but dived down with her trunk, as in the old days, until every apple was found.

The keeper said, "You can visit her at any time. She will never forget you."

Eastern Magicians.

A traveler who made a tour of the orient and who by the way, is something of a magician himself, says an exchange, tells the following wonderful story of his experience with some of the wizards of the far east.

"One trick was begun by the largest man in the group, who threw a great coil of ribbons far toward the sky. As it uncoiled in midair a small hawk seemed to be liberated from it. He circled around a few times, seized the ends of the ribbons in his beak and then made off toward a small white cloud, which apparently formed before our eyes.

"From this cloud there now slid to the ground a snake, a frog and a smiling native baby, which one of the wizrad's 'wives' caught in her arms and held out for the wondering crowd to inspect. Next, all of the magicians save the largest (a perfect giant in stature) now left the place. The giant then sat down upon the ground. He then spread a large colored umbrella in such a manner as to wholly conceal himself from our party. Calling me to his side, he exacted a promise from me to remove the umbrella after the expiration of exactly five minutes by the watch. I did as directed and was unspeakably surprised to find that the giant had disappeared, through the earth where he had been sitting was perfectly solid.

"Returning to the hotel, we found our miracle-working giant sitting serenely on the porch. When I handed him his umbella he opened it with a quick jerk, disclosing my watch and chain hanging in a slip-noose from one of the ribs."

Gentleman—"Good evening, my little dear. Is your papa at home?"

Little Dear—"I don't know; I'll see. Mamma is at home, and when she's around I can never tell whether papa is here or not, he's so quiet."

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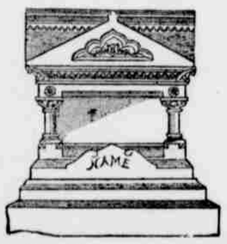

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