AN INDIAN LEGEND.

How the Autumn Leaves Were Transformed Into Birds.

An Indian story that has been handed down and is still believed by many Indian tribes is one about the transformation of leaves into birds. Long years ago, when the world was young, the Great Spirit went about the earth making it beautiful. Wherever his feet touched the ground lovely trees and flowers sprang up. All summer the trees wore their short green dresses. The leaves were very happy, and they sang their sweet songs to the breeze as it passed them. One day the wind told them the time would soon come when they would have to fall from the trees and die. This made the leaves feel very bad, but they tried to be bright and do the best they could so as not to make the mother trees unhappy. But at last the time came, and they let go of the twigs and branches and fluttered to the ground. They lay perfectly quiet, not able to move except as the wind would lift them.

The Great Spirit saw them and thought they were so lovely that he did not want to see them die, but live and be beautiful forever, so he gave to each bright leaf a pair of wings and power to fly. Then he called them his "birds." From the red and brown leaves of the oak came the robins, and yellow birds from the yellow willow leaves, and from bright maple leaves he made the red birds. The brown leaves became wrens, sparrows and other brown birds. This is why the birds love the trees and always go to them to build their nests and look for food and shade —Kansas City Journal.

The Best Building Ground.

The most healthy ground on which to build a residence is one composed of clean gravel free from clay and effete organic matter and having a porous substratum. The advantages of such a soil are free ventilation and drainage and a low level of ground water, all essential qualities for a dry and salubrious situation. A soil composed of permeable sandstone and chalk formation is also good. Rocky and stony situations are usually healthy. Sandy soils may be considered salubrious provided they are clear and pure and not water bound by an impermeable foundation. Clay and alluvial soils are generally unhealthy.

Behavior.

You cannot rightly train one to an air and manner except by making him the kind of man of whom that air is the natural expression. Nature forever puts a premium on reality. What is done for effect is seen to be done for effect; what is done for love is felt to be done for love. A man inspires affection and honor because he was not lying in wait for these. The things of a man for which we visit him were done in the dark and the cold.—From Emerson's Essay on "Behavior."

OLD INDIAN PIPES.

Each Feather In a Stem Represented an Enemy Slain.

It need scarcely be told that in the pipes of long ago each feather appended to the stem represented an enemy slain. If one doubted the record of the war eagle feathers, the warrior then showed the scalps of the enemy, which were kept as a sort of a sacred proof of his word. Such pipes were used only on occasions of peace and war. Speaking roughly, the best pipes of eastern tribes were in molded clay, the best of the western tribes in slate pipe stone taken from the famous quarry west of the Mississippi. Before the great buffalo and antelope hunts, when herds of game were driven into a pound or an inclosed area of snares, it was customary for the Indians to whiff the incense of propitiation to the spirits of the animals about to be slain, explaining that only the desire for food compelled the Indian to kill and that the hunt was the will of the Master of Life, or "Master of the Roaring Winds," who would compensate the animals in the next world. The pipes used for this ceremony usually show the figure of a man in conference with the figure of an animal. Others show the figures of Indians with locked hands. This typifies a vow of friendship to be terminated only by death. It was usually between men, but sometimes between a man and a woman, in which case the platonic bond not only precluded, but forbade, the very possibility of marriage. After that who shall say that the stolid Indian has no vein of sentiment in his nature?

One of the most curious pipes I have seen I bought from a Cree on a reservation east of the refugee Sioux. It is in the shape of a war hatchet, of a metal which I do not know, though I suspect it is galena mixed with clay, the edge being sharp enough, but the back of the ax being a bowl and the handle a pipe stem. The odd lines in Indian carvings and woven work are not without meaning. Fighting Mistah could read a legend where we saw nothing but bizarre markings. There were the circular lines, hollow down, meaning clouds; the cross, meaning the coming of the priest; the tree, a type of peace with its branches overshadowing the nations; the wavy line, signifying water; the arrow, war. The ordinary Indian can read a tribal song or chronicle from obscure drawings on the face of a rock or crazy colored work on a scraped buffalo skin.—Outing.

Speed Rates.

Few men could tell, if they were asked, how many feet per second they walk. The average man walks four feet a second. A dog, on its ordinary jog, goes eight feet a second. A horse trots twelve feet a second. A reindeer

Encouraging Her.

Stationer—What do you do with all the lead pencils you buy, Mr. Smith? You average about three a day. Mr. Smith—Oh, that's all right. My wife is taking whittling lessons.—Columbus Dispatch.

Few enterprises of great labor or hazard would be undertaken if we had not the power of magnifying the advantages we expect from them.—John-

A CRUSHED GENIUS.

The First Musical Efforts of the Composer Grieg.

One day—I must have been twelve or thirteen—I brought with me to school a music book on which I had written in large letters: "Variations on a German Melody For the Piano, by Edward Grieg: Opus I." I wanted to show it to a schoolfellow who had taken some interest in me. But what happened? In the middle of the German lesson this same schoolfellow began to murmur some unintelligible words, which made the teacher call out half unwillingly: "What is the matter? What are you saying there?" Again a confused murmur, again a call from the teacher, and then he whispered, "Grieg has got something." "What does that mean, Grieg has got something?" "Grieg has composed something."

The teacher was not very partial to me, so he stood up, came to me, looked at the music book and said in a peculiar, ironical tone: "So the lad is musical; the lad composes. Remarkable!" Then he opened the door into the next classroom, fetched the teacher in from there and said to him: "Here is something to look at. This little urchin is a composer." Both teachers turned over the leaves of the music book with interest. Every one stood up in both classes. I felt sure of a grand success. But that is what one should never feel too quickly, for the other teacher had no sooner gone away again than my master suddenly changed his tactics, seized me by the hair till my eyes were black and said gruffly, "Another time he will bring the German dictionary with him, as is proper, and leave this stupid stuff at home."

Alas! To be so near the summit of fortune and then all at once to see oneself plunged into the depths! How often has that happened to me later in life!—Edward Grieg in Contemporary Review.

Distrusted Him.

"I don't believe Windy's tips on the races are any good."

"Why not?"

"Well, he said they were a sure thing and then he wasn't willing to lend me the money to bet with."—Detroit Free Press.

The Main Point.

Victim—What has happened? Where am I? Doctor—You have been seriously injured in a trolley accident. But cheer up; you will recover. Victim—How much?—Cleveland Leader.

The man who tries to hide his religion will soon have none that any one could find.

The Eleven Thousand Virgins.

The 11,000 virgins mentioned in Catholic martyrology were the virgin train of St. Ursula. While on their way to France they were driven by adverse winds to Cologne, where they are said to have been murdered by Huns. Even to this day visitors to Cologne are shown a pile of human skulls and bones heaped up in a wall and faced with glass. These, the verger asserts, are the relics of the unfortunate females. St. Ursula was a British princess.

Ammonia For the Mouth.

Persons who are troubled with acidity of the stomach, that disagreeable state of affairs when "one's teeth are all on edge," will find it an excellent thing to rinse the mouth and wash the teeth in water containing a few drops of ammonia. This is an alkali and therefore neutralizes the acid, removing by this means one of the most prolific sources of disease and putting the mouth in an agreeable and wholesome condition.

A Sign of Favor.

Small Boy—My sister likes you. Young Man (calling)—That's very nice. I like her, too, very much. Small Boy—Yes, she said she liked you because you never came often and didn't stay long.

Wealth's Dismal Influence.

Gertrude—Papa, you are so rich that I shall never marry. Papa—Why, daughter? Gertrude—Oh, your money will make the wrong man propose to me and the right men afraid to.—Puck.

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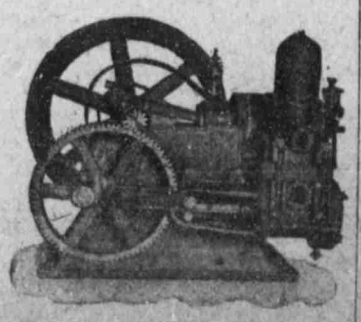
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