

Humorous Department.

She Had Something to Say. "There is something," said the sweet though rather plain girl...

"Great heavens!" he thought. "This is leap year! Why was I fool enough to answer? This is horrible!"

"You cannot have wished to say anything to me for so very long. We have not known each other long, you know."

"Not long as some people reckon time perhaps, but long enough, don't you think, to be perfectly frank with each other? I hope you will permit me to say—"

She paused, apparently in doubt as to the propriety of continuing, and he drew a deep breath, hoping his frigidly might have caused her to reconsider.

"That is," she went on, "I hope you may accept in the proper spirit what I have to say. I know I should, if I were in your place, take it as a great kindness. Still I hardly dare go on, for there is not among all the girls I know one who would—who that is—would!"

He looked about for a chance to escape, but no way seemed to be open, and, shutting his lips tightly, he waited for her to continue.

"Who would," she went on "have the courage to tell you. But, really, don't you think you ought to quit plastering your hair down over your forehead as you do? You would look so much more intelligent than you do if you fluffed it up a little."

With a glad cry he caught both of her hands in his and assured her that she was his best friend he had in the world.—Chicago Record-Herald.

THE SCHOOLBOY BRAIN.—One of the most substantial and genuine of delights for those of humorous appreciation consists in a study of the answers made by school girls and school boys in examination papers.

"Blood consists of two sorts of corkscrews—red corkscrews and white corkscrews."

Asked to explain what a buttress is, one boy replied: "A woman who makes butter."

One pupil defined primate as "the wife of a prime minister."

"Gravity" was discovered by Isaac Walton. It is chiefly noticeable in the autumn, when the apples are falling from the trees.

To the question, "What is a limited monarchy?" this answer was returned: "A limited monarchy is government by a king who, in case of bankruptcy, would not be responsible for the entire national debt. You have the same thing in private life in limited liability companies."

A PARLIAMENTARY STRATAGEM.—It was at an informal session, after one of the regular meetings of a religious convention, that the New Hampshire minister told some of his best stories.

"There is one man in our church," he said, "who is as good as gold, but so long winded that he tires everybody out."

"At one time it was suggested by one of the deacons that in order to avoid the extreme length of this good man's remarks at prayer meeting we might make a five minute limit."

"This I inaugurated at the next meeting, and it was cheering to us all to see that when the long winded man rose to speak he held his open watch in his left hand."

"When the limit was all but reached he said, 'Finding, my dear friends, that I have only a few seconds left in which to speak and having much to say, I will throw the rest of my remarks into the form of a prayer:'"

HE LIKED IT.—Down in Georgia the citizens of a thriving town of about 6,000 people arranged for a Chautauqua assembly last summer. They held the meetings in a big tent about a mile from the town, and the attendance was large from the first day.

"Well, Ezzy, I suppose you are in to the Chautauqua?"

"I shored am. Just come from that now."

"How'd you like it?" asked the townsman.

"Fine ez a fiddle. I rode on the durn thing nine times."

THE ALTERNATIVES.—They had not been engaged very long, but already George had made it apparent that the salary of a junior shop assistant did not admit of an ecstatic existence amid a sea of diamond rings, theater stalls or even chocolate creams.

Recently they walked together to a neighboring village. The road was muddy, the wind bitter, and Daisy felt that life would be better worth living when she had an opportunity of reviving herself with tea and hot scones.

George hesitated outside the only restaurant in the place, and she smiled hopefully. His hand stole to his trousers pocket. He fumbled nervously there for a moment.

"Er—Daisy," he said at last, "will you have something to eat now and walk back, or shall we have nothing to eat and go back by train?"—Pearson's.

DELICIOUS, INDEED.—A gentleman traveling in Virginia last summer had occasion to take a stage ride over a portion of his journey. Riding on the seat with the driver he fell into conversation, and found the native to be a veteran sportsman.

"Lots on 'em," was the reply. "What kind?"

"Mostly trout," said the driver.

"They must be fine eating," was the next remark.

"Fine eatin'!" exclaimed the driver. "You jest go up to the mountain and ketch half a dozen trout about twelve inches long, clean 'em without washin' 'em, rub 'em in some salt, roll 'em in Injin meal and bake 'em in the ashes. Good eatin'! Why, stranger, by gosh, they beats ham."

Miscellaneous Reading.

WITH NEIGHBORING EXCHANGES.

News and Comment Gleaned From Within and About the County.

ROCK HILL.

Herald, February 19: Mr. W. M. Dunlap, accompanied by his bride returned to the city Saturday after a very pleasant visit to Jacksonville, Fla.

Mr. Spencer was accidentally shot Saturday afternoon at the home of a Mr. Spencer near the Arcade mill. A little girl was projecting with a parlor rifle which in some way was discharged, the ball taking effect in the young lady's body.

The wound is in no way serious and within a few days the X-ray will be applied in an attempt to locate the ball.

Mr. J. L. Paris, one of York county's most substantial citizens, died Saturday afternoon at his home in the India Hook section of heart failure, at the age of 71 years.

The funeral services were conducted at the home by Rev. W. A. Beckham Sunday at noon, after which the mortal remains were interred in the burying ground at Concord church.

Mr. Farris had been in feeble health for several weeks, but his death came very unexpectedly. He was a life long member of India Hook church, and served in the Civil war.

Mr. Farris leaves to mourn his death two brothers, Messrs. Densmore and William Garrison, and two daughters and seven sons.

CHESTER.

Lantern, February 19: Miss Addie Scroggins of Smyrna, York county, spent from Saturday until yesterday with her aunt, Mrs. B. E. Wright, on her way to Columbia to take a business course.

Mr. Hiram Thomasson of Yorkville, returned to his home yesterday morning after a short visit with relatives here.

Mr. S. B. Lathan has received information that his youngest brother, Mr. David Warren Lathan of Troy, Tenn., died on the 9th instant.

He had been in poor health for several years. He leaves four or five children, one son at least being married. His wife died several years ago.

Mr. Lathan went from the old home near Blackstock to Tennessee in 1876. He was about 54 years old.

Miss Emme Boyce of Rock Hill, who has been visiting at Woodward came yesterday to spend a few days with Mrs. W. F. Marion and Mrs. J. W. Cowan.

The Farmers' Union met yesterday to further their organization and attend to some business matters.

The chief of which was arranging for the purchase of fertilizers.

Mr. M. S. Carr for the Fifth congressional district, was present.

He expects to remain in the county until "locals" are organized in every neighborhood.

There are only seven as yet.

Mr. Ashe of York county, also attended the meeting yesterday.

Annie May, the 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. McGowan, of the Springstein mill village, died Friday, February 14, of ptomaine poisoning.

supposed to have been caused from eating frozen bananas and potted ham.

The burial was in Evergreen cemetery at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon, after funeral services conducted by Rev. D. M. McLeod.

A little brother about four years old has also been desperately ill, but he is better and it is thought now that he will recover.

LANCASTER.

News, February 19: Mr. Cicero C. Broome, a worthy citizen of this county, died Monday night of dropsy, at his home in the cotton mills village.

He was a son of the late Abram Broome and was about 52 years old.

He was born and reared in the Halle Gold Mine section. He leaves a widow and seven children.

The burial will be at Buffalo today.

The Southern's south bound passenger train due here shortly before 1 p. m.

was delayed several hours last Saturday by the derailment of some freight cars between Rock Hill and Yorkville.

phones in the business section of town are in working order. The force of hands under the direction of Manager Babington, is now engaged in laying a temporary cable from the central office to the barbershop of Walters Brothers which, when gotten up, will connect up all the phones in the western half of town with central.

JAPAN IN RUSSIA'S ROLE.

The Door of Trade in the Orient Closed By a Yellow Hand.

According to a Pekin dispatch the Chinese government has become alarmed lest the Japanese annex South Manchuria outright, as they have already done with Korea.

It is pointed out that inasmuch as Japan flatly violated her treaty obligations in one case nothing better could be expected of her moral sense in the other.

Only the merest fiction of nationality has been permitted to survive in the peninsula, and both politically and commercially the country is under high-handed domination.

The poor Korean, the meekest of men and accustomed for many centuries to be treated like a dog by Chinese and Japanese alternately, has been driven almost beyond himself.

His recent feeble and short-lived attempts at revolt against the arrogant little bullies were really pitiful.

Needless to say, Japan monopolizes the trade of Korea. Whether or not undisguised political control will next be asserted over South Manchuria, it seems certain that for some time past government agencies have been unscrupulously used in an effort to assure the Japanese trader an almost equal monopoly of Manchurian trade opportunities.

Not only has Japan never abandoned her military occupation of South Manchuria but she is turning that occupation to very practical account indeed.

With Japanese soldiers and the Japanese flag everywhere, the native assumes as a matter of course that he must buy from the Japanese just as he formerly bought from the Russians.

Moreover, he is given very little chance to do otherwise. Of the two railways connecting the interior with the coast one, the South Manchurian railway, is in Japanese hands, while the other, a Chinese railroad running up from Pekin, has been halted at the precise point where it began to compete with the South Manchurian

railway. Foreign merchants must choose between the Japanese road, with all of the unofficial obstruction that can be put in the way of non-Japanese goods shipped over its lines, and the Chinese road, which can only be approached through transshipment from Tientsin and a roundabout route.

"If one ships over the Japanese road," said an aggrieved American merchant as quoted in a New York paper recently, "he may be sure that his goods will be hung up at every switch along the line and delivered after competing Japanese ship destination.

And until very recently all exchange in Manchuria was on a Japanese basis, notes of the First Bank of Japan circulating subject to various rates of discount, according to the color of the skin."

It is clear enough that if cut off from South Manchuria well nigh all non-Japanese exporters except Russians are still more effectually barred from the region still under Russian control, to which no alternate trade avenue has been opened except the Trans-Siberian railroad.

With the Manchurian open doors on the coast closed, there can be for the American, the Englishman and the German no Manchurian open door at all.

Greatly though the Japanese have offended against other nations, there is still to be found for them an excuse which was lacking in the case of Russia. Here is no ambition for a conquest which can do little more than gratify the vanity of rulers and people but yielding to the sternest and most urgent necessities.

Japan's millions are crowding each other off the narrow limits of her island dominion. Markets which afford only a minor outlet for America and Europe are matters of life and death to her rapidly growing industrial population.

It is also clear that even with industrial Japan prosperous there must be great numbers of Japanese who cannot maintain themselves at home even on a very low plane of living.

With the United States, Canada and Mexico closed to the Japanese immigrant, whither shall he turn his face? The one national expansion, are in American hands and he is not wanted there.

No door of hope for any large number appears to stand open except in Korea and Manchuria. Here the apparently inevitable submergence of these countries under a Japanese tide. These matters intimately concern the south for the reason that a very large proportion of the now rapidly dwindling American textile exports to Manchuria come from this section.

In the face of a stagnant home demand the question assumes special importance. The Japanese, having put the Russians out of Manchuria, are making vastly harder conditions for our trade than ever the Russians made; they are, in fact, desperately bent upon reserving that trade for themselves alone.

With such conditions notoriously in existence, polite denials and assurances by Japanese officials do for nothing. Who, if anybody, is to do with the Japanese as they did with the Russians? That remains to be seen.—Charlotte Observer.

TRADE MARK F.S.R. REGISTERED MADE WITH FISH For twenty-three years the standard of the South FARMERS' BONE the old time fish guano. F. S. Royster Guano Co. Norfolk, Va.

It Is a Terror.

The Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company is a terror to the agents of all other companies when it comes to a show down. They know that it can and does guarantee policy holders more than any other company for their money, and they know that it can and will do all that it guarantees.

SAM M. GRIST, Special Agent.

Lots in Westerleigh

Westerleigh is the most desirably located suburb of Yorkville, and is close to the business centre of the town.

It is the only place within the corporate limits where a negro can buy a suitable building lot at a reasonable price.

Already some thirty-five or more lots have been bought by substantial negroes.

There are only about fifty more lots for sale. The prices are low, very low considering the value, and the terms are easily within the means of any industrious laborer.

Negroes who desire to invest in lots for the purpose of building homes, or for the purpose of getting good profits within a year or two should see me for particulars.

LAURA E. PARISH.

WALL PAPER

MY NEW SAMPLES ARE NOW IN. Samples and Remnants for sale cheap.

A. B. GAINES.

COME! EVERYBODY! Bring Your Friends and Tell the Neighbors to Come! TO THE Yorkville Banking & Mer. Company's GREAT TEN DAYS' BARGAIN PICNIC! SALE CONTINUES 10 DAYS--Ending Feb. 20th Our Bargain Counters Are Loaded With Unmatchable and Irresistible Bargains for Quick Buyers. THE BARGAIN COUNTERS ARE NUMBERED. SHOP BY NUMBER

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