

Humorous Department.

SHOWED HIS AUTHORITY.—One day last winter, a quorum being lacking in the house, the sergeant-at-arms was sent out to fetch in delinquent members. Among those caught in his net was the Hon. Nicholas Longworth, who was attending an afternoon tea in Connecticut avenue.

Mr. Longworth appeared to be annoyed when the officers of the house informed him that he must "come along."

"Oh, I say," protested Longworth facetiously, "this isn't any way to treat an old friend!"

"Your remark reminds me of the case of the Irish policeman," said the sergeant-at-arms, "who, shortly after his appointment to the force, found himself compelled to arrest an old friend who had been dining a bit freely. Resistance to the arrest met with a clubbing.

"Shure, this ain't no way to treat an old fr'nd," said the unfortunate one.

"It ain't that I hate ye, Cassidy," said the officer, "but simply that I have th' authority!"—Harper's Weekly.

NO APOLOGIES.—Uncle Jerry Peebles, who had taken a seat in the smoking car, had filled his pipe and was about to hunt in his coat pocket for a match, when a large man of much equatorial diameter sat down in the vacant seat by his side, complacently crushing him against the side of the car, and almost obliterating him.

Uncle Jerry said nothing, and proceeded in his search for a match. It was hard work to get his hand down between himself and the large man, but he found the pocket at last, and took out three or four matches, all of which went out as he struck them, one after the other, except the last.

"You're welcome," said the portly man, glancing down at him over his shoulder.

"Was that your pocket I had my hand in?"

"It was."

"Well," said Uncle Jerry, as he lit his pipe, "I've got to go to (puff, puff) in that you buy burned poor matches."—Chicago Tribune.

SHE WAS A REAL ORATOR.—Senator Beveridge, during a recent visit to Portland, talked about oratory.

"The campaign," he said, "has given us oratory more remarkable for quantity than quality. True oratory is that which brings results, is that which converts an audience of enemies to an audience of supporters. Such oratory is rare.

"I have a friend whose wife, a 'suffragette' is a great orator. Her speeches from the platform are wonderful, and her husband the other day gave me an illustration of the efficiency of her private speeches.

"An agent called on my wife this afternoon," he said, "and tried to sell her a new wrinkle eradiator."

"And how did the man make out?"

"He left in half an hour," was the answer, "with a gross of bottles of 'wrinkle eradiator' of my wife's own manufacture, that he had purchased from her."

ALMOST AT REST.—A kind hearted, but somewhat close-fisted man who was sorely afflicted with a conscience came to a friend, holding a visiting card in his hand. He looked deeply troubled. "I know," said he, "this man wants to borrow money. I know he will drink it. What am I to do?"

"It is perfectly simple," said the friend. "Send down word that you are out."

"I cannot," he said. "I have never told a lie in my life."

"Then," said his friend, "lend all your money to me, and you can tell him you haven't a penny in your pocket."

"After some hesitation the kind hearted man complied and, having seen his caller, returned.

"Well," asked his friend, "are you conscience and mind at rest?"

"Not quite, man," he replied, "but they will be as soon as you have given me my money back."—Bellman.

A BACK-WATER TOWN.—"It was one of those sleepy, one-horse, back-water towns, like Squash," said Representative Burton, describing at a Hot Springs dinner a town that he disliked.

"Squash is the limit. A gentleman arrived the other day and wanted a haircut. He found the barber shop, and, after shaking the barber vigorously, managed to awaken him.

"How long will it take you to cut my hair, barber?" he asked.

"Not long, boss," said the barber. "And he rose, yawned and stretched himself. Then he called upstairs to his wife.

Miscellaneous Reading.

THE ADMIRAL'S RUSE.

How He Corrected a Slight Lapse of Memory.

It was entirely fitting that when Admiral Emory, who has reached the age for retirement, hauled down his flag the other day the ceremony took place in Chinese waters, since he is a popular favorite in the Orient, especially in the Asiatic States.

The late Mrs. Astor was one of the most interesting details in the whole of his service. His personality appealed to the mandarins as well as to the large cosmopolitan contingent that is an important factor in the society of Hongkong, where he was accepted very seriously as a great American nabob. This was quite natural, for his presence and manner are most impressive, so much so that they are sometimes confused in the mind of propinquity. His friends, however, at least to the contrary, for his father, the late Major General W. H. Emory, possessed the same characteristics.

Admiral Bill, for thus he is known in the service, is much sought after by social lion hunters, which is small wonder, since his presence adds interest to any occasion. He beams with good humor, has an endless resource of stories and his manners are very agreeable. The late Mrs. Astor was one of his warmest friends. One evening as he was leaving her Newport villa, where he had dined, his hostess said to him: "Admiral, would you mind taking this note to Dr. Henneberger? I wish to ask him to dinner and have no way of getting the note to him."

Now, Dr. Henneberger was also a social favorite, not so noted perhaps as his shipmate, Admiral Bill, but with amiable tendencies.

"Most certainly, madam, it is my pleasure," he replied with the suavity which he is noted for.

But next morning he had already forgotten the note, and he continued to forget it until some three weeks afterward, when his ship was in Cuba for target practice, when, much to his chagrin, he suddenly came across it. But the Admiral is resourceful, and he hurriedly called his negro valet, Murphy. Murphy is a character. He has been with Cap'n Bill, as he calls the admiral, for many years and would gladly be blown from the mouth of a 15-inch gun if by so doing he could please his master, whose manners and style of dress he affects.

Said Admiral Emory to faithful Murphy: "Murphy, you black scoundrel, you see this note? Well, I gave it to you three weeks ago and told you to give it to Dr. Henneberger. Do you understand?"

"Yas, sah, yas, sah, 'deed I does. You done give this yere letter three weeks ago to give to Dr. Henneberger right away, shuah, and I lak a plumb forgetless niggah, done forgot all about it. Yas, sah, Cap'n Bill, I understand."

So Murphy laid the note in the doctor's room and hung around to await developments. Presently the doctor entered, found the note, read it, and at once became very angry. Hearing him Murphy said:

"Doctor, what am de matter? Dat, dat note, 'em, 'em, 'em, Cap'n Bill, done give it to me more'n three weeks ago, and he done say, 'Murphy, you give this yere note to de doctor at once,' and 'deed, Lawd Gawd, doctor, this wuthless niggah done forgot about it."

In high indignation the doctor hid himself to the admiral's cabin. "Admiral," said he, "I apologize for troubling you, but your servant, Murphy, has placed me in a most embarrassing position. 'Well, I may say that he has ruined my reputation among my friends. I can never explain this matter satisfactorily to them and shall never again have the nerve to look them in the face. This note was written three weeks ago and I have just received it. Murphy having forgotten to deliver it, as you ordered him to do, it is an invitation from Mrs. Astor and should long since have been answered."

"Is that so?" queried the admiral. "Well, I will fix that no good rascal. Orderly, send Murphy to me at once!" Murphy entered trembling. "Murphy, what is this the doctor tells me about not delivering that note as I ordered?" thundered the admiral. "What do you mean by it? Have I fostered a viper in my bosom all these years? Is this the reward for all my goodness to you in so long keeping on my payroll such a worthless scoundrel? I shall have you put in double irons on bread and water for ten days, and after that you will no longer be in my employ. Go forward!"

The righteous indignation of the old sea dog was awful to behold. He simply stormed. He outraged Neptune. The unheard of had happened, his order had not been efficiently and promptly obeyed. When such a thing could occur the United States navy was surely going to the bottom, as the old saying goes.

It was discovered that his name was Fitzgerald, that he was 72 years of age and a miner. In his earlier days he had been a great wrestler and was proud of his giant-like strength. In his hut was found a battle-axe of iron weighing thirty-six pounds, with which he intended to break the record of Brian Boru, who at the battle of Clontarf had swung an axe weighing only thirty pounds.

Fitzgerald, who seems to have been of Irish origin, was also a poet and evidently came of a good family and was well educated. One section of public opinion considered he should not have been disturbed in his habits, but the police captured him because he lived on ground corn and other kinds of food and when in the hospital refused to take stimulants.

After two days in hospital Fitzgerald was brought before the police court and committed as a person of unsound mind, and three days later, still refusing to take stimulants, died of heart failure. As soon as his capture was made known offers from showmen poured in, for all Australia immediately became curious to see the "hairy man."

He however, disappointed the public by dying.

Though obviously suffering from several strange delusions the man was harmless and inoffensive and seems to have desired only to live the "simple life" in the solitude of the bush. His motive for cutting himself off from civilization may have arisen from a marriage which, he said, had been arranged but which had never taken place. His long sojourn in the bush had unhinged his mind.—Pall Mall Gazette.

One pound of cork is amply sufficient to support a man of ordinary size in the water.

STRENGTH IN THE SOIL.—People who remember the story of the Chicago belle who objected to stepping in the soil spilled from one of the overturned

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Each year when these royal visits bring me to Windsor, says a contributor to the Manchester Chronicle, I notice more and more signs of decay in the royal household. Shops are empty in the main street, and some of the fine Georgian houses in Park street are uninhabited and partly dismantled. It is a pity it should be so, for Windsor is one of the prettiest little towns in the kingdom. The tradespeople complain, and with some show of right, that the Castle is now an expense to them, from the time they receive nothing in return. Every time the king has a royal visit it is expected that the streets shall be decorated, and this involves a charge on the rates. The cost is only £70, but it is rather an important sum to a small place whose trade is going. The king literally buys nothing in the borough, though the queen occasionally goes shopping there. For the rest all the banquets and even the ordinary meals are supplied from London stores. Even the flowers for decorating the tables at a state banquet are brought by a contractor and, except rare fruit, nothing comes from the royal gardens at Frogmore.

His majesty of Sweden, the royal guest on this occasion, is the most democratic ruler who has ever visited Windsor Castle. It would almost seem as if in him there was a reversion to the Bernadotte, who was the son of a Pau attorney. This is only a matter of three generations. It is a remarkable stride which Marshal Bernadotte made from a private in the French royal marines to the Swedish throne, and possibly King Gustav, the deepest objection to ceremony of any kind, and I am certain he took very little interest in any of the pomp accompanied with his visit, and was happiest at the legation among his own people, worried about the difficulties he met from Sweden. Dr. E. Etzel, was quite one of the special correspondents with your gold-stick-in-waiting, and your silver-stick-in-waiting, I cannot get near my own people." He was genuinely surprised that he did not receive an invitation to the state banquet. A visiting journalist from Sweden, but we have not reached so far.

King Gustav takes life very seriously, and, indeed, is quite evangelical in his views. One of the suite said he would be surprised if one evening at the dinner he turned to King Edward, and said to him: "Are you saved?" He cares nothing for soldiers or for sport which involves killing. When I saw him shooting in the forest he intentionally let bird after bird pass him. His total bag was only 135 that day. The Prince of Wales did most of the shooting of the bag reaching more than 600 birds. There are practically no pheasants now at Windsor. A year or two ago disease set in among the ground game, and they had to be killed off. The birds are very tame and friendly, and give every head away to friends and to institutions in which he or the queen are interested.

Queen Victoria of Sweden is much more of the monarchical type than her husband. She saw that the officers did not quite like the perfunctory way in which their men were inspected, and sent for General Sir Frederick Stopford, and complimented him on the appearance of the troops. The Irish Guards are stationed in Windsor, and have furnished the necessary duties for the battalion in the whole of the brigade of guards, and are well worth seeing. In their "drums" is one of the best fustians I ever heard, and one morning during the mounting of the sentries, he played a solo which delighted King Edward and the queen of Sweden, who listened throughout.

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IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

The King of Sweden Viewed as a Democratic Monarch.

Each year when these royal visits bring me to Windsor, says a contributor to the Manchester Chronicle, I notice more and more signs of decay in the royal household. Shops are empty in the main street, and some of the fine Georgian houses in Park street are uninhabited and partly dismantled. It is a pity it should be so, for Windsor is one of the prettiest little towns in the kingdom. The tradespeople complain, and with some show of right, that the Castle is now an expense to them, from the time they receive nothing in return. Every time the king has a royal visit it is expected that the streets shall be decorated, and this involves a charge on the rates. The cost is only £70, but it is rather an important sum to a small place whose trade is going. The king literally buys nothing in the borough, though the queen occasionally goes shopping there. For the rest all the banquets and even the ordinary meals are supplied from London stores. Even the flowers for decorating the tables at a state banquet are brought by a contractor and, except rare fruit, nothing comes from the royal gardens at Frogmore.

His majesty of Sweden, the royal guest on this occasion, is the most democratic ruler who has ever visited Windsor Castle. It would almost seem as if in him there was a reversion to the Bernadotte, who was the son of a Pau attorney. This is only a matter of three generations. It is a remarkable stride which Marshal Bernadotte made from a private in the French royal marines to the Swedish throne, and possibly King Gustav, the deepest objection to ceremony of any kind, and I am certain he took very little interest in any of the pomp accompanied with his visit, and was happiest at the legation among his own people, worried about the difficulties he met from Sweden. Dr. E. Etzel, was quite one of the special correspondents with your gold-stick-in-waiting, and your silver-stick-in-waiting, I cannot get near my own people." He was genuinely surprised that he did not receive an invitation to the state banquet. A visiting journalist from Sweden, but we have not reached so far.

BLAZED TREES.

The Way They Marked Forest Roads and Boundary Lines.

Very few persons have any adequate notion of the meaning of the phrase "blazed trail," as so often used in fiction having to do with the great west.

Earlier days, when large portions of