

Humorous Department.

"Excuse Haste."—Matilda, maid of all work, had received a letter from a friend whom she greatly admired for her intellectual attainments.

"She's a marvel!" exclaimed the little maid, with conviction, fiercely blacking the kitchen stove.

"I'll tell you, miss," she cried, "Winnie is very hard worked. She must have been in a hurry. When she's plenty of time she puts a capital letter to every word."

"What have you to say?" asked the magistrate. "I am innocent," replied the man. "What did he do?" asked the magistrate.

"What did he do?" exclaimed the policeman haughtily, who had hoped that such a question would not be put. "Why, he tapped three times at the door of a saloon on my beat, and when the landlord shoved the door he took it and drank it. That's what he did."

"Amid roars of laughter the case was dismissed.—Exchange.

"Lost His Objective."—"Object" drawing has brought a new anxiety into the schools. In certain districts youngsters may be seen moving schoolward with hatchets, knives, hammers, chisels and similar things as materials for their drawing lessons.

"The other day just as about a small boy was found standing tearfully at the teacher's desk. "I've swallowed my object," he explained with an alarming gulp.

"What was it?" asked the teacher anxiously. "A banana," replied the would-be artist with a final gulp.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

Nothing Abstract.—Richard La Gallienne, the poet, was talking about the hardships of a poet's life. "Poetry is popular," he said, "but there's no money in it. Have you heard the latest about the poet, Pindar Oade?"

"Mrs. Oade nudged her husband in the dead of night and whispered: "Pindar, wake up! There's burglars in the house." "Well, what of it?" said Pindar Oade sleepily. "Let them find out their mistake for themselves."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Taking Care of Baby.—One day a woman sent her little boy out in the yard to play with the baby, as she was busy. The boy had a new shovel his mother had given him. After they had played awhile, she heard the baby crying. She went out to see what was the matter with baby.

"It's a fine sermon his reverence would be after giving us" said one to the other. "It is indeed," was the quick reply, "and I wish I knew as little about the matter as he does."—Life.

Short on Evidence.—A Yankee attorney was addressing a jury on behalf of a prisoner. "Gentlemen," he said, "witnesses have sworn that they saw the accused fire his gun; they have sworn they saw the flash and heard the report; they have sworn they saw Pete Jackson fall flat; they have sworn that this bullet was extracted from Pete Jackson's body; but gentlemen, in the name of justice, I ask you where is the evidence that the bullet hit Pete Jackson?"—New York Globe.

Very Timely.—"General," said the Mexican officers, "I have to remind you that next Saturday is the day you mentioned as pay day." "H'm. In order to show my sentiment for the people, I will declare another holiday. It will be a day of general rejoicing with no thoughts of business."

"What day shall it be, general?" "Why, next Saturday, of course."—Washington Star.

Miscellaneous Reading.

THE "MOVIES" HAVE GROWN Over 5,000,000,000 Attended the Nickel Shows Last Year.

With the possible exception of those who have not yet entered their teens most of us remember the various stages through which the moving picture industry has passed. In the beginning, as usual, all good things came from abroad.

A few years ago the moving picture was called the kinetoscope then it was a feature. Only now and then did some enterprising vaudeville house announce it had secured one of the marvellous new films and the announce- ment served to pack the house from garret to cellar.

A moving train, a view of the street crowds, a procession of absurd, clownish antics staged in some Paris suburb. It was deemed the proper thing to show at least one humorous skit and three or four serious ones.

It dawned rather slowly on film makers that while action was necessary to the production of a film which would be readily followed by the audience, or rather spectators, that it was not essential that action be energetic or exaggerated. It would be better possibly to say that the producers began to realize that antics were not action.

Facial expression, the twist of a hand or the shrug of a shoulder were as readily understood as the pursuit of a rogue by a company of tumblers, hurtling acrobats. Actors began to replace performers in film companies, and the actors began to study more closely how to register the emotions

without exaggeration. Men and women who had achieved success on the legitimate stage were at first induced and at last became perfectly willing to lend their efforts to the production of films that would compare with the staged productions aided by the voice. Then there grew up a class of actors who devoted themselves entirely to moving picture production.

In the meantime millions of dollars have been attracted to the motion picture industry. There is scarcely a block in the larger cities that does not boast a "nickellette." Nearly every hamlet has at least one "picture show." Someone has estimated the number of "admissions" for last year at 5,000,000,000 which would give every man, woman and child one visit a week to the movies.

People are no longer attracted in droves by the announcement of an exhibition of the kinetoscope, for the movies have become an institution and everybody goes; not to see a marvel, but to while away an hour or so.

But the real growth of the moving picture is evidenced by the report of the government that the 1913 exports from that country, the surplus manufactures of the United States, will reach 130,000,000 feet, each foot capable of being used again and again, and the companion announcement that the United States is now making three fourths of the films used in the world.—New York Commercial.

STEALING BIG FORTUNES It Appears to be Easier to Get Away With \$100,000 Than It Is With Ten Cents.

It often seems easier to steal \$10,000 than to steal 10 cents. The youth who a few days ago spent \$4 car fare and ran over from New York with a bunch of stock and borrowed \$200,000 in Philadelphia is by no means an isolated individual.

A Philadelphia broker not so long ago got a good deal more than that and didn't waste anything for car fare. His method was simplicity cubed. He would buy one share of stock for, say \$100, then raise the number to make it 100 shares and so worth \$10,000.

The operation was repeated, only in larger figures, and these fraudulent certificates were taken to the banks, where a very great sum was borrowed. His transactions went on for some years before detection and then sui-

cide ended the case. Earlier still, a Philadelphia street railway official who seemed to need some cash, filled out a bunch of new stock certificates in his own name and so got the money rather easily.

The case of a safe deposit superintendent in Philadelphia a couple of years ago was even more extraordinary than these others. He took \$1,900,000 in securities, with about \$30,000 cash from the vaults of the trust company that employed him.

The securities were carried in two old suit cases and were checked in a German city in an ordinary storage house. They remained there for months untouched.

This man crossed the ocean six times during the subsequent negotiations with detectives for the return of the stocks and bonds. He went across the American continent to San Francisco twice.

His motive in traveling was to insert advertisements in about fifty different newspapers, as this was his method of carrying on his communications with the authorities. He went from place to place so that it was difficult to locate in which one of the fifty cities he might be.

All the securities were returned, but not the \$30,000 cash. A broker takes out say a \$100,000 policy to cover any loss, whatsoever which may occur through the error or omission of an employee, or which comes from any outsider.

It is the same thing as if a farmer were to insure against any possible loss to his crops through drought, excessive rain, heat, cold, hail or snow. You may insure yourself against having a cold when the assembly ball occurs, or against a case of measles during the next winter's series.

This great art of betting concerns in the world, which is known as Lloyd's, simply lays a wager at odds, which it has carefully figured out, that this or that thing won't happen. Judging by the prosperity of this unique institution, it is also a safe

wager that it has the odds ciphered somewhat to its own advantage.—Philadelphia Ledger.

What He Thought of His Flock.—"Well, Br'er Wilson," said the elder of one of the colored churches to a newly appointed pastor, "what do yo' think of yer new congregation?" "Since yo' ask me, Br'er Johnning," replied the minister, "I have got to say dat I think dey is a scrubby lookin' crowd."

"Why, Br'er Wilson, what do yo' mean?" questioned the other in amazement. Dese folks has had no camp meetin' and got religion oftener 'dan mos' any congregation in town."

"Well, dat's jes' it, Br'er," responded the pastor, "dat's jes' de trouble. Dey has done wore out de seats ob dey pants backside, and dere knees pray-in' for fo'givness."

Shy on Talk Topics.—"Excuse"—This magazine says that in Japan the styles in women's clothes have not changed in 2,600 years.

Mrs. E.—"Gracious, I wonder what the women there find to talk about when they meet."—Boston Transcript.

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