## THE STOLEN BRACELET .

The pride of Mrs. Lester's heart was veried in her diamonds. With-out these diamonds, Mrs. Lester often remarked, she would feel like nobody. Consequently when Miss Arabella Tiptop espoused Mr. Augustus Highflyer, and the pair gave their grand reception prior to their European tour, Mrs. Lester donned her jewels and in gala attire proceeded to make her call. It was a formal affair and soon over, and Mrs. Lester returned home anticipating no change in her domestic arrangements, but to her surprise the moment she entered the hall her eye encountered, perched on the two hall chairs, a mammoth value of dingy yellow and a large basket with two handles.

"What are those, Bridget?" she said faintly. Bridget tittered. "They're luggage, mum," she

said. "You've got company, an ould gentleman and an ould lady. They are in the back parlor, and they bid me say nothin', bekase they'd like to give you a pleasant surprise."

"A pleasant surprise!" muttered Mrs. Lester, and with anything but a happy expression on her countenance she sailed toward the back parlor.

There on either side of the fire sat an old lady and gentleman, certainly very clean and tidy and perfeetly respectable, but with as little pretense to fashion as Noah and his

Mrs. Lester summoned up a smile. "Aunt and Uncle Trotters, I declare," she said. "I knowed you'd be astonished,"

said the old lady. "Well, how are you both?" said Mrs. Lester.

"Oh, we're middlin'," said the o'd lady; "but Aunt Jenkins, she's had rhe'matiz a year, poor soul, and Tom's children have got the whoopin' cough awful, and Sary's boy tumbled off the barn, where he hadn't no business to be, and put his shoulder out, and Pete Brown, he's lost three cows and a calf and half his chickens."

After this remark there was a pause. The old gentleman broke it. "When a thing has got to be ot over, it's best done. You won't be offended, I hope, Augusta?"
"At what?" asked Mrs. Lester.

"You see, 'twas better'n not comin' at all, but we've got to run away right after tea. My wife says. Lor', Timothy, what will Gusty and her pardner think of us after not bein' to see 'em for a year?' Says I: 'She'll excuse us, seein' we hain' i no time, but have got to go by the night train. Next time, says I, 'we'll stay a week.' Now, you ain't offended?"

Mrs. Lester rang the bell. "Take my cloak and bonnet up stairs," she said to the girl, "and tell cook to have dinner early."

Then Mrs. Lester smiled and sat down in all her splendor before the fire to listen to accounts of the Smiths' pigs and Brown's cow and how Sally Sprigg's help stole the best tablecloths until a well known ring at the bell announced Mr. Lester. Thereupon his lady for once played the affectionate wife and ran to meet him.

"Aunt and Uncle Trotters are here," she said.

Mr. Lester scowled.

"Gracious heavens!" he ejaculated. "And the Atwoods are coming to spend the evening with us. They are stopping at the Fifth Avenue hotel for a few days."

"Uncle and aunt are going immediately after dinner," said Mrs. Lester, "and fortunately I've ordered it early. Don't be cross, George, for you know they haven't chick or child and for all their shabbiness are very well off."

As far as an early dinner went Mrs. Lester did her part, but the Trofters were slow going folk.
When at last the bonnet strings

were tied and the gloves on, Aunt Trotters bethought her of a new cause for delay. "Poor Aunt Jenkins will never

forgive us if we don't take a letter from you," she said. "Jest sot down, Gusty, and write a line."

Mrs. Lester smiled down her indignation and sat down to pen the

The gilt edged paper, pens and ink were arranged, thoughts collected and polite sympathy for Aunt Jenkins' rheumatism expressed. Mrs. Lester found the bracelet exceedingly in her way, and impatiently unclasping it flung it on the

It was the first time the diamonds had ever been treated with such contempt.

Just as Mrs. Lester had turned the page a ring at the bell startled her. She felt instinctively that the 'Atwoods had arrived, wound up her letter with regrets that "fear of detaining 'Aunt and Uncle Trotters prevented her writing at length," folded it, sealed it, crossed the room

giene or diet to the smallest extent; he has but one resort left, namely, the drug treatment." When medicines are used for chronic constipation, the most mild and gentle obtainable, such as Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, should be employed. Their use is not followed by constipation, as they leave the bowels in a natural and healthy condition. For sale by Orr-Gray Drug Co. for an envelope and returned to write the address, all with as much speed as was consistent with gentility, and finally had the pleasure of receiving a parting salute from the Trotters in the hall.

In a moment more Mrs. Lester rolled back the sliding doors and welcomed her fashionable guests. There was no vulgar sociability, no warming up. Everything was cold and formal. In due season the no warming up. Everything was cold and formal. In due season the waiter brought in wine and cake, and the party nibbled and sipped a signature on every box. 25c.

little. Mrs. Lester played a waltz; A WEDDING TOUR INCIDENT. the rest said, "Charming." Mrs. ed, "Lovely, indeed."

Then Mrs. Atwood "really must

Lester attered an ejeculation.

the back parlor."

bracelet was gone.

it," said Mr. Lester.

and come yourself."

storm were brewing.

moment she called out:

"Where is your bracelet, Augus-

"My bracelet? Oh, how stupid I

And she arose to find it. In a

"George, the bracelet's gone!"

The gentleman came to her aid.

room, both rooms, all in vain. The

"It has been stolen," said Mrs.

"One of the servants must have

"Sam, send all the servants here

In five minutes the kitchen cabi-

net appeared, locking as though a

Mr. Lester arose to address them.

say," he said. "I address everybody

but cook. Cook has not been up

stairs and cannot be suspected. A bracelet has been lost," said Mr.

Lester, clearing his throat; "a dia-

mond bracelet. All of you have

been in the back parlor, where it

was left upon a table, and all of

At this a turnult equal to that of

"None of us touched your brace-

let," and fists were shaken and lan-

guage not to be recorded was used.

In the midst of the tumult Mr. Les-

Some one in brass buttons was

"Policeman, step here a minute, if you please," and the next moment

Rage and tears were now min-

"You make a charge against all

"No other mortal could possibly

gled, and amid the partial lull Mr.

of 'em, then," said the policeman.
"Certainly," said Mr. Lester.

be suspected," said the lady.
"Then I'll proceed to business,"

said the policeman. "My counade

is outside. Get your bonnets, young women, and don't make a fuss, be-

Bridget shrieked, Ann tore her

hair, Sally sat down upon the floor,

Sam roared and cook wept aloud

from sympathy, and at that junc-

The policeman opened the door, and in rushed Uncle and Aunt Trot-

"We've run the hull way," gasped Uncle Timothy. "Openin' my valise

for to find my specs, I took out a lot o' things, and I must 'a' put this

back among 'em. If I hadn't been a relation, I'd 'a' died."

And out upon the table came

from the depths of the yellow va-

lise Mrs. Lester's diamond bracelet.

at 9 o'clock descended to the kitch-

en to find Mr. Lester blowing fran-

tically at the fire and Mrs. Lester

staring ruefully at the coffeepot and

trying to make themselves useful in

getting breakfast. The help was

One Way.

"My friends," the candidate for alderman said, smiting the desk be-fore him with his closed hand, "we

hear a great deal about purifying

ward politics these days. There ain't no man alive that believes in

that sort of thing more'n I do. I'm willing, fellow citizens, to do every-thing that one man can do to purify

the politics of this ward."

Then he took a drink of water as

"Why don't you move out of the ward, then?" squeaked a voice in the back part of the hall.—Chicago

Killed by imagination.

thenticated cases where death has

been caused by sheer fright. An

English military surgeou named

Francis told of one case, that of a

a mmer in India, across whose

legs a harmless lizard crawled while

he was half asleep. He was sure

that a cobra had bitten him, and it

was too much for his nerves, and he

Won't Follow Advice After Paying For

In a recent article a prominent phy-sician says, "It is next to impossible for the physician to get his patients to

carry out any prescribed course of hy-

Gray Drug Co.

language of the mutes.

giene or dies to the smallest extent;

- You couldn't stop some men

from bragging if they were deaf and

dumb and had no bands to talk the

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

It.

Phere have been several well au-

he waited for the applause.

The Trotters stayed all night and

cause, you see, it's no use."

ture came a ring at the bell.

ters out of breath.

admitted the official designated.

you are consequently implicated."

Donnybrook fair arose.

ter opened the window.

passing, and he called:

Lester explained.

"I have something very serious to

Mr. Lester rang the bell.

Atwood sang; her friends remark-

Bride's Embarrassing Meeting With Her Former Flance, She is very pretty, and no one go," and the Lesters "must be sure wonders that her husband is much to spend an evening with ns," and adiens were said and the guests dein a ve with her unto this day, but she tells this story of a bad half parted, and Mrs. Lester came to the hour on her wedding journey.
"I was eighteen," she said, "when fire yawning behind her handker-chief. As she lifted her arm Mr.

to my husband a year, but preceding both engagement and marriage I was sort of engaged, schoolgirl fash-ion, to another young fellow. It was one of those intangible engageam!" cried Mrs. Lester. "I took it off to write to that tiresome 'Aunt ments that melt into thin air when the real prince comes, but fervid Jenkins and left it on the table in enough while they last. In this case my interest in the affair cooled with the rapidity of a collapsing balloon, and as the youth lived in a distant city no embarrassing explanations They searched the floor, the whole

were necessary. "So I was married, and the wedding journey included a stop of several days in a town on the Ohio rivwould object to another gentleman and lady being placed at our table.

"Bride like yourself, missy,' he added confidentially as he passed my chair. In a moment he ushered to their places the other couple, and | increase them. I looked up to encounter my former fiance, consternation and amazement written on every line of his face. Lacking the wit or wisdom of experienced years, I dropped my eyes without further recognition than rapid paling and flushing of countenance, and he, following my lead, began discussing the menu with his wife.

"The dinner proceeded in such appalling silence so far as I was concerned as to fairly paralyze my husband, and explanations were in order as soon as we returned to our apartments. Then how he laughed and went in search of the rival couple, only to find they had left the hotel immediately after the meal, and we have never heard of either of them since."-Baltimore Sun.

The Value of Thought.

It is hardly necessary to say that all men need to "swing" the moral compass from time to time and to take their bearings in the sea of life. The advice is as true as it is conventional. Upon the use of thinking for such purposes we shall not, then, dwell. We may, however, point out that as a means of strengthening and invigorating the mind in a secular and worldly sense the habit of thinking is of the greatest possible vaine.

The minds of those who dread thinking as if it were a penance become like the bodies of those fed solely on spoon meat-soft and unable to stand the slightest strain, reading, as one ordinarily reads, like swallowing pap; thinking like eating solid food. The man who trains his mental powers by meditation and by following outlines of thought obtains an intellectual instrument a hundred times more powerful than he who is content never to think seriously and consecutively. -London Spectator.

Milk Frauds In Athens.

An ingenious method of milk adulteration is practiced in Athens. The sleeves. Their cry of "Gala, gala!" brings the housewife to the door, and she prudently demands that the goats shall be milked in her presence. This is done, but the milk-man has in one hand the end of a thin tube which runs up his sleeve and connects with an india rubber receptable full of water, which is carried under his ample blouse. At each pressure of the fingers on the udder there is a corresponding compression of the water sack, and milk and water flow side by side into the milkpail.—Journal des Debats.

"Three" In Mythology.

In mythology we find the three (3) occupying even a more honorable place than the so called "mythical number 7." There were the three graces, Cerberus with his three heads, Neptune holding his three tined fork, to say nothing of the nine muses, which are made up of three threes, and the third wave, which was thought to bring death and destruction to everything in its path. In nature we have morning, noon and night; fish, fiesh and fowl. Hundreds of trees, vines and grasses have their leaves and bl des set in groups of three.

When the Cat Was Sacred. In the middle ages brute animals formed as prominent a part in the devotional geremonies of the time as they had in the religion of Egypt. The cat (ælurus) was embalmed after death and buried in the city of Bubastis, because, according to Herodotus, Diana Bubastis, the chief deity of the plae, was said to have transformed herself into a cat when the gods fled to Egypt.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears, the Signuture of Chartet Thithing

- "Beauty is only skin deep," reat that," murmured the Simple Mug. | find things where I lay them."

THE BERMUDA ISLANDS.

They Occupy For England a Singularly Commanding Position. Imperial England knows what she is about Those islands (the Bermudas), besides being used as a garrison for her troops and a safe, landlocked harbor for her warships, are a link in the chain that connects I was married and had been engaged her American provinces in Canada and Nova Scotia with her possessions in the West Indies. The Bermudas occupy for her politically and commercially a singularly command-ing and an unrivaled position, says a correspondent of the New York Mail and Express.

Spain parted with Cuba because she was forced to, and she sold to the American nation the Philippine Islands for a mess of pottage. Denmark, following suit, for a few million kroner made over to us her West India possessions. Catch England parting with the Bermudas! She would no more let them go than er, where we had a cozy table all to she would give up her great strong-ourselves at the hotel. It was at holds in the Mediterranean sea, Malholds in the Mediterranean sea, Maldinner one day that the patriarchal ta and the invincible, unyielding waiter approached and asked if we rock of Gibraltar. No power will ever wrest them from her-not one foot of ground-until she has lost every ship and her last drop of blood. No; instead of parting with any of her colonies her policy is to

Nor will England permit emigration to or an increase in the population of her garrison towns at Bermuda, Gibraltar and Malta. With some precautionary measures she will allow sightseers and tourists to enter Gibraltar, but strangers may not settle there permanently, nor may an alien own a foot of ground in the Bermudas. She wants only British subjects in these places, and even British subjects are not allowed to vote in Bermuda unless they own real estate there.

Royal Simplicity.

Household fetiches among the Bonapartes are the book and the little hat of Napoleon, that monarch who worked harder than any dozen men in his empire.

In Prussia they preserve piously the breeches of gray leather which were worn by the Margrave Frederick, the founder of the Hohenzollern dynasty. They preserve with equal reverence the cane which Frederick the Great carried in his battles, that same cane he had in his hand when he died in his armchair, refusing with characteristic force and obstinacy to die in his

The Russian court still guards as if they were saintly relics the carpenter's tools which were once used by Peter the Great.

And finally the court of Vienna keeps in its most sacred treasure house the horseshoe which was cast by the steed of Count Rudolph, the founder of the Hapsburg dynasty, at that epoch making moment when he met the envoys who had come to announce to him his elevation to the throne of the holy Roman em-

The Last Resort.

He visited a noted specialist and after waiting an hour had an opportunity to pay a fee and narrate his personal misery of insomnia. The medical man listened and suggested one remedy after another, with each residents have a penchant for goats' milk, and herds of these animals are led along the street by milk sellers wearing long blouses with capacious a prescription and handed it to his patient.

"What is it?" inquired the latter.
"Oh, a bromide," said the doctor.
"It will benefit you."

"Rats!" said the other, degenerating into slang. "Tried 'em all. They ain't no good," further receding into bad grammar.

The doctor, evidently annoyed, bowed and, handing the man back his fee, destroyed the prescription and said, "There's only one thing left-you had better try sleeping cars."-New York Times.

Couldn't Hide His Joy. It was a holiday. A man walked into the business office of a well known New York newspaper and handed the clerk at the counter a death notice. Of course that in itself was nothing strange, but his manner was merry and inconsistently so. The clerk looking at him rather strangely, he vouchsafed this remark, accompanied with a reresounding slap on the shoulder: "Why, my boy, that was my mother-

When the joyous one left the office, he left the clerk in deep thought, wondering if that was the way mothers-in-law affected all men. -New York Tribune.

Wishing and Doing. There is a tale of a man who spent his life in wishing he had lived differently, and when he died he was surrounded by a throng of spectral shapes, each one exactly like the other, who on his asking what they were replied, "We are all the different lives you might have led."—Edith Wharton, "The Valley of Decision."

- "Are you sure you love me for myself alone," asked the romantic young woman. "Well," replied the practical young man, "I don't think I love you for any one else."

cision."

- A man never begins to learn until he has forgotten most of what he only thought he hnew.

- "What's the matter?" asked the marked the Wise Guy. "Yes, and rooster; "more absent-mindedness?" some people are pretty thin skinned "Yes," replied the hen; "I can never

He Forgot.

A colored man, about 30 years of ge, drove up to the depot with a load of baled cotton, and he had just begun to unload when an old, grayheaded negro with a bad limp came down the street and shouted at him:

"Say, yo' pussen dere!" "Hello, Uncle Joel" saluted the

'llow, den, what sorter man be yo. t" demanded the old man as he reached the wagon. "Hu! What yo' mean by dat?"

"I mean, sah, is yo' a man of honah or not?"

"Of co'se I ar'. Why, ole man, yo's all excited this mawnin'. What's de mattah?" "Sam Johnson, I'ze got a darter

Linda!" replied Uncle Joe as he straightened and waved his arms about. "Yes, of co'se. Yes, sah, yo's got

a darter Linda, an she's a powerful fine gal." "Last Sunday night, Sam Johnson,

yo' axed dat gal to marry yo!" "Hu, hu! Sunday night? Lemme

see. Say, I reckon I did.' "Of co'se you did! She said she'd do it, an' de marriage was sot fur dis mawnin' at 10 o'clock."

"Hu! Shoo! Ten o'clock dis mawnin'! Why, I reckon it was, Uncle Joe. Yes, we was ter be married dis mawnin'."

"But yo' ain't dar, sah!" "Dat's a fack. Jist clean slipt my

"But what you gwine to do, sahwhat you gwine ter do?" shouted the old man, as he danced around. "What I gwine ter do? Am Linda all ready an de preacher dar?"

" Yes, sah." "Den yo' cum around heah an' hang on to dat off mewl an' hold him stildy, an' I'll run ober an' marry Linda an' be back heah in 10 minits. If Majah Jones cums 'long an' wants to know why dis cotton hain't dun unloaded yo' tell him dat owin' to a disreckoleckshun of a matrimonial disremembrance I'ze had to procrastinate fur a few minits."-Galveston Daily News.

Saved by His Elequence.

Representative Sam Powers, of Massachusetts, who is serving his first term in Congress, and by virtue of that fact and his personal popularity is the President of the Tantalus club, tells a good story to illustrate his indecision upon the big questions of public policy which came up for consideration in the house.

"I come into the house," said Mr. powers the other day, "and I listen to some man making a speech upon one side of an important proposition, and he is so eloquent and logical I am almost convinced that he is right and that I mean to vote as he advises. The is a fellow who takes a position exactly opposite and his reasoning is so sound that I have to admit that he is

"Thus my decision swings from one side to anothor like a pendulum. My attitude is very much like that of a juror up in Massachusetts, who served in a case I was once interested

"It was the first time that the man had ever served in that capacity. The jury, after listening to the arguments of counsel, retired and deliberated for a long time. Finally they reported that it would be impossible for them to reach an agreement.

"When they filed in from the jury room the court was very much displeased and proceeded to lecture them rather severely for their failure to

"'Why, your honor,' exclaimed the new juryman, 'how in the world do you expect the members of the jury to agree when the lawyers in the case can't agree themselves?"

- The plow is certainly the oldest and probably the simplest of agricultural implements, being represented among the hieroglyphics on the ancient tombs of Egypt, dating back more than four thousand years. As early as the year 1000 B. C. the plow was described by a Greek historian as consisting of a beam, a share and handles.

- Steer clear of the man whom dogs and children dislike. - There's something to be said on

both sides of a question, and usually t'e most is said on the wrong side.

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- Prosperity tries the small man; adversity the great one.

- Paradoxical though it may seem, it is hard to touch a close man.

- Men who are continually blowing about themselves spoil a lot of wind. - It is the services of the uncommon man that command the highest

- Some men have no fixed price, but proceed to sell out to the highest bidder.

- When a dog growls over his food he likes it; but with a man it is differ-- There is nothing so certain as a

sure-thing game-for the man behind the game. - Many a young man visits the three-ball merchant merely to pass

the time away. - Whether men do anything to please a woman depends not on what they do, but who does it.

- There is no courage like the courage of woman tattling for the man she knows is wrong but whom she

- Common sense is not so common s come men think it is.

- Variety is the spice of life, and vice is the cayenne pepper.

- It is pure selfishness on the part of others to talk about themselves when you want to talk about your-



Beauty Triumphs. 'Tie a Priceless Treasure.

No woman objects to being beautiful. Beauty is woman's charm, loy, price and atrength. The world has always petted and adored beautiful women. A pretty women dreads maternity for fear of losing this power and influence over men. What can be done to perpetuate the race and keep women beautiful? There is a baim universally used by cultured and uncultured women in the crisis. Husbands will do well to investigate this remedy in order to reassure their wives on the point of ease with which children can be born and all beauty of form and figure retained.

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