

CIRCUS PERFORMERS.

To them the Circus is a very serious thing. When a barback rider slips to the ground after a somersault or a lofty tumbler misses the shoulder or is his business to land on the audience is all sympathy, as if feeling himself how it is to fall before so many people. Very little the performer cares for all the vast multitude. His mind is on the superintendent, his particular superintendent, who is watching him at the side of the arena, and who, when he goes off, is sure to ask very pointedly how his eye happened to be inaccurate or his muscles inflame. There is no place in the circus for performers who fall.

Even the clowns look a little bit serious behind the scenes. But perhaps that is only because the black lines they paint on their whitened visages are always so grim and solemn. And what a wilderness of fun making people there are in the latter day circus—the Bumpkin, the Loon, the Harlequin, the Grimace, the Merry Andrew, the Austrian Looby, the Zany, the Pierrot, the Punch, the Motley Fool and finally the German Broke Face, whose name is Paddy Burke! One of the clowns was sitting on his trunk in the dressing room licking a stick of black paint and rubbing it on his cheeks so as to make a most funereal expression. The small boy asked him what kind of a clown he was. He said that he was just "funny Friskey," and he got his visiting card out of his trunk. It read, "H. Friskey, Clown and Comedian," and it had a heavy gold rim, which made it very imposing. In the four corners it said Europe and Asia and Africa and America, which showed that H. Friskey's fame had reached the four corners of the earth. Until you saw his merry capers in the ring you never could believe that a man with such a serious face and such an imposing visiting card could be either funny or friskey.—Metropolitan Magazine.

TRUTH OR PARADOX?

Life levels all men; death reveals the eminent. Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

While we have prisons it matters little which of us occupy the cells. Titles distinguish the mediocre, embarrass the superior and are disgraced by the inferior.

Democracy substitutes election by the incompetent many for appointment by the corrupt few.

Do not do unto others as you would that they should do unto you. Their tastes may not be the same.

Your word can never be as good as your bond, because your memory can never be as trustworthy as your honor.

If you strike a child take care that you strike it in anger, even at the risk of maiming it for life. A blow in cold blood neither can nor should be forgiven.—From George Bernard Shaw's "Man and Superman."

Puzzled by the Law.

The librarian of the Congressional library tells a story of a colored man who came into the library and asked one of the assistants for a "good law book." He explained that one of his neighbors intended to sue him and he wanted to get a book so he could find out the law.

The clerk gave him a copy of a book called "Every Man His Own Lawyer." The colored man sat down at one of the desks and turned the pages of the book for an hour. Then he came to the desk of the assistant and said:

"Dear, boss, can't you git me some 'in' deed? Dis here is 'n fifth edition. Can't I have de best edition? Mebbe I c'd understand dat. I ain't bin git'n on right smart with dis here fifth one."—Baltimore News.

The Tools of Genius.

Some of the greatest discoveries in physics and chemistry have been made with the simplest forms of apparatus and under the most modest conditions of laboratory equipment. One need only recall the achievements of the famous John Dalton and in later time of Sir Gabriel Stokes to illustrate the point. As regards the latter, a comment of Lord Rayleigh is of interest. Stokes' experimental work, he says, was executed with the most modest appliances. Many of his discoveries were made in a narrow passage behind the pantry of his house, into the window of which he had a shutter fixed with a slit in it and a bracket on which to place crystals and prisms.—London Telegraph.

A False Report.

"I have been told," said Mrs. Oldcastle, "that your daughter has been doing some wonderful things in pyrography."

"Oh, no," replied her hostess, "she ain't been there at all. The last letter we had from her she was in Pittsburg and thought she'd go right through to Washington."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Both Could Do.

Mrs. Truit—My husband is a sort of jack of all trades; he can do almost anything. Mrs. Gayboy—And mine is a sort of jack of clubs; he belongs to fifteen different societies and can do almost anybody!—Detroit Free Press.

Cause and Effect.

Milkins—Wasn't Benedict's death rather sudden and unexpected? Binkins—Well, it was sudden, but not necessarily unexpected. His wife had just graduated from a cooking school.—Chicago News.

Adversity is sometimes hard upon a man, but for one man who can stand prosperity there are a hundred who will stand adversity.—Goldsmith.

Didn't Need Money.

Dixon—How is your artist friend getting along in New York? Tomson—Oh, splendidly! Dixon—Have you heard from him? Tomson—No; that's the reason I know he's prospering.—Detroit Free Press.

CASTORIA.

The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Progress is the activity of today and the assurance of tomorrow.—Emerson.

A FROLIC IN MEXICO

BREAKING THE PINATA DURING THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL.

This Mirth Provoking Pastime is the Great Social and Fun Making Feature of the Season—Dressing and Filling the Olla.

Christmas in Mexico is not the typical Christmas of cold and snow and ice, but one of bright, warm sunshine, cloudless blue skies, flowers in profusion, trees in full foliage and a life of joy and merriment.

At least a week before Christmas in the principal streets of Mexico arches are erected from sidewalk to sidewalk, festooned with wreaths of flowers and bunting in the national colors—red, white and green. Under the arches booths are erected, and every toy manufactured in Mexico is on sale.

In every Mexican house great preparations are made for what is called the "pinata." Every child begs and scrapes and saves the centavos for weeks and months ahead. All kinds of articles are made especially for this ceremony, and every family vies with its friends and neighbors to have its pinata more beautiful and fanciful than any one else's.

The pinata is really an earthenware utensil which is in general use for cooking. It is called in common parlance an olla and is of brown pottery something like the old fashioned earthenware crocks used in the north before enamel ware became the fad.

The pinatas are large or small, as the purse of the purchaser permits. They are round, pot bellied and very large at the top. They are sold from door to door on the streets and in the markets. They cost only 10, 15 or 20 centavos, but the olla is the least expensive part of the game.

The body of the olla for a woman is covered with tissue paper; then a crinkled paper dress is fashioned; then a bodice is built up draped to represent a loose white waist, and above this is placed a false face. The hair is made with black paper, braided into one long plait at the back, as the women wear their hair in Mexico. Sometimes a white tehuana headdress is made of the lace paper used by bakers and confectioners.

A flower pinata is decorated with large paper flowers in every color of the rainbow. Red, white and green ribbons, forming long streamers, and silver and gold tinsel, glass balls and colored lights all help to make the flower pinata very beautiful. The possibilities for dressing these pinatas are endless. In a large family the mother and daughters have their own pinatas, and great secrecy is maintained in the decoration of the olla. It is the aim of each to devise as original a dressing for the pinata as possible, and it can be made a very extravagant ornament. In the families of wealthy Mexicans the luxury of the pinata often mounts into thousands.

After the olla is decorated to the taste it is filled. The filling consists of peanuts, hazel nuts, hard candies, like marbles, and all kinds of Mexican dulces. These dulces are candied fruits, nut paste, etc.

Christmas night the pinatas are carried in great state into the sala and suspended from the ceiling one at a time. All the relatives of the family are present, and as cousins of the fifth and sixth degree are recognized and children are very numerous there is generally a large gathering. They all sit very demurely on chairs ranged in a row against the walls of the room.

One person is constituted master of ceremonies, the eldest son or daughter of the house. He or she stands in the middle of the room. Near by is a jar or umbrella stand filled with apisco cans or sticks. When everything is ready a child or grown person is selected and called by name. She comes forward and is blindfolded.

Then the fun begins. The person blindfolded is turned round and round until she loses all knowledge of where the pinata hangs. A cane is put in her hands, and she is told to hit the pinata and try to break it. She is given three chances. If she fails to hit it she sits down amid laughter and ridicule. If she hits it without breaking it she is entitled to a small prize.

And so it goes on, one after another being called up, blindfolded and given a cane and three chances to break the pinata. Finally one more fortunate than the rest succeeds in giving a hard enough blow, and, crash, the pinata falls to the grounds in hundreds of bits, and its contents are scattered far and wide.

A wild scramble ensues. Everybody rushes forward to gather as much of the spilled contents as possible. The fortunate breaker of the pinata gets a handsome prize and is awarded the seat of honor. He or she sits down and is debarré from another trial at breaking another pinata. As soon as the confusion dies down and order is somewhat restored another olla is hung up and the same routine goes through. So the fun continues until the last pinata is broken, and then the prizes are awarded.

The pinata party is the great social and fun making feature of the Christmas season. After the pinatas have been broken and a supper has been served there follows dancing, or a traveling company of Indians from the mountains is brought in to sing and dance in native costume.

These traveling Indians are somewhat like the singing bands which go around at Christmas time from house to house in England, Germany, France and Italy. They have been known and popular in Mexico from time immemorial. There are much in demand during the Christmas holiday season.—Kansas City Star.

The Useful Shark.

The smiling shark may eat a man now and then—though scientists doubt it—but if he does man gets even. He makes tinned soup and jelly of the smiling shark's soup and jelly of the smiling shark's skin, makes hand-carrying oil from his liver, makes handsome leather of his skin, walking sticks from his backbone and many useful articles from his jawbones and teeth. Do you wonder that the shark takes a nip at a man's leg now and then?—Duluth News-Tribune.

THE CITY OF CROCODILES.

An Ancient Site Said to Have Been Built by Pharaoh.

The crocodile, one of the most sacred animals of the east, has given its name to several ancient sites. Of the various "cities of crocodiles," the names of which have been handed down to us by Herodotus, Pliney and Strabo, perhaps the most striking was the "Crocodilopolis" of the ancient Egyptian province of Fayum, which, according to tradition, was built by that pharaoh who "made the lives of the children of Israel bitter with hard service."

This province lies within an almost complete circle of hills—a little oasis in the midst of the desert, where roses and grapes mingle with figs and olives and luxuriant palm trees grow almost into forests.

Its capital is Medinet, and a little to the north of the city are a number of irregularly shaped mounds. Beneath these are the ruins of the pharaoh who built "Crocodilopolis," the "City of Crocodiles," later called Arsinoe, and the slaying of the sacred crocodile of the neighboring Lake Moeris, which was then 450 miles in circumference.

This lake held the sacred crocodiles, and as each died in turn it was buried in one of the 1,500 underground sepulchers of the world famed "Labyrinth" at hand, side by side with the embalmed bodies of successive pharaohs.—Philadelphia Ledger.

THE NAME AMERICA.

When It Was First Proposed For the Newly Found Continent.

The name of America for the newly discovered continent was first proposed in the little volume put forth at St. Die, in the Vosges, in the year 1507 by Waldseemüller, better known by the Hellenized form of his name, Vahlbomylus. Three or four editions of this treatise were published at St. Die before 1507, and a few years afterward an edition without date was printed at Lyons by Jean de la Place. All these editions are of extreme rarity, and probably that printed at Lyons is the rarest of all, though the library of the British museum possesses two copies of it. It has never been suggested that any maps were engraved to accompany either of the editions, but it has always been supposed that the earliest map with the word "America" marked on the new found world was the "Typus Orbis," engraved on wood for the "Emarrationes Joannis Camerliti in C. Julii Sallustii Polyistora," printed at Vienna in 1500 for Joannes Slingensius.

In this map the new world is represented as a long island, on which is the inscription: "Anno D. 1497 hanc terra cum adjacentibus insulis inventa est per Columbum Inannem ex mandato regis Castellae. America provincia."

BRET HARTE AS A HUNTER.

The Reassuring Message He Received After an Accident.

During the time he acted as United States consul in Glasgow Bret Harte occasionally indulged in a day's sport with the gun, and it was during one of his shooting excursions that the famous American author met with an accident which might have disfigured him for the remainder of his life, his face being badly cut through the recoil of an overloaded gun. Fortunately the doctor's skill prevented him from being permanently marked.

Writing about the occurrence to his friend, T. Edgar Pemberton (who quotes the letter in his "Tribute to Bret Harte"), the novelist concludes his letter by telling of an amusing effort which was made to console him on account of the accident.

"When the surgeon was stitching me together," he wrote, "the son of the house, a boy of twelve, came timidly to the door of my room: 'Tell Mr. Bret Harte it's all right,' he said. 'He killed the hare.'"

Preservative Pent.

Pent possesses wonderful antiseptic and preservative qualities owing to the presence of tannin, iron and other substances in it. Here is an instance: At the time of the covenanters, in 1655, three men were shot at a place called Crossgelloch on the moors above Old Cumnock, in Scotland. In 1825, when a monument was being erected to their memory, the workmen came upon the corpses rolled in their plaid. The bodies were in exactly the same state as when they were buried. The moss had preserved them as if they had been embalmed.

Artificial Flowers.

It was in Italy that a demand for artificial flowers first arose. This was due primarily to a caprice of fashion which demanded that during festivals blossoms in and out of their seasons should be worn and also to the fact that their color and freshness were stable. Later on, in the middle ages, the artificial so far superseded the natural that both men and women decked their heads with imitation flowers of cambric, paper, glass and metal. The best artificial flowers are now made in Paris.

How to Succeed.

Believe in yourself, believe in humanity, believe in the success of your undertakings. Fear nothing and no one. Love your work. Work, hope, trust. Keep in touch with today. Teach yourself to be practical and up to date and sensible. You cannot fail.

All She Wanted.

"Do you think, young man, that you could give my daughter all she asks for?" questioned papa grimly. "I—aw—think so, sir," murmured the lover bashfully. "She says she wants only me."

Pepys' Furnace.

An electric resistance furnace was used by Pepys in 1815 for the cementation of iron. He took a piece of pure, soft iron and cut a slit along its length. The slit was filled with diamond dust, which was prevented from falling out by fine iron wire. The portion of the wire containing the dust was wrapped in mica. The wire thus charged was heated quickly to redness by the current from a battery. On opening the wire Pepys found that the diamond dust had disappeared and that around where it had been the wire had been converted to steel.—London Engineer.

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Western Maryland Railroad MAIN LINE Schedule in Effect February 27th, 1905. Table with columns for Read Downward, STATIONS, and Read Upward.

Additional trains leave Baltimore for Union Bridge and Intermediate Stations at 10:12 a. m., and 12:35, 6:15 and 11:25 p. m., and leave Union Bridge for Baltimore and Intermediate Stations at 4:45, 5:25 and 6:05 a. m., and 12:50 p. m., daily, except Sunday.

Connections at Cherry Run, W. Va. B. & O. passenger trains leave Cherry Run for Cumberland and Intermediate stations daily at 8:55 a. m., Chicago Express daily at 12:45 p. m., Pittsburg and Cleveland Express daily at 1:15 p. m. Daily. All others daily, except Sunday.

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Emmitsburg Rail Road. TIME TABLE. On and after October 2, 1904, trains on this road will run as follows: TRAINS SOUTH. Leave Emmitsburg, daily, except Sundays, at 7:55 and 9:55 a. m., and 2:35 and 4:50 p. m., arriving at Rocky Ridge at 8:25 and 10:25 a. m., and 3:25 and 5:20 p. m.

DIRECTORY FOR FREDERICK COUNTY. Circuit Court. Chief Judge—Hon. James Moshery. Associate Judges—Hon. John C. Motter and Hon. James B. Henderson.

Notary Public—W. H. Trovill. Justices of the Peace—Henry Stokes, M. Ward P. Shuff. Constables—School Trustees—Dr. R. L. Annan, M. P. Shuff, Oscar D. Traylor.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Pastor—Rev. J. O. Hayden, C. M. First Mass 6:00 o'clock a. m., Second Mass 9:00 o'clock a. m., and 7:30 o'clock p. m. Sunday School at 9 o'clock a. m.

Emmitsburg Water Company. Meets the first Friday evening of each month at Fireman's Hall, President, Charles R. Hoke; Vice-President, Jas. A. Slagle; Secretary, E. Ashbaugh; Treasurer, J. H. Stokes; Capt. Ed. C. Mosser; Lieut. W. H. Weaver; Chief of Guard, Samuel Wagener; Surgeon, Abraham Herring; Quartermaster, Geo. T. Gelwick.

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