

VAS MARRIAGE A FAILURE.

Vas marriage a failure? Vell, now, dot depends. Altkedder on how you loog at id, mine friends. Like those double-horse teams dot you see at der races. Eef they don't pull togedder rightd off at der sbtart. Ten dimes oud't off nine dhey vas beddher apart.

A Long Time on the Way.

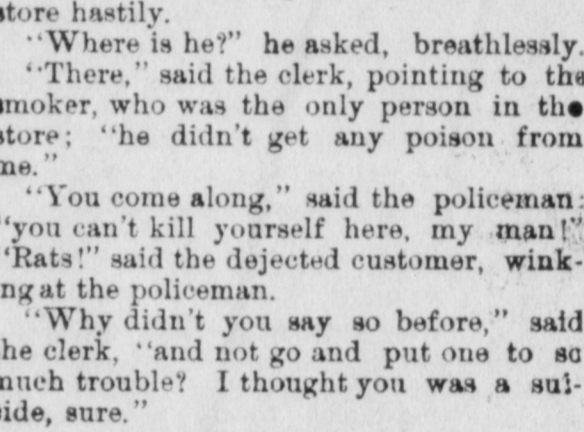


Mrs. Budlong—Did you have a good sarnon this morning? Miss Budlong—Very good; but somewhat disappointing. Mrs. Budlong—What was the text, dear? Miss Budlong—"Behold! the bridegroom cometh."

Mistaken in His Man.

He sauntered dejectedly into a drug store, bought a cigar, lighted it, and then inquired mysteriously of the clerk: "How much strychnine does it take to kill—?"

Coming Across Lots.



Reginald.—There is one thing I can never get over—your turning my love into jest. Rosamond.—There is one thing I can never get over—a barbed wire fence.

Only One.

Merchant.—I shall advance your salary fifty dollars this year. You have been remarkably correct and careful for the last twelve months. Haven't made a single mistake, have you? Bookkeeper.—Only one.

The Last Resort.

Managing Editor.—Have you written that bunch of funny paragraphs, Mr. Sadman? Subordinate.—Not yet—I can't think of anything. Managing Editor.—Then write an editorial on "The Decline of Canadian Humor"—you've got to earn your salary, somehow!

No Snap.

Helen Hyler.—I suppose you had to tell a lot of girls this year that you would be a brother to them? Jack Lever.—Not much! I have three real sisters of my own; and I know what being a brother means.

How to Make it Go.

Miss Cutting.—You ought to have your poem set to music, Mr. Rimes. Rimes.—Why? Miss Cutting.—In a song, no one pays any attention to the words.

A Contemplative Season.

Tatterton Torna.—How are yer goin' ter spend de Winter, Raggsy? Raggsy.—Plannin' out next Summer's loaf.

LAYING THE TABLE-CLOTH

"Doubliers" of the Twelfth Century Displaced by Two Table Cloths.

Most Canadian girls and many of their brothers have had to "set the table" when they would have better enjoyed doing something else, but the task offered no serious difficulties. If they had had to follow the French fashion of several centuries ago they might well have felt some dismay. Probably no little French girls of the period from the twelfth to the seventeenth centuries could have arranged a fashionable tablecloth without considerable assistance.

In the twelfth century the table-cloths were very large, and were always laid on the table double; for a long time they were called "doubliers" for that reason. The cloth was first placed so as to touch the floor on the side of the table at which the guests sat; then all the cloth that remained was folded so that it just covered the table.

Charles V had sixty-seven table-cloths, which were from fifteen to twenty yards long and two yards wide. He had one cloth which was thirty-two yards long, and had the arms of France embroidered on it in silk. All of these were fringed.

In the sixteenth century "doubliers," or double cloths, were replaced by two table-cloths, one of which was small and was laid just as we lay ours to-day. The other, which was put on over it, was large and of beautifully-figured linen. It was skillfully folded in such a way that, as a book of that time says, "It resembled a winding river, gently ruffled by a little breeze, for among very many little folds were here and there great bubbles."

It must have required much art and care to make dishes, plates, salt-cellers, sauce-dishes and glasses, stand steadily in the midst of this undulating sea, and among those "bubbles" and puffy folds. However, the fashion had only a short existence, as is apt to be the case with impractical fashions, and toward the latter part of the century a single cloth laid flat, and touching the floor on all sides of the table, came into general use.

A Joke on the Joker.

A transatlantic liner had steamed more than a day from New York. A long, thin man was leaning over the rail, contemplating the surging waters. Not far away was a group of ladies and gentlemen. Suddenly the long, thin man showed signs of excitement. "Didn't I see a man struggling in the water there?" he exclaimed. The other passengers crowded about, and gazed in the direction indicated, but could see nothing. Presently, however, they heard a pitiful cry, "Help! Help! Save me! Help!"

In an instant all was commotion. The shout was raised, "Man overboard!" The cry still came from the waters, "Help!" The captain came and listened. Then he ordered the ship put about, and a boat lowered. The long, thin man, much excited, pointed to the place where he said he had seen the drowning man. The boat pulled rapidly away, and the great steamship herself plowed slowly back to the place.

Every one on board knew that the trip was a test of speed between this steamer and a ship of a rival line. Every minute was precious. A "record" was being made. The owners of the ship had ordered the captain to lose not a moment. But in a case of life and death all other considerations are put aside.

The sailors in the small boat found no man in the water, however, nor was any one missing from the ship. At last it was decided that some poor stowaway had fallen overboard in an attempt to escape from his place of hiding, and the steamer proceeded on her way.

The passengers were shocked and sad, and the captain was rendered rather glum by the loss of more than an hour. But the long, thin man seemed very gay, under the circumstances. One would have said that the drowning of this poor fellow had pleased him. The fact was, he had perpetrated what he called a great joke on the captain and passengers, and he was too much elated to keep it to himself.

Before long he had confessed to two or three passengers that he was a professional ventriloquist, and had counterfeited the call of a drowning man. These passengers told others, and soon the story was known all over the ship. The long, thin man regarded himself as the hero of the hour.

But about this time the captain came to him, and told him how much had been at stake on the trip. And for that matter, it always costs a considerable amount to stop a great steamship at sea and start it again, just as it does to stop and start a railway train. The captain thought that, taking the two elements of loss into account, the sum of several thousand dollars would about represent the amount that the ventriloquist owed the steamship company.

The ventriloquist stood aghast. "But you can't make me pay damages for a joke!" he said. "Perhaps not," answered the captain, "and perhaps we can. At any rate we can try. I shall deem it my duty to have you arrested as soon as we reach Liverpool, and then you will have an opportunity to answer in court our demand for financial restitution."

ASSURDITIES OF SPELLING.

Many Old Spellings Positively Misleading—Have Grown Up Haphazard.

That proofreaders and compositors should be anxious for a fixed rule of spelling is intelligible, and one can easily sympathize with their difficulties when dealing with words which may be spelled in more than one way. Nevertheless, the proposal recently made that all these doubtful spellings should be determined has met with most vigorous opposition from men of letters and students of the English language. Scholars like Prof. Skeat strongly object to any attempt to further fix a system of spelling which can not be defended on any rational or scientific grounds.

To a great many people, who as girls and boys were taught to regard correct spelling as almost more important than correct speaking, this questioning of the whole base of our orthography will come with a shock of surprise. It needs, however, only a little careful reflection to enable one to realize that the scholars are right. The popular notion that our speaking indicates the etymology of words, and that this is a task which spelling ought to perform, will not bear serious examination. All that our spelling really does is to retain archaic forms of words which are now in use with a changed pronunciation. But these forms were themselves changes from something that had gone before, and if we consider the profound antiquity of the language it is easy to understand that the assistance which philologists can get from an Elizabethan or a Georgian spelling is practically worthless.

As a matter of fact, however, many of these older spellings are positively misleading. In the last century, for example, our ancestors spelled lantern, lantern, not because they so pronounced it, but because some ingenious person thought that the sides of a lantern had originally been made of horn, and that the name had thus arisen. The word, of course, comes from the French lanterne. This particular instance of pedantic folly the present generation has dropped, but we have preserved many others. We still, for example, have rhyme, while, in fact, it is nothing but the French rime. Could it be another absurdity. The word never is and never has been pronounced with an l. Its old English or Anglo-Saxon forms are eand and eandhe, and the l has crept into the modern spelling solely from false analogy with would and should. Yet a girl who left out this un-historical and inaccurate l in an examination paper would probably be ridiculed.

In other cases modern spelling, though not absolutely inaccurate, is still misleading. The word debt is a case in point. Here the insertion of the silent b obscures the fact that the word comes to us through the French dette, and not direct from the Latin. Our French neighbors, by the way, have little more reason to be content with their spelling than we have, though our blunders are not always identical. We, for instance, spell marriage with two r's, and they, more correctly, with one; but, in revenge, we have only one t in literature, while they have two. The truth of the whole matter is that our spelling, like most of our other institutions, has grown up entirely haphazard, ignorance playing at least as great a part in its formation as learning.

A Look at Lord Salisbury.

Personally Lord Salisbury is a deeply read and cultured man. He spends a good deal of time in his laboratory, is very fond of chemistry, possesses much practical knowledge of electricity, and has delivered more than one able address before such bodies as the British Association for the Advancement of Science. He is not physically as strong as he looks, and the immense volume of work he accomplishes, coupled with very little exercise, makes him in reality a somewhat delicate man. In appearance he is impressive without being handsome, and his ordinary demeanor is one of apparent indifference and aristocratic hauteur. Like himself in character, his oratory is imperious, forcible and effective. At his famous seat in Hertfordshire—Hatfield House—Queen Victoria has been more than once entertained by Lord Salisbury, as in a past century his ancestors entertained Queen Elizabeth, and there he thoroughly enjoys, whether in or out of power, the generous country life and open hospitality of the historical and typical "fine old English gentleman."

Taken altogether the present British Premier is an extraordinary and interesting figure in the politics of this period. His patriotism is strong and sincere, but it rests upon the forms of the Constitution and upon loyalty to the Crown rather than upon the modern principle of loyalty to the immediate and changeable will of a popular democracy. And Lord Salisbury in this case undoubtedly embodies the natural, hereditary and inherent conservatism of the English people. For that reason and none other he to-day controls, for good or ill, for greatness or weakness, the destinies of the British Empire.

Slightly Warm.

Prof. Langley says: "The heat of the sun is enormous beyond conception, for there is enough to warm two thousand million worlds like ours. Every minute there is enough of the sun's heat falling to the earth to raise to boiling thirty-seven thousand millions tons of water. But the heat which thus falls on the earth is not a thousandth part of one per cent. of what the sun sends elsewhere and all the coal beds of Pennsylvania, for instance, though they can supply the country for hundreds of years would not keep up this heat during the one thousandth part of a second."

To a man who buys his coal by the basket the above is, to say the least, interesting.

The Agent's Joke.

Agent—Anything in my line to-day, sir? I travel in fishing hooks. Shopkeeper (savagely)—No; you don't catch me with any of your hooks. Agent—And yet you seem in a biting mood, too. Good day, sir!—Fuss.

McKee's Mills.

Not having seen any remarks from this part of the county for a short time, I thought it would not be amiss for me to send a few.

The crops are looking fine and the farmers are preparing to commence haying.

There was a Sunday School union picnic held Thursday last on the beautiful grounds of Mr. Jno. Campbell, jr. There was a large number of visitors present, among those were, Miss Crowhurst, Mr. Ramsay and Mr. Bujre. Miss Crowhurst addressed a large meeting in the evening.

Mrs. J. W. Welton is visiting friends in Dorchester.

Miss Lillian Wallace has returned from a short visit with friends in Moncton.

Mrs. Wm. Wry, of Shediac, is spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald.

Mrs. Jones, (nee Miss Laura Hyslop) of Boston, is staying with her parents for a few weeks, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Hyslop.

Miss Alma Hyslop is visiting friends in Cocagne. We wish her a pleasant visit.

Mr. Albert McDonald has returned from his long sojourn up north. The young ladies were all pleased to see him back.

Mr. Miles Farrel has his new house about completed. He expects to move in in a day or two.

Mr. Israel Hicks' new barn is about completed.

Mr. Leonard Wood is also busily engaged in building a new house.

Mr. Thos. Kay is slowly recovering from his recent illness.

Mr. Bismark McKee has just finished the fence around the school grounds which makes quite an improvement.

We are pleased to see Mr. Wm. Genere able to be around again from a severe cut he received on the hand some time ago.

Minister A Murderer.

HINDMAN, Ky., July 16.—The Rev. Washington Craft, a widely known Baptist preacher of Clay county, has been arrested here for the murder of Lenville Hagins twelve years ago. Craft, at that time, lived in Letcher county, and Hagins kept a grocery and saloon in this place. Craft, in company with three other men, came to Hindman and created a disturbance in Hagins place.

The proprietor asked them to leave the place, but instead they shot Hagins to death. Craft was arrested, but he killed the sheriff and escaped. He remained out of the State for some time, but returned to Clay county, joined the church and began preaching.

Advertisement for 'The Tonic Digestive Diamond Dinner Pills' with a decorative border and text describing the benefits of the pills.

Agents wanting profitable employment through the summer can find it with us, as we have newest Russian varieties of Nursery stock, and new Seed Peatoes. Salary on commission. Write us at once for territory. Pelham Nursery Co., Toronto, Ontario.

WANTED. A man to act as general agent for the County of Kent for the Provident Savings Life Assurance Society of New York with headquarters at Richibucto. To a good man a very liberal contract will be given. Address stating experience if any to C. T. Gillespie, Provincial Manager, St. John, N. B.

Geo. W. Wilson, CARRIAGE & SLEIGH MANUFACTURER. Repairing and painting done a shortest notice, and satisfaction guaranteed. Carriage fittings of all kinds for sale. Undertaking promptly attended to. KINGSTON, KENT CO.

Peters's Mills. The Grist mill and Carding mill being in good condition, the undersigned is prepared to promptly attend to the wants of the public in those lines. Carding, 3cts. per lb., wool taken in payment when preferred. F. S. PETERS, Proprietor.

WOODS' HOTEL. The Leading Commercial Hotel of Harcourt. House Thoroughly Refined and Furnished. First Class Table. Good Sample Rooms. Centrally Located. Trains Stop Twenty Minutes for Dinner. Rates: \$1.25 per day. P. WOODS, PROPRIETOR.

Waverly Hotel! NEWCASTLE, N. B. The Subscriber has thoroughly fitted up and newly furnished the rooms of the well known McKee house, Newcastle, and is prepared to receive and accommodate transient guests. A good table and pleasant rooms provided. Sample rooms if required. R. H. Gremley's teams will attend all trains and boats in connection with this house. JOHN MCKEEN.

TERRACE HOTEL. AMHERST, N. S. Large and well Lighted Sample Rooms in centre of Town formerly occupied by Lamy Hotel. FREE COACH TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS. W. and W. CALHOUN, Proprietors.

Hotel Stanley, KING SQUARE, ST. JOHN, N. B. J. M. FOWLER, PROPRIETOR. HOT-WATER HEATING THROUGH-OUT. First-Class in all its Appointments.

QUEEN HOTEL, FREDERICTON, N. B. First-class Livery Stables in connection. J. A. EDWARDS, Proprietor.

GRAND ANSE HOTEL, GRAND ANSE GLOUCESTER CO., N. B. This house is but a short distance from Grand Anse Station on the Caraquet Railway, and possesses unsurpassed advantages as a watering place. Bathing, Boating, Fishing, Beautiful Drives, etc., etc. Sample Rooms and Livery Stable in connection. Charges moderate. WM. THERIAULT, PROPRIETOR.

BELMONT HOTEL, SAINT JOHN, N. B. (Directly opposite N. B. and I. C. Stations.) J. SIME, Proprietor. Horse Cars pass the House both ways every five minutes, and connect with all steamboat lines. Baggage taken and from the station free of charge. Terms moderate.

HOTEL AMERICAN, MONCTON, N. B. CASSON & CHISHOLM, Proprietors. Cuisine Unexcelled.

KENT HOTEL, Richibucto, N. B. GEO. A. IRVING, Proprietor. CENTRALLY SITUATED. Good Sample Rooms. Newly Furnished. Free hack attends all trains.

Commercial Hotel, KINGSTON, KENT CO. FRANK McINERNEY, PROPRIETOR. THE HOTEL, Richibucto, N. B. GEO. A. IRVING, Proprietor. CENTRALLY SITUATED. Good Sample Rooms. Newly Furnished. Free hack attends all trains.

Hotel Brunswick, MONCTON, N. B. The largest and best Hotel in the City. Accommodating 200 Guests, situated in the centre of spacious grounds and surrounded by elegant shade trees, making it especially desirable for Tourists in the summer season. GEO. McSWEENEY, Proprietor.

KENT NORTHERN HOTEL, KINGSTON, KENT CO., N. B. RICHARD HEBERT, Proprietor. Passengers and Baggage taken to and from the Station free of charge. Fine sample room and Livery Stable in connection.

NEW KENT HOTEL, QUEEN ST., RICHIBUCTO, N. B. THIS HOUSE BEING FITTED AND FURNISHED THOROUGHLY, IS A MOST COMFORTABLE RESIDENCE FOR PERMANENT AND TRANSIENT GUESTS.

BAR IS ALWAYS WELL SUPPLIED WITH THE CHOICEST WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS PROCURABLE. LIQUORS FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES SPECIALTY. FURNISHED SAMPLE ROOMS FOR COMMERCIAL MEN. Livery Stable in Connection. S O'DONNELL, Proprietor.

Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in thirty minutes and speedily effects a cure. It is a peerless remedy for Palpitation, Shortness of breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in Left Side and all symptoms of a diseased heart. One dose convalesces. Sold by W. W. Short.

THE EXHIBITION ASSOCIATION WILL HOLD ITS FOURTH ANNUAL FAIR ON ITS EXHIBITION GROUNDS, Opening Sept. 22d and Closing Oct. 24, 1896. Exhibits of Machinery and Manufactures, Farm and Dairy Products, Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Swine, &c. Products of the Forest, Mines and Waters, Paintings, Sculpture, &c., Fancy Work. The Provincial Government herd of Live Stock, just purchased, will be exhibited and sold on the Grounds. Large Prizes in all the Usual Departments. Special Attractions.—Fireworks every suitable evening, Band Music, afternoons and evenings, Attractive Performances in the AMUSEMENT HALL, Varied Attractions on the PARADE GROUNDS. SPECIAL PASSENGER RATES ON ALL LINES OF TRAVEL. PRIZES LISTED WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AFTER JULY 15th. ENTRY FORMS AND ALL DESIRED INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED ON APPLICATION TO W. C. FITZFIELD, CHAS. A. EVERETT, President, Manager and Sec'y.