

SOME FAMOUS TOBACCO USERS.

Milton Smoked, but Napoleon Didn't—Why Swinburne Loves James I.

A book lately published in London gives most interesting information about tobacco users; it is by an anonymous writer, and is, as its title-page asserts, 'an amusing miscellany of fact and anecdotes relating to the great plant in all its forms and uses.' The book is appropriately named 'Tobacco Talk.'

Many great names are given of men who smoked. It is doubtful whether Shakespeare was a smoker or not, and a reason for his abstaining is found in the fact that his patron, King James I., was one of the earliest anti-tobaccoists. Ben Jonson was a smoker. Napoleon once said that tobacco smoking was a habit only fit to amuse slug-guards. This remark was somewhat in the nature of 'sour grapes,' the great man being unable to forget the effect of his first cigar. John Milton smoked a pipe of tobacco every night before retiring. Richard Fletcher, Bishop of London, was the first known churchman to smoke in England. Talleyrand took snuff, and excused himself by saying that all diplomats ought to take snuff, as it afforded a pretext for delaying a reply with which one might not be ready.

Mazzini always kept a cigar burning as he wrote. Guizot, the French historian, said that smoking had prolonged his life ten years. Pepys, in his diary, states that he was forced to use tobacco during the great plague as a disinfectant, he 'bought some roll tobacco to smoke and chew, which took away the apprehension. Charles Lamb smoked the strongest and coarsest tobacco, and called it his 'evening comfort,' and morning curse; he once expressed a wish that his last breath might be drawn through a pipe, and exhaled in a pun.

In 1642 Pope Urban VII. issued a bull against the use of tobacco in churches, threatening any one with excommunication who disobeyed.

Among other famous men who are mentioned as universal users of tobacco are Bismarck, Lord Brougham, Mr. Spurgeon, Emerson, Carlyle, Huxley, Victor Hugo, Bulwer Lytton, Tennyson, Gibbon, Charles Kingsley, Dickens, and Thackeray. On the other hand many great men have been opposed to the use of the weed. Some of these were Voltaire, Rousseau, Mirabeau, and Swinburne, who is quoted as saying: 'James I. was a knave, a tyrant, a fool, a liar, and a coward; but I love him, I worship him, because he slit the throat of that blackguard Raleigh, who invented filthy smoking.'

This tirade is qualified by another writer who says that tobacco has made more good husbands, good men, kind masters, and indulgent fathers than any other blessed thing on this universal earth.

DESIGNS IN WEATHER VANES.

The Horse and the Arrow Most Commonly Used—Other Styles.

The horse and the arrow are the designs most commonly sold in weather vanes, and these are each made in many different styles or combinations. There are made for instance, in various forms, vanes resembling simply the horse, of one class and another; and there are vanes that represent individual famous horses, great runners, and great trotters. And there are horse vanes with the horse to sulky with driver, and trotting horses to wagon with driver; and horses, trotters and runners both, with jockeys.

The arrow is made in various sizes and in a variety of designs. The arrow is also used in combination with many other emblems.

While the horse and the arrow are the vanes most commonly used there are hundreds of others. There are various kinds of cows represented in weather vanes, and there are hogs and sheep. There are deer, running and leaping, and moose. There are dogs, a tobacco leaf, an Indian chief. There are vanes that represent lions; and fish vanes. There are pigeons, and there are numerous styles of rooster vanes. There are vanes made in the form of a quill pen, and there are many vanes of which an eagle forms a part.

Of emblematic vanes there are many. There is a weather vane made in the form of a gun, with fixed bayonet, placed horizontally with a soldier's cap above it. There is a vane in the form of a flag, and one in the semblance of a liberty cap. There is a goddess of a liberty vane, and there is a vane in the shape of a cannon, a field piece on wheels. There are vanes resembling yachts and ships and steamers. And there are vanes emblematic of five departments, a horse and carriage vane, a hook and ladder vane, a steam and fire engine vane, and a vane representing a fire man's hat and trumpet. There is a plow, there is a horse car; a locomotive and tender. Sign vanes are made in which a name is carried. There is a vane with a malt shovel and barrel.

Scroll vanes and banners are made in a very great variety of designs. The banners may be emblematic, or they may show initials or monograms, or they may be simply with a view to grace and beauty of design.

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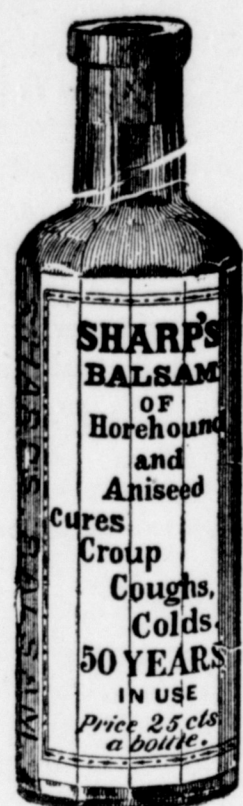
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An enemy stole into your house one day last week and touched you lightly in the matter of the time, for the enemy was only a vagrant current of air. But now you are beginning to learn what mischief the little intruder did, for your back is stiff and painful. Your head aches, and at times you feel dizzy.

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ERRORS BY HISTORIANS.

Myths of Ancient Historians—Lies About Cleopatra.

Thirty years B. C. Cleopatra killed herself to avoid being exhibited at Rome in the triumph of Octavius, who had made war upon her and Antony, because the latter had divorced his (Octavius) sister on the Queen's account. But did she die from a snake's bite? It is better to think not. 'If her death had been caused by any serpent the small vipers would rather have been chosen than the large asp; but the story is disposed by her having decked herself in the royal ornaments, and being found dead without any marks of suspicion of poison on her body.'

Death from a serpent's bite could not have been mistaken, and her vanity would not have allowed her to choose one which would have disfigured her in so frightful a manner.

Other poems were well understood and easy of access, and no boy would have ventured to carry an asp in a basket of figs, some of which he even offered to the guards as he passed, and even Plutarch shows that the story of the asp was doubted. Nor is the statue carried in Augustus' triumph, which had an asp upon it, any proof of his belief in it, since the snake was the emblem of Egyptian royalty, the statue (or the crown) of Cleopatra could not have been without one, and this was probably the origin of the whole story.

Here one may naturally ask: Who has not heard of Cleopatra's wondrous pearls, one of which, at a banquet given in Antony's honor, she dissolved in vinegar? Either this story also is fictitious or vinegar was evidently different in those days from the present day kind, which will not melt pearls.

It was nearly 100 years later that the Emperor Nero also killed himself, 68 A. D. Stabbing was the choice this time, though, and of this we make no question. What we wish to say about him is that he was not so bad a monster as usually imagined. His mother, Agrippina, was not put to death by his order, nor did he play upon his harp and sing, 'The Burning of Troy,' while Rome was on fire.

Our knowledge of him is gained mostly from Tacitus, who hated him, and from Petronius Arbiter, who was put to death for conspiracy against him. 'Even in Rome itself the common people strewed flowers on the grave of Nero.'—Pearson's Weekly.

HEART PAIN.

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John Crow, son of Mr. George Crow, farmer, near the village of Tara, Ont., writes: 'I was alarmingly afflicted with palpitation and enlargement of the heart for nearly ten years. I doctored with best physicians and tried numerous remedies with very little benefit. In our local papers I noticed Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart advertised, and I determined to give it a trial. Inside of half an hour I had relief. I have taken about five bottles and feel to day that I am as well as ever I was. I am completely cured.'

THIS LITTLE PIG CAME BACK.

Carried Off in a Basket, Down a Road, Yet It Found Its Way Home.

'I've heard of cats coming back,' said a New Jerseyman, 'but I never but once heard of a pig's coming back. This pig was sold on a farm to a man from a neighboring village, who put it in a covered basket, shut the lids down tight and fastened them, put the basket in a wagon and drove off down a road that had sharp turns in it, so that it was something like a pair of steps, to the village, about half a mile away, where he put the pig in a pen. This was in the morning.

'Running through the farmer's land, in some low ground down toward the village there was a brook, with a boggy meadow on either side of it. Beyond the brook the ground rose again, so that the village was on higher ground; and the farmer's house and barns were on higher ground on his side.

'Standing by the house that afternoon, and happening to look down over the wet meadow, the farmer saw something struggling over the bogs, sometimes on top of one, sometimes falling down between, but keeping coming all the time; it was the little pig that he had sold in the morning. It had got out of the pen in which it had been placed in the village, and had somehow got started in the right direction and got clear of the village, had come down the slope on the other side of the brook, floundered through the bogs, and was now making straight for home. It was wet through and covered with mud, but it got there all right.

'This little pig had never been out of its pen before, and how it found its way back I never could understand.

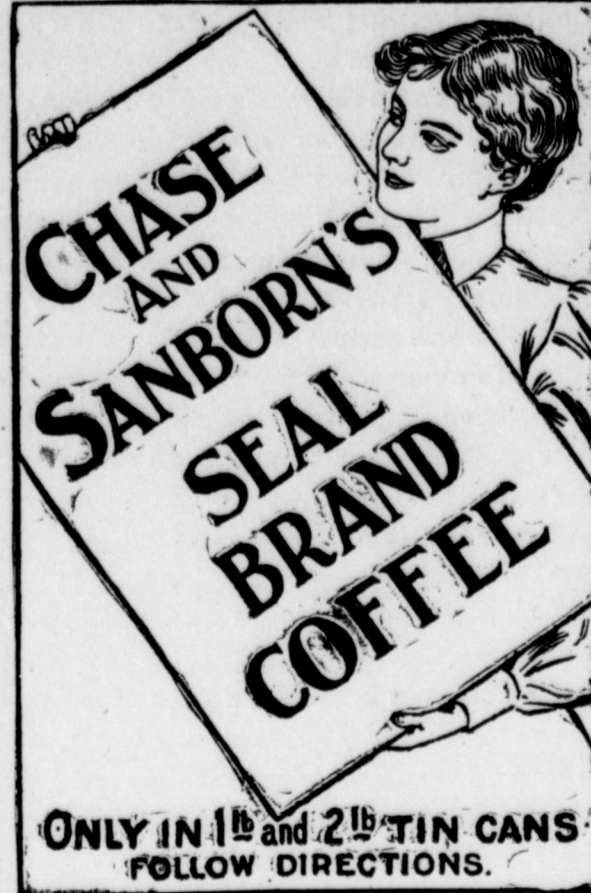
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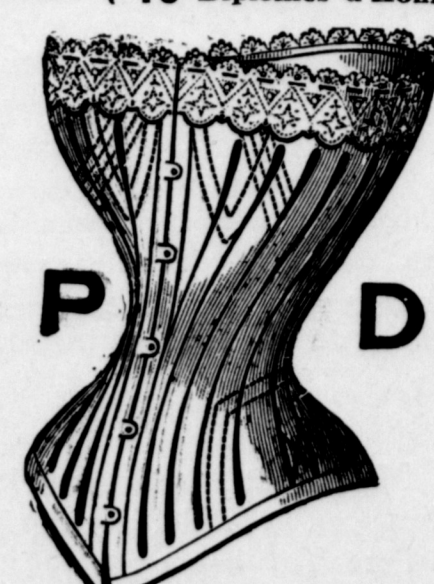
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A DAUGHTER'S STRANGE TOMB.

A Mourning Father's Tribute Over a Woman's Early Grave.

Bucharest has, perhaps, the strangest tomb ever erected in a civilized land. It stands over the embalmed body of Julia Hasden, a young authoress, who died six years ago. Her father, Professor Hasden, of the University of Bucharest, believes, says the New York Tribune, that he is able to communicate with his lost child. He sits every day for hours by the side of her coffin, and occasionally surprises his fellow scientists by gravely quoting some remarks that she has made to him.

The tomb is constructed, so it is claimed in accordance with plans outlined to the father by the daughter after her death. It is in the Greek cemetery. The structure is of marble. Over the entrance and under the name 'Julia Hasden' is a niche filled with her well-worn school books. As one enters he is greeted with strains of unearthly melody. At the entrance a huge slab of black marble bears an inscription, which may be translated: 'Let those who seek not knowledge pass by this grave, but those who fain would learn the secret of life in death descend.'

The vault is paved with black and white marble. Its walls are of the purest white marble, with inscriptions in letters of gold. These according to Prof. Hasden, are remarks culled from the conversation; he has had with his daughter since her death. Here and there are quaint little triangular stools. Close to the stairway stands two handsomely decorated mirrors, which formerly adorned Julia Hasden's boudoir. At the further end of the vault, behind a white marble balustrade, is an exquisitely carved sarcophagus containing the body of the young girl. The coffin is so arranged that by drawing back a slide the broken-hearted parents may still gaze on the face of their child. Two colored lamps burn continually at either end of the sarcophagus.

In the centre of the balustrade stands a beautiful bust of the young Romanian woman. It represents her as a handsome clever looking girl, attired in a modern evening dress. A white veil is drawn over it to preserve it from the dust, and at the waist nestle a few faded roses, held in place by long satin ribbons that float to the ground. They are the flowers and ribbons that Julia Hasden wore at her last ball.

On the walls hang photographs of her at various ages. One small water color sketch entitled 'Son Dernier Jour Terrestre' (Her Last Day on Earth), represents her tossing on her deathbed, with feverish cheeks and sunken eyes.

On the table to the right lies a large album, a few books and a block of black marble, on which some lines of music are engraved in gold. The title tells you they form 'a melody' composed by Julia Hasden after her death, and, listening to its mysterious tones, one could almost believe in an echo from spirit land.

The mechanism which produces the weird music above mentioned is apparently concealed in the table. Visitors are permitted to inscribe their names in the great album, and its pages are full of touching expressions of sympathy in every language.

There is nothing gruesome in this remarkable tomb. The fresh air streams in through the open doors, carrying with it the perfume of flowers and the merry songs of the birds without.

Here is that Professor Hasden passes his spare time. It is no strange most of his time taking his coffee here of a thing to see him smoking his cigarette besides morning and night. His wife comes in the his child's coffin remains until late in the afternoon and evening.

'She's seldom' the old porter at the gate will tell you 'were alive. 'Poor Julia as though she and it don't folks! It's a comfort to up remarking on harm us. People's given rally believed in it long ago.' It is genuine Hasden's mind is Bucharest that Professor Hasden's mind is On all other matters it is as strong as ever.

Rubber plants require to be watered, and if a tablespoonful of castor oil is occasionally poured into a little trench around the stalk and covered with earth it will be found very beneficial to the plant. And do not neglect to give it a frequent sponge bath of milk and water. With such care the plant will be able to send out new leaves during the winter season as well as in the summer.

The handsome and graceful baskets that may have been received, filled with bonbons as gifts, may be converted into beautiful flower holders by lining the empty basket with a fitted piece of waterproof cloth on a thin painted cloth and sewing it closely around the edge of the basket. Fill it with wet sand and stick the sand full of blossoms.

STRAITFORD, AUG. 4th, 1892.

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