

WHAT'S IN A NAME? PARENT'S WIT IS OFTEN CHILD'S TRAGEDY; MANY BEAR ODD COGNOMENS

How would you like to bear the name of Valiant Strutt? Or Green Mudd? Or Second Stickney? Or Appendix Smith? Sounds like farce comedy, doesn't it? But it isn't. All these names have been borne by American citizens. The Negroes and Indians haven't had all the fun with fanciful naming—not by a long shot, writes Alvin F. Harlow in the New York World.

The Anglo-Saxon race possesses about as many family names which might be considered queer and outlandish (by those named otherwise) as any in existence. Among the surnames found in Great Britain and America are the names of practically all birds and animals, real and fabulous (as well as many of the insects and some of the reptiles), trades and professions, tools, implements, furniture, articles of food and clothing, parts of a house and goodness knows what not. Nature and art, theology and demonology, grammar and science have been ransacked to furnish us names.

Few Good Ones.

A race which numbers among its family names such words as From, Thus, How, Yea, Over, About, Always, Only, Butt, Orr, And, by, Truly, Horse-trough, Heelpusgod, Bythe way, Strong-ith-arm, Ho Hum, Lo, Yett, Try Hangitt and a thousand other curious combinations can hardly afford to smile at an Indian named Rain-in-the-face, or at Mr. Johnson, of Alabama, colored, for christening his infant son Peerless.

As is well known, the Puritans brought with them for England the practice of christening children with some intensely devout adjective, adverb or phrase—Praise God Barebones and Give-Good-Measure Simpson are striking examples that come to mind, while many others bore such appellations as Blessed, Thankful, Hope, Long-suffering, Elected, Loving-Kindness, etc. But why the historical and eminent Fish family, of New York, should have seen fit, a century and a half ago, to christen a male infant Preserved is hard to guess.

They Call Her Busy Bee.

Nathaniel Bowditch, a prominent attorney and publicist of Boston, put forth in the early fifties a little volume dealing with the curiosities of American nomenclature, the majority of his oddities having been picked up in New England and adjacent States. Among other things he says: "A married lady was in 1838 about to sign a deed releasing her dower. I asked her name. Her husband said that she used the initial A., but that her name was Aldebarontiphoscofornia—probably the longest that a parent ever inflicted on a child."

Mr. Bowditch tells of other Christian names which indicated either a wild desire to be different or a parental levity which meant anguish for the hapless off-spring in after life. What right have parents named Bee to christen an innocent daughter Busy? Or what is still more unpardonable, a father named Hussey whimsically to pin the name Idle onto his daughter, as Mr. Bowditch declares one did in New England? Frivolous christenings were not confined to those early days, for we seem to recall a Missouri official named Pool who rejoiced, maybe, in the sporting cognomen Kelly.

Hard on Children.

But parents have even inflicted these curious names in series upon their unfortunate children. The writer's parents knew a Southern couple named Frost not so many decades ago who called their three boys Jack, White and Winter. Then there were Mr. and Mrs. Stickney, residents of Detroit many years ago, who saved a lot of worry by naming their sons One, Two and Three, and their daughters First, Second and Third.

Another family decided upon the name Joseph for their first son, but the next two children were christened And and Another. A certain Mr. and Mrs. Smith named one of their children Finis upon the supposition that he would be their last; but a daughter and two sons were born after him, and it seemed fitting to the parents to christen these three Addenda, Appendix and Supplement.

Not Always What They Seem.

Kentucky has shown a predilection for the word "Green" as a praenomen. This apparently started with old General Green Clay, a hero of 1812, Virginia born, but later a resident of Kentucky and father of the famous anti-slavery fire-eater, Cassius M. Clay. Hundreds of men children in the Nineteenth Century were christened in honor of the General, among them a prominent divine, Rev. Green Clay Smith. "Green" minus the "Clay" also became widely popular as given name,

but it could hardly have been more unfortunately bestowed than on a Bloody Ground who bore uncomplainingly the name of Green Mudd. The writer can also attest the recent existence of a young farmer in that State who bore the name of Green Slinker.

There are plenty of men here in New York City, who don't seem to mind having odd names, for they have translated theirs out of other languages into English and made no petition to have them altered; such names for example, as Greenglass, Greenglass, Greenhouse, Newborn, Newbegin, Potash, Sourwine, Giantvalley, Goldfish, Goldfinger and many others.

Norse Origin.

After all, the philologists tell us, many of our queer family names don't mean what they pretend to mean. Whole books have been written to show that a considerable percentage of our Anglo-Saxon names come from Scandinavian origin, and that in taking them over we have so altered the spelling to make them sound familiar to our ears that we have changed completely the sense also. You would suppose, for instance, that the ancestors of a man named Brandy once had something to do with distilling, or at least with bootlegging. Not at all, says the Norse authority. The root word from which Brandy came means one owning or carrying a sword; literally, a man of war. Another development of it is the name Mildebrand.

In fact, none of the Anglo-Saxon proper names, Ale, Goodale, Beer, Wine, Portwine, Sherry, Negus, Rumm, Goodrum, Ginn, Custard and Coffee, are said to have any connection originally with beverages. Furthermore, Rain, Frost, Snow, Snowball, Hail, Hailstorm, Storm, Thunder, Cold, Fog and Mist, are mostly derived from mythological origins, and do not in any way refer to the weather. Bugg instead of an unpleasant allusion to insects, is a title of ancient reverence. Gunn may be Good, Good may be Guthrie, and they all may be Gumbol.

Why Tide Didn't Stop.

Truly, things are not what they seem in nomenclature. The authority tells us that the root word of Dandy signified an eminent man, while Trowel is a Christian. The name Hogg proves to be no subject for pest, for it comes from a root signifying cogitation. Hogg, Hodge, Hodges and Higgins are therefore thoughtful philosophers. Cant is a song; Gall is pleasant; Gale is a singer; Wesley is miserable; Gratton is tearful; Sewer is a very unpleasant name for a wise man, while Vicar very improperly means a pirate.

Nutkins is merely an affectionate diminutive of the name of old King Canute; Knut and Nutt are more dignified forms, but some of the royal glamour is lost when we find that the original meaning was a wen or tumor on the side of the head.

LUCCOMBE DOWN.

What did you lose on Luccombe Down
Where the feathery grass was swaying?
A droop of the lips and an anxious frown
And a mind too proud for praying;
A rancor little and mean and old
A foolish dream that was dead and cold,
A stolen hope that was ill to hold
And a heart that was bent and gray-fing.

What did you find on Luccombe Down
Where the salt sweet winds were blowing?
The gay red roofs of Wroxall town
And the smell of a new cut mowing;
A cliff of pearl and a sapphire sea,
A lambkin woolly and white and wee,
The depth of the heavens over me
And a thought that God is knowing.
—AMELIA JOSEPHINE BURR, in The Bookman.

FOUND NOT GUILTY.

Dorchester, Oct. 27—October sitting of the Westmorland county circuit, with His Honor Judge O. S. Crocket presiding, was resumed this morning and Samuel Jones of Salisbury road, charged with violation of the Inland Revenue Act, was found not guilty after the jury had been out between five and ten minutes.

Employer—This job requires a married man. Are you married?
Persistent Chap—Nor sir. But will you hold the position open till tomorrow morning, sir?



SHOE STYLES.

Perhaps it is because both feet and reptiles tread the earth on the same common level that reptilian material still continue to be used for smart footwear.

Whatever the theory, the fact is that smart styles in footgear are fashioned from reptilian sources, and most attractive they are in their soft tans, bronzes and beige hues.

Both sports and dress shoes are fashioned from alligator skin, lizard skin and parchment snake. For the golf courses shoe styles decree oxfords of pressed lizard laced with leather tipped laces and saddled in lizard skin of a harmonizing shade.

Buck is shown for sports wear. Moccasins of white buck are fringed with a "veal" brown shade or varied by saddles of black. Many of the golf sports shoes in buck or lizard are completed by kiltie fringed tongues, which protect the laces from dust.

The semi-dress shoe is found in quite vivid colors. Models in wine red patent leather, amber alligator skin and sea green pressed lizard are displayed in the semi-dress mode.

For business wear and the street there are single strapped slippers of reptile skin. The shoe fancier has ornamented such shoes with imitated clockings in a light fawn or beige. He has likewise fashioned oxfords of pressed lizard for street wear, and trimmed them with flat bows of lizard skin with cross-stitchings in lighter shades.

Shoe styles in evening wear know no fashion law as far as color is concerned. They are shown in vivid greens, golds, silvers and in riotously futuristic designs. The embroidered shoe black satin and white satin with embroideries in gay colors are a dash of entry in foot styles.

The question of hosiery is answered by all tints of the rainbow. Most popular are the amber, beige and golden brown shades with a glimmer of rose woven into the silk. Other deservedly smart shades in hosiery are sandalwood sauterne and muscade the black stocking and the dark gray it has been said are to lead hosiery colors, but at present the mode is as varied as individual taste dictates. A piquant touch to the dress shoe is the crystal cut or beaded "slide" which slips over the button. They appear in the shape of glittering rhine stone butterflies or small, circular gems. Buckles beaded in steel stones are also effective this season.

The flower ornament for the shoulder grows larger all the time. For evening the chrysanthemum in huge proportions is a favorite.

Last year some few smart women wore the Russian boot. This winter the vogue promises to become a little more general.

STEAMED FIG PUDDING.

One cup chopped figs, one cup sweet milk, one cup molasses, one and one half cups graham flour, one and one half teaspoons soda. Steam three hours and serve with either foamy or hard sauce.

FRUIT TAPIOCA.

To two tablespoons tapioca soaked overnight in little water add one half cup sugar, one pint milk and one egg. Heat milk, add tapioca and boil twenty minutes. Beat yolk of egg, sugar, two teaspoons corn starch and little salt. Stir into milk and boil five minutes. Pour into dish, beat white of egg, two tablespoons sugar spread over top and set in oven for few minutes. Pare and slice bananas, peaches or oranges, sprinkle with sugar. Wet knife, slip around edge of pudding to loosen and lay over fruit.

PROBLEMS.

They say I am a caution and
They say I am a case,
I overheard them talking 'bout
The mischief in my face.

They say I am a problem, but
They don't say in what way.
I guess it's in addition, for
I'm ten years old today.
—MAXINE CHAPMAN in Chicago News.

Autumnal thought: The early worm gets the nut.

Of Interest to the Women

C. N. R. EARNINGS SHOW DECREASE

Montreal, Oct. 28—The gross earnings of the Canadian National Railways for the week ended October 14, 1926 were \$6,064,521 as compared with \$6,218,089 for the same week of 1925, a decrease of \$153,568 or two per cent.

LOWER PRINCE WILLIAM.

Lower Prince William, Oct. 28—The fall work is nearing completion, but the recent heavy rain has made ploughing difficult.

The ladies of the United Baptist Aid Society intend having a supper and sale in the hall next Saturday evening, proceeds for Missions.

Miss Camilla Burden is enjoying a short vacation at her home here.

Rev. R. A. Perkins had the misfortune to break his arm while cranking his car last Wednesday.

Surveyor Grant from Toronto is spending a few weeks with his family in Prince William.

Four young men of this place returned home Saturday night from a successful hunting trip up the Nash-waak.

Mrs. Edwin Hoyt entertained the Sewing Circle on Thursday last.

Mrs. Morgan is visiting her daughter Mrs. A. W. Lawrence.

The Aid of the United Church gathered at the Manse last evening, and presented the pastor's wife, Mrs. Patterson with a beautiful wool puff. The pleasant evening was greatly enjoyed by all.

The Reading Club has been organized for another winter and the books will soon be delivered to its members.

Rev. W. A. Patterson and Mrs. Patterson motored to Fredericton this morning.

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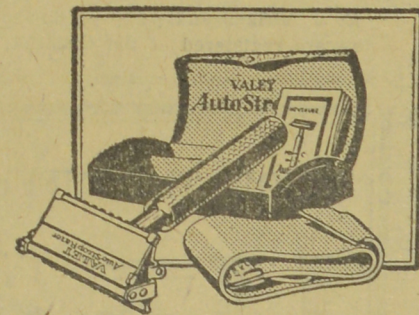
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