

BACK TO POKER PLAYING.

Advice of a Long-Suffering Wife to Her Husband When He Substituted the Violin.

The man, who lives in a detached, if modest home of his own in Brooklyn...

"This," remarked the man, "is where I built for the rest of the route. Glimbed out with four nines in my mitt. hey? Here is where I make a standing pole-vault into the discard and poke no more."

Reaching home, he took his patient wife's hand in his hands and told her that, after a searching analysis of himself, he had found that he wouldn't do. Wherefore, he added, every son-of-a-bitch that he pulled down from his legitimate labors in the future was to be devoted to the proper purposes and uses of himself and his heirs and assigns, now and forever.

On the following day, in conformity with his resolution henceforth to find his amusement at home of nights, he rummaged around among the second-hand stores, and finally found the fiddle, with the bow and case, that he wanted, paying all of four dollars for the outfit.

In his early youth this man had been able to scrape so passably on the violin that his playing hadn't depreciated the value of real estate in his boyhood neighborhood more than 25 or 40 per cent. He was determined, therefore, to resume his fiddling, after a hiatus that had endured for many years, as one of the methods whereby he might divert himself and his wife at home, and also keep his mind from dwelling upon the tedious game of draw.

He blew in an additional \$1.50 for the purchase of strings, keys, bridge, tail-piece and chin rest for his four-dollar fiddle, and carried the gear, together with the instrument, home with him on his way from the office.

His patient wife's eyes gleamed with happiness. "I am so delighted," she said, ecstatically, "that you are going to take up your music again! It seems so queer, doesn't it, that I have never heard you play."

"Yes," said he, cheerily, "but you've got something to live for just for that reason. Once a violinist, always a violinist, y'know. When I get this how-gag rigged up, I'll be hurrying out some sweet strains that'll make you think of your happy girlhood days down by the creek—just you wait!"

After an hour's work in getting the fiddle strung up, he rosined the bow and drew it across the strings.

It was a pretty squeaky start. His wife's countenance fell just a little. He tuned up the instrument again, and then he was off in a bunch with what purported to be the "Flower Song."

His wife's face went blank before he had sawed seven bars. Then a wounded antelope expression crept into her eyes. He, however, was too busy with his rendition of the "Flower Song" to notice this.

His wife softly stole into the next room, and, raising a window, leaned out into the cold air as far as she could, and wondered what she had ever done to deserve it.

Bringing his performance to a wabbly, horrid and precarious close, he rested the instrument on his knee and looked around for tumultuous applause. He found himself alone in the room.

"The music has probably affected her so," he said to himself, "that she has gone into her room to weep her tender little heart out, poor child! I'll have to stop playing so pathetically, she's so sensitive. It's unfortunate that I've got so much overwhelming expression at my finger tips."

So he hastened into the other room where he found his wife still leaning out of the window. Her figure was not, however, being shaken by convulsive sobs. In fact, she turned quite a calm face upon him.

"Well, little one," said he, folding her in his fond embrace, "what d'ye think of your man as a violin player?" She gazed at him sadly and released herself from his grip.

"Heaven forgive me for giving you such advice, Jack," she said to him, in a voice filled with anguish, "but—Jack, go and play poker."

Japanese in New York.

The number of Japanese on the Atlantic coast is small, compared with that on the Pacific coast. There are about 2,000 Japanese in the Greater New York and its surrounding states; about 200 are Christians. In New York city there are 30 stores and business offices representing the large companies in Japan; and 20 students in Columbia university and 11 in the Union Theological seminary and many in the different schools. The great number of the 2,000 are students whether they are in school or temporarily occupying some positions. The others are merchants, artisans, architects, engineers, etc. Those who are temporarily cooks or butlers are ambitious and discontented with servitude. All the Japanese thirst for knowledge and culture—Christian City.

Superstition in England.

In Painswick churchyard (between Stroud and Gloucester, England) there are 50 yew trees. Although the hued drench has been planted many times it is a peculiar fact that it always dies. A local superstition says that "when the hundredth tree lives after it has been planted, the world will come to an end."

SHIPS OF TREASURE.

IMMENSE AMOUNT OF GOLD CARRIED BY MODERN VESSELS.

They Transport Ten Times as Much as Was Extruded to Ships of the Spanish Main a Century Ago.

An ocean steamship carrying nearly \$10,000,000 in gold was advertised to sail recently from New York to European ports. A few weeks ago another steamship carried \$7,000,000 in gold to Europe, and heavy shipments of gold from Europe to America or from America to Europe are of common occurrence. Many a vessel sailing from Alaska to San Francisco carries more of the precious metals than did the famous galleons of Spain in the eighteenth century.

The vessel announced to sail with gold as ballast was to carry three times as much bullion and coin as was carried by the whole fleet of Spanish treasure ships captured by the British in 1804. This one modern vessel carries ten times as much gold to Europe as the Spanish main in the time of the old buccaniers, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the treasure ships sailing from Mexico and South America and from the Indies were objects of interest to nations at war and to buccaniers and pirates. Freebooting expeditions were organized to capture them, and fleets were maneuvered with the treasure they carried in mind. The sailing of a treasure ship brought the buccaniers of American waters into action, and there was no safety even when the treasure ships were guarded by war vessels.

The western seas were then a highway beset with pirates and freebooters, acting often in the name of England, France, or Holland, but always with plunder in mind. These freebooters became so strong that they not only conducted campaigns against the treasure ships of Spain, but organized governments and captured and held cities. Nothing affords a sharper contrast between the conditions of 100 or 200 years ago and now than the sailing of the modern treasure ships from American ports. No secret is made of their sailing, and the amount of gold and silver carried is published to the world. No expeditions are organized to waylay them, no plots are concocted to destroy or capture them.

Under the rules of the nations governing ocean traffic, the treasure ship is as safe at sea as is the fishing smack. There are no outlaws on the sea, because civilization united to suppress piracy in all its forms, and to make the ocean safe for all commerce.

THE DESERT TRANSFORMED

Redemption of a California County Twice the Size of the State of Connecticut.

Writing in the World's Work on "Building a Wonderful Community," French Strother tells the story of a remarkable western county.

Thirty-two years ago there was but one house in the town of Fresno, in the central desert of California. A hole was dug under it, 40 feet deep, into which the inmates lowered themselves by a bucket and a windlass, to escape the heat of the day. Around it, as far as the eye could see, stretched the glaring desert unbroken by any cultivated spot of green. The whole country seemed a hopeless waste—dead and profitless.

To-day this spot is the center of a cheerful community of 8,000 homes, in a land made fertile by irrigation. Two thousand children attend its public schools. The industries there yield \$14,000,000 annually. The rains crop of 1902 put into the farmers' bank accounts \$2,300,000. All the rains imported into the United States in 1902 amounted in value to only \$400,000. In 1902 the oil wells of Fresno county yielded \$70,000,000 of crude petroleum, worth \$200,000 before refining. Eighty-nine thousand head of cattle graze on its rich alfalfa.

When a few struggling fortune hunters came to the country late in the '60s they were welcomed by this sign, hung over Fresno's one building: "Bring your horses. Water, one bit; water and feed, three bits." Fresno was a "watering station" only. In 1872, however, Mr. M. J. Church conceived the idea of bringing the water in ditches from King's river, 20 miles away, to irrigate the land. His proposal was laughed at as a dreamer's scheme. But persistence won; in 1876 he had water on land within three miles of the town of Fresno, and the first year's crop proved the soil to be fertile. The area of watered ground was rapidly extended. To-day there are 260,000 acres under irrigation.

Electricity in the Orient.

The introduction of electrical apparatus in China and in other countries of the far east, cannot but have some effect upon the lives of the natives. The people there change slowly, but probably nothing could have a greater effect than the trolley in bringing about this change, unless we except the telephone. It is not possible that these two agents will play an important part in bringing about a better understanding between the Chinese empire and the western nations.—Electrical Review.

The Preventive.

Mrs. Fluffy—I do wish I could break you off swearing! Mr. Fluffy—Possibly you can. "How, please?" "Stop nagging me!"

MULTIPLIES DAYS LENGTH.

Sea of Professor Darwin Predicts Fifty-Five Times Its Present Duration.

Recent discoveries in the world of science and inventions indicate great changes in the future of mankind and its surroundings. The length of the day is to be greatly increased, according to Prof. Darwin, son of the great naturalist and president of the British association. In course of time the present day will be prolonged to 55 days. It has been discovered that the days are gradually lengthening at relative rates which are calculable, though the absolute rates in time are unknown. The month will probably be as long as 37 present days.

With the lengthening of the days there is to be a prolongation of the length of man's life. It has been shown that the proper application of acetic acid will considerably prolong life, and according to one authority, this can also be accomplished by drinking sour milk. It appears that sour milk contains a friendly bacillus, which, when introduced into the main intestine, benefits health.

There is said to be no doubt that the stature of man is increasing, and it is possible that the future race may be giants.

At that future day artificial diamonds and rubies will be common. The diamond, which is made of pure carbon, is the cheapest substance in the world. And when the electric furnace is developed it is expected that diamonds and rubies will no longer be precious stones.

There will be no fogs in those days, for they will be cleared away by electrifying the atmosphere on a large scale. An important experiment in this line was made at Liverpool. The air around University college was electrified by means of a Wimshurst machine. The result was that in a dense fog a space of from 50 to 60 yards' radius was kept clear. The discoverer of this use for electricity hopes to be able to provide a sufficient number of stations on each side of a river so that the positive current from the other side of the river will form a collision which will clear the fog away.

The future man will have no need of glasses to help his vision. Eye massage, which is gentle and gradual and causes no pain, will cure any defect of vision. The stomach and intestines will also be unnecessary, and it has been suggested that these organs will be removed by a surgical operation.

Their place will be taken by a tube, into which prepared food will be dropped. Tablets of prepared, compressed and digested food will be used, and there will be no need to waste the amount of time necessary to obtain food nowadays.

There will be no need for watches, for there will be a clock at every street corner, illuminated at night. The city of Berlin has this system of timepieces in use already, and there are 300 clocks scattered about the city.

MASSACRES BY THE KURDS

Thousands of Christians Killed by Moslems in the Sassan District.

The state department has made public portions of an important report recently made by Dr. Thomas H. Norton, American consul at Harput, Turkey, on the results of a tour of investigation made by him through the vilayets of Bitlis and Van, which were the scenes during several months last summer of repeated attacks upon and massacres of Christians by the Kurds and other elements of the Moslem population. These disturbances, attended by frightful atrocities and savage cruelty, resulted in death, suffering and destitution.

The principal object of the visit was for the better protection of American interests there, and the timely arrival of Dr. Norton, it is stated, contributed to a peaceful termination. No Americans were known to have been injured. Dr. Norton says: "Much is practically an armed camp, where Armenians are in constant terror."

He estimates that in the Sassan district 5,000 lives were lost in last summer's massacres, including 2,771 children. Several thousand refugees who fled to Mush were forced to return to their ruined villages, where the vilayet authorities made an allowance of one cent a day per capita for food. The question for a moment, he says, is what is to be done to save the surviving population of Sassan, numbering 10,000 or more, from results of insufficient protection and insufficient food. One salient fact, says the consul, is the benevolence of citizens of the United States has accomplished more than the efforts of other nations combined in advancing the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the Armenians and other classes in the inferior provinces. Tribute is paid to the comparatively small group of American workers. He says the tide of emigration is directed almost exclusively to America, and that there is an increasing number of American citizens who have interests in the disturbed regions.

Capturing Foreign Markets.

The country is scoring magnificent industrial conquests abroad these days. Although "the American invasion" has not been mentioned so conspicuously by European publicists recently as it was two or three years ago, it is even more menacing now than it was then. We are capturing markets in England, Germany, France and the rest of Europe from which the world until recent years imagined we were excluded, and the beginning of our victories in this direction has only been made.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Strings Out.

"Don't talk 'bout yoh troubles," said Uncle Eben. "De hard luck story nearly allus gits to be one 'o dese here continued-in-our-next-affairs.—Washington Star.

PUT POISON IN FOOD.

ADULTERATION OF MANY ARTICLES IN COMMON USE.

Artificial Coloring Matter of Harmful Nature, Injurious Sweetening and Other Impurities.

The most popular idea of food adulteration is a manipulation of food products in such a way as to make them injurious to health. It cannot be denied, says Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, United States department of agriculture, in Pearson's Magazine, that the ultimate effect of many forms of food adulteration is harmful, but the immediate object of the food adulterator is pecuniary gain.

Dairy products have been more generally investigated for adulterations than almost any other kind of foods. The addition of water to milk is probably not very extensively practiced, but the abstraction of part of the cream and selling the residue as whole milk is still in vogue. A more common method of adulterating milk is to milk the cow only partially, leaving the greater portion of the cream in the udder. The part first obtained is sold as whole milk and the remaining portion serves as cream.

The most common adulteration of butter is the use of artificial coloring matter. Formerly only vegetable colors such as annatto were employed, but in late years the development of the chemistry of dye stuffs has offered to the deft dairymen many beautiful yellow tints, which are not only cheaper but more easily mixed with the fat than the old-fashioned vegetable colors. In the United States, especially, has the sin of butter coloring been pushed to an almost unlimited extent, and it is difficult to find upon our markets uncolored butter, even in June.

Cheese is not only artificially colored but sometimes the milk fat is removed and a fat of another kind substituted. The product is known as "diced cheese."

Honey is probably as extensively adulterated as any other common food product. Glucose made from Indian corn starch and resembling honey in its physical characteristics is the most common adulterant. Sugar which has been treated with an acid to make it resemble honey more closely is also at times used, or mixtures of the two. One method of adulteration is to place a small part of genuine honey in the honeycomb in a jar and fill the jar with glucose or a mixture of glucose and the sugar mentioned above.

The condiments, pepper, salt and spices of all kinds have been made the subject of debasement to a large extent. The ground condiments are mixed with inert matter in order to increase weight and diminish activity. The manufacture of "fillers" resembling the ground spices in color and texture is largely practiced.

The mixing of sand with sugar, I believe, never, or rarely practiced in this country. Sugar is probably too cheap to warrant it, some varieties of fine white sand being worth almost as much as the sugar itself.

Beverages are perhaps as commonly adulterated or imitated as the solid foods, though to the credit of American beers it may be said that they are, for the most part, pure. Distilled liquors are imitated in many forms, so that it is difficult now to know in purchasing a bottle of whisky whether it is the real article or not. Wines and brandies are often misbranded, bearing names indicative of excellence and worth to which they are not entitled.

THE NEWSPAPER REPORTER

If a Good One Will Make as Good an Income as a City Editor.

The reporter of our big papers is a very different personage from what is popularly supposed. He is by no means an underpaid employe. A very good reporter will make as much as a city editor, which is \$100 a week; while most of the big papers maintain staffs of 25 or 30 reporters, who average between \$40 and \$60 a week, says Pearson's Magazine.

The reporter may be a young man, just out of Harvard or Princeton, or Yale, or he may be an active middle-aged man in the fullness of strength, experience or usefulness, or he may be a veteran, 50 years old, who can tell of adventures in the old days when most of us were girls and boys.

The first requirement of a reporter is that he be a trained news gatherer. He must be tireless on the trail of information. If he fails in one place he must know how to seek in another. He must know how to drag information out of the unwilling, and he must know his man and read his character, and trim his sails accordingly. He must be a man who can withstand physical exertion. He may work 12 hours at a stretch in the most infamous snow or rainstorm, or he may work 14 or even 18 hours in a sultry temperature that prostrates persons even at midnight, but he must remain doggedly persistent, knowing the truth when he hears it, and quick to suspect a lie.

Crop of Green Hair.

The latest Paris toy is a terra cotta head, on the top of which, and in the place of which the eyebrows should be, are furrows. A packet of fine grass seeds is sown with the head. The head is well watered and the seed it put in the furrows. In a few days a fine crop of green hair and eyebrows is produced, to the great delight of all beholders.

These Girls.

Grays—There goes Miss Uglymug. We girls call her "Good Advice." Gladys—Why? "Because no man was ever known to follow her.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

LEO TOLSTOVS PROPHECY.

Famous Russian Author Forewarns Crisis and Implores the Czar to Act in Time.

Count Leo Tolstoy, the great apostle of nonresistance, saw with prophetic eyes three years ago the events of the revolutionary movement in St. Petersburg. In a letter written then, when he believed he was about to die, and could afford to speak his mind, he told the czar that the government's policy in suppressing the spiritual and material freedom of the people would have dire results. Here is one excerpt bearing on the future from the letter:

"Everywhere, both in the towns and industrial centers, troops are concentrated and sent out with loaded cartridges against the people."

"In many places fratricidal conflicts have already taken place, and everywhere such are being prepared, and new and yet more cruel struggles will inevitably occur."

Count Tolstoy has decried all wars, declaring that there never was a good one. He is equally emphatic against revolutions, and his tone in addressing his "Dear Brother," the emperor, is all in sorrow, not in anger; a warning, not a threat. If the recent memorial of the people to the czar is studied in comparison with Tolstoy's letter, it will be seen that the present uprising grows out of a denial of the very requests that Tolstoy made for the masses. Epitomized, those of Tolstoy were:

1. The working people desire to be delivered from special laws that place them in the position of a parish, deprived of all the rights of other citizens.

2. They desire freedom of removal from place to place, freedom of education, freedom of conscience, and above all, freedom in the use of the land, and the abolition of the right of landed property.

Concerning the latter reform, Tolstoy wrote:

"I also think that this measure would undoubtedly destroy all that socialistic and revolutionary irritation which is now spreading among the workers, and is likely to be of the greatest danger to both the government and the people."

Blaming the emperor's advisers for their "strenuous and cruel activity in seeking to arrest the eternal progress of mankind," Tolstoy wrote:

"But one can sooner arrest the flow of a river than that incessant progressive movement of mankind which is established by God."

"By measures of coercion one can oppress a people, but not rule them. The only means in our time to rule the people, indeed, is placing one's self at the head of the movement of the people from evil to good, from darkness to light; to lead them to the attainment of the objects nearest to this end."

THEIR SPEECHES ON MENU

Innovation Tried in London to Abate Wearing Feet-Franchise. Eloquence.

A daring innovation in the time-honored procedure of city banquets was introduced by Car. Hentschel, who as president of the Bartholomew club, entertained the lord mayor, lady mayors, the sheriffs and their wives, and a large company at the forty-ninth annual dinner of the club at De Keyser's Royal Hotel recently, says the London Telegraph. Instead of the "linked sweetness, long drawn-out" and the alleged humor of civic post-prandial oratory, the speeches were all printed with the menu, and were, as a note to the toast list explained, taken as read.

As the president pointed out in the explanation prefixed to the booklet: "Even if it were never attempted again, it will remain an interesting attempt to relieve the length and solidity which characterize many city dinners. Of course, to those gentlemen gifted with the useful accomplishment of always making brilliant speeches, or those who dearly love the sound of their own voices, this innovation perhaps will not appeal in the same manner as it might to the unfortunate individual who spends hours in preparing his speech, only to forget same when he comes to deliver it." And he might have added, to the equally unfortunate individual who, having dined, is for very shame compelled to evince appreciation of sentiments he has heard better expressed many times before.

Nor need the budding or full-blown orator feel disappointed, for seldom have the most concisive periods, the most delicate wit, evoked more hearty applause than, for instance, Alderman and Sheriff Vesey Strong's reply last night: "My lord mayor, my lady mayors, my lords and gentlemen, for my reply, see page 11." With the speech a portrait of the speaker was reproduced in the souvenir booklet; indeed, nothing was wanting to leave the most vivid impression of a most enjoyable evening.

Pupils in American Schools.

The number of pupils enrolled in the common schools of the United States in 1904 was 16,000,361, or over 30 per cent. of the entire population of the country, as estimated by the last census report. These figures, however, relate to public schools. The total enrollment, including evening schools, business colleges, kindergartens, Indian schools, orphan asylums and all public and private institutions of elementary, secondary and higher education, was 18,187,818 for the year. No other nation can boast of such an enormous total.

Does Not Need Preparation.

Mrs. Binks—John, when we were first married you used always to say grace at meals; you never do it now.

Mr. Binks—Oh! But I'm not so much afraid of your cooking now!—Cleveland Leader.

TAKE ANOTHER NAME

REASONS SOME PEOPLE HAVE FOR MAKING CHANGE.

It Is of Frequent Occurrence and Is Countenanced by the Law—Method of Its Accomplishment.

"Custom has made it almost universal for all male persons to bear the names of their parents, the other morning, reports the Washington Star. "It seems natural that it should be so. Nevertheless there is nothing in the laws of this country prohibiting a man's taking another name, and no legal penalty is attached to his doing so. There is, always, however, a possibility of its being attended with inconvenience, and perhaps loss to himself."

"Suppose, for instance, Brown assumes the name of Smith. Relatives whose society may, peradventure, be useful to Brown, it is a hundred to one that the relatives discover him under the name of Smith. So, you see, when a man changes his name at a venture, it may be all the worse for him. Of course, if he changes his name to escape detection as a criminal, it may save him from capture or it may not; if not, then he figures in the record with an alias, and that is disgrace. A man may enter into a contract or obligation under any name he chooses, the law looking only to the identity of the person."

"There is a way, however, by which a man may change his name with the sanction of the law, and that is the only safe way. But the law requires him to assign some reason for the change. Men have assigned various reasons for wishing to change their names. Sometimes a man wishes to drop his right name because it is of foreign origin and difficult for an American tongue to pronounce. This may injure him in his business, as there is such a thing as prejudice even in this free and enlightened commonwealth. Or his name may have in English an absurd or even vulgar meaning and subject him to unpleasant jokes, or it may associate him with some notorious criminal or be the counterpart of some name which history made infamous, or it may be misspelled and consequently mispronounced on his entry to this country."

"Frequently infants are left orphans or abandoned by the father after the death of the mother. In that case it is a frequent occurrence for relatives or neighbors to take a child and adopt it, giving it their own name. In that case the party desiring to adopt must apply by a written petition to the court of the place in which he lives asking leave to adopt the child and change its name to that of the petitioner. The order allowing the adoption and the change of name must be filed with the court, so that the parentage of the child may be subsequently established if necessary."

"A citizen of the district of full age may change his name by petition in the same way, or, if he is under age, his guardian or his nearest friend may address the petition to the court. When an adult applies for leave to change his name, he must give his place of birth, residence, age and whether he is married or single and whether there are any judgments against him or outstanding commercial paper in the name which he seeks to abandon. In case of an infant, a notice of an application to change the name must be served on the father, or if he is dead and cannot be found, then on the mother, or if she is dead, then on a guardian, or if both parents are out of the district and there is no guardian, the court may dispense with the motion or require notice of it be served on anybody it may see fit. If in any of these cases the court is satisfied there are no objectionable reasons the order is permitted granting a change of name. The order must be filed with the clerk, and 20 days thereafter the new name may be assumed. The granting of the notice must within ten days thereafter be published in a newspaper designated by the court."

"Thus the law protects the person who for good and sufficient reasons desires to assume a name other than his own. The order of the court being recorded, all the rights of the individual which may subsequently accrue to him under his original name are preserved, his identity being the view of the law, fully established."

Bad Amusements of the Briton.

A certain invalid gentleman in the neighborhood of Liverpool has hit on a device whereby he can amuse himself without assistance, and can also obtain a certain amount of intellectual exercise. He reads Henry James' latest novels, and keeps a bridge market meantime. If Mr. James has a sentence which he understands he gives a mark to himself; if, on the contrary, he meets a sentence which beats him, he gives a mark to Henry James. So far the game has been going on a couple of weeks, and Henry James is far ahead of his admirer. But of course, the tables may be turned when the contest is concluded. The process is tedious enough, since, in justice, every sentence has to be analyzed; but the invalid declares that it is a capital exercise and he is recommending it to his friends.—Liverpool Post.

An Easy Explanation.

Sunday School Teacher—Edith, who is supposed to have supported the world? Edith—Atlas.

"Well, then, who supported Atlas?" "He must have married some rich widow, I suppose."—N. Y. Times.

America's Chief Product.

"What is the chief product of the United States?" asked the teacher in European school.

"And without hesitation the bright pupil replied: "Money."—Chicago Journal.