

HELD UP ON THE WAY.

Why Young Jimmers Abandoned His European Trip.

One Thursday morning Jimmers went around among all his friends and bade them good-by. He had been saving money for a couple of years with a view to doing Europe and now he was about to gratify this ambition of his life. His departure created quite a flutter with the gentler sex, for they liked him because he was so susceptible and generous whenever they were concerned.

The first of the following week Jimmers was back. He looked discouraged, but tried to be cheerful, and was finally induced to relieve his mind.

"Only got as far as Harry Totem's town," he admitted, "and that's 90 miles. He was going with me, you know. There was a great private fair the night I arrived, and went to the features were unique and entertaining. Gypsy queens told fortunes. What seemed the decapitated heads of beautiful women flirted with you and exacted forfeits when you made certain mistakes. There were Japanese gardens, Parisian cafes, Turkish smoking parlors and a Midway Pleasure, modified, of course, to meet the good tastes of those catered to. The booths, at which they seemed to sell about everything, were presided over by beautiful and fascinating women whom you could not refuse to patronize. I had a delightful evening, and Totem tells me that I was quite the lion."

"Well," blushed Jimmers, "it turned out that I had bought several truck loads of expensive stuff, and when I came to figure up I found that I didn't have enough left to pay my passage over, let alone travel there and get back. I'll work a couple of years more now and then book myself straight through to Liverpool." —Detroit Free Press.

A WONDERFUL MAN.

Why the Elevator Conductor Was in Mourning for Him.

The elevator conductor in a certain large office building appeared one morning with a bit of crape pinned to his hat and a look of respectful gloom upon his face.

"Somebody dead?" one of the regular passengers sympathetically inquired.

"Yes, Mr. Higginly."

"Higginly? Who's he? Brother-in-law?"

"No. No relation. Used to have an office in this building."

"That so? What was he in? Law?"

"Wholesale cement."

"Fast friend of yours, I suppose?"

"No. Never spoke to him."

"No relation? Why, that's funny! Blessed if I understand why you're so sorry for his death."

"He was one man in a million—in fact, he was one man in 2,000,000. There was never another in Chicago like him. Maybe not in all the world, but certainly not in this old town."

"Why I never heard of him. Did he write books in secret, or was he great as an orator? Or did he have an army record? Or was he a statesman?"

"The elevator conductor looked at his questioner wearily.

"Nothing like that," he said.

"Greater. Scarcer. Wonderfuller. He was the only man I ever knew who had sense enough to stop and wait for an elevator without ringing all the electricity out of the bell." —Chicago Record.

"WONDER IF DIAZ KNOWS?"

Something About the Wonderful Personality of Mexico's Ruler.

"Wonder if Diaz knows?" is a common remark in discussing any foreign or domestic grievance, and whenever the dictator accepts an invitation to a rural beast fight his carriage (he is getting too old to enjoy horseback rides) is followed by the acclamations of his rustic worshippers, some of whom do not hesitate to lay hold of him and cover his coat sleeve with kisses. A Yucatan Indian even kisses his boots, because the padishah had freed his tribe from—I forgot what burden—some sort of feudal sagacity duty.

For the triple-headed dragon is chained and the Mexican St. George is at leisure to turn his attention to minor evils, but like Frederick the Great, affects to show himself ultra-liberal in matters not directly affecting the stability of his pet institutions.

In an excess of that sort of tolerance he permits bull fights and various games of chance, and, I am sorry to add, the manufacture and sale of all sorts of intoxicating liquors. —Felix L. Oswald, in Chautauquan.

Good Reasons for Giving.

At a meeting of the Fishers association, held in London, Dr. Wallace told a story of a pensioner who used to stand with a placard on his breast enumerating his claims to the coppers he begged. The list ran thus: "Battles, 4; wounds, 3; children, 6; total, 15." This is almost as good as Sir M. Grant-Duff's story of the Irish beggar who prayed: "For the love of God, sir, give me a crust, for I am so thirsty that I don't know where I shall sleep to-night." —London Globe.

WAYS OF BURGLARS.

What a Well-Known Detective Says of Their Profession.

A well-known detective of several years' experience has this to say of burglars: "If one were to become a professional burglar his work would require study and practice, just as success in legitimate business demands education and experience. The burglar who does several 'jobs' and eludes the officers of the law is a keen observer, a man of foresight, and one whose executive ability is unquestioned. Houses are not entered because they have brownstone fronts, nor are stores broken into by the professional thief without an investigation. When the skillful burglar is to reside or proprietor. In a case in Troy a few years ago a jewelry store was robbed. Apparently there was not a clew. Detectives were placed on the case and named the thieves by the method employed in getting into the store, and subsequently the thieves were convicted. Certain burglars always enter a cellar and come up through stairs, floor or trapdoors. Others have skeleton keys. Others go above and come downstairs. Some break in rear and others front doors. In the robbery above referred to the two thieves had been in Troy three successive Saturday nights. They had fastened a silk thread on all entrances in such a way that if anyone entered or left the store the thread would be broken. Thus the burglars learned that the proprietor and clerks did not visit the store after closing Saturday night until Sunday. The fourth Saturday night they 'cracked' the safe. Except for their methodical way of entering (by the cellar) no suspicion would have attached itself to them.

"Even burglars have some style. People living in modest homes, unless they have large sums of money or jewelry, need not fear a visit from the plunderer for which he seeks. As a rule, burglars are cowards, and it is only in emergencies that revolvers are used." —Troy Times.

PETRIFFIED ARTICLES.

A Huge Tree That is Slowly Sinking Into the Earth.

Warda and the surrounding country are noted for petrified articles of various kinds. I have on exhibition a petrified rock about two feet long and one and a half feet wide. It weighs 45 pounds and is without a doubt a shoulder blade of a mastodon. It plainly shows the socket in which the bone of the leg revolves. It was found several years ago by a party while seining in the bed of the Colorado river. Within three-quarters of a mile from Warda there is a petrified tree, supposed to have been a post oak. It is about 20 feet long, and at the thick end of the trunk it is about two feet in diameter, while at the top it is over a foot in diameter. When first observed, about 18 years ago, about half of its diameter was above ground, but owing to its great weight it is slowly but constantly sinking. All around in this part of the country a person can find specimens of petrified wood of many varieties.

One of the most curious and at the same time one of the most perfect specimens that the writer has observed is what is supposed to be a petrified stomach. It plainly shows a quantity of petrified acorns and other ingredients which cannot now be distinguished. It is supposed to be the stomach of a hog or some other prehistoric animal. —Galveston News.

Squaring Accounts.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Richman, newly wedded residents of Wrenniah, N. J., are having lots of fun at their expense. They began their practical jokes by kidnapping the bridegroom and the bride after the ceremony and placing them in a carriage decked in a bewildering manner with white streamers and old shoes. They were then driven to Palatine to take the train, instead of Vineland, where they themselves had intended to go. But Mr. and Mrs. Richman are in ignorance of the crowning joke. It will greet them on their return from their bridal trip. It is in the shape of a big placard on the front of the cottage in which they will make their home. It can easily be read by the passengers in the railroad trains as they flit by. It states: "This property will be occupied by Walter J. Richman and bride on their return from their wedding tour." The mechanical qualities of the engine mean but little to themselves. In order to complete them they must be blended, as it were, with the human qualities of the person. This apprenticeship of the gunner commences to-day, when the work of the scientist is finished. Our artillery will require new and long training. It is only upon that point that we will be able to maintain the advantage which we have in artillery over the rest of Europe.

Biggs—"I'm all broken up." Diggs—"Then it is about time you mended your ways." —Harlem Life.

NEW FRENCH ARTILLERY.

View of a Paris Paper as to Advance Made.

In regard to our new field pieces, observes the Temps, the severest secrecy has been observed, and when one thinks of the number of persons connected with the study and with the solution of the problem he can only feel grateful to our artillerymen for their prudence, which does them no less honor than the powerful engine which they have invented. The recent visit of the war minister and of the chief of the general staff at Chalons relieves nobody from the obligation of silence. It simply proves that the question that has been so carefully studied is now finally settled. Let us see how this question was presented during the past years and examine the general plan upon which that study was conducted.

The invention of smokeless powder produced an immediate effect upon the rifle. It increased the range and permitted a diminution of the caliber, which brought out that modern type that is called the magazine gun. But in the case of artillery enormous expense was necessary in the change from one system to another, in order to bring the smokeless powder for field pieces into general use. It was used simply in our field pieces of '90, made to resist the pressure of the old black powder, and its only advantage was the absence of smoke, which, of course, was favorable for observation and the range of fire. Nevertheless, the theoretic studies were advancing. The artillerymen, distanced for a time in this duel, which for 50 years has been going on between the bullet and the shell, were preparing a field piece to beat the rifle. To the new conditions produced by smokeless powder was added the necessity of reducing the caliber, and consequently a lighter cannon, and consequently a more movable one, is always noticed after periods of long peace. That is the idea to which we owe the invention of rapid-firing guns. It was the result of the recent progress realized in naval artillery. Everybody knows that the guns on board warships must be fired rapidly, because the objects travel at great speed. On the other hand, the work of these rapid-firing guns is simplified by the fixed base furnished by the deck of the vessel. The recoil may be completely checked, and the piece automatically put in battery by means of intermediary springs supported upon this fixed base.

It will, of course, always be an immense advantage for field artillery to be able to produce its destructive effects in a small space of time; in other words, to become rapid-firing artillery. But, inasmuch as it "fires upon wheels," it is without the supports that render the problem easy for naval artillery. To fire rapidly it is necessary that the pointing of the gun must be preserved from one shot to the other. The gun, carried backward by the recoil, must of itself return precisely to the place which it occupied before the detonation. Such a result could only be obtained by a specially arranged carriage.

Two different systems of gun carriages have been tried. One consists in immediately absorbing the force of the recoil by a support in the ground like a sort of spade. This first invention was the one which the Germans adopted, unfortunately for them, in the construction of their new field artillery. The second system consists in the employment of a carriage running upon a long track. Upon this track there are intermediary springs, which diminish the force of the recoil and finally bring the gun back to its original position.

Such, in substance, appears to be the type of the carriage upon which this new rapid-firing French field gun is operated. The details of its construction, of course, are strictly secret, and it is only by comparison that one can get an approximate idea of it.

This delicate piece of machinery belonging to the gun carriage is only one of a hundred improvements which distinguish the new gun. The entire progress realized makes it a ballistic affair as much superior to the rifled cannon as the latter was to the old smooth bore. A new field, therefore, is opened for artillery, and nobody can foresee the effect of this change upon tactics and upon the methods of firing. It should be observed that no matter how perfect a weapon may be, it remains, according to Cicero, simply a prolongation of the limbs of the soldier. The mechanical qualities of the engine mean but little to themselves. In order to complete them they must be blended, as it were, with the human qualities of the person. This apprenticeship of the gunner commences to-day, when the work of the scientist is finished. Our artillery will require new and long training. It is only upon that point that we will be able to maintain the advantage which we have in artillery over the rest of Europe.

Biggs—"I'm all broken up." Diggs—"Then it is about time you mended your ways." —Harlem Life.

Bulletin Financier.

Mardi, 31 mai 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING-HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Jaug'de cette semaine, Même temps, etc.

MARCHE MONÉTAIRE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Nouvelle-Orléans, Papier exceptionnel, etc.

MORNAIS.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Nouvelle-Orléans, 20-francs, etc.

LEONHARD.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Le STERLING, Commercial (60 jours), etc.

VENTES A LA BOURSE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Pas de ventes, etc.

ACTIONS ET BONS.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Canal & Banking Co., etc.

MARCHE DE NEW-YORK.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Inactive, etc.

MARCHE DE NEW-YORK.

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Bulletin Commercial.

Mardi, 31 mai 1898.

Le Board of Trade donne les cotations suivantes...

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Fair No 3, etc.

MARCHE DE LA NIE-ORLEANS.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Le Coton, etc.

MARCHE DE NEW-YORK.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Inactive, etc.

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CHOCOLATES.

Le Board of Trade donne les cotations suivantes...

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MARCHE DE NEW-YORK.

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QUINCAILLERIE.

Le Board of Trade donne les cotations suivantes...

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L'ABELLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS

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