

INCIDENT OF EASTER MORN

Little Happening, the Moral of Which is Fine Feathers, Don't Make Fine Birds.

It was Easter morning, and although the air was crisp and cold, Fifth avenue was filled with its usual Easter crowd—women strutting along like peacocks, anxious that all might see their hats, their gowns, and their smartness to woman's pride and vanity. Each was conscious that their tailor and tailors had done their duty well, that money—their money—is a power, and so it is—a power for good or evil.

An old, wrinkled, poorly-dressed woman, in an effort to pass through this crowd of Easter show birds, was jostled and pushed, and a basket of coal and pieces of wood she had been gathering was overturned and its contents scattered over the sidewalk.

Slowly, painfully she stooped and tried to gather up her coal and kindling while the gaily bedecked throng never noticing her, passed on.

A big, husky workman saw the old lady and instantly began to assist her. After they had got all her coal and wood in the basket, the old lady, with tears in her eyes, said, "Thank you, sir." "It was no trouble, ma'am," he replied, "no trouble at all," and went on his way.

It was only a little thing. One small incident in the life of the big city with its "idle rich," but the moral is there.

"Fine feathers don't make fine birds."

FARMS IN THE EMPIRE STATE

New York Headed the Entire List Recently in Hay, Potatoes and Buckwheat.

Let not the agricultural west look with contempt upon the state of New York as a farming community. It does not pretend to compete with Illinois or Iowa in the production of corn or with Minnesota and Kansas in its output of wheat, but according to a crop agriculture last month it headed the report issued by the department of entire list in hay, potatoes and buckwheat. As an apple raiser it is also in the front rank, as well as in dairy products.

Now the census, which no one dares dispute except the impatient residents of boom towns, rates the farm lands and buildings of New York as worth \$1,176,222,000, an increase in value of 31 per cent. in ten years. To be sure, that is less than one-fourth of the assessed valuation of all realty in Manhattan, but farm lands throughout the state average only \$52 an acre in value, while land in lower Broadway has sold as high as \$600 the square foot.

An industry that increased its payments for labor alone from \$27,000,000 in 1900 to over \$40,000,000 in 1911 and in which there are nearly 25,000 proprietors deserves the respectful consideration of states disposed to assume that all farming in the United States is done west of the Alleghenies, and that the whole state of New York is Wall Street's backyard.—New York World.

Would Change Old Custom.
The custom of distinguishing married from unmarried women by giving them different titles is antiquated and ungraceful and must be abolished, according to the German Mothers' society of Berlin. A correspondent of the Chicago News says the society has adopted resolutions calling for the reform, in which it says: "The classification of women into those who have been through the marriage ceremony and those who have not is improper and unethical. Every man, irrespective of his marital status, is called 'Herr,' and every woman who respects the dignity of her sex should demand to be called 'Frau.' This would be a great step toward the upholding of our ethical ideals." As there is no legal obstacle to applying the title of "Frau" to all women, the society petitions the authorities to make a beginning by employing only that title in all official communications.

Will Be Valuable Book.
Masons of Chicago started a Bible on a long journey in the fall of 1909. It is to be kept for a time in the possession of at least one lodge in every principal city of the country and ultimately returned to its starting point, to be placed among the precious archives of the Chicago Masons. It is expected that twenty-five years will be required for the Bible to complete its passage from lodge to lodge until all the blank pages provided for the record of its custodians shall have been filled. A lodge in Columbus, O., which had the Bible recently sent a special train to Springfield in that state to convey the traveling Bible to a lodge there, where it was received with impressive ceremonies.

Child Workers in Japan.
Dr. Kuwada, member of the Japanese house of peers, says that more than two-fifths of the million factory hands are women and children. There are no laws to fear or evade, so mill owners are employing 70,000 under the age of fourteen, the work in match and tobacco factories being done by children, many of them under ten years of age. Girls are taken from the rural districts, placed in the factories, often to work late into the night, and are fined and lashed if shop rules are broken. The parents are persuaded that their work in the city is good for the children.

SINGING HILLS AND CLIFFS

Examples of the Way in Which Nature Creates Musical Sounds Are Numerous.

In certain parts of the world are mountains and hills which are said by the natives to sing. In the Pyrenees certain cliffs emit plaintive sounds resembling the strains of a harp. Two other cliffs in the same chain are called the "singers." When the wind is in the southwest they send forth a peculiar sound not altogether musical. The faces of these cliffs are marked by deep gullies open in front, which may be compared to the pipes of an organ. At certain times a stratum of air, held between the cliffs and bordering trees, closes the openings while the wind blows freely between through the gullies, or organ pipes. Hence the music that is heard.

At the confluence of the Orinoco and the Rio Meta are granitic cliffs which sing at sunrise. Humboldt refers to the phenomenon as the musical stones of the Orinoco. The music is caused by the rush of the expanding air through fissures partially closed by mica.

Many more examples might be cited to show that nature makes use of principles which have been adopted by man in the creation of musical sounds. Nor are the musical sounds of nature confined to rocks, mountains, and hills, for in Hawaii is a sand-bank fifty feet high which, when the sand is moved about in the loose sand, produces a sound like that of a melodeon. It is said that if the observer slides down the bank on his back, dragging both hands in the sand, the sound becomes as loud as faint thunder.

HER WORDS SPOILED IT ALL

Speculation About the Sweet-Faced Waitress Died Out Entirely When She Spoke.

There were tables, also, of course, for it was really a very good restaurant and one that I had consistently patronized during my ante-nuptial career, but now that wife and the baby had gone to the country for two weeks (sans any tréla, tré-loo accompaniment on my part, be assured) it seemed to me that I owed it to reminiscence bachelor days to again sit at the horseshoe-shaped counter during my temporary grasswidowhood.

A sweet-faced woman of about 45 took my order and I found myself busy speculating upon the strange vicissitudes of fate that might reduce a woman of her age and obvious refinement to such a sphere of action in her declining years.

Had she loved, married and buried the one sweetheart of her youth, or was she still longing for the "lotter-

ty never came?" The wistful expression of her soft brown eyes inclined me to the latter belief.

However, I had finished my modest lunch and was waiting there or less patiently for my check. When it finally caught her eye she moved over to the counter and after feeling first in one and then in the other pocket of her immaculately white apron and slapping various portions of the anatomy without visible result, murmured, quite audibly:

"Where the dickens did I put them checks?"—Chicago Record-Herald.

Literary Town Names.

If the Commonwealth capital is named Shakespeare it will not be the only Shakespeare in the world. Ontario contributing one already. Bacon, on the other hand, figures in United States town nomenclature, though one cannot be sure without local knowledge whether it was the man who didn't write "Hamlet" who is meant. There is often that difficulty in looking through town names apparently reminiscent of literature in these new lands.

America is full of Miltons and Byrons, but do they all commemorate the poets? One feels less doubt about the dozen Burnses, the two Tennysons and the Shelley and Keats. Dickens scores three, Thackeray one, Carlyle six, Ruskin two, Racine eight, Hugo three, Batace two, Goethe one and Schiller one, but we look in vain for Spenser or Dante. On the other hand, Homer, Virgil, Plato and Cicerone abound.—London Chronicle.

This Princess an Artist.

Some charming water colors painted by the Duke of Connaught's daughter, Princess Patricia, are being greatly admired at the Royal Amateur Art society's exhibition. The princess is one of the most talented artists in the royal family. In fact, she is an all-round clever girl—a good linguist, a fine musician and a noted sportswoman, being equally proficient in tennis, hockey, golf and horseriding. Her facility with the brush was not acquired without a regular, arduous course of study, and she worked incessantly for a number of years at a private art school in London. Flowers are her favorite subjects, and a few years ago she exhibited at the New Gallery a particularly charming picture of stocks, marigolds and heliotrope. As presents to her friends she often gives little flower paintings from her own brush.

Spring Reparaté.

"You are diffident about setting out your flowers this year," remarked the first humorist.

"I always wait until the weather is settled," responded the second humorist. "That is my invariable crochotomy."

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