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CONGRESSMEN'S GIFTS.

Small Contributions for Which Representatives Pay Dearly.

The Christmas contents of a congressman's mail box would shame the traditional small boy's pocket.

A curious thing about the remembrance of a congressman is that it usually comes a little before Christmas. This might be explained by the theory that his holiday begins a day or two earlier and he might not get his mail on Christmas morning. But it is energetic also of another explanation. A few years' experience in public life leads the average statesman to conclude that he is not the object of unselfish admiration, and that the attentions bestowed upon him are not altogether disinterested in every instance. He learns that the persons who place flowers on his desk in honor of his birthday, or on the occasion of his making a speech, or in congratulation for his re-election, are usually those who have some favors to ask.

If a dainty Christmas card, a cheap homemade handkerchief case, a necktie or "worked" initials for the inside of his hat, is placed in his postoffice box two or three days before Christmas accompanied by the card, say, of—of some lady he has not known very long, it places him under some sort of obligation, especially if the giver is a she and she is good looking and young. Usually a present received two days before Christmas leaves sufficient time for a return present before Christmas night, and if a congressman makes a present he cannot afford to let it be conspicuous for cheapness.

So it happens that the congressman usually receive a great many little remembrances during the several days just before Christmas. The number of lady visitors in the gallories increases just before the holiday recess. It used to be, before the sale of fancy articles in the stationery room was stopped, that the room would be crowded with members accompanied by appreciative and greatly interested friends. A whole year's allowance for stationery could easily be consumed in two days. But that was in the days gone by. If congressmen send out presents now they must pay for them, cash out of hand, and the old and experienced are slow to take hints unless there is something peculiarly attractive about them.

The size of the outgoing mail from the house and senate postoffices is not materially increased. It is chiefly the incoming that is burdened; not that congressmen are made the recipients of numerous and valuable presents, but besides the delicately scented reminders many of them receive, there is hardly a fancy advertising card, a calendar of the Christmas number of a paper or magazine that is not sent to every man in congress. The average congressman might have a calendar for every day in the year, and Christmas and advertising cards enough to set up in business in that line.—Washington Star.

The Mexican Heaven.

The ancient Mexican idea of heaven, hell and the after state of souls is extremely curious and interesting. According to their notions souls neither good nor bad, or whose virtues and vices balanced each other, were to enter a medium state of idleness and enjoy content. The wicked, or those dying any of a long list of different modes of death (which list was sacredly kept by the priests), went to Mictlan, a distant hall within the bowels of the earth. The souls of those struck by lightning, or of those dying by any of a given list of diseases, also the souls of children, were transported to a remote elysium, called Tlalocan.

The actual heaven was reserved for warriors who fell in battle, for women who died in defense of their children, for those offered as a sanctifice in the temples, and for a few others. After death, according to their belief, the soul passed immediately to the "House of the Sun," their chief god, whom they accompanied for a long term of years in his circuit around the sky, honoring him with song, dances and other forms of revelry. Then being reanimated in the form of birds of the last plumage, they lived as beautiful songsters among the flowers, among the stars, sometimes on earth, sometimes in heaven.—St. Louis Republic.

Knew His Man.

A lawyer tells the following story concerning a client, something of a wag in his way, with whom he had long kept an account. When the latter was finally made up, the bill, mostly for trifling services, covered several yards of foolscap, as the items enumerated the most minute details.

When the client came around to settle he refused to enter the office, but stood in the door, and holding one end of the bill unrolled the voluminous document in the direction of his legal adviser, with the request that he receipt it.

"Come in," said the lawyer in his most cordial tones.

"Not much," replied the client; "you'd charge me four if I did."—Boston Traveller.

A Sure Sign.

"How did you know I had but just begun the practice of medicine?"

"Because you mentioned that you were ill the other day and treated yourself. Only very young physicians doctor themselves."—Buffalo Express.

The Colossus of Rhodes.

The ancients succeeded in making that alloy of copper which is known as bronze. Among the seven wonders of the world was the famous statue, wholly made of bronze, historically known as the Colossus of Rhodes. It represented Phebus, the national deity of the Rhodians. It was begun by Chares, a pupil of Lysippus, the sculptor, and was completed by Laches, 291 years B. C. The popular belief is that it stood astride the harbor of Rhodes, that it was 105 feet high, and that ships could easily sail between its legs.

Pliny said that few men could clasp its thumb. It was cast on metal plates, afterward joined together, and the process occupied twelve years. In its interior was a spiral staircase reaching into its head, and in a great mirror, suspended to its neck, were reflected the coast of Syria and the ships sailing to Egypt.

After it had stood for sixty-four years this Colossus was overthrown by an earthquake, and its remains lay on the shore for 923 years—that is, until A. D. 672—when they were sold by the Saracens to a Hebrew dealer. The original cost was 300 talents—say $2,000,000—and it is not too much to say that a similar image might easily be constructed now for one-fourth of the time and at one-third of the original cost. Rhodes, by the way, must have had Colossus on the brain, for Pliny relates that the port was adorned with 1,000 colossal statues of the sun.—Thomas J. Rawleford in Troy Times.

Garfield and Lincoln Not Martyrs.

Is it proper to call the murdered presidents, Lincoln and Garfield, martyrs?

The word martyr comes from a Greek word of nearly the same orthography and pronunciation, signifying a witness, or one who remembers. In the early days of the church it was applied to such Christians as were brought before the Roman magistrate and required to testify as to their faith. As the general consequence of such testimony was death the word came to be applied almost exclusively to Christians, who, having the alternatives set before them of death or denial, chose the former. There was, therefore, a choice in the matter, and no one became a martyr or witness to the truth of Christianity against his will, there being always the alternative of renunciation presented.

The two great American characters had no such choice, and cannot, therefore, be properly called martyrs in the strict sense of the word. A secondary meaning is given by some, defining martyr as "one who suffers death or loss in behalf of any cause or in consequence of supporting it," as Macaulay speaks of "humble martyrs of hereditary rights," but even in this sense the element of choice is evidently present. Etymologically, therefore, it is incorrect to apply the expression as indicated in the question, though, as use in language sanctifies any word or phrase, it will probably become historic.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Medicines Among the Mongols.

Medicines also are much sought after by them. While I was at Dulan-hoto nearly every one in the village came to see me, and most of the people asked for medicines whether they were suffering from any complaint or no. Plasters were in great demand, as all the villagers had rheumatism, and the tighter the plasters stuck the better they were held to be. I had with me a bottle of Eno's fruit salts, and tried to give some to the people, but when they saw the salts boiling and fizzing they thought there must be some magic about the medicine and would have none of it.

Most of their troubles, sores and eye diseases come from dirty habits, but one can never persuade them of the necessity of keeping clean. A friend of mine was once traveling among the Mongols, and an old crone came to him and begged some medicine to put on a sore. He told her that before applying the salve it would be necessary to wash herself. She gave it back to him, saying: "I am 67 years old, and I have never washed in my life. Do you suppose I am going to begin now?"

Mongol physicians feel the patient's pulse on both wrists at the same time and never ask any questions, or at least none concerning the origin and progress of the complaint, for if they did it would be held that they had shown ignorance in their profession.—W. Woodville Rockhill in Century.

Power of Wind on Sea Waves.

If the wind blow directly parallel to the sea surface the friction may cause an ocean current without wave disturbance. As a rule the direction of the wind is inclined to the sea surface, and its immediate effect is to produce a depression, which relieves itself by means of a wave to leeward and another to windward. The latter elevation is opposed by the wind, and gradually dies away, while the leeward wave is correspondingly accelerated. Each undulation shelters the water under its lee from the wind, which consequently impinges upon the sea a little in advance of the newly formed wave, and thus we get a series of parallel ridges and hollows, provided the wind remains steady in direction and intensity.—Chambers' Journal.

Hats and Elevators.

The question of taking one's hat off in the elevator may be readily disposed of when one takes into consideration the fact that the elevator is merely a means of passage from one portion of a building to another, as is the staircase or hallway. One does not go about with one's hat in one's hand in the corridor of a hotel or mounting the stairs of a business building. The lifting of the hat in the elevator is a custom of English derivation—but if it is against reason and common sense it need not perplex native American here. Besides in England the elevator is a "lift," and perhaps the male passenger unconsciously lifts his hat in sympathy with that nomenclature.

Literally on the Fence.

A musical youth, who sings in a church choir in Saratoga, is exceedingly annoyed just now by any allusion to the fence. The musical youth who sings in a choir has a chum, who is also a musical youth and sings in the choir. It is the same choir. Each of these musical youths is in love. It is the same girl. One night there was evening service in the church where the youths sing, and also in the church where the maiden attends. The young men strolled out of church in hot haste at the close of service, and started on a free-for-all to reach the other church. For all it was Sunday, one youth tried the sheepdrover plan and started across lots.

The first fence was a low one, with pickets, and he sprang lightly over it—and staid there. The situation was embarrassing, for he feet did not reach the ground, and he could not reach far enough back of himself to get a fair hold on the fence and lift himself from the picket, which had passed through the back of his trousers and seated simply alongside his spine. He called to his chum, but the latter only laughed and went off to meet the maiden, and then took her for a walk that led them right past the fence where musical youth number one was hung up. Worse than that, neither his chum nor the girl offered help, and there the young man hung till more charitable folks came to his aid. This is a truth ful story, and explains fully why any allusion to a fence is painful to the musical youth.—Saratoga Union.

The Greatest Colonizing Week in History.

Now if we compare the map of Africa of ten years ago with the present map we find immense changes. No parallel can be found in the history of the world. At the present time the whole of the vast African continent, except the central portion surrounding Lake Tchad, has been divided up, and six states have allotted themselves immense dependencies. However unprecedented the proceedings attending this partition have been, all friends of humanity can but rejoice at the result. In the first place, the most admirable principles have been admitted to govern all the central states, including liberty of worship, equality for all alike, and peace based on neutrality.

Even on soil where the states pursue their own interests will arise centers of civilization and progress. One inestimable benefit will result from this, namely, the suppression of the slave trade, which devastates the dark continent, and which, it is calculated, condemns yearly about half a million human beings to death from ill treatment or starvation. The slave trade is, therefore, destined to succumb, for it will cease to profit those who carry it on. The United States, which abolished slavery at such immense cost, cannot fail to applaud this result. In point of fact, an entire continent has just taken its place in the economic and social world, precisely as if it had just been discovered. No one can as yet foresee what will be the consequences of these great changes.—Professor Emile de Laveleye in Forum.

The Guinea Pig.

The guinea pig is an absurd little animal for a number of reasons, and one of the most remarkable absurdities about him is his name. He is not a pig of any kind, nor any relation to the pig, and he has nothing to do with Guinea. He is a kind of rat, and his native home is South America.

Why he should have been called a "pig" no one knows, unless it was on account of the slight grunting noise that he makes, and the word "guinea" in his case may be a corruption of Guiana, where the animal has sometimes been found, though it was first brought from Brazil.

His real name is the "cavy," and by that he should be called. In his wild state he is quite differently colored from the domesticated animal, and lacks the spotting of white, black and tawny color which the tamed cavy often has.

It need to be commonly supposed that the guinea pig drove away ordinary rats, or rather caused them to go away on account of their extreme dislike of him, but even this negative merit is denied to the poor little sufferer. No one, however, is able to deny his gentleness and amiableness.—Exchange.

Testing Their Courage.

"One time, in order to test the courage of a Bengal tiger and a lion," said a well known showman, "we placed a shooting cracker in the respective cages and fired the fuses. As soon as the fuses began to burn they attracted the attention of both animals, but in a widely different manner. The lion drew into a corner and watched the proceedings with a distrustful and uneasy eye. The tiger, on the contrary, advanced to the burning fuse with a firm step and unflinching gaze. On reaching the cracker he took his paw and began to roll it over the floor, and and when it exploded beneath his very nose he did not flinch, but continued his examination until perfectly satisfied. The lion betrayed great fear when he heard the report of the explosion, and for quite a time could not be coaxed out of his den."—Cincinnati Times-Star.

A California Opera Chorus in 1858.

Gen. Vallejo's readiness of apt anecdote was always remarkable. Patti once dined with him, and asked the old soldier if he enjoyed the first opera he ever heard.

"Why, no," said Vallejo; "and yet I confess I shall never forget it."

This reply aroused Patti's curiosity, and she demanded when and where the event took place.

"In 1858, on the site of the Palace hotel, San Francisco."

"Indeed! And who was the prima donna so long ago as that?"

"Well, I can't say," was the smiling answer; "but there were at least five hundred coyotes in the chorus."—Charles Howard Shinn in Century.

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Ladies, why stitch, stitch, stitch, crook your back and invite disease, when you can buy your own and children's well-made and perfect-fitting MUSLIN UNDERWEAR at the cost of the material.

OVER 1000 DOZEN

Of Nightgowns, Chemises, Drawers, Skirts, Corset Covers Aprons, Children's Slips, Gingham Dresses, Infants' White Dresses, Children's Drawers, etc., etc., at the uniform price of 25c., 50c., 75c., $1.00, $1.25 and $1.50 each.

CONDITIONS OF SALE:

Only three Garments of each kind and price, viz.: three each Nightgowns, Chemises, Skirts, etc., etc., at 25c., 50c., 75c., $1.00, $1.25 and $1.50 will be sold to one customer. At 15c and 35c. each we could only secure a part of our usual lots which will be for sale under the counter of our

NEW NOISELESS PACKAGE CARRIER SYSTEM:

The first introduced in Utah, avoiding the running to and fro of cash-boys. Come and see it, and convince yourself that we lead in all improvements as well as low prices!

REMEMBER.

These goods can only be secured during the dull season, for spot cash, and this sale cannot be repeated before July or August next. Come in the forenoon and avoid the crush.

To Make Room for Spring Goods, our Great CLEARANCE SALE WILL BE CONTINUED.

All of our Silks, Faille Francaise, Brocades, Armures Royal Surahs, Satins, India and Novelty Silks at cost and below cost. Priestly celebrated Black Goods, at cost and below cost.

All of our Pattern Dress Goods, Ladies' Cloths, Cashmeres etc., etc., at cost and below cost. All our Table Towelings, etc., etc., at cost and below cost.

Bargains in the Domestic Department to astonish you.

Ladies', Misses' and Children's Cloaks and Suits at cost and below cost.

Ladies' Waists, Skirts, Furs, Fascinators, etc., at cost and below cost.

Stylish Trimmings, Laces, etc., at cost and below cost.

All Wool and Merino Underwear at cost and below cost.

Ladies' and Children's Hose, Mittens and Gloves at cost and below cost.

CHILDREN'S AND BOYS' CLOTHING.

Overcoats, Mothers' Friend Waists, Underwear, Gents' Underwear, Neckwear, White Shirts and Overcoats at cost and below cost.

Blankets and Quilts to clear out less than cost. Carpets, Linoleums, Rugs, Shades, etc., at reduced prices.

COME ONE, COME ALL, ONE PRICE TO ALL.

MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

F. AUERBACH & BRO.

FRASER & CHALMERS,

CHICAGO.

L. C. TRENT, General Western Manager, | Salt Lake City, Utah, Helena, Montana

MINING MACHINERY,

LIDGERWOOD HOISTING ENGINES,

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Electric Light Plants,

ENGINES, BOILERS, ELEVATORS, SAW MILLS,

LOCOMOTIVES, STEAM MOTORS.

DAVID JAMES & CO.

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DEALERS IN

Plumbing Material, Pumps, Pipe and Fittings, Steam Heating Supplies, Tin and Iron Roofing, Galvanized Iron Cornice, Guttering, Etc.

GARDEN HOSE AND LAWN SPRINKLERS

No. 67 S. MAIN STREET.