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West Side News, June 15, 1889

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to the consul, you go in first, and pull the tail?

Everyone complied with these directions, but the donkey did not budge.

"How strange it is," said the consul, when the performance was over. "It seems that the thief is not to be found among us. I cannot explain it otherwise. Stand about me in a circle, ladies and gentlemen, and hold up your hands."

Every one obeyed.

"Here is your man, Mr. Consul," cried the carass, pointing to a servant.

"You see, every one who pulled the donkey's tail got his hands blackened; this man did not touch the tail, and his hands are clean."

The man confessed, and the silver was returned.

Speaking English.

Speaking English is, in England at any rate, a matter which varies according to regions. The story is still commonly told of the doctor who told an English country boy to "show his tongue," when his mother called him to see what might ail him. The boy looked blank, and evidently did not know what the doctor meant.

"Show your tongue, I say," the doctor repeated.

"Speak English, doctor," said the mother, sharply; and then turning to her boy, "Hopea thy gobbler and pop out thy libber?"

The boy understood and thrust out his tongue.

Not unlike this is the story of a member from Parliament from Cumberland, esteemed a very elegant man at home, who went to a London shoemaker to get a pair of shoes for his little daughter, which were to have pink heels, pointed toes, and cuffed straps for clasps!

This is the way he asked for them:

"I pray ye, noo, han ye gotten any nearly, feely shoos, pointed toes, put at heel, and crapped strops for clasps?"

"Sir," answered the shoemaker, "that's that you say?"

"Why, I pray ye, noo," and he repeated the question as before.

"The family who speak French," said the shoemaker, "live next door."

The Value of a Good Name.

A Chinaman who wished to secure work on a railroad where most of the excavators were Irish, presented himself to the superintendent of the works and asked for a job. "You heap like me work," said he.

"What do you want to do?"

"I makes lullied. I keeps wash-house gimme same. I no care."

"What's your name?"

"My name Patrick O'Laflay!"

"Patrick O'Flattery! Now, that is spelling a name?"

"Welly gowt name?"

"Oh, come, Hop Key, or what, ever your name is, what did you give me an Irish name for?"

"If I no hab Patrick O'Laflay faw my name, I no ketches contact! You see?" - Sch.

Cama to Confusion.

The story is told of a young man in Providence, who, having bought a pair of trousers, wore them for the first time to a party. Hair parted in the middle, faultless linen, brilliant necktie, shining boots, and his new trousers, all made him vain of his appearance, and led him to think that every one in the room was admiring him.

All would have gone well, if the young man had not, as proud heads will do, looked often with satisfaction at his feet and legs.

But charmed with himself, and casting eyes too often at the new trousers, he discovered a bit of thread on his leg. He seized it to pick off, but it clung.

Conversation so absorbed him that, for a few minutes, the thread was forgotten. But, later on, the new trousers again attracted his eyes, and once more he saw the thread. With firmer grip he seized it, resolved this time to get rid of it.

A strong pull was too successful!

The thread seemed to be endless. It came following the energetic pull so readily as to run out a yard or more, unravelling a yard of the seam, and leaving a gapping rent in the trousers' leg.

The young man, in confusion, sidled away to the dressing room, where he pinned himself up, and then went home, taking no more delight in his varied adornments. - Sch.

"Uncle Alick, what are you doing this winter?"

"I'se book-keepin', beos."

"Book keepin'?"

"Yes, dat's it. De de 'oman takes in washin', 'n' I keeps de count o' de pieces." - Sch.
It seems to be the prevailing opinion that the new school house soon shown itself somewhere on the north side of Third street.

The West Side seems to be overrun with thieves this week. Four cases of stealing, in four days, is as much as we can well stand.

The facility with which Irishmen fall out among themselves and kill one another is the strongest argument ever advanced against home rule for that unfortunate island.

The success of the commissioners of the United States in the Sumon Conference was another triumph of American diplomacy. As in the Geneva Conference for the settlement of the Alabama Claims, and in the forming of our commercial treaties with foreign nations, the Americans have shown themselves a match for the European diplomats.

We were somewhat in error in stating that a million persons were drowned in China a few years ago when the Hoang Ho burst its banks turned a whole province into a lake and forced its way into the sea more than a hundred miles from the place of its former mouth. The number of the drowned was about one hundred thousand, but two million people were rendered homeless. Every few weeks we hear of the famine and distress which even yet is felt in that country as a result of the flood. The same thing has happened several times in the history of the country. About fifty years ago this great river, equal in size to the Mississippi, broke through the embankments and for several hundred miles forced a new bed through cities, villages and farms till it finally reached the sea nearly two hundred miles from its old mouth. It now enters the ocean near its former mouth.

If a person were to leave Dayton for five or ten years he would find on his return that Miami City had grown into one of the business parts of the city during his absence. The people of capital and business skill are finding out that the West Side furnishes one of the best locations in the city for opening a new store. They are on the look-out for suitable rooms in good localities, and for the first time in the history of the West Side, are even anxious to open stores over here. Since the room recently occupied by Siddwell & Salisbury was rented, five application for the room have been made; three of them for shoe stores. We are almost sorry that one of the shoe stores did not get into the room. We need it so much, while we already have several drug stores. It is a real pleasure to see those nice store rooms of Dr. Walters going up so rapidly. They are needed. Every thing seems to indicate that we are now on the eve of a great business awakening. The day of doing business is almost past. A little determined effort on the part of our people will soon put a new face upon our business situation. Shall we not make it? If any one is acquainted with some one who has a thought of entering upon some enterprise over here, he should at once inform one of the members of the business committee of the West Side Improvement Association. They are Messrs. Kuhns, Donson, Hill, and Booth. It may be that by so doing an enterprise of value may be secured for our part of the city. Merchants are sometimes worth looking up. What we need is to get the ball started to rolling. Shrewd men with capital are always on the lookout for a good opening. Let us lock up some of these.

LOCAL NEWS.

Rev. Wm. McKee spent a few days in Indiana last week.

Little Joe Hoffman is trying to put up a telephone from the store to his house.

Dr. Davis is building a six room frame house on the lot back of Hoffman & Bartels grocery.

J. Allen Gilbert, who graduates at Oberlin University, this week, will return home next week.

Quite a number of West Side residences are receiving a new coat of paint.

A. F. Harris’ new butcher wagon beats any thing of the kind in the city.

Mr. A. G. Feight has moved into his new house on Hornace street.

Miss Dellia Mason has returned to her home in Janatun City, Ohio.

Mrs. Christina Hoffman, the widow of the late Rev. John Hoffman, died last Wednesday morning at her home on Third street.

Mrs. J. G. Feight of Hawthorne street will soon start on a visit to her sister, Mrs. Nce, near Marengo, Ohio.

Dr. J. P. Landis went up to Wooster Thursday to attend an examination.

Henry Ruse is laying the pipes to bring the water from his tank on Second street to a plug on Third street.

Mr. J. Haywood Francis, a young gentleman of Westerville, Ohio, spent Thursday evening in this city.

Mr. Neil an old gentleman living on West First street, fell from a cherry tree a few days ago and was seriously injured. He is nearly eighty years old.

The graduating exercises of the senior class of the Central High School will occur next Tuesday evening, at the Grand Opera House.

Mrs. Lafayette Madden will spend several weeks visiting at the home of her mother in Michigan.

Quite a number of our West Side people went out to Beighley’s ice park last Wednesday and had a delightful picnic.

Mr. John Rider, the gardener living below town, suffered a stroke of paralysis last Tuesday. It is feared that he will not recover.

There is no better place to buy Gent’s furnishing goods in the city than at Bate & Roesch’s. They have the largest stock and at the lowest prices.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Landis were the recipients of a pleasant surprise on the occasion of their remarriage into their new place of residence on Fourth street.

Thieves broke into Mrs. Bowser’s home on Hawthorne street last Thursday afternoon and took all the valuables they could lay hands on.

Leslie Hustrat, the young man who formerly worked in High’s grocery, is dead. After lying several weeks in an unconscious condition, he passed away last Monday night.

The foundation of the new Government building on Fifth street is about completed. The structure will present a handsome appearance when finished.

Mr. Will Troup who recently bought out Cappel & Turner’s bakery was met with a serious loss in the death of his horse. The loss is peculiarly trying because it happened at the beginning of his new business undertaking. The Improvement Association will hold a called meeting, Tuesday evening, to consider the report of the committee appointed so look up the matter of location of the new school house.

George Martin the former clerk at Hoovers drug store, and Isaac Shoemaker intend to start a new store on the residence of Mr. George Stephens on First street, last Thursday evening, when Wm. Ryan, the soldier who tried to shoot Mrs. Spurgeon some time ago, plead guilty of the charge brought against him, and will spend a year behind the prison bars.

A pleasant wedding occurred at the residence of Mr. George Stephens on First street, last Thursday evening, when Wm. W. Spicer and Miss Patrick were united in marriage, Rev. V. F. Brown officiating.

Mr. William Brown, a nephew of the late Mr. D. G. Brown, who has been east attending school, stopped off on his way back to his home in Missouri, and spent several days visiting his relatives in this city.

Mr. William Wagner of Hawthorne street fell from the loft of his stable last Friday morning and suffered injuries from which he will be laid up several days.

No horses were broken, but his wagon was broken, and his house was seriously damaged. We are sorry that such an extent as to confine him to his bed for some days.

The West Side business men take a proper pride in keeping their wagons in good shape. Nearly every week we notice a new wagon, or a wagon newly painted, and we notice the wagon of another of our groceries in the shop being fixed. A handsome delivery wagon is a first class advertisement to its owner.

Tuesday morning as a gardener was driving down Third street, on his way to market, he noticed that the front window of his house was open. He informed Officer Ely, who at once proceeded to investigate the matter. He found that the front window had been opened, but the thieves had evidently been frightened away before they had time to take anything.

Thursday night officer Shaffer gave chase to a thief who had been breaking into a house upon King street, and by using a horse he succeeded in overtaking him at the toll house west of town. The thief finding that he could not escape by flight drew a pistol and attempted to shoot, but before he could fire, the officer hit him over the head with his club and soon brought him to time. The patrol was called and he was taken to the station house. When brought into court he plead guilty of house breaking and resisting an officer, for which he was fined $50.55 and given two months in the work house.

The horse attached to the delivery wagon of A. Olinski decided to run off a few days ago. It started from in front of the store on the corner of Fifth and East streets, and ran west on Fifth
It have been thrown into slavery, and Western Abyssinia a desert. That the Mahclists have made destroyed. Neither the horse nor the wagon suffered any serious injury.

Chadwick & Frances are making the cornice frames for the new state house at Columbia, South Carolina.

The West Side has been favored this week with a visit from a genuine ghost. The essential facts in the story are these: One night last week a colored boy in the employ of Mr. Johnson, heard a weird and unearthly noise resembling the crying of a child coming from the pottery building on Summit street. For several nights the noise was repeated till at length it began to be whispered about that there were spooks aboard. Finally a young man of great courage entered the building to investigate the matter. Scarcely had he passed the door when an unearthly noise came to his ears, seemingly from a point not two feet from his face. He put out his hands, but could touch nothing. The next moment he felt the touch of the ghost upon his shoulder. His courage forsaken him. Catching his lips between his teeth to keep back the cry that almost involuntary escaped him, he turned and fled from the scene with all the speed his trembling legs could give him. A large crowd was collected about the building, when a pistol shot rang out on the still air, and those who were bold enough to peep in at the windows averred that they saw a three-legged form moving about the rooms. But no one would venture into the building to examine it more closely. It is whispered about the streets that it is a dummy with rope fastened to it to have something to do with the manifestations. But this is doubtless an attempt on the part of some curious East Ender toCADE our West Side ghost.

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Cor 3d. and Rail Road West Side.
He has a cool head and nerves of steel, who, when a big highway-man flashes a knife before his eyes, knows what to do and does it. As Fletcher the actor was going home in New York, one night, wearing a large paste diamond, a great, powerful negro took him and asked the time.

"I don't know," answered Fletcher, trying to walk on. The negro seized him; but Fletcher, being a trained wrestler, grappled and threw the man, who, however, held on to him, and drew a clasp-knife.

"Listen to me, my man," said Fletcher; "what is the good of your shedding blood and getting a hemp cravat? I have no money and no valuables; what do you want?"

"Your pin; and I'll have it, if I have to swing for it," replied the negro.

"You shall," said Fletcher, "only I don't care to go home with my scarf open as if I were drunk. If you will let me have any other pin, you may have mine."

"Agreed," replied the negro, taking out a turquois cameo pin, and putting Fletcher's paste pin in it.

What must have been the feelings of the thief the next day, when he offered his "diamond" to some "receiver," to find that the pin he had bartered for it was worth ten times the value of the paste pin!

Cat's Toes.

Sometimes it is the most commonplace question which proves most puzzling. A class of young girls, in taking an examination in natural history, stopped in despair, with uplifted pens, at the question, "How many legs has a fly?"

One of them, however, was equal to the occasion, and slyly counted the members of one fly which had luckily alighted near her.

Another class was asked during an examination, a question which staggered every member in it: "How many toes has a cat?"

In the emergency, the principal was applied to for a solution; and he, also, with a good-natured smile, gave it up, when one of the teachers, determined not to be beaten by so simple a question, hit on the idea of sending out a delegation of boys to scour the neighborhood for a cat.

When this idea was announced, the whole class wanted to join in the hunt. Several boys went out, and soon returned successful. A returning board was appointed, and the toes counted, and thus it was learned that a cat possesses eighteen toes, ten on the front foot and eight on the hind- feet.

Many of the most familiar words and customs of civilized life have been lost through daily use during centuries all trace of their original meaning.

The ordinary panel of a door is made in the shape of a cross, which was intended to keep out witches and evil spirits. Bells when first used on churches were blessed, and they were rung in order to drive back all demons within hearing. The caves of a dwelling in the same age were made to project, that they might shelter settlers, on which the beggar or wayfarer could rest.

Horse-shoes became a sign of good luck because witches in the dark ages were put to the test by grasping hot iron, a horse-shoe being the iron most frequently employed. As the witches naturally would avoid horse-shoes, they were nailed on the doors to keep them out.

Shaking hands on meeting originated in the days of chivalry when two friendly knights joined right hands in sign of trust, thus rendering themselves powerless to grasp their swords.

Mr. is a contraction of Master, and Mrs. of Misses, both used by inferiors. The touching of the hat as a form of greeting is a relic of the custom which made it obligatory on subjects or retainers to stand uncovered in the presence of their king or feudal lord.

Most of the forms of courtesy, in fact, tacitly imply that the person using them places himself in a subordinate position to the man whom he greets.

"Humility," says Van Holden, "is the crowning virtue of the gentleman."

"When I meet an unworthy person," says Poyntz, "I still uncover, not to the man I know him to be, but to the man he may be."

Unexpected.

There is something fresh and invigorating in a piquant and unexpected answer. It is like a dash of salt spray on the face; it half takes away the breath, while it arouses an active vitality by the sensation it creates.

To this kind of answers belongs that of the bashful young minister who was invited to remain and dine at the house of a wealthy parsonian. The host, after the fashion of the day, apologized for the dinner, and said it would have been better had he expected company.

"Really, sir," replied the young man, "I am very thankful for what I have had, as I did not expect to get any dinner here."

A young woman who had been visiting relatives was struck with the greatest hospitality, and as she was leaving, her friends ventured to hope that she had enjoyed herself.

"I have had nothing to complain of," was her answer, which was negative praise, to say the least.

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