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The Monarchy of Monaco.

The principality of Monaco is an extremely interesting locality for many reasons. The frontier is not extensive, but it is possible to walk three miles straight on without entering the teritories of the adjacent French republic—for a person who knows the country, that is. The population exceeds that of two other European nations—the principality of Liechtenstein and the republic of San Marino. The form of government is an absolute monarchy, the present sovereign being his highness Albert, prince of Monaco, duke of Valentinois, Mazarin and Mayenne, prince of Chateau-Porcien, marquis des Baux of Chilly and of Guiscard, count of Carlades and of Longjumeau, of Ferrette, Belfort, Thann and Rosemont, etc.

The Turk that two and fifty kingdoms hath has hardly a more magnificent array of titles.

His highness is at the head of an army numbering almost 80 men, officers included, and a corps of gendarmerie more than 40 strong. These calculations do not include his special guard of honor. A Monegrasque staff officer is probably the most magnificently attired warrior in Europe. The rank and file of the army, though less splendid, are also worthy of admiration. Having but light duties, they can give their minds wholly and entirely to the cultivation of the mustache, in which department they fear no competition. The prince of Monaco treats upon equal terms with foreign potentates and sends envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary to Paris and to the Vatican.—Blackwood's Magazine.

He Saved His Life.

"Years ago I saved that man's life," said a well known business man in speaking of a certain bank official. "It's been 15 years ago, I suppose," continued he, "when one day this fellow came to me in a frantic state of mind and told me a startling tale. He was teller in the bank then, the same position he now holds. 'Jim,' he said, 'I've got to have $5,500 today or I'm ruined for life. I am short just that much in my accounts, and they are going to check me up tomorrow.'

"I was astounded of course, but he had been a true friend to me and I got him the money and saved him from exposure for four years. He gave me a portion of his salary every month until the money was paid with interest. His honesty has never been questioned, and as the years have gone by he has grown in the esteem of his superior officers at the bank. I think when I helped him, 15 years ago, that I saved him from dishonor and disgrace. It was as good a day's work as I ever did."—Louisville Commercial.

A Woman's Exchange.

She had her ivory tablets out and consulted them busily as she rode up town in a State street car.

"There's Aunt Jule," she remarked. "She gave us that chocolate set last year. We must give her something as nice as this. And, oh, Ned! That lovely etching Dick Brown sent us—we've never done anything for him. Suppose I make him a cushion for his apartments and invite him to dinner? That would make it about even. And there's Flossie. She gave me a ridiculous glove mending thing last year. I must have twenty of those objects about. Well, I'm glad it was a cheap gift, for now I'll not have to give her anything expensive. A button bag will do. And, Ned, what on earth does this mean? Evergreens, tinsel, gold stars. Oh, yes! They've put me on the church decorating committee, and I simply haven't the time. However, that Mrs. Lewis can do all the work. Ned, what are you laughing at?"

A smile of vast proportions and unseemingly scorn had appeared upon Ned's face.

"Well," said he slowly, "I was just thinking that at last I have learned what a 'woman's exchange' is. It's the balancing of Christmas presents from year to year."

And three men beamed approval upon Ned, while his wife retired with silent contempt to her tablets again, and the other women who overheard seemed divided between a desire to wicher the overwise Ned and a longing to annihilate the woman who had thus ruthlessly betrayed the secrets of her sex.—Chicago Times.

A Clerk's Opinion.

Clerk Louis McCleery, of the lower board of the general council, is of the opinion that the happiest moment of a man's life is when he is pulled out of bed at 2 o'clock in the morning by a lot of little barefooted tots in their night clothes who have just emptied the gifts of Santa Claus from their little stockings, and who want to show their treasures. He warms to his subject and grows enthusiastic as he proceeds with his glowing reminiscences. "Ah, they are little angels," he says. "They know nothing of this stormy world. The house is their kingdom, and the little despots rule. One dollar judiciously invested on Christmas eve will bring more pleasure to a sweet little child than the wealth of a Vanderbilt could purchase a few years later."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Costly Advice.

A few days since the favorite horse of a prominent south side manufacturer was taken severely lame. He consulted the authorities without avail, and then he began to ask people who are not authorities if they could give him any information upon the subject. He saw a bright looking colored man standing in front of a stable watching the limping horse. "Do you you know anything about horses?" he asked. "Bin bro't up with hosses all me life, boss." "Can you tell me what's the matter with my horse?" "I spects I can, boss," was the reply, "but I must have $1." The manufacturer out with a standard silver dollar and passed it to the colored man. He put it in his pocket and then proceeded to walk about the horse, lifted the lame foot, looked at it, dropped it, walked back to the sidewalk and remarked, "Well, boss, yer hoss is lame; dreadful lame," and then he walked away.—Exchange.

Why Thunder Sours Milk.

You have often asked or been asked "Why does thunder sour milk?" The answer is this: Milk is very susceptible to atmospheric changes. Electricity, the cause of thunder, produces, or if it does not really "produce," follows great and rapid changes in the atmospheric conditions. Lightning is the discharge which comes of electrical inequalities, producing chemical changes in the air. Thunderstorms represent the greatest activity of electrical phenomena, and the best authorities give it as their opinion that the electricity in the atmosphere is the prime cause of milk souring during the prevalence of such storms.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

His Own Coat.

Saturday afternoon a man boarded a South Boston car and took a check for Highland street. He created quite a flurry of excitement among the women who happened to be on the car, for he wore an elegant jacket of real sealskin. Two women seated directly opposite him seemed to be especially impressed. Finally one of them said quite loudly:

"It's real, Sarah. It must be his wife's."

"No'm," said the man, who had overheard the remark; "it is not my wife's jacket—it's my own. My wife's got one just as good, though."—Boston Globe.

Women In the Laundry Industry.

There are now about 7,000 women in the linen industry in this city. In Troy the collar and cuffmakers and laundry workers are an important body in the sum of the inhabitants. In Philadelphia there is another very large branch of this industry. In the west Cleveland, Columbus, Chicago, St. Louis, are all important centers.—New York Evening Sun.

Frankness Before Marriage.

No man should become engaged to a woman without having a perfectly frank talk with her in regard to his means, and the woman should be quite as honest in telling of her qualifications and willingness to undertake to master the problem of making a home on the income that seems assured to them both. More than this, they both should go over this question deliberately, looking at all sides of it. The changed mode of living, the self denials, the added expense of sickness, if it should come, all should be carefully considered. The man who for years has spent his income upon himself, living perhaps like his neighbor who has a fortune back of him, will often be frightened at the picture of the future which this careful weighing of the subject presents to him, and he may decide either to wait a few years or else to do what unfortunately a great many young married people think they must do—go to a boarding house.

The woman may have lived an aimless, careless life, her father being able to support her in comfort and perhaps elegance. The picture may have as little charm for her as the man who has asked her to marry him, and she, too, is glad to settle upon the boarding house as promising more style and ease for less money than can the simple home. This is one solution of the problem. Another common happening is that either one or the other finds—or perhaps both the man and the woman do—that they have not the independence and moral courage to be willing to live in such a simple, unfashionable manner as their means would compel them to. When two people feel that way, it would be better for them and the world at large that they remain single, for we have today too many people who are trying to live as if they had an income of many thousands, when, in fact, it is often the case that they have less than $2,000.—Ladies' Home Journal.

A Guileless Gentleman.

One of the most guileless and cultivated men I have ever known, certainly far from extravagant in the matter of tailors' bills was the reverse of untidy in his person and invariably dressed for dinner, even when quite alone, and always buttoned his dress coat across his chest. During one of his rare visits to London, Stultz, who was then at the top of his profession, and for aught I know may be so still, was called on to to make him a dress coat, which was duly executed and the garment sent home. A few days later my old friend reappeared at Stultz's, bringing his dress coat. "Look here," he said, "this coat is not the thing at all. It must have been made for some other man."

"Indeed, Sir William," replied Mr. Stultz, "that is surprising. We have always succeeded satisfactorily with your orders. Some slight alteration in the figure, perhaps. We don't grow any younger, Sir William, eh? Let us try it on." Which being done: "It appears a perfect fit. Sir William," continued the artist, standing back to admire his own handiwork, "your figure does not seem to have changed in the least."

"But it won't button, man," rejoined the customer, tugging at the lapels. "No, Sir William. It is not to do so. Dress coats are invarinbly worn open." "But I like mine to button across." "Most unusual, Sir William," sighed Mr. Stultz. "In fact I may say it is never done." "But I tell you I always wear my coat buttoned in the evening, and I don't care two straws what other people do." "Oh, Sir William, if it is a characteristic, that is another matter." And the cutter being sent for, the necessary alterations were planned on the instant.—Sir Herbert Maxwell in Blackwood's Magazine.

How Long Man May Live.

It was Professor Hufeland's opinion that the limit of possible human life might be set at 200 years—this on the general principle that the life of nearly all living creatures is eight times the years, months or weeks of its period of growth. That which quickly comes to maturity quickly perishes, and the earlier complete development is reached the sooner bodily decay ensues. More women reach old age than men, but more men attain remarkable longevity than women. Horned animals are shorter lived than those without horns, fierce longer than timid and amphibious creatures longer than those which inhabit the air. The pike will continue to live for 150 or 175 years, and the common turtle is good for at least a century. Passing up the scale of life to man and skipping the patriarchs, we find many recorded instances of extraordinary longevity.

The ancient Egyptians lived three times as long as the modern "lotus eaters." Instances of surprising and authentic longevity among the classic Greeks and Romans are not at all rare. Pliny notes the fact that in the reign of the Emperor Vespasian (76 A. D.) there were 124 men living in a limited area on the River Po who were 100 years old and upward. Three of these were 140 and seven others over 130. Cicero's wife lived to be 103, and the Roman actress, Luceja, played in public after she had celebrated her 112th birthday.—St. Louis Republic.

A Friendly Warning.

Floating Shade—Who are you?

Beautiful Spirit—I am the angel of peace and am flying back to earth.

Floating Shade—Well, if you stay over night in Europe you'd better roost high.—New York Weekly.

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HATS and CAPS,
LADIES' CLOAKS,
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FINE SHOES,
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That were 12, 14, 16 and 18 dollars.
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