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PECULIAR GROUND FOR DIVORCE.

The Original Plea of a Wife Who Has Been Haunted by Her Predecessor.

When Miss Theresa Rippledeane married Mr. Philip Baldwin of Lanark Junction, Ills., he was a widower. Mrs. Baldwin has now brought suit for divorce on the ground that the ghost of Rosamond Baldwin, his first wife, insists on jointly occupying the house and interfering with her matrimonial happiness. Mrs. Baldwin alleges that she was once a cheerful, healthful woman, and that she is now in a nervous, distressed condition of mind, altogether owing to the persecutions of the ghost of Rosamond Baldwin.

When she returned from the wedding tour, Rosamond stood in the doorway dressed in white. She asked her husband who the lady was, and he insisted there was no such lady present. She thought he was jesting, and on describing her looks the maidservant gave way to emotion and declared it was none other than Mr. Baldwin's first wife. Since that time the ghost has not only continued to inhabit the house, but follows her about with angry, threatening countenance, pinches her, pulls her hair frequently in the presence of her husband and sometimes obliges her to cry out before guests.

To collect further evidence, Mrs. Baldwin, the living, sent for her sister, Anna Belle Rippledeane—a young girl—without telling her that the former Mrs. Baldwin was living in the house. And Anna Belle ran to her sister one day and told her she saw a woman in white in Mrs. Baldwin's room, and Mr. Baldwin was made to go and look under the bed. In her suit for divorce Mrs. Baldwin says she has once heard her husband speaking to some one whom he called Rosamond, begging her for goodness' sake to go away and leave him in peace. It sounded just like a man addressing his wife. Mr. Baldwin on being interviewed refused to speak.

But the matter has been brought to an issue by Mrs. Baldwin's suit for divorce. This will determine whether Mrs. Baldwin is entitled to a divorce, or whether Mr. Baldwin is committing bigamy by having under one roof both the quick and the dead. Mr. Baldwin, it seems, had promised the first Mrs. Baldwin not to marry again. The suit is regarded with extraordinary interest in Illinois, as its settlement will establish a precedent.—New York Evening Sun.

Outside the Parlor.

His Rival (loftily)—I will present you to Miss Languish.

Adams—Announce me, you mean.—Kate Field's Washington.

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Crocodiles and Gators at the Zoo.

The monster alligator, which now measures some 10 feet in length, came from the Mississippi when about 12 months old, some nine years ago. Hideous, huge and hidebound in armor of horn, it swings round like an enormous eft, and as it lies just beneath the surface of the water shows more clearly than any book can picture the curious adaptation to surroundings of the carnivorous water lizard. The eyes on their raised orbits are set like dormer windows in the head. The nostrils are two tiny slits in a raised boss at the end of the nose. Apparently the sluggish beast is a quick breather, for the respirations are at the rate of 28 per minute, or nearly double that of a man at rest. Crocodiles from the Nile, India and Ceylon share the waters with the alligators. The crocodile evidently bears the same analogy to the alligator as the frog to the toad. It is lighter in color and in build, and a more active as well as a more malicious creature.

Neither is it so entirely hideous, though the lower jaw shows projecting tusks like those of a wild boar. The creature's eyes, celebrated in connection with the "crocodile tears," with which legend declared that it attracted its sympathizing victims to the bank of the stream, are highly "decorative," if not beautiful. The head, narrow and flat, resembles the head of a snake; the nose is sharp, and the fixed and motionless eyes are of the palest dusty gold, set in a short, horny pillar of a deeper golden brown. The crocodile's coat of armor is less complete than that of the alligator, and its quick, vivacious movements make it far more troublesome to the keepers when the tank has to be refilled and cleansed than the big alligators, which will allow themselves to be used as stepping stones as the water ebbs away.—London Spectator.

Two New Professions.

There are two new professions which have lately been developed and are now being written about. One is the "glorifier" and the other is the "cutter out." The glorifier is a man employed by rich but stupid persons to make them out devils of fellows, don't you know. He frequents the places where men congregate, goes into society and knows all the best people. Then he tells stories about the witty things his friend Smith says and relates instances of his courage or shrewdness or anything else. Smith's friends get to look on Smith as a remarkable man. Smith becomes popular and is made a lion. Smith pays the glorifier good money for his part in the transaction and ever afterward poses as a great man.

The cutter out can be of either sex. There is a rich family that has a son or daughter, as the case may be, who is infatuated with somebody against whom the parents have a prejudice. Perhaps the object of the infatuation is beneath the son or daughter in rank or isn't just good or something else. The parents go to the cutter out and give him or her the proper instructions. The cutter out goes to work and fascinates the objectionable object of adoration. The son or daughter is thrown over, and the cutter out gets a fat fee.

It isn't everybody who would make a good glorifier or a good cutter out, but there are vast possibilities for persons who have the requisite qualities of mind and body and the necessary belittled opinion of themselves that will permit them to do the work.—Buffalo Commercial.

The Decline of the Comedie Francaise.

But when we review the Comedie in its present state as a whole and compare it with what it was 10 years ago, we exclaim with infinite regret, "What a falling off is here?" The players can rise to a great effort now and then, but the general acting is at a lower level than it used to be, and the ancien repertoire is now rarely played. In fact, we understand that it is not improbable that the continuance of the subvention may be attacked. In the former days when M. Perrin was director, we said over and over again that his policy was radically bad and would end in disaster. Our words have come true. The old actors—Mlle. Sarah Bernhardt, Mlle. Croizette, M. Bressant, M. Delaunay, M. Coquelin—are all gone, and we have nowadays to content ourselves with the younger generation. Tout peut secretablir, as Napoleon III said after Wissembourg. But it will take a long time to train up these beginners into something worthy of the reputation of the house, and it must be remembered that they have now no greater artists, familiar with the old traditions, to copy. The result is that many excellent works can no longer be given at all, or if attempted are shadows of their former selves. In fact, the Comedie Francaise is no longer the model of stage presentment, the school of acting that it once was.—London Saturday Review.

A Story of a Lost Diamond Ring.

"It is queer how lost valuables are sometimes recovered, and the story I tell you was related to me by George T. Dawson, who breathed much easier after he had again secured possession of his diamond ring," said Tom Larrimore yesterday. "Dawson was courting a pretty country girl, and on Sundays would drive out to her father's farm in a buggy and take her out riding. He was the proud possessor of a $80 diamond ring, which he transferred to his girl's finger one Sunday morning as they started to a country church to attend meeting.

"The ring was too large for her finger, and somewhere on the road it slipped off and was lost. Paterfamilias with other members of the family followed with a 2-horse wagon, and all gave up the trip to church and joined in the search for the diamond, but the gem could not be found. It was springtime, and the roads were very soft, which allowed the wagon wheels to become covered with the loamy soil. After dinner the boys were strolling around the yard, and one of them stopped at the wagon. Taking out his pocketknife, he began cutting the mud on the wagon, when off dropped a lump of dirt, displaying the diamond ring sticking in its center. The ring had fallen in the wagon track and had been carried at least three miles incased in the lump of mud which had adhered to the wheel."—St. Louis Republic.

Camels in Australia.

In Australia the camel is fast taking the place of bullocks for use in the barren interior regions. It is stated that there are already opened up and in regular work in Australia five lines of camel traffic, and that on these lines over 2,000 camels are in daily use. Camels are found to be so useful that the number employed will be increased as rapidly as possible. With bullock teams only about 10 miles a day can be made, but it is found that the camel will travel 84 miles in 18 hours, carrying a load of 300 pounds.

In the interior of Australia are 1,000,000 square miles of almost unknown desert, and it is on the great inland plains that it is intended to utilize the camel trains, as by their use the various oases of civilization may be more directly connected than by the old bullock routes. On the arid plains and among the mud flats and brackish lakes the camel finds plenty of coarse grass and thorny shrubs on which to subsist. It is claimed that work can be found in Australia for 1,000,000 camels.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Salary of a Dancer.

The Parisian career of La Fuller, as the French bill boards introduce her, is an interesting study in comparative values. While the litterateurs and the scholars receive an average salary of $3,000 or at best $4,000 a year for their intellectual service in the world of letters, the light footed Loie is paid rather more than $3,500 a month in the Folies-Bergeres alone, and has a three years' contract for 12 months in the year.—Exchange.

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100 dozen Men's Laundered Negligee Shirts at	63c
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10 cases Men's Stiff Hats, latest shades and styles at	1.19
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