

TO BITE THE DUST.

Feminine Office-Seeker's Threats. Washington Dispatch the Cleveland Leader. His Lucy Horton, a fair and dashing blonde, well known in local society, has threatened to throttle the treasury department. She has spoken and written the mandate. It is that she must be given a clerkship or Secretary Folger and Appointment Clerk Butler must bite the dust. Lucy is not without a history, and her record is written in blood. She is probably 25 years of age, hence she cannot be classed as unsophisticated, and has been a resident of this city for several years. A very few years ago she fired a slug of lead into the body of the son of Senator Morgan of Alabama and left him for dead. She said the young man had seduced, and betrayed her. She is tall, slender, rather vivacious and good-looking. It is said she can love with a fervor seldom equalled, and hate with a vengeance worthy of a pirate. Six months or more after the smoke from the field where she shot young Morgan having cleared away, she applied for a position in the treasury department. She made her application in person, and was accompanied, it is said, by Mark Ingersoll, Representative Shellenbarger of Pennsylvania, and other good and reputable people, who urged the secretary to give her a place. The people who recommended her were approved by her pleasant promises. As soon as Secretary Folger was informed he bluntly refused to help her. But the old gentleman was soon outmaneuvered by ardent friends. She was given a position as a "sub" for three months under another name than Lucy Horton, and at the expiration of that time she succeeded in securing another three months' lease of life. It was during the last quarter that she displayed a merit not to be credited by immediate superiors. A prominent clerk in the department was transferred from one division to another and came near losing his official head. Appointing Clerk Butler, discovering Lucy's unenvied qualities, refused to help her to another term at the end of her last employment. Again her old desire for blood returned. She coldly entered Mr. Butler's room in the department a few days ago and informed him that unless he reinstated her she would shoot him, and Secretary Folger, too, remarking with emphasis, "and I won't miss my aim, either," at which Mr. Butler assured the secretary that she would not be treated as others had if she ever attempted to shoot him, but would reply with the same effect as though she were a masculine. Lucy left Mr. Butler's room with her anger unsoothed. Returning to her home, she indited a note to Mr. Butler, and threatened his life if he did not give her a place at once, and caused the same to be sent to Secretary Folger. Not hearing from her note she wrote again and again. The others were of the same purport as the first. "A clerkship of your lives, Messrs. Butler and Folger," Mr. Butler informed Secretary Folger of the woman's threats, and reported to him her dangerous character, but did not say to the secretary that his life was also threatened. On Thursday Miss Horton entered the office of the appointment clerk. She was calm and her face bloodless. She was penitent. She is subject to hysterics, and after begging to be received back she was seized with a hysterical spasm and enacted a scene that would put to pathos its very self. But Mr. Butler, to save his honor, could not take her back, and refused flatly to do so. She came again yesterday, and again today. Her visits were long, probably of two or three hours' duration. This afternoon she repeated her threat that she will shoot Mr. Butler and the secretary, and those who know her say she will do it. Her last words were, "I have grown more demonstrative, Congressman Shellenbarger, Mr. Ingersoll, and other influential friends, have abandoned her."

THE SUN AND MOON.

What a Man Says Who is Constantly Gazing at the Heavenly Bodies. "Has your observation of the sun spots shown you any laws or system governing them?" asked a Boston Herald reporter of "the telescope man" on Boston common. "I can't say that it has, except that they always make their appearance on the western edge of the sun and pass across the disk, leaving it at the eastern edge. There are two courses for this passage, one north and one south of the sun's equator. They are never nearer the equator than thirty degrees or nearer the poles than the same distance, so that their tracks are pretty regular. Besides this, I don't see that they have any laws, though it is very interesting to watch their changes. By means of the micrometer, a delicate appliance that is placed under the lens in the eye-piece, we are enabled to measure the diameter of these spots by comparison with the known diameter of the sun's disk. The average size is from 12,000 to 18,000 miles. The largest I have ever seen crossed the sun last week. It was 35,000 miles in diameter, and the other 30,000. They occupied thirteen days in crossing—that is about the average time, as the passage ranges from twelve to fifteen days. Nothing more was seen until October of the same year, when there appeared what was evidently one of the same pair that I had seen six months before. At all events, it was of the same size and shape, and having made careful observation of both, I couldn't help believing they were the same. I had also seen at different times certain spots that could be looked into as you look into the cavity of a cup, and again I have seen clearly defined conical peaks. "Do these forms change rapidly?" "Not so rapidly as to be perceptible, unless one were to stand for a long time at the glass. In a few hours, however, the difference becomes so great that in ten or twelve hours show great changes. In one case I was watching what appeared a perfectly black spot, when I saw a light film begin to form at the edge and stretch toward the center. It passed the center and extended two-thirds of the way across to the opposite side from which it started. Then it began to retreat, having reached what I estimated to be a distance of nine thousand miles from the starting point, and in five hours from the time it began to form it wholly disappeared. This intense and rapid action is not commonly observed. From last October to last June several spots of the medium size were seen. On the 17th of July there appeared a cluster of thirteen spots. Looking for them the next day I found that they had been consolidated into one small and very beautiful spot with a granular around. From that time up to last Monday the display was varied from day to day, sometimes showing four great spots at once, and sometimes separating into single spots. During the last week of one and the last week in July the largest spot of the series were seen, being very long and narrow. On July 18th I counted thirty-one spots, and for several days the number remained about the same. It is not unusual to see what appear to be cavities, with filmy bridges across them. "Are your observations of the sky at night equally as interesting?" "Well, I keep a pretty close watch for unusual movements. Just now there is nothing especially to be observed, except the moon. The fixed stars, looked at through the telescope, appear very much as they do to the naked eye. I have seen some interesting things in Jupiter, especially in the changing colors of his belts, having observed five at one time. The moon is a thing the people are weary of looking at, and for myself I find more interesting the more I look at the great dead body."

HIS FIRST HIGH HAT.

I met him in the crowded street— 'Twas on a Sabbath morn'— And on the gentle breeze sweet. Repentant, erring man to greet. The sound of bells was so ne. He passed me with averted eyes And stony downcast face. His mien was cold, his look was shy, His vision bore a crimson dye, And he quickened his tardy pace. What was it, you ask, that made him so? Ah! I can tell you that— It was no coldness you know. But woe, dear reader, mental woe: He had on his first high hat. —Puck.

TRAINING PUGILISTS

How It Is Done—The Diet and the Exercise—The Prize-Fighter's Ordeal.

An old trainer of pugilists thus explained his manner of operations to a Louisville Commercial reporter: The very first thing to be done is to study the constitution of the subject; if he is delicately constituted the training course must be adapted to his strength, and even if he is a strong, healthy and tough man, care must be taken not to overstrain him. My first active work is to put my man upon a course of mild purgatives. This treatment expels poisonous humors, softens the internal fats, and renders the system susceptible to the regular training which follows as soon as the subject has been thoroughly cleaned out. The next resort is to out-door exercises such as walking and running, succeeded by heavy sweats if necessary to get rid of superfluous flesh; and, when the man is very large and fleshy, the occasional use of hot baths should be combined with the original medication. There is nothing so good as these hot baths to cool feverish blood and open the pores that give ventilation to the inter-organs. Without this cleansing and reducing process has been thoroughly done, all subsequent efforts of the trainer will be of no account. As an example of a day's regular training, I get my man up early in the morning, allowing him nothing but a glass of sherry with an egg in it before breakfast, and start him out for a three mile walk at a moderate gait, thus bracing his nerves and giving him the benefit of the fresh morning air. Returning, a breakfast is taken, consisting of gruel, a nice lean mutton chop, dry toast without butter, boiled eggs and a cup of tea. He is now permitted to lounge or enter about for an hour or so, then dresses in an extra clothing and starts out for a "sweat." He is walked out about seven miles at a strong gait, and back again at a very fast gait. On our return, instead of giving him hot gin or other stimulating drinks, as some trainers are in the habit of doing I generally resort to a bowl of chamomile tea. Then stripping off the buff, I rub his body until it is thoroughly dry and his skin is in a glow, and give him a cold shower bath, following it up with a cold plunge bath containing rock salt and vinegar, rubbing him from head to foot with a sponge while he is still in the bath. This has a curative effect upon all chafes and bruises resulting from his exercises, and at the same time hardens the flesh. When my man comes out of his bath I wipe him perfectly dry and hand-rub him vigorously all over the body, and allow him to lie down with a light sheet over him until his nerves become quiet after this violent exercise. Then I get him up, and clad in clean linen and comfortable clothing, he walks leisurely around until the dinner hour. If he feels very thirsty I generally allow him to drink a mug of beer, but if training for a glove fight, to cultivate quickness of action he is exercised at fighting the "bladder," and uses light dumb bells. Occasionally we take a row in a boat with my man, and he is made of such exercise, or play at foot-ball, or any other proper athletic exercise as time allows. Then comes supper—tea, mutton-chop, dry toast and eggs, with other articles as allowed at dinner, but these extra dishes are not permitted according to the fancy of the man under training; an intelligent trainer will watch these as sharply as any physician does the diet of a very sick patient, and what I know to be improper food I rule out peremptorily. After supper we take a leisurely stroll of two or three miles and back, and then, as the evening advances, he does his work and he is ready to retire for the night. About an hour before going to bed I allow a bottle of Bass' ale and a bit of dry toast. Once in bed he receives a thorough hand-rubbing, and is disturbed no more until morning. This program is repeated daily until the match in view takes place, unless, as sometimes happens, a man becomes feverish or off his feet, when the heavier work has to be suspended for a time. A trainer's business is chiefly to get his man thoroughly sound, physically. Of course I sometimes put on the gloves with my man, but he is supposed to understand the manly art before he comes under my care. Whatever defects I may observe in his "form" it is my duty to correct by proper instruction, but nothing is done until he has been under my care. The trainer must keep the party constantly under his eye, asleep or awake, as he is responsible to the backers for his man's conduct and condition. In this country I have trained a large number of good men, among whom were Abe Hicken and Harry, his brother, and Johnny Moore. Abe Hicken was the light weight champion of the world when he came under my care. His contest was with Pete McGuire, who fought Chandler, of California, for \$1,000 a side and the light weight championship of America. Harry Hicken fought Campbell for a similar money stake, and Moore met Dougherty of Philadelphia for a \$1,000 stake. I trained Tracey for his great winking-match at Chicago, when he beat O'Leary's best time by three minutes and a quarter, and had two hours to spare. There is a fact connected with his performance that shows what careful training will accomplish. When he entered upon his walk of six days and nights he weighed 194 pounds and at the finish weighed 160 pounds, while other contestants lost from twenty to thirty pounds each. Some one here asked the trainer why it was regarded so "necessary to train against fat" and he replied, "Fat is death to a man's chances in any kind of an athletic contest. I have seen a fat gamecock of the best strain refuse to fight and fat bull-terriers drop over on their backs and howl at the approach of the adversary in better training. Take the race-course, a fat trotter will break into a gallop in spite of all that can be done, and lose the race. But the same animal in good training will stay every time. It is just so with men."

Prices Fifty Years Ago.

From the Cleveland (Ohio) Leader, Aug. 16 The appended letter was written by Mr John Stair 50 years ago to-day to his nephew, Th mas Stair, of London, England. The letter was recently sent by Mr. Alfred Stair of Manchester, England son of Thomas Stair, to Mr. S. H. Curtiss, of this city. At the time the letter was written Mr Stair was teaching a private school in Newburg, but directly after moved into the city:

COUNTY OF CUYAHGA, OHIO, } NEWBURG, Aug. 16, 1833.

My Dear Thomas: An opportunity offers of sending a few lines to you by way of "cheapside," which I gladly embrace. You have thought it strange, perhaps that I have not written you before, but when I tell you that on every letter we send to England we have 25 to pay postage to New York, and 27 cents for every one we receive (through private hands and posted at New York, 25 cents) added to which the uncommon scarcity of money, you will cease to be surprised. Frequently men who are possessed of a good farm and considerable stock are weeks and months without a cent, at any barrier, or as they call it, trade for almost everything and are so accustomed to it that they don't feel it, but it is particularly trying to foreigners who have not the means to do so, consequently their resources are soon drained, unless they have sufficient to purchase a farm, where, by hard work, they may soon supply nearly all their wants. Many raise all they can with wool, except such as tea, coffee, &c. They raise their own wool and flax, which is spun and woven by the women for clothing, so that a farmer in the most independent person in the country, as any person with a small income may live well for one-third that they can in England. Before I give you the prices of a few things, I should tell you that our accounts are kept by dollars and cents (thus \$) and cents. A dollar is equal to 8s. York or 100 cents. For large turkeys, 50 cents each, fowls, 1s. or 12-1-2 cents each; roasting pigs, 25 cents each; mutton, best real, pork, &c., 4 cents per pound; when bought by the quarter, 2 to 2-1-2 cents per pound; butter from 9 cents to 1s. per pound; cheese, 6 cents per pound; groceries, with the exception of tea, as done in England, Young Hyson, \$1 per pound; cows from \$10 to \$25 each; horses from \$30 to \$1000 each; clothing of all kinds is dear. So you see this is the poor man's country, but unless he has land or can labor hard, a man with a family of small children stands but a poor chance. Situations for single men are very scarce, except as barbers at taverns, clerks, &c. Shopmen are badly paid generally in old country, with little more than their board and lodging. New York is quite overdone, so many stop there. We arrived there the 1st of September, just as the cholera began to rage. It rages there, and indeed nearly all over the States, were very great. We were mercifully preserved all the way, although at several times lodging under the same roof with it, but without knowing it at the time. There were cases in every town we passed through! It has again broken out in the Southern States, and I expect will reach Cleveland, six miles from us, it being a place where so many immigrants land. It is a very increasing place, and for the size of it, the prettiest town I have seen in America. Its situation on the lake is so commanding that it will soon be a place of great importance, and the inhabitants are beginning to have a taste for the fine arts, so that a person who understood drawing, music, &c., so as to teach it well, might make money apace there. Mechanics of all description meet with employment. Education in this country is conducted very differently to what it is in the old country. Each State is divided into townships of from five to ten miles square. Each township is again divided into districts, and each district has a schoolhouse. These are called district schools, and are taught by a female in the summer and by a man in the winter. The former is paid about \$6 per month, and board around at the houses of the different pupils, a week at each place. The male gets from \$10 to \$20 per month, according to the size of the school, and boards around. In many places they have select or private schools. I have kept one here.

We have much reason for thankfulness that I have not desired to spend heavy trials of afflictions, dangers and privations we have been offered in a wonderful manner, for which I desire to be truly thankful to my Heavenly Father, and would desire to thank him for the future. * * * We are exceedingly tried for want of cash. I have taken but little more than \$5 in cash for education since I have been in the country— a little more than a sovereign (which fetch \$4.75). I must now bid adieu, and remain your affectionate uncle. J. STAIR.

F. H. Stauff of Lake City and Miss Helen Brown, daughter of James Brown of Minnesota were united in marriage by Rev. Silas Hazlett at the residence of the bride's parents on Wednesday last. The St. Paul directors are expected to declare 34 per cent. dividend on the common stock. The eight months earnings of the company show a gain of \$2,200,000 over 1882.

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