

ENGLISH INNKEEPERS.

Said to Be Mainly Boors Who Treat Patrons as Intruders.

If your pocketbook allows or fate or the desire to see the country compels you to remain in England, there are parts where you can ride on your wheel with great satisfaction and at great expense. Nothing could be more beautiful than the midlands, lovelier than the counties that surround London, but westward go no farther than Bristol or Truro, northward than Chester, avoiding Manchester—that is, unless you mean to go still farther north into Scotland, which at times will repay your enterprise. The southwest is largely to be avoided. Cornwall and Devon have the worst roads in civilized Europe—in fact, the roads and inns explain that the country is not and never has been civilized. In the inns you are often treated as an intruder, and sometimes cheated in a fashion that would bring a blush to the cheek of a Swiss landlord, for the emptiness of the larder the bill makes up in lavishness. There is hardly anything to eat save cream, but for that and salt bacon and ancient eggs you are asked to pay as much as for a good dinner at the Cafe Royal. The innkeepers are mainly boors.

As for the roads, they go straight to the top of all the hills, as uncompromisingly as the roads of Bohemia, then drop down the other side and are unridable in both directions. When not climbing precipitately, they lie buried at the bottom of a ditch. They are shadeless and uninteresting, rarely approaching the seacoast or passing near anything that is worth looking at, and yet we know Englishmen who are profoundly impressed with the belief that they are the best in England, and therefore in the world. The roads, inns and innkeepers of Scotland are in every way better, but the fact that the average Briton spends his holiday on the continent when he can prove not only that he wants to get there, but also that he is driven from his own country by the shortsightedness of the people who keep its inns and look after its roads.—Mr. and Mrs. Pennell in Fortnightly Review.

ANCIENT MEDICAL METHODS

The Manner of Doctors' Consultations in the Fourteenth Century.

Coming to Mondeville's exposition of the method of holding a discussion, we find his description almost a story of what might take place today. "First," he says, "we should inquire into the nature of the disease, examining carefully and feeling, because the diagnosis is made by touching with the hand and observing with the eye. All the consultants engage in turn in the examination. Then, if the case demands it, they make a new examination all together, pointing out to one another the symptoms of disease and the special or remarkable features either in the patient or the disease. Then one of them, the highest in rank, says to the patient, 'Sir, we perceive very clearly what is the matter with you, and you ought to have full confidence in us and be glad that there are so many of us here and such doctors—enough for a king—and to believe that the youngest of us is competent to prescribe and carry on your treatment and bring it to a good result.' Then he interrogates the patient about the circumstances of his attack, 'Sir, do not be displeased or take ill, but when did your illness begin?' following this with many other questions, the answers to which are recorded as indications furnished by the patient.

"When all the questions called for by the case have been asked, the consultants retire to another room, where they will be alone, for in all consultations the masters dispute with one another in order the better to discuss the truth, and sometimes they come to a pass in the heat of discussion which would cause strangers witnessing their proceeding to suppose there were discord and strife among them. This is sometimes the case."—"Fourteenth Century Doctors," by M. E. Nicaise, in Popular Science Monthly.

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That's a peculiarity of cats; they always do; so do the thousands of persons who buy their clothing from us. They don't return from force of habit merely like the feline, but because they have learned that in the three great essentials—Quantity, Quality and Price—we are never found wanting. A matter worthy of your careful attention is our line of Men's Ulsters at \$3.95, \$4.50, \$5, \$6, \$7, \$8, \$9, \$10, \$12.

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All boys who amount to "shucks" are mischievous—so it is said—still they do wear out clothing very fast. Therefore any possible saving on these essentials must be taken advantage of. Here is an opportunity right now. We have just put on sale some boys' and youths' Overcoats at very nearly the

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Mozart's Method.

Mozart's method of composition was such as could only have been pursued by a child of genius. He would rise early, eat a hearty breakfast and then stroll for several hours in a forest near his home, where, inspired by nature's beauties, heavenly melodies came trooping through his brain. Repairing to his cottage, he would summon his wife, a very witty woman, and bid her tell him stories. He would then mount his high stool and proceed to commit these inspirations to paper, his wife telling him jokes and funny stories while he wrote. These he enjoyed immensely, frequently interrupting her with hearty bursts of laughter and sometimes even falling from the stool and rolling on the floor. But amid all this hilarity and uproar the flow of music which was to move the world went steadily on. His productions were wrought without the least thought or study, but came almost unbidden "direct from heaven." Like Shakespeare, he was purely the creature of inspiration, a genius of the highest order.—C. C. Heatt in Housekeeper.

Remote Ancestry.

"It has long been supposed," says The Outlook, "that the most startling genealogical claim is that of the negus of Abyssinia, who insists that his descent has been in a straight line from the union of Solomon with the queen of Sheba, but some one has discovered a noble family in France, the counts of Noe, who not only claim Noah as their remote ancestor, but show on their family blazon that veteran seaman in the ark."

Laying Bricks.

A bricklayer can lay about 1,600 or 1,600 bricks in a day of 10 hours where the joints are left rough, about 1,000 per day when both faces have to be worked fair and not more than 500 a day when carefully jointed and faced with picked bricks of a uniform color.—Exchange.

An Old Friend Still On the Fashion Roll.

A Prominent Member of the Diamond Dye Family.

Some colors come to the front, and after a season are voted as out of fashion and are soon forgotten. We are glad to note that Navy Blue will still be popular with the ladies in dress fabric this year. In the largest centres of fashion dry goods men are now showing Navy colors in great profusion.

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C. G. JURY

The Key of Sheridan's Success.

General Horace Porter, in his "Campaigning With Grant," in The Century, says, after describing the battle of Five Forks:

"Sheridan had that day fought one of the most interesting tactical battles of the war, admirable in conception, brilliant in execution, strikingly dramatic in its incidents and productive of extremely important results.

I said to him, "It seems to me that you have exposed yourself today in a manner hardly justifiable on the part of a commander of such an important movement." His reply gave what seems to be the true key to his uniform success on the field. "I have never in my life taken a command into battle and had the slightest desire to come out alive unless I won."

Facing the Music.

The spirit of this simile is used by John Bunyan in the meditation "Of the Horse and Drum," in his "Book For Boys and Girls; or, Country Rhymes For Children," published in 1686. Of the genuine Christian he says, inter alia:

Let drummers beat the charge and what they will, They'll nose them, face them, keep their places still.

—Notes and Queries.

In some parts of South Africa much damage is done by baboons, which go in large marauding parties to rob gardens.

They Knew Me.

The train had stopped for a few minutes at a station out on the plains, and two or three barefooted little boys and girls had their backs against the depot and their fingers in their mouths, while they stared at the passengers.

Suddenly a boy of about 10 years dashed round a corner of the station and called to his brother and sister:

"You, Joey! Ma says if you and Maggie don't come right straight home she'll—she'll—well, I forgot what, but she'll do it, sure, for you know what ma is when she gets started. So you'd better git home straight off."

Joey and Maggie evidently knew what ma was when she "got started," for they started homeward as fast as their bare little feet would carry them.—Youth's Companion.

When a snake has partaken of a very large meal, its skin in places is so stretched that the scales are quite separated one from another.

Terra cotta sleepers are in use on Japanese railways. The increased cost is compensated for by the greater resistance of decay.

One reason why Scott's Emulsion cures weak throats, weak lungs, makes rich blood, and strengthens pny and delicate children is because all its parts are mixed in so scientific a manner that the feeblest digestion can deal with it. This experience has only come by doing one thing for nearly 25 years.

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TELLS A LONG STORY.

A Granite Monument at Antietam Recalls a Family History.

Major Kingsbury had a daughter as well as the son who fell at Antietam. The daughter married Simon Bolivar Buckner of Kentucky some time before the war. When General Buckner decided to go with the Confederacy, the danger of confiscation of his wife's interest in the Chicago estate confronted him. A family council resulted in the transfer of Mrs. Buckner's property to her brother, Colonel Kingsbury fell in battle without leaving a will to protect his sister's inheritance. When the war closed, the return of Mrs. Buckner's interest in her father's estate was asked for in behalf of her children. Mrs. Kingsbury declined to concede it. She claimed all that had been left in her husband's name for her son and herself. Litigation followed and dragged along for years. Major Kingsbury's 40 acres were in the heart of Chicago when the fire occurred.

In the years immediately following the war Washington had few women more talked about than the beautiful widows, Mrs. Becky Jones and Mrs. Kingsbury, the nieces of an ex-president of the United States. Mrs. Kingsbury became the wife of Gallatin Lawrence, son of one of the wealthiest manufacturers in Rhode Island. Gallatin Lawrence had chosen a diplomatic career. He was sent to Costa Rica as minister. When he came back, society at the capital had a great sensation over the talk of a duel between Minister Lawrence and Captain von der Hass of the Belgian legation because of the captain's attentions to the beautiful Mrs. Lawrence. The Belgian sailed for Europe. So did Mrs. Lawrence. Gallatin Lawrence followed. There was a duel and then a divorce case. Von der Hass went to Egypt. Mrs. Lawrence went there too. Gallatin Lawrence returned to the States.

The son of Colonel Kingsbury was sent to Oxford. His inheritance was cut in two by a decision restoring to her heirs Mrs. Buckner's share in the 40 acres. One day young Kingsbury came home from Oxford, bringing a college friend. Between the English student and Mrs. Lawrence an attachment quickly developed. Mrs. Lawrence was twice the age of her son's chum. She married him and is, or was the last that friends in this country learned, living with him abroad. Kingsbury married a Levantine, and he, too, is in a foreign country. The fortune acquired through the Chicago investment has been much reduced. Mrs. Becky Jones, after a long career in Washington, traveled extensively and settled in Canada, where she is still living, by all accounts. This is the complicated sequel, briefly told, of the events which the granite monument above the stone bridge at Antietam commemorates.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The African Piano.

Among the musical instruments used on the Congo we notice the long and short drum. Some drums are used to beat the time of the dance. Some other drums are used as telephones for the transmission of messages to neighboring villages. The stringed instruments represent the African harp. The ivory horns are used for the convocation of popular assemblies. The double bell is used to call the attention of the people to some proclamation of the chief. The Africans everywhere are very musical, but their music does not always suit European taste.

The African dance is not always indulged in for amusement alone. Dancing enters into some of the most solemn ceremonies, as, for instance, the inauguration of a new king. Then the chief elect of the tribe dances very gravely before the assembled elders and the people.

The madimba had been called the African piano. It is made of calabashes of graded sizes, which are surmounted by boards, of graded sizes also, all being attached to a semicircular frame. Each board represents a note or half tone and emits its appointed sound when struck by one of the two rubber balls at the ends of two sticks, which are cleverly handled by the musician. While almost every native can beat the drum or play some of the minor musical instruments, the playing of the madimba is an art which only a few specialists learn. They must be paid for playing at festivities or ceremonies, and their art supports them, either partly or entirely.—Journal of American Folk Lore.

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