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NO III

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GRAPES AND THE APPENDIX.

The Little Seeds Are Not So Dangerous as Has Been Claimed.

Things have been said about the baneful and delicious juice of the grape ever since the olden time when Noah found out about it and came thereby to grief, but even before that men ate grapes, and only within the last decade have they been talked to about that. It is only since surgeons began to make money hunting for grape seeds in the vermiform appendix that people have been afraid to eat grapes and to eat them straight.

It now appears that in all the thousands of cases famous, and possibly in some cases infamous, in which this new fashioned surgical operation has been performed there is not one case in which a grape seed or any other little bullet shaped thing has been found in the vermiform appendix. The whole interior of the appendix is only big enough to admit a medium sized darning needle. Nobody knows what it is there for, but it must have been useful at some time. It is a case of the survival of the unfit, like the wisdom teeth, which are of so little use to most people, and the tonsils, which cause so much trouble now and then.

The tonsils and the appendix are both unused parts of the body and peculiarly liable to disease because they are not strengthened by use. If inflammation attacks them, they are unable to resist. Thus many diseases which have been ascribed to peritonitis or colic or a mysterious providence of some kind have been due to the diseased condition of this little useless organ of the human system, and if the trouble had been discovered in time the appendix could have been removed, and all would have been well.

The remedy, therefore, is not in avoiding grape seeds, which do not cause the trouble, but in keeping as well and as strong as possible, and in case of sudden illness calling a reliable doctor, who will know what the matter is. Somebody once said that most people use a doctor to enable them to sin against the laws of nature with impunity. But that is a bad use for him.—Washington Times.

He Knew Where to Go.

The Boston Traveler recounts a funny incident which took place in superior court in that city in the trial of one Bebro. A witness, after telling some of Bebro's alleged faults, went on to recount an unpleasant experience he had with the accused a few weeks before the matter got into court.

"I called at his office," said the witness, "to try to compel him to return the money he secured from me by false representation. He ordered me from his office, and as I didn't care to be assaulted I concluded to obey him. As I was going out he told me to go to—"

"And in consequence of what he told you to do, what did you do?" inquired Assistant District Attorney Sughree.

"Went straight to police headquarters," replied the witness.

It is needless to add that the solemnity of the court was disturbed for the next five minutes.

Love.

"Tredde's an awful fool, ain't he?"
"He's in love, you know."
"What has that to do with his being a fool?"

"Don't you know the definition of love? 'Two souls with but a single thought,' etc."

"Well?"
"That allows Tredde just half a thought, you see."—New York Sun.

Electric Rattrap.

An electric wire with a bit of cheese on the end is the latest rattrap. The rat or mouse stands upon a small metal plate as he takes the bait, and so his body becomes the medium for completing the electric circuit. He is electrocuted before he has done more than smell the cheese.

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DOG DRIVES A BARGAIN.

He Prefers One Kind of Bread and Always Gets It.

I was going down a little side street in the French quarter in New Orleans, says a correspondent of the Philadelphia Times, when I saw a dog—apparently a cross-bred setter that had come down in the world—trotting gayly along the banquettes in front of me, carrying a partridge in his mouth. Presently he came to a queer little hakeshop letting upon an old time court. Stopping before the shop window, the dog reared up on his hind legs and tapped with his fore paws upon the closed pane, whereupon the baker came and raised the window.

"Bon jour, monsieur," said the man quite cheerily, as if he were speaking to an old acquaintance. At the same time he took a small round loaf of bread from the shelf and put it down on the sill.

The dog, wagging his tail the while, deposited his bird on the window ledge, picked up the loaf and trotted back the way he came.

"You are wondering at my queer customer?" asked the baker, seeing my astonishment at the transaction. "Well, all I can tell you," he went on, "is that the dog has been trading with me so for nearly a year now. Where he comes from and to whom he belongs I know not. I think it is more than likely that he is a stray, making his own living. I have fancied sometimes that he must rob the stalls in the French market for the things he brings me. But I do not know and nobody complains. Sometimes he brings a bird, as you see; sometimes a fish or a crab; now and then only a potato or a spring of parsley or thyme. Now and then, although very rarely, he comes without anything at all. Then I know, poor fellow, he has had a hard day; so he gets his loaf just the same. Why not? Even a dog must live, and often he overpays anyhow. So it all comes right in the end.

"It is queer, though," the man continued, "he always must have the same sort of bread. No other will he take. See, I keep his loaf here always, and if I start to get one from another shelf, he barks, you don't know how, and will not put down whatever he has brought till I get the right bread. Oh, he is sharp, that dog," added the little baker, and I think that most people will agree with him.

QUESTION OF POSSESSION.

A Matter Between Two Throbbing Hearts Amicably Settled.

"Will you be mine?" It was a young man who spoke, and the young woman, understanding, bent low her shapely head and, blushing, answered "Yes."

Oh, love! Oh, rapture! Fifteen minutes after the above emotional conversation had taken place the storm abated to some extent, and she lifted her joyous eyes to his as if in question.

Quick is the apprehension of love, and he was all anxiety in a moment.

"What is it, darling?" he asked, holding her to him as if fearful lest she escape.

"Haven't I \$50,000 in my own right?" she murmured.

His grasp tightened on her as if it were twice as much.

"So I have heard, dear," he responded, trying to be utterly indifferent.

"And you haven't 50,000 cents?"

"Just about, darling." And once more he tightened his hold on the future comforts of life.

For a long time she remained silent, as if in deep thought.

"Don't you think, John," she said at last, "that that question you asked me a minute ago was just a bit out of plumb?"

"What question, dearest? I don't understand," he said greatly perplexed. "Do you mean when I asked you to be mine?"

"Yes, John."

"What was wrong with it, darling? I meant it all, and more."

"Yes, John, I know," she said, weighing her words carefully, "but it occurs to me that as you are not putting up the money, and I am, you might change it around a little, and you be mine, instead of the way you had it."

All the worry and anxiety fled from his face and soul on the spot.

"Have it exactly as you please, darling," he said, with a radiant smile. "There isn't any more mine or yours in this family anyhow. It's all ours. See?"

And they will no doubt "live happily ever after." At least we may all hope so.

—Washington Star.

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