

## MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES.

Two Cases in England of Historic Interest

The Man of the Iron Mask.

Mysterious disappearances have been far more numerous than hasty readers imagine—some permanent, some temporary. I do not allude to modern ones within living men's memories, says a correspondent of London *Tid-Bits*, but to some past ones of thrilling interest, and about which very many people do not know much, except those who study old ephemeral literature. The story of the "Man with the Iron Mask" most have heard of, but what is not so well known is that, though a general notion exists that this individual was Mattheole, Minister of Parma, there is very strong evidence that he was really the Duc de Beaufort, with whose mysterious disappearance, in the latter half of the seventeenth century, we will commence our list. He was the grandson of Henry IV. of France and the fair Gabrielle, Duchess of Beaufort. He was a most adventurous man, and ever keeping Louis XIV.'s ministers in "hot water." He was the favorite of the fiery Paris mob, always an important factor in French government. Kidnapping political enemies was a common stratagem then on the continent. Beaufort went to Candia with the French troops sent there on an expedition, and was never seen publicly again, having been, it was said, killed. But a rumor grew stronger and stronger that he was the mysterious captive who was at the Ile St. Marguerite, where he flung the silver dish out, which was picked up by the fisherman who owed his life to never having been taught to read. What made these rumors stronger was the knowledge that the prisoner was treated with all the honor and deference shown to royalty. Louis XIV. took great interest in the veiled captive, whoever he was, and who died in the Bastile just twelve years earlier than the grand monarch. But the brilliant Duc de Beaufort, though sought for by troops of friends, disappeared from all public gaze from the time he reached Candia.

Next we will consider a very different and much humbler person who mysteriously disappeared, and about whose disappearance as little is known now after immense investigation as there was 134 years ago. This is Elizabeth Canning, whose case set all England by the ears pro and con. On New Year's Day, 1753, she disappeared in Bishopsgate street on her way to her mother's shop in Aldermanbury, then a street of small, old-fashioned houses. Rewards were offered, inquiries made, but the ill-lit streets, full of ruffians, and the absence of police, made any outrage possible. Nearly a month passed when, one night, a spectral figure tottered into the Aldermanbury shop, in whose emaciated face and form her mother hardly recognized Elizabeth Canning. She said she had been imprisoned in a lonely house at Enfield. Two women were tried, convicted, and, under the then Draconian laws, sentenced to death. A reaction came. England was divided into friends and foes of the girl. The women were pardoned, and the girl was tried for perjury, convicted, and transported for seven years, but it was a nominal sentence, for she married in the convict settlement, thrice returned home, and died early. Very many considered her a martyr; her principles and demeanor were uniformly religious, modest, and quiet, and her character excellent. Many controversies have been held, but of that mysterious disappearance we know just as much and just as little as did our ancestors in the reign of George II., who, by the way, took a personal interest in the inquiries.

### German Marriages.

German gentlemen, as a rule, I find, do not care much for beauty in their wives, unless accompanied by some enduring qualities that shall fit them to be helpers indeed. The very greatest caution is displayed by the Teuton in choosing a partner for life. Before committing himself too far with a young lady the gentleman will first ask her father's consent to visit at his house, that he may judge from the young lady's conduct toward her parents, and brothers, and sisters, and servants, if she will make him a good wife. He must also see that she is capable of cooking, ironing, dressmaking, and other little accomplishments. Should she come through the ordeal unscathed the pair engage themselves by exchanging rings, and the bride at once begins to make her wedding trousseau—no trifling affair, as it is incumbent upon her to provide not only her own wardrobe, but all the household linen, furniture, and kitchen utensils. The marriage is an occasion for great rejoicings, and extends over several days, during which much tobacco is smoked by the males and much chatter indulged in by the females between the hours of feasting. Stolid though they be, all German husbands do not appear to be great successes; yet the wives are evidently sweet, forbearing creatures, as the following verses from the German will show:

He Lacks Information.

"Are you the cow?" asked the boarder from town, pausing before the pump. "No," replied the pump, speaking through his nose like a true American, "I am the milk made. Haw, haw, haw." And next morning the awestricken guest ate his gruel in silence, nor once complained when he found a water-spider in the cream.—*Burdette*.

### Testimony of the Nurse.

"Is there anything more dreadful than dyspepsia, Doctor?" asked Mr. Branbread. "There is," interrupted Mrs. Branbread. "What is it, then?" inquired the doctor. "The man who has it," said Mrs. B.—*Burdette*.

## The Varieties of Caverns.

The class of underground openings known as caverns have, in all countries and at all times, been especially captivating to the lovers of the marvelous; their strange architecture, beautiful ornamentation, and peculiar inhabitants have combined to make them attractive. To men of science they have recently become extremely interesting, because they throw light on the early conditions of savage man, and make some startling contributions to the facts which bear on the so-called Darwinian theory.

The open spaces of the underground may, at the outset of our inquiry, for convenience, be divided into several distinct classes: First, we have the caverns, or the channels excavated in limestone rocks by streams which find their way beneath the surface. These are by far the most extensive and the most interesting of the subterranean chambers. Next, the channels and chambers hollowed out by the waters of hot springs on their way from the depths of the earth to the surface. Third, come the sea-caves, formed where the battering surges have worn a way into the shore-cliffs along the line of some softer part of the rocks or of an incipient fissure. Fourth, the cavities curiously formed where a lava-stream has frozen or solidified on the surface, while the liquid rock below has flowed on or sunk back into the depths, leaving the arch standing, until the matter which originally supported it has disappeared. Lastly, we have the rifts formed in the rocks which have been rent by the mountain-building forces, where the walls on either side of the break—or, as it is termed by miners, the fault—have been pulled apart from each other, leaving a very deep and long, but relatively narrow, fissure. In one or another of these groups we may place all the known cavities which occur beneath the earth's surface—*Prof. N. S. Shaler, in Scribner's Magazine*.

### Cold Facts About Mary Stuart.

Some time in the sixteenth century there flourished a Queen of Scotland called Mary Stuart. Rumor says that she was good-looking, but such detailed information as can be obtained tends to throw a doubt on the point. If she had lived in the present day she would probably have figured in the divorce court, and might have been indicted as an accessory to the murder of her own husband. She harbored designs avowedly hostile to the Government of this country, and the Government of this country, which was also a woman, having the luck to get hold of her, clapped her into prison. She continued to plot against the said Government and was put to death. The dowager Marchioness of Huntly is now running a woman's tercentenary offering to the memory of this exemplary female, and invites subscriptions from one shilling to ten shillings for the purpose. I don't know why any Englishwoman of the nineteenth century should contribute to such an object; but, if any do, I hope, with the light of another woman's offering upon us, the testimonial will take the form of a statue of Lord Darnley.—*London Truth*.

### Safely Landed.

It was a little kitchen party. She had grown about desperate, but suddenly a brilliant idea occurred to her. "Why are you like this corn?" she whispered, shaking the hopper impatiently over the slow fire. He saw the point, turned pale, and—popped.—*Burlington Free Press*.

### The Beau Ideal of a Family Medicine.

A remedy which promptly and completely relieves ailments of such common occurrence as indigestion, constipation, biliousness, and disorders of a malarial type, is assuredly the beau ideal of a family medicine. Such is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which is not only capable of eradicating these complaints, but also counteracting a tendency to kidney troubles, rheumatism, and premature decadence of stamina. Taking it "all round," as the phase is, there is probably not in existence so useful, effective, and agreeable a household panacea as the Bitters. Nor is it less highly esteemed by the medical profession than by the families of America. Numberless testimonials from professional sources of irrefragable authenticity evince its merit. The demand for it abroad, no less than in the land of its discovery, is certainly increasing, time and experience of its beneficial effects confirming the high opinion originally formed of it.

### How Booth Died.

As Herold left, Booth made a movement as though to raise his carbine, and Boston Corbett fired. The ball struck Booth just behind the ear, in about the same place where he struck the President. The bullet lodged in the vertebrae of his neck, and this part of his anatomy was afterward cut out, and the bone with the ball in it was kept in the medical museum at Washington. Just before Corbett fired, the straw at the back of the barn was fired by a detective, and as the blaze leaped upward I rushed in and seized Booth, throwing my arms around his waist under his uplifted arms, and dragging him out of the burning barn. We carried him to the porch of the Garrett farm-house, and he died within a few hours.—*Lippincott's Magazine*.

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It isn't called high mass on account of steep pew rents; that is a mistaken idea.—*Merchant Traveler*.

SHE scolds and frets,  
She's full of pets,  
She's rarely kind and tender:  
The thorn of life  
Is a fretful wife.  
I wonder what will mend her?

Try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Ten to one, your wife is cross and fretful because she is sick and suffering, and cannot control her nervousness when things go wrong. Make a healthy woman of her and the chances are you will make a cheerful and pleasant one. "Favorite Prescription" is the only remedy for woman's peculiar ailments, sold by druggists, under a positive guarantee from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case or money will be refunded. See guarantee on bottle wrapper. Large bottles, \$1. Six for \$5.

As for the baller-girl, whatever enchantment there may be in viewing her is lent by distance.—*London Truth*

### Humbug.

Barnum said "the American people like to humbugged." This may be true in the line of entertainment, but not where life is at stake. A man with consumption, or any lingering disease, looking Death in the face and seeking to evade his awful grasp, does not like to be trifled with. So with confidence we place before our readers Nature's great remedy, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, a sure relief for that long train of diseases resulting from impure blood, such as Consumption, Chronic Nasal Catarrh, Liver Complaint, Kidney Disorder, Dyspepsia, Sich Headache, Scrofula and General Debility. Time-tried and thoroughly tested, it stands without an equal! Any druggist.

The missing links will arrive when the sausage season opens.

### How to Gain Flesh and Strength.

Use after each meal Scott's Emulsion with Hypophosphites. It is as palatable as milk, and easily digested. The rapidity with which delicate people improve with its use is wonderful. Use it and try your weight. As a remedy for Consumption, Throat affections, and Bronchitis, it is unequalled. Please read: "I used Scott's Emulsion in a child eight months old with good results. He gained four pounds in a very short time."—*Tho. Park, M. D., Alabama*.

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In a Parisian barber-shop: "How shall I cut your hair, sir?" "Without speaking of Gen. Boulanger."

### A Popular Thoroughfare.

The Wisconsin Central Line, although a comparatively new factor in the railroad systems of the Northwest, has acquired an enviable popularity. Through careful attention to details, its service is as near perfection as might be looked for. The train attendants seem to regard their trusts as individual property and as a result the public is served par-excellence. The road now runs solid through fast trains between Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Minneapolis with Pullman's best and unequalled dining cars; it also runs through, solid sleepers between Chicago, Ashland, Duluth and the famous mining regions of Northern Wisconsin and Michigan.

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