

HE DID THE TALKING.

And His Self-Importance Blinded Him to the Possibility of a Mistake.

A lively-looking porter stood on the rear platform of a sleeping car in the Pennsylvania station, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer, when a tussle and choleric old man clambered up the steps. He stopped at the door, puffed for a moment and then turned to the young man in uniform.

"Porter," he said, "I'm going to St. Louis, to the fair. I want to be well taken care of. I pay for it. Do you understand?"

"Yes, sir, but—"

"Never mind any buts. You listen to what I say. Keep the train boys away from me. Don't let me off whenever I want you to. Give me an extra blanket, and if there is anyone in the berth over me, slide him into another. I want you to—"

"But, say, boss, I—"

"Young man, when I'm giving instructions I prefer to do the talking myself. You do as I say. Here is a two-dollar bill. I want to get the good of it. Not a word, sir."

The train was starting. The porter pocketed the bill with a grin and swung himself to the ground.

"All right, boss!" he shouted. "You can do the talking if you want to. I'm powerful sorry you wouldn't let me tell you—but I ain't got out on that train."

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Do Not Try to Raise Crop from the Left-Overs in the Bin in the Spring.

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FARM AND GARDEN



MUSHROOMS IN SOAP BOX.

A Diversion for the Farmer Which Will Provide a Table Luxury at Little Expense or Trouble.

Just for amusement and pastime I started a mushroom bed in a box 16x28 inches and 18 inches deep. It is astonishing all who have called to see it. I have clusters of mushrooms 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 inches across and 1 1/2 inches thick, seven to eight in a cluster. They are certainly handsome as well as tempting.

The bed was made the first week of August and by September 10 it showed mushrooms and by the 22d I gathered 2 1/2 quarts with prospect of bearing till April or May.

In preparing a mushroom bed it is necessary to select good horse manure, fresh and specially clean droppings if possible, free of coarse straw, says Farm and Home. Place the manure outdoors in a pile, let it stand a day, then turn over thoroughly so as to cause fermentation to set in. When cooled down, renew operation for a couple of days and it is ready for use.

When the manure is ready, spread about four inches deep in the bottom of box. Pat it down quite hard, then spread over 1 1/2 inches good loam and pat it down evenly. Then add on top six inches of your compost and loam mixed together, and be sure to press it down good, and for last layer about three inches of the manure.

Let bed stand for a couple of days so that it will generate an even heat through the loam. Now it is ready for planting. Secure good English mushroom spawn, which comes in compressed bricks. Cut the spawn in two-inch squares with a hatchet and be careful to save all small particles. Make openings in the bed about two inches deep and insert the squares of spawn eight inches apart. Spread on the fine particles of spawn. Cover up carefully and press down as before and your bed is ready.

The best place for a bed is in a dark, warm cellar. Mushrooms do not want sun or light, but must have an even temperature of 70 to 80 degrees. If the bed gets rather dry, take warm water and soak it well and repeat in ten or 12 days. It will require five to six weeks before one can tell about the success of his bed. At that period if O.K. you will notice little bits of buttons of a brownish white color, which are your mushrooms. The day after they will be large and well developed, when you may pick them. Do not cut them, but twist gently and they will drop in your hands.

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MAN WHOM WOMAN HUNTS

False But Cherished Illusion as to Which of the Two Is the Seeker.

One of the most false and possibly, for that reason, the most cherished, illusions of man is the idea that he chooses his own wife, says a writer in the New York World, when, as a matter of fact, he merely succumbs to a young person that has marked him for her own as inevitably as smallpox or the black hand.

The much-quoted statement that any woman can marry any man she wants to like most other glittering generalities, lacks confirmation in fact. But it would be very much truer if the fair participants in the man hunt would devote their attention to a particular man instead of wasting time in a scattering fire. Very often they undertake too much, and in trying to bring Tom, Dick and Harry to the proposal point at once fail with all three. The same amount of attention given to one of the trio would have convinced him that the dearest woman in the world might, with a great deal of persuasion, consent to marry him and make him the most blessed among his kind.

How this wonderful result is brought about only the girl knows—though very often she doesn't know, but is, like the selected husband, just an obedient pawn in the hands of her wise and elderly female relatives. For a homely girl with an experienced mother has just about 40 times as great a chance to capture a man as a pretty girl without one. The pretty orphan is frequently ingenious enough to think that the feminine role in courtship consists in breathing a whispered yes to the most favored of half a dozen ardent suitors, and so leaves to chance what the wiser maiden accomplishes by cold science.

Of course, only a widow has the science of man-trapping thoroughly mastered, and a new occupation might be furnished impecunious relicts if some kind philanthropists would only endow a school of courtship for women and employ the widows to give object lessons in subtle love-making to the inexperienced of their sex.

However, to give reality to the lessons, men would probably have to take the passive parts in them, which fate assigns the prospective husbands in real life. And in this event the widows would probably gobble them up faster than the faculty could supply them. For any widow can marry any man she wants unless he is warned in time and has himself sentenced to life imprisonment in Sing Sing or Auburn in self-defense. And even then it would be by no means certain that she wouldn't get him.

We cannot all be widows, however, and those of us not of that privileged class can only cudgel our dull wits over the "preliminaries of marriage," as they were styled in the passionate father's address, and do the best we can in the serene anticipation that some time even our day of widow's weeds and wiles may dawn.

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SISTERS OF CHARITY

Use Pe-ru-na for Coughs, Colds, Grip and Catarrh—A Congressman's Letter.



The following letter is from Congressman [Name], of [Location], Ohio:

Gentlemen: I have used several bottles of Peruna and feel greatly benefited thereby from my catarrh of the head, and feel encouraged to believe that its continued use will fully eradicate a disease of thirty years' standing.—David Meekison.

Dr. Hartman, one of the best known physicians and surgeons in the United States, was the first man to formulate Peruna. It was through his genius and perseverance that it was introduced to the medical profession of this country.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full