HUMOROUS.

NEEDED MORE THAN ONE.—John, do you remember when we used to swing on my father's front gate?

Yes, Maria, I do.

And the moon used to look so beautiful, John.

It did, Maria.

And the stars were so bright,

They were.

I wonder if the moon is so beautiful and the stars just as bright now as they were then, John?

I presume they are, Maria.

Then why can't we swing on the front gate now and look at the moon and the stars, and the blue night skies with their fleecy clouds, as we used to do then?

We can Maria if we want to.

Then, John, let us go out to the front gate for a while, and see if it will seem anything like it used to.

All right Maria. You go out and try it a while, and if you like it may be I'll take a turn at it.

But Maria thought him too much of a brute to do anything of the kind.

THE writer saw a few days ago in a Sturgis, Michigan, paper now defunct, a queer local item. It read: "Miss Smith's lame—pigeon-toed." In next week's issue the editor indignantly spurned the idea of so handsome and graceful a lady as Miss Smith being either lame or pigeon-toed and explained that he wrote "Miss Smith's tame pigeon is dead." The paper could, of course, be pardoned for its blunder when so careful a paper as the Cincinnati *Commercial* had to humbly explain that when it spoke of the "servant girl graduates" of an "institute" it was simply due to the perversity of the types, "sweet girl graduates" being, of course, intended.

THE KING OF HANOVER AND HIS COURT BALL.—Once at dinner the Duke of Altenburg, who was in poor circumstances, father of the crown princess, sat nearly opposite to the King of Hanover. During a pause his Majesty called across the table: "Joseph, a glass of champagne; you don't get that every day at home." One day the Hof-Marshal came in, bearing in his hand a large dispatch, with a broad black rim of deep mourning. It was the official announcement of the death of an old archduchess of Austria. The King who had sent out cards for a court ball declined to realize the interesting fact, and said, without breaking the seal: "There, there; take it away. I know all about it. Let her die next week."

FELT AGGRIEVED.—"They tell me you have been courting young Miss Ransom," said the interlocutor, addressing ex-President Jenkins, of the match company. "How do you get along in the affair?"

"Not very well, sir. I am sorry to say," answered Mr. Jenkins.

"Have'nt you proposed to her yet?"

"Oh, my, yes—seven times."

"Seven times! And what does she say?"

She wants to know every time what she has ever done to me."

HISTORICAL FACTS.

Lithography was invented in Germany in 1796.

India rubber was brought to Europe from South America in 1730.

William Gea, of Edinburgh, first practiced the art of printing from stereotyped plates.

Jenner made the first experiment of innoculating a child from a cow-pox postule in 1796.

The first time the halls of Congress at Washington were illuminated with gas was during the Polk Administration.

Ralph Lane and companions, who went back to England from Virginia with Sir Francis Drake, carried with them the first tobacco ever seen in that country.

Of the colonies now forming the United States, the English Nation settled seventeen, the American six, the Dutch one, the Swedes one, the French ten, and the Spanish three.

John Milton (1608–74) was the greatest epic poet of modern times. His two greatest poems, "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained," were written in poverty and blindness.

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