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Varieties.

London has a Shakespeare sewing machine. The name of a new ex-crozier compound. The Shah scratches his head with the corner of a set-cellar.

A circuit court—the longest way home from singing-school. Agricultural—A mower who can't mow might as well be a mow. Prof. Dana is not inclined to believe that the earth is solid.

The next worst thing to raining pitchforks must be halting omnibuses. There are various stations in life; but the least desirable is a police station. Members of the New York press are shortly to have a shooting match at Creedmore.

Oysters, it is said, are never found in the Baltic Sea, the water not containing sufficient salt. Mrs. Gen. Tom Thumb fell down stairs, at her residence, at Middleburg, recently, and is seriously injured. Melancholy—The necessity of authority of Montgomery, Ala. refuse to allow any water-melons to be brought into the city.

While white is a weakness which if not exercised to pity, self-esteem, if not excessive, will soon elicits our respect and admiration. A vein of mica has been discovered in Cherokee County, Ga., and they talk of getting the Mikado of Japan to come and develop it. It is said that Iowa grasshoppers eat up the tobacco plants. If so, the Iowans have only to catch them at it to kill them when they chew.

True religion shows its influence in every part of our conduct; it is like the sap which a living oak penetrates through the most distant boughs. The Jersey hens have got into such a habit of mislaying their eggs that chickens are getting scarce there, and omelette almost impossible. A good wife is a man, a wisdom and courage, and strength and hope, and endurance. A bad one, confusion, weakness, discomfiture and despair.

A camping-out party from Boston, finding their water supply run short, were reduced to the necessity of boiling a mess of potatoes in ginger ale. The Titusville, Penna., Herald says that the atmosphere of the oil regions, heavily charged as it is with petroleum, acts almost as a specific for the relief of asthma, and at the same time as a preventive of consumption. The famous auctioneer whose advertisement stated that the only drawback on a certain country-place which he had for sale was the "ghost and the nightmare and the litter of the rose-leaves," was the right sort of a man for his profession. Camp Oil, well known in the East, is sold to some extent in other countries, but the water is not so pure as that obtained from drippings flowing from the cuttings of the Campur tree. Standing trees are never felled on purpose to obtain the oil.

Emma Black, living in a small town on the Mississippi, was one day in a curious way. He was fishing, and tumbled out of his boat, and being unable to swim, would have perished had not the mailman, having covering his danger, swam to his back and throwing into his hands her back hair, four feet in length, towed him to the land. The daughter of an English earl, once a student in a French university, was successful debut as Juliet, in London recently, under the name of Edith Gray. Her father made a will, leaving her a large fortune, but omitted to sign it, so she has been penniless and homeless all her life. A retired actress took charge of her, and superintended her education for the stage. Mr. Rawdon Brown has discovered that the skeleton of a man, named Cervantes, and traces Sanchez Panza, well known eulogy of sleep to Macbeth's sleep that kills up the ravished sense of ease. He points out several other analogies of thought and expression to show that Cervantes and the great Shakespeare, whose best dramas were printed a few years before the appearance of "Don Quixote."

The energy displayed by the people of American cities in recovering from the effects of calamity is one of the best traits in our national character. It is most plainly shown in the rebuilding of our burned cities. It has been barely seven years since Portland, Maine, was almost destroyed by fire, yet no one can now see any trace of its burned district, the town having long since been thoroughly rebuilt and in much better style than before. The Chicago fire is quite a recent calamity, yet the rebuilding has been going on so rapidly and effectually that in the business portions of that city only a few vestiges of the burned portion remain. Indeed one might search through the city and find whether Chicago had ever been burned at all. Troops of busy mechanics are rebuilding the burned district of Boston, and by the close of the year will have replaced the old buildings which Baltimore the workmen were preparing for reconstruction before the ruins of her burned buildings were cold. These things are highly creditable to the energy and enterprise of our people, and will show as handsomely at Portland, Oregon, as among her elder sisters. Mr. Beecher was present the other day at the New York Editorial Convention, and related an early experience of his when, in the strength of his appointment as editor of the Cincinnati Gazette, he invested in a fine overcoat and a gold watch—the latter of which he had shortly after returned. Recalling to the subject in mind, he added: "I should not be ashamed to wind up my life as I began it, for I think that among the professions there is none that ranks higher than that of journalism. Journalism, as yet, is a pursuit, rather than a profession. It has no definite honors; it has no common law of the subject in civil society, as have the other professions, and it is not shaped and drawn out into any form with acknowledged foundations and approved traditions, and it is a profession, and like all other professions, to save its laws and its precepts, its maxims and its methods, there can scarcely be any doubt. It never will be a profession in this same sense in which law is. It has in it so much of necessity that is voluntary, that cannot be fixed, while the law spreads itself around about the different forms of civil society, as a machinery fixed and bounded for its which professional journalism never can have."

Such was Israel Putnam, and he was not chosen, as some would have had him, to represent his hero as he may have looked on that day, when, hearing news from Lexington as the war was being fought in the field with his son, he quickly unyoked his team, left his plow in the furrow, and sending his boy to the house with the message that he was gone, mounted his horse in his working dress and rode away with speed to the camp—it was perhaps because he wished to avoid for his hero any suspicion of weakness, and to propose in a more universal way his constant readiness to serve his country.—Scribner's Monthly.

A. T. Stewart's Wealth. The precise amount is beyond his own calculation, and it is probable that he could not get within a million of it. No one tells the millionaires of a piece of real estate until it is sold, and hence an owner cannot easily attach an estimate which shall match the market. He owns two churches in New York, one of which has been transformed into a theatre, and the other is the stable for the horses connected with his establishment, his private stables being up town. He owns the Depeau row in Bleeker street, and some other property in the vicinity, and also a few buildings in Elm street, near his chief warehouse. His Broadway property consists of one church (to which he has referred), two warehouses, and the Metropolitan Hotel. His largest warehouse, which has no equal in the world in space and elegance, and which covers nearly three acres, is built on a very level land, and is the largest in the city. It is situated in the Harbor. This plot would readily bring at auction three millions, and its rent, at the low rates of long lease, is a little over \$100,000 a year. All the properties thus named are worth about six millions, and to these is to be added the Saratoga hotel, the Hempstead hotel, and the farm at Tuckahoe, and the palace in Fifth avenue. The girls and boys who are connected with the theatre, and some other property, are worth a million more, and it is not to be reckoned. Mr. Stewart's stock of goods in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Europe must be estimated at eight millions and his personal estate, such as bank stock and similar securities, may be a million more. If you take round numbers, and place the available estate at twenty millions, you make a liberal estimate of real value, and this is enough for any man.—Troy Times.

There is nothing else in the world which bears the marks of its nativity so unmistakably as wit and humor do. The species of wit and humor might have been delivered by Webster; the poetry of Wordsworth and Southey might have been written by Americans; there is nothing about the German philosophy which is essentially German that it might not have been English; and there are some of the French dramatists who could almost have imitated even Shakespeare himself. But it is not so with wit and humor. Given a jest, and it needs but little discernment to tell whence it came. Sheridan's much-quoted remark concerning Dundas, that he "reverts to his memory for his wit and to his imagination for his facts," could not possibly have been made by any but an Englishman, or even by an Englishman of any other than Sheridan's time. Douglas Jerrold's witicism, "It is better to be witty and not very English, than to be very English and not very witty," was not only very English, but very Jerrold, and few people would need to be told who said it. And so it is with the humor of other peoples. Who would hesitate for a moment to credit Ireland with the man who, vanishing the glories of the past, wanted to know "where you will find a modern building which has lasted as long as the ancient ones?" Especially evident is Sir Richard Steele's nativity, from his celebrated effort to extend hospitality to a friend, to whom he said, "If you should ever come within a mile of my lord's school, I hope you will stop there. And there can be no question that it was an Irish editor who announced that a prominent gentleman of the country had suddenly after a lingering illness, perhaps the most strongly-marked humor, however, is that of our own country. It is of a broad-gauge sort—a kind of high-pressure affair—too much like us to belong to anybody else. Thackeray's joke about the size of our oysters was purely English, of course, and differed in every way from that of his American companion, who remarked that he had seen an oyster so large that it "took three men to swallow it whole." Equally American was the remark of the North Carolinian, who, in speaking of the extreme leanness of his neighbor's horse, said "he had put over on his oysters to enable them to make a shadow in the North." It must have been this North Carolinian's brother who said that his maintenance was "so tall that he never found out when his feet were cold till they had got warm again."

Nobody but an American could have called Shakespeare "a boss poet," as Artemus Ward did. But the most peculiarly American form of humor yet developed is that which has lately become so popular among editorial paragraph-writers in our Western States. It is indescribable, but it is a form of humor that is only going one or two examples: "The kitchen fire, one day last week, which was the cause of the heavy rain kept good many people from attending the funeral." "A Chicago man ate ten dozen eggs on a wagon last week. The money he has been paid to his wife."

"A man out in Kansas said he could drink a quart of Cincinnati whisky, and he did it. The silver mountings on his coffin cost \$13.75."

We cannot fail to discover at once the pervasiveness of anything of this sort. It is too evident to be mis taken for an exotic.

The jests of other nations are equally well marked. Your French bon-mot has an unmistakable slyness which the shoulders alone of it. German wit is elaborate and minutely accurate in all its details. A Scotch joke must of necessity be guile-pointed, else it could never be driven home in the heads of Scotchmen.

Wards New Statue of Putnam. He has chosen for his subject an attitude simple, natural, every-day—but one in which the characteristics of the man are shown as they must be in every spontaneous movement. Putnam was just being summoned, he has grasped his sword which, with the belt and scabbard, is held against his breast in one hand, while the other holds the reins of his chapeau straight down to his side. He is advancing, the head erect, with its slightly shaggy hair falling over his collar, the right foot firmly pressed against the ground, and the left foot on the ball of the foot, but resting only for an instant. There is in the movement of this somewhat heavy man of fifty odd, inclining already to fullness, a man of some energy, and a certain amount of his temperament whose bodies move with a certain joyfulness to follow the quickspringing mind. To have seized such a character as this in full force, by a recent calamity, yet the life infused into this clay comes from life in the sculptor. It is a work of inspired criticism not by symbols, nor by dwelling on the man's popular attributes, but by keeping in perpetual presence the living image of a good and true man, one of Wordsworth's.

Who said without approach of him, "God do it well, and know it not."

There are some jests as we have already remarked, whose very authorship is not known; notably some of those and nearly all of Charles Lamb's. Saxe has closely imitated his master in the matter of puns, but he has never shown himself equal to such a play on words as that which Hood puts into the mouth of the vendor of ear-trumpets, who, in venturing his wares, says: "There was Mrs. F. who was very nervous. She had a head which was so big that she could not get it into her cap. Well, I sold her a horn, and the very next day she had her head in it."

Charles Lamb was never like anybody else, and certainly nobody else was ever like Charles Lamb. It was he, of course (who else could it have been?) who replied to the complaint of his superior in rank, "I have no objection to your desk later in the morning than any other of the writers, by saying, 'Yes; but you see I make it up by going away earlier in the evening.' His good things were always so essentially and wholly his own, that there is no possibility of mistaking their origin. No other man could have thought his thoughts or anything like them. Nobody else would ever have thought of pitying one's fathers, who lived before the times of candlelight, because when they cracked a joke after dark, they had to feel about for a snuff, and handle their neighbors' cheeks to be sure that they understood it."—Hearth and Home.

Official Postage-Stamps. The new postage-stamps of the Post-office Department are pretty things, and postage-stamps go, and pretty mainly because they are plain. A large number of the stamps, instead of a portrait head, denote the denomination, and the great official above the word "stamp" below shows its exclusive purpose. The words "Post-office Dept." above this oval center, and the denomination repeated both in letters and figures, with the initials U. S. below, complete the stamp. It is a pleasant black and white in color, made neutral by finely engraved lines.

This new stamp is exclusively for the Post-office Department, and is only a specimen of a great variety of them, designed of all denominations for all the departments. A great variety of stamps in many denominations have been designed for all the departments, but differing for each.

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