Humorous.

A Fable.

BY M. QUAD.

Once there was a good old man of such meek and lowly disposition that the people made him a judge, and they brought their disputes to him to decide. His decisions were ever just, and the people said:

"Great is Aboud El Bishen; he is never wrong."

One day a stranger came to the office of this good man and said:

"A man owes me a just debt and will not pay."

"Does he give reason?"

"He gives a dozen of them. He says my bill against him is a blasted swindle and a fraud."

"You have asked him for the ducats?"

"I have, and he says he'll knock my head off if I ask him again."

Then the good judge was puzzled. He chewed at the end of a three cent penholder for a long time, and finally asked:

"Did you furnish this man food for his camels or a robe for himself that he is your debtor?"

"Not by a jugful. The bill is for a job of plumbing."

Then the meek and pensive smile which had covered the face of Aboud El Bishen faded away like a boy sliding over a mill dam. and in its place came an expression of malignant evil.

"Then you are a plumber?" he asked in a voice as cruel as a cross-cut saw.

"I doth plumb," answered the man.

The the wise judge chewed up the rest of the penholder, dug his heels into the floor, and in a low, shrill whisper he inquired:

"Did you ever know a plumber to get a job done within fourteen weeks of the promised time?"

"No, sir, I never did!" promptly replied the plumber; "but let me explain. Now suppose you want a small job done at the house—a little sodering, a faucet put in, or something of the kind. You leave your order, and I say day after to-morrow. I send the oldest apprentice to your house, and when he gets there he sits down and takes a look at the job.—Then he stands up and looks at it. Then he walks all over the house and comes back and looks at it. Then he figures on how much the house costs, wonders if there is a mortgage on it, sits down and talks with the hired girl for a couple of hours and comes back and reports. Day after to morrow comes, and I can't send a man up there because they are finishing another job which ought to have been done a month before. Something happens the next, and it's two weeks before I can send a man."

"Or two months," put in the wise old judge.

"Well split the difference, and call it six weeks," replied the plumber. "I send two of the boys up. They walk around the job, go down the cellar and up-stairs, sit down and figure on the cost of the front steps, and go home to dinner.—When they return they take another look at the job, and Thomas comes to the shop after some sodder. He gets it, and then Henry comes after his tobacco box, and then Thomas comes, and wants to know if it's gas pipe or water pipe. They knock off then for the day, and about noon next day get around there and dig a hole in the pipe to put in the faucet. The next day, they get the faucet in, and sometimes during the week that job is nicely finished."

"And you charged $20 for it'" exclaimed the enraged judge.

"Just about that figure, wise judge! but it isn't my fault. The oldest apprentice says he had to take out 150 feet of pipe and the youngest apprentice says he had to put in 200 feet, and between them they mix me up and I have to average it. It isn't us plumbers—it's these apprentices who are to blame."

"But don't you know they are lying to you?"

"I sometimes suspect them; but how it would look for me to say unto Thomas, 'Thomas thou art a liar!' How that boy would feel."

"Don't people ever stop at your shop and call you a liar and a cormorant?"

"They do—some coming almost every day—but they shouldn't do it. When the oldest apprentice says the job is worth $20 and the youngest apprentice agrees with him I have to make out my bill accordingly. I desire, Oh, judge, that my debtors may be forced to pay me my honest due."

Then the meek and pensive Aboud El Bishen bobbed up and down in his chair as if he were on red-hot springs. His face grew black, his eyes became bloodshot, and he yelled out:

"The guard! The guard!"

And when two cross-eyed constables entered in response to the yell he continued:

"Cut off the man's head, and let it be brought around the city on a staff, while the bearer shouts:

"Behold, he has plumbed his last plumb.

And when the judgement was carried out the people threw up their hats and shouted:

"Aboud El Bishen forever! We'd like to see the chap who can plumb it over him!"

And from that day to this no plumber has ever dared to charge half what a job is worth, and all plumbers finish a job at the time agreed upon or perish beside it.

"Letter go!" as the boy said when he ampposted his letter at the street corner.

An hour at the Central Station Court in Detroit.

When his Honor came in Bijah slid up to him and with an awful important look on his face whispered:

"I think I've got Boss Tweed!"

"No!"

"Sure's you live!"

"Bring him out!"

The old janitor entered the corridor and brought out a man whom he had arrested just after daylight. He was a little withered-up-old man, with a cracked voice, and as he came out his Honor leaned against the wall and laughed until the tears rolled down his cheeks.

"B-boss—T-tweed!—haw, haw, haw ooh!" he gasped.

"What are you laughing about?" asked Bijah, in an injured tone of voice.

"Turn that old man out of doors, you doughead you."

"Why?"

"Why? If I were he I'd sue you for $50,000 damages! He's Boss Tweed about as much as you are Queen Victoria!"

"And I'll do it!" squeaked the little old man.

He went out doors threatening to commence suit before breakfast, but Bijah followed him to the corner and was seen to give a jack-knife, a pair of green sleeve-buttons, a new box of paper collars and a nickle, and perhaps no suit will be brought. Bijah skulked into the corridor by the side door and rattled the stove around and kicked things about untill the bell rang, when he brought out a third term man.

"What is your name besides Peter?" asked the court.

"Peter Beadsted," was the sulky reply.

"Is that your name?"

"Yes'r."

"Well, Mr. Bedstead, you were here about a year ago and I put a mattress on you in the shape of a three months' sentence. You returned here six months ago and I gave you a bolster in the shape of one month up there. You are a Bedstead which needs to be repaired pretty often."

"I don't get drunk any oftener than lots of ther folks," growled Peter.

"That may be so, but you get caught oftener."

"I tried to get away," protested Peter, "and I wasn't very drunk."

"Peter what do you do?"

"Drink whiskey, drive team, and lick any man of my weight," was the prompt reply.

"All right, Mr, Bedstead; "you are a whole furniture wagon, according to your own idea, and they need you at the House of Correction. I'll say four months this time."

"Stay and———"

His Honor stopped him by a look, and quietly said:

"Mr. Bedstead, don't make use of any expressions which might result in your going to the hospital instead of the House of Correction!"

And Mr. Bedstead went quiety to the head seat on the saw-horse.

They Didn't Get married.

A few days ago a Detroit widower, who was engaged to a Detroit widow, each having two or three children, and both being well off, determined to test her love for him at the same time discover if she was actuated by mercenary motives, as some of his friends had asserted. He called upon her at the usual evening hour, and after a while remarked:

"My dear, you know I have two children, and to-day I had my life insurance policy for $25,000 changed to their sole benefit in case of my death."

"You did quite right, my darling," she promptly replied. "I have three children, as you are aware. As soon as we were engaged I had every dollar's worth of my property so secured that they alone can have the benefit of it."

He looked.

She looked.

The marriage didn't come off at the time set last week, and it may never occur,

A New Year's Call.

Si and Jake met at the Atlanta cotton express yesterday;

"Si, is you gwine to make some New Year's calls Saturday."

"I dunno; 'spects maybe I will;" said Si, in his drawling way.

"Whar you think 'bout calling at?"

"Well, dat isn't cided 'pon yit, but I'm purty sartin to call on you for dat dollar what you bin owin' me for de las four months! How 'bout dat?"

"Blame my yaller skin ef I don't be leebe ef you wuz on y'r dyin' bed ye'd gib the undertaker a order on me fur dat dollar, I sware I do?" indignantly spoke Jake.

"Yas," said Si, "an I'm thinkin' dat's bout what I'll hab to do wid dat debt yit!"

Then Jake got mad and did't invite Si to call at his house on New Year's Day.

Boy when you slide on the long bannister of the front hall stairs and go so fast that it burns you clean through your trowsers, that's friction.

All the Greenland girls wear pantaloons and overcoats, and the one with the most whale-oil on her hair is called the best looking.

Everybody is calling on Moody and Sankey for help. Why not call on the Lord once in a while instead?

Lo business—cheating the Indians.

A New Year's Diary.

A large number of the young men of Detroit will New Year Day purchase diaries for 1876, and to-morrow they will take up their pencils with a firm determination to keep track of every day in the year. Every young man should keep a diary. When he is old and gray his grandchildren will fish it out of the rag-bag and find it more valuable than gold or silver. There is no set style of jotting down thoughts and events, but perhaps it may be well to give the record of 1875 as taken from the pocket diary of an average young man:

"January 1—Went to see my girl. Shall leave off swearing, drinking, euchre, smoking chewing, being out nights, betting, going to opera, and shall try to save $10,000 this year."

"January 7—Went to see my girl Lost a box of cigars comewhere."

"February 1—Won $25 betting on a dog-fight. That's the way to scoop 'em. Am trying to get along on fifteen cigars per day. Went to see my girl. She says I shouldn't swear."

"April 20—Went to see my girl. Nothing new."

"July 4—This is the glorious Fourth."

"September 1—Went to see my girl."

"November 1—Glorious weather.—Went to see my girl."

"December 1—This is the 1st of December."

"December 25—This is Christmas."

"December 31—This is the last of the year. I must commence to-morrow to save money and break off my bad habits. Went to see my girl last night, and made her happy by telling her that I was going to save $10,000 next year."

Matches maid—the kitchen girl out of lucefers.

What is the form of an escaped parrot? A pollygone.

New Advertisements

☞ Mystey Solved. ☜

The secret of the Wonderful.

THE SUCCESS OF VEGETINE.

It strikes at the root of disease by purifying the blood, restoring the liver and kidneys to healthy action, invigorating the nervous system.

Reliable Evidence.

MR. H. R. STEVENS:—

DEAR SIR—I most cheerfully add my testimony to the great number you have already received in favor of your great and good medicine, Vegetine, for I do not think enough can be said in its praise, for I was troubled over thirty years with that dreadful disease, Catarrh, and had such bad coughing spells that it would seem as though I could never breathe any more, and Vegetine has cured me; and I do feel to thank God all the time there is so good a medicine as Vegetine, and I also think it one of the best medicines for coughs and weak sinking feelings at the stomach, and advise everybody to take the Vegetine, for I can assure them that it is one of the best medicines ever was.

MRS L. GORE,
Cor. Magazine and Walnut Sts.,
Cambridge, Mass.

THOUSANDS SPEAK.

VEGETINE is acknowledged and recommended by physicians and apothecaries to be the best purifier and cleanser of the blood yet discovered, and thousands speak in its praise who have been restored to health.

Report from a practical chemist and apothecary.

BOSTON, Jan. 1, 1874.

DEAR SIR—This is to certify that I have sold at retail 15¼ dozen (1882 bottles) of your Vegetine since April 12, 1870, and can truly say that it has given the best satisfaction of any remedy for the complaints for which it is recommended that I ever sold. Scarcely a day passes without some of my customers testifying to its merits on themselves or their friends. I am perfectly cognizant of several cases of Scrofula Tumors being cured by Vegetine alone in this vicinity.

Very respectfully yours,
AI GILMAN,
468 Broadway.

To H. R. STEVENS, ESQ.

VEGETINE

WILL CLEANSE SCROFULA FROM THE SYSTEM,

HONEST OPINION.

MR. H. R. STEVENS:—

DEAR SIR—This is to show that my son was taken sick in January, 1864, with Scrofula, which came out in large sores and ulcers on his leg and hip. His leg was swelled more than twice its natural size. He had several doctors of high standing in their profession—two from Boston and three from Charlestown—without getting a bit better. He was obliged to lie wherever he was placed, for he had no use of his limbs whatever.—In fact he had given up all hopes of his living we were induced to try VEGETINE, the great blood purifier; and we had taken it but a short time before we could see a great change. The sores run so bad that we had to change the clothes four or five times a day. Still he was getting better; for he could move his limbs and help himself a little. He was soon able to sit up in bed, and by constant use of Vegetine, it has cured him. He has a lame leg, which he will probably have for life; but we all honestly believe, if we had used VEGETINE before we had bothered with those doctors, it would have saved the use of his leg, and restored it to natural health. I hope all those troubled with Scrofula will read this testimony of me and my son, who is now well and able to speak for himself.

CATHERINE MAHONEY.
JOHN MAHONEY,
19 Trenton St., Charlestown, Mass.

May 10, 1872.

The above plain but honest statement conclusively shows the quick and thorough cleansing effects of the VEGETINE in Scrofula.

VEGETINE is acknowledged by all classes of people to be the best and most reliable blood purifier in the world.

Nov. 24 1875.—4T.

Sold by all Druggists Everywhere.

OMNIBUS LINE.

The undersigned has an omnibus line running to every train on the D. L. & W., and Erie Railways at

Great Bend, Pa.

Any order for

Shipping or Re-Shipping Baggage

at either depot will be promptly attended to.

The new river bridge is now completed, hence there is no Ferrying.

CARRIAGES

always on hand to convey passengers to any point in the surrounding country.

U. BUCHANAN, Prop'r.

Great Bend, Aug. 19, 1874.—tf.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

LENHEIM'S TEMPORARY,

Great Bend, Pa.

GEORGE L. LENHEIM

Has just returned from New York with a large and complete assortment of

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS & SHOES

Hats and Caps, Notions, &c., &c.,

Filling his large "temporary" on the National Hotel grounds. We shall remain here until our new

BRICK STORE IS COMPLETE ON THE OLD GROUND.

Our stock is new and bought with care. We will, as heretofore, offer the largest assortment and best bargains in the county.

☞ Butter and Produce shipped. Highest price and prompt returns guaranteed. Money advanced when desired.

GEO. L. LENHEIM.

Great Bend, July 7th, 1875.

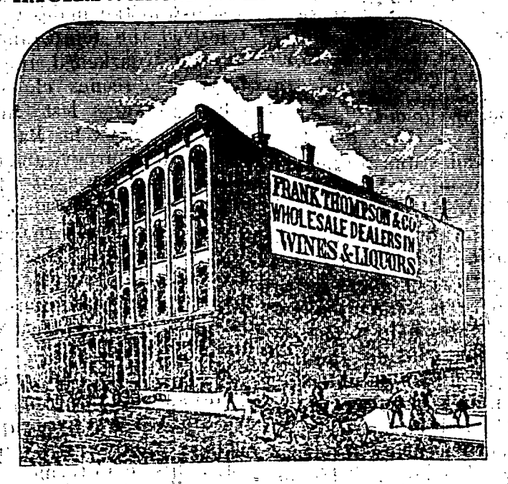
FRANK THOMPSON & CO.,

(BRANCH HOUSE OF JOHN MONROE & CO., PHILADELPHIA,)

Wholesale Liquor Dealers,

NO. 18 LACKAWANNA AVENUE, SCRANTON, PA.

RYE, WHEAT, BOURBON, AND MALT WHISKIES.



Pure Old Rye and Bourbon Whiskey, $4.00 per gal., $12.00 per doz., in Cases.

All kinds and grades of DOMESTIC & IMPORTED WINES & LIQUORS, as low as any house in the State.

November 10th, 1875.—3m

A. S. MINER, BINGHAMTON, N. Y.,

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

EVERY STYLE OF FLINT AND COMMON CHIMNEYS.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS IN

Bronze Lamps, Opal Lamps, All Glass Lamps, Hand Lamps, Burners, Wicks, Shades, Shade Holders, &c., &c.

ALSO, MANUFACTURER OF

TIN AND JAPANNED WARE.

Prices Guaranteed as Low as any House in Southern New York.

Address by Mail Promptly Attended To. March 31, 1875. A. S. MINER.

BEST JOB PRINTING AT THE LOWEST RATES

We are continually adding new material to our office, and with our

Large Stock of JOB TYPE and FOUR Printing Presses, we Defy Comepetion

Both in Price and Quality, either in Plain Black or Colored Work. HAWLEY & CRUSER.

NAILS,

TINWARE,

HARDWARE

BOYD CORWIN

Corner of Main and Turnpike Sts.

MONTROSE, PA.,

DEALERS IN:

STOVES

TIN AND SHEET-IRON WARE,

Builders' Hardware,

CUTLERY, ETC.,

Nails, by the Keg.

Thanks to our Friends for Past Favors.

We would be more thankful to one and all who know they have unsettled accounts with us, if they would call and settle by the middle of March next.

Feb. 4, 1874.

FARMERS TAKE NOTICE!

Best market price, paid in cash, for

CORN, RYE, AND OATS,

at the Montrose Steam Mill.

D. A. MOON, Superintendent.

Montrose, July 14, 1875.—tf.

ADVERTISING: CHEAP: Good: Systematic.—A persons who contemplate making contracts with newspapers for the insertion of advertisements, should send 25 cents to Geo. P. Rowell & Co., 41 park Row New York, for their PAMPHLET-BOOK (ninety-seventh edition,) containing lists of over 2000 newspapers and estimates, showing the cost. Advertisements taken for leading papers in many States at a tremendous reduction from publishers' rates. Get the Book. 2-yl

Go to Cheap John's for Canton Flannels.

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At W. W. Smith & Son's

Extensive Furniture Warerooms you will find the largest stock of

FIRST CLASS AND COMMON

FURNITURE

To be found in this section of the country, of his own manufacture, and at prices that cannot fail to give satisfaction. They make the very best

EXTENSION TABLES

In the Country, and WARRANT them.

Upholstery Work

Of all kinds done in the neatest manner.

SPRING BEDS

OF VARIOUS KINDS.

PURE NO. 1 MATRASSES,
AND COMMON MATRASSES

UNDERTAKING

The subscriber will hereafter make the undertaking a specialty in his business. Having just completed a NEW and the most elegant HEARSE in the State, all needing his services will be attended to promptly and at satisfactory charges.

WM. W. SMITH & SON.

Montrose, Pa., Jan. 31 1873.—no5—tf.

Best calicoes 8 cents per yard at Cheap John's.

Undertaking.

The undersigned will make Undertaking a Speciality in their business.

All needing their services will be promptly attended to. Satisfaction guaranteed.

P. MATTHEWS.

Friendsville, Pa., April 7, 1875. 14-tf

We have reduced our 37 cent and 50 cent fine Dress Goods to 25 cents, at Cheap John's.