

CURRENT DRIFT.

Sitting down on a hornet's nest is stimulating but not nourishing.

A tender-hearted man would always turn aside rather than step on a wasp when he was barefooted.

There is only one way to make a boy keep quiet, and that is to set him to work yelling to scare-crows.

Almost any man can send a boy on an errand, but only the wealthy have leisure to spare to wait for him to get back.

A Sunday school boy, upon being asked what made the Tower of Pisa lean, replied: "Because of the famine in the land."

Beecher says "we pray too much." This explains why the average newspaper man's breeches always bag at the knees.

The reputation of a man is like his shadow—gigantic when it precedes, and pigmy in its proportions when it follows him.

An old adage says that "courtesy opens many doors." True, and it's infernal discourtesy doesn't shut them again.—*Boston Post.*

Professor Riley says kerosene is sure death to insects in all stages. It may be in stages, but how about in hotels?—*Lowell Citizen.*

A down town man, who went to church last Sunday, remarked afterward that he preferred the organ to the preacher. He said there seemed to be a stop to the organ.

Gold is judged of its fineness by comparison with a carat, the human heart is measured by the beat, and some heads are suggestive of the gentle cabbage.—*Boston Times.*

When a Chicago woman wants a divorce, she gets witnesses to swear that she has just discovered her husband to be a St. Louis man, and the Court releases her from the disgusting mesalliance at once.—*Boston Post.*

The little town of Elm, in Switzerland, which was almost entirely overwhelmed by a landslide some months ago, is threatened with another catastrophe of the same nature. The devoted town might, with reason, be called Slippery Elm.

Beware of the landlady who merely "keeps boarders for company" or "because the house is too large." If you have no flesh to lose, hunt up some sensible person who makes a business of running a boarding-house, and is not ashamed to say so.—*Philadelphia News.*

A Mrs. Johnston, of Coldwater, Mich., has gone to England, where she proposes to collect three hundred or four hundred servant girls to bring back with her. It is not more servant girls that America wants. What this country really suffers for is somebody who can successfully boss one of them.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Mrs. O'Brien publishes a card, at Rock Island, Ill., to say that Methodism is a failure. She has been brought to that way of thinking by the conduct of the Rev. Mr. Meredith, who converted her, induced her to elope from her husband, and finally deserted her. She has humbly returned to the Roman Catholic church.

An old gentleman, finding a couple of his nieces fencing with broomsticks, said: "Come, come, my dears, that kind of accomplishment will not aid you in getting husbands." "I know it, uncle," responded one of the girls, as she gave a lunge, "but it will help to keep our husbands in order when we get them."

A grandfather, coming to read his paper, found that he had mislaid his spectacles, and thereupon declared: "I have left my glasses somewhere and can't read the paper." A little four-year-old girl, desiring to assist him, answered: "G'an'na go outside and look froo ze window and I will hold ze paper up so zat you can read it."

A young Biddford man proposed for the hand of a beautiful girl lately. As she hesitated about replying, he said: "I await your answer with bated breath." The girl, who is a good deal of a humorist, said: "Well, Mr. Man, you will have to bait your breath with something besides high wines and Limburger cheese to catch your humble servant. Good-evening."

A girl at Anderson, Ky., desired a new hat trimmed profusely with bright-colored feathers, according to the ruling fashion, but had no money to buy them. A brilliant-hued rooster came her way, and she killed him, plucked his feathers, and adorned the hat exactly to her liking. But the owner of the fowl had her arrested, and she wore the hat in court, instead of church, as she had intended.

A Board of Directors of a railway are in session. The means of obviating the frequent accidents on the road being under discussion, and a very expensive system of signals having been proposed, "Let us see about this," says one of the Board, "What are the average damages for every one killed?" He is told, and he at once falls to calculating with pencil and paper. In a few minutes he emerges with an air of decision. "Gentlemen," he remarks, "there is nothing further to be said about it. I find that your signal system for the prevention of accidents would cost the company much more than the accidents themselves. The question is settled."—*French Paper.*

MUSTACHED GIRLS.—"Yes," said a St. Louis professor, when asked about the frequency of such cases, "there are a considerable number of ladies afflicted with beards. The trouble usually occurs in women who are of dark complexion, and more frequently in middle age than in youth. When you see a dark woman with large, bushy eyebrows, which nearly grow together, you may be pretty sure that she can grow an imperial if she will only take the necessary pains. Hirsute adornments are not so frequent in young women, although they sometimes occur. A girl often has a heavy growth of down upon the upper lip or chin. It annoys her, and she is feeling it and pulling it continually. Perhaps she endeavors to clip it with a scissors, or, in some cases, to shave it. The result is a heavier growth next time, which becomes so prominent that it must be removed. The most frequent place where the hair makes its appearance is on the upper lip or chin, although it sometimes appears on the side of the face, and even on the throat. In the course of my practice I have seen more than one woman who could raise a heavy beard if she only wished to cultivate it."

Further said: "If a man is not handsome at twenty, strong at thirty, learned at forty and rich at fifty, he will never be handsome, strong, learned or rich in this world." Statistics, observes Dr. Beard, supply this prophecy with a most remarkable fulfillment.

METRICAL MELANGE.

A PACK OF LEYES.

A modest drooping of the eyes,
A timid flutter of surprieses,
A half a score or more of seyes;
Some tender words not ever weyes
Call forth appropriate repleyes,
While countless kisses emphasyes.

Then to a dollar store he heyes;
A ring that looks like gold he beyes;
Back to his charmer he quickly feyes,
Upon her digits puts the preyes,
With rapture he cannot disgeyes,
And—thinks he's happy, we surmeyes.

—*Elevated Railway Journal.*

OBSERVANT "BRUDDER GARDNER."

"De big sunflower may rise above
De modest 'tater vine,
And brag about his Sunday clothes
And put on airs so fine;
But when de Winter howls around,
And de snow lies at de doah,
De big sunflower, oh! where am he?
De 'tater has de floah."

A LOVER'S PHILOSOPHY.

The night was beginning to lower;
My heart was o'erladen with woe;
I climbed the steep steps of a tower,
And gazed on the city below.

False girl! I would leap thro' the distance,
Down, down to the cruel stones whirl,
But a man only hath one existence,
And the wide world hath many a girl.

PROPHETIC HISTORY.

When President Arthur ruled this land,
He was a goodly chief;
He put in jail the star route band,
And hung each treasury thief.

—*Litchfield Monitor.*

A CORN DODGER.

There was a young girl from Bordeaux,
With corns on her little pink teaux;
They gave her such pain
The tears ran like rain
Down the bridge of her elegant neaux.

Her lover—a youth from Cologne—
Fled wildly and left her alone,
When he found that her feet
With corns were replete;
With never a word he had flogne.

They sent for a doctor from Lynn,
As shining and neat as a pynn;
He looked at her teaux,
The source of her weaux,
And indulged in a gratified gynn.

He prescribed for this maid from Bordeaux,
And cured all her little pink teaux;
And now it is said
They two will be waid,
And from sorrow and grief find repose.

THE MAD, MAD MUSE.

Out on the margin of moonshine land—
Tickle me, love, in these lonesome ribs—
Out where the whing-whang loves to stand,
Writing his name with his tail on the sand,
And swiping it out with his oogerish hand—
Tickle me, love, in these lonesome ribs.

Is it the gibber of gungs and kooks?
Tickle me, love, in these lonesome ribs—
Or what is the sound that the whing-whang seeks,
Crouching low by the winding creeks,
And holding his breath for weeks and weeks?
Tickle me, love, in these lonesome ribs.

Anoint him the wealthiest of wealthy things!
Tickle me, love, in these lonesome ribs—
'Tis a fair whing-whang with phosphor rings,
And bridal jewels of fangs and stings,
And she sits, and as sadly and softly sings,
As the mildewed whirr of her own dead wings—
Tickle me, dear;

Tickle me here:
Tickle me, love, in my lonesome ribs!
—*Bob Burdette, after Swinburne.*

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