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### TOOTH-PICK PAPERS.

BY BOSWELL, JUNIOR.

### First Paper-Concerning Juries.

Mr. Timothy Toothpick is a fussy little man. He is one, moreover, who reads widely, thinks variously, and is not afraid to speak his mind. In fact, some of his friends, more especially the members of the Bland family, say that he is altogether too careless about the way he "shoots his mouth off." He just "lets fly" whenever he is in the spirit, no matter who hears.

His peculiar characteristic is his extreme dislike for what he testily denounces as "Humbugs." Whenever any popular watchcry or fashion becomes odious in his sight he sends the darts of his criticism flying after it, and if the "balloon" is pierced he is filled with a kind of malicious satisfaction as the gas escapes and it drags the earth.

Many of the sayings of this "peculiar genfue" are entirely too "strong" to be published to the world at large, but some of them are too true to be lost. So I will just take advantage of my position at table in the boarding house of the Bland family, and take a few notes quietly, being careful not to publish to the world at large any thing that is likely to produce an explosion.

Mr. Timothy Toothpick does not talk on all questions, but when he does speak he is the autocrat of the table. He delivers himself with such pointed and nervous earnest ness that every one preserves a respectful silence till he is done.

On the occasion of which I am speaking now, the elder Mr. Bland had made some harmless remark about the verdict of a jury in a certain case. Mr. Timothy Toothpick was on fire at once.

"I tell you, sir," said he, "the jury system is a humbug. Of all the miserable shams we ever inherited from old England, this jury notion is the worst. Why, sir, it is safer on general principles to submit any case to the decision of one fool than it is to submit it to twelve. 'Too many cooks spoil the broth,' and 'one poor general is better than two good ones.' If I had a case in court I had rather toss coppers for which should have it than submit it to a jury. Do you know how a jury is impanneled? Whenever a case is called, the sharp lawyers face the jury box with their clients at their elbows. Then as their names are called candidates for the jurors' thankless responsibilities come forward for examination. Some of them are men with responsibilities anxious to get back to their business, some are loafers from the street corners, some are big greenles from the rural districts. Before they take their seats they are questioned by lawyers and

'Do you know anything about this case Mr. True ?

. I have heard of it.'

' Have you formed or expressed an opin-

"So far as I understand the case, I have. Mr. True can stand aside; next. "Mr. Snipes, what do you know of this

"Never heard of it."

"Do you not know of the accounts of it published in the papers?"

"No, I don't read no papers."

"Accept Mr. Snipes."

And so the farce goes on till the twelve jurors are chosen and sworn to render a verdict "secording to law and evidence." The men who have opinions of their own, who read the papers, and give good evidence of strength of character, are rejected; while the jury is made up of noodlesoups that the lawyers think they can manage. Then the witnesses are called, and the seesaw performance of taking evidence goes on for hours. Then the lawyers plead several hours more, and the judge gives the case to the jury and the jury to the bailiff. The twelve unhappy men are locked in a room where there is no furniture but wooden benches. Once to themselves, a miscellaneous and indiscriminate "jaw" begins. Occasionally a ballot is taken; then more "jaw." Sometimes the jury is "hung" for a whole night because ten or eleven contrary men won't come over. At last they 'agree' to a verdict opposed to the one and honest conviction of half the jury, or duagree and are discharged, the county paying the bill. And this contemptible farce is called "administering jus-And blow - hard politicians talk about the 'sacred privileges of American citizenship, the right of trial by jury. And one-harse scientists and quark refermers call this an age of progress. I tell you, sir, the old Tribune system of the Romans was infinitely superior to this jury humbug. So was the Oriental gustom that placed the

Judges at the gate of the city and required The Uniform School book System. him to settle the disputes of the people as they passed in and out.

Why, sir, this 'sacred right' we Americans bave of being tried by 'a jury of our peers,' is a piece of sugar-coated nonsense that even an idiot ought to be ashamed to swallow any longer. A 'peer' is an equal, and to make the principle consistent a rascal onght to be tried by rascals, and a tool by fools. So far as I am concerned, I had rather be tried by one capable and honest Judge than by a whole jury of pudding heads, not one of whom knows the difference between a quowarranto and a non-sequitur. You say it is the office of the jury simply to ascertain the facts, but how in the name of sense can twelve men, chosen in the way I have described, get at the facts in a case, when three or four shystering lawyers, under the protection of the Court, ask all the questions and leave no stone unturned in their efforts to bamboozle both witness and jury?

If the twelve men, with all the witnesse were turned into a room together, they might in one hour, by straightforward questioning, find the facts. But the usual plan of making a spectacle of the trial, and of paying a shrewd lawyer to do his best for his client, without regard to either truth or justice, is a sham, sir, and a farce, a contemptible parody on what should be the effort of a free people to administer justice.

And the 'Grand Jury' is the rottenest link of all in this old chain of systematic humbuggery. It simply affords every quarrelsome, evil minded, envious person an opportunity to slander his neighbors at the public expense, without giving them a right to defend themselves. Every body knows that 'not a true bill' is written on more than half the mean accusations that enter the grand jury room, and that verdicts of 'not guilty'

squeich half the indictments that are found. The ex parte examinations of the grand inry in our Court system would have disgraced the age of the Star-Chamber and the Inquisition. And altogether, sir. I do not wonder that the new Court house on Wilson Avenue is surmounted by an ill-shaped wooden female with a bandage over her eyes and an edgeless sword in her left hand. That disgraceful parody on all the carved and graven images of beathendom is a fit emblem of our modern style of 'justice.'"

"That man has some queer notions," said the elder Mr. Bland, as Mr. Timothy Toothpick closed the door with a nervous jerk and disappeared.

# Book Notice.

"A Journal of Army Life" is the title of a book written by Dr. R. Glisan, of Portland, and have been fully satisfied until last evenwho was connected for many years with the army as a surgeon, and kept an interesting journal of his experiences of army life. This journal is published in a large and handsome volume and recites many interesting adventures, giving not only an idea of life in camp and garrison, and in various portions of the far west, among tribes of hostile Indians, but abounding in "moving accidents by flood and field," always interesting and sometimes thrilling with excitement. Dr. Glisan's experience covers the time when Indian war raged in Southern Oregon and is therefore of more than ordinary interest to the people of Oregon. We can commend it to all those-and they are the rule rather than the exception-who are interested in field sports and wild life in the far west. Dr. Glisan has been for many years established in the successful practice of medicine at Portland, and relieves the monotony of his professional labors by compiling and giving to the world this journal of the events in which he took part in years gone by.

# The Shoshone.

The steamer Shoshone last evening when about opposite Marion streets ran into a snag and sank. She lays this morning near the Polk county shore in an easy position. It was found upon examination that her hull was pierced in several places, she settling on a "boquet" of spage. It is thought that she can be easily raised if the river does not rise too fast the next twenty four hours. This line seems to have all the bad luck so far this season, this being the third boat that has been sunk since the busy season

ACCIDENT .- This morning a little child of Rehard Kays living on Front street, fell upon a piece of giass, receiving a severe cut on the forehead. The wound bled profusely but the cut was a clean one and with the excepti+n of an ugly scar, the little fellow will soon recover from his mist ap,

MR EDITOR: It is to be deeply regretted that, in many of the districts visited by me, the series of text books adopted by the State. has not, as yet, been introduced into the schools as provided by law. There was, on plication of the law of natural selection bethe part of some, a besitancy in regard to fore the time of Adam. How avoid the contaking action in this matter before the last clusion that four of the races of men were Legislature convened, in consequence of an destitute of souls? expectation that the law regulating school books would be materially changed. But, as that body failed to change the law in any respect whatever, it only remains for the several districts to introduce the books, in order that they may obtain their share of the apportionment of school money which will be made next March.

By reference to the school law, it will be question. It is the specified duty of the di- Cushite too. rectors of their respective districts to see that this series is introduced and used; and districts failing to do so can no more draw their have a school-quarter taught during the

While the law makes it obligatory to use the books, there are several other good reasons why they should be speedily introduced. As it is now, a part of the patrons, of those districts that have not introduced the new series, have purchased the new books, while others still use the old books, thereby causing a variety to be used, consequently the teachers cannot attain that system and consistency that they could do by uniformity. Uniformity of text-books is an important step in the establishment of a real system of public schools for the State. Under the old plan of allowing each teacher were frequent and expensive changes, and ture precisely alike. families moving from one district to another were put to the expense of buying a new set of books. All these difficulties are fully met, and these unnecessary expenses avoided by State uniformity.

Granting that there are objections to this ries, the objections cannot take precedence over the law; therefore, in accordance with the binding oath of my office, I must urge that the text books adopted by the State be introduced and used before any apportionment of school money can be made in those districts failing to comply with the requirements of the left. ments of the law.

H. P. CROOKE, School Sup't Marion County.

listeners to Prof. Condon's excellent lectures ing, with the statements made. In his lecture on the "Antiquity of man" Prof. Condon adopted the theory that Natural Selection had operated as a cause to produce the different races of men before the time of Adam, who was the first man to be endowed with spiritual life. If this be true, are not four of races are possessed of this spiritual life, did each race have an Adam ?

These are questions we would respectfully ask Prof. Condon to notice briefly at an early day. He also asserts after the Flood, and at the "general dispersion of mankind repesented in the Bible as taking place on the plains Shinar, the different parts of the earth became peopled.

If man by an endowment of spirit was raised above Natural Selection, how then could these different races of men have sprung from Nosh? If Prof. Condon would notice these points before finishing the course of lectures, he would confer a favor upon not a few AUDITORS.

# A Card.

A Card.

Mr. Editor: Some days ago David Newsom furnished the Statesman a statement that I used force and put him out of my house (the Bennett House, Salem) and used abusive and blasphemous language towards him, I being under the influence of liquor at the time. I am a Good Templar, and use no liquor. My language towards Newsom was emphatic enough I hope, to be understood, but not improper. The facts are simply that Newsom owes me still a balance on board, which I cannot collect unless I take his truck at his own price and as I didn't want any x-ore such custom I told him so plaidly, and he answered that he would "advertise" me, so I rather indignantly took his things and put them out doors. As he was an old man I would not harm nim under any circumstances and no violence was shown him by me. My canes of complaint against him are various and can be set forth fully if necessary.

Mr. Editor Discovery.—We learn from Mr. M. Ramsby, who lives on Upper Molalia prarie, four charter members; Bear Valley Grange, therety four charter members; Bear Valley Grange, the play four charter members; Bour charter member

### Prot. Condon's Answer.

In your issue of yesterday, my answer is asked to these questions:

On the supposition that the differences of races we now find were produced by the ap-

Answer .- In my lecture on Monday evening, I took pleasure in pointing out evidences drawn from the Bible, that God had, in the world, in the days of Abraham, other lines of religious culture than that of the Hebrew patriarch. Melchisedeck of the Cushite-Pheonician stock, Pharaoh of the Cushite-Egyptian stock giving proof of this in pure religious character, while a fine simplicity of seen that the County School Superintendent religious thought is shown in the few anhas no choice or opinion in regard to this cient scraps Chaldean literature preserved,

The inference was drawn that, still other lines of religious culture existed whose records were never kept; and doubtless emshare of the public fund than if they fail to bracing all races of men at some period of their history. It was stated, or intended to be, that a record of only one of these lines of religious culture came down to us, that of

practically to select his own text books there, of supposing all these lines of religious cul-

ceeded the gift of spiritual life is inconsistent with a belief that those differences originated after the flood-If you grant no change in our present chronology then with Mr. Wallace we must look for the time of change of face, feature and color back of Adam's day-If we admit as I claim we must, allonger chronology than the received one, than these differences of race may be believed to have occurred after the days of Noah.

Respectfully,

in Mr. H. P. Crooke's office yesterday the when she was shot, and fell back dead clasp-Mr. EDITOR: We have been attentive model of a school deak and settee, which ing it. combines strength, elegance and comfort. The frame is made of cast iron, and the desk and seat of the best hardwood lumber. When not in use it can be closed so compactly that ample room is left for ingress and egress, and sweeping becomes a matter of as much same as in a perfectly open room. Over 100,000 of these desks have been sold during the past three years. Our school the races, men, destitute of souls? If all directors in putting new desks and seats in our public school houses, should examine this model

> WEATHER RECORD.-Mr. Thomas Pearce, of Eols, furnishes a weather record for November from which we compile the following: There were 10 clear days, 6 cloudy and 14 reiny. The rainfall was 6.03 inches, One half of the month the prevailing winds were from the south, the other half from the north. The mean temperature was 44° 96'; the highest being 50° on the 24th, and the lowest 33° on the 18th. During November, 1873, there were 7 rainy days, 4.45 inches rainfail, 9 clear and 14 cloudy daps. The mean temperature

complaint against him are various and can be set forth fully if necessary.

JAMES BUCHANAN.

### TELEGRAPHIC. EASTERN.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—A Tribune special says: No doubt both the President and Secretary Bristow in their communications to Congress Bristow in their communications to Congress will take a very decided position in reference to specie payments. While no one is permitted to speak with authority, it seems certain they will recommed Congress to fix by legislation an early day for coin resumption. That day will be January 1, 1876.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The Secretary of the Tressurer has ordered that the Appraiser's building, San Francisco, be built of stone.

stone.

Governor Garland, of Arkansas, in reply to a telegram from his counsel here, says: I am not concentrating troops to defy the country or Congress, nor for any other purpose. I am not concentrating troops at all there being peace and quiet throughout the State.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 .- This afternoon Al-

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—This afternoon Alderman Vance took the oath of office as Mavor, and a quarter of an hour later the body of Mayor Havemeyer was removed to his late residence.

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—A call for a mass meeting of Tongshoremen last night filled the great halt of Cooper Institute to overflowing. Among the audience were Geo. Francis Train and a number of Internationalist, Communists and other recognized agitators, a couple of whom sought to sir their extreme views, and were received with but little favor.

the Hebrew.

From this line of thought, it is not clear to me, how it must follow that any of the races were left without souls—nothing like this certainly was intended.

2d Question.—If all races are possessed of this spiritual life (rather a capacity for it) did each race have an Adam?

Answer.—How God began and sustained religious life among the races is not recorded; That they had the light for a time seems intimated in Romans 1, 21. The resources of God are so wide that there seems no necesity of supposing all these lines of religious culture precisely slike.

3d Question.—Of course the supposition of Mr. Wallace that the differences of races preceded the gift of spiritual life is inconsistent. ed. The robbers after receiving wounds,

were captured.

A collision of the accommodation trains on the Northern Central Railroad this after-

on the Northern Central Railroad this afternoon, on Iron Bridge, Lake Roland, precipitated the tenders and baggage cars into the
water. One passenger was killed and four
employers injured.

William O'Key, cousin to the author of the
"Star Spangled Banner," committed suicide
at the Kennard House last night,
TERRE HAUTE, Nov. 39—At Cloverdale,
Putman county, Indiana, yesterday, Thomas
Martin became offended at something said
by his wife. He shot her with a pistol, killing her at once. Adam Stanton interferred
to save the woman, when he shot him also in the shoulder. He is expected to die. The vile of Martin had

# FOREIGN.

BERLIN, Nov. 30 .- Herr Sigel, editor of the Vaterland, has been septenced to ten months imprisonment for asserting that Kullmann's attempt on the life of Bismarck was a sham plot planned by the police.

MADRID, Nov. 30.- It is officially announ-

ced that General Leballo, Marquis Vallado and other prominent persons have abandoned the cause of Don Carlos.

# PACIFIC COAST.

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—A rumor is current on the street that Milton S. Latham will soon retire from the position of Manager of the London and San Francisco Bank in this

Captain Quinn, of the British ship British Captain Quinn, of the British ship British King proposes to dock his ship and have her bottom cleaned, as he intends to accept the challenge for an ocean race with the Three Brothers. A club of five English gentlemen have agreed to put up \$5,000—the amount proposed by Commodors Allen—that the Three Brothers could beat the British King. San Diego, Dec. 1.—The Lecturer of the California State Grange, D. W. M. Wright, has organized six Granges in San Diego county, from November 24th to the 30th, as follows: National Ranch Grange, twenty-four charter members; Bornardo Grange, thirty charter members; Bornardo Grange, twenty-four charter members; Bernardo Grange, twenty-four charter members and the charter members and

J G. Wright has just received a large lot. of cheal wagen, for youngalors.