

BRAINS VS. BOOBIES.

In every garden the sweetest trees are the most frequented by voracious birds, the sweetest apples are invariably most pecked at. In society, too, there are always on hand a number of not only voracious, but very malicious harpies. These not only find it a pleasure, but believe it a duty to be ever pecking at their more talented neighbors. Lying and fault-finding seem to be the chief province of these persons.

This granted, it may be asked if it be a good thing to be gifted in any one direction. One would think not, judging from the manner in which many talented persons are dealt with. In point of fact, the usage to which these are sometimes subjected is of such a character that they may readily be excused if they occasionally desire to be thought stupid.

Their less brilliant neighbors are continually trying to pick holes in their coats, with the view of showing the world that they are not deserving of such praise as the world seems disposed to award them.

Critics who will graciously permit persons of a commonplace character to escape the lash of censure, pounce upon a man who is popularly supposed to be above the average in point of intellectual attainments, and flagellate him to the extent of their power. At one time they endeavor to prove that he is a rank impostor; at another time they hint that he is a dangerous character who is doing more harm than good in the world, and, in exceptional cases, whenever he outrages their selfish prejudices, they go so far as to cast a doubt upon his sanity.

The individual who has made a fortune by grinding the life out of any one of his employees and getting the better of those who have had business transactions with him, will inform you, with unctuous self-satisfaction, that certain people are lacking in that most important of all things—namely, common sense.

The person who never reads anything but the most unwholesome columns in the daily newspapers will sneer at the productions of the master-minds, and declare that the same are but the merest rubbish. Unless a man have the talent of amassing money—even though he possess ten other talents which are of a higher and purer character—even though he have painted pictures, written books, made scientific investigations, and formulated systems of philosophy, which represents more actual brainwork and integrity of purpose than a hundred fortunes, society deems itself at liberty to make light of him, and to sneer at him if he feel disposed to do so. When it does condescend to recognize his claims, it often does so in a manner which may well inspire him with the most profound disgust.

In nine cases out of ten people exalt him—when they do so—because they wish to be exalted themselves. They would like to be understood that they are on terms of intimacy with this man of genius, or that they have been graciously pleased to patronize that woman of talent.

No doubt there are some enterprising beings who would keep a recognized man of talent about their premises, just as they keep prize cattle, if the expenditure of money would enable them to do so.

At the same time, nine-tenths of those who sound the praises of their intellectual friends—or, rather, those whom they are pleased to say are their friends—are very careful to point out that the said friends are peculiar and eccentric, and so on, as if "those creatures" could do the work which they are doing if they were continually pausing in their labors to see that they were not outraging any of the laws of conventionality.

But when a man of ability comes to grief—why, what a shaking of heads and a time for rejoicing! Stupid people gloat over the fact that he has not been able to take care of himself better than they have been able to look after themselves. The chances are that they begin to think themselves quite shrewd on the score of his solitary failure in a matter which is, in their eyes, of paramount importance, but to which he has devoted little attention. Cultivated people, in addition to being, as a class, disliked, are generally feared. The ordinary person is not at ease when talking to them, and considers that the less intercourse he has with them the better for his constitution and peace of mind. Often he fancies that the stupendous beings cannot take an interest in matters which most delight ordinary natures. In all this the booby is very foolish. A weak mind is always benefited when brought in contact with a strong one, and it will be found, in many cases, that those who possess the most powerful intellects have the gentlest and, in many respects, the simplest of children.

Of course, there are so-called talented people who will not condescend to consort with those who are assumed to be unblemished mentally than themselves, and make a point of snubbing those who will submit to snubbing from them. These are but haughty tyrants, who in the court of genius crown themselves and usurp the chair intended for their betters.

It will be well for those who are now crushed by the assumption and reputed knowledge of those literary, scientific, and other bullies if they will take heart in believing that the day is coming when only true merit can expect reward.

Yet the spirit that led to the persecution of Galileo and impeded the work of George Stephenson is as active to-day as ever, in spite of the fact that experience tells us the hated theory of the hour becomes the golden rule of to-morrow.

This it happens that Brains frequently fail to reap the reward of their labors, unless they can be said to be rewarded when, after their bodies have crumbled into dust, statues are erected to their memories, and other honors paid them.—Eva Katharine Clapp, in the Current.

A CENT MADE HIM.

The Story of a Tramp's Rise to Affluence.

Into a small crack of the ledge of the toll-window at the South-side end of the Smithfield street bridge are firmly driven two copper cents. They are tarnished and dull, and probably never are noticed by the hundreds who daily pass their pennies over them.

Yet these two cents have a very romantic history, which was rehearsed to a reporter by "Dick" Porter, the genial night collector. "This one," he said, pointing to one whose edge was just visible, "was owed to me for thirteen years. In the spring of 1872 a man named Charles Henderson came to me about 10 o'clock at night, and said he wanted to cross the bridge, but was 'busted.' He declared upon his honor that he would pay me back the cent. That's an old game, and if I've heard that promise once I've heard it a thousand times.

"I never expected to get the cent, and I told him he could go over. He asked me for a piece of paper, and taking out his pencil wrote his name at the end of a note drawn in my favor for one cent, payable at sight. The idea of giving a note for one cent struck me as rather amusing, and instead of throwing it down I put it carefully away and then forgot all about it.

"One night, about a year ago, a well-dressed gentleman came over the bridge and stopped at my window.

"Is there a gentleman here named Richard Brokaw?" he inquired. I told him that was my name.

"Well, I've come to pay a note I owe you," he said. I thought the man must be crazy. I couldn't even remember ever seeing him, much less lending him any money. Observing my puzzled looks he said:

"Do you remember one night thirteen years ago a poor man came to you and asked you to pass him over the bridge because he had no money; then he gave you a note for one cent, signed Charles Henderson? Well, I'm Charles Henderson. I want to pay you that cent with interest. At the regular rate of interest for that time the interest would almost equal the principal, so I'll just give you 2 cents.

"After I left you I beat my way on freight trains to the west, where I went to work as a common laborer on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad. I was soon made section boss, and was gradually promoted until now I hold one of its best offices. If you had not lent me that cent I could not have gone to Pittsburgh, nor worked the freight-cars, nor gone to work on the railroad, nor been what I am now. That cent made me.

"He then gave me a long history of his life, and after leaving his address and telling me to write to him if I ever needed a friend, he left me. He wanted to give me a nice sum of money, but I wouldn't take it. I never have heard from him since, except one day I got a paper which stated that he had been elected mayor of one of the most thriving cities of the west. I'll not part with those two cents for any money, but they'll stay in that window sill as long as I stay here. Here's your change; good night."—Pittsburgh Gazette.

Women and the Newspapers.

An eastern lady visiting the elegant home of the proprietor of an influential newspaper says to her husband:

"Why don't you own a newspaper, dear? Just fancy! To have a newspaper to 'go' for people in and a home like this! After a pause—"And I think I'd rather have the newspaper than the home."

That seems to be all women think a newspaper is for anyway, to pitch into people and print fashion and social news. I wonder how many of them ever read the telegraphic news or the local news. Sometimes, when it is a big murder or a big scandal, they devour it greedily, but if women were the arbiters it would be a very extraordinary paper they would demand. I have known women who read editorials sometimes, but they were generally cranks in some direction. I think there are exceptional cases who read the police reports; but it is astonishing how long a woman can look at a newspaper and not know anything that is in it after she gets through. A thing has to have a connected story in it before she can grasp it. A bare fact slips her, an incident may catch her, but a good strong story in a kind of complete form she remembers every detail of, and when she is told how the woman is dressed the whole thing lives before her, and she never forgets it.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Hereditary Disease.

It is a general belief if either a male or female animal has met with an injury on any part of its body or limbs during the pregnancy of the female, this injury will never be shown by the offspring. But we have lately heard of several instances to the contrary, of injuries being fully transmitted, more particularly, however, from the female; so that they ought to be guarded against in breeding, as well as against disease in the parents. The latter is so generally certain to be developed in the offspring, all sensible persons agree that neither male nor female should ever be permitted to breed when diseased in the slightest degree. There are immense losses annually suffered in rearing young animals born of such parents. Heaves, curb, spavin, sidebone, and ring-bone, are the most ordinary ailments that are shown in horses, while scrofula develops most surely and disastrously in cattle. Parent animals of every kind should be in perfect health and condition at the time of breeding, and the young should be judiciously fed and attended to until full-grown, and then they will be fit for the best of service through an extra length of life. Our farmers would add millions of dollars annually to their incomes, if they would persistently adopt the above suggestion in breeding and rearing their domestic animals.—A. B. Allen, in American Agriculturist.

The East and West.

"The question of the rivalry of the east and west," said a gentleman recently to the Washington correspondent of the *Cleveland Leader*, "grows more important every year. The Atlantic seaboard with New York as its headcenter, becomes more and more antagonistic to the interests of the west, and it is only a question of time when there will be a great party of the east opposed to one of the west and south. The elements for such parties are forming, and it seems to me when they crystallize that the reign of New York will be for the time over, and that the great west will rule. The west has now the major part of the voting population of the United States, and it is in the infancy of its growth, while the east is far advanced."

"Might such a state of affairs lead to the moving of the national capital to the west or center of the country?" "No! Washington city will continue to be the capital of the United States as long as the United States exists, and the long and short of it is that the country near to each other, and there is not the reason for a central capital as in the past. If you will look over the world you will find that the great capitals are seldom in the center of the population over which they govern. London is in a corner of Great Britain, Paris is in the north of France, Peking is in the east of China, Berlin is in the north of the German empire, and St. Petersburg is away off on one side of Russia. Then there is too much money invested in Washington, both by politicians and the people, to ever allow of a change of the capital. The senators and representatives now own private property in Washington running high into the millions, and there will always be large individual interests owned by the men who control such movements. The government buildings of Washington are worth at least \$20,000,000, and the grounds are worth many millions more. Then there are the historical associations of nearly a hundred years of our government. No, I don't think the capital can ever be moved, and I don't think it should be."

Mr. Conkling and the Artist.

During the time of the electoral commission, early in 1877, when Conkling was in the senate and was its most prominent republican figure, an artist of the *London News* was sent here to make sketches of the great event for his paper, and he wished to make Senator Conkling one of his pictures.

Conkling at his residence, and found him engaged in writing. He was received in a dignified way, and told Senator Conkling that he would like to have a photograph of him to send to London, and that if he had no photographs he would make arrangements for him to sit at any time with any Washington photographer. Conkling should select, and that the *London News* would pay the question.

"That is out of the question," replied Conkling. "I have something else to do than to sit for photographs. I am sorry I can't oblige you."

At this the artist turned to go, whereupon Senator Conkling said, "I suppose, sir, you sketch, and if you really want my picture, though I can't give you a photograph, I don't see how I can prevent you from taking a sketch of me." More than this, he was perfectly willing that the artist should take the sketch then and there, and while he was writing away the artist sat down and rapidly moved his pencil over the paper. In the course of ten minutes he had made a sketch of the senator, and the artist asked to see the sketch. It was handed to him, and he was so much pleased with it that he told the artist that he would like to keep it, and if he would allow him to do so he would pay for it. The artist wanted nothing better than this, and he had taken nothing to assume a position he had taken in one of his noted speeches delivered a day or two before. He kept him standing until he had made an excellent sketch, and this sketch he sent off to his paper.—Cleveland Leader.

Don't throw physic to the dog—if it is a good dog.

A man who was caught stealing grain said he was making an extract of corn.

Wisdom am not in knowing such a powerful sight, but in keeping silent on what you don't know.

Common sense will indicate the certain tendency of a neglected cold to the lungs; prevent such a termination by using Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup for that cough. Price 25 cents.

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It is said of two of the most delightfully fragrant flowers that grow upon this continent, the magnolia, and the tea olive living in two or three of the southern states, that their odor has never been simulated in perfume. Experiment after experiment has been made, and when it seemed as if success had been obtained, the next moment, before conditions could be fixed and determined, it was lost again. There is no doubt, however, but that some one will yet find a method of imitating their subtle and exquisite fragrance, which comes and goes so quickly as only to leave an impression of fleeting pleasure. The real skill of the performer lies in simulating such delicate odors. Those which are stronger and coarser are less agreeable, and refined people do not like to employ them. To use perfume skillfully is an art, for good taste forbids that there shall be about the person anything more than a suggestion of some sweet smelling blossom, and the finer and more intangible, while yet perceptible, the more agreeable and artistic it is. The production of some of the most delightful perfumes has been the work of years.—(Toledo Blade).

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What great thing never a man proposed to do in his life, he should think of achieving it by fifty.

No one knows better than those who have used Carter's Little Liver Pills what relief they have given when taken for dyspepsia, dizziness, pain in the side, constipation, disordered stomach, &c. Try them.

Signatures made with a pencil are good in law.

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The New York aqueduct has killed fifty-two persons.

For removing dandruff and curing all scalp diseases, use Hall's Hair Renewer.

Ayer's Agree Cure is acknowledged to be the standard remedy for fever and ague.

Every man is the maker of his own fortune, and must be, in some measure, the trumpet of his fame.

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Constant dropping wears away stones, and by diligence and patience the worm eats in two cables.

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The boys who recently went to Burlington, Iowa, to attend Elliott's Business College, are well pleased and commend the school highly.

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