Wit and Humor.

What bird does the Indian most resemble? The robbin' red-breast.

How is night kept from going too far? By putting on the break of day.

"Can love die?" inquires Mary E. Nealy in a recently published poem. It cannot, though it gets dreadfully adjourned occasionally.

A clergyman who was annoyed by the squeaking shoes of his parishioners remarked that some people "had too much music in their soles."

When I hear a man bragging about what he did last year, and what he is going to do next year, I can tell pretty near what he's doing now.

It is bad enough to have dog days; but it is almost too much for good nature to be afflicted also with cat nights.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

"Tell your mistress that I've torn the curtain," said a lodger to a female domestic. "Very well, sir; mistress will put it down in the bill as extra rent."

A little deaf-mute boy was asked to show his skill in the use of the English language on his slate, and he wrote: "A man ran from a cow. He is a *coward*."

"Don't you find that it hurts your lawn to let your children play on it?" asked a friend of a suburban the other day. "Yes," answered the gentleman addressed, "but it doesn't hurt the children."

Swell—"I want you to make a short coat without tails or seams in the back. Do you know what I mean? German tailor—"Yaas, yaas, I know vat you vant. You vant a straight jacket."

"Yes," said Mr. Lincoln once of a brave officer, "Colonel —— is said to be a man of truth and veracity, but, nevertheless, after the battle of the Wilderness he was found lying—at the point of death."

A member of the New York Legislature, whose courtship had suddenly terminated, was asked by a friend: "Has the affair really come to an end?" "Yes," was the reply, "it's adjourned *sine die*."

"George has had a great many pullbacks in life," said the young wife to her lady fried. And when the friend said: "Yes, I saw him with one yesterday," the young wife didn't know what was meant.

"Is Governor Rice in?" inquired a seedy-looking man of the clerk of the Brunswick, Boston, a few nights ago. "Yes," said the clerk; "yes he is." "Well," said the man, walking out, "I'm glad of it; it's a wet night, and he might catch cold if he was out."

The manufacture of paper from wood has reached the altitude of perfection in Canada. The superintendent of a mill up there says a tree is cut down and shoved into one end of the mill and five minutes later there is a neighbor at the other end to borrow the paper.

A big Yankee from Maine, on paying his bill in a London restaurant, was told that the sum put down didn't include the waiter. "Wai," he roared, "I didn't eat any waiter, did I?" He looked as though he could, though, and there was no further discussion.—*Ex.*

"You see, Judge," said a vagabond who was arraigned as a vagrant, "I'm a victim of misfortunes beyond my control. First, my parents died, leaving me an orphan at the tender age of twenty-nine years, and then my wife departed from this vale of sorrow, and I was left absolutely without any means of support." "Very well," said the judge, "the country will support you—in jail—for thirty days."

Dan Hook (the late Dean of Chichester) was associated with one of the late Bishop Wilberforce's favorite witticisms. "What articles of ladies' attire," the bishop used to ask, "give the name of two of the most eloquent men in the Church?" When the auditory gave up the puzzle, Dr. Wilberforce would say, with great glee, at the astonishment at his own egotism, "Hook and I."

A little fellow ran to his mother the other day and asked, "Ma, can I have some bread and jam?" His mother, wishing to break him of the vicious habit, replied: "When I was your age I couldn't get anything to eat between meals if I wanted it." "Yes," said the boy, after a moment's pause, "but you didn't have a good, nice mamma like me, did you?" That settled it in favor of the young flatterer.

POLITE FICTIONS.—Mrs. Brown—"Dear me, Mrs. Jones, are those tall young ladies really yours? I had no idea you had daughters grown up!"

Mrs. Jones (who is still possessed of considerable personal attractions)—"Oh, yes! I was married at fifteen, you know! And is that young gentleman really your son?" Mrs. Brown (who is also possessed of ditto ditto ditto)—"Yas—a—I was married at twelve!"—*Punch.*

A woman took her little one in her arms to hear a famous preacher. The loud voice from the platform awoke the child and made it cry, and its mother got up and was leaving the hall when the minister stopped her by saying, "My good woman, don't go away; the baby doesn't disturb me."

"It isn't for that, sir, I leave," she replied, with a perfect unconsciousness of sarcasm; "it's you disturb the baby."

An old pioneer, who was something of a fatalist, lived in a region infested by Indians. He always took his gun with him, and once, finding that some of his family had taken it out, he would not go without it. His friends rallied him, saying that there was no danger of the Indians, as he would not die till his time came anyhow. "Yes," said old Leatherstocking; "but suppose I was to meet an Indian, and his time was come, it wouldn't do not to have my gun."

A clergyman, having been inducted into a living in Kent, took occasion during his first sermon to introduce the word "optics." At the conclusion of the service a farmer who was present thanked him for his discourse, but intimated that he had made a mistake in one word, softening down the severity of the criticism by saying, "We all know very well, sir, what you meant. On the clergyman making further inquiries about the word, the farmer replied: "What you call hopsticks, in this part of the country we call hoppoles."

"UNCLE" SOMEBODY'S VISIT TO AN ART GALLERY.—He was walking through an art gallery in the city, when a stranger accosted him with the query:

"Will you tell me, sir, is this a loan collection?"

"Wall," was the reply "I rather guess it is, for I see it is off here all 'lone by itself."

The stranger looked bewildered, while the old man, lifting his eyes from the catalogue, remarked to those around him:

"High art—I should say so! Why, I can't reach some of these pictures with my umbrella!"—*Chicago Journal.*

A Frontier Bulldozer.

When I applied for the position of city editor of the daily *Scalper*, a frontier paper of some pretense, the man at the helm simply asked my name, age and weight, and what I knew about the business, and he employed me.

"The proprietor is not hard to suit," I said to the foreman that evening, as I began business.

"Why do you think so?"

"Because he engaged me at once," I replied.

The foreman laughed.

"That's because he thinks you won't last more than a day or two. They never do."

"Who?"

"The editors—get cleaned out, you know; knocked in the head, shot to pieces—busted. Some of 'em leave the first day, others hang on a week or more, then we carry 'em to the hill you see over there and plant 'em. There's a row of local editors over there half a mile long, and all died with their boots on."

Truly this was not very encouraging, but I did not believe half of it.

"It's a fact though," declared the foreman. "This town ain't like other places, and this is a high pressure newspaper. If you wish to be popular you must pitch into the people like blazes. Those fellows over on the hill were popular."

"And that's why they got killed, I suppose?" I said.

"I reckon so; at any rate they are dead; Joe Hodges killed them."

"Joe Hodges?"

"Yes."

"Who is he, pray?"

"The town bully; the masher of the village; a genuine, double-back-action rough. Better not say anything about Joe, or he'll waltz in here and mash you into a jelly in no time. Very particular is Joe about newspaper notices."

"Then he shall have none in this paper," I said determindly.

"Oh, but that won't do," exclaimed the foreman. "Joe is that sort of a fellow that won't be slighted—nothing he hates so as neglect; and then he is mixed up in every row, so you'll have to mention him. In fact, Joe Hodges is on the fight worse than any man I ever knew."

"Copy!" yelled out one of the compositors.

The forman cleaned the hook and rushed into the composing room.

"I'll fix Joe Hodges," I said to myself, when the man had gone. "The first blow is the best, so here goes."

I seized my pencil and wrote a little notice comparing Joe Hodges with a mule, and saying that, according to all accounts, he was a drunken rascal, unfit for human association.

The notice was put in type at once, and appeared in the paper the next morning along with the other locals, and that afternoon Joe Hodges called.

I was busy writing when he came in, and I looked up when a hurried glance told me who he was.

A short, heavy-set, swarthy, low-browed rascal, with black hair and eyes, and red shirt—that was Joe Hodges.

"Take a seat," I said, and we t on writing.

In a half drunken way he floundered into a chair.

"Joe Hodges."

I dashed it down on a broad piece of blank paper on the table.

"How old are you?"

"Forty-two," with a surprised look.

I dashed that down in the same way.

"Your birth-place?"

"Missouri," with still more surprise.

I put it down, and then reached for a heavy revolver, which I cocked and laid on the table.

"Are you married?" I asked with a quiet look at the astonished man.

"No," he replied staring wildly.

I put the answer down.

"What is your business?"

A blacksmith."

I made a record of the fact, and then looked up to ask another question when I saw that the bully had risen and stood glaring at me, with his hand on the door.

"What in thunder are you writing?" he yelled, his face almost purple.

"An obituary."

"Whose!"

"Yours."

He may have had urgent business down on the street; I do not know; at any rate he suddenly withdrew from my presence and never bothered me any more.—*Selected.*

MODERN RAILROAD TRAVEL.—The *Engineer* gives an account of "the highest authentic instances of high railway speeds" on record. Brunel with the Courier class of locomotive ran 13 miles in ten minutes, equal to 78 miles an hour. Mr. P. Sterling, of the Great Northern, took, two years ago, sixteen carriages 15 miles in thirteen minutes, equal to 75 miles an hour. The "Great Britain," "Lord of the Isles" and "Iron Duke," broad gauge engines on the Great Western Railway, have each run with four or five carriages from Paddington to Didcot in forty-seven and a half minutes, equal to 66 miles an hour. The new Midland coupled express engines, running in the usual course, have been timed 68, 70 and 72 miles an hour. The 10 A. M. express on the Great Northern from Leeds has been timed, and found mile after mile at the rate of a mile in fifty-two seconds, or 69-2 miles an hour. The engines used are Mr. Stirling's outside cylinder bodie express engines, the load being ten carriages. It would be interesting to hear "the slowest authentic instances of slow omnibus speed" on record.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

THE FLYING MACHINE.—The curiosity in the way of invention and mechanism was referred to in our last week's issue, and this week it has been on public exhibition in this city. So far as its merits have been investigated by competent judges, they admit that the new invention practically answers the requirements of the problem. It is not claimed for the machine that it can make headway against opposing currents; but, being able at the will of the operator to ascend above and descend below these hostile currents, there would seem to be no difficulty about its being brought into the favorable one in the hands of a capable navigator. So that the prophesies that have for many years been made in ridicule of this and similar possibilities promise, to appearances, to come to naught. Verily we do live in times that are developing the most remarkable results of every kind.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

Let him who gropes painfully in darkness or uncertain light, and prays vehemently that the dawn may ripen into day, lay this precept well to heart: "Do the duty which liest nearest to thee," which thou knowest to be a duty; thy second duty will already become clearer.—*Thomas Carlyle.*

Old-Time Gentlemen.

Although we cherish a conservative respect for the old-fashioned polished gentleman, we have a lurking suspicion that he was sometimes a rather artificial creature. Polished he certainly was, but with a polish that wore off with a very little rough usage, and which but thinly glossed over an inner man, almost guiltless of refinement. He could be very polite, but he could also be very blasphemous, and if he was occasionally poetical, he was often indecent. We are far from maintaining that some past periods of English history have not been more distinguished for courtesy than our own; but when we hear people talk of the times of George IV. and Beau Brummel as the millennium of British *politeness*, we feel that either their memory or their judgment must be greatly at fault. There are other epochs which might claim, at the least, an equal distinction. In these days it is unfortunately true that, even in the highest society, there is too little courtesy either at home or away from it; but that does not prove the early part of the present century to have been the golden age of English manners. Our own is an age of moderation. We are expected to be moderate in religion, in politics, and in everything else; and we have a noble example of moderation set us by the youth of the present day in the indulgence of courtesy. A very courteous man is now considered a bore in gay and a humbug in grave society. What a miserable thing is civility in comparison with the charms of chaff, and now insincere is he who treats ladies with deferential politeness! Such appears to be the current creed, though there may be a certain number of nonconformists.

In our opinion the best test of the difference between courtesy and humbug will be found in the observation of home life. Humbug may assume the form of courtesy, but it cannot stand the strain of continual use, whereas true courtesy becomes more developed by constant habit, and thrives best in its native soil. People often confuse courtesy with humbug, because they imagine that it necessarily implies personal esteem and respect. Where, therefore, they observe a deferential manner in the absence of a personal esteem and respect, they immediately suspect humbug. In this they are mistaken. A judge may be perfectly courteous to the murderer whom he is sentencing to be hanged, and the head master of a public school may show formal politeness to his pupil in the disciplinary interviews he has with him "after school," but neither functionary would thereby lay himself open to the charge of being a humbug. Then there are persons who are so utterly devoid of any innate courtesy that they are incredulous of its existence in others; and when they meet with it they mistake it for humbug.

It must be admitted, however, that there are occasions when skepticism is quite legitimate. For instance, when we see ostentatious displays of affection and respect on the part of husbands towards their wives, or parents towards their children, in public, we are apt to form our own opinion of their private life, shrewdly suspecting that this profusion of good things is not an everyday affair. We recommend to the clergy "rude papas" as a subject of a course of sermons; "nagging mammas" might form a second series. To treat your children like servants or retrievers, whose highest duty is to fetch and carry, is not the surest means of indoctrinating them with the virtue of courtesy. It may be considered a superannuated idea that husbands and wives ought to treat each other with any semblance of ceremony, but we are old-fashioned enough to fancy that the opposite tendency is carried rather to an excess just at present. It may be a prejudice to think that there can possibly be anything objectionable in smoking cigarettes in ladies' drawing-rooms and boudoirs; but there always will be some people who lag behind their times.

There is surely a sufficiently wide margin between treating a husband as an utter stranger and calling him a beast; but it seems to narrow for some ladies to discover. Among brothers and sisters a little harmless banter is perfectly admissable, and even perhaps desirable; but a family whose members are always snapping at each other in the style at present approved as clever, both in fiction and in reality, can scarcely be upheld as a model of courtesy at home. Both among brothers and sisters and husbands and wives a great deal of talk which begins with chaff ends in rudeness. In society conventional politeness sets certain limits to repartee, but at home there are no such barriers. In private life, when the more refined weapons of conversational dispute fail, the combatants are apt to resort to vulgar personal abuse. Servants could sometimes tell curious stories about the courtesy of their employers at home, or rather their want of it. There are ladies renowned for their charming manners in society who use their maids as safety-valves for the innate rudeness which they contrive to repress and conceal in public. Doubtless they are hurt when, in dressing their heads, their maids drag the hair with the brush; but that is no excuse for pretty mouths permitting ugly words to escape from them. The master may be very fond of his horse, but after speaking to the animal in tones of the gentiest affection, it is scarcely the sign of a corteous gentleman to swear at the groom because his stirrup-leathers are too short.

Courtesy at home, like other virtues, cannot be practiced too constantly, or be too well fortified by undeviating habit. Even when a man is alone, it is not well to throw aside too freely the restraints and observances of social usage. We do not hesitate to say that no one can, when alone, discard all customary forms and ceremonies in dress, meals, or the like, without incurring danger of self-degredation. A man who neglects his toilet when he is going to spend the evening in his own society is decidely wanting in self-respect, and the bachelor who only makes his rooms comfortable and attractive when he expects visitors must be pronounced unworthy of promotion to the more dignified state of life to which all bachelors presumably aspire.—*Quarterly Review.*

ENTERPRISE IN HONEY.—A Chicago honey dealer has constructed a floating bee house large enough to accommodate two thousand hives. This he is towing up the Mississippi River, from Louisiana to Minnesota, keeping pace with the blossoming of the flowers, thus stimulating the honey-making ability of his bees. In his return trip he designs to take advantage of the autumnal flowers at each point, just as he does of spring going up the river. This plan of moving bees to get the benefit of fresh flowers has been tried in some parts of Europe.

No bird is actually on the wing. The wings are on the bird.

Clear the Way

For the escape from the system of its waste and debris, which, if retained, would vitiate the bodily fluids and overthrow health. That important channel of exit, the bowels, may be kept permanently free from obstructions by using the non-griping, gently acting and agreeable cathartic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitter's, which not only liberates impurities, but invigorates the lining of the intestinal canal when weakened by constipation or the unwise use of violent purgatives. The stomach, liver and urinary organs are likewise reinforced and aroused to healthful action by this beneficent tonic and corrective, and every organ, fibre, muscle and nerve experiences a share of its invigorating influence. Unobjectionable in flavor, a most genial and wholesome medicinal stimulent, and owing its efficacy to botanic sources exclusively, it is the remedy best adapted to household use on account of its safety, wide scope and speedy action.

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An invention that we confidently believe is destined to work an entire revolution in the fruit trade of the Pacific States. This dryer is the result of careful research and experiment, and its production is a machine that accomplishes all the most enthusiastic fruit raiser could desire. It not only dries the fruit more cheaply and rapidly than any dryer in use, but it dries and preserves the fruit with all its richness and flavor. It is the only dryer in the world that can produce raisins equal to the sun dried fruit of Europe. This dryer is so constructed that all the fruit is exposed to exactly the same degree of heat; it will use any kind of fuel, and less than any other; is simple in its construction, and can be worked by man woman or child. It may be set up in the orchard or vineyard, as may be required, and needs no building but that furnished with the machine. It is compact and portable, can be taken apart and moved as readily as a load of lumber, from place to place, hereby enabling the fruit grower at a great distance from market to save all the fruit which otherwise might be left to decay and be lost.

It dries the fruit in the most perfect manner, in from 3:20 to 48 hours, viz: Apples in 3:30 hours, grapes in 48 hours, and other fruits in proportion, intervening between those extremes, it will also dry all kinds of fish, grain, vegetables, etc. The price of the dryer is low, from $350.00 to $700.00, according to the capacity, which ranges from 500 to 2,500 pounds to each drying.

For further particulars apply to the Pacific Land and Trust Company, 534 California street, S. F.—*Pacific Land Journal.*

Machine Shop for Sale.

The entire outfit of the well-known Machine Shop, No.'s 114 and 116 Beal street, San Francisco, formerly occupied by David Stodard, and more recently by W. C. Wilcox & Co., is now offered for sale as it stands ready for work, including lease of the buildings for a term of years, or any portion of the machinery can be had at low prices. This shop has in addition to its heavy machinery of the most approved make, an exceptionally full assortment of small tools and patterns for a general business. Any person wishing to buy such a property in fact for work, can be accommodated with low price and easy terms. I have also an assortment of steam pumps of the best class, which are offered for sale at a large discount to close the business. Business office on the premises.

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A Notice of which appeared in our columns a few weeks since will be on exhibition at the Mechanics' Institute Fair, to be held in S. F., in August. It will be over 100 horse power. The two cylinders of which will be 20 feet each in length with a base of 10 inches.

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