

MUSINGS IN POETRY AND PROSE.

By Omerio.

(Copyrighted by Dawe & Taylor.) A law of nature is merely an observed uniformity, and like all other laws is often broken; but being only a uniformity and not a matter of fact and po- litemon, once it is broken it ceases to be a law.

From things that happen a law we make; When they happen not the law must break. It is a law of nature that day should follow night. If two nights came together it would cease to be a law, we should miss our breakfast and get such a shock as when we find the next step is not a step.

It seems to me that one of the laws which is best established and least re- garded by scientists is the easiness of nature—that great principle which gives to good men bad wives, and to noble women wretched husbands—which gives untold wealth to some treasur- able lunatic, and starves the potential benefactor of his kind—which exalts meretricious talent to dignities and leaves true genius to die in a garret— which cuts off the fair promise of youth and leaves sloth and vice to flourish to a green old age.

Alas the world is upside down, And everything goes wrong; Death lets the weak ones linger on, And kills the young and strong. And gives his richest store of wealth To all the very worst, With length of life, joy and health; But lets the good die first. So everything seems all awry, And nothing happens right; The times are out of joint, we cry, And topsy-turvy quite. Then let us all with might and main Anxiously from sloughy beds To get the whole world right again By walking on our heads. This law operates in a thousand ways, It rules when you arrange an excursion, and is fine when you have some some needs. Call on a friend at 3 o'clock, and he will leave home at 2:45. Teach the depot a quarter-of-an-hour before the time for the train to start, and it will be half-an-hour late; get there two seconds after, and it will be punctual to the minute. Be possessed of a fortune and another will come to you; reach your last dollar and it will drop through an impossible grating. Take an umbrella and it will be fine; leave it at home and it will rain. Aim at a target and you will hit another one; try to hit that one and you will kill the marker. Drop a stud and it will defy a detective; hide your diamonds, and forty safes and a stone wall will not baffle the burglar. Be early five days in a week and your employer will be away; be late the sixth day and he will be waiting to receive you. If we wear spring suits it begins to snow.

And the welcome guest is the first to go. The letter we write to beg for a loan, Goss by mistake to our ownest own. Moreover it is this unplying law which blows out the last match, and breaks your boot-lace when you are in haste: Which gives you duplicate weld- ing presents, and your wife an inap- propriate molar-in-law; which turns the jam-side downwards when you drop a tart, and lures you to step in a puddle if you are wearing your new russet shoes: which puts all the stains to a clean table-cloth, and upsets the soup over the fresh summer dress; which makes your bicycle break down twenty miles from everywhere, and gives you a swollen face when you want to pro- pose; which sets you to do the washing when your most stylish friend calls, and enlarges the keyhole which com- mands the sofa where you interview your best girl; which places the object you seek at the bottom of the pile, and moves it to the top when you start from below.

There is no limit to the power of this mighty law and in its workings it seems inexorable. You cannot defeat it by any subterfuge. If it doubts as to whether to walk five miles to visit a friend, whichever you do, you will be wrong. If you go he will be out. If you don't he will be in. Telephone first and think this to yourself, and you will catch the message. Take an umbrella to keep it from raining, and you will leave it in the car. Leave it at home to help your crop, and a friend will bor- row it.

O dreadful law of cause and effect, Spare our best new summer dress, Let no heavy driving shower. Fall at an untimely hour. Save us from the wandering star, Keep our new books free from mud, Hold the dreadful punctual train, Give umbrellas when it rains, Spare the rich from too much gold, Save the poor from famine cold, Give the good wife gentle maid, Leave no true man desolate, O thou most imploring law, Pity, pity, pity! Then, if you are kind to us, We will blame though you may curse. But perhaps after all Nature is "cau- sally only to be kind," and may hide a smiling face behind her bewildering vagaries. There are two sides to every- thing, as the boy said when he found no butter on his bread. You can sell your duplicate presents and get something useful. If you lose a stud, someone will give you another, and then you will find the first and have two, and so forth and so on. Nature is generally right when she isn't wrong. How happy he and free from care, How most supremely blest, Who takes things always as they are And of them makes the best.

A SNAP.

For sale cheap and on easy terms, four choice building lots in McClure's Astoria. For particulars call on Howell & Ward, 519 Bond street.

Advertisement for 'BIG CIGARETTES' with a circular logo and text describing the product's quality and availability.

THE OBJECTION NOT GOOD. There are people who have objections to advertising matter in the columns of a newspaper. The ground of objection is that they do not want to read advertisements. Now this objection is not good, for attentions these advertise- ments convey valuable information. For instance, how else would the trav- eling public learn of the excellent din- ing car service of the Wisconsin Cen- tral lines between St. Paul and Chicago, or the general comfort of traveling over this popular line. For particulars call on the nearest ticket agent or address J. C. Pond, G. P. A., Milwaukee, Wis., or Geo. S. Batty, General Agent, 246 Stark street, Portland, Or.

PATENTS advertisement for C.A. SNOW & CO. offering services for patenting inventions and trademarks.

LEA & PERRINS SAUCE advertisement featuring the signature of Lea & Perrins and a bottle of sauce, with text describing its quality and availability.

MARINE NEWS.

Table with columns for DATE, HIGH WATER, and LOW WATER, listing tide information for various days.

The British bark Java, from Portland, November 1, with 16,890 barrels of flour, shipped by the Portland flouring mills, is a lot longer than any vessel of last season's fleet, says the Ledger. It is 175 days since she left the Columbia river in that time she was spoken but once, on February 21, in 25:03 hour, 37:44 west. Her long voyage has begun to cause the underwriters uneasiness, and, according to the Liverpool Journal of Commerce of April 9, 5 guineas per cent. reinsurance has already been paid. The longest trip made by any of the season's fleet, except the Java, was that of the Clydevale, which was out 155 days.

The ship Oriental, from Departure Bay, docked at Mission street wharf Tuesday says the San Francisco Call, and also brought the story of a fatality. While the vessel was lying at the bun- kers Chief Officer McMurry started to go below to see how the men were trimming the coal. He had been down a short while before, but had gone on deck again to secure a lantern. While away the hatch on the lower deck was removed to give more air and McMur- ray, not knowing it was gone, attempted to step into it and was precipitated into the hold. His injuries were fatal. He was sent to the hospital at Nanaimo, B. C., but died the day the Oriental sailed.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF CHAR. H. FITCHER IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA. Advertisement for Castoria medicine, including a list of ailments it treats and a signature on the wrapper.

MANHOOD RESTORED advertisement for 'CUPIDENE' medicine, featuring a testimonial and a portrait of a man.

Hustler's Astoria

Twentieth St. and McKee Ave. Situated on the south side of Astoria's hills. Twenty degrees warmer and vegetation 30 days in advance of the North side.

ASTORIA INVESTMENT CO. 482 Bond Street. Advertisement for real estate services.

NO-TO-BAG GUARANTEED TOBACCO CURE advertisement for a smoking cessation product.

BLOOD POISON advertisement for a specialty treatment, including a testimonial and a portrait.

PATENTS advertisement for 30 years' experience in patenting inventions.

Beaver Hill and Gilman Coal advertisement for high-quality fuel, with a 'Try It' slogan.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. WHITE COLLAR LINE. STEAMER 'BAILEY GATZERT' Portland-Astoria.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. AMERICA'S SCENIC LINE. GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. Shortest and Quickest line to St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth, Chicago.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. Through Palace and Tourist Sleepers, Dining and Library Observation Cars.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. Daily Trains. Fast Time Service and Scenery Unequaled.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. After a two day's ride. It is refreshing to step into a clean, bright, sweet-smelling train as you do if you go East via Billings and the Burlington route.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. Are You Going East? Be sure and see that your ticket reads via THE NORTH-WESTERN LINE.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. CHICAGO, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS, OMAHA RAILWAYS. This is the GREAT SHORT LINE.

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. And all Points East and South. Their Magnificent Track, Peerless Vestibuled Dining and Sleeping Car Trains and Motto: "ALWAYS ON TIME"

TRANSPORTATION LINES. GO EAST Library Car Route. Astoria and Columbia River Railroad. TIME CARD. Trains leave Seaside for Astoria at 7:30 a. m. daily and 3 p. m. daily, except Sunday.

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