

MIKE'S SIGNS.

How an Intelligent Irishman Posed as a Professor.

The writer heard the following story a few evenings since. To him it was very amusing, as well as a good illustration of the aptness of different minds to misconstrue the same facts in quite opposite directions.

Some time ago a learned Frenchman became very enthusiastic on the subject of a universal language for the human race. After much thought and theorizing on the subject he came to the conclusion that the only language that could be universal at the present day must be a language of signs. Being deeply impressed with the importance of this language to humanity, he determined to travel from country to country and teach it in all their colleges and universities.

As it happened, the first country he reached in his travels was Ireland, and the first institution he went to was the University at Dublin.

He called upon the President of the University, and after some conversation with him asked him if he had a professor of signs in his University. Now there was no professor of signs in the University, but the President, not wishing to be behind the learned Frenchman, told him that they had one.

The President was asked to be introduced to him. The President was taken aback at this, but told him that he could not see the Professor that day, but if he would call the next day at the same hour he would introduce him.

After the Frenchman had gone the President called his professors together and told them, "the fix he was in, and told them that one of them must play the part of professor of signs to it." They all discussed and objected to this, being afraid that they might be caught by the Frenchman.

As none of them were willing to play the part, they at last decided to train Mike the choroman for it. Mike had lost an eye, and was very sensitive about it, thinking that people were constantly noticing it and making allusions to it.

Mike was consulted, and consented to play the part, providing that the Frenchman should not refer to his defect.

The next day the President and professors dressed Mike up in a good suit of clothes, took him to a recitation-room, seated him alone on the platform, and then retired, for the Frenchman was to see him alone. Before they left him they told him what to do, and that he must not speak.

He replied, "Sure I'll not, if he sees nothing 'about' me eye."

At the appointed time the Frenchman called, and was ushered into the "recitation-room of the Professor of Signs." The President and professors waited in an adjoining room anxiously for the result. In a short time the Frenchman came back to them, apparently much pleased.

"How did you like our Professor of Signs?" inquired the President.

"Very much, indeed. I congratulate you on your able Professor. I am more than ever inclined to believe that the language of signs is the universal language of one finger," meaning there is one God, two hands, man at once, and hold up there are three, power, wisdom, and love.

He replied, by doubling up his hand, meaning: "And these three are one. I then withdrew. It is wonderful. I am delighted."

After the Frenchman had gone, the President and professors sent in haste for Mike, for though they were pleased at having gotten out of the dilemma, they were very anxious to hear Mike's account of the interview. Mike came in, very angry. "I told ye he would say something about my eye. The first thing he did was till hould up wan finger, in anin' I had but waneye."

"What did ye do then, Mike?" asked the President.

"Sure I had but two fingers, till let him know I had but two fingers; an' phat does the duty blackguard do but hold up three fingers, in an' we had but three eyes between us. Then I doubled up me fist, and would 'e've the frog atin' varmint a wolt over his eye, but he commis'nt even a bowin' an' a-scrappin', an' wait out iv the room." — *Harper's Magazine.*

Sixty Million Years Hence.

Prof. Richard A. Proctor says the moon is the most interesting of all the heavenly bodies. It has been particularly serviceable in the proof it affords of the law of gravitation. It proves, too, what the world has been in remote ages of the past and what it will be in the remote ages to come. Its most significant services to man has been as a measurement of time. The only perceptible effect which the earth has upon the moon's course is that of attraction, by which its route in space is slightly deviated. From the moon's present condition we may inform ourselves of the course of all planetary life. There is every reason to suppose that our present condition was at one time hers; that she possessed an atmosphere, animal and vegetable life. That has now passed away. Her surface is a sterile, rocky mass. The atmosphere dried up. This same process is going on with our earth, and a similar result will eventually ensue, but by reason of the greater bulk of our planet, effects produced in ten millions of years in the moon will require sixty millions with us.—N. Y. Tribune.

Why Shouldn't He Understand?

It was almost midnight; the hands of the clock were toiling painfully around their circuit; the maiden yawned and incidentally remarked that it was growing late, but the youth kept his seat.

"Miranda," he said at length, "I have made up my mind to ask you if you will be my wife."

"I don't know," she answered, "you seem to lack energy, and energy is an important thing in a young man who undertakes the responsibility of supporting a wife."

"Of course; but why do you think I lack energy?"

"Because there doesn't seem to be much go to you."

"Much go to me?"

"Not much go home, at least."

He understood her.

Bombay husbands cut off their wives' noses for punishment. Thus do we arrive at the knowledge of the important fact that Bombay women talk through their noses.—*Boston Post.*

If the water in your washing is hard or alkaline, use the Standard Soap Co.'s Petroleum Bleaching Soap. Its effect will surprise you.

THEY WEIGH HEAVY.

It Must be the Result of the Glorious Climate of the Pacific Slope.

Near by were a number of ladies with their escorts. They were being weighed, and a short, stout, little man was adjusting the scale.

"Now, Mr. Cheeseman," said the lady who was standing on the platform, "mind you be very exact. I weighed one hundred and twenty-five pounds up in Red Bluff, only two weeks ago, but I've been running round so much since I came down, that I suppose I must have lost it a little."

"I will be as careful as if it was sugar," said little Mr. Cheeseman, with precise dignity: "there's your weight, madam, exactly to an ounce."

"Well, what is it?"

"One hundred and forty-three pounds, five ounces and one-tenth of an ounce."

"Goodness alive!" shrieked the outraged lady; "what do you mean, sir?"

"I mean just that. You can see for yourself," responded Mr. Cheeseman, tartly.

"Yes, Mrs. Rollins," spoke the other ladies, inspecting the figures, "she's quite right—one hundred and forty-three pounds, nearly."

"It's perfectly impossible!" exclaimed Mrs. Rollins, wrathfully, bouncing off the platform, "he did something to the scales. I'm sure he did."

"She's Minnie," said Mr. Cheeseman, briskly, "it's her turn."

Miss Minnie was a neat little creature of about eighteen. She carried on her arms a greater, and her dainty little high-heeled No. 2's were encased in a pair of rubber sandals. She dropped the arms of her escort—a young man with a straw mustache whom they called Charley—and mounted the scales.

Charley weighed me last, over on North Front street. If he had been looking for a girl, he would have been the one selected, for Miss Minnie now looks in such a way that she is a picture of health and grace. But most of it may be attributed to the fact that she is a picture of other men, as foolish as themselves.

She is a sort of everyday girl, religious with an open mind, of small income, and this class includes ninety-nine-hundredths of the men in Detroit. It includes nearly every man who works with his hands; nearly every man engaged in teaching of any kind; nineteen-twentieths of those employed in stores and other mercantile establishments; three-quarters at least of those who are in the professions of calligraphists, engravers, and those of engineers; and the class includes one of the largest dealers in the city.

Mr. Rollins, the well-known house of G. W. Gall & As.

In inquiries of those who are inquiring the beauty of a woman, one of our editors often asks Mr. Hagan at his store, on North Front street. If he had been looking for a girl, he would have been the one selected, for Miss Minnie now looks in such a way that she is a picture of health and grace. But most of it may be attributed to the fact that she is a picture of other men, as foolish as themselves.

My case was a severe and long-continued lameness, typical of hypochondriacal persons, and the disease was aggravated by dyspepsia and insomnia. Mr. Hagan said, "I am now looking for a girl, as foolish as myself."

Mr. Hagan said, giving that youth a tender glance, "and I only weighed ninety-seven. Didn't I, Charley?"

"Humph!" ejaculated Mr. Cheeseman, dryly, "I should think Charley ought to be able to tell your weight off-hand, without going to the scales. But let me—see—why, young lady, you must have been feeding up since you were in Oakland. One hundred—and fourteen pounds—three ounces, just."

"Why, you horrid old thing!" growled Miss Minnie, looking round on the rest appealingly.

"It's there, large as life," exclaimed Mrs. Rollins, finding a balm for her late discomfiture, "and you look every bit of it."

"It's those rubbers and this waterproof," said Miss Minnie, ruefully. "I shouldn't have kept them on. But, anyway, I think he does something to the old scales on purpose."

"Next," said Mr. Cheeseman, shortly. "Come, Mrs. Perkins, step up; it's your turn."

"No, thank you," replied the lady addressed. "I'm not feeling very well to-day, and I think I'd rather wait."

"O, come, come! What difference does that make? Come on and weighed."

"No," answered Mrs. Perkins, coldly and firmly, "I don't care to be weighed."

And then the other two ladies who had not been weighed yet started off and the rest of the party, except an old gentleman, followed, leaving Mr. Cheeseman standing in mute surprise at his head quizzically.

"It's always the same way. If women do be about one thing, next to their age, it's their weight. Now, they'll just hate me all day. Might have known it, too, confounded fool! I lost the finest girl in the State of Indiana, same way, twenty years ago. I was just fifty pounds ahead of her alleged weight, before a whole room full of people; and the scornful look she gave me as she got down off those scales will follow me to the grave." — *The Ingleside.*

LEGAL COURTSHIP.

The Extraordinary Means a Lady Took to Secure a Husband.

It would be difficult to imagine a more laughable affair than the elder Scott's union with the Marchioness of Sligo, which was celebrated in the summer of 1813, to the infinite amusement of "society." The marchioness made the offer; she made it in the Criminal Court of the Old Bailey; she made it on a slip of paper, that was handed to the judge by one of the ushers of the court and even field courts. Two years earlier Byron had been a fellow traveler in Greece with the marchioness' youthful and rather erratic son, where the poor occasion to talk more freely than affectionately about his own mother to the marquis, who was probably no less communicative about the peculiarities of his eccentric parent. The young men parted, Byron to rise in an hour, the marquis to put himself within the grip of the criminal law by luring into his yacht in Mediterranean waters two seamen from one of his Britannic Majesty's ships of war. Tried for his offense at the Old Bailey by Sir William Scott (judge of the high court of the admiralty) and Lord Ellenborough, the marquis was found guilty, ordered to pay a fine of £5,000, sentenced to four months imprisonment in Newgate, and compelled to listen to a scolding address by Sir Boro's young nephew in question. The marchioness (through the court's intervention) was so affected by the judge's admonition that on the spur of the moment she sent him the brief note (dashed off on a piece of court foolscap given her by the clerk of arraignment) in which she expressed the wish that her dear boy could always have so prudent a counselor by his side. What could the judge do but accept the offer made in so delicate a manner? The match turned out no worse than was expected. The marchioness, of course, repaid her husband in kind for the edifying lecture he had given her son. — *Evening Herald.*

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TRY GINGER IN BREAKFAST.

"Don't flounder around so!" said the exalted muckler.

"S'up or I'll 'ull you!" said the other.

"Will you do it a porpose?" asked the muckler.

"Not a shad-dow of a doubt of it," replied the other.

"I beg you to claim, gentlemen," entreated a lobster.

"Or 'eel get in hot water," cried a sheephead, on his mussel; and they all went off for currents. — *Pittsburgh Chronicle.*

The Mormon Church has more missionaries than the American Board of Foreign Missions. — *Chicago Herald.*

E. R. Butz, book agent, arrested at Reading, Pa., recently, for owing a board bill, became insane from shame and died.

A GOVERNMENT SHERIFF.

Mr. Edward L. Green, Sheriff of Lancashire, New Zealand, writes: "I received an injury to my shoulder in June, 1882, and from that date until July, 1883, I could not use my arm. I applied to medical and used all sorts of liniment, without any benefit. I have great pleasure in stating I had occasion to use St. Joe's Balsam, and had not used it more than ten minutes before the beneficial effect, and I can work with my saw or spade as well as ever I did, and recommend it to any one suffering pain."

THEIR WEIGH HEAVY.

"Pa," said a young Danbury boy to his father, "where are you going?" "To a hog-guessing match, my son?" was the next query. "Little boys should be seen and not heard," said the father, in an impressive voice. — *Danbury News.*

THRIFT.

The True Gospel of Financial Salvation.

It may be doubted whether Dr. Franklin's services in the fields of science and politics were of so much importance to mankind as his precepts and practice of thrift and economy. His life is a most impressive illustration of what may be accomplished by systematic industry, self-denial and proper care for earnings.

Franklin was never mean, stingy nor miserly. On the contrary he put in the mouth of the world the "Ancient Mariner," who gave the blessing of sound and refreshing sleep as no adequate conception of all these words can give. It is to the sufferer who has been deprived of sleep at night, and who has night sweat such as a little unsatisfactory number that their full meaning is apparent. The man who digests well and has a good appetite, who works hard, is not weak that kills people; it is worry. The world has been ruined by rest sleep bravo, and the world is still more ruined by rest sleep. The world is still more ruined by rest sleep.

"Insomnia" is a disease which grows worse with age, and the time ever working harder, grows worse.

"Insomnia" is of different kinds, and arises from different causes. But most of it may be attributed to indigestion or overwork.

A most popular and recommended treatment is Dr. Hagan's "Golden Medical Discovery," which is a good remedy for insomnia.

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