

GRAMMAR BY SIMPLE RULE

Sometimes They Produced Very Complex Results.

Little Chronicle.
The master who gives his pupils "simple rules" for determining questions which confront them, and particularly grammatical questions, is apt to find that such rules frequently disastrously fail to fit all cases, says an English exchange.
Once an examiner was questioning the pupils of a county school. He wrote on the blackboard the sentence, "The fly has wings," and asked a class what part of speech each word was.
They parsed the "the" without any trouble.
"What part of speech is 'fly'?"
"Adverb," shouted all the class in unison.
"What? Fly an adverb?"
"Yes, sir," shouted the boys with great positiveness.
"What makes you think it is an adverb?"
"Cause the master told us last week that all words that end in 'ly' are adverbs."

SWALLOWS INSTEAD OF PIGEONS.
The question of employing swallows instead of pigeons to carry dispatches is being considered in France. The aptitude of the swallow for the work is by many held to be even greater than that of the pigeon. They fly to a greater height and are, therefore, less exposed to being shot, and they travel faster, making good nearly eighty miles an hour, where a pigeon would only get over fifty. It is also claimed that they are more faithful, intelligent and have not on long journeys to stop to feed, as the pigeon has.

MUSIC AND MEANING.
Little Chronicle.
A small Chicago boy had learned a patriotic song by hearing his teacher repeat it. He got the sound of the words, but not their meaning, and rendered it thus:

Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,
Chew up comrades they will come,
And aneath the stars are gone we will meet the amergats
In the freedom of our roy anymore.

THE FINEST CHRISTMAS TREES.
Maine is said to produce the finest Christmas trees. The odor of the balsam in the forests of that state and the superior lasting qualities of the foliage make the trees comparatively very valuable. In that part of the country, the raising of these trees is an important industry, forests of them being subjected to a partial cultivation. Enough clearing is done to allow each tree to grow fully and symmetrically, and in five years they reach marketable size.

AN ABSOLUTELY BARREN SPOT.
About a mile south of the Michigan state line and near Cedar Lake, Ind., is a small spot of land upon which vegetation absolutely refuses to grow. The spot is less than twenty feet in diameter and is located in a grove which tradition declares to have been the torture ground of the Bawbeese Indians.

A MATTER OF PROTECTION.
People have often wondered why elephants so constantly throw hay and grass over their backs. This is explained by the fact that they are thus protecting themselves from all sorts of insects. Notwithstanding his thick skin, the elephant suffers more from insect bites than many thinner skinned animals.

TOBACCO IN COLONIAL DAYS.
In the early colonial days, the use of tobacco was considered more sinful and degrading than indulgence in intoxicating liquors. Old time legislation reveals some curious attempts to check the spread of the "creature called tobacco." Landlords were fined if they permitted it to be brought into their taverns.

MILLIONS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.
There are about 16,000,000 pupils in the schools of the United States—as many as in Germany, France and Italy combined, and three times the enrollment of Great Britain and Ireland, and five times as many as Russia, with its population of 100,000,000.

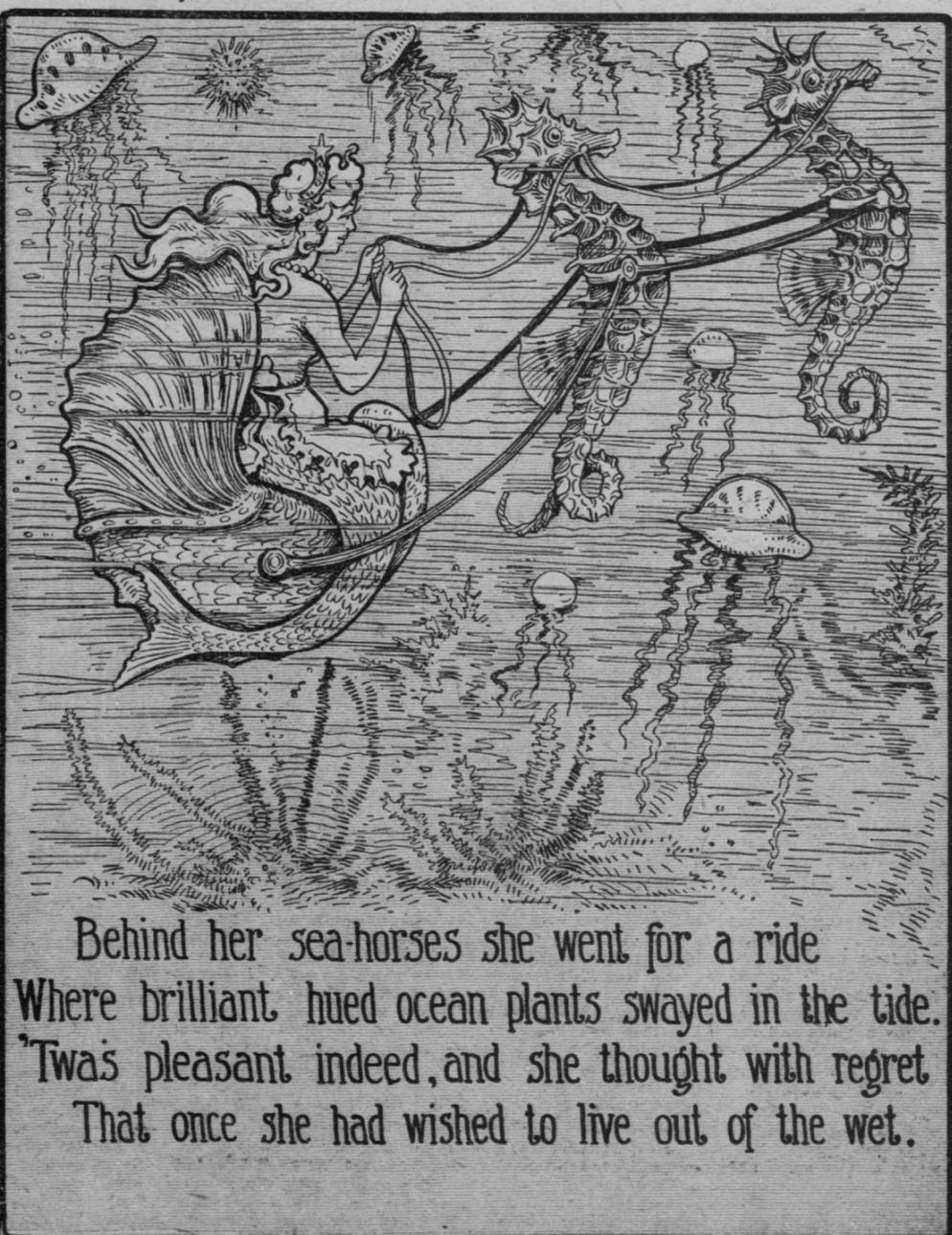
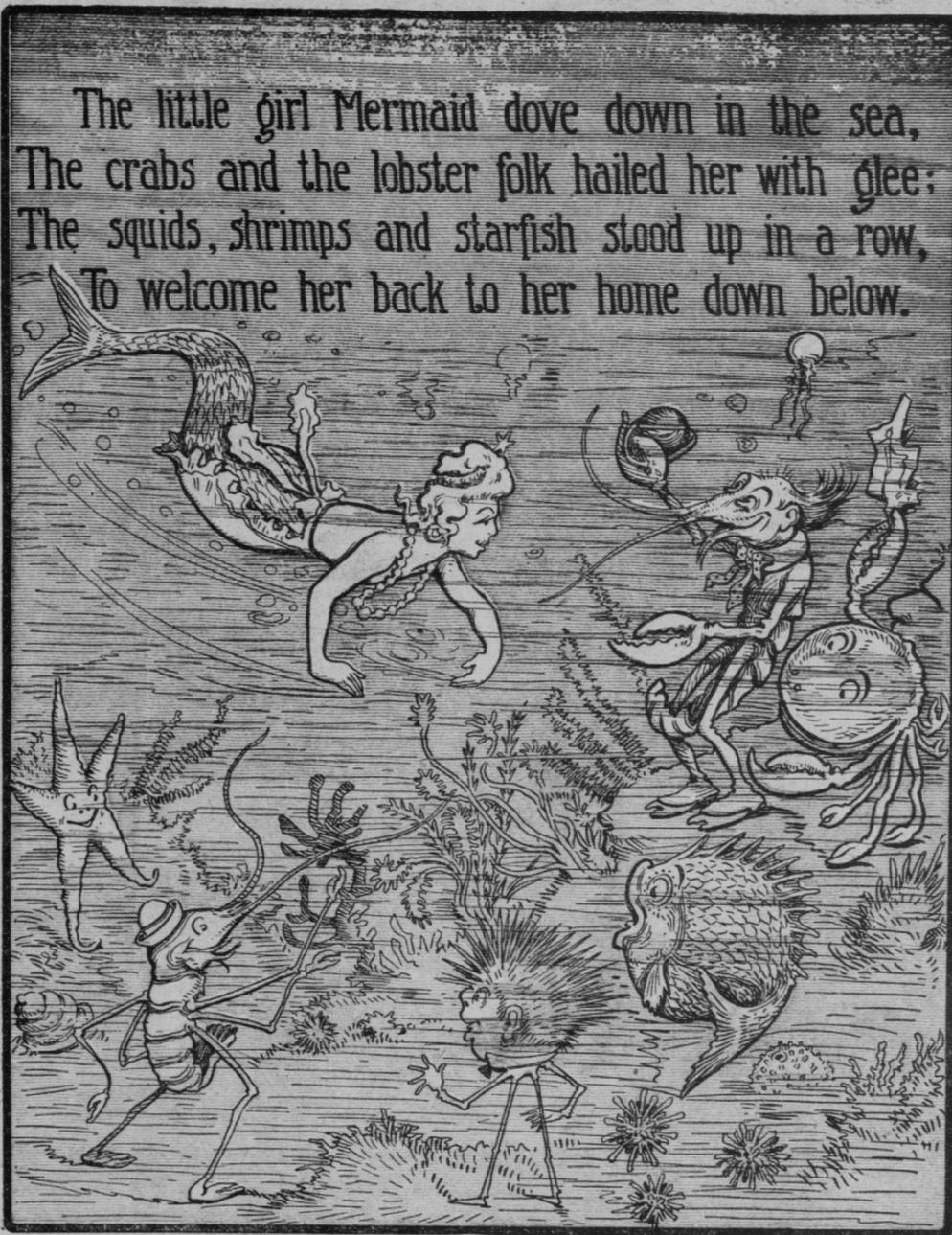
THE BUZZARD MADE GOOD TIME.
The buzzard is a fast-flying bird, one that was recently shipped from Charleston, N. C., to New York, for the purpose of testing its speed, succeeding in making the trip back home in about four hours.

NO LONGER A NUISANCE.
The pulpy mass called bagasse, which is left after the sugar cane is crushed and squeezed dry of its saccharine matter, and formerly was burned and got rid of as a nuisance, is now used for the manufacture of paper.

WHISTLING IS FROWNED UPON.
Whistling in Iceland is considered as much of a sin as profanity. There are some parts of the world where the same offense is considered worthy of fine and imprisonment, but there are no laws to prevent it.

THE INKS OF ANCIENT DAYS.
The inks of ancient days were much like black paint, and, on account of the large quantity of gum employed in their composition, the letters stood up in relief on the parchments as though embossed.

THE FILIPINO BOLO.
The bolo, or Filipino knife, is almost like the American corn knife, only it has a slight curve in it and is pointed.



FOR LAGGARDS IN GUIANA

Parents Apply an Ant Instead of a Whip.

In Guiana, if a child is slow in its movements, the parents apply an ant to the child instead of a whip, to make it move faster. This little ant bites more cruelly than a mosquito, and its bite is apt to be troublesome afterward. As you can imagine, this treatment does not make the child kind to others, and the children of Guiana are said to be particularly cruel to animals. The little boys in Guiana do not reckon their age by years, but by their ability to endure pain. Until he gets to the point where he can let the Hucu ant bite him without wincing, he is considered merely a baby.

GIRLS' NAMES.

- Frances is "unstained and free";
- Bertha, "pellucid, purely bright";
- Clara, "clear" as the crystal sea;
- Lucy, a star of radiant "light";
- Catharine is "pure" as the mountain air;
- Henrietta, a soft, sweet "star";
- Felicia is a "happy girl";
- Matilda is a "lady true";
- Margaret is a shining "pearl";
- Rebecca, "with the faithful few";
- Susan is a "lily white";
- Jane has the willow's curve and "grace";
- Cecilia, dear, "is dim of sight";
- Sophia shows "wisdom on her face";
- Constance is fire and "resolute";
- Grace, delicious, "favor meet";
- Charlotte, "noble, good repute";
- Harriet, a fine "odor sweet";
- Isabella is a "lady rare";
- Lucinda, "constant as the day";
- Marie means "a lady fair";
- Abigail, "joyful" as a May;
- Elizabeth, "an oath of trust";
- Adelia, "nice princess, proud";
- Agatha "is truly good and just";
- Letitia, "a joy avowed";
- Jemima, "a soft sound in the air";
- Caroline, "a sweet spirit hale";
- Cornelia, "harmonious and fair";
- Selina, "a sweet nightingale";
- Lydia, "a refreshing well";
- Judith, "a song of sacred praise";
- Julia, "a jewel none excel";
- Priscilla, "ancient of days."

NO RAIN IN TWO YEARS.
A West Australian exploring party that recently arrived at Oodnadatta reported that there had not been a drop of rain for two years in the region traversed.

THE SOUVENIR BUTTONS

A Junior button is given to every contributor for his first paper printed, provided it is not a prize winner nor an "honorable mention." Only one Junior Button a year is given, and this is sent without application. The new year began Sept. 8, 1900.
An Honor Button is awarded for an "honorable mention," and is sent without application.
An Honor Button is awarded to every Junior who has three papers printed, which are neither prize winners nor honorable mentions. These must be claimed by the winner, giving dates of publication.
An Honor Button is awarded for an accepted contribution to the Storyteller column, and is sent without application, together with an order for a book.
Any number of Honor Buttons may be won.
Prize Button is awarded for every prize paper, without application. Two prizes only in one year may be won.
All of these, except the Honor Buttons awarded for three papers printed, are sent out the Monday following publication, and all notices of failure to receive them must be sent to the editor on the Saturday following the publication.

How to Prepare the Papers.
Write in ink, on one side only of the paper. Leave a space of three inches at the top of the first page. Use no headlines. Put the number of words in the upper left-hand corner of the first page. Sign the name and residence at the end at the right, the grade and school at the end at the left.

The Storyteller.
Any pupil of a public school, in any part of the United States who is in or above Fifth Grade, may contribute to the Storyteller. These stories may be true or fiction, and upon any subject preferred by the writer. They must not be less than 500 words in length, and should not be over 1,000.

The High School Credit Contests.
These contests are for writers in and above the Ninth Grade.
Two prizes of \$15 and \$7.50 for pictures or books for the school are awarded every three months to the two high schools winning the highest number of credits.
The first prize of \$15 may be won but once during the school year.
Winners of the second prize of \$7.50 are not barred from winning the first prize.
No school in Minneapolis and no town in the northwest will be given more than one High School Credit a week.
A Journal Junior Prize Button is sent for the first High School Credit paper of each competitor during the quarter.
The second quarter begins Dec. 8, 1900, and ends Feb. 23, 1901, inclusive.

The Prize Pictures.
The pictures which are given as prizes during the school year become the exclusive property of the schoolrooms upon whose walls they are hung. They remain permanently in the room which the winner attended when he or she won the prize, and under no circumstances are to be removed to another room in the same school, to another school or to a private house.
Harrington Beard, the well-known art dealer and collector of Minneapolis, is in charge of the framing and distribution of the prize pictures for The Journal.

STAMPS—100, all different foreign stamps, only 6c, post free. 15 varieties South and Central America (fine) for 10c. Price lists, etc., sent free. Stamps sent on approval. Send reference.
Northern Stamp Co., Minneapolis, Minn.