

NO SENSE OF HUMOR.

A Scientist's Criticism of a Comic Book For Children.

Charles Mousset, a Frenchman of letters, published a comic "scientific dictionary" for the benefit of children, who found no little amusement in the odd accounts of things in the animal world which were perfectly familiar to them, but which were described in a rather fantastic way in M. Mousset's book.

The editor of a certain scientific journal, however, was much surprised and shocked at M. Mousset's ignorance when he took up the book, and he wrote an article about it in his paper, which ran as follows:

"A certain M. Mousset has published a dictionary for the use of children, which contains definitions showing the most extraordinary ignorance, such as the following:

"Sardine—A little fish without any head which lives in oil."

"As if a fish could live without a head and in oil!"

"Another definition: 'Parrot—A bird somewhat resembling the pigeon, generally green when it is not red or yellow or blue. Cockatoos sometimes live to be a hundred years old, except when they are stuffed, and then there is no limit to the length of their life.'"

"Now, it happens that the parrot is not a pigeon at all and never has the colors that M. Mousset gives to him, and, in short, this M. Mousset knows no more of natural history than he has grains of common sense."

THE MALE OPERA HAT.

Why It Rises Superior to Any Passing Fashion Dictates.

Men generally protest against the changes of style in hats, and one of the sex has written to the New York Mail this complaint:

Why attack as a "collapsible, many named pretender" the opera hat, or chapeau de cloque?

I have such a hat and also a silk hat, in which respect I think I differ from most Gothamites. Whenever I have an option I wear the opera rather than the other. It's more convenient.

At the theater or opera you can carry it better on your between the acts promenades. If there is no rack for your hat under the seat you can tuck it in your overcoat and put it on the floor under you without destroying it, as you would do with a silk hat.

If you put your hat in the rack under your seat and then rise and stand close to it to permit a late comer to pass an opera hat suffers no damage. A silk hat would be either ruffled or crushed.

The opera hat looks as well at all times as the silk hat and requires much less care. Indeed, I think it looks better. The glossy surface of a silk hat, like the glossy bosom of a stiff white shirt, is an uncomfortable survival of the time when men wore polished helmets and breastplates.

There is so much reason in the opera hat that men of discrimination will continue to wear it, the style of the moment regardless.

A Dog Habit.

Have you ever thought why it is that a dog turns around and around when he jumps up on his cushion or steps to settle himself anywhere for a nap? Now that you are reminded you can recall that you have seen a dog do it many times, can't you? This habit is about all that is left to our tame little dogs of the days long ago, when they were a race of wild animals and lived in the woods. Their beds then were matted grass and leaves, and it was to trample enough grass and properly arrange the leaves that the dog always trod around a narrow circle before he would lie down. The dog of today keeps up the same old habit, although there is no longer any need for it, and of course the animal has no notion why he does it.

A Bond of Sympathy.

While the new maid tidied the room the woman kept on writing.

"Do you make that all out of your own head?" asked Jane.

"Yes," said the busy woman.

"My," said Jane admiringly, "you must have brains."

"Brains!" sighed the woman despondently. "Oh, Jane, I haven't an ounce of brains."

For a moment Jane regarded her with sincere commiseration.

"Oh, well," she said presently, "don't mind what I say. I ain't very smart myself."—New York Press.

Similarity of Writings.

"From my pile of autographs I take one of a statesman well known and lay it side by side with the autographs of a great author and a great ecclesiastic," writes a British publicist. "All three are very small, exquisitely neat, very little slanted, absolutely legible. Well as I knew the three writers, I doubt if I could tell which wrote which. They were Cardinal Manning, Mr. Froude and Lord Rosebery. Will the experts tell me if in this case similarity of writing boded forth similarity of gifts or qualities?"

Matrimonial.

Three Germans were sitting at lunch recently and were overheard discussing the second marriage of a mutual friend when one of them remarked:

"I'll tell you what. A man what marries de second time don't deserve to have lost his first wife."—Life.

The Kind They Fool.

He—Some girls are awfully conceited. She—Why? He—They'll brag about making a fool of a man that was never anything else.—Detroit Free Press.

Notice to our Customers.

We are pleased to announce that Foley's Honey and Tar for coughs, cold and lung troubles is not affected by the National Pure Food and Drug Law as it contains no opiates or other harmful drugs, and we recommend it as a safe remedy for children and adults. The Arant Co. Drug Store.

The First Bull.

Charon, the boatman of the Styx, was thought by many to be of Irish blood, for invariably he was casting off from the hither shore he would call out to his cargo of souls:

"Now, then, look alive!"

This was doubtless as near an approach to an Irish bull as the then state of civilization permitted.—Puck.

Two Kinds of Foolhardiness.

Some of the men who laugh when a woman gets off a car backward would pull the muzzle of a loaded gun toward them when crawling through a fence.—Washington Post.

Villains in the play have to be awfully bad in order to make good.—Daily (Okla.) Ardmoreite.

STAGESTRUCK.

An Incident of the Boyhood Days of William McKinley.

One does not readily associate our martyred president, William McKinley, with an ambition to become an actor, but in a grouping of eminent personages who have conceived at one time or another in their lives a passion to tread the boards we find the subjoined account:

"It was while holding the humble position of clerk at a hat store in Cincinnati that Mr. McKinley became stagestruck and once confessed that he did not outgrow his desire to become an actor for many years afterward. This desire arose through watching the Shakespearean plays as presented by the great tragedian, Edwin Forrest, for whom Mr. McKinley conceived a great admiration.

"Imagine my feelings," the president said on one occasion when relating his boyish ambitions, "when Forrest walked into our store one day to make a purchase. I rushed to the front in order to serve my ideal hero of the theater. The sale, however, was made by an older clerk, but I was given the privilege of pressing and stretching the hat. The great actor stood near me, observing my work, and the smile of appreciation which he gave me was one of the events of my youth."—Scrap Book.

Growth of Rocks.

Rocks do not grow in the sense that a plant grows. They may increase by accretion, and they may undergo chemical change. The old sea bed, being lifted up, becomes sandstone and limestone. The volcanic ash and lava strewn over the plains become tuff, hard enough for building stone. The pebbly shore of a river becomes conglomerate. The simple mineral does grow, however, when it takes a crystal form. The sparkling prism of quartz increases from an atom to a crystal as large as a forearm by a process of addition and assimilation, wonderfully slow but beautifully regular, exactly as crystals of ice form on the window pane.

Given Up to Die.

E. Spiegel, 1204 N. Virginia St., Evansville, Ind., writes: "For over five years I was troubled with kidney and bladder affections which caused me much pain and worry. I lost flesh and was all run down, and a year ago had to abandon work entirely. I had three of the best physicians who did me no good and I was practically given up to die. Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended and the first bottle gave me great relief, and after taking the second bottle I was entirely cured. Why not let me help you?" The Arant Co. Drug Store.

REAL RHEUMATISM.

The Causes and Symptoms of Uric Acid in the Blood.

Rheumatism, so called, is probably as common as any ailment one ever hears of, and yet it is one were to analyze carefully the average case of rheumatism the result would doubtless show that the disease was something very different indeed from the real thing. Almost everybody when suffering from a slight stiffness of a joint or a muscular soreness promptly makes a diagnosis of rheumatism when in reality the case is nothing more than what in technical language is known as lithaemia, sometimes called American gout.

The real disease of rheumatism is the result of an accumulation in the blood of imperfectly converted food, principally uric acid. This accumulation is due to intemperance in eating and drinking and insufficient active exercise.

Heredity in some cases seems to play an important part. In the great majority the symptoms follow a regular order, beginning with a feeling of fullness and discomfort after meals, indigestion, nausea and an unpleasant taste in the mouth, followed by throbbing headache, nervous irritability and vertigo, muscular pains which may be confined to one or more muscles or skip about them one to another. Lastly, and in most cases the most troublesome of all symptoms, is depression of spirits, the patient imagining that he has all sorts of ailments. Persons suffering from mental disorder as a result of this disease have been known to commit suicide. Fortunately these cases are not common, but it should be remembered that they are among the possibilities.—A Doctor in New York World.

Saved Her Son's Life.

The happiest mother in the little town of A. Mo. is Mrs. Ruppel. She writes: "One year ago my son was down with such serious lung trouble that our physician was unable to help him; when, by our druggist's advice I began giving him Dr. King's New Discovery, and soon noticed improvement. I kept this treatment up for a few weeks when he was perfectly well. He has worked steadily since at carpenter work. Dr. King's New Discovery saved his life. Guaranteed best cough and cold cure by The Arant Co. Drug Store. 30c. and \$1. Trial bottle free.

THE LICORICE PLANT.

Where It Grows and How Its Black Juice Is Treated.

Black licorice is made from the juice of the licorice plant, mixed with starch to prevent it from melting in hot weather. The licorice plant grows for the most part on the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, which flow through immense treeless prairies of uncultivated land. The climate of these great plains is variable. Half the year it is mild and pleasant, but for three months it is very cold, and for three months in summer hot winds sweep across the country, raising the temperature to 104 degrees for weeks at a time.

The licorice plant is a shrub three feet high and grows without cultivation in situations where its roots can reach the water. The usual time of collecting is the winter, but roots are dug all the year around. At first the root is full of water and must be allowed to dry, a process which takes nearly a year. It is then cut into small pieces from six inches to a foot long. The good and sound pieces are kept, and the rotten ones are used for firewood.

As the valley of the Euphrates contained one of the earliest civilizations in the world, it is probable that licorice is about the oldest confection extant and that the taste, which pleases nearly all children today, was familiar to the little brown boys and girls of Babylon and Nineveh 3,000 years ago.

Orlino Laxative Fruit Syrup is a new remedy, an improvement on the laxatives of former years, as it does not gripe or nauseate and is pleasant to take. It is guaranteed. The Arant Co. Drug Store.

SILK OF THE SPIDER.

The Delicate Machinery That Spins the Liquid Thread.

The spider is able to secrete at least three colors of silk stuff—the white, which forms the web, and the enmeshment of captives and the egg cocoon; the brown mass that fills the cocoon interior and the inside of the sac. The glands and in minute ducts which empty into spinning spools regularly arranged along the sides and upon the tips of the six spinnerets, or "spinning mammals," or "spinning fingers," which are placed just beneath the apex of the abdomen. The spinnerets are movable and can be swung wide apart or pushed closely together, and the spinning spools can be managed in the same way.

The silk glands are infolded in muscular tissue, pressure upon which, at the will of the spider, forces the liquid silk through the duct into the spool, whence it issues as a minute filament, since it hardens upon contact with the air. One thread as seen in a web may be made up of a number of the filaments and is formed by putting the tips of the spools together as the liquid jets are forced out of the ducts. When the spinnerets are joined and a number of the spools are emptied at once their contents merge, and the sheets or ribbons are formed which one sees in the ensnarement of a captive or in the making of Argo's central shield. This delicate machinery the owner operates with utmost skill, bringing into play now one part and now another and again the whole with unflinching deftness and a mastery complete.—Dr. H. C. McCook in Harper's.

A QUEER HOUSE.

The Novel and Famous Fossil Bone Cabin in Wyoming.

"The queerest house in the world," said a zoologist, "is undoubtedly the famous bone cabin in Wyoming, near the Medicine Bow river. This cabin's foundations are built of fossil bones.

"Bones of dinosaurs—jaws of the diplocodus, teeth of the bontosteorosaurus, knuckles of the ichthyosaurus, vertebrae of the camarasaurus, chunks of the barosaurus, the cetiosaurus, the brachiosaurus, the stegosaurus, the ornithomylus or bird catching dinosaur—all entered into this wonderful cabin's foundations, making it a most curious and most costly edifice in America.

"This hut was built by a Mexican sheep herder who had happened by chance on the grandest extinct animal bed in the world. This was a plot about fifty yards square, wherein lay in rich profusion the bones of all the animals of the reptilian age. The heaviest and the lightest, the largest and the smallest, the most tranquil and the most ferocious, lay side by side.

"The place was evidently once a river bar, and the dead bodies that floated down the stream were arrested to lie for hundreds of thousands of years till a sheep herder came along and, noting among bones as big as bowlders, set about the building of the world's queerest cabin."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought

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Why Bulls Hate a Red Flag.

In the first place, says an English writer, red is a color to which cattle are unaccustomed, so that they may naturally be supposed to be startled by its very novelty. Scientists show the sensation of red to be the complement of that of green, being induced by exactly opposite affections of the retina. If the eyes of cattle are constructed on a similar principle to our own the continual contemplation of green, as in trees and herbage, must produce a state of retinal fatigue, predisposing a violent excitement of the retina immediately a red substance is presented to view.

Bismarck's Love of Authority.

At 9 p. m. we took tea with the king. I was seated opposite him when a footman came and whispered in my ear that Bismarck desired to see me. Great embarrassment! Pucker having told me I might leave the table, I did so. The king inquired what was the matter and permitted me to go. Bismarck had nothing of particular importance to tell me, and I suspect that he only wanted to show that he had the right to send for his employees even when they were with the king.—Hatzfeldt Letter.

This Is Worth Remembering.

Whenever you have a cough or cold just remember that Foley's Honey and Tar will cure it. Do not risk your health by taking any but the genuine it is in a yellow package. The Arant Co. Drug Store.

Strictly Business.

"The gaspeth man I ever knowed," said Uncle Jerry Peabody, "was an old fellow named Snopkins. Somebody told him once that when he breathed he took in oxygen and gave out carbon. He spent a whole day tryin' to find out which of them two gases cost the most if you have to buy 'em. He wanted to know whether he was makin' or losin' money when he breathed."—Chicago Tribune.

The universe is not rich enough to buy the vote of an honest man.—Gregory.

How to Remain Young.

To continue young in health and strength, do as Mrs. P. F. Rowan, McDonough, Ga., did. She says: "Three bottles of Electric Bitters cured me of chronic liver and stomach trouble, complicated with such an unhealthy condition of the blood that my skin turned red as flannel. I am now practically 20 years younger than before I took Electric Bitters. I can now do all my work with ease and assist in my husband's store." Guaranteed at The Arant Co. Drug Store. Price 50c.

A Normal Disadvantage.

"Why do reformers so often come to grief?"

"I have often asked the question," answered Senator Sorghum. "I think it must be because they take up politics as an incidental diversion instead of a regular business. It's the difference between the amateur and the professional."—Washington Star.

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