

BOARDING HOUSE GEOMETRY

The following definitions and axioms of boarding house geometry which have been elaborated by Mr. Stephen Leacock in *New York Truth*, will be appreciated by those who have studied geometry and who have also experienced living in a boarding house :

All boarding houses are the same boarding house.

Boarders in the same boarding house and on the same flat are equal to one another.

A single room is that which has no parts and no magnitude.

The landlady of a boarding house is a parallelogram—that is, an oblong and angular figure, which cannot be described, but which is equal to anything.

A wrangle is the disinclination of two boarders to each other that meet together but are not on the same flat.

All the other rooms being taken, a single room is said to be a double room.

Postulates and Propositions.

A pie may be produced any number of times.

The landlady can be reduced to her lowest terms by a series of propositions.

A bee line may be made from any boarding house to any other boarding house.

The clothes of a boarding house bed, though produced ever so far both ways, will not meet.

Any two meals at a boarding house are together less than two square meals.

If from the opposite ends of a boarding house a line be drawn passing through all the rooms in turn, then the stovepipe which warms the boarders will lie within that line.

On the same bill, and on the same side of it, there should not be two charges for the same thing.

If there be two boarders on the same flat, and the amount of side on the one be equal to the amount of side on the other, each to each, and the wrangle between one boarder and the landlady be

equal to the wrangle between the landlady and the other, then shall the weekly bills of the two boarders be equal also, each to each.

For, if not, let one bill be the greater.

Then the other bill is less than it might have been—which is absurd.

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A young lady explained to the printer the difference in printing and publishing, and, in conclusion, said : " Now, you may print a kiss on my cheek, but you must not publish it." With that he locked the fair form in his arms so that it would not pi. and went to press.

It is to be regretted that the various schools and colleges, having so much in common, are as yet isolated seats of learning, with but little connection. Like separate rivers, starting, perhaps, from the same spring and finding their way to the same ocean, yet having no common tributaries or mingling of waters : so the colleges seem separate streams of life, starting from the same spring of ambition and eagerly hastening to the ocean of truth, yet having little intermingling of thought and feeling. Could the inner life of these individual institutions be brought into closer contact, the result would be elevating and inspiring. The power of influence that would go forth from a large body of united students to affect the moral and social world is beyond measure.—*Albert College times.*

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