

PUNCH'S PRIMER.

LESSONS FOR SMALL BOYS WHO CAN ONLY READ WORDS
OF ONE SYLLABLE.

I. JOHN BULL AND HIS SONS.

John Bull was a fine stout old man. He put two of his Sons, whose names were John and Frank, to live on one of his farms, a good way off from the farm where he lived. And as long as they were lads he used to tell them what they were to do on this farm; and he bade them sell most of the things to him, and buy most of the things they might want to buy, from him; and when they fell out, as they would do, (for they were not such good lads as they should have been,) he used to tell them which was wrong; and once, when Frank and young John would fight, he had to go and whip Frank to make him mind what he was bid.

But when Frank and young John were grown up to be young men, they did not like to have old John tell them all they were to do, and whip them if they did not mind what he said, and so they both told the old man, and the old man said, "Well, my sons, to be sure, you are now young men; and I dare say you would like to have more of your own way. The farm you live on, you know, is my farm, and a right good one it is, and I am sure you will be glad to keep it for me, and will be good sons to me while you and I live. So you may do just as you like on it, and may have all you can raise on it; and you may buy and sell, too, where you like, for that will be best for both you and me." And young John and Frank were both of them quite glad to hear the old man say so.

But they soon fell out once more; for young John thought Frank got too much of his own way on the farm, so he asked old John not to let Frank do some things he wished to do. But old John said, "no, my son, now that you and Frank are young men I do not like to treat you as if you were small boys. You are both of you too old for me to like to whip you, and you should be too wise to fall out in this way. I hope you will make friends as soon as you can."

Then young John was so mad that he said he had a great mind to ask Frank to join him to give up the farm to one Sam who lived near, that Sam might make them both do as he liked on it. But Frank laughed at him, and said, "no John, I thank you, I do not want to be used like a small boy, nor yet will you, I am sure when you come to think." And old John laughed too, and said he was sure his two sons would soon make friends, and would live on the farm like fine young men, and grow rich there, and not let Sam take it for his own, and treat them like small boys who were not fit to have it.

And he thought right, for so they did. And as for Sam, though he had a great wish to get the farm, he found he had got to let the old man and his sons keep it for their own.

GOLD! GOLD!! GOLD!!!

Punch paid a visit on Thursday to the Californian gold vessel, which he found a little out at elbows, or rather sides, arising from the extreme pressure of the times and canals. The captain described the complaint as very similar to lock-jaw, and rather too much in the way of a Yankey *shave* to be pleasant. He handed Punch a list of her cargo, which we publish for the benefit of other adventurers:—

- 27 barrels of bowie knives,
- 125 cases of revolvers,
- 16 grid-irons, and a copy of the American Constitution,
- 16 boxes of manufactured nutmegs,
- 20 bushels of brass filings,
- 200 rocking chairs, and 1 dozen of spades,
- A portable pulpit and two billiard tables,
- 18 gross of packs of cards,
- 1 religion tract,
- 2 chest patent pills,
- 1 mangle, a grind-stone, 16 sets of nine pins, and a piano.

CHOICE FLOWERS.

Mr. John Leeming has advertised a sale of "Choice Flowers," on Tuesday next; we understand the celebrated annexation Rose was to be offered for public competition, but has been withdrawn, having sold himself by private contract.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The interesting family alluded to in the columns of the *Courier*, as having on hand a boundless supply of "a certain article of Canadian manufacture," are implored to communicate with Punch, whose intellects are suffering much from the weight of the mystery thus recklessly thrust upon them, and which the Editor of the *Courier* has unkindly declined revealing. The strictest secrecy may be relied on, and samples of the "article," if sent, will be carefully wrapped in silver paper, and deposited in Punch's hat-box.

SOMETHING USEFUL.

The rats of annexation deserve well of the country. Punch would therefore advise their friends that some useful article should be presented to each of them. Punch recommends that the article should be "Smith's exterminator of vermin."

VERY BAD.

What reptile does a furrier most resemble?

A boa constructor.

The contributor who sent this dreadful abortion of a joke has since been consigned to the custody of the police.

LORD ELGIN'S MOVEMENTS.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.—We are glad to learn that one of the first acts of the Governor General in Toronto, after replying to addresses, was to visit the Provincial Lunatic Asylum.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

A SIMPLE EXAMPLE OF ANNEXATION.

The members of the French Provisional Government chose Albert as Secretary to the Committee of Public Labour, because he "was a simple Workman." Punch supposes that it is in imitation of that policy that the Annexionists have selected a "simple Workman" as their leader!

ADVICE GRATIS.

It being, under the present system, more difficult to be admitted to the Bar than it used to be, Punch recommends such Law Students, as do not wish to be drawn over the Coals at their examination, to stick to Coke.

NOT AT ALL FUNNY.

The Russians are astonished that the Hung(ary) refugees should have gone east for refuge. Punch thinks it natural that hungry men should "pitch in" to Turkey.

DECIDEDLY BAD.

Why is the circular to the people of Canada like the Hudson river?—Do ye give it up?
Because there is a great deal of Yankey craft in it.