

## The Joker Club.

"The Pen is mightier than the Sword."

### RHYMES FOR THE MONTHS.

In the month of January,  
Of the street-boys' slide be wary;  
And be sure in February,  
Valentine to send to Mary.  
Keep your mouth close shut in March,  
Or its dust your throat will parch;  
And avoid the damps of "Aper-il"  
Lest you be from muggy vapor ill.  
But in bright and flowery May  
You can sing your roundelay;  
Singing louder still in June  
To a still more joyful tune.

But beware in hot July  
How you iced concoctions try.  
Nor be frightened if a raw gust  
Come and nip your nose in August;  
For when we have reached September  
You're not safe from cold remember.  
See to it that you keep sober  
'Spite the brewings of October.  
Squibs to buy, you should remember  
For the fifth of dark November;  
And about the glowing ember  
Pass the last hours of December.

—*Fun Almanac.*

### A GOOD START.

#### A BANK SKETCH.

YOUNG MAN.—"I have just left school, sir, am 19 years of age, have had a good education, and wish to start for myself in the world. I thought I would apply to you to see if I could get a vacant situation in your bank."

BANK MANAGER.—"Of course you can give the best references as to honesty, industry, ability, amiability, virginity, etc. You despise fire-water, and know nothing of the games of chance entitled faro and draw poker, and you thoroughly understand the art of legally stealing with ease and rapidity from your neighbors?"

Y. M.—"Yes, sir."

B. M.—"You are regular in your attendance at the gospel mill, and your only delight is in the society of devil-dodgers and sky-pilots?"

Y. M.—"Yes, sir."

B. M.—"You are never in the habit of saying damme?"

Y. M.—"Well, hardly! No, sir."

B. M.—"In the responsible position which you desire to occupy, I should tell you that the directors feel that it would be inadvisable for you or any other employee to form acquaintances of objectionable characters, such as horse doctors, dog fanciers, undertakers, bartenders, divinity students, barbers, hardware men, etc. You will therefore be required before forming any acquaintances to send in their names to the Board for approval."

Y. M.—"Certainly, sir. I have always avoided barbers and hardware men."

B. M.—"Well, you seem a pretty likely sort of a young man. You are healthy, not given to having asthma, colds, corns, measles, aches of any kind, or any other diseases of an objectionable nature that is going to throw you sick on our hands."

Y. M.—"No, sir! I had a corn once, and had the measles once, and I must confess having two corns on one of my little toes."

B. M.—"Oh, this is too bad. You cannot expect otherwise that it will effect my opinion of your abilities. Corns are an objection—a strong objection. It is right you should know it. Well, I think you may consider yourself engaged. The pay, of course, is reasonable; we make it a rule not to have it too excessive at first."

Y. M.—"Yes, sir."

B. M.—"Of course, we don't expect you to

work for nothing. The first year we will pay you \$20, the second year \$30, and the third year \$50, and so on for the first ten years. You will then be, let me see, 19 now, 29 years old, and well fitted to face the world."

Y. M.—"Oh! thank you, sir, you are very generous, and don't consider me too bold if I ask you what you pay after the ten years?"

B. M.—"Oh, we shan't require your services any longer after that. No, it will be more economical for us to hire a new young man at the original \$20, besides the Directors consider in this matter that they must not be exclusive, that there are other young men who would be anxious to enjoy the advantages you are about to have the benefit of. Their motto is entrenchment and reform—yes, they entrench employees salaries, and reform their own. Of course you don't thoroughly understand this now, but it may steal over you in time."

Y. M.—"Yes, sir! I will try and learn everything. And when shall I commence?"

B. M.—"Well, if the references that you give, and the inquiries which I shall make as to your habits are satisfactory, your pedigree shows up well, your father's and mother's record is good, and there is no evidence of any other member of your family having conducted camp-meetings, or been engaged in the lightning-rod business, why, you can come round to my house at six o'clock to-morrow morning and clean out the horse barn. The board believe in commencing at the beginning and working up details as you go along. Your duties for the remainder of the day will be comparatively of a light nature. You will open the Bank at eight, sweep out the floors, polish up the brass work, build four fires, including the furnace, wash the windows three times a week, mix cocktails for the tellers, scoot when you hear the President's bell (a delay of a moment might be fatal to your interests), run messages, copy letters, keep a regular supply of poker chips in the Directors' room, help the porter, endeavor to be in as many places as possible at the same time, and make yourself generally useful. You will generally get away at 8 o'clock, three or four nights in the week, perhaps stay till 10, and the last day of the month will be here so late you might as well stop all night. You can easily snatch a little sleep before morning. You see when your ten years are up, this experience in details will be invaluable to you."

Y. M.—"I am delighted, sir! at my good fortune. You may be sure that I shall be around bright and early to-morrow morning. I suppose you would be willing to retain half my wages while I am here, so that I may not be tempted to squander it in riotous living."

B. M.—"It will put us to some trouble, but we might be induced to accommodate you—we should of course be obliged to make some trifling charge, say \$10 a year for the care and inconvenience we should be put to."

Y. M.—"Thank you, sir! You are very kind. If you think that \$10 is not too little, I should be glad to accept your kind offer."

B. M.—"All right? Then you can commence to-morrow morning, and if you have any better clothes you had better put them on. We like our employees to dress well."

Y. M.—"Certainly, sir! I shall wear my best. They are not perhaps as nice as they should be. Before I left home my mamma had a swallow tail coat made for me. She said I would require it when I went out in society. I will wear that if you like."

B. M.—"No! No! You must not put that on, and you won't require it much in society, but you can bring it round, it might fit one of the Directors, and we can apply it on the \$10 you will owe us for opening your account."

Y. M.—"Very well, sir! Good day!"

WHACKFORD SQUEAKS.

—*Sherbrooke Gazette.*

MUSICAL APPLICATION.—There is an old story told among musical people of J. L. Hatton, who, on the occasion of a grand concert at Willis's Rooms, played two of Bach's finest fugues. A lady, who boasted that she did not care what sum she paid to hear good music, speaking with enthusiastic delight of that evening's excellent entertainment, denied that anybody performed on the pianoforte, and described Hatton as "the man who came in between the parts to tune the instrument." She represented a very large number of musical enthusiasts in London. —*Tinsley's Magazine.*

BALFE AND THE SKULL.—Balfé had a horror of everything connected with death. On one occasion, when he and Fitz-Ball, the dramatist, were visiting the study of Dr. King, the latter placed the former's hat upon the skull of a complete skeleton that chanced to be in the room. The effect was grimly grotesque enough, but Balfé only regarded it with great horror, and directly he reached home hastily gave the hat (a new one) to his servant, saying he could never wear it again. —*Tinsley's Magazine.*

### THE AGE OF MIRACLES

is past, and Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" will not raise the dead, will not cure you if your lungs are almost wasted by consumption. It is, however, unsurpassed both as a pectoral and alterative, and will cure obstinate and severe diseases of the throat and lungs, coughs, and bronchial affections. By virtue of its wonderful alterative properties it cleanses and enriches the blood, cures pimples, blotches, and eruptions, and causes even great eating ulcers to heal.

GREED OF OFFICE.—"My dear sir," observed Jekyll to a judge, who was alike notorious for his greed of office and his want of personal cleanliness, "you have asked the minister for almost everything else, why don't you ask him for a piece of soap and a nail-brush?"

### GET THE ORIGINAL.

Dr. Pierce's "Pellets"—the original "Little Liver Pills" (sugar-coated)—cure sick and bilious headache, sour stomach, and bilious attacks. By druggists.

## EARS FOR THE MILLION!

Foo Choo's Balsam of Shark's Oil.

Positively Restores the Hearing, and is the only Absolute Cure for Deafness Known.

This Oil is abstracted from a peculiar species of small White Shark, caught in the Yellow Sea, known as Carachodon Rondeletii. Every Chinese Fisherman knows it. Its virtues as a restorative of hearing were discovered by a Buddhist Priest about the year 1470. Its cures were so numerous and many so seemingly miraculous, that the remedy was officially proclaimed over the entire Empire. Its use became so universal that for over 300 years no Deafness has existed among the Chinese people. Sent, charges prepaid, to any address at \$1.50 per bottle.

## Hear what the Deaf Say!

It has performed a miracle in my case. I have no unearthly noises in my head, and hear much better.

I have been greatly benefited. My deafness helped a great deal—think another bottle will cure me.

"Its virtues are unquestionable and its curative character absolute, as the writer can personally testify, both from experience and observation. Write at once to HAYLOCK & JENNEY, 7 Day-street, New York, enclosing \$1.00, and you will receive by return a remedy that will enable you to hear like anybody else, and whose curative effects will be permanent. You will never regret doing so."—EDITOR OF MERCANTILE REVIEW.

✉ To avoid loss in the Mails, please send money by REGISTERED LETTER.

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