

A LIMERICK

Grace a-toi, De Brisay, oui, grace a ton genie,
 Nous sommes delivres, d'un immense fardeau:
 Du vieux theme latin l'existence est finie,
 Nous vivons maintenant dans un monde nouveau,
 Par toi s'entend Virgile, et jadis comme a Rome,
 Nous lui pretons l'oreille et nous apprecions
 Le langage divin que parle ce grand homme—
 Sans aucun dictionnaire et sans declinaisons.
 —Prof. Fournier, Montreal.

This is not a Limerick, for you cannot write Limericks in French, since French knows nothing of long and short syllables, and herein lies the chief difference between the two languages. If you murder French, it is not so much because you mispronounce its vowels and consonants, as because you persist in making long and short syllables.

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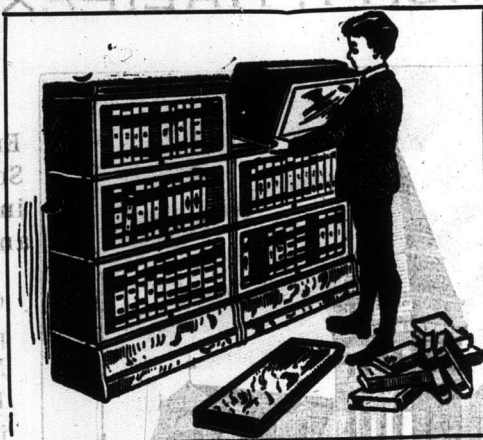
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