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THE POKER.

Genus durum sumus experiensque laborum.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1859.

Ye Pic-nic at Sunnyside on ye Queen's Birthday.

DIARY OF JONAS SOPHTY, ESQ.

Did wake up in ye morning in a great state of ferment; did make haste to dress and shave myself; did cut my cheek in ye hurry; did swear I would never be in a hurry again; plaster on my cheek looked bad; did take three hours to dress. Started for ye place of "hosting;" on ye way did call for my friends Goosey and Blubbs; did find Goosey and Blubbs waiting for me; Goosey was in ecstasies; he was determined to create a sensation among ye ladies; was in ye same mind myself; Blubbs wondered if ye Committee would have any brandy at ye Picnic; he would take some along and be sure; thought I would look in ye looking-glass before starting; did look in ye glass; did look seven times; did wonder if ye Committee would have looking-glasses in ye house at Sundyside; all three started for ye place of meeting.

Arrived at ye place of meeting; found ye last "buss" ready to start; inside of "buss" occupied with ye crinoline and ye dear little Albert hats; did long to get inside; Goosey did say he would get inside; did try to get inside, but ye able manager, Mr. W., did politely inform him, that "ye interior was devoted exclusively to ye ladies;" Goosey did think ye ladies looked sorry at being deprived of his society; did begin to think Goosey a "goose;" knew all the time that it was I they were sorry for. Blubbs said it was a "demmed shame" to deprive the ladies of our society; manager called out "all-a-board;" did think it time to secure a passage; we did then mount aloft; Goosey did let his legs hang over ye side of ye "buss," to be as near ye ladies as possible; did find some other jolly fellows taking a "deck passage" as well; did undergo ye process of broiling during ye route along Queen street; dust was insufferable; Blubbs said it was dry work, and did have recourse to ye brandy; did take a "swig" myself; did pass ye bottle round; did all take a "swig;" ye folks on ye sidewalk did stare; no doubt thought us ye three best-looking fellows in ye party; felt sure they did; Goosey did shove his head behind me to keep his face from ye sun; would not let him; jolt of ye "buss" did make Goosey's legs knock ye hat of one of ye ladies; lady did screech; Goosey did assure her it was entirely an accident; young lady appeared satisfied; knew she was not; if it had been me she would have been; during ye route wondered if ye horses would run

away and break our necks; did not think they looked like "runaway" horses; was not sure; ye gentlemen to pass ye time away did get off ye "Buss," and walk with ye ladies' parasols to keep ye heat of ye sun rays off ye face, while others did sing with all ye might "Rule Britannia" &c.; did mentally curse them.

Arrived at ye Sunnyside; did get down from ye deck of ye "buss" in a state of dissolution from ye intense heat; did long to immerse myself in ye lake; did find a large crowd already arrived; did look at all ye ladies; did think ye ladies were the prettiest I had ever seen; did not see one bad-looking lady there; knew I was bound to create a sensation; was determined to create a sensation; did think ye gentlemen of Toronto were fine fellows; did think ye Committee were gentlemen; had no idea they were gentlemen before; next to myself and Goosey, would particularly recommend them to ye ladies; did think seriously of calling ye attention of ladies to ye Committee; did see ye gentlemen of ye press there; did see ye editor of ye *Poker* and his friend "Dobbs;" did see ye editor of ye *Grumbler*; did think ye editor of ye *Grumbler* was an ugly man; did think ye editor of ye *Poker* was uglier; ye editors appeared to be great guns among ye ladies; wondered how ye ladies could fancy such ugly fellows; thought there was no accounting for tastes; did make known my cogitations to Goosey and Blubbs; Blubbs said he would go round ye corner of ye building, to meditate upon them; Goosey and I did follow, to watch Blubbs meditate; saw Blubbs abstractedly meditating with ye brandy-bottle to his mouth; did think he had meditated long enough in solitude; did beg to be allowed to share his meditations; did share his meditations, and arrived at ye conclusion—"that ye brandy was good."

Was introduced to Miss —; did think Miss — ye prettiest girl at ye party; did begin to feel myself getting in love; felt it coming over my feet, and running in at ye tops of my gaiters; did tell Miss —, that Sunnyside was ye prettiest place I had ever seen; Miss — did say "yes;" did say ye company were nice; did say ye lake looked blue; did say ye grass looked green—to all of which Miss — did say "yes," and asked me if I did not see anything else green? I did say "Oh yes, ye trees;" had forgotten ye trees, Miss — did laugh; did laugh myself; did not know what we were laughing at; Miss — did laugh louder; did think she was such a funny girl; did tell her she was ye most amusing girl I had ever known, and asked her if she did not think Sunnyside a nice place; she did say "yes, and everything does look so fresh and green;" did think her reply very poetical; did feel myself getting over knees in love; did pass Blubbs and Goosey; did think they looked enviously at me; did feel myself getting over my waistbands in love; did propose to take a further

walk around ye grounds; did walk; did meet Goosey and Blubbs with a lady each; they did walk in same direction as myself; did come to a creek; ladies would like to cross ye creek, it was so nice; thought it was rather muddy, myself; did insist upon handing ye ladies across ye mud; did step on a mossy stone for that purpose; moss did give way, and precipitated me in ye mud; did poke my arm up to ye elbow in ye mud; ladies felt sorry for my misfortune; did turn their heads the other way, and pretend to cry; think they did laugh; Goosey came to assist me out of ye mud; did pull Goosey in too; sad accident; could not help it; felt sorry; Goosey did swear; ladies did laugh, did get out with some trouble; did try to laugh; felt inwardly vexed; ladies did laugh very loud while Goosey and I scraped ye mud off each other, with two sticks; did give up all idea of going over ye creek; did return with ladies; was introduced in form to ye other ladies; did say that "ye Sunnyside was a nice place; did say ye lake looked blue; did say ye grass looked green; ladies did agree with me in everything; glad to think they did appreciate my conversational powers; one of ye ladies did find out that she had lost her pocket-handkerchief at ye scene of ye disaster; Blubbs did volunteer to go back for ye handkerchief; offered to accompany him; would not hear of such a thing; Blubbs did go alone; did think he was gone a long time; did feel over my shirt collar in love; did get over head and ears in love; did feel uneasy about Blubbs; did venture to excuse myself to ye ladies, and go in search of him; did find Blubbs looking for ye handkerchief; did see him sitting on ye grass at ye foot of a tree, with ye brandy bottle in his hand; did look around him from where he sat; not seeing anybody, did take a drink; did like ye way Blubbs searched for ye handkerchief; determined to assist him in ye search; did assist him; thought searching for handkerchiefs a pleasant occupation; search over, went back to ye ladies; Blubbs had ye handkerchief, and returned it; was mortified to find one of ye ugly editors in tow with Miss —; could not relish ye idea at all; was introduced to some more young ladies; did say ye Sunnyside was a nice place; did say ye lake looked blue; did say ye grass looked green; Miss — did look at me and did laugh; did laugh too; ye ladies did propose a walk to ye shore of ye lake; did go to ye shore of ye lake; did tell ye young ladies again that ye lake looked blue; young ladies talked of skipping stones on ye surface of ye water; did say they would like to see some one skipping ye stones; did volunteer with Goosey to skip ye stones for ye amusement of ye ladies; did jump down ye bank, and began skipping stones; did wear out ye fingers of my kid gloves; did almost sprain my arm skipping stones for ye amusement of ye ladies; ye ladies did laugh and praise my skill; ye editor did grin; Goosey got envious of