

POOR DOCUMENT

THE ELECTRIC DOG.

QUESTIONS FOR THE LETTER BOX DEPARTMENT.

"Can I have a word in private with the man who writes the 'Questions Answered,'?" inquired a rural looking gentleman, anxiously.

"I am the man," responded the encyclopedist.

"I want you to help me out in something," said the stranger. "I live down at Flatlands, and the other day a peddler sold my wife an electric dog."

"Never heard of such a thing," observed the Questions man. "What is he like?"

"Well, he's like to bust up the ranch if I can't stop him," said the stranger earnestly. "Don't you know about such things?"

"I can understand how a battery could be placed so as to give an awkward motion to the legs and tail, with carbon points to light the eyes," ruminated the philosopher. "How does he work? Has he got carbon points?"

"I guess he has, and the carbon points in all directions," returned the stranger, gloomily. "The peddler told my wife to pour vitriol in his ear, and she did. Stranger, there isn't a whole stick of furniture in my house, and the dog has got the whole place to himself. My family live in the woodshed."

"That's strange," muttered the target for interrogation points, "the batteries must have got out of order. Can't you break the connection?"

"Just what I want!" exclaimed the Flatlands man, brightening up. "If I could only break off all connection with the dog I'd open a squash pie. Now, just tell me how it's done."

"You see," said the philosopher, leaning forward and scratching his head, "the influence of the battery on the magnets must be irregular. What does the dog seem to do?"

"The first thing he did, when she loaded him, was to go for a ham. Then he gobbled a barrel of potatoes, and drank nearly four barrels of hard cider. That gased him to madness, and he turned loose on the furniture. Eat up everything. Nothing too good for him. Three cats, a goat and ten rabbits, beside a cook stove, two clocks, tables, chairs, wash tub, a soapstone griddle and a grind stone. The prospectus passed on him said he was warranted to take the place of the imperfect domestic animal now in use; none genuine without signature; look out for imitations. That last wasn't necessary, stranger. He's kept us busy looking out for him."

"The most remarkable thing I ever heard of!" ejaculated the encyclopedist, ruffling his hair. "Does he seem to shock you when you touch him?"

"He doesn't wait till we touch him, for that. Besides we can't get near him. He just goes from one side of the building to the other, and from bottom to top. I guess his magnets must be irregular," and the stranger sighed deeply and looked pitifully for some advice.

"That's what it is," murmured the Questions man. "There's some difficulty about the polarization. You'll have to wait until the cells consume the acid, or else give him water and drown out the active principle."

"But he won't drink," protested the victim. "We put a tubful within his reach, but he snags and barks at it and runs away. Feather beds are the only thing that seem to slack his thirst. My wife says he got hydrophobia, and she's mortally afraid he'll bite the children."

"By Jove!" exclaimed the philosopher, "there's something in that. Water won't combine with the vitriol in solution, and the sight of it makes the dog mad. What did you pay for the dog?"

"Four dollars, and I'd give forty to get rid of him."

"You got him cheap," said the Questions man. "What do the plates look like?"

"He hasn't got any plates except what he's eat. He's got hair like any other dog."

"I don't understand," muttered the philosopher. "How heavy is he?"

"Weighs two or three pounds. He's only a pup. When he grows up, I'm going to call on the President for troops."

"You say he is covered with hair; what is he made of?"

"Flesh and bone, of course! What do you suppose a dog is made of?" retorted the stranger contemptuously.

"Is he alive?" demanded the encyclopedist, with his eyes bulged out.

"He was when I left. Think I come here to ask you how to get along with a dead dog?" and the stranger flared up ominously.

"And your wife poured vitriol into his ear?" yelled the professor of universal intelligence.

"Of course she did. The peddler told her he was an electric dog, and she was fool enough to believe it. I didn't know before how big a donkey my wife was until she began to think that a dog could be made to run by electricity. What I want to know is how to get that vitriol out of his ear so he can calm down; but I reckon I'll go to some fellow who don't make a business of answering questions," and the Flatlands man left without even smiling until he reached the sidewalk.

But the Questions man tore the covers off four tons of books, and ranned his head against the wall, before he could get his mind in trim to explain to a "con-

stant reader" that Peter couldn't walk on the water because he had corns.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

THE JEANETTE.—The New York Herald has received a despatch from Danenhauer which says: Delong's party is in a narrow wilderness devoid of habitations and game. The following observations are reported by the survivors regarding the temperature, etc.:—The temperature was 20 degrees above zero. The extremes of temperature of the air were:—Greatest cold, 58 degrees below zero; greatest heat, 44 degrees above. The first winter the mean temperature was 33 degrees below zero; the second winter, 39 degrees below. The first summer the mean temperature was 40 degrees above zero. The heaviest gale showed a velocity of 50 miles an hour. Such gales are not frequent. Barometric and thermometric fluctuations were not great. There were disturbances of the needle coincident with auroras. The winter growth of ice was 8 feet; heaviest ice seen 23 feet. Engineer Schock's heavy truss saved Ship No. 21 from being crushed. The telephone wires were broken by the movement of the ice. The photographic collection was lost with the ship. Chippy's 2,000 aerial observations were also lost. The naturalist's notes were saved. Jeanette Island was discovered May 16 in latitude 76 degrees 47 north, longitude 158 degrees 56 east. It was small and rocky. Did not visit it. Henrietta Island was discovered and visited May 24, in latitude 77 degrees 8 north, longitude 157 degrees 32 east. It is an extensive island. Animals are scarce and glaciers plenty. Bennett Island lies in latitude 76 degrees 38, longitude 148 degrees 20 east. It is very large. On it we found many birds, old horns, drift-wood, and coal, but no seal or walrus. A great tidal action was observed. The coast is bold and rocky. A cape on the south coast was named Cape Emma.

HOW MILLIONS OF FALSE TEETH ARE MADE.—A reporter of the Wilmington Star recently visited a factory in New York where false teeth are made by the million.

In the process of manufacture the silex and feldspar, in their crude state, are submitted to a red heat, and then suddenly thrown into cold water, the effect being to render them more easily pulverized. Having been ground very fine in water, and the water evaporated, the two materials mentioned are dried and sifted. The kaolin is washed free from impurities. These materials, with feldspar, sponge, platinum, and flux in proper proportions for the enamel, are mixed with water and worked into masses resembling putty. This done, the unbaked porcelain masses are ready for the moulding room. The moulds are in two pieces and are made of brass, one-half of the teeth or sections being on either side. The coloring materials are first placed in the exact position and quantity required, and the body of the tooth and the glaze is inserted in leucoplastic corresponding to the size of the teeth. The moulds are then closed, and they are dried by a slow heat. When perfectly dry they are taken out and sent to the trimmers' room. The trimmers remove imperfections, and send them in trays of fire clay to the furnace, where, having remained for twenty minutes, they are complete.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—Just a Bohemian friend on the street recently with a tooth-pick in his mouth. "Ah," said he, striking his cap from his head, "big find! tony banquet! I've en vient a la bouche; voi au vent kidney, fillet de clean, pate de four gras, poison hache, tripe au vin ai, hote paha vulgaris."

"Or in other words," said I, "it makes your mouth water to think of it. You had a free lunch at ten cents, consisting of stewed kidneys, goose liver pie, stuffe' claus, fish hash, sour tripe and bean pie?"

He replied, "Just as you say, only it tastes better in French."

DICKENS AND ROYALTY.—The story that Dickens refused to act before the Queen at Windsor, because he could not be received there as an equal, is supplemented by the statement that the royal family came to a special performance in London, at which Albert wept bitterly and the Queen and Prince Leopold sobbed themselves speechless.

Prospectus of the "Herald."

I offer THE HERALD to the public, believing that a journal, liberal in its opinions, independent in its tone, and prompt in the matter of news, will be well received.

THE HERALD will give prominence to local news, and by having upon its staff an experienced city editor, who will devote his whole time to the local work, it will be able to give a complete and reliable report of the events which happen in Fredericton and vicinity.

In the selection of general news, regard will be had to those subjects in which readers of the HERALD can be reasonably expected to take an interest. Such news will be given in condensed, terse form, so that much will be compressed into a small space. No effort will be spared to make this journal, as nearly as possible, a complete record of current events.

Long editorials will be discarded as a

rule, and in this department the subjects dealt with will be those of a present interest and which have some bearing upon the affairs of the people of Canada.

In politics the HERALD will be LIBERAL. Canada is essentially democratic in sentiment. Their manner of living, their education, the example set them by their fathers, are such that self-government and equal rights must ever be the birthright of Canadians. It follows therefore that anything in the political constitution which impairs the exercise of the functions of government by the people, any system of administration which favors monopolies, or has a tendency to exalt one class above another, are antagonistic to public sentiment and the best interests of the country. An important epoch in the history of this country is not far distant. Changes in the political status of the Dominion may be brought forward to be dealt with practically at any time. The HERALD will enter upon the discussion of such subjects as these with a determination to consider them from a Canadian standpoint, and to favor and advocate anything calculated to advance the material interests of the people.

In discussing the political issues now before the people, this journal will act in sympathy with Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition in Parliament.

The people of Canada cannot view with indifference the enormous expense attendant upon the administration of government. This is entirely out of proportion to the wealth and population of the Dominion, and as in a new country, seeking to build itself up by attracting immigration, it is all important that the rate of taxation should be kept low, the HERALD will join hands with those who advocate a reduction in the cost of government. The expense of administration and the large debt of the Dominion compel the imposition of a customs tariff, which, in order that sufficient revenue may be raised, must bear so large a proportion to the foreign trade of the Dominion as to be necessarily "protective." The so called "National Policy" is simply the outcome of past and present extravagance, and cannot be justified by reference to any principle other than that, that the country ought to meet its engagements as they fall due. The people not being willing to have resort to direct taxation, it follows, as a matter of course, that whatever party is in power will be compelled to continue a high tariff. Nevertheless such alterations ought to be made in details as will make the burden of taxation bear as lightly as possible upon the staple industries of the country and the laboring classes. The nearer we can approach to free trade the better, in view as well as of the interests of our own people as of the relations in which the Dominion stands towards the other parts of the Empire and the United States.

Upon the Temperance question the HERALD will occupy no uncertain position; but will give its assistance to any well devised attempt, either by legislation or otherwise, to suppress the use and traffic in intoxicating liquors.

THE HERALD will endeavor to keep its readers informed as to the progress of thought in the domain of religion and philosophy, without occupying any extreme or partisan position: neither publishing anything merely because it is novel, nor omitting to do so because it assails some generally recognized opinion.

The clergymen resident in the city will be requested to favor the readers of the HERALD by permitting the occasional publication in *extenso* of sermons by them. A special effort will be made to keep a record of what is transpiring in the religious world. No prominence will be given to any one denomination over another, but it will be our constant aim in the matter of news to treat all classes, creeds and sects with even-handed justice.

The HERALD will devote considerable attention in its tri-weekly issues to City matters, and it invites any of the rate-payers who may desire to do so, to employ its columns for the expression of their views on civic questions, with these conditions, that public men must be dealt with solely in their public capacity, and that all correspondence must be short, to the point, and deal with facts.

Correspondence upon all subjects of public interest is invited upon the same conditions.

The Saturday edition of the HERALD will not be a simple reproduction of the tri-weekly editions. It will be made up by selecting the articles in those editions of most interest to the public generally, as well outside as within the city. In addition to this, the local and foreign news

will be brought down to the hour of going to press, and in this respect the HERALD will stand alone among the weekly newspapers of New Brunswick. It will also contain all the Church announcements for the next Sunday and the ensuing week, and such other features as may suggest themselves as calculated to make it a welcome visitor in every home, not only in this city, but along the valley of the Saint John. There is a field here for the right kind of a weekly paper, and the HERALD proposes to try and occupy it.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The Tri-weekly, by mail postage free, or delivered to subscribers in Fredericton and St. Mary's, \$3.00 per an. The Weekly, 1.00 " Both editions, 3.50 " invariably in advance.

Single copies of tri-weekly edition 2 cts., either at the office or from newboys in Fredericton, Woodstock and on all lines of railway in Western New Brunswick.

CHAS. H. LUGRIN, Editor and Proprietor

FREDERICTON, DECEMBER 4, 1881.

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A JOB LINE OF RUBBERS AND OVERSHOES now on hand.

In our Custom Boot and Shoe Department, our foreman, MR. WILLIAM TUPP, will endeavor to meet the wants of all with good workmanship and a first-class fit. Our stock is now open for public inspection. Drop in and see us.

THOS. W. SMITH & SON. P. O. No. 4, 1881.

FIGS.

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