

Poetry.

THE POET'S FIRST SONG.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF HOWLAND, BY WILLIAM JULIEN BRYANT.

[From the Mayflower, the journal of the fair of the Young Women's Christian Association of New York.]

Already had I wandered Over half the globe alone; The tresses of other nations, I knew them like my own.

And great men call me brother, In many a distant land; And many a mighty monarch, In greeting gave his hand.

Amid Pompeii's ruins, Amid the Swiss Alps' snows, And by the pyramids of Egypt, And where La Plata flows.

I stood and sang my verses; And what the poet said, Thrilled through the hearts of thousands, By eager thousands read.

A star upon my bosom, A heaven within, I came, And conscious of my name, That gathered round my name.

Came from afar to visit The little nook of earth Where stood long since my cottage— The vale that saw my birth.

And now, from the last hill-top, My boundary-stone beside, Over that small, sheltered valley I cast a look of pride.

And, gazing in my fortunes, I said, "I thank thee, Fate; I, who went forth so lonely, That I return so great."

Then up the hill came toiling A woman, faint and pale, And with two lovely children, Sat looking down the vale.

And soon I heard her singing A simple little lay, A strain that moved me strangely, Though why, I could not say.

So timidly I asked her, "Whence came that simple rhyme?" "From happy days," she answered, "A long-remembered time."

"On parting with the maiden, A youth composed the song." Ah, then I knew the verse— My first, forgotten long.

And eagerly I questioned, "Who gave the song to thee?" She blushed; "No mortal knows it," She said, "save only I."

"Thou art the poet's Mary?" Her silence answered true. But whither went the poet? "Nay, that I never knew."

Heard he of him no further? "No, never since that day." Wrote he no other verses? "In truth, I cannot say."

His name? "Nay, gentle stranger, Ask not the name he bore!" Perchance I, too, may know him, "But me he knows no more."

Yet sing again, I pray thee, That simple melody. "Not now; my husband yonder Waits for my babes and me."

I saw her then descending To where her husband stood; Upon his arm he took her, And led her little brood.

Here was a mighty poet, His name to thousands known, But in his native valley, To one, and one alone.

And, lost in sad musings, Then when he went away, He yielded all his honors, And that forgotten lay.

Miscellaneous.

HISTORY OF SILVER.

From an article in the Boston Journal of Commerce, giving the history of silver as a standard of value, we reprint the following:

Silver, next to iron and gold, is the most extensively diffused metal upon our globe. It occurs frequently in a native state, though never chemically pure, being invariably mixed with gold or copper, or sometimes antimony, arsenic, bismuth, quicksilver or iron. Native silver is found in masses and in arborescent and filiform shapes, in veins and other rocks. It is distinguished by its whiteness, its brilliant lustre when polished, its malleability, and its indifference to atmospheric oxygen. It is readily crystallizable, and always assumes one or more of the symmetrical shapes, such as the cube or octahedron. It is remarkable for its beauty, and is ten times heavier than water. It does not appear to have been known before the discovery of America. It is not alluded to in the Bible, but mentions only brass and iron. But in Abraham's time it becomes common, and traffic was carried on with it. He was rich in silver, and gold, and bought a sepulchre for his wife Sarah for four hundred shekels of silver. It was not coined, but circulated only in bars and ingots, and was always weighed. Silver takes precedence of gold in the Scriptures, whenever the two precious metals are mentioned conjointly. "Silver and gold have I none," said Peter to the importunate beggar, "but such as I have, give I unto you." Silver is first mentioned in Gen. xxiii. 16; but where it is first found is unknown to us.

The relative value of silver to gold, in the days of the patriarch Abraham, was eight to one; at the period of B. C. 1000, it was twice to one; B. C. 500, it was eight to one; at the commencement of the Christian Era, it was nine to one; A. D. 1000, it was eleven to one; A. D. 1500, it was twenty to one; A. D. 1600, it was thirty to one; A. D. 1700, it was thirty-five to one; A. D. 1800, it was forty to one; A. D. 1810, it was forty-five to one; A. D. 1820, it was fifty to one; A. D. 1830, it was fifty-five to one; A. D. 1840, it was sixty to one; A. D. 1850, it was sixty-five to one; A. D. 1860, it was seventy to one; A. D. 1870, it was seventy-five to one; A. D. 1880, it was eighty to one; A. D. 1890, it was eighty-five to one; A. D. 1900, it was ninety to one.

The amount of silver in existence at the commencement of the Christian Era was nine hundred millions of dollars; at the period of the discovery of America it had diminished to one hundred and thirty-five millions; after the occurrence of that event, it gradually increased, and in 1800 it attained to three hundred and ninety-one millions; in 1810, to four hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1820, to five hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1830, to six hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1840, to seven hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1850, to eight hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1860, to nine hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1870, to one thousand and thirty-five millions; in 1880, to one thousand and three hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1890, to one thousand and four hundred and thirty-five millions; in 1900, to one thousand and five hundred and thirty-five millions.

millions; in 1700, to four hundred and ten millions; in 1800, to thirty-five hundred and twenty million; in 1840, to forty-eight hundred and eighty-five million; in 1860, to fifty-two hundred and forty million; and at the present time the amount of silver in existence is estimated to be sixty-three hundred and ninety million dollars; which, welded into one mass, could be contained in a cube of sixty-nine feet. Of the total amount of silver, forty-three hundred million are estimated to be in coin and bullion, eleven hundred million in watches, and the remainder in plate, jewelry and ornaments.

Since 1762, to the present time, the silver coinage of the United States mint has amounted to one hundred and sixty-eight million dollars, of which sixty million have been issued since 1850. Since 1720, the silver coinage of the French mint has amounted to thirty-four hundred million dollars, of which five hundred million have been issued since 1850. Since 1664, the silver coinage of the Russian mint has amounted to four hundred million dollars, of which one hundred million have been issued since 1850.

The annual product of silver has doubled within a quarter of a century, but the price has declined only sixteen per cent. The United States now furnishes one-fourth of the gold and one-half of the silver produced in the world.

The amount of travel on the English railways in the vicinity of London is prodigious and almost incredible. A writer in Chambers' Journal says the average number of trains running each week over the Metropolitan extension of the Chatham and Dover line, a distance of twelve miles, is 540. The number of passengers conveyed over this road during six months is over 7,000,000. On Whit Monday last the Metropolitan Railway carried 244,000 persons and during Whitsun week over 1,000,000 passengers travelled on that underground line. One-sixteenth of the entire population of London made use of this railway in one day without an accident. In the busiest time of day, between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, a train passes over the line every forty seconds—or seven trains in five minutes. In the course of the day 720 trains have run backward and forward, safely being secured by insuring not an interval of time, not of space, between the several trains. During twelve years 204,255,535 persons have been transferred over this road. Within a single twelve-month period the Great Western Railway ran 255,986 trains, some of them carrying 700 passengers. The express train on this road is the fastest in the world, and runs at the rate of one mile in a quarter of an hour and a quarter.

Two women in Des Moines, Iowa, recently gave birth to children in the same room at the same time. The circumstances transpired sooner than had been expected, and as a consequence preparation for their new arrivals had not been made. Intelligence of the event was conveyed to a neighboring house, and a woman living near them hastened to them in order to render necessary aid. She cared for the little stranger, bathed and clothed them, and in due season started to present them to their waiting mamma. Then she made the startling discovery that she had succeeded in inextricably mixing the infants so that she was unable to decide which was the mother of either. The case was anxiously considered by all parties, but no decision could be reached, and finally the two mothers each laid for choice, agreeing that if the children should, when grown, develop family traits sufficiently to identify them, they should be exchanged if the present selection should prove to be incorrect.

For some time past the workmen in the Zoological Society's Garden in London have been busily employed in the construction of a large temporary building and an adjoining yard, intended for the reception of the Prince of Wales's living collection of Indian animals, which will be deposited there on his return to England. The collection is said to be extensive, comprising nearly 150 animals and birds, among which are four elephants, five tigers, two lions, one Cashmere deer, six other deer, and very fine series of Himalayan pheasants. There were also living at the time the collection left Suez specimens of the Indian man and goral or Himalayan rhinoceros, neither of which animals has yet been introduced alive into England. Unfortunately the valuable armadillo died on the passage from India.

A VALUABLE RECIPE.—The Journal of Chemistry publishes a recipe for the destruction of insects, which, if it be one half as efficacious as it is claimed to be, will prove invaluable. Hot alum-water is a recent suggestion as an insecticide. It will destroy red and black ants, bed-bugs, chinch bugs, and all the crawling pests which infest our houses. Take two pounds of alum and dissolve it in three or four quarts of boiling water; let it stand on the fire till the alum disappears; then apply it with a brush, while nearly boiling hot, to every joint and crevice in your closets, bedsteads, pantry shelves and the like. Brush crevices in the floor of the skirting, or mop-boards, if you expect they harbor vermin.

NO DUBT A SWINDLE.—A New Orleans despatch tells us that a ticket No. 12,332, in the Louisiana State Lottery, drew the sum of \$100,000 in gold; and that it was discovered or was in the hands of the Chicago Agency. As in all such cases, this is no doubt a swindle. All lotteries are swindles. We have yet to learn of a single exception. We don't know anything about it, but feel entirely safe in saying that that pretended "capital prize ticket, No. 12,332" is not held by any honest man in Chicago or anywhere else.—Chicago Journal.

In excavating a big well at St. Joseph, Mo., a stratum of quicksand has been reached which boils like a meal-storm and throws up limbs of trees, bars of wood and great boulders of stone. The curbing has been put down to a depth of forty feet, to accomplish which a pressure of more than 107,000 pounds was required.

The French do not bury in single graves, like their English brethren. They buy or hire a plot of ground, four or five, or nine or ten feet square, if they are rich, and there dig one grave deep enough for all the family. Over this they build a little house in stone—a chapel—in the sides of which are written the names of the dead below.

A Florida farmer began in the latter part of December to sell his strawberries at St. Augustine for \$2.50 a quart. On the 31st January he began to go in twice a week and sell at \$1. On the 1st of February his price was 75 cents, and now that the season is about over he gets 25 cents.



T. RANKINE & SON'S STEAM BISCUIT MANUFACTORY, MILL ST., ST. JOHN, N. B.

TO CONSUMPTIVES. THE advertiser having been permanently cured of that dread disease, Consumption, by a simple remedy, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the means of cure. To all who desire it, he will send a copy of the prescription used, (free of charge), with the directions for preparing and using the same, which they will find a SURE CURE for CONSUMPTION, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, &c. Parties wishing the prescription will please address, REV. E. A. WILSON, 124 Penn St., Williamsburg, New York. Jan 25 6m

ERRORS OF YOUTH. A GENTLEMAN who suffered for years from Nervous Debility, Premature Decay, and all the effects of youthful indiscretion with for the sake of suffering humanity, and free to all who need it, the recipe and direction for making the simple remedy by which he was cured. Sufferers wishing to profit by the advertiser's experience can do so by addressing in perfect confidence, JOHN B. OGDEN, 42 Cedar St., New York. Jan 25 6m

We are now Showing ON our Retail Counters and in our various Departments, an UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE STOCK OF NEW and DESIRABLE GOODS received during the past fortnight. We respectfully solicit the attention of all who wish to purchase.

DRY GOODS at the LOWEST CASH PRICES (without discount and price). Manchester, Robertson & Allison, 27 King Street, St. John, N. B. Great Bargains

DRESS GOODS. A LOT OF SUMMER DRESS GOODS Now Being Offered at Cost, by M. C. Barbour, 48 Prince William St., St. John, N. B. First Spring Importations 1876.

Via Portland and Halifax: 48 BALEs and Cases New Goods comprising TWEEDES, TROUSERS, and CAPS; MACHINE SILK and TWIST in all numbers of the best quality; ITALIAN SILKES and FALLOUS; TRIMMINGS; Grey, White and Printed COTTONS; Linen and Cotton SHEETINGS, &c.; 13 bale CARPETINGS in Union and Wool and Tapestry; and a large quantity of GREY COTTONS of Paris' manufacture, superior in quality and extra good value. J. & J. Hogan & Co., 27 & 29 Prince William St., St. John, N. B.

TO FARMERS. LABOR MADE EASY. THE VAN-ALLEN Common Sense Dash CHURN 'T'S the cheapest, simplest, most durable, easiest to work, fastest in using, and will give more Butter of the same quantity of cream than any other Churn that has ever been offered for sale in Nova Scotia. It has been for many years in use in the Western and Northern States and Canada, and takes the first place wherever it has been shown. It has been tried here by a reliable party who states that it is all that it claims to be, and that without any extra exertion or haste they churned and gathered in nine (9) minutes. An Agent who shortly canvass the County, and orders so received will receive prompt attention. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. SAMUEL FITZ RANDOLPH, Proprietor for the Patent Right for the County of Annapolis.

JUST RECEIVED, An Assortment of DRY GOODS, CONSISTING of Laces, Brilliantes, Printed, Bleached and Unbleached Cottons, Black and Scarlet Merinos, Mt. sin and Net Curtains, Table Covers, Embroid. &c. &c. Women's Coll'd. and White Linen, 15c & 65c Mens' " " " " 10c to 50c " " " " 25c to 50c

Gents' Linen & Paper Collars "Best in America," "Clich' Honors," "Paris Champion," "Le Collar," "Lorain," "Onward," "Cornel," "Geneva," "Lander and Victory Cuffs, Neck Ties and Handkerchiefs, White and Colored Shirts, Colored Merino and White Under Shirts, Drawers, &c. Also on hand a first rate article of Tea, Sugar, Spices, &c. Cheap for Cash at LYDIA WHELOCK'S, BRIDGE-TOWN, June 9th, 1875.

E. T. KENNEDY & CO., 37 Prince William Street, ST. JOHN, N. B., STEAM HEATING ENGINEERS, RUBBER AND LEATHER BELTING. Agents for Rich's Patent Saw Sharpener and Grimmer.

VINCENT & McFATE, PARADISE ROW, ST. JOHN, N. B. HAVING received about \$5,000.00 worth of the Finest Quality of Oil-Tanned Larrigan Leather from Wm. Peters, one of the Leading Tanners in the Province of New Brunswick, we will be prepared for the manufacture of all kinds of LARRIGANS AND SHOE PACS, And believing this Stock to be far superior to any imported from the United States, will guarantee all our Customers a Superior Article at a CHEAPER RATE than any manufacturer in the Dominion of Canada. Also having received one of the LATEST IMPROVED TURN SHOE MACHINES, at a cost of \$1,000.00, we will be able to compete with any of the American or Canadian Manufacturers of Ladies', Gents', Misses' and Children's SLIP-PEERS of all kinds.

GLASS! GLASS! 1000 Boxes Glass, in all sizes, at cheap rates. White Lead, Oils, Brushes, Paper Hangings of a kind, WHOLESALE and RETAIL. The trade supplied on reasonable terms at 22 Gernan St., St. John, N. B. BLAKSLER & WHITEHEAD, Proprietors.

GILBERT'S LANE DYE WORKS, ST. JOHN, N. B. It is a well-known fact that all classes of goods get soiled and faded before the material is half worn, and only require cleaning and dyeing to make them look as good as new. Carpets, Feathers, Curtains, Dress Gowns, Shawls, Waterproof Mantles, Silks and Satins, &c., &c., dyed on reasonable terms. BLACK GOODS at a special price. Agents—Annapolis, W. J. SHANNON, Merchant; Digby, Miss WILSON, Millinery and Dry Goods. A. L. LAW, Proprietor.

NOTICE. ALL persons having any demands against the Estate of the late JAMES AMERSON, late of Paradise, in the County of Annapolis, are requested to render their accounts duly attested to within three months, and all persons indebted to said Estate, to make immediate payment to GEORGE MURDOCH, Executor. Bridgetown, March 28th, 1876.

Notice. ALL persons having legal demands against the Estate of RUBEN D. BALCOM, late of Paradise, in the County of Annapolis, are requested to render their accounts duly attested to within one year from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to SAMUEL E. BALCOM, Exrs. Paradise, March 16th, 1876. GEORGE MURDOCH, Executor.

W. G. LAWTON, Cor. King and Canterbury Streets, St. John, N. B. January, 1876. Customs Department. OTTAWA, March 26, 1875. AUTHORIZED (Discount of American Invoices, until further notice)—11 per cent. J. JOHNSON, Commissioner of Customs.

Bill-Heads. Different sizes and styles promptly and cheaply printed at the office of this paper. BILL-HEADS Different sizes and styles promptly and cheaply printed at this office. Neatly and promptly executed at the "BUSINESS CARDS" Neatly and promptly executed at the office of this paper.

S. R. FOSTER & SON'S STANDARD Nail, Shoe Nail & Tack Works. ST. JOHN, N. B. ESTABLISHED 1849. (Formerly W. H. ADAMS' CITY NAIL WORKS.) Orders solicited, prompt attention and satisfaction guaranteed. 210

Agricultural.

HINTS ABOUT WORK.

Book Credits.—Set at once in quarterly rows at a south-wind distance to allow of horse cultivation.

Insects must be fought, and tent caterpillars, canker-worms, barklice, and borers kept off, and destroyed in some way as soon as they appear.

Grafting may be done this month at any time, providing the cions were cut before their buds started, and well kept. Trees bearing only inferior fruit may be grafted, and made valuable.

Horses.—The use of three-horse teams is often a great saving of labour. Three horses will often do as much as two-horse teams separately, and save the wages of one man.

Milk Cows.—There is often disappointment caused by a falling off in milk when cows are turned upon the new grass and other food stopped. The young grass is deficient in nutriment and too watery. A good feed of cut hay and mixed bran and meal given once a day will avoid this.

Strawberries.—Keep the soil between the rows open and mellow until the fruit begins to form, when a mulch of leaves or straw should be given to keep the fruit from coming in contact with the soil; any weeds which appear through the mulch can be hand-picked. Set out new beds early and mulch to protect the plants from frosts. In small gardens it will pay to water strawberries.

Selection of seeds.—It is important that good seeds be used. If the best seeds are not selected at husking, or at harvest time from stalks being two ears, it would be better to pay a high price for good seed to those who have been more careful, than to take the seed from the corn crib. It is only by carefully selecting the seed for sowing in succession that we can improve our present varieties.

Manure.—Manure is undoubtedly the best root crop for any climate. Upon good soil, and when well cultivated, thirty tons per acre may be grown easily. The earlier this month the seed is sown the better, but it is not worth while to grow a poor crop upon poor land. Sown in drills 4 feet apart, 4 lbs. of seed are required for an acre when well up, thin out to 12 inches apart in the rows.

Grapes.—A new variety of vines only one can the first year. As the new growth appears, tie up carefully to wires or other support and give any necessary support to which start. Give the soil between the vines a dressing of ground bone—never use manure or stable manure if the fruit and suits are desired. Cutting out poor and mal-formed branches as soon as set, will help the rest of the crop; this can only be done in small vineyards.

Sheep Shearing.—The value of the fleece is increased by care in shearing. All filthy tags should be taken off before the sheep is shorn and thrown into a basket by themselves. Never roll these up in the fleece. If any cuts are made upon the skin of the sheep, rub a little pine tar upon them. After shearing guard against rain storms. Much trouble in tagging the sheep will be saved if they are kept from the fresh grass or clover after they are washed, and fed hay until shorn.

A Good Start.—A great help in doing anything, but most especially in growing crops. To thoroughly harrow the ground before sowing, to sow the seed while the soil is fresh, and to use some active fertilizer near the seed, but not in contact with it, will give any crop a good start. The common mixture of poultry droppings, wood ashes, and plaster, in equal parts, makes an excellent fertilizer. If mixed while dry, or immediately before using, it is ammonia from the droppings is lost.

Live Stock.—To keep the farm animals in good condition just now when the fresh food is coming in, requires judgment and watchfulness. A sudden change of feed is generally harmful. When an animal is found to be ailing, it may be taken for granted that something is wrong with its food or management, and there should be at once looked to for the cause, and the mischief averted. It will be well to turn the stock out until they have been fed upon their usual fodder, and accustom them to green food gradually.

Flouring for Corn.—There is no better ground for corn than a well top-dressed one. The nearer the plowing of this can be brought to the time of planting the better. The seed quickly germinates in the moist fresh soil; the cut worms are busy upon the corn roots and let the corn alone, and the weeds do not start until the corn has time to get a good growth and shoot ahead of them. The quick growth is greatly helped by some active fertilizer sown on the surface and harrowed in lightly.

Young stock should be kept growing from their birth. The science of feeding is becoming much better understood than it has been, and the mixing of different kinds to make the food more palatable and nutritious should be a matter of close study. Food is the raw material from which we make flesh, milk, and wool, and much may be saved by using this material in the profitable manner. The mother's milk is the best food for young animals, but to this some additional food may be added by degrees, so soon as the digestive powers are capable of assimilating it.

Planting Corn.—With the excellent implements we now have for cultivating this crop, there is no need to plant in squares or hills and so waste ground. With rows from 3 to 4 feet apart, the seed may be dropped singly 6 inches to a foot apart. We can have them in the first case 29,000 plants of the small kinds, and nearly 15,000 of the large kinds, to an acre. With one good ear to a stalk, the crop would be equal to from 140 to 150 bushels of shelled corn per acre. Why cannot every stalk in a corn field be made to produce a single ear well as a portion only, when room enough is given? This is what we have yet to learn in the way of growing corn.

DOMESTIC ITEMS. ANOTHER CURE FOR TOOTHACHE.—One drachm of colloidum added to two drachms of carbonic acid; a gelatinous mass is precipitated, a small portion of which inserted in the cavity of an aching tooth invariably gives relief. Care must be taken that this is for tooth and not the ear.

MUSTARD PLASTER.—One tablespoonful of mustard and 3 of flour, mix in their warm (not hot) water, to a thick paste, double the quantity, cover with soft old book or Swiss fabric, bastie it round with a needle and thread; heat very hot two large plates by putting them in a hot oven; put the plaster between the plates to keep it warm until you prepare to apply. If the case is urgent, make the plaster stronger, or by leaving out part of the flour. Keep it on for twenty minutes, or until the patient is relieved.

It is related of Justice Smith that once, on entertaining a drawing-room in a West End mansion, he found it lined with mirrors on all sides. Finding himself reflected in every direction, he said that he "supposed it was at a meeting of the clergy, Food is the raw material from which we make flesh, milk, and wool, and much may be saved by using this material in the profitable manner. The mother's milk is the best food for young animals, but to this some additional food may be added by degrees, so soon as the digestive powers are capable of assimilating it.

An absent-minded editor having counted a girl and applied to her father, the old man said: "Well, you want my daughter; what sort of a settlement will you make? What will you give her in her dowry?" replied the father, "I'll give her a vacant seat in the next issue."

"Is it becoming to me?" asked she, as she paraded in the costumes of one hundred years ago, before the man who is not her own eye, and then you'll know how to cast out the oats that is in his hair." This probably rendered the command more effective in the agricultural districts.

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Old Mr. Perkins has grown sick and weary with hearing his grandchildren incessantly talking about the coming glories of the Philadelphia show; but he succeeded in silencing them for a time the other day by remarking quizzically, "Aye, aye, ye may say what ye please about yer Sins' mother, but ye can't make 'em what they used to be in my young days," and he turned off the gas and shuffled away to bed in the dark.

Jokers' Corner.

Old bells can be made as good as new ones. Old bells can be made as good as new ones. Old bells can be made as good as new ones.

When do two and two not make four? When they stand for twenty-two.

When parents yield up their daughters in marriage they do it with misgivings.

If you wish for money send a postal card to the man who owes you, and the thing is done.

A typographical error—An ignorant youth attempting to learn the printing trade.—Norrison Herald.

When she struck him over the head with a tin dipper for trying to kiss her, he called it "the intimidation of the belle."

The letter "O" is called the most charitable of all the alphabet, because it is found oftener than any other in "doing good."

Spillikins says there are two ways in which "far, fat and forty" makes itself conspicuous, viz.: it wastes of sighs, and its size of waist.

"Cemetery" is the name of a new station on the Stoney Creek railroad. All "dead heads" are expected to get off at this station.

A Brks county farmer has mowed with the same scythes for thirty-five years. He said he expects to use it until he is no mowder.—Norrison Herald.

Topic: Geological discussion. Principal—Was it colder or warmer a hundred years ago than at present? Pupil (hesitatingly)—"I really don't recollect, sir."

That was a good Detroit boy who told his father that if he would buy him a pony he would let him have the use of it when it was too rainy for good boys to be out.—Detroit Free Press.

A correspondent entered an office and accused the compositor of not having punctuated his communication, when the type earnestly replied: "I'm not a pointer; I'm a setter!"

The French Atlantic cable is broken 200 miles from Brest, which makes a long waste of wire.—N. O. Republican. Not if the break is in the bosom of the ocean.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

A Jerseyman married five wives, and they were all red-headed. He explains it by relating that the first one clawed the spirit out of him so completely that he didn't care after that if he married a porcupine.

Josh Billings has written a play. The principal part will be taken by the legs of a mule, and the dramatic movement will be hastened by the business end of a hornet, skillfully introduced.

Mr. Killsmith advertises in a St. Louis paper for a situation. We should think, however, that a gentleman with such a name as his would find plenty to keep him busy all his lifetime.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

How to miss cats.—First catch your cats; and then put them in a barrel, and explode a can of nitro-glycerine upon them. It never falls to raise 'em; but the cats come down greatly demoralized.—Norrison Herald.

A young lady in Barntown told her lover that she liked Shakespeare very much, and that she "read it when it first came out." Then she proceeded to scan a magazine to see what the Spring styles were.—Nelson (Ky) Record.

A student who failed to pass in his Greek history examination, repudiated with scorn the insinuation that he was a dolt. He had crammed himself he said, so tight that he could not get it out again.

A skating rink accident is thus described by a Kentucky reporter: "She struck out—couldn't turn—started for the ceiling—shouted—don't you look!—turned a hand-spring, and then sat down. The stripes were brown and red."

Fond mamma should get into carriage to small boy in the house door.—Now, Freddie, are you not going to kiss me? Freddie.—I haven't time to come down, mamma. (To footman)—John, you kiss mamma for me. (To mamma)

Two tramps stopped at the house of a lone widow in Westchester county, and one went in to bed. Very soon he came out with a bloody nose and black eye. "Did you get anything, Jack?" "Yes, growl'd the sufferer, 'I've got the widow's reward."

A smart answer—A minister in one of his parochial visits met upon the road a man who asked him what o'clock it was. "About twelve, sir," was the reply. "Well," quoth the minister, "I thought it had been more." "It's never any more here," said the boy; "it's just begun at one again."

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Old Mr. Perkins has grown sick and weary with hearing his grandchildren incessantly talking about the coming glories of the Philadelphia show; but he succeeded in silencing them for a time the other day by remarking quizzically, "Aye, aye, ye may say what ye please about yer Sins' mother, but ye can't make 'em what they used to be in my young days," and he turned off the gas and shuffled away to bed in the dark.