



"STUFF THAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF."

—Shakespeare.

"DE SUN DON'T MOVE!"

THE interest taken by the more intellectual members of the colored population in the great problems of astronomy is well known. For some time the question of the truth or falsehood of the Copernican system has been warmly discussed, the general opinion inclining to the belief that, in the words of a recent colored *savant*, "de sun do move." A contrary view has been regarded by the most of the brethren as savoring of the heretical notions prevalent among loose thinkers and white trash generally, and as opposed to all sound orthodox teaching.

An unexpected victory was, however, scored for the Copernican theory at the recent meeting of the Colored Young Men's Literary and Scientific Association on the occasion of the visit of the Rev. C. A. Johnson, of Hamilton, editor of the *British Lion*, and one of the most eminent champions of the hypothesis of the motion of the sun. Mr. Johnson had ably sustained his position in a speech replete with scientific and theological erudition, his principal argument, of course, being drawn from the Scripture account of Joshua commanding the sun to stand still.

"Cose de sun do move," said Mr. Johnson. "Doan't de Scriptur' say so? Ef de sun hadn't been movin', would Joshua hab tole it ter stood still? How do yer git ober dat? Dese people whad say de sun am stationary hab to frow ober de Bible. Dey am all Infidels of de wust kine."

There was a round of applause as the speaker paused for a reply. Then the leader of the Copernican faction, Prof. Erastus De Quincy Redpath, rose and claimed the floor.

"Mistah charman," said he, "I begs to repudiate wid de utmost indignity de insinuations ob de las' speaker dat we wanter frow away de Scriptur'. No, sah. Ef de gentleman would 'lucidate de passages ob de tex' 'cordin' to de lates' exegesis it would eradicate de hallucinations wich am based upon erroneous ratiocinations. Now, sah, I 'low dat de account ob how Joshua laid out de 'Malekites at de battle of Armagaddon am correct. Ob cose ef Joshua tole de sun to stan' still it must hab been movin' at de time. Well, doan't de Scriptur' Book say dat de luminary done stood still unto de Hebrews at de command of Joshua? Cose it do. (*Loud applause from the anti-Copernicans.*) Hole on, bruddern, you am too previous. Wait till I get frow. De sun done stood still.

Dat pint am settled. Well, den, does de book say dat Joshua tole him to go on agin? No, sah; dar aint nuffin in de Book to dat effect. Wharfore, de sun hab jest bin stationary eber since, an' de hull system am changed. Dat eloquent interpolation about Joshua jest proves my argumentation. De sun uster move, but it don't now."

The neat way in which Prof. Redpath turned the Scriptural argument against his opponent captured the audience, and a resolution endorsing the Copernican philosophy was carried by an overwhelming majority.

IN THE CONFESSIONAL.

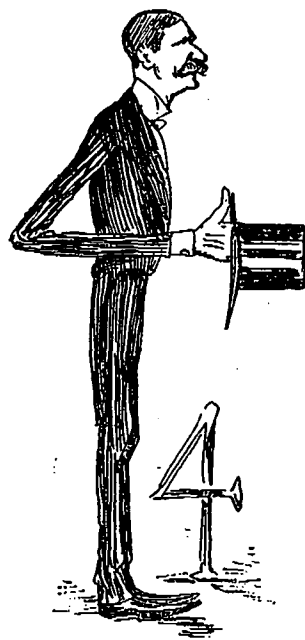
PENITENT HABITANT—"I have been a great sinner, your reverence, since I was here last. I have cursed Mother Church and all her works on account of that assessment for the new cathedral. It was hard to raise it and the interest on the mortgage as well, so Satan got the better of me several times."

FATHER TRUEFAITH—"But you paid the assessment all the same, my son. For I cannot absolve you unless that be paid."

P. H.—"Yes, father, I paid it, though there was the devil to pay, too. I had to get another mortgage on the old place, and I'm afraid I shall be sold out before the end of the year."

F. T.—"How vain and fleeting are all worldly possessions, my son! But how comforting it is to think that though riches take to themselves wings and fly away, we can follow them to the bosom of Mother Church, and there find them laid up in an inheritance that fadeth not away. O lay not up for yourself treasures upon earth, my son, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where pries—ahem!—thieves break through and steal, etc."

WILLIAM MCGILL.



FIGURATIVE ATTITUDE

Of Mr. Mayor Clarke on meeting the Council on the commencement of his 4th term.