The only two old newspaper humorists who have held their own before the public are C. B. Lewis, of the Detroit Free Press, and Robert J. Burdette, of the Burlington Hawkeye. Lewis is a veritable prodigy. He has written constantly for ten years, and he has not weakened in the least. Burdettet does not write as much, but he has improved and he has yet to do the best work of his life. We believe Burdette is drifting toward verse-making; if this be true, we may look for some exquisite work at his hands after he has learned the difference between a spondee and a dactyl and is brave enough to put his thoughts into rhyme. The foolish fear of being laughed at has aborted many a beautiful poem.

Of the more recent humorists, the best are Joel C. Harris, E. W. Nye, and Opie Reed. Nye is the most popular, but Reed is undoubtedly the most versatile. Harris' work is simply perfect in its way, but the fact that it is largely confined to dialect sketches prescribes the extent of its popularity, and this extent of popularity wiil, we b lieve, diminish year by year. James Whitcomb Riley is beyond all question the best of our humorous poets. Thomas B. Chrystol, of the New York Morning Journal, is the most promising of the young verse-writers, and he it undeniably the most prolific and most fashionable; it is hard to determine as to the versatility of his humor, as his verses have hitherto been wholly confined within the limits of comicali-

When we come to consider the demand for humor which exists in this country, we are amazed to find that there is so few writers capable of answering that demand. It is complained that the humorist writes himself out. but we do not believe it necessarily follows that because one has a talent he must exhaust that talent in two, five or ten years. We do not see why that talent should not endure a life-time. But it must be nursed and fostered and cultivated and improved.

The trouble with the average writer -be he humorously inclined or notas that he spends the principal of his ability instead of husbanding that principal and subsisting upon the interest, The graveyards of journalism are full of intellectual paupers-those who had all that genius could give a man, but who foolishly and extragagantly lavished their wealth of brilliancy, with no thought of the professional to-morrow, till they found themselves suddenly bankrupt and benighted and objects of universal compassion.—Eugene Field.

FATHER AND SON.

WHEREIN IS SHOWN HOW HARD IT IS TO GET AHEAD OF THE SMALL BOY. "Saladin !"

Saladin paused and his attitude was one to charm the eye of artist and the soul of poet. One little leg was already swung over the top of the fence, clinging thereto by the firm bent knee. Below the other leg-the left one; it had intended to have left with the other one, right soon, but for the voice that hailed him back. Under the towering rim of the torn hat Saladin glanced with eyes that gleamed less with defiance than more with a distressful consciousness that he had been caught up in the very moment of his triumph. He turned,

swered that expressive monysyllable of his native tongue: "Hay?"

"Back to thy haunt, false fugitive! Ha! bend to thy task, and ply the greas-ed saw with many a muffled wheeze,, till high the cevered hickory piles the woodshed floor, lest with a pliant skate strap I pursue and raise the fur along thy truant spine. Ha! thou rebellious child of mine, what hid'st thou underneath that recreant jacket?"

and knew his father, and him he an-

For a moment Saladin struggled with his emotion, and strove to look as though he had nothing under his jacket. But a large-size tomato can is too obtrusive in its rotundity, and too definitely pronounced in its platform to escape public attention, even when close buttoned under the snug-fitting garmenture of a boy of 11 years. With a despairing sigh he said:

"Can full o' worms."

The skate-strap fell from his lordly father's nerveless grasp.

"Fishin' worms ?" he asked, "Hannem toomy!" Which by interpretation is-hand them to me.

He took the can and stirred up the menagerie with a stick.

"Varlet," he said, "where keepest

thou thy rod and lines ?" Salidin pointed to a gloomy corner of the woodshed and his worthy father

"Where, thou truant villain, where are they bitin' best?"

scooped the tackle in.

"Right in the slough, just below the second bridge," Saladin said.

"Now, by my halidame, and I enjoy not an afternoon's sport myself, I were worse than infidal: and thou, Sir Sluggard, if there be one small stick not sawn asunder when I hie me home, see thou to it.

And his sire was gone; gone with his rod, his hooks and lines, his bait. As his hurrying feet carried him out of sight, Salidin smiled, a melancholy, bitter, yet withal a joyous smile.

"An' he find not the ice at the second bridge frozen clear to the bottom," he said, "an' if it be not still thicker at the first bridge, an' if he find a hole in the ice in all that land whereto I have sent him, then may these yearning eves of mine ne'er gaze upon the back of me neck again."

And he turned to the wood pile, and picking out all the hard, tough, knotty sticks, tossed them with a boy's generous impulse over the fence into the yard of a poor neighbor. "They will steal our wood anyhow," muttered Saladin, and heaven knows it is right I should save them the sin, and pick out the hard ones."

And as with many a rhythmic wheeshaw, whee-shaw, he sawed the easy stick, the boy's heart, ever slow to harbor malice, softened and melted in his breast, as he thought of the old gentleman trying to cut holes in ten-foot ice with a pocket-knife. Verily the man emptieth ashes against the north winds who thinketh that he getteth a long way ahead of even a small boy .- Burlington Hawkeye.

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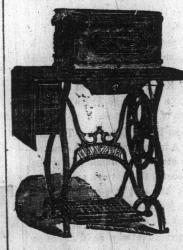
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Annapolis Le've 14 Bridgetown " 28 Middleton " 42 Aylesford " 47 Berwick " 50 Waterville " 59 Kentville d'pt 66 Wolfville " 66 Wolfville " 72 Avonport "	A. M. 8 40 6 00 6 10 6 25 6 37	A. M. 5 30 6 25 7 25 8 32 8 55 9 10 10 40 11 10 11 22 11 35	P. M 14 22 25 33 34 35 42 43 43
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GOING WEST. Exp. Accm.

			Daily. M.F dail			
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	14	Windsor Jun-"	8 00	8 30	3 30	
	46	Windsor "	9 15	11 00	6 35	
į	53	Hantsport "	9 35	11 30	6 03	
ı		Avonport "	9 48	11 60	6 20	
l		Grand Pre "	9 56	12 06	6 33	
l	64	Wolfville "	10 06	12 24	6 46	
I	66	Port Williams"	10 10	12 36	6 55	
l	71	Kentville "	10 40	1 25	7 10	
		Waterville "	10 88	202		
		Berwick "	11 05	217	14.500	
l		Aylesford "	11 18	2 40		
ł		Middleton "	11 49	3 47	30.2	
ı		Bridgetown "	12 23	4 52	1	
1		Annanolis Arive	1 00	\$ 50		

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