

# THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

## SELECT POETRY.

(From the Waverley Magazine.)

### WANTED.

Fair Ladies! you'll see by my ditty,  
I'm sadly in want of a wife!  
Then who upon me will take pity,  
And be my companion through life?  
Of years I've attained about twenty,  
I'm "handsome" 's the saying of all—  
Of money I surely have plenty,—  
In stature I'm not very tall.

The one that I wish, with decision,  
With modest decision must speak;  
Must understand French with precision,  
And be a fine scholar in Greek;  
She must play the piano divinely,  
And never be sulky and mute,  
Must work at embroidery finely,  
Excel on the guitar and lute.

Must know to write a fine sonnet,  
And never must think herself pert;  
She must wear the "love of a bonnet,"  
And must think it high treason to flirt;  
When I'm sad must sing with such sweetness  
That soft on my heart it will fall;  
She must dance with ethereal fleetness,  
But never must go to a ball.

Now, ladies, you see by my ditty  
That I am in want of a wife,—  
Then who upon me will take pity,  
And be my companion through life?  
If any, please write me a letter,  
And quick send it on to our town,—  
I'll take you for worse or for better,  
As true as my name is

"DON BROWN."

### IN ANSWER TO "DON BROWN."

I saw by the paper last evening  
That you're in want of a wife;  
A fair and accomplished young lady  
To be a "companion for life."  
It seems you're allowed to be handsome,  
Have plenty of money beside;  
All you need, then, to make you quite happy  
Is the smile of a beautiful bride.

Now, I know of a maiden who'd please you,  
A sweet, winsome creature is she;  
She dwells in a rose-embowered cottage,  
And her heart is yet "fancy free."  
Be sure she is no wild, rustic lassie,  
But graceful, and gifted, with all;  
Her eyes, the beaux say, are witch-hazel,  
And she, too, "is not very tall."

She can PARLEZ VOUS French like a native,  
Understand every letter of Greek,  
Can warble an Italian sonnet,  
The language of Gæthe can speak;  
She can play on the harp and piano,  
And gracefully touch the guitar,  
While her lute, with its silvery echoes,  
Wakes music that never will jar.

She can draw, sketch and paint most divinely,  
Embroiders with exquisite skill;  
Can waltz, dance the scotchish or polka,  
But excels in the fairy quadrille.  
She dresses with care and with neatness,—  
Her hats are always very nice;  
She never will scorn the "last fashion,"  
Or Madam LA MODE's sage advice.

Now, she may be yours for the asking—  
Only think what a charming young wife!  
Sure you'll be a most fortunate fellow  
With such a "companion for life."

But, stop! I must tell you beforehand  
What sort of a husband she'd wed:  
He must be a man of strict honor,  
Polite, genteel, and well-bred.

He, also, must be a teetotaler,  
Wine, brandies, mint juleps, and all;  
Must never indulge in tobacco,—  
And never must flirt at a ball.

If the lady I've mentioned should please you,  
Just send her line the next mail;  
I'm sure you never will do better  
Than wed our fair ANNIE GALE.

A Dutchman had made a handsome fortune in Philadelphia by selling milk. He started for Holland, his home, with two bags of gold pieces when on ship-board he counted one bag of his dear treasure. A mischievous monkey chanced to watch his operations. As soon as he counted bag had been replaced and tied up, Jocko seized it, and soon found his way to the masthead. He opened the bag, and after eyeing the brilliant gold, proceeded to drop one piece on the deck and another in the water, until he had emptied the bag. When he had finished, the Dutchman threw up his arms, exclaiming: "Pie finkons, he must be de dyvel, for vat comes from the vater he gibs to the water, and vat comes from the milk he does gibe to me."

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### REFINEMENTS OF LANGUAGE.

Among all the improvements of the age, none, perhaps, are more striking than those which have recently been made, and indeed are at present making, in the language of ordinary life. Who, in these days, ever read of boarding-schools? Nobody. They are transformed into academies for boys, and seminaries for girls; the higher classes are "establishments." A coachmaker's shop is a "repository for carriages;" a miller's shop, a "depot;" a threadseller's, an "emporium." One buys drugs at a "medical hall;" wines of a "company;" and shoes at a "mart." Blacking is dispensed from an "institution;" and meat from a "purveyor." One would imagine that the word *snore* had become not only contemptible, but had been discovered not to belong to the English language. Now-a-days, all the shops are "warehouses," or "places of business;" and you will hardly find a tradesman having the honest hardihood to call himself a shopkeeper. There is now also no such word as that of *TAILOR*, that is to say among speakers polite. "Clothier" has been discovered to be the more elegant, although, for our part, the term *tailor* is every bit as respectable. This new mode of paraphrasing the languages of ordinary life, however ridiculous it may in some instances be, is not half so absurd as the newspaper fashion of using high-flown terms in speaking most extravagantly of every common-place occurrence. For instance, instead of reading that, after a ball the company did not go away till daylight, we are told that the joyous groups continued tripping on the light fantastic toe until Sol gave them warning to depart. If one of the company happened on his way to tumble into a ditch, we should be informed that "his foot slipped, and he was immersed into the liquid element." A good supper is described as making the "tables groan with every delicacy of the season." A crowd of briefless lawyers, unbeneficed clergymen, and half-pay officers, are enumerated as a "host of fashion" at a watering-place, where we are also informed that ladies, instead of taking a dip before breakfast, "plunge themselves fearlessly into the bosom of Neptune."

A sheep killed by lightning is a thing unheard of: the animal may be destroyed by the electric fluid, but, even then, we should not be told it was dead; we should be informed that, "the vital spark had fled forever." If the carcass were picked up by a carpenter or shoemaker, we never should hear that a journeyman tradesman had found it; we should be told that the remains had been discovered by an "operative artisan." All little girls, be their faces ever so plain, pitted or pitiable, if they appear at a public office to complain of robbery or ill-treatment, are invariably "intelligent and interesting." If they have proceeded very far in crime, they are called "unfortunate females." Child-murder is elegantly termed "infanticide;" and when it is punished capitally, we hear, not that the unnatural mother was hanged, but that "the unfortunate culprit underwent the last sentence of the law, and was launched into eternity." No person reads in the newspaper that a house had been burned down; he perhaps will find "that the house fell a sacrifice to the flames. In an account of the launch, not that the ship went off the slips without any accident, but that "she glided securely and majestically into her native element;" the said native element being one in which the said ship never was before. To send for a surgeon, if one's leg is broken, is out of the question; a man indeed may be "despatched for medical aid." There are now no public singers at tavern dinners, they are the "professional gentlemen;" and actors are all "professors of the histrionic art." Widows are scarce, they are all "interesting relicts;" and as for nursery-maids, they are now-a-days universally transformed into "young persons who superintended the junior branches of the family."

### SINGULAR EFFECT OF ELECTRICITY ON NEGROES.

A gentleman residing a few miles out of town, recently carried home a small electrical machine for making some experiments. As soon as he got home, the negroes, as usual, flocked around him eager to see what master had got. There was a boy among these darkeys that had evinced a strong disposition to move things when they wanted moving, or in other words to pilfer occasionally.

"Now, Jack," says his master, "look here; this machine is to make people tell the truth, and if you have stolen anything, or lied to me, it will knock you down."

"Why, master," says the boy, "I never lied or stole anything in my life."

"Well, take hold of this," and no sooner had the lad received a slight shock than he fell on his knees and bawled out—

"Oh, master! I did steal your cigars and a little knife, and have lied ever so many times; please to forgive me."

The same experiment was tried with like success on half a dozen juveniles. At last an old

negro who had been looking on very attentively, stepped up and said—

"Master, let this nigger try. Dat ar masheen is well enuff to scar de children wid, but dis nigger knows better."

The machine was fully charged, and he received a stunning shock. He looked first at his hands, then at the machine, and at last rolling his eyes, exclaimed—

"Master, it aint best to know too much. Dars many a sole gits to be damned by knowing too much, an' it's my 'pinion dat the debil made dat masheen just to ketch yer soul a foul some how, an' I reckon you had best just take an' burn it up an' have it done gone."

ADVICE OF AN OLD LADY.—Now, John, listen to me, for I am older than you, or I could not be your mother. Never do you marry a young woman, John, before you have contrived to happen at the house where she lives at least four or five times before breakfast. You should know how late she lies in bed in the morning. You should take notice whether her complexion is the same in the morning as it is in the evening, or whether the morning wash and the towel have robbed her of her evening bloom. You should take care to surprise her, so that you may see her in her morning dress, and observe how her hair looks when she is not expecting you. If possible you should be where you can hear the morning conversation between her and her mother. If she is ill-natured and snappish to her mother, so she will be to you, depend on it. But if you find her up and dressed neatly in the morning, with the same countenance, the same smiles, the same neatly combed hair, the same ready and pleasant answers to her mother, which characterized her appearance and deportment in the evening, and particularly if she is lending a hand to get breakfast ready in good season, she is a prize, John, and the sooner you secure her to yourself the better.

RELES FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT.—By a prudent old gentleman:  
Always sit next to the carver, if you can, at dinner.

Ask no woman her age.  
Be civil to all rich uncles and aunts.  
Never joke with a policeman.

Take no notes or gold with you to a Fancy Bazaar—nothing but silver.

Your oldest hat, of course, for an evening party.  
Don't play at chess with a widow.

Never contradict a man who sputters.  
Make friends with a steward on board a steamer—there is know knowing how soon you may be placed in his power.

In every strange house it is well to inquire where the brandy is kept—only think if you were taken seriously ill in the middle of the night.

Write not one more letter than you can help. The man who keeps up a large correspondence is martyr tied, not to the Stake, but to the Post.

Wind up your conduct, like your watch, once every day, examining minutely whether you are too "fast" or "slow."

A HIGHWAYMAN OUITTIED.—"Stand and deliver," were the words addressed to a tailor travelling on foot, by a highwayman, whose brace of pistols looked rather dangerous than otherwise. "I'll do that with pleasure," was the reply, at the same time handing over to the outstretched hands of the robber, a purse apparently pretty well stocked; "but," continued he, "suppose you do me a favour in return. My friends would laugh at me were I to go home and tell them that I was robbed with as much patience as a lamb; s'pose you fire your two bullets right through the crown of my hat; it will look something like a show of resistance." His request was acceded to; but hardly had the smoke from the discharge of weapons passed away, when the tailor pulled out a rusty old horse pistol, and in his turn politely requested the thunder-struck highwayman to shell out every thing of value, his pistols not excepted.

The highwayman got the worst of it in that adventure, didn't he?

ENCOURAGE YOUNG MEN.—Among the important things which should not be forgotten in our every-day life, is to encourage young men just starting in business. Old established concerns will always do well enough, but young men always need encouragement in business, and it should be the aim of all citizens to bestow their patronage upon the most deserving in our community in the several branches of trade and mechanics.

THE WORD "ITS."—Through the whole of our authorized version of the Bible "its" does not once occur; the work which it now performs being accomplished by "his" or "her," applied as freely to inanimate things as persons, or else by "thereof" or "of it." French remarks that "its" occurs but three times in all Shak's plays, and he doubts whether it is in Paradise Lost.

HOW TO DO IT.—An old widower says, when you pop the question to a lady, do it with a kind of laugh, as if you were joking. If she accepts you, very well, if she does not, you can say you were only in fun.

## NOTICES.

### ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL—£200,000,000, IN 100,000  
SHARES £20 EACH.

TRUSTEES—  
JOHN SHAW LEIGH, Esq.  
JOHN NAYLOR Esq.  
DIRECTORS, ETC., IN LIVERPOOL  
CHARLES TURNER, Esq., Chairman.  
J. BRAMLEY MOORE, Esq., M. P., and  
RALPH BROCKLEBANK, Esq., Deputy-Ch.

FIRE BRANCH.  
Annual Premiums £130,000, exceeding of  
most every Office in the United Kingdom.  
Losses promptly and liberally paid.  
SECURITY OF A LARGE CAPITAL ACTUALLY  
PAID UP.

LIFE BRANCH.  
Stamps or Policies not Charged.—Forfeitures of Policy cannot take place from unintentional mistake.  
MEDICAL FEES PAID,  
Moderate Premiums.—Large Bonus Declared, 1855.

Amounting to £2 per cent. per annum on the sum assured; being, on ages from twenty to forty, 50 per cent. on the premium.

PERIODS OF DIVISION EVERY FIVE YEARS.

EXAMPLES:

Date of Birth.	Age.	Sum Assured.	Premium.	Bonus.
1845	29	£ 1020	£ s. d.	£
1846	24	1000	242 18 4	180
1846	33	2900	480 15 0	320
1847	10	300	46 4 0	42
1848	28	100	14 5 2	10
1849	27	500	46 18 4	40

This Company added about £90,000 to its permanent capital, for the increased protection of its Insurers. This step distinctly shows that the Company has always acted upon the principle enunciated by one of the directors at the last Annual Meeting of the proprietors—that the interests of the assured have a paramount claim on the directors—a claim superior even to that of the shareholders themselves.

From that moment, as might be expected, the Company attained the highest consideration throughout the country, and has retained it ever since. The result is shown in the unexampled fact that its Fire Revenue alone rose in about five years from little more than £30,000 to about £130,000!

A further cause of this rapid growth lies somewhat more below the surface, but is yet of importance. From inquiry we learn that no fire office possessing half the above revenue annually deposits its accounts with the Registrar-general.

The resources and balance-sheet of this great Company are, on the contrary, annually registered, and unmistakable evidence is thus given periodically of its capacity to meet its engagements.—*Morning Herald*, December 16, 1855.

Indeed, the bonus of the Royal may be pronounced to be larger than any yet declared by the mass of the English offices. Here is an office which yields a fairly earnest and wholesome reversionary bonus of 80 per centum in its Life Branch, and in regard to fire operations, can make this very enviable boast, that it has exceeded the Fire business of all but two of the London Fire offices—viz.: the receipt of nearly £130,000 per year in Fire premiums alone—some of which ancient offices have been in existence for a century! Equally successful and singular in both departments. Indeed, the Life Department may be said to present results equally as worthy of mention.—*Morning Chronicle*, November 28, 1855.

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THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.  
Is Edited and Published every Wednesday morning, by GEORGE WEBBER, at his office, Waterstreet, opposite the Premises of W. DONNELLY, Esq.  
TERMS:—Fifteen Shillings per annum half in advance.

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