MC2397

POOR DOCUMENT

FUNNY MEN'S SAYINGS

WHAT THE SAD-EYED SCRIBES OF THE HUMOROUS PRESS WRITE

Paragraphs from a Great Number of Places and About a Great Number of Subjects.

Father—You want the hand of my daughter? Have you any means of existence?

Young man—At present, none; but I have the best prospects.

Father—Why, then, you are in need of a telescope, not a wife.—Philadelphia News.

IT BROUGHT THE ICE.

"Confound it all," said machinist Makepenny, "the steam pipes in the office are all frozen up! Confound this cold weather, and that office boy, too. Between them both, they'll break me!"

"It's all your fault, anyway," said the office boy.

"All my fault, is it? Why, confound it, all, you young pie-eating rascal, what do you mean, anyway?"

"Why," said the boy, looking wildly toward the door, "you wanted some ice yesterday, and told me to hang the ice card in the window, and there it is now."

"What's that got to do about it?"

"Lots, you bet! You've got all the ice you want, haven't you?"

"I haven't seen it. Where?"

"In the pipes, of course!" Tableau!

A DESIRABLE WIFE.

Just twenty years ago last June
I took to me a pretty wife
And an unending honeymoon
Has been my wedded life
An unkind word in all her life
I swear she never spoke to me.
Strange, isn't it. But my sweet wife
Is deaf and dumb, you see.

COMPENSATIONS.

Life is full of compensations: The man who is short usually has a long face.

The man who comes into the city green generally goes back blue.

The woman who looses her temper finds her tongue.

The man who has a "crick" in his neck is in no danger of dying of thirst.

The man who has no opera glass at the theatre is just as well off as the man who has one and is seated behind a row of women wearing high crowned hats.

The bald headed man never has his hair pulled.

A heavy bank account amply offsets a light head.

He who has much to lose oft loses sleep
Considering how he best his wealth can keep;
He who has naught to lose, from worry free
Goes to his couch and slumbers peacefully.

NO TIME FOR AN ARGUMENT.

It was on a Central-Hudson train, bound north, and he had been delivering a learned disquisition upon the political and financial outlook to a passenger in the seat ahead.

"My friend," he concluded, "what is your opinion of Government bonds?"

Just then the whistle sounded for Sing Sing, and his friend replied:

"I don't think much of 'em," displaying a pair of handcuffed wrists, "but I'll have to say good-by, sir. This is my station."

THE ACROBATIC CANDIDATE.

In the gay saloon he strolled
With free and easy air,
And quickly for the drinks he called
For everybody there.
The glass he grasped, his hand he raised
And said, "come up, boys, come."
Then on the crowd he smiling gazed
And drank success to rum.
He drained his glass, paid for the treat
And then the candidate
Went out and met upon the street
A temperance advocate.
"Ha! ha!" he cried, "give me your fist!
I'm proud to meet a foe
Of rum, a prohibitonist:
The rum shops, sir, must go!"

"Julius Cæsar," said the colored man's wife, "you were out with de boys las' night."

"I was," said Julius, humbly.

"And how do you find yo' head dis mawnin'?"

"About de same as you wants yo' goods when you go shoppin'.

"How am dat?"

"All wool and a ya'd wide."

KEEPING itself GREEN.

Second Husband (to wife)—I was at the cemetery to-day, my dear, and found your former husband's grave in a very bad condition.

Wife—I suppose it is.

Second husband—Yes, the inscription "Gone, but not forgotten," is nearly overgrown with grass.

At the masquerade. Marguerite (Mrs. Sicard)—"I enjoyed the waltz exceedingly, Tom." Mephistopheles (Mr. Sicard)—"How did you know me, Ethel! Isn't my disguise good?" Marguerite—"Excellent, Tom; but you must remember that you are the only man in the world who mixes gin with his sherry and bitters."—Judge.

"Well, Maria," said the candidate, "I can go to bed to-night a happy and an honored man." "Oh," exclaimed his wife, "I'm so glad! You are elected?" "No," he replied, calmly, "I have been snowed under, but I have been vindicated. I ran ahead of my ticket in two out of seventeen wards."—Burdette.

Old lady (on Southern railroad): "The fire's gone out in that stove, young feller."

Brakeman: "Yes ma'am. You see we're goin' to strike a stretch of poor track, an' as the train's an hour late, the conductor allowed we'd better let the fires go out."

Husband (at a late breakfast): "My dear, did you go through my pockets before I got up, this morning?"

Wife: "No, I thought from the condition you were in when you came home last night, that it would hardly warrant the trouble."

Young man, (getting off street car): "Here is my fare, conductor, you forgot to ask me for it."

Passenger: "Who is that young man who just got off, conductor?"

Conductor: "I never saw him before; some crank, I guess. It takes all sorts of people, sir, to make up the world."

FOR MUSICIANS.

Odd Items in the Musical Line From Different Parts of the Country.

Speaking of the scarcity of male voices in our church choirs in the last GAZETTE leads to the reflection that for the last fifty years church singing has been on the wane—and why? Well, we have all heard of the good old singing classes, choral unions, etc., in the days of our fathers, when every boy and girls ambition was to be able to pick up the notebook and sing a hymn or air from it without first having it drilled over on the organ until the beauty was all taken out of the piece. And there was some good singers then, too. In hardly any city will we find these classes conducted now, and the consequence is that the young man or woman perhaps goes into the choir, and if they are not particularly sharp with the ear they cannot "get on" to the pieces that are to be sung, and so very shortly give it up. The fault is that they do not know one note from another, and naturally cannot make any headway. What we want is musical unions, in which a competent teacher will be engaged, and the members will be taught the music; and once knowing this it is easy to sing almost any piece at sight. Then we would have more chorus singers, and far better singing, too, than we have at present. Why can not some of our musicians take this matter up? There should be a comfortable living for a good teacher to take this matter in hand and give a regular course of musical instruction at a moderate figure.

* * *

There is another thing that has been suggested to me, and that is in regard to the singing in the public schools. We go to a public school examination and we hear the children—and many of them with fine rich voices—sing a number of pieces that have been drilled into them for six months previous, but it is very mechanical and has none of the soul in it that there would be if the children had been taught to sing by note, a process that would not take long, nor yet be very hard. Why could not the Board of Education make music a part of the teaching in the public schools? I certainly see no reason why they could not do this without much cost or detriment to the other studies. One way would be to have the teachers learn music at the Normal School and devote a certain time to it each day during their teaching hours. Another way would be to employ, for cities and towns having more than one school, a competent teacher to go among the schools and give a certain time to blackboard exercies and two or three song practices each day. The boy or girl of to-day who leaves school and mixes in society is nowhere unless he or she can sing or play; and while fitting them for the various business pursuits of life the means of wholesome enjoyment should not be forgotten. And then the Sunday schools might with profit take the matter up, and thus relieve the exercises of what—to the majority of children—is dry and uninteresting. Besides a few exercises on the blackboard and two or three good hymns sung by note would have a great tendency to draw children to the Sunday school, and when there to keep them. I have not space to-day to go into this matter as it deserves; but in some future issue I will again refer to it. In the meantime perhaps some one who has thought of the same thing may give us some views on the matter. I will gladly make room for anyone so disposed who will favor us with any suggestions that will serve to bring the matter to an issue.

* * *

I notice that the Episcopal church at Moncton has abandoned the boy choir, and gone back to mixed voices again. When the singers are good the mixed choir is very good; but in my opinion there is nothing so sweet as a choir of well trained boys. No doubt our church friends have some cause for this move—perhaps the teacher got tired, or was too tiresome and the boys got weary—but I am sorry to chronicle the fact that the move has been made.

* * *

Fredericton is never behind in the musical line. Our sister city is full of music in fact, and they had Prof. Morely up there on Monday last, when he gave an organ recital in the Methodist church, in which is a fine organ. Although it takes something pretty good to please a Fredericton audience in the music line, Mr. Morely did not disappoint them, for he gave an excellent programme and the celestials were highly pleased with it. The choir of the Methodist church—and it is no poor one either,—gave him able assistance in providing a pleasant evening's entertainment.

* * *

The re-appearance of the Nellie Brown-Mitchell Concert Co. in the Mechanics' Institute on Tuesday evening, was, as predicted last week, a grand musical success, and they fully sustained their high reputation.

The same company gave a benefit to Prof. Washington in the Institute on Wednesday evening which was well attended and was highly appreciated.

* * *

By the way! St. Mary's church on Waterloo street is getting up something "nifty" for Christmas. They will introduce clarinets, bassoon, cornets, etc., into the music for the occasion, which will no doubt be a very pleasing part of the devotions on that day.

The choir of St. David's church, assisted by a good array of other musical talent, gave a very interesting concert in the church on Thursday evening, as the opening to the winter's lecture course. The glees were a very pleasing part of the entertainment.

* * *

The skating season has partly opened, and with it of course the band boom. The La Tour Rink was the first, and they have engaged the City Cornet Band to furnish music three nights in each week. The rink will no doubt be well patronized, as the Cornet Band never fails to draw a good attendance wherever it plays. I have not heard anything of the plans of the Victoria yet, but so soon as the cold weather properly sets in there will likely be some bidding for the engagement there by the bands of the city. The arrangement of last winter gave fair satisfaction to the subscribers, but the bands were not very highly pleased, the pay being small and the playings so few when divided up as they were. However, we will know soon what the shuffle will be for the coming season.

* * *

A writer in the Boston Herald complains that music is on the decline in Boston. He says "The whole scheme of music producing in Boston is a fraud upon the intelligence of true music lovers." He claims that "the trouble is engendered by the devotees of fashion, who have turned the music room and the opera house into places of social gatherings for displays of ostentation." It seems that really good music is set aside to make room for performances where brilliant and costly costumes are worn, no matter what rubbish the music may be like.

* * *

Our Moncton correspondent writes that the Moncton Cypress Club had a concert and show in that town last evening. He says "they are fair singers, but the people of Moncton think they are fine. The Peters Female Orchestre took part in the entertainment, as did Messrs. S. Ritchie and J. Mathews of St. John. The Moncton Cornet Band ably assisted." He also says "the Moncton Cricket and Athletic Club are to have a concert on the 16th inst., in which the Moncton Band will take part. They are practising the "Gems of Scotland" and "Moonlight Revels," (two selections) and several A 1 pieces." He says this will be "a big spread."

A FLAT.

Scintillations.

Boston Post: There is a great deal of blow about the Signal-Service officials.

New Haven News: All heirs are interesting, but the most interesting is the million heir.

Pittsburg Chronicle: The Indian tribe most likely to lose at poker is, of course, the Chip-away.

Houston Post: The trouble with lots of cats is that they don't get enough dreamless sleep these December nights.

New Haven News: Monkeytown is the name of a new post-office in Yazoo County, Miss. Doubtless the postmaster could unfold a tale.

Louisville Democrat: A man sometimes loses his balance on an orange peeling on the pavement and sometimes he loses it in a savings bank.

Toronto Truth: The man who can hang pictures under supervision for an hour and keep his temper does not want to be an angel. He is one already.

Boston Globe: A man who has been hanged can very properly be used to point an argument for prohibition. It is a clear case of "a drop too much."

Rochester Post-Express: It is popularly supposed that corporations have no souls, but this cannot apply in the case of a corporation that manufacture shoes.

In a Dreadful Condition.

Hattie E. Manthorne, of Mill Village, Ont., says, "My cough was dreadful, I could not sleep at nights on account of it, but when I used Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam I had rest and was perfectly cured. All druggists sell this valuable cough remedy.

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