

structions. Apropos of simplicity, Professor Matthews said the other day:

"In my youth I once passed the summer in the country. One of my friends, an elderly farm hand, paid a visit to New York during my country visit, and on his return I said to him, employing a word needlessly complex and long:

"Well, Jabez, how did you like the metropolis?"

"'Wot say?' asked the old man.

"How did you like the metropolis?" I repeated.

"Twan't open," he said.

A Record Breaker.

Three fellow-travelers in the smoking room of a fast train were discussing the speed of trains.

"I was in a train once," said the first man, "that beat everything I rode in for speed. Why, it went so fast that the telegraph poles at the side of the track looked like an immense fine-toothed comb."

"That's nothing," said the second traveler; "I remember riding in an express on the — and — that went at such a gait that the telegraph poles looked like a solid board fence."

The third man made an exclamation of impatience.

"Ah, you fellows don't know what high speed on a railroad is. Why, I traveled west from Chicago last month in a train that went at such a pace that when we passed some alternate fields of corn and beans they looked like succotash!"

A Tactful Reply.

Arthur A. Hamerschlag, a director of the Carnegie Technical School of Pittsburgh, was speaking on the necessity of tact in dealing successfully with men. "There were two neighbors," continued the director, "and each had a pet diversion. Chickens was the hobby of one; that of the other, flowers. Because of the devastating instincts of the unrestrained fowls the flowers did not flourish. The gardener, however, valued his neighbor's friendship more than he did the flowers, and made no remonstrance. The poultry farmer, one evening, visited his neighbor, and by way of introduction made a complimentary remark about the garden. 'What a beautiful bed of flowers you have here,' he said, glowingly. 'Yes,' added the gardener, dejectedly, 'but it just keeps me a-sweatin' to keep it from becoming a feather bed.'"

Correct English.

Professor Lounsbury, the noted grammarian of Yale, has democratic and liberal views on the subject of the English language. He strenuously opposes the displacing of simple terms by others of pedantic character. Recently he told this story while discussing the subject: "There was a little boy who began to keep a diary. His first entry was: 'Got up this morning at 7 o'clock.' He showed the entry to his mother, and she, horror stricken, said: 'Have you never been to school? Got up, indeed! Such an expression! Does the sun get up? No, it rises.' And she scratched out 'Got up at 7' and wrote 'Rose at 7' in its place. That night the boy, before retiring, ended the entry for the day with the sentence, 'Set at 9 o'clock.'"

A Pause Follows.

There is a certain small boy who rejoices in the name of Waite Pearsall. He commenced to attend school a short time ago, and the teacher had quite an experience in finding out his name.

"What is your name?" she asked, as Waite took his seat.

"Waite," said the boy promptly.

The teacher looked rather surprised, but said nothing for a few moments, thinking, perhaps, he was frightened, then she asked again:

"What is your name?"

"Waite," said the possessor of the name.

After another few minutes' silence the teacher, becoming impatient, exclaimed:

"Well, I have waited plenty long enough now. Please tell me your name."

That made the boys laugh, and finally the teacher understood.

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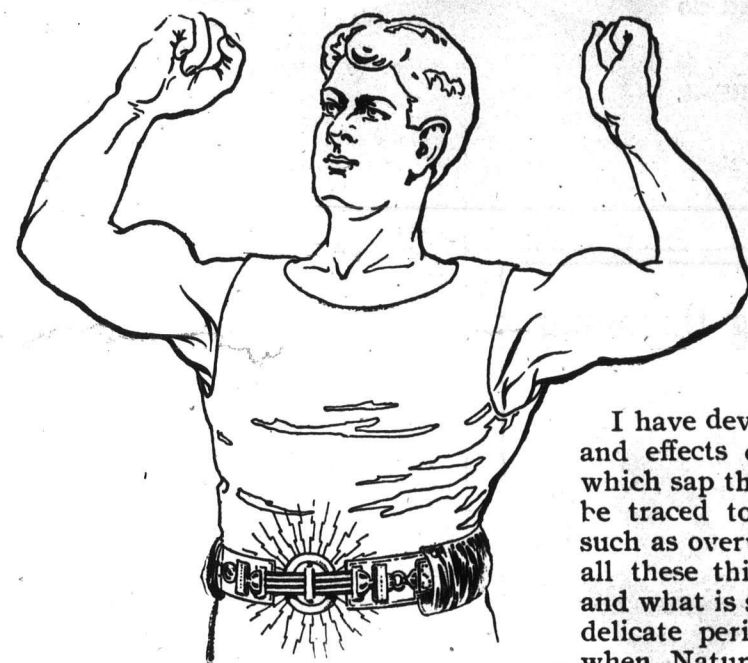
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