

BROTHER GARDNER AND BIG WORDS

HE SPEAKS AGAINST THEM AND BAKES HIS COMRADES OVER THE COALS

"My frens," said Brother Gardner of the Limoklin club as he rose in his place the other evening, "I want to say a few words to you on a subject dat has been befo' us two or three times befo'. I an referin' to de use of big words by members of dis club."

"You all know my opinion on de matter, and yet it seems dat dar am some among you who don't mean to heed it. I have allus held and allus shall dat when a pesson can make hisself plainly understood by his fellow men he shoul'n't go troppin' around in de dark in search of anything more. When a man understands you to say dat you will 'black' a kitchen outfit for 75 I don't see what any big words an gwine to help de case any."

IN THE GROCERY STORE.

"A few nights ago I was in a grocery which my house to get a pound of sugar. I asked for one pound, and de grocer understood. I didn't use no big words in askin' for a pound, and he didn't use any in sayin' it would be seven cents and no trust. I had got de sugar when Kural Kadaff came in. He had his hat on his ear and was stepin' high and didn't cha notice me. He wanted two pounds of oatmeal, and he walks up to de counter and says:

"Mr. White, de transcendent qualifications of your preeminent and disqualifying oatmeal has tempted me to become a purchaser again."

"He got his meal and walked out wid a feelin' dat he had crushed dat grocer as flat as a pancake, but dat am what he was mistook. When Brudder Kadaff had come de grocer turned to me and said:

"If dat am one of de fool niggers of your club you'd better learn him to talk English."

"I was in a coal office a few days ago," continued the old man, "and Brudder Samuel Shin dropped in to order a quarter of a ton. It wasn't sufficient for him to say how much he wanted and hand over his money, but he had to swell out his chest and clear his throat and roll up his eyes and observe dat owing to de emblematical disposition of de embargo he found hisself prohibitively impelled to purchase less dan his usual quantity of carnivorous combustion. De look of self complacency on his face as he walked out would put a June maiden's outer business party quick. I notice dat Brudder Shin am wid us yere tonight, and I want to ex him what he meant by his language."

WHEN 'T WAS TRANSACTED.

"I meant dat I hadn't only money 'nuff to pay for a quarter of a ton of coal, sah," replied Samuel as he stood up.

"But why didn't you say so in plain English?"

"I-I dunno, sah. Reckon it was te-

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have I had been readin' 'Shakespear'?"

"Make it was. You keep right on readin' 'Shakespear' and talkin' big words and you'll git dar limoklin. You kin sot down."

"One day a week ago I was in a lumber yard to git de old woman a new ironing board. De lumber man and me was talkin' about de beef trust and how much bigger it was dan de United States when along comes Brudder Flapjack White. He said we was talkin', but he was so swell up dat he butted in wid:

"Mr. Brown, it appears to be de consensus of de amplification dat de actuality of de times demands a re-justification of de economic conditions."

"Havin' got off dat speech, he bought six pieces of lath for a nicker, and walked off. He bore hisself like a man who had just won a great victory, but when he was out o' hearin' de lumber man turned to me and said: 'Oh, if dat was one of de lunkheads of de Limoklin club, he also said dat if he had been alone he would have given Brudder Flapjack de boot. Stand up, brudder, and tell me de meenin' of consensus!'"

BROTHER FLAPJACK IN DOUBT.

"I dunno, sah," was the reply.

"Want am rotundity?"

"An't dun say."

"Waal, what am rejoinment?"

"Reckon it has sunthin' to do wid a lumber yard."

"Oh, you do. Waal, I take pleasure in informin' you dat it has a heap more to do wid a fool. Sot down and rest you weary limbs, Brudder Flapjack."

"One evenin' not long since I dropped into a cobler shop to get a fit put on de heel of my shoe. De cobbler and me was talkin' 'bout dat western congressman who stole a mill yon acres of government lan, when Brudder Givensam Jones walked in as if he owned de aith and said:

"Cobblidge, perspective of de reflex impels me to evaluate de impossibility of de occasion. Can you do it or not?"

"De cobbler sot dar wid his mouth open and his eyes bulgin' out, and Brudder Jones went on to make use of such words as 'genuflexuous,' 'terminate,' 'assimilate,' 'transmogrify' and 'abominate.' If I hadn't stood up and told him to delineate his transitive pathology out of dat, I don't know what calamity would have happened, Brudder Jones, stand up."

"Yes, sah."

BROTHER JONES IS IMPROVED.

"What was you errand in dat cobbler shop?"

"To git half sole on my shoes."

"Why didn't you tell de cobbler so?"

"I was gwine to, sah."

"You wanted to get off de big words first. I see. What am genuflection?"

"I don't remember."

"What am assimilate?"

"It's when you dun feel bad."

"And transmogrify?"

"Can't say."

"I thought you couldn't. You may set down, Brudder John, your record in de Limoklin club am a good one. Since bein' a member you have killed a mad dawg, climbed a greased pole, shot an owl and kicked a football over a house. Dun't get to be an idiot and smash your record."

"If Brudder Beebe am in de hall to-night I'd like to say a few words to him."

Brother Beebe was there and stood up in a nervous way, and after looking at him for a few seconds the president said:

"Brudder Beebe, I was in a butcher shop one evenin' not long since when you came in. You wanted a pound of sliced bacon for breakfast, but you couldn't dun say so in plain words. You had to ring in such words as eliminate, deductive, aspirations, contemplative and assiduous, and while tryin' to foller you and wondering whether you was a fool or a villain de butcher cut his thumb and throwed a mutton bone at you and chased you out. What was your object in usin' dem big words?"

"I wanted dat butcher to see dat I was up to date."

"And if you was up to date, den what?"

"He wouldn't cheat me on de bacon."

"Did you know de meenin' of one of de words?"

"No, sah."

"Just shot 'em right off to scare de butcher?"

"Yes, sah."

"Waal, pore old man, set down. I wish I had some catnip tea for you."

"I ain't gwine to say to de members of dis club dat dey can't use big words whenever dey wants to, but what I wish to observe is dis: Dat de next time one of 'em am complainin' of for a lunatic or a fool we shan't have any further use for him. We am a plain lot of men. We make use of a

plain language. We call a tater a tater and a pumpkin a pumpkin. If dar am any among us who wants to evaluate de restorative or insulate de impemiosity of de flumdoocle let 'em go ahead and see what dey will bring up."

"We will now absoluteitate de meeting and prevaricate to our insidious demerits."

M. QUAD.

UNWISE INVESTMENTS.

It is very natural that those who have earned a little money by dint of persevering industry should wish to invest their savings in such a way as to secure the largest amount of benefit available. But a wonderful degree of folly is often manifested in the way these investments are made. Instead of paying special attention to the important question of security, these persons allow themselves to be unduly influenced by high rates of interest offered by mercenary schemers who employ this easy method of capturing unsuspecting victims. The street illusion of gaining large dividends lures a host of imprudent money-lenders to invest in the most fraudulent enterprises. Millions of dollars have gone from the pockets of our gullible fellow countrymen into the hands of cunning swindlers. Nor does the fact that these fakes have periodically ruined thousands of our citizens seem to have any permanent effect in deterring foolish investors from repeating their ventures in this insane method of investment.

We do not mean to imply that all moneys or manufacturing enterprises are false. There are many enterprises of this kind that are honestly managed and highly profitable, but such enterprises find plenty of encouragement and capital in their own neighborhood without appealing to the public for assistance. But swindlers who cannot impose on the people living in the immediate neighborhood of the mines or factories they represent, gain only too much success by going far away from home and lying to people who have no means of investigating the facts for themselves. As a rule it is far wiser to invest our surplus earnings in safe enterprises at home where we can examine our securities and have some voice in their management.

Leniency Cause of Crime

The criminal docket was unusually large at the session of the Supreme Court which closed in Sydney on Friday. There were five men convicted and sentenced for some of the worst crimes in the criminal calendar, and one of the criminals is to be whipped. Possibly a more frequent application of the "cat-o-nine-tails" would do more to check crime than terms of imprisonment. Judge Meagher said that leniency of the judges and juries had a good deal to do in promoting crime in this province. When he was on the circuit in 1892 there was but a single criminal case in the entire district, while the present session of the court he was confronted by a docket of twenty cases. Yet the county courts now pass upon many cases which formerly came before the Supreme Court. Judge Meagher expressed the opinion that increased prosperity was in some measure responsible for the size of the criminal docket, but said that much of the crime was owing to the fact that offenders received too much encouragement. "They first depended on the grand jury to throw out the bill. If they did not acquit in that way they next calculated on the leniency of the petty jury, or the supposition that some petty jurymen would so far disregard his oath and thereby allow the guilty to escape. Even if convicted, a petition might be circulated by which they might secure their escape. A petition would then generally be presented to some weak-minded clergyman, and then the community would follow. He regretted very much the leniency which the community at large showed towards criminals."

We do not think Judge Meagher is fair to our clergyman. They are not weak-minded. In fact our clergymen have always favored punishment for crime, and it is a rare case when any of the clergy have appended their signatures to a document on behalf of a criminal. The judge, is right, however, in his statement that criminals too often depend on juries to get clear, and that too often the punishment meted out is trifling in comparison with the gravity of the offence charged and the maximum sentence fixed by law against it. There is a large and growing class who will not be restrained by any consideration but the fear of severe punishment. That the undue leniency of which Judge Meagher speaks encourages persons of this class to lawlessness, and leads them to take risks which they would not take were justice more strictly enforced by men on jury duty, seems to be clear enough.

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LEIBIG'S FITCURE

British Post Bind to Own Interests

Sydney Buxton Refuses to Reduce English Postage on Periodicals to Canada.

London, Mar. 2.—There is much disappointment expressed over the refusal of Sydney Buxton, the new postmaster-general, to reduce the postage on periodicals to Canada. Every argument has been used, especially the flooding of Canada by American periodicals with the advertisements of American goods, to the detriment of British trade in Canada, but Buxton, following her permanent officials, is timid to undertake the readjustment of the whole periodical postage of the United Kingdom, which, he says, a Canadian change would involve. It is understood, moreover, that the British treasury is frowning just now upon all changes which might involve the loss of revenue, though it only be a temporary loss. It is hoped that the Congress of the Chamber of Commerce of the Empire meeting in London in July will make the strongest personal representations. British financial objections are also taken to be a suggestion that Great Britain will follow the American example and establish commercial agencies in all the leading Canadian centres. If anything is done the British government will probably be content to appoint one agent at Montreal or Toronto to cover all Canada.

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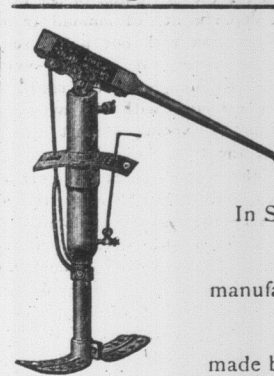
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