

THE TRIP SLIP QUIP.

TRUE STORY OF "PUNCH, BROTHERS, PUNCH WITH CARE!"

The Street Car Fa. Collecting Jingle That Drove Mark Twain into a Literary Nightmare, and its French Equivalent.

In the year 1876 there appeared in a Boston magazine that famous fragment by Mark Twain, "Punch, Brothers, Punch!" the rhythmic touch of which has since moved round the world like a wave of old ocean.

The fragmentary bit of verse had a curious origin, and the true story of it is not unworthy of record in literary history. Early in the month of April, 1876, the horse car line of the New York and Harlem Railroad company, having adopted the punch system, posted in the panels of their cars a card of information and instruction to conductors and passengers, both of whom were indirectly requested to watch each other. It read as follows:

"The conductor when he receives a fare must immediately punch in the presence of the passenger:

"A blue trip slip for an eight cent fare.
A buff trip slip for a six cent fare.
A pink trip slip for a three cent fare.
For coupon transfer tickets, punch the tickets."

The poetry of the thing was discovered almost as "immediately" as the conductor "immediately" punched, and all sorts of jingles were accommodated to the measure. In September the first poem appeared in print, and various versions appeared in New York and Boston newspapers.

In January, 1876, Mark Twain's "Literary Nightmare" appeared with the following version:

Conductor, when you receive a fare,
Punch in the presence of the passenger!
A blue trip slip for an eight cent fare,
A buff trip slip for a six cent fare,
A pink trip slip for a three cent fare,
Punch in the presence of the passenger!

Conductor, when you receive a fare,
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LOOKING BACK

To the time when she was plucked from the very grasp of death, the natural impulse of the womanly heart is thankful for the means which saved her, and a desire to help other women in like case. Those are the motives which prompted Mrs. Eva Burnett to write the accompanying testimonial to the curative power of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. This is only one cure out of thousands. No one would dare say that the average woman was not as truthful as she is good. And it is the truthful testimony of the average woman that "Favorite Prescription" cures womanly diseases when all other means and medicines absolutely fail. It establishes regularity, dries the drains which weaken women, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. It tranquilizes the nerves, restores the appetite and induces refreshing sleep.

"I have intended for some time to write to you," says Mrs. Eva Burnett, of Russellville, Logan Co., Ky., "and give a testimonial in regard to what your medicine has done for me. My baby came in July, 1890, and I had congestive chills, and lay at death's door for ten long weeks. I was in a dreadful condition and had six of the best doctors of the city. After everything had been done and I had been given up to die I asked my husband to get me a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. He had no faith in it, but he got it, and when I had taken two weeks I was able to walk to the dining room to my meals, and by the time I had taken three bottles I was able to cook for my family of four. I can never praise Dr. Pierce and his medicine enough."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure biliousness.

The Local Newspaper.

This is what Emerson P. Harris thinks of a local paper.

The rightly conducted newspaper contributes more to the well being of its community than any other private enterprise and is second in importance to the people, to no institution, unless it be the public school.

The local newspaper that records all of the local happenings, tendencies and developments that are of interest to the people, has performed a very important service. It is an addition to which cannot be overestimated.

The editor who has the ability and is in touch with the community, so as to conduct a paper on these lines, has a hold upon the people, which of which cannot be overestimated.

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SHERLOCK HOLMES, JR.

How He Recognized the Domestic Man in the Street.

Sherlock Holmes, Jr., stopped abruptly, clutched his companion's arm and said in low, distinct tones:

"Did you see that man with the bundle?"

"Yes," the other answered. "What about him?"

"He is in love with his wife. He has to get up and start the fire for her in the morning, because they are not able to keep a maid, and he is in the habit of oversleeping."

"Mr. Holmes, you surely do not expect me to believe you know all this simply from watching his movements here in the street? You must be acquainted with him, or possibly you have heard about him."

"No. I never saw him until about a minute and a half ago. I have never heard his name. No one has ever mentioned him to me. Now I will tell you how I have made my wonderful deduction, and you will see that it is very simple. It is really too bad that you are not more observing. Did you notice that an automobile passed down the street just before I spoke to you about him?"

"Since you mention the fact, I remember that one did whiz along. But what can that automobile have to do with the case?"

"Everything. When it was nearly opposite this man, the operator of the car rang his bell. The sound was like that of an alarm-clock."

"Well?"

"The man had been walking along with his head down, half dreaming. When the bell rang, he lifted his head suddenly and took out his watch to see what time it was. Now, isn't the case perfectly clear? You see, he thought he was at home in bed, that the alarm had gone off and that he must hurry to get up. All the rest is clear enough. If he didn't love his wife, she would have to get up first, and he could sleep serenely till she called him to breakfast, or if they kept a girl the clock would, of course, be on her mind instead of his."

Then, assuming a mysterious air, the great amateur detective peered down a coal hole in search of other problems.—Chicago Record-Herald.

It is Badly Needed.

"There is always a great future for the inventive man."

"Sure."

"The man who sees what is needed and then furnishes it, even if it is only a trifle, is the one that succeeds."

"Sure."

"