

The First Problem.
THE HOLLOWAY OF A RATIONALISTIC CHICKEN.
BY ST. JOHN, M. A.
[The chicken stands with half an egg-shell on the back looking down into another half from which it has just emerged. It saith:]
Most queer, most strange!
No longer huddled so tight,
Free now to prance, probe, and peep and peer,
And make these mysteries out.
Shall a free-making chicken live in doubt?
This Problem's very heavy on my mind,
And I'm not one to either shrink or sham,
I would be blinded, and I won't be blind.
Now, let me see:
First, I would know how did I get in there,
Then, where was I of yore?
Besides, why didn't I get out before?
— three puzzles' out of plenty here —
Now, let me see:
That let me think again!
How do I know I ever was in there?
Now I recede, it is I do mean, "my loss than my reason, say, please."
To think that I could dwell
In such a wally mystery!
Of course I couldn't! How could I have
lain, Body and beak and feathers, legs and wings,
And my dear heart's sublime imaginings,
I inset the notion with profound disdain!
It's quite incredible, since I declare
(And I'm a chicken that you can't deceive)
What I can't understand I won't believe.
Where did it come from, then? Ah! That's a riddle monstrous hard to read.
I have it! 'Tis the old-fashioned
All of them are moulded by some plastic force
Of some atoms somewhere up in space,
Fortuitously concurrent anyhow —
There, now!
That's as plain as the back upon my face.
What's that I hear?
My mothercocking at me! Just her way,
So prejudicial and ignorant I say!
So far behind the wisdom of the day.
What's odd I can't reverse,
Hark at her, "You're a plain, sleek, my dear,
That's quite a ally, sleek!
At is the piece of shell upon your back!
How bigged upon my back, indeed!
I don't believe it!
For I can't see it, and I do declare,
For all her loud deceiving,
What I can't see I never will believe in!

Queer Mystaphs.
A correspondent sends the following to the Boston Herald:
"A Book of Epitaphs, Quaint, Curious and Elegant," recently published in England, I select a few specimens, many of which are interesting to some of your readers."
[The book is a volume of 100 pages, containing a collection of epitaphs from various parts of the world. The author is John Smith, and the book is published by the Boston Herald.]
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Special Notices.
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Subscription information for Huron Signal newspaper, including details about advertising rates and subscription terms.

Advertisement for Eric McKay, Cabinet Maker, Upholsterer, and Furnisher. The ad lists various services offered, including furniture repair, upholstery, and the sale of new stock. It also mentions the location of the business at 100 King Street East, Toronto.

Advertisement for H. Gardiner & Co., General Dealers in Hardware. The ad lists a wide variety of hardware items, including tools, paints, oils, and glass. It also mentions the company's location at 100 King Street East, Toronto.

Advertisement for W. & J. Kay, featuring a variety of fabrics and goods. The ad lists items such as silk velvets, flannels, and ribbons, and mentions the company's location at 100 King Street East, Toronto.

Advertisement for Lands for Sale at Bayfield. The ad describes a large tract of land for sale, including details about the location, size, and potential uses. It also mentions the name of the seller, J. M. Trueman.

Advertisement for Job Printing, mentioning services like business cards and letterheads.

Advertisement for Wistar's Balm, a medicinal product for various ailments.

Advertisement for The Great Remedy for Consumption, a health product for lung issues.

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