

ABOUT AN OLD PROVERB.

[From the Journal of Commerce.]
Journal of Commerce

New York, May 16, 1878.
 Will you please give the correct meaning or interpretation of the saying "that it takes nine tailors to make a man?"

Truly yours,
 J. T. I.
Reply.—No saying has obtained a wider currency than this concerning tailors; its origin is not so much lost in remote antiquity as it swallowed up in a multitude of explanations. In 1682 the proverb, then several hundred years old was thus explained:

There is a proverb which has been of old, And many men likewise been so bold, To the discredit of the Tailor's Trade, Nine Tailors go to make a man, they said. But for their credit I would bid it fly: A draper once fell into poverty. Nine Tailors joy'd their purses together then To set him up, and make him agn.

A similar explanation of the legend is given in various old publications. Now it is a poor orphan boy who applies for alms at the tailor's shop in London where nine journeymen are employed. They take an interest in him and contribute for his relief, and when he becomes prosperous and sets up his motto "Nine tailors made me a man." The Germans (for the saying is current, in many languages) have a similar story although here is a poor tramp who is relieved, and who goes out warmed and fed, and with a little silver in his pocket saying to his benefactors. "God bless you, you have made a man of me by the way the Germans used to add to the insult, by the variation "It takes thirteen tailors and a mastiff dog to make a man," alluding doubtless to some special occasion when this force was organized for aggression or defence.

A writer discovers the origin as he thinks, in the assumption that the trade of nine tailors will set up a cloth merchant.

An English clergyman a hundred years ago made an ingenious reading of the proverb that wholly relieved the craft from the supposed stigma. It is well known that where funeral knells are common, the bell, before announcing the age gives the signal for the description of the deceased as a piece of information to the town. This was very common in Connecticut 60 years ago. The funeral bell rang with a peculiar stroke: then after a pause the bell man struck it three times for a young girl five times for a boy seven times for a woman, and nine times for a man. The age was then called off on the bell. The word *tolling* it has been claimed was from *telling* or *counting* these strokes. The tolling of the bell was the information it communicated. "Nine tells for a man," thus passed into current speech, and soon became a joke against the tailors. One of the wittiest sayings attribute by Douglass Jerrold in his drama to Charles II, gives the origin of the prevalent tendency to victimize the craft: "Never pay a tailor as sin was the occasion of their trade."

HENRY S. FOOTE.

(New York Times)
 Hon. Henry S. Foote, who has figured very prominently in politics, and who used to have a passion for history of almost any kind, has been so quiet of late that many persons imagine him to be dead. He is alive however, in very good health for a man of his years—he will be 78 the coming September—and is reputed to be choleric as ever. During the thirty years he was in public life he was generally involved in a quarrel with somebody, often with several men at the same time. A member of the Confederate Congress during the civil war he was forever wrangling, and usually on the eve of personal encounters with his fellow members. A bitter and uncompromising enemy of Jefferson Davis, strenuously opposing every measure advocated directly or indirectly by the President of the Southern States, or by any of his friends, and consequently was kept as busy as a bee in a tar barrel. They used to say in Vicksburg, where he lived just before the war that he could not stand 10 feet from the Prentiss House and hit it more than once out of ten times. One of his duels was with the brilliant Sergeant S. Prentiss, and as was not uncommon in the cotton States, a number persons went out of Natchez to witness the fight, which took place not far from the town. After an exchange of shots, Prentiss, observing a boy who had climbed into the boughs of a tree, 50 feet out of range, to get a better view, called to him, "You would better come down, my son; you may get hurt. My friend, Senator Foote, is shooting rather wildly to-day." So good natured a remark ought to have mollified Foote, but it did not. A slight wound in his leg terminated the combat and increased his fame as a chivalrous gentleman and a very poor shot.

THE RESPONSIVE CHORD.

A Well Remembered Incident of the War Between the States.

The Rev. William J. Fox, in an address before the National Sunday School Convention, Atlanta, Ga. related the following incident: 'In the early spring of 1863 when the Confederate and Federal armies were confronting each other on the opposite hills of Stafford and Spottsylvania, two bands chanced one evening at the same hour to begin to discourse sweet music on either bank of the river. A large crowd of the soldiers of both armies gathered to listen to the sweet music, the friendly pickets not interfering, and soon the bands began to answer each other.' First the band on the northern bank would play "Star Spangled Banner," "Hail Columbia," or some other national air, and at its conclusion the "boys in blue" would cheer most lustily. And then the band on the Southern bank would respond with "Dixie," or "Bonnie Blue flag," or some other Southern melody, and the "boys in grey" would attest their approbation with an "old Confederate yell." But presently one of the bands struck up, in sweet and plaintive notes which were wafted across the beautiful Rappahannock, were caught up at once by the other band and swelled into a grand anthem which touched every heart. "Home, Sweet Home!" At the conclusion of this piece there went up a simultaneous shout from both sides of the river—cheer followed cheer, and those hills, which had so recently resounded with hostile guns, echoed and re-echoed the glad acclaim. A chord had been struck responsive to which the hearts of enemies—enemies then—could beat in union; and on both sides of the river,
 'Something dagn the soldier's cheek Washed off the stains of powder.'

His First Love.—"Did I ever love any other girl?" repeated the prospective bridegroom in answer to the tearful inquiry of his intended. "Why, no, darling, of course not. Could you ask such a question? You are my first and only love. This heart knew no awakening until the sunshine of your love streamed in and awoke it to ecstasy." And then he kissed her tenderly and went home, and said to himself, "I must hurry those things out of the way right off, or there'll be a row." And he collected together a great pile of letters, written in all kinds of feminine hands, with lots of faded flowers and photographs, and locks of hair, and faded ribbons, and other things; and when the whole collection had been crammed into the kitchen grate he drew a deep sigh and said to himself, "There goes all that's left of fourteen undying loves. Let 'em flicker."

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 I have a full stock of GROCERIES, CONFECTIONERIES, HARDWARE, BLOW-WARE, WILLOW-WARE, CROCKERY, CHINA, TIN-WARE, CUT-GLASS, &c., &c., &c.
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SUPERIOR COURT
 ALAMANCE COUNTY,
 George W. Swanson, Plff.
 vs.
 C. T. Rogers Deft.
 It appearing to the satisfaction of the court that plaintiff has a docketed judgment against the defendant for recovery of \$735-43, with interest of \$625, from the 2nd of Decr. 1868, and that no part of the same has been paid, except \$225 on the 8th of August 1877, and that execution cannot properly issue thereon without notice to the defendant, and that defendant is a non resident of the State, it is therefore on motion of plaintiffe counsel ordered by the court that notice issue to defendant to show cause, if any he can, within ten days from the service of said notice upon him, why execution shall not issue on said judgment; And it is further ordered that in lieu of personal service of said notice this order be published in THE ALAMANCE GLEANER, a newspaper published weekly, in the town of Graham for six successive weeks.
 Done at office in Graham, N. C., this 28th day of May, 1878.
 A. TATE, C. S. C.
 J. T. MOORE
 A. A. THOMPSON

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