

THE



RASP.

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"WE COME THE HERALD OF A NOISY WORLD"

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TERMS.

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Advertisements conspicuously inserted, at the very reduced price of Fifty Cents per square for the first insertion, and Twenty-five Cents for each continuance.

Conversations in Philosophy, Geography, Astronomy, Chemistry, Metaphysics, Physics, &c.—Now, Nimrod, you sit over in that ere corner, there, and I'll sit in this ere corner, here. I'll ask you some scientific questions, and see how many on 'em you can answer?

'Well, Solomon, try it on. Wait, though, till I get that pesky gravel stone out of my boot. There, fire away.'

'In the first place, Nimrod, what makes the magic needle always point to the north?'

'Most philosophers say it is owing to some peculiar attraction—but I am inclined to think it's a way it's got!'

'How long is it since the corner stone of the Tower of Babel was laid?'

'About as long as a piece of string, if not longer.'

'At what will mankind in general arrive, at the end of the world, if they continue improving in scientific knowledge as they have since it's beginning?'

'Yellow pine pitch, probably. I meant to say, a pitch into eternity.'

'How often do comets make there appearance upon an average?'

'Frequently.'

'When may we expect another?'

'Immediately, if not sooner.'

'Why is the sun called he?'

'Because it isn't a woman.'

'If a person gets wet in a rain, is he liable to take cold?'

'He can, if he likes—especially if it be a damp rain.'

'Who was the king of the Cannibal Islands?'

'If we can place any reliance on ancient history, I should say that—he was *one of them*.'

'Why is it that two rivers so often unite and form one, while one seldom or never separates and forms two?'

'It's because cold water meetings are prevalent all over the country.'

'If a man travels forty miles a day in fair weather, how far can he travel when the weather is bad?'

'I 's see—four times five is five times four—consequently it will take him an hour to travel a mile in fifteen minutes.'

'What is the difference between carbon and hydrogen?'

'One kills people, and the other destroys life.'

'What are frogs?'

'Volumes of mist-eries.'

'What effect can medicine have on a tight pair of boots?'

'If the boots are costive, a dose of Dr. Brandereth's pills will operate as a moral cathartic on the anterior superior spinous procis of the illum.'

'Look here, Nimrod!—you'll do to travel—you've seen enough of these parts.'

'Father, wasn't Alexander a *he-ro*?' 'Yes, my boy,' replied Oats. 'Well, then, father, wasn't Miss Alexander a *she-ro*?' 'Girl! take that boy to bed! What depravity.'

At a recent village debate, in Vermont, upon the question, 'ought a young man to follow a gal arter she gives him the mitten?' was fully argued pro. and con.—and then the President decided that 'he had'nt oughter.'

THE LAWS OF THE RING.

Start not, fair reader, we do not mean the ring in which men undertake, for a bribe, to disfigure each other by the brutal practice of pugilism. We refer to the laws so generally recognized in England as controlling the use of those ornamental rings so much worn by the fair sex. Here they are:

'If a gentleman *wants* a wife, he wears a ring on the first finger of the left hand; if *engaged*, on the second, and on the fourth if he intends to *live and die* a bachelor.'

'If a lady is *disengaged*, she wears a hoop or diamond on the first finger of the left hand; on the third if she is married, and on the fourth if she intends *never* to be married.'

The above rules in England are generally understood and acted upon. A lady in company, with a hoop on the third finger of the left hand, is universally understood to be married. Why should not such be the case here? Whenever we are in company, unless well acquainted with all those present, we are at a loss to say which of the young ladies are married and which single, for we frequently see married ladies without hoops, and unmarried with them. Besides, it displays a feeling in a young lady, which is likely to make an unfavorable impression on a sensible young man in search of a wife. It is natural that he should think a young lady who betrays an evident desire to assume the air and importance of married state, would not make the best wife, but would be likely to take upon her more than her due share of the reins of government. We know that such are the thoughts of some young men, and we have therefore published the above rules for the guidance of such of the fair sex as will be ruled by them.

The man who bit off another man's ear in Charlestown has been *bound to keep the piece*—(peace.)

'A loose habit,' sighed the shirt on the hand-spike.

Dr. Skipp recommends a *hop* poultice for a *jumping* tooth ache.

A gentleman describing the intellectual character of another, said his mind had the dyspepsia—the ideas went through it without digestion.

Why is a man justified in getting drunk at a hotel? Because the old maxim warns us to 'shun *inn-sobriety*.'

A meeting house in Massachusetts lately took fire and burned to the ground in consequence of too hot *preaching*. The minister should be arrested forthwith.

It was held by his honor Judge Williams, in the Suffolk Court of Common Pleas, on Wednesday, that it is not a crime in Massachusetts to be a *loafer*, and consequently that to call a man so is not actionable.

We saw, says the New Orleans Crescent City, an admirer of Fanny Elssler yesterday, with one of her toe nails richly 'set' in gold. He wears it as a breast pin; it is valued at ten thousand dollars, being the first toe nail she ever danced off by reason of a too rapid pirouette.

A religious paper in Boston a few years ago had for its motto 'In the name of our God we have set up our banner.' It was discontinued at the end of a year, and the last number issued, by some oversight, contained a new version of the motto, as follows: 'In the name of God we have up set our banner.'

'There's no end to this thing,' as the barber said when he tried to comb a darkey's wool.

THE LAND OF LIBERTY.

As Teddy was trudging along in the road, Just fresh from his home on the edge of a bog, May-be squinting to see where the voting house stood,

He was bit in the leg by a slip of a dog.

So smarting with pain, he stooped down to the ground,

To get one of the stones that seemed scattered around;

But the poor fellow found them as tight stuck together,

As the nails of his brogues were fix'd into the leather.

And is this a free country, quoth Teddy, aghast, Where the dogs are let loose and the stones are tied fast?

By the powers, it's myself that am bold to say, then,

There's more freedom for dogs here, than freedom for men.

EPIGRAM.

Tom meets his friend, and strait complains

In very sad and doleful strains:

'Ah, Jack, what must I do?

My sweetheart's wed! the seamstress fair,

Eternal grief must be my share!

You smile—but it's too true!

'But nothing made me worse I see

Who the man is she's changed for me;

A barber on my soul!

'You fool!' says Jack, what makes you mourn?

Pray, whither should the Needle turn

If not unto the Pole?'

There is one district in Lancashire, England, so poor that grasshoppers have to travel ten miles into an adjacent county in order to get strength to die.

Why does the present year resemble the year before last? Because the year before last was 1840, and this is eighteen hundred and forty too.

An old fashioned methodist.—A Mississippi Methodist, in one of his camp meeting exhortations, told a portion of his hearers, that they deserved to 'be rammed, crammed, jammed and double damned into a forty-four pounder, and shot into hell!'

England's Queen is an amiable little body. Peel went and asked her support for his tax on income. 'Certainly' said her majesty—'I am willing to pay a tax on my income—it is no more than fair—and I'll make Albert pay it on his.'

Pleasant—To make a morning call upon a lady, and see her looking over the banister in her night cap. 'Twas a pretty night cap.

'I am sorry you said that,' as a loafer said when the judge sentenced him to six months hard labor.

It is said that the temperance men are getting so strict that they will not write with blue ink. Oh!

Let the carpenter be plain in his dealings, and *chisel* no man of his debts.

Let lawyers leave off studying the law of *lien*, and doctors study those on *recoveries* a little more.

Let the shoemaker stick to his trade like wax and have honesty for his sole motto.

Let merchants be square in their dealings, and always have the *balance* cast up correctly.

Let the tailor stick to his cloth and quit *vegetabling*.

Let every man pay his just debts, and the printer's first, and we think hard times will not come quite so heavy on us as they do.

Free Press.

THE STUFFED CAT.

An old chiffonier (or rag picker) died in Paris in a state of the most abject poverty.—His only relation was a niece, who lived as a servant with a green grocer. The girl always assisted her uncle as far as her slender means would permit. When she learned of his death, which took place suddenly, she was on the point of marriage with a journeyman baker, to whom she had long been attached. The nuptial day was fixed, but Suzette had not yet bought her wedding clothes. She hastened to tell her lover that the marriage must be deferred; she wanted the price of her bridal finery, to lay her uncle decently in the grave. Her mistress ridiculed the idea, and exhorted her to leave the old man to be buried by charity. Suzette refused. The consequence was a quarrel, in which the young woman lost at once her place and her lover, who sided with her mistress. She hastened to the miserable garret, where her uncle had expired, and by the sacrifice, not only of her wedding attire, but nearly all the rest of her slender wardrobe, she had the old man decently interred. Her pious task fulfilled, she sat alone in her uncle's room weeping bitterly, when the master of her faithless lover, a young good looking man, entered.

'So, my Suzette, I find you have lost your place!' cried he, 'I am come to offer you one for life—will you marry me?'

'I sir? you are joking.'

'No, faith, I want a wife, and I'm sure can't find a better.'

'But every body will laugh at you for marrying a poor girl like me.'

'Oh! if that is your only objection we shall soon get over it; come, come along, my mother is prepared to receive you.'

Suzette hesitated no longer, but she wished to take with her a memorial of her deceased uncle: it was a cat he had for many years.—The old man was so fond of the animal that he was determined that even death should not separate them; for he had stuffed and placed on the tester of his bed.

As Suzette took down puss, she uttered an exclamation of surprise at finding her so heavy. The lover hastened to open the animal, when out fell a shower of gold. There were a thousand Louis concealed in the body of the cat, and this sum which the old miser had starved himself to amass became the just reward of the worthy girl and her disinterested lover.

'The affection of women is the most wonderful thing in the world; tires not—faints not—dreads not—cools not.'

A skunk is not an agreeable animal to stir up with a long pole.

'I'm dying for you,' as the girl said when she colored the bachelor's unmentionables.

There is a man in New Orleans, who looks so sour that vinegar is sweet in comparison; and a lady so sweet that honey can't hold a candle to her. What capital lemonade they would make!—[Selma Press.

A SOLD ARGUMENT.—An old lady hearing it stated by a school boy, that the world was round, and revolved daily on its axis, replied—'Well, I don't know anything about its axes, but I know it don't turn over, for if it did we should be tumbled off; and as to its being round, any one can see that it is a flat piece of ground and stands on a rock.'

'But upon what does the rock stand?'

'Why on another one, to be sure.'

'But what supports the last?'

'Why, la! my child, there's rocks all the way down.'