OUR WIT AND HUMOR.

RECENT PRODUCTIONS OF THE FUNNY WRITERS.

Original and Selected Paragraphs for Our Lean Readers—A Hitch in the Drama—The Village Toper—Flotsam and Jetsam.

HERE'S a boy lives down by me,
An' he's de darndest sort o' chap—
Never chewed, an' never smoked,
An' never played a game of crap.

On Sunday, 'stead of goin' to swim,
An' settin'-in if he had some sand,
He toddles off t' Sunday school,
An' sings about de "Promise" land.

De women think he's jes' de stuff,
'Cause he's always sayin' "Please,"
An' 'cause he never tears his clothes
A hitchen on, an' climbin' trees.

An' den de way' dey rigs him up!
Dey make him out a regular guy—
Ye ought t' hear de gang jes' shout
When dat dere kid goes prancin' by.

An' don't he think he's in de swim;
An' tinks he's "in it" wid de girls;
'Cause dey rigs him in a sash,
An' lets his hair hang down in curls.

But you jes' bet he's all a bluff;
I tol' him so de udder night
An' offered him a free-for-all;
An' dat kid wouldn't even fight.

I told him I could do 'im up,
An' knock him out, wid one han' tied;
An' what ye think de bluffer done?
He yelled out "Maw!" an' den he cried!

A Hitch in the Drama.

How She Led Him On.

"Jostar," said Mrs. Corntossel, "would you fight if they was a war?"

"Yes-sir-ree," was the earnest reply.

"Every time."

"An' git up in the gray dawn ter the sound of a bugle an' not make any fuss 'cause ye didn't hev nothin' but hard tack fur breakfast?"

"Course."

"Well, I'm glad to hear it. If ye're willin' ter do all that ye surely won't have no fault ter fin' 'bout gittin' up at 6 o'clock termorrow mornin' an' lightin' the fire, so's I kin cook ye some pancakes thet wouldn't be despised by nobody."

Disproved.

Exception is taken by the Fishtown philosopher to the claim of a metaphysician that it is impossible for a human body to do anything against his or her will.

"Dat ain't on de level," he remarked, with animation. "Why? Because I got, er brother who went tee jail against his will. And dat's straight."—Philadelphia Call.

Bark Worse than His Bite.

"Papa," said Bobby, pointing to the iron dog that stood on the lawn, "does dogs like that ever bite?"

"No," said his father; "but that one barked once."

"Really?" cried Bobby.

"Yes," said his father. "I stumbled over him one night, and he barked my shins."—Harper's Bazar.

A Compulsory Trade.

Mrs. Ferry—Did you never learn any trade?

Perry Patettic—Yes'ir. I'm what might be called a practical geologist, though I don't work it only when I git, sent to the rock pile.

The Village Toper.

Now—hic!—look here, if you don't—hic—promise to give me my own old—hic—time I shan't go with you.—St. Paul's.

Did He Take Her Next Time?

He—Yes: I was out sleighing. And frost all my fingers.

She (who wasn't along)—I don't see how a young man can get the fingers on both hands frozen.

Boston Repartee.

"Beans."

"No beans."

"Of course I do."

"Do what?"

"Know beans, you idiot."

Where's Mrs. Ignatius Donnelly?

"Kittie, what are the women doing now that their bible is finished?"

"We've got up a lovely diagram to prove that Mx. Shakespeare wrote the plays."

A Timely Joke.

"How is it I never see you kicking time?" asked the idle person.

"I can't find the time," said the busy man, in perfect innocence.

NOT A MOCK MARRIAGE.

Young Woman Who Was Wedded Dying a Fiery Death.

There is a charming little woman in town who doesn't know whether she is Miss Inez Mercer or Mrs. R. B. Wescott, and the uncertainty has grown so intolerable that she has asked the Superior court to put an end to it by adjudging that if she is Mrs. R. B. Wescott she may resume the name, and that she shall be no longer Mrs. Frank San Francisco Examiner. In May she took a hand in amateur theatricals in Portland, and she did a gay young swain named Wescott. As the playwright had it there were two loves in the drama, and as the advance agent mapped out the case he and Miss Mercer were those two lovers. According to the play the lovers had the usual stormy time of it, but in the last act everything turned out beautifully and the villain was completely foiled. The hero and heroine tripped along to the strains of a wedding march in the last act, the parson appeared and the friends offered the conventional congratulations. Then the curtain went down. Everybody laughed and pronounced the show excellent. Wescott left Portland a few days later and took the lady in the case dismissed the play from mind and went along with her painting and her music. But one afternoon she heard that she had been led into a trap by the lover of the play and that the marriage ceremony had not been a sham. It transpires that prior to donning his wig and stage clothes Wescott procured a marriage license and arranged to have an ordained clergyman officiate at the altar. The person actually attended and went through the marriage ceremony in the parlor, and Wescott making the usual responses. The young woman ascertained Wescott's whereabouts and wrote to him in reference to the matter. A few days later she declares, she received a letter from him in which he addressed her as his "dear wife." Shortly after receiving this letter Miss Mercer or Mrs. Wescott—removed to this city, where she has since resided. Now she wants the court to investigate the whole muddle, to learn for certain whether the ceremony was or was not a sham, and whether an ordained clergyman performed the ceremony. If her information as to the situation is found to be correct, then she wishes a decree adjudging the marriage invalid. It is said that she expects soon to be a participant in genuine nuptials with a gentleman of this city, and that this is one reason why she is eager to have the uncertainty as to her name and status cleared away.

MADE FAST TIME.

How the Runner Traveled Faster Than the Express Train.

From the New York Press: "I used to be a pretty swift runner in my young days," said the atrocious liar the other night, back in the pharmacy, "and it was only last week that I sprinted fifty feet or so and went faster than the fastest New York Central train—level ground, too."

The atrocious liar did not make this statement without a sort of gulp. His eyes sparkled, and he trembled a little. The others looked at him pityingly.

"No you don't," said the tall friend with the long hair, removing the whisky bottle from his grasp. "You've had enough."

"I'm not drunk. It's a positive fact. I did run for fifty feet, and covered the ground in less time than the train did."

"That's all right," said the man who chews gum, "you will be better in a minute. Let me call a cab for you."

"You think I'm lying."

"No we don't. We think you are crazy. If you should want to kill any of us, you would get off easily after what you have said. You don't hold any grudge against anybody, do you?"

"Do you tell you how I did it. Here, here, I'm all right. Let me tell you."

But they all went away, and he never got a chance to explain that he was on the train and ran through the car, so went faster than the express state express.

Repented His Sin.

Christian Fox, a well-known citizen of Wichita, Kansas, went to the police station and asked to be locked up for sixty-two days. He had a slip of paper in his hand which stated that he had stolen seven windows and two doors from a vacant house and sold them to a Cherokee strip banner three years ago. Their value, he said, he was asked to serve a jail sentence at the rate of 50 cents a day. Mr. Fox has been attending a free Methodist camp meeting and embraced religion. He wants sanctification and could not find it, and an alleged angel appeared to him and reminded him of the theft of the windows and doors. This is what brought him to the police station.

Disinterested by Seeing a Court Act.

A scene of terrible distress is reported in the family of Farmer Guller, north of Melvin, Ill. It appears that a neighbor crushed a cat in the presence of Mr. Guller's little 5-year-old daughter. The horror of the freight threw the child into spasms, from which she was aroused with difficulty, and was stupid with the face drawn in one side and the body partially useless. Eminent physicians have been at her, but nothing could be done for the little child, and she suffered until death came to her relief.

Japanese Religion.

The Japanese religion demands that a man must worship on the soil every day. Nobleman and peasant alike must go to sprinkling the earth in the middle of the room, on a square of cement made for the purpose.

Mrs. Coleman, of Galesville, Minn., celebrated her hundredth birthday by joining the Presbyterian church.

Among the Turks bath-money forms an important item in every marriage contract. If a husband refuses to give his wife sufficient money for bathing purposes she may go before the cadi, take off her slipper and turn it upside down. If the grievance is not redressed the has grounds for divorce.

FARM FOR SALE.

Farm of 80 acres in Bloomfield, two miles west and one mile north of Birmingham, known as the Silas Taylor place. Particulars apply on the premises or address L. Hatch, Birmingham, Mich.

GATES' FLORIDA EXCURSION.

Via C., H. & D. Ry.

Gates' Florida Special, composed of Compartment Sleeping Room, Sleeping and Dining Cars, will leave Detroit, Toledo, Tampa, Winter Park, Lake Worth, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, Brunswick, Ga., Asheville, N. C., and many places of interest in the "Sunny South." Tickets including railroad fare, meals in dining car, hotels and every expense for the entire journey, $75 and $85.

For program giving full information, apply to any ticket agent of the C., H. & D. Ry.

REAL ESTATE COLUMN.

The Following Choice Parcels of Land Are Offered for Sale in the Real Estate Department of the Pashmuir Hotel, Birmingham, Mich., Where All Inquiries Will Be Cheerfully Answered.

LOT 1.

Four and one-third acres of land in the southeast corner of the village of Birmingham, with a frontage on Woodward avenue, of 330 feet. Good house, small barn, well, cistern, and all ready to make some one a comfortable home with a large income from small money out of the best acreage in the village. Excellent location for a florist, or for those who desire to raise a season fruit. You cannot help making money at this price and it is only $1,500 cash, Price very low and terms easy.

LOT 2.

Farm of 75 acres straight west of Birmingham. All plow land and home better than the average. Good large brick house, large barn, fine orchard. Price $60 per acre. Terms half down, balance on long time and long time. There is no better farm in Oakland county for the money. Other inferior having been sold in the immediate neighborhood in the past two years for nearly double this price.

LOT 3.

House and lot with small barn on Pierce st. in Birmingham. A very attractive home along the entire front. City water in the house. Bathroom in good repair. House painted fine and in good condition. Lot 50 feet front by 132 deep. Price $1,500. Terms half down, balance on long time.

LOT 4.

One of the finest farms in Oakland county, consisting of Two Hundred acres of rich land, with a large house and old fashioned farm house in excellent repair. This farm adjoins the Sold William Pulte farm, lies three miles west of Birmingham, over good roads and the finest location for a stock farm in Oakland county. Ten acres of orchard, a fine young apple orchard and the balance in good cultivation. Price and the balance in long time. The price asked is only $75 an acre. Terms, half down, balance on long time. $4,000 Terms, half down, balance on long time of years.

LOT 5.

The old C. W. Jerks place formerly occupied as a cooper shop by S. C. Mills and formerly by John Portlandier of Maple Avenue, midway between Woodward avenue and Pierce st. Adjoins the Sold William Pulte farm. Fine roads and the finest location for a stock farm in Oakland county. Ten acres of orchard, a fine young apple orchard and the balance in good cultivation. The price asked is only $75 an acre. Terms half down, balance on long time.

LOT 6.

A 25 foot front lot next to the village on the south with a good well and cistern, and a good house, comprising some of the best land in the county. Price, $4,000. Terms, $2,000 cash, balance on easy terms.

LOT 7.

A farm of one hundred acres within a mile and a half of the new Birmingham depot, about one-fourth of which is cleared and twenty to thirty acres more can be cleared and made ready for the plow. Two good acres of orchard all grafted fruit. Good spring right furnishing an abundance of water at all times. Soil, a rich clay loam, plow, plow or harrow. Land is the immediate neighborhood has been sold for nearly double the price of this place. This place is owned by Young, of Birmingham.

LOT 8.

We have it placed in our hands for sale one of the beautiful homes of Pretty Lake, so noted for its fine place is handsomely located, shaded to perfection with large maple trees, has large living rooms, all bedrooms with closets, good well and cistern. Cellar is whole house. Two story house, woodshed and all necessary outbuildings. Three lots go with the place. Call on Whitehead & Mitchell for particulars.

LOT 9.

A farm of 50 acres within one and one-half miles of town of Birmingham, with a fine ship of Monmouth, fifty acres cleared, three acres in orchard, balance fine timber. Good house, barn and all necessary outbuildings in good condition. Never-failing stream of good water, running through the length of the farm, affording ample for stock grazing and stock cattle that could be desired. Price, $4,000. Terms, $2,000 cash, balance on long time.

LOT 10.

The farm known as the "Pratty Farm" in the township of Troy, is now awarded the first premium of nature, and is the finest farm in the county of Oakland, and there are some better in the county. The soil is a rich clay and tending that fancy prices are discounted by all who see it. Fifty acres in little patches for small farms and gardening, balance in timber. Price, $3,000 cash. Call at the post office in Birmingham, on Friday and Price Whitehead and Mitchell for Terms, one-third cash and balance on long time.

LOT 12.

The Pratt farm, located at the village of Franklin, Oakland county, is one of the best farming country in the state. The farm includes house and lot and other buildings. Water supply and cistern in house. Price, $3,000. Terms, $1,000 cash, balance on long time.

LOT 13.

What better farming country could be found than the immediate vicinity of Birmingham? Where could you find a better location for a poultry business? Well, there it is, right here ready and being a good business, and for sale at a price which is lower than it was sold for before the depot of choice was given to the town hundred dollars. The price is cash price, $2,000 and half cash with balance can be put in mortgage half interest, time and easy terms. Or, if desired, will be sold on easy terms, in lots of one acre or more, or in lots of ten acres, or in lots of twenty acres, or in lots of forty acres, or in lots of one half acres and upward, and the entire property, or any portion as above, or will be exchanged for city property. Price of farm and property in the Birmingham Title Co. will be pleased to show you over the property at any time.

LOT 14.

House and lot in Birmingham on Sullivan street corner of Brown street, one of the finest locations in the village with Brown street passing, opposite for Pontiac for Detroit, every one interested will be passing summer. The house is three stories with gable roof and dormer, a fine new barn, a beautiful lawn, house filled with city water and all the conveniences, with every modern convenience. Every surrounding is full, bright and cheerful, and the most convenient and commodious residence in the village. Price, $3,000. Terms, one-third cash, balance on long time, or one-third cash, balance in five equal payments, or will be exchanged for city property. Price of farm and property in the Birmingham Title Co. will be pleased to show you over the property at any time.

LOT 15.

The "Wooster Farm," so called, is one of best, within one mile of Birmingham, Mich., the village of Birmingham, Mich., the village of Birmingham, Mich., the village