

THE WOODSTOCK DISPATCH.

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WAYS OF MODERN GENIUS.

Methods by which Writers of Today Stimulate Their Genius.

"The vagaries of authors are as many as the whims of a woman," says an ungallant writer; and the rudeness of the verdict may perhaps be pardoned for the sake of its accuracy.

Probably no two writers of today work under similar conditions, and conditions which would inspire one man would clog the pen of another.

Many authors can neither think nor write unless they are physically comfortable, if not luxurious. One well-known writer finds his best inspirations while smoking a cigar in a hot bath; and at least one of our leading novelists does his work before he leaves his bed in the morning, or rather at any time between noon and the early hours of the afternoon.

Mr. Swinburne, the "magician of verse," has been inspired by many a happy idea while breasting the waves in a long swim or floating lazily on his back; and many a "line of sounding rhythm" has sprung up to bear him company on his solitary walks around Putney.

Miss Braddon loves to write in summertime in the "idyllic isolation" of her beautiful garden at Litchfield house, Richmond, where the very air is full of inspiration, and she has weaved many of her plots to the music of her horse's feet.

Francois Coppee is never happy with his pen unless he has one or more of his beloved cats to bear him company, and Bret Harte, when the writing fit is on him, packs up a few belongings and buries himself in the heart of the country, where there is nothing more disturbing than a cow.

Here with a cigar in his mouth and plenty more at hand, his pen runs fluently enough when once it is started. He confessor, however, that his first line has often outlasted his first cigar.

Mr. Hardy is, like so many writers, a creature of moods. For days he cannot touch a pen; but when the mood seizes him it rules him like a tyrant. From early morning until late at night he drives his pen in a race against his fancy, until he drops from sheer exhaustion.

It was very different with Anthony Trollope, who used to pooh-pooh the idea of inspired hours, and made a point of writing a certain quantity every day, with the regularity of a machine, stopping when his day's task was done.

Sir Walter Besant, too, smiles at inspiration, and drives his pen with the prosaic regularity of a journeyman.

Maeterlinck finds his inspiration in lamplight, and works steadily through the dark hours until dawn breaks. In this love of the night he resembles many of our own writers of note, who do their best work when the busy world sleeps.

It is said that one novelist of to-day finds daylight so uninspiring that he resolutely shuts it out. With closed shutters and curtains and artificial light he can spend his days in the inspiration of the night.

Jules Verne believes as firmly in the virtues of early morning. He rises some hours before the "laggard house-maid," and like Mr. Watts, the artist, often finishes his day's work before other men begin theirs.

Authors differ as widely in their modes as in their moods of writing. The genial "Autocrat," Oliver Wendell Holmes, wrote almost every line that has seen print with a single gold pen which inspired him for forty years.

Mr. George R. Sims has a weakness for a lead pencil, which suits his rapid moods.

Miss Braddon prefers a steel pen for her manuscripts, although she uses a quill for her own private correspondence, and her "press hand" is entirely different from her "private hand."

Mr. Guy Boothby dictates most of his thrilling fiction to his wife, who operates a typewriter, while many authors have schooled themselves to the mechanical art of typewriting their own thoughts, a process which ought to be fatal to inspiration.

When Mr. Barrie was asked "what he wrote with," the answer came quickly—"I write with my pipe," and, indeed, to men like Barrie, Kipling, and poor James Payne, the vehicle was nothing and "Lady Nicotine" everything.—London Daily Mail.

Baby Eczema and Scald Head.

Infants and young children are peculiarly subject to this terrible disorder, and if not promptly arrested it will eventually become chronic. Dr. Chase made a special study of Eczema and disease of the skin, and we can confidently recommend Dr. Chase's Ointment to cure all forms of Eczema. The first application soothes the irritation and puts the little sufferer to rest.

Eastern Extension Claims.

Premier Emmerson in his address to the electors of St. John a few days ago, explained the meaning of the Eastern Extension claims which the government of New Brunswick have against the government of Canada. At the time of confederation the government of New Brunswick had granted to a railroad from Paines Junction to the boundary of Nova Scotia the sum of \$400,000 in cash. This railroad was taken over and now forms part of the Intercolonial system. The dispute arose over the value of the road and the government of Canada declined to pay more than \$250,000 to the province of New Brunswick in return for the \$400,000 the province had expended. The question was kept open by the New Brunswick government and as a consequence, there was a re-valuation which resulted in the government of New Brunswick obtaining from the government of Canada the additional sum of \$150,000. By this action the government of Canada admitted the correctness of the claims of New Brunswick to be recouped for the expenditure on this part of the railroad, and while it paid the original claim, it has never yet settled the interest which the government of New Brunswick should have received from the government of Canada. The contention of New Brunswick is that recognition of its claim carries with it the right of the Dominion government to pay the interest thereon from the time of confederation to the present day, which everyone will admit to be only justice. At the present time this claim amounts to upwards of \$250,000.

In 1886 Mr. Blair and Mr. Tweedie went to Ottawa for the purpose of arranging this claim. They met Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Charles Tupper as a committee of the Privy Council and stated the object of their mission. After hearing the case as set forth by Mr. Blair and Mr. Tweedie, Sir John A. Macdonald promised, and the promise was concurred in by Sir Charles Tupper, that the claims of the province of New Brunswick, which then amounted to about \$160,000 would be paid.

For reasons about which the New Brunswick government and opposition can't agree, the claims was not settled. Last month, Messrs Emmerson and Tweedie went to Ottawa again for the purpose of having these claims adjusted. The result has been that the claim has been submitted for arbitration and there is every possibility of speedy settlement. With this sum in the New Brunswick treasury this province would be in a magnificent financial position—as good if not better than that of any other Canadian province.

UNABLE TO WORK.

Mr. Jos. Currier, Victoria Harbor, Ont., writes: "I had Rheumatism in my knees, feet and elbows so bad I was unable to work. Nothing did me any good till I got Milburn's Rheumatic Pills. One box and a half completely cured me."

Prince of Wales Post-Bag.

The daily postbag at Marlborough house contains some extraordinary letters. By one post there arrived the following:—A request for the loan of £1,000 to enable a student of entomology to start for Africa; a petition from a poor old lady to provide a dowry for her daughter, who was about to be married; a pressing letter from a French inventor of a new diving dress, begging the Prince to don it and dive into the Seine when he next visited Paris; and a calm request for money to redeem a workman's tools. Of course few of these curious missives ever reach the Prince for his experienced secretaries sift the correspondence with care and knowledge.—Temple Magazine.

For over 40 years Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry has been the great remedy for Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Cramps and Colic. Always get the genuine. Imitations are dangerous.

Visitors to Great Cities.

Paris in 1897 was visited by 890,000 visitors, Berlin by 517,000, and Vienna by 364,000. Thirteen years ago the figures for the three cities were: Paris, 684,000; Berlin, 268,000, and Vienna, 184,000, the relatively larger increase in the last having something to do with its freedom from Dreyfus affairs and lese majesty laws. In thirteen years Paris hotels entertained 8,500,000 guests, Berlin 4,500,000, and those of Vienna 3,900,000. It would be difficult to obtain accurate figures for New York and London owing to the lack of police supervision of hotel registers.

A Chinese Hospital.

A Chinese hospital is run by the undertaker. He is always on the safe side. If the patient keeps alive, he gets money for caring for him. If his friends tire of paying for his keep, he is placed in the chamber of tranquility. After he dies the undertaker buries him and makes money out of him to the last.

A school-girl who had accidentally exchanged umbrellas with another, sent her this note: "Miss A. presents her compliments to Miss B., and begs to say that she has an umbrella which isn't mine; so if you have one that isn't hers, no doubt they are the ones."

COOK'S NEW BLOOD PILLS.

TOO WEAK TO SEW...

An Ottawa Lady Relates Her Experience for Benefit of Others.

Mrs. William A. Holmes, 530 Concession St., Ottawa, Ont., testifies as follows: "For some years past I was greatly troubled with weakness both of the nerves and heart. My heart would beat very irregularly, sometimes throbbing, and at other times seeming to go up into my throat, thus causing a terrible smothering sensation. Finally I grew so weak that I could not sew. Although I tried many remedies I could obtain no relief, and was almost in despair of a cure. "One day, however, I heard of Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills and began to use them, and am now better than I have been for years. I work right along now, and the pains and palpitation have left me, much to my relief. My blood seems to be enriched and full of vitality, and my entire system is in a healthy and vigorous state."

Got Rid of Him.

Brown lived between Gray and Green. Green was as quiet a neighbor as you could wish to have; and so was Gray, for that matter, but he had a barking dog that was the torment of Brown's life. One day in his desperation he told Gray that if he would get rid of the dog he would give him \$5.

All right, said Gray; I'll do it. Meeting Gray down town that forenoon Brown asked: Have you done what you agreed to do and got rid of that dog?

Gray—Yes, I've got rid of him. Brown—Thank goodness! Now I shall sleep nights. By the way, what did you do with him?

Gray—I sold him to Green. He gave me \$3 for him. Not so bad, eh?

LEGS LIKE STOVEPIPES.

Kidney Irregularities Developed Into Dropsy—South American Kidney Cure Cured Him.

South American Kidney Cure is doing every day for hundreds what it did for this steamboat man, out in Lincoln County. Through exposure while sailing he contracted kidney disease and in a short while dropsy developed, so that his legs swelled as large as stovepipes. Doctors held out no hope for his recovery. He was recommended to use this great kidney specific, with the result that in a few weeks' treatment he was able to resume his work again a cured man, feeling stronger and heartier than he had for years.—Sold by Gard-n Bros.

He Meant to Have It.

An amusing story is being told in Edinburgh. At a recent auction sale of old furniture a chair, bearing on the back the carved words "Dunottar Castle," was put up. Experts expected it might fetch about £25. The bidding began at £5, and soon reached £30, when only two brokers remained in the competition, which, to the amazement of everyone present, advanced in £5 bids to £100, and then jumped in steps of £10 to £600. Finally, one of the bidders retired, and the chair was knocked down to his successful rival at the price of £670. The secret of this strange sale is quite simple. Sir Donald Currie had seen the name on the back of the chair, and had commissioned an Edinburgh broker to buy it. Next day, forgetting what he had done, he instructed a Glasgow broker to bid for the chair, and these two were the rival bidders, with the result that Sir Donald is now the possessor of what is probably the most costly old oak chair in the world.—Liverpool Post.

Making It Clear.

Somebody has discovered that a Bermuda onion eaten raw will clear the head. A Bermuda onion eaten raw will do more than that. It will clear an entire room. An active Bermuda onion is a complete clearing house all by itself. Take one Bermuda onion—only one—and let the lips of beauty close upon it, and love will turn to hatred, and honey to gall and bitterness. Clear the head? Why, a Bermuda onion in fairly good health will clear the head of navigation!—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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Is successfully used monthly by over 10,000 Ladies. Safe, effective. Ladies ask your druggist for Cook's Cotton Root Compound. Take no other, as all mixtures, pills and imitations are dangerous. Price, No. 1, \$1 per box; No. 2, 10 degrees stronger, \$3 per box. No. 1 or 2, mailed on receipt of price and two-cent stamps. The Cook Company Windsor, Ont. Nos. 1 and 2 sold and recommended by all responsible Druggists in Canada.

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Agent for N. B. Telephone Co. C. P. R. Telegraph Co.

The Blue Front Jewelry Store.

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FALL OF 1898.

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