

**Expressions in Common Use.**

It is very interesting to trace our common expressions— even our slang expressions. They are usually found to have quite a dignified ancestry and to be cases of the operation of the law of degradation of language. Here are a few specimens: "He was mad as a hatter," is a phrase often used to indicate that a person has been very angry. But why should a hatter be more addicted to anger than the tailor or shoemaker? No one can tell and consequently the phrase has no intelligent meaning if taken as it reads. The original phrase was "Mad as an utter," the last word being the Saxon for adder, which gives it sense, as the adder is supposed to be always mad and ready to sting.

One often hears, "He's as dead as a door nail," yet it is probable that most of those who use the phrase cannot tell why a door nail should be deader than any other nail that is made of metal. It is explained, however, that the door nail in earlier times was the plate on the door upon which the old fashioned and now unused knocker struck to arouse the inmates of the house. As the plate or nail was struck many more times than any other nail it was assumed to be deader than nails struck only when driven into wood.

"I acknowledged the corn," meaning to retract or take back, has a number of explanations, the most plausible of which is that in 1829 one Stewart of Ohio made a speech in congress in which he declared that "Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky sent their haystacks and cornfields to New York and Philadelphia for a market." Wickliffe, of Kentucky questioned the correctness of the statement. "What do they send?" asked Stewart, "Why, horses, mules, cattle and hogs." "What makes your horses, mules, cattle and hogs?" continued the Ohio man. "You feed \$100 of hay to your horse; you just animate and get on top of your hay stack and ride off to market. How much corn does it take at 33 cents a bushel to fatten a hog? Why, thirty bushels. Then you put thirty bushels in the shape of a hog and make it walk off to the eastern market." I acknowledged the corn, shouted the Kentucky member.

"All talk and no cider," is an adage which is said to have originated in Bucks county, Penn. A party was assembled to drink a barrel of superior cider, but the elders of the assemblage engaged in a political discussion which lasted so long that some who were less interested in politics than cider withdrew on the plea that the discussion was a trap to get them to listen to a political talk rather than to drink cider. One of them said: "It was all talk and no cider."

"To take the cake" had its origin in the cake-walks in which colored couples participate, the prize being a cake. Hence anyone who does a thing conspicuously well, or, sarcastically, and more usually, one who fails, is said "to take the cake." "Everything is lovely and the rose hangs high" is a much used expression, but why the hanging of the goose high should have anything to do with making everything lovely is not clear, unless, as is explained, hangs is a misapprehension of the word "honks," the cry of the wild goose as it flies. On clear days wild geese fly high, hence they honk high. Consequently the adage means everything is lovely and the weather is fair.

"I'll put a spoke in his wheel" has very little meaning, as to the word "spoke" is now used, and, instead of being a threat, might be considered as a pledge to assist. It had its origin many years ago when wheels were solid except three holes to receive a "spoke," or pin, when going down hill, which acted as a brake. In 1689 in a memorial, two measures designed to interfere with the arbitrary government of James II are spoken of "as such spokes in their chariot wheels that made them drive much heavier."—Golden Rule.

**Itching, Buraing, Skin Diseases**  
Relieved in a day. Ezema, salt rheum, barber's itch, and all eruptions of the skin quickly relieved and speedily cured by Dr. Agnew's Ointment. It will give instant comfort in cases of itching, bleeding or blind piles, and will cure in from three to six nights.—For sale by W. W. Short, Richibucto.

**Horse Famine Close At Hand.**  
The short crop of colts for the last few years will begin to tell on us soon. The Kentucky Stock Farm has found by corresponding with the different assessors throughout the horse-raising sections of the country that in some localities there are only 5 per cent. of the regular crop raised, and in no places more than 10 per cent. has been foaled for the last three years.

The visible supply of American horses in 1894 was 16,000,000; in 1896, 15,000,000; and it is predicted by good authority that before the close of the year 1897 the visible supply will be nearly the 14,000,000 mark, and judging from every indication there is a great horse famine close at hand, for with returning prosperity, which is sure to come, and with it a great increase in demand, and as the law of supply and demand governs all prices, an increasing demand with a short supply means that before horses can be bred and produced for the market they will be extremely high.—Farmer's Advocate.

**Helping Her Out.**

[From the Detroit Free Press.]  
"I'm a believer in the bicycle," declared a lawyer of prominence the other day. "In fact, I ride one myself and derive a great deal of benefit from it, but I know of more than one instance where it has led to family dissension."

"I was called upon professionally the other day by a fine-looking, intelligent, nicely dressed woman of about thirty-five. Without any tears or other preliminaries she stated that she desired my services in procuring a divorce."

"Upon what grounds, madam?"  
"You can give them a technical name after I have told you what they are. No couple ever lived more happily than did Fred and myself until he brought a tandem home for our joint use. He thought it best that we should do our wheeling together and I agreed with him. His thoughtfulness and desire to be with me were very pleasing."

"To be sure."  
"But all my anticipations were blasted. He developed a stubbornness that I never discovered in his character. He never proposed going where I wanted to go. If I had my mind set upon going to the island he went to the boulevard, and if I had a preference for one street he selected another. It often occurred, too, that when one of us was anxious to go out the other was not in the mood. I cannot endure another such season."

"Did it ever occur to you, madam, that it might be wiser to give up your tandem than your husband?"

"Indeed, I'm not going to give up the bicycle just because he chooses to be a tyrant. I want you to commence proceedings."

"Perhaps without letting him know what you have in mind, I could persuade your husband to buy you a wheel of your own."

"Oh, if you only could! The very latest and the very finest. I'm sure he would; Fred's so generous. I was confident you would help me out."

**A GRAND TRUNK BRAKEMAN**

**Tells the Story of His Exposure—The Fate that Befel Him, and how he was Relieved of his Sufferings**

W. Lavelle, G.T.R. brakeman, Allandale, Ont., says: "Through exposure I contracted that dread disease—Catarrh. My case became chronic. I was recommended to try Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. In ten minutes after the first application I had relief, and in an almost incredibly short time all symptoms had disappeared. I feel I cannot speak too strongly in recommending this remedy. It is a pleasant, safe and quick cure."

For sale by W. W. Short, Richibucto.

**New Method of Planting Potatoes.**

With a large number of farmers potato growing is not a profitable branch of agriculture. Successive failures in procuring crops have led them to despair of making the line a success, and indeed if it were impossible to have better results than some have they might well be justified in their opinion. Yet if equal care were taken with this crop as with many others, despite the low price of potatoes it would, I believe, bring better results than some other lines which now have the preference.

Potatoes cannot be grown successfully on poor ground. Perhaps the all around best plan for the immediate crop and the enriching of the ground for future crops is to have the manure rotted and mixed through the ground. In this way the strength of the manure is not wasted as it is when put in the rows only. This plan is endorsed and practiced by the Guelph Experimental Farm. A common way in some localities is to open up the drills or hills and then drop the seed and then cover, first with manure, then with earth. But perhaps the least tried plan is the one which I will here describe. Instead of dropping the seed on the hard ground in the bottom of the rows, we have for the last ten or fifteen years made a practice of half filling the rows with manure, then dropping the seed and covering. This method has paid us well from the start. We never plant more than an acre of potatoes and always have a yield of from two to three hundred bushels notwithstanding years of drouth, floods and rot. When grown in this way the potatoes are uniformly large and free from scab. The roots of the plants easily penetrate the manure and find immediate nourishment; and the potatoes find an easy growth in the soft bed where they would otherwise have to press their way in the hard soil. In very wet weather the manure drains off the water, and in dry, unless it be very coarse and strawy, retains the dampness and nourishment. Also in plowing out the crop few of the tubers are cut with the plow, being chiefly in or above the manure. Try this plan, farmers, and you will have the pleasure of digging a plentiful crop of large potatoes.

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**The Venezuelan Trouble.**

CARACAS, May 3.—A commissioner sailed to-day for Washington with the approved draft of the treaty under which the dispute between England and Venezuela will be settled.

**Husband is well.**

Mrs. Wm. Hamby, Belleville, Ont., says: "My husband was troubled with kidney complaint, rheumatism, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, etc., and could get no relief until I got a box of Doan's Kidney Pills for him. He has now used about four boxes in all and is perfectly cured."

Doan's Kidney Pills are the ones that cure. Remember the name of Doan's. For sale by W. W. Short, Richibucto.

**Dan's Composition.**

Dan is a small boy who goes to school when he has to, and "hooks Jack" when he can. The other day his teacher asked him to write a composition on the English King, Henry the Eighth, and he wrote: "King Henry 8 was the greatest widower that ever lived. He was born at Annie Domino in the year 1066. He had 510 wives besides children. The first was beheaded and afterwards executed, and the 2nd was revoked. Henry 8 was succeeded to the throne by his great-grandmother, the beautiful Mary Queen of Scots, sometimes called the Lady of the Lake or the Lay of the Last Minstrel."

**Erysipelas Cured.**

GENTLEMEN,—In the spring of 1893 I was taken with erysipelas in the face, which left me in a very bad state of health, but having taken one bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters I can truly say that it cured me. You are at liberty to refer any one to me for further particulars as regards this wonderful medicine. JAS. S. CROCKER, South Farmington, Annapolis, N. S.

**Never Give In.**

Two frogs went out one day for a journey on exploration bent. Accidents will happen, however, to the best of creatures, and these two frogs unfortunately fell into a jug of cream. The sides of the jug were slippery, and, after a few unsuccessful attempts to jump out, one of them said: "It's no use. We cannot get out, and we may as well die soon as late."

"Nothing of the kind," said the other. "You can, of course, do as you like, but I shall keep on jumping as long as a spark of life remains in me. Who knows but that we shall succeed at last?"

This speech put new life into the despondent frog, and they both began to jump with renewed energy. Jump, splash, jump, splash, went on for some time, and then, low! something happened. It was quite natural that it should. The cream began to thicken, and was at last churned into butter. The frogs then mounted to the top and succeeded in gaining their freedom!

*Nil desperandum* is an excellent motto for young folks when any work has to be done. Don't forget the frogs.

**"FELL DEAD."**

**What More Every-day Heading Do You Read in this Paper than that?—They are Legion.**

Don't dally with heart disorders. There is but one cure. I had been for a number of years sorely affected with heart disease. At times my life was despaired of. Doctors had prescribed, and I had taken every known remedy made, I had supposed, and I did not get any benefit. I read of the wonderful cures wrought by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. I procured a bottle and in less time almost than it takes to tell it, the distress was relieved. I followed the directions closely and to-day I am a well woman again, and I shall do all in my power to make known to every one suffering as I did the wonderful cure it worked for me. Mrs. Wm. Burton, Dartmouth, Ont."

**Four Days On a Raft Without Food.**

NATCHEZ, Miss., May 6.—One of the most pathetic scenes since the flood took place yesterday. Thirty negroes drifting on a raft were landed here, having been floating for four days with nothing to eat. No sooner had they reached land than they fell down and worshipped it. A colored Baptist preacher near by offered his services and began at once to baptise the whole crowd. They refused to eat or leave the river bank until baptism was completed. They said the flood was a visitation of the Divine wrath.

The Senate Thursday agreed to an amendment to the Sundry Civil bill, revoking the order of President Cleveland made on Feb. 22 last, establishing forest reservations aggregating 17,000,000 acres. The debate brought out much criticism of Mr. Cleveland's order. The Sundry Civil bill was passed late in the day. It carries an aggregate of \$53,900,000. As a sequel to the defeat of the Anglo-American treaty of arbitration Senator Bacon, of Georgia, introduced a joint resolution deprecating war and announcing the policy of the government as favorable to arbitration. The resolution was referred to the committee on foreign relations. Senator Frye, of Maine, reported the bill providing regulations for the avoidance of collision in inland harbors in accordance with the agreement of the marine congress. The bill was passed.

**Merit**

Made and Merit Maintains the confidence of the people in Hood's Sarsaparilla. If a medicine cures you when sick; if it makes wonderful cures everywhere, then beyond all question that medicine possesses merit.

**Made**

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**Hood's Sarsaparilla**

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. cures nausea, indigestion, biliousness. 25 cts. per bottle.

**Hood's Pills**



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**TAILORING.**

The subscriber has opened a tailoring establishment next door to A. D. Cormier's, Buctouche, where he will do custom tailoring at lowest rates and guarantee satisfaction. Prices for making suits, \$3.50 to \$5.00. G. W. FARISH, Buctouche, N. B.

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**A MAN:** to sell Canada grown Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Bulbs and Bulbous Plants, Grape Vines, Small Fruits, Seed Potatoes, etc. We catalogue only the hardiest and most popular varieties that succeed in the coldest climates. New season now commencing; complete outfit free, salary and expenses paid from start for full time, or liberal commission for part time. Apply now, addressing nearest office, and get choice of territory. LUKE BROTHERS COMPANY, International Nurseries, CHICAGO, Ill., or MONTREAL, Que.

**FREE! 75 COMPLETE STORIES!** Pack of goods worth \$2, and a Big 100p. Picture Book, that will surely put you on the road to a handsome fortune. Send 5c. silver, to pay postage. A. W. KINNEY, R. R. Yarmouth, N. S.

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