

# DICKENS CHARACTERS STILL HAVE A WARM WELCOME

Great English Writer Died Fifty Years Ago—The Late War Led to an Expansion of His Popularity—Great Demand for His Works Among Students—Dickens Characters a Peculiar Legacy to Literature.

(Boston Transcript)

Today is the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Charles Dickens. It is worth recording that the characters and the sayings of the characters he created, have still a warm welcome in the minds of men. And it is also worth recording that the war led to an expansion of his popularity in no slight degree. In Boston, as in England and Scotland no sooner had the horrors of war become palpitating than the sale of Dickens' works largely increased. Meanwhile Thackeray remained stationary and Scott died perhaps because his works dealt so largely with fighting. The increase in the reading of Dickens is still maintained as the Boston Public Library and Boston booksellers testify. Dealers in second-hand books complain they cannot get enough second-hand Dickens to meet the demand. Against war horrors it would seem people sought some Nephenthe that would take them out of themselves, and found it in Dickens. This demand for the works of the novelist has continued without interruption since the war stopped—a relief perhaps from jazz and all its works. Today Dickens works are in steady demand a demand not made by the elderly friends of Dickens—a yearly diminishing band—but largely by new students in college and school, prompted by their teachers to "read Dickens." Will they not in 1920 rejoice in Dotheboys Hall.

This is a tribute to the fact that Dickens portrayed a humanity that was not only of his own time but of all time despite the circumstances that nowadays the England he pictured has altered its language its customs and its costume. The Beadle and all connected with him is gone forever; so are Doctors' Commons, the old Newgate, and with them "Our Parish"—the title of the first of the sketches by Boz—and countless other curiosities of the London streets when Victoria became Queen. Gone too are—probably—all who served Dickens as models for his characters. The last to die was "Stony Durdles" in "The Mystery of Edwin Drood," who passed away in February last in the person of John Hoodley, assistant verger of Rochester Cathedral. He never neglected to care for the grave of "Little Dorrit." Following the passing of the period and its peo-

ple, the London places Dickens immortalized are now going because of the march of the builder.

But no wrecker's tool can ever destroy the universal appeal to the heart of such writing as "The Christmas Carol"—"that national benefit" as Thackeray called it and hundreds of other pages from Dickens' pen. The sympathy of his readers was the great thing he cared about and he went straight for it through the avenue of the emotions. In personality, intensity and range of creative genius, he still can hardly be said to have any modern rival. There is something to criticize. Even after half a century we do not quite forgive "Martin Chuzzlewit"—though Dickens never "knifed" Americans as Americans knife themselves today. Yet our interest and pride, in him as a man and as a representative author of his age and nation have been steadily augmented and are still mounting.

The resurgence of his characters which has been noted in England and elsewhere in the spirit of the people and the writings of journalists is very marked at this moment. There is no week's issue of the foreign or American press but produces some reference that is Dickensian. A barrister—perhaps an up-to-date Sergeant Buzfuz opening a trial in the King's Bench a fortnight ago, began: "This case, my lord is concerned with the serving of chops." The judge broke in: "With tomato sauce?" "No, my lord, this is not the historical occasion." In the same issue reporting this survival of Dickens there was an announcement of a Bangkok newspaper which alluringly declared "each one of its staff has been to college and writes like the Kipling and the Dickens." This resurgence is to be more widely spread in this and the next few years. The movies have seized on Dickens' novels and are filming many of the scenes therein with the actual backgrounds which Dickens gave them. A few weeks ago Lady Dedlock and her companions, dressed in correct Victorian costumes suddenly descended on old Staple Inn High Holborn, and on the spot went through the scenes Dickens visualized. Naturally in time these films will tour a large part of the world. And when David Copperfield, Dickens's "favorite child," tours in the flesh there will be none, ignorant though he or she may be of the book, but will be

## WEAR THOSE SHOES THAT TORTURED YOU

Cincinnati authority tells how to dry up a corn so it lifts out.

You corn-pestered men and women need suffer no longer. Wear the shoes that nearly killed you before, says this Cincinnati authority, because a few drops of freezone applied directly on a tender, aching corn stop soreness at once and soon the corn loosens so it can be lifted out, root and all, with out pain.

A quarter of an ounce of freezone costs very little at any drug store, but is sufficient to take off every hard or soft corn or callus. This should be tried, as it is inexpensive and is said not to inflame or even irritate the surrounding tissue or skin.

glad of David's acquaintance and with it the public will long remember delightful vignettes of the Peggottys, our friend Mr. Micawber, of Betsy Trotwood and that monument of selfish misery, Mrs. Gummidge. Dickens societies—there is a prosperous one in Boston—were never more flourishing than they are today, half a century after their master and inspiration laid him down to die at Gad's Hill.

Privately in the early morning of June 14th, 1870, the body of Charles Dickens was buried in the Poet's Corner of Westminster Abbey. That was all they buried. The characters in his great panorama of human emotions he left to the world. Time still finds the world exhibiting marked satisfaction in the enjoyment of that priceless legacy.

## SPANK ILLEGAL IN TORONTO

Toronto, June 17—According to the opinion expressed by City Solicitor Johnston to the Board of Control on Saturday spanking of prisoners is illegal and will in all probability be discontinued. "I am of the opinion that the Judge has no power to make such recommendations, and the jail officials have no authority to carry such recommendations into effect," was the opinion expressed by Solicitor Johnston.

The report was made following the complaint of several people regarding this method of punishment. Mr. Johnston in his report states that "the criminal code allows corporal punishment to be imposed in certain specified cases, and I am advised that the cases covered by these recommendations do not embrace any of the specified crimes." Mr. Johnston further states that he is assured that no one has any right of action against the city in respect of these punishments.

Railroad wrecks are among the old-fashioned things nobody wants to see come back.



## The Friendly Smoke

THERE is something mighty comforting and satisfying about "OLD CHUM" Tobacco; a sort of soothing restfulness that pipe smokers have come to associate with this friendly smoke.

"OLD CHUM" is an old, old chum with all pipe smokers.

It has the perfect tobacco taste—the mellow richness—and men know that they can be chummy with "OLD CHUM" all day long and that the "good night pipeful" will be as sweet and cool as the one enjoyed just after breakfast.

For years and years "OLD CHUM" has been Canada's favourite pipe tobacco and today is more popular than ever.

# OLD CHUM

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## WANTS FIFTY THOUSAND FOR SKINNED KNEE

Hinton, W. Va., June 17—Miss Nyma Seibert, a dancer, wants \$50,000 damages from the McCreery Hotel for an alleged skinned knee. She brought suit in the Federal Court at Charleston today against James T. McCreery and G. L. Taylor proprietors charging that while she was stopping at the hotel she walked into an open elevator shaft and barked her knee so severely that it interfered with her dancing.

Her livelihood depends on shapely limbs, she declares and with either out of commission she might as well remain at home. Both McCreery and Taylor refused today to comment on the suit except to say they couldn't see how "barking" a knee or an entire leg for that matter was worth any \$50,000.

## HARD AND COOL ICEBERG TEAM

(Boston Globe.)

"Who put the hard in Harding?"

"Maybe 'twas the same guy that put the cool in Coolidge!"

This conversational scrap between two presumably Democratic wags riding downtown on an Elevated train yesterday afternoon excited a chuckle among all who heard it.

"They ought to make for an iceberg of an administration," was the first fellow's comeback.

"Oh, you can't tell that for sure; I should rather guess they'll make a pretty hard-boiled combination."

### FAMOUS WORDS OF FAMOUS WOMEN.

You know you're not the only man I could have married.

### FAMOUS SAYINGS OF FAMOUS MOTHERS-IN-LAW.

You'll do as I say.

### FAMOUS WORDS OF FAMOUS MEN.

You're the most wonderful little dancer, etc.

### FAMOUS WHOPPERS.

"Plenty of room in the front end of the car. Step forward, please."

### ABOUT HUSBANDS

Visitor—And how is your newly-married daughter?

Mrs. Brown—Oh, she's nicely thank you. She finds her husband a bit dull, but then, as I tells her, the good 'uns are dull.

## REFUSES GREAT OFFER FOR HORSE MAN O' WAR

New York, June 13—Just a short time before Man-o'-War stepped out on the course at Belmont Park yesterday to shatter the world's record for a mile and three furlongs, his owner, a Samuel D. Riddle of Philadelphia, refused an offer of \$260,000 for this great colt.

"In doing so he was not seeking to establish a price for Man-o'-War, for he declared emphatically that he would not set a sum on this son of Fair Play. As far as the Philadelphia sportsman is concerned, no amount of money could buy his prize racer, which he intends to retire to the stud after the 1921 season. The offer was made by Joseph L. Murphy, also of Philadelphia.

With all danger of an ice gorge in the river averted it is time to take em off, if any.

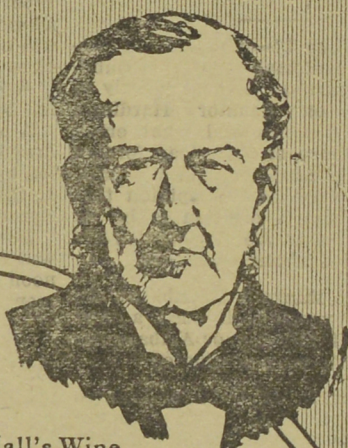
## WOODSTOCK FAILED TO FILL BUT ONE CLASS

J. Henry DeWitt, secretary of the Woodstock Driving Club, announces that the 3-year-old race which was offered as an experiment, was the only one of the stakes for the Woodstock Fair races that did not fill. For their 230 pace they received eighteen nom-

inations, fourteen for the 230 trot, ten in the 224 trot and pace and seven in the 218 trot and pace. Harry Nevers, the Houlton trainer, had the only nomination in the stake that was offered for the colts.

St. Louis, Mo., June 17—President Samuel Breedon of the St. Louis Nationals announced Saturday night that the club had flatly refused an offer of \$200,000 and two players from the New York Nationals for Rogers Horns by second baseman.

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As a tonic for men and women whose nervous or physical strength has been depleted, Hall's Wine is unexcelled. It renews health and has marvellous restorative powers. Wherever there is weakness, whatever the cause, Hall's Wine most quickly restores your strength—indeed, your outlay is refunded if Hall's Wine fails.

Prepared from the prescription of a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, England, you may take Hall's Wine in perfect confidence.

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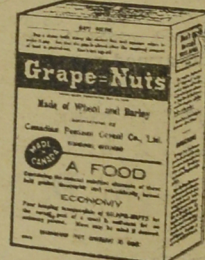
**GUARANTEE**—Buy a bottle of Hall's Wine to-day. If, after taking half, you feel no real benefit, return us the half-empty bottle, and we will at once refund your entire outlay.

Sold by your Druggist—Extra large size bottle \$2.25

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Note results in improved digestion and general good feeling.

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