

ADVICE TO YOUNG WRITERS.

There are few, even among the most talented writers, who have at some time or other been subjected to supervision, and this not unfrequently at the hands of men much less gifted than themselves but richer in experience. The mechanical part of the art can only be perfected by practice. We may not all be capable of running a mile in five minutes and jumping as many hurdles by the way; but even the racer who does this must first have learned how to walk before he could so run. It is the same with the generality of writers. Nor have the acknowledged sons of genius disclaimed such help. "Addison," says Pope, "wrote more fluently; but he was some times very slow and scrupulous in correcting. He would show his verses to several friends, and would alter almost everything that they hinted at as wrong." Burns was not beyond taking a hint from Johnson, the Edinburgh music editor, as to the phascology and rythmical structure of his songs. Scott submitted his earlier ballads to the correcting hands of that very small man, Mat Lewis, and sad work the Monk made of them. On the other hand, some of his best novels were considerably improved in point of composition by the verbal criticisms of his publisher.

Rather Strange.

Last week a "tax payer" of this parish applied to a railroad official, high in authority, for payment for alleged damages sustained by him in running the railroad through his lands. The damages claimed amounted to \$500, to which the taxpayer in person and numerous other taxpayers were ready and willing to make oath. The courteous railroad official suggested that the expense, worry and time consumed in a "new oath" would be saved by taxing the said taxpayer's oath as given to the Assessor a few weeks ago. Taxpayer kicked like a "beef steer," of course, but the railroad official was firm, and so Assessor Johnson brings out the oath when it was discovered that the property was assessed for one hundred dollars. Tableau.—[Natchitoches Vindicator.]

There need be no famine in the United States so long as the West continues to produce the amount of breadstuff it now does. California made some 40,000,000 bushels of wheat this year, and Oregon has a surplus of nearly 30,000,000, including what was left over from last year. The amount available for export from the Pacific coast is placed at 60,000,000.

While digging a well near Gadsden, Ga., the men struck the opening of a bottomless cave. A ledge of slate-dipping at an angle of forty-five degrees, twenty-two feet under ground, is the entrance to this Etowah avernus. A rock thrown into this pit can be heard to slide, roll, and rebound for ten minutes. It may be that this is the highway to China.

California is now sending more wine to the Atlantic coast than is imported from France; her wine crop last year yielded to the growers nearly \$3,500,000. The curing and packing of raisins, only recently commenced, is already an assured industry; the production last year being reported at 62,000 boxes.

Some paragrapher observes that love may turn to hate—after the ice-cream season is over.

Important to Planters.

As a matter of general interest throughout the State, we publish the following notice. The commissioner desires the press generally to give the matter publicity:

STATE OF LOUISIANA, Bureau of Agriculture and Immigration, New Orleans.

Planters who are prepared to furnish good quarters, suitable for white families, may secure through the State Bureau of Immigration any number of European farm laborers by a guarantee of passage from New York to New Orleans.

The guarantee of a responsible New Orleans house will be accepted by the Cromwell Line of steamers at No 41 Carondelet street, and the passage money—\$20 steerage per head—can be paid on arrival at New Orleans.

The laborer is expected to refund this amount out of the first wages earned by him. Planters who desire to avail themselves of this arrangement should at once write out concise contracts for one year, stating terms, conditions and wages, as liberal as possible, and send to a commission merchant in New Orleans with order to guarantee passage money to the Cromwell Line.

The contract will be placed in the hands of our New York agent, who will cause it to be signed by the laborers ordered, and each lot will be consigned separately to the party ordering, and they will be accompanied by the agent to New Orleans.

Due notice will be given of the sailing of the steamship, and each planter is expected to receive and take charge of his laborers at New Orleans.

Our agent will use great care in the selection of laborers from fresh arrival of Germans, Austrians, Russians, Swedes and Norwegians at Castle Garden. He will deliver them at New Orleans or any point on the river south of New Orleans, after which the bureau disclaims further responsibility.

Planters should order their laborers by the first shipment about October 15.

WM. H. HARRIS, Commissioner.

A Printer and His Types.

Benjamin F. Taylor, the printer poet, says:

Perhaps there is no department or enterprise whose details are less understood by intelligent people, than the "art preservative," the achievements of time.

Every day, their life long, people are accustomed to read the newspaper and find fault with its statements, its arrangements, its books; to plume themselves upon the discovery of some roguish acrobatic type that gets into a frolic and stands on its head, or some waste letter or two in it; but of the process by which the newspaper is made, or the myriads of mills and the thousands of pieces necessary to its composition, they know little and generally think less.

They imagine they discourse of a wonder indeed when they speak of the fair white carpet, woven for thought to walk on, from rags that fluttered on the back of a beggar yesterday.

But there is something more wonderful still. When we look at the hundred and fifty-two little boxes, somewhat shaded by the touch of inky fingers, that compose the printer's "case," noiseless except the click of the type as, one by one, they take their place in the growing line—we think we have found a marvel of art.

We think how many fancies in fragments there are in those little boxes; how many atoms of poetry and eloquence the printer can make here and there, if he

only had a little char't to work by; how many facts a small "handfull;" how much truth in chaos.

Now he picks up the scattered elements until he holds in his hand a stanza of "Gray's Elegy," or a monody on "Grimes all Buttoned up Before." Now he sets "Pappy Missing," and now "Paradise Lost." He arrays a bride in "Small Caps," and a sonnet in Nonpareil; he announces the languishing "live" in one sentence—transposes the word and deplores the days that are few and "evil," in the next.

A poor jest ticks its way slowly into the printer's hand, like a clock just running down, and a strain of eloquence marches into line letter by letter. We fancy we can tell the difference by hearing by ear, but perhaps not.

The types that told of a wedding yesterday announce a burial to-morrow—perhaps the same letters.

They are the elements to make a world of Those types are a world with something in it as beautiful as Spring, as rich as Summer, and as imperishable as Autumn flowers frost cannot wilt—fruit that shall ripen for all time.

Minor Trials of This Life.

Trying to recollect the store you left your umbrella in.

Losing penknife.

Losing cane.

First grease spot on pantaloons.

Shirt buttons found wanting on cold morning.

Mosquitoes.

Flies.

Bags.

Uncut books and magazines.

Getting shaved.

House hunting.

Piano practice in next room.

Accordeon, flute, violin, next room.

Newspaper with five supplements.

Trying to interest girl who loves the other man.

Hand organs.

Trying to save money.

Remembering what a fool you made of yourself when tight last night.

Reading your own love letters when it was very bad and you were not expected to recover.

Tumbling upstairs.

Tumbling downstairs.

Conundrums.

Puns.

Rickety chairs.

Leathery steak.

Old bills against you forgotten.

Toothache.

Trying to write home because it's your duty.

Atmosphere of stove-heated railroad cars in winter.

Cold feet.

Making a purchase at one shop and seeing the article marked fifty per cent cheaper at the next.

Having your ash-box stolen.

It is reported that the fall of an inch of rain upon an acre weighs over 100 tons. This fact will serve to convey some idea of the immense amount of water which is absorbed by the land yearly. Usually there is about thirty inches of rain and melted snow per year, which would be over 3,000 tons per acre. All this water contains ammonia, which is of most valuable fertilizer to promote the growth of crops. It is estimated that about nine to twelve pounds of nitrogen in the form of ammonia and nitric acid, are contained in the water which falls upon each acre of surface yearly. Thus is the land enriched by the rain and snow.

It is estimated that the Secretary of State, Treasurer and Controller, of Tennessee, will get each about \$20,000 as fees for refunding the State debt.



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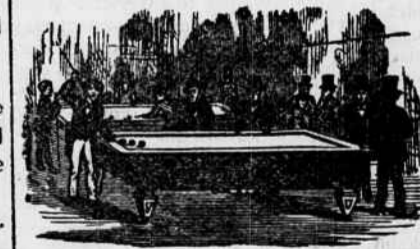
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