Author of the "Micky Finn" Stories.

(Copyright 1900, by Ernest Jarrold.) The most recent addition to Mickey Finn's | beak and a pair of keen, inquisitive eyes. to useum of natural history proved to be a The pigeon was alarmed at the proportions pouter pigeon of the gentler sex. He re-garded the bird with peculiar solicitude, and self-reliance. Unlike the usual pigeon chiefly because it was his latest acquisition. | baby, it refused to remain in the nest, but, But the coming of the pigeon created a jumping out, started, like Ulysses, fierce jealousy in the heart of the goat search of adventure. The pigeon followed which no cajolery served to soften and time the chicken with motherly love, hovering failed to appease. The fierce old berserker over it, but the feathered knight errant crooked no divided affection on the part was oblivious to her care and started in to that the Department of Agriculture is to of those he loved.

Mickey procured the pigeon from Jack vinegar cruet, a glass agate and a mammoth dodo. He made a coop for the pigeon in the back yard, and attended to its wants with assiduous care. The pigeon grew plump and round on the scraps which Mickey purloined from his mother's humble store, and became so tame that it would perch upon the boy's shoulder, cat from his hand and coo its content into his delighted ear. The tame crow and the yellow gosling regarded these evidences of distinction with decided disfavor, the crow especially revealing his anger through the vigorous use of his bony beak upon the tender body of his rival. But Jean Ingelow's famous mourner was not more patient than the pigeon, and so, sustained and soothed by the unwavering affection of Mickey, the days passed too quickly to please the boy until the summer And when smiling June came tripping over the hills into the little valley, her warm breath conjured melody in the throats of birds, made the brooks babble, and the goat frisky. And, whisper! the revivifying influence of spring awakened the dormant maternal instinct in the breast of the pigeon, and she showed a desire to "set."

Instead of flying up to the gable of the shanty and preening her plumage in the sunlight, as she was wont to do, she remained in the coop sitting in patient expactation upon two of Mickey's biggest marbles. This mental and physical attitude of the pigeon caused Mickey much annoyance; for, while the bird evidently suppoxed she was procreating marbles she repulsed caresses and refused to eat the dainties shook from the Finn tablecloth. In his distress Mickey went to his mother for advice. In justice to the maternal Finn is necessary to state that "swintlemintalism" was not one of her weaknesses. She regarded her boy's pet purely from a pigeon-pot-pie standpoint, and this economic view colored her remarks when she said:

"L'ave her set, me boy. Sure you can play wid the goat while she's raisin' childer But there's no use for her to be wastin' her time on marbles. Now, as you have no pigeon's eggs, faith 'twill do no harrum to put a hin's egg under her. She'll niver know the differ and her mind'll be aisy. There's 2 cents. Go down to Brady's and get an egg out of the barrel, and mind you don't get wan o' thim eggs that's made by ma-

Mickey Was Delighted. Mickey was delighted with the idea, and,



1 SAW THE CHICKEN RUNNIN' DOWN THE ROAD LIKE A RUNAWAY HORSE. the pigeon cooed a fluttering protest against the liberty and readjusted herself, Mickey ran into the shanty to carry the glad tidings of security and serenity to his mother.

Meanwhile there was a good deal of speculation in Mickey's mind as to the sex, heredity and general character of the contents of the egg shell; a delicious mystery animated down representing the cochinchina breed or a youthful acion of the lordly school with winged feet some bright after- worm. noon. And as the day drew near for the exmother later. And Mrs. Finn, out of that before noon Mrs. Reilly came in. fine appreciation of pigeon-pot-pie, which only those fed habitually on corned beef Mrs. Finn. and cabbage can feel, soothed her boy with gentle words and caresses, and told him the penetration of the wisest of men, adding goin' to cut his head off," with a nod of prefound conviction:

"No. Mickey, me boy, not even President could he tell annything about the egg by the goose said whin she swallowed the red- hatchet in her hand, but both the rooster nails or any furnishings whatever from the hot horseshee nail. But you can rest alsy, and the pigeon were missing. At 12 o'clock stores. The paims, growing everywhere in 'twill not be a pigeon. So run along and Mickey came rushing breathlessly into the the country, yield all necessary materials. play leapefrog wid the goat and don't be ballyraggin' me. God help us, we are all "Mother, mother,

## The Mystery Revented.

But one afternoon late in June, when the bumblebees were stealing honey and the butterflies spread their golden gossamer piece of shell clinging to its back. It was not fall to cure.

an unusually vigorous bird, with a strong

hustle and scratch for himself. Doolan in exchange for the stopple of a than Mickey when he saw the chicken run- ment of agriculture and horticulture or ning around the yard, while the pigeon sat American lines. "We know a great deal on the fence and watched its erratic course about the island and the people already." with tender solicitude. So lively was the Secretary Wilson is quoted as saying, "but youngster that it required ten minutes of our observations thus far have been only hard work on the part of Mickey to throw superficial, merely preliminary and educahis cap over it and take the chicken into the tional. Now we are going into a thorough shanty for closer inspection. The pigeon scientific investigation of the soil, the cliflew in at the door and perched upon the mate and the agricultural conditions genermantel. The chicken stood upon Mickey's ally. palm with a calm confidence which was sur- "We shall first study the island from the prising in one so young and tender, so he producers' standpoint, take up the principal extended it toward his mother, while his industries and teach them how they can get face glowed with pride and satisfaction. more and better results for their labor than But in proportion as the boy was pleased they now receive. Take the tobacco crop, with the chicken, the pigeon was puzzled. for example. While the available area for Her instinct taught her there was some- tobacco culture in Porto Rico is limited thing wrong with her child. The infant was compared with that of Cuba, the soil is just so wild and headstrong that it did not ac- me good, and with the application of sciencept the gentle counsel of its mother, nor tific principles the crop can be much imcoaxed the cherry trees to blossom and their extreme youth. It was almost pitiful processes it takes ten months to ferment would it be fed as pigeons usually are in proved. For example, under the primitive woold the fields to robe themselves in green. to see the puzzled look on the mother's face tobacco, but we can show them how to do it as she watched her self-reliant offspring just as well in thirty days, with better re-

Dispatches from Washington announce establish an experiment etation in Porto There was no happier boy in the world Rico with a view to promoting the develop-

HERE NATURE EVER SMILES

erto Rico Pictured as the Eden of the Caribbees.

AZINESS THE SOLE EXCUSE FOR HUNGER

Abundance of Fruits and Vegetables

to Be Had for the Picking-Pro-

posed Experiment Station on

the Island.



FAITH 'TWILL DO NO HARRUM TO PUT A HIN'S EGG UNDER HER. SHE'LL

NIVER KNOW THE DIFFER. running down to the grocery, he bought an foraging for worms under the current bushes | suits to the leaf. egg and placed it beneath the pigeon. The and vigorously scratching among the debris "Coffee is the great staple of Porto Rico egg was one of unusual size and Mrs. Finn in the back yard. And as the chicken grew but science has never done anything to inwas doubtful if the warmth of the pigeon's and thrived it developed a strength of char- prove coffee. It has never been cultivated small body would be sufficient to hatch it acter which was utterly at variance with the as it should be. Nature has been allowed to out. But in order to aid the pigeon in her gentleness of its foster mother. Besides, take its course. The coffee tree is subject maternal endeavor Mickey and his mother it began to assume physical attributes to all sorts of diseases. We will study them stuffed an old tin wash basin with soft wools which indicated that it belonged to the and find the best preventives and correctand flannels taken from the ragbag. In this haughty ruling sex. Small knobs made their ives. We will find the tree that produces homely incubator the pigeon was installed. appearance on its legs near the feet and an the best berries and the tree that produces ment. It was two days before the pigeon could fit incipient comb began to sprout upon its the most and will cross-breed those trees. her small, warm body to the big hen's egg. head. This ruddy decoration provoked the but after much querulous cooling, twisting remark from Mrs. Finn, "Begorra, 'tis a Rico is almost entirely neglected. They and turning she settled down to business and shanghai rooster." The rooster seemed to have very few horses there. I have been started to become a foster mother in earnest. grow at the rate of three inches every day told that you cannot hire a horse in the And now that the pigeon had gone into and developed an appetite which no amount city of San Juan and that all the hauling is temporary seclusion the goat took Mickey of feeding could appease. So greedy, in- done by oxen and donkeys that are fed on was squandered on the marriage ceremony, back into his confidence again and permitted deed, did it become that not even its own sugar cane. The absence of horses is due to for out of 25,000 births in 1887, for instance, his head to be scratched, while the crow mother was permitted to eat from the same the lack of grass and hay and these we inperched upon the shoulder lately usurped dish. It afforded Mickey a never-ending tend to supply. We can find some grass, I by the pigeon, and all went merrily as a source of delight to watch the relations ex- have no doubt, that will grow in that elifairy dancing upon a moonbeam. The en- isting between these two birds. He saw mate and that will enable us to introduce suing three weeks were filled with interest queer happenings every day which escaped the dairy cow. to little Mike. Every afternoon when he the attention of his more heedless mother came home from echool he lifted the pigeon One afternoon he boldly asserted that he carefully from the egg to see if the rats had actually seen the rooster deliberately had invaded the coop during his absence and kick the pigeon and cause her to turn three devoured the embryo. But each time, as somersaults. Such ingratitude seemed ridic- are already a lot of schools in operation to ulous to Mrs. Finn, but Mickey asserted that was true and that the pigeon had crept

> heart were breaking. Mother Bird Filled With Sorrow.

developed into a bird of extraordinary height and leanness. Its legs were covered with feathers and its body was as angular as that of an army mule. Meanwhile the mother bird was filled with sorrow at the erratic conduct of her wayward son. She would serch upon the dividing fence separating the Finn estate from O'Brien's half acre with where-in-my-wandering-boy-tonight look in her eyes, while he invaded the neighbors garden and ruthlessly stole the lettuce as the Norsemen despoiled the coast of Brittany. The wayward rooster also developed pugilistic inclinations and dominated the yard like a veritable Jeffreys, which Mickey regarded with delight as he himself was the best wrestler in school. But Mrs. Fina began to look upon the chicken with disfavor, because of his lack of gallantry towards his faithful little mother and she resolved that he should be killed and made extending through centuries, not one of into savory pot-pie for the Christmas dinner. But she did not tell Mickey of her determinaion as she knew he would resent it with affairs. tears and protestations. And as the cold December winds swept down the valley she fed the chicken all he could eat with the idea of making him fat and juicy for the pot. soul by the sugar, coffee or tobacco raiser. The greedy and selfish bird forced his cooling mother away from the dish with savage thrusts of his cruel beak and gorged himself, thereby covering his bones with those tender morsels of white and black meat which are so toothsome when fished from a lake of gravy with a fork. But all through baro in politics, except, perhaps, to show how as to whether an infant bantam, a bunch of the ignominy and contumely put upon her he has been a contributory cause of disconby her son the pigeon remained faithful to tent, let us show how nearly impossible it her giant offspring. She cooed him to sleep is for him to starve, or even to suffer sehenhouse of leghorn would salute him with at night and wakened him in the morning verely, save through his own fault. In the querulous peepings as he came home from with gentle caresses to secure the early matter of a habitation he is content with the

The day before Christmas dawned bright were ordinarily industrious (which he is pected momentous event to occur Mickey and cheerful. As soon as Mickey had gone not) the head of a family might erect such lifted the egg with tender care and placid to echool Mrs. Finn took the hatchet which a shelter as suffices the average Porto Rican it to his ear. He was waiting to hear the she used to split wood with into the cellar in less than two days. First, four holes are chicken breathe, as he explained to his and sharpened it on the grindstone. Just dug in the ground into which four posts are

'Why?" asked her neighbor.

that the mysteries of nature were beyond mother I can't bear him any longer and I'm poon. The floor is of hardened mud or clay, McKinley could tell will your chicken be a Mrs. Reilly went out the pigeon followed thatched with palm leaves or 'yagua' shinhin or a rooster by lookin' at the egg. Nor Half and hour later Mrs. Finn searched the gles, made of palm spathes. coop, peered into the cellar and invaded lookin' at the chicken, so there you are, as the yards of all her neighbors with the a little labor and is mainly set up without

"Mother, mother, the chicken and pigeon ballyraggin' me. God help us, we are all por crayturs and nothin' comin' in but the are gone. I saw the chicken runnin' down tree, the calabash, the fruit of which is nanny's milk." pigeon sittin' on his back like a sojer. ERNEST JARROLD.

J. I. Carson, Prothonotary, Washington, wing like argosies sailing over sunlit seas. Pa. says: "I have found Kodol Dyspepsia all bundles that are to be kept dry. and the mystery was revealed. An infant Cure an excellent remedy in case of stomach even foundations for the rude beds which, chicken broke its calcareous environment trouble and have derived great benefit from when hammocks are not used, are spread dip into the pot like the others. and stepped out into the sunlight with a its use." It digests what you eat and can-

"We are going to study, too, the best been in a state of semi-servitude. There, teach them reading, writing and arithmetic but we will try and give them an education under a current bush and sobbed as if its in the art of living and the science of laborthat is, how to be useful. Porto Rico is es sentially an agricultural country and there are many industries that have never been By the first of October the chicken had introduced there which might be made profitable."

Resources of the Island

In an article on the condition of the na lives of Porto Rico, written for the New York Tribune by Frederick A. Ober, author of "Porto Rico and Its Resources," the writer shows the lavish generosity of nature on the island and points out the abundance of fruit available to sustain life The only excuse for hunger there is that the native is too lazy to pick the fruits and vegetables. "The Porto Rican." says Mr. Ober, "has no winter to provide against with its consequent expenses for comfort able habitation, fuel and clothing. And by the Porto Rican is meant the 'gibaro,' or peasant laborer, about whom the politicians are so tenderly solicitous. He is the pres ent representative of a long line of paupers whom ever possessed a dollar over night or had a voice in the management of insula

"He is a veritable peon, or slave of an cestral and cumulative debt, and in probably nine cases out of ten is owned body add who is now clamoring so loudly that he shall 'have his rights' and so insistent upon the return of those 'millions wrung as customs

from unwilling contributors.'

"Well, without seeking to involve the gi merest shelter from the elements, and if he "I'm goin' to kill the young rotster," said by frameworks of smaller poles, which are covered with palm leaves, and the 'house' is sary except a knife, which is supplied by made. This is the simplest type of dwelling, the machete, universally carried by th "Bekase he's that dignacious to his poor such as generally answers the needs of the peon, and which is never out of his sight and sometimes the wattled sides are plas-The pigeon was scated on the back of a tered over with mud or lime; sometimes the chair during this conversation, but when hut is constructed of palm beards and well

"The gibaro's house costs him nothing but For the simple utensils used in his domestic as dishes and water bottles, plates and spoons, while the 'yagua' of the royal paim furnishes tubs for washing clothes in, cradles for the babies, wrappers for cigars and upon the ficor at night. From these two

THE LONDON TIMES, April 5, 1895: "The merits of the Standard Dictionary are indisputable and are abundantly attested by a large number of unimpeachable authorities. . . Should command a wide and deserved popularity."

THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION, Boston: "In thoroughness, completeness, accuracy, typoggraphy, style and illustration it challenges criticism and commands admiration. It will make the world its debtor and all who write must praise it evermore.'

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THE INDEPENDENT, New York: "It is a noble example in which the modern tendency to popularize knowledge has risen to the highest level yet reached."

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES, Philadelphia: "Continual use of the first volume, since its issue, has shown the work to be a weighty, thorough, rich, accurate, authoritative and convenient addition to lexicographical material. The collaborative method reaches high water mark and produces bold, original, independent and schol-

THE NEWLY ELECTED CHANCELLOR OF NEBRASKA UNI-VERSITY, PROFESSOR E. BENJAMIN ANDREWS, says: "I believe that this dictionary fulfills the highest ideal of its projectors. It is an out-and-out new product and not, like our old dictionaries, the result of patching and amendment, little by little, the different pieces often added by many, many minds."

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11

A Household Ou: ft. of Porto Ricans Just Starting out in cur no expense whatever for a dwelling, and, judging from the statistics furnished during Spanish domination, no great amount 11,000 were illegitimate. Let it be assumed, then, that a pair of gibares may be established in domicile, or 'encasa,' without the his dietary! expenditure of a dollar. What will be the

and semetimes, though rarely, removes th

weeds from his garden. 'Fingers were made

before forks,' is an axiom so self-evident

that no peon ever gives it a thought, and

the little toddlers that soon in time gather

around the household hearth or the fire bed

in the center of the but fellow the example

of their elders and cat without any other assistance than their own chubby fists, which

"The only expense for garments is in-

his doorway. It has been most pathetically raw like a radish. Birds and mammals are into it!" set forth that the supplies of plantains and scarce and there is no great abundance of bananas having been destroyed by the hur- animals to be hunted; but in the atreams

and the calabash the Porto Rican obtains and probably does not aggregate \$5 a year. plants and tubers of the fields and woods more than a score of minor fruits, such as ample material for his house and its equip- Until the age of 7 to 10 the children go about and the terminal bud, or 'cabbage' of the the guava, cashew, avacado pear, nispero, royal palm, which is either eaten raw or is grenadilla and star apple. Thus it will beboiled like cauliflower. In the prostrate come apparent that no man, weman or "We have seen that a newly coupled pair "The first reliance of the gibaro in the palms, again, he might have found the fat child, with spunk enough to crawl out into matter of food is the plantain, which, with and delicate grubs of the palm beetle, which the groves and keep his or her mouth open the banana, grows almost spontaneously at are said to be delicious fried crisp, or caten could fail of having something edible drop

Soldier and the Ant Hill.

ricane of last August the poor peon has noth- are crayfish and mussels, while great land London King: Only the other day a vo'uning wherewith to feed himself. As if those crabs sometimes swarm in the woods along teer regiment got under a fire so heavy that, two fruits were the sum and substance of shore, where also various kinds of shell- after spreading out in line of skirmish, the fish abound, and in the sea are many kinds order was given to lie down. One unforhill. Thousands of the little pests swarmed

"Lie down, my man," shouted the cap-

"Blankety blank, captain, I can't!" protested the poor fellow. Just then a sheet of Mauser bullets flew past him at all heights, from his shins to his head. It was marvelous that the standing soldier was not hit in a dozen places. But he changed his mind swiftly about the possibility of lying down. Down he went, regardless of ants, shouting to his comman-

"Yes, I can, captain! By the Lord Harry, yes, I can, sir!"

H. Clark, Chauncey, Ga., says DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured him of piles that had afflicted him for twenty years. It is also a speedy cure for skin diseases. Beware of dangerous counterfeits.

Schoolboy English.

Los Angeles Times: Even our education is "slivery" on the under side. You go into the school and are so pleased with the into the school and are so pleased with the correct intonation, the precision of grammatical construction, the exactness of statement in the language used by the punils in their recitations.

You compliment the pupils and you praise the teacher and your opinion of our schools goes up to 99 in the shade. Then as you walk down the street after school hours you hear two young gentlemen who are prize pupils conversing across the length of the block, loudly discussing the examinations through which they had evidently passed triumphantly.

dently passed triumphantly, "Hello, Skin-nee!" "Hey, Bill?" "Hey, Bill?"
"Watch ge gittin rithmetic?"
"Eighty-seven—unni didun texpect togit
morn forty. Jew passin grammar?"
"Betcher boots sidid; not ninety-three anni
ony made two mistakes in histry, anni got
a hundred din spellin all right."
"Sodi. George Goodie falled in spellin."
"Yessanni nodewoodtoo; furry always
looked in the book. Commout tafter suppern navsome fun."
"Can't cossi goto meetin with mummuther. See?"



Catarrh

INDIANS DRYING FISH inserted and set erect. These are connected has been begged, borrowed or stolen, and time enough for the raising of a crop has now and beans within a month of planting, and no other kitchen utensil is actually neces lapsed since the great hurricane, yet, if we maize or Indian corp within eight works may believe the reports, nothing has been Within three months the native mountain one in that direction. "And, by the way, whatever has happened Carolina rice within four or five, the latintoward since the great cyclone, the Porto | ter requiring about the same time as Guinea or grasp. The machete is so much a par ican 'blames it on' the hurricane, until the corn. If sweet potatoes had been set out and parcel of the gitaro's outfit that he appression has of late gained ground that soon after the hurricane they would have only attracts attention when it is absent. He is a scapegeat it has served to the limit of been ready for harvesting in December, and acquires it early in life and parts with it is capacity. However, had the gibaro been these alone would have sufficed to sustain only through stern necessity, as, for exam omessed of ordinary energy he would have the family until the ripening of fruits such ple, when funds are needed for gambling or and sufficient food plants now in hearing as the mango and orange, the banana and for betting on a favorite fighting cock to insure himself and family against the plantain, which require not less than from With the machete the peon hews down the pangs of hunger at least before this. His six to nine months for maturing. The wontrees for corner posts to his hut, lops off claim has been that the hurricane not only derful cascava, which has been a source of the leaves o' paim for thatch and bedding, blew down his hut, but also at the same food supply for the natives from time imdigs holes for setting out tubers and plants.

time blew away the heads of the royal palms, upon which he relied for that hing purposes. But, failing the palm leaves, there were left grasses and reeds enough to serve as substitutes; while again, thousands of trees length of time. were felled by the stoom which were, or might have been, available as building ma-

from abroad.

rice would have matured a crop and the memerial, requires eight or ten months in the ground; the delicious 'tanias' mature in ten months and the arrowroots also, while

"These are the great staples of food supripens in from six to nine months from was nothing left in his own or his neigh- in evidence on the trees; the bread fruit

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NATURE-London, England, J. Norman Lockyer, the noted astronomer, editor, says: "It passes the wit of man to suggest anything which ought to have been done that has not been done to make this dictionary a success."

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> as naked as they were born. Food Products.

"Let us inquire now into the range of of fish, like red snapper, groupers, 'med- tunate soldier flopped squarely into an ant household expenses as the months and years food plants that the gibaro has, or might loos' and mullets. roll by? House and furnishings they already have, recourse to, aside from bananas and "But the main diet of the native is a angrily over him, biting with peculiar penemeans of improving the conditions of the have. The first necessity, fuel for fire (for plantains. First of all, it may well be as- vegetable one, and consists of whatever can tration. In a second the soldier jumped up, poor classes, who under Spanish rule have culinary purposes only), lies in the field or samed that the peon is shiftless and improvi- be most easily raised or ravaged. If he had swearing with the pain, woods at or near their door. An iron pot dent, even if not actually lazy. More than bestirred himself he might have had peas



species (two paims, the royal and the cocca) curred by the adult members of the family, bor's garden would have been the wild in its season; the cacao, or chocolate, and

yams of all varieties demand the same terial. It was easier, though, to sit down ply in the tropics; but add to these numerunder a tree and await the coming of succor ous fruits, such as the pineapple, which "His first recourse after finding that there planting; cocoanuts, which are all the time