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THE PUBLISHER.

McCook, Neb., Feb. 24, 1910.

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If you come to South Omaha, we would like to have you visit our branch office there. Then take a trolley car over to Council Bluffs. Our retail yard is in the heart of the business district. We also have an immense wholesale yard, besides a mill work factory, hardware store, cement stone factory, etc., also our own fir and pine lumber and saw mills in Southern Oregon. This splendid equipment renders it possible for us to "make good" on every promise of

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HUMOR OF THE GREEKS

Wit That Helped the Ancients Drive Dull Care Away.

SOME FIFTH CENTURY JOKES

The Absentminded Professor Was a Prolific Source of Merriment to the Masters of Those Days—The Source of Many Modern Jokes.

The maxim that there is nothing new under the sun applies, it would seem, more truly to jokes and witticisms than to anything else. The chief differences between the jests of one generation and that of another lie mainly in their form. The kernel is practically the same. Nevertheless it is interesting to exhume some of these ancient jokes and to recognize in them the ancestors of the things at which we laugh today in the pages of our humorous publications.

Some humorous writers dearly love to make fun of the absentminded, impractical university professor, who outside of his own subject lets his wits wander and is very slow to grasp anything in ordinary life. Such jokes as these were cracked centuries ago by the students and graduates of the great universities in ancient Greece. For it is a mistake to suppose that what we now call "college life" was unknown to the ancients.

As a matter of fact, the student at the University of Athens or at the University of Alexandria was very much the same sort of mortal as is the student today, and his professors were not so very different.

A witty Greek named Hierocles, a graduate of Alexandria, collected some time in the fifth century a volume of jests which were current among the students with regard to the woolgathering type of professor. A number of them are translated here as being of considerable interest in the history of humor and especially of college humor.

A professor, wishing to swim, was nearly drowned, whereupon he swore that he would never touch water again until he had learned how to swim.

Of twin brothers, one died. A professor thereupon, meeting the survivor, asked, "Is it you that died or your brother?"

A professor, learning that a raven would live for more than 200 years, bought one to test the matter.

A professor, wishing to cross a river, went on board the boat on horseback. When some one asked the reason he answered that he wanted to get over in a hurry.

A professor, looking out of the window of a house which he had bought, asked the passersby whether the house was becoming to him.

A professor, meeting another professor, said, "I heard you were dead." "And yet," replied the other, "you see that I am still alive." "Well," said the first in perplexity, "I don't know what to believe, for the man who told me about it is a much more truthful man than you!"

A professor, in danger of being shipwrecked, called for his tablets that he might make his will. Seeing thereupon his slaves lamenting their fate, he said, "Do not grieve, for I am going to set you free."

A professor dreamed that he had trodden on a nail and that the wound pained him. On waking he bound up his foot. Another professor, having learned the cause, remarked, "It served you right, for why do you sleep without sandals?"

A professor, meeting a doctor, hid himself behind a wall. Some one asking the cause, he answered, "I have not been sick for so long a time I am ashamed to come into the sight of a physician."

A professor, wishing to teach his horse to be a small eater, gave him no food at all. At length, the horse having starved to death, the professor exclaimed, "I have suffered a great loss, for just as he had learned not to eat he died!"

A professor, visiting a sick person, inquired about his health. The invalid, however, was not able to reply. Thereupon the professor, being angry and scolding the man, said, "I hope that I shall be sick some of these days, and then when you come to ask how I am I will not answer."

A professor sealed up a vessel of wine which he had bought. His servant having made a hole in the vessel beneath and drawn off some of the wine, the professor was astonished to see the contents diminished while the seals remained unbroken. A neighbor having told him to look whether it had not been taken out from below, he replied, "Why, you fool, it's the upper part of the wine and not the lower that is missing!"

A professor, a bald man and a barber traveling together agreed to keep watch in turn four hours, each while the others slept. The barber's turn came first. He quietly shaved the head of the sleeping professor and when the time elapsed awoke him. The latter, scratching his head as he got up and finding it bare, cried out: "What a rascal that barber is! He's waked the bald man instead of me!"—Exchange.

Legal Advice.

"Prisoner," said the justice, "you are charged with having struck the defendant."
"Yes, judge; I poked him, but he called me a liar."
"That's no excuse."
"Well, judge, it was my first experience. What do you do in such cases?"—Judge's Library.

LAND CRABS.

Queer Creatures That Roam In Forests Far From the Sea.

One of the commonest and the largest of the Christmas island crabs is the well known robber crab, which is found in most of the tropical islands of the Indian and Pacific oceans. It sometimes reaches a length of two feet and may measure seven inches across the back. Its colors are of a very gaudy description, the ground color being a bright red, upon which there are stripes of yellow, but in some cases a purplish blue is the prevailing tint.

The eyes are fixed on stalks which can be moved independently of one another, and there are two pairs of feelers, one long, the other short. The latter pair are continually jerked up and down. There is a pair of powerful claws, then several walking legs. In general appearance these animals are much more like rather stout lobsters than crabs, and one's first encounter with one of these creatures in the middle of a forest far from the sea is productive of much astonishment on both sides.

Another species of land crab common in Christmas island is a little bright red animal which in general shape is much like the common shore crab. This variety makes burrows in the ground, and in some places the soil is honeycombed with hundreds of holes. The crabs spend most of their time collecting dead leaves, which they carry in their claws, holding them up over their heads and drag down into their burrows, into which they scuttle at the least alarm.—Pearson's Magazine.

DR. JOHNSON.

He Never Said a Word About Taking a Walk Down Fleet Street.

The wit and wisdom of that great man Dr. Johnson were of the sledgehammer order and invariably preceded by "sir," so that it is comparatively easy for any one who has acquired the trick to invent a retort or remark in the Johnsonian style. One of the most effective of these pseudo sayings of the doctor is, "And now, sir," said Dr. Johnson, "we will take a walk down Fleet street." There can be but little doubt that Dr. Johnson did make this remark, for he was always walking down Fleet street, but it is not recorded that he did so. The saying is due to George Augustus Sala, who when the magazine Temple Bar was being started by Mr. Maxwell imagined a quotation from Boswell as a motto for the venture. The thing was intended as a joke, but for a long while it was absolutely believed to be a quotation from Boswell, and perhaps there are still some who would say unhesitatingly that Dr. Johnson did say the words, so seemingly authentic are they. However, Sala himself always acknowledged that he invented the phrase and added that to the best of his knowledge and belief Dr. Johnson had never said a word about taking a walk down Fleet street. There are other legends about Johnson, however, which it is not so easy to kill.—London Globe.

Salt as a Medicine.

I have in the past seven or eight years found the advantage of putting a little salt in all the water I drink. I also put a little salt, with sugar and milk, in every cup of tea, coffee or cocoa I use.

I have been a resident in the tropics for over forty years and except for a sprained ankle have not had occasion to call in a doctor or to take any medicine in the last thirty years. I believe every one's health in the tropics would be very much better if he used more salt. I find the benefit of drinking a tumbler of cold water with a little salt in it every morning on rising at about 5 o'clock, before my bath or cup of cocoa, which I usually take between 5:30 and 6.

If people could be induced to try the easy and cheap method of taking a little common salt with the water they drink they would in the generality of cases find that they would seldom require other medicine.—F. N. Burn in Chambers' Journal.

Poisonous Gas Geyser.

In the midst of the great faunal wilderness near Nairobi, Africa, is a big blowhole in the earth issuing poisonous gases. Surrounding this hole for many yards are piled bones of dead animals poisoned by this gas geyser. Dogs dragged by ropes over the hole were killed in less than a minute. The gas has been found to be hydrochloric, coming from some volcanic depth. The death trap has been fenced and billed with warnings.—New York Press.

Sprinkling a Trestle.

A wooden trestle on the Klamath Lake railroad, in Oregon, is protected from fire in the dry season by a system of sprinklers which keep it continually wet. A pipe runs the entire length of the trestle between the tracks, and at short distances are holes through which the water is sprayed over the structure.—Popular Mechanics.

No Use.

"You say Jones is down and out? Why, it was only a little while ago that he told me he had the key of success."
"He did, but the poor fellow wasn't able to find the keyhole."—Exchange.

Made Her a Fright.

"Mrs. Jones has a new hat."
"Well, you look mightily pleased about it."
"You just ought to see how it looks on her."—Houston Post.

Wealth In Land

The Big Horn Basin, the Yellowstone Valley and the large Dry Farming valleys in Wyoming along the Burlington, offer exceptional opportunities for farmers, merchants, mechanics and professional men to locate near and in the new towns now springing up along the

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MICROBES IN THE SCALP.

The Latest Explanation is that Microbes Cause Baldness.

Professor Unna of Hamburg, Germany and Dr. Sabourand, of Paris, France, share the honor of having discovered the hair microbe!

Baldness is not caused through a few weeks work of these hair microbes, but is the result of conditions brought about by their presence. Baldness may not occur until years after the microbes begin work, but it is certain to come sooner or later.

The microbes cut off the blood supply. They feed on the fatty matter about the roots of the hair, through which the blood is absorbed. Finally the fatty matter is consumed, the food supply of the hair is gone and it starves and finally dies.

R-sorcic is one of the most effective germ destroyers ever discovered. Beta Naphthol is a most powerful, yet absolutely safe germicide and antiseptic, which prevents development of germ matter, and creates a clean, healthy condition.

Pilocarpine, although not a coloring matter or dye, is an ingredient well established for its power to restore natural color to human hair when loss of color has been caused by a disease.

Borax, because of its well defined softening and cleansing properties, is most useful in the treatment of scalp and hair diseases. Glycerine acts as a stimulant to the hair bulbs, and has a soothing, healing and nourishing influence. Alcohol is indispensable in medicine because of its antiseptic, stimulating and preservative qualities.

We want every one who has scalp or hair trouble to try Rexall "93" Hair Tonic, which contains all these ingredients. If it does not give you complete satisfaction in every particular, we will return every penny you paid us for it, for the mere asking and without question or formality.

Of course you understand that when we say that Rexall "93" Hair Tonic will grow hair we do not refer to cases where the roots are entirely dead, the pores of the scalp closed, and the head has the shiny appearance of a billiard ball. In cases like this there is no hope. In all other cases of baldness Rexall "93" Hair Tonic will grow hair, or cost the user nothing. Two sizes 50 cents and \$1.00. Remember you can obtain Rexall Remedies in McCook at our store.—The Rexall Store. L. W. McConnell.

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