

BALLAD OF PRIMITIVE MAN.

He lived in a cave by the sea,
He lived upon oysters and foes,
But his list of forbidden degrees
An extensive morality shows.
Geological evidence goes
To prove he had never a pan,
But he shaved with a shell when he chose,
'Twas the manner of primitive man!

He worshipped the rain and the breeze,
He worshipped the river that flows,
And the dawn and the moon and the trees
And bogies and serpents and crows.
He buried his dead with their toes
He baked his bread with their toes
Tacked up—an original plan—
Till their knees came right under their
nose.
'Twas the manner of primitive man!

His communal wives at his ease
He would curb with occasional blows,
Or his state had a queen, like the bees
(As another philosopher trows).
When he spoke, it was never in prose,
But he sang in a strain that would scan,
For (to doubt it, perchance, were worse)
'Twas the manner of primitive man!

ENVOY.

Max, proudly your Aryans pose,
But their rigs they undon'tedly ran,
For, as every Darwinian knows,
'Twas the manner of primitive man!
—Andrew Lang.

WHAT IS OUR NATIONAL SIN?

Some Time in the Future This Country
Must Appear at the Bar.

Through the perspective of history each nation is but a larger man. It has its childhood, its manhood and its old age, its characteristic virtues, and, alas, its predominating vices and favorite sins. To the old nations, whose records we can read without prejudice or favor, and give judgment with judicial fairness, we have more difficulty in rendering a verdict than on a prisoner in the dock.

And just so in the future the United States must appear at the bar. Some Gibbon or Carlyle, with spectacles on his nose, will sit in judgment on the deeds we are now doing in the flesh, the chronicles of the day will present a brief and the evidence for the prosecution, and Irving and Bancroft and others who have loved us, at so wisely, perhaps as well, will appear for the defense.

The finding of that court we cannot forecast as yet, but at least we should decide what is our chief sin, that we may amend it and reform if possible. And that is, marking our whole people with a brand as plain as that of Cain, is waste. The south wastes annually enough to pay the interest on our national debt; the waste of the nation could pay the principal in two years—waste of food, waste of clothes, waste of energy and brain force. Now, in this category we count nothing as waste that gives fair return of pleasure or health or rest. Money spent for these are large dividends, and yet this is what most of us call waste.

Malthus teaches that the time must come when the earth cannot support its thronging millions, and therefore he calls for a necessity and wholesale death our earthly benefactor. And he is right if we must live as we do now or if our present mode of life is necessary to our healthy existence.

But here are a few figures to controvert both the theory and foundation upon which it is based: Two thousand one hundred and twenty-five acres near Paris produce all the vegetables necessary for the 2,000,000 inhabitants of that city and furnish a surplus for shipment to London. With no appliances more costly than a few frames for seeding, half an acre produces crops that sell for \$1,000.

Besides, it is now certain that not even soil is necessary for the perfection of plant life. The German, Professor Nobbe, grew in jars of water perfect rice plants, heavily fruited, merely by introducing the chemical food of the plant—principally nitrogen—into the water. Nearly all these constituents are in the air, are returned to it and may be used again forever.

And yet we are already talking about our "exhausted fields." What about Egypt and Asia Minor, that have fed millions since the dawn of history?—Jacksonville (Fla.) Citizen.

THE CAT CAME BACK.

That's a peculiarity of cats; they always do; so do the thousands of persons who buy their clothing from us. They don't return from force of habit merely like the feline, but because they have learned that in the three great essentials—Quantity, Quality and Price—we are never found wanting. A matter worthy of your careful attention is our line of Men's Ulsters at \$3.95, \$4.50, \$5, \$6, \$7, \$8, \$9, \$10, \$12.

MISCHEVIOUS BOYS

All boys who amount to "shucks" are mischevious—so it is said—still they do wear out clothing very fast. There fore any possible saving on these essentials must be taken advantage of. Here is an opportunity right now. We have just put on sale some boys' and youths' Overcoats at very nearly the

COST LINE

Tributes to the wearing qualities of our clothing are coming to us every day in the shape of new customers sent by old patrons. That is an indorsement worth having. We want you to become a new customer now. If you intend to buy a suit you want to feel certain that you will get 100 cents of value for every dollar invested. You may do this at other stores? you are certain to do it at ours.

McKay Woolen Company,

The Big Store—Bargain Corner,

The Age of Deer.

Romance has played a prominent part with regard to the longevity of deer, says a writer in Chambers' Journal. What says the highland adage?

Thrice the age of a dog is that of a horse.
Thrice the age of a horse is that of a man.
Thrice the age of a man is that of a deer.
Thrice the age of a deer is that of an eagle.
Thrice the age of an eagle is that of an oak tree.

This is to assign the deer a period of more than 300 years, and the estimate is supported by many highly circumstantial stories. Thus Captain Macdonald of Tulloch, who died in 1776, aged 86 years, is said to have known the white hind of Loch Treig for 50 years, his father for a like period before him and his grandfather for 60 years before him. So in 1826 Macdonald of Glengarry is reported to have killed a stag which bore a mark on the left ear identical with that made on the calves he could catch by Ewen-Maclean-Og, who had been dead 150 years. Analogous stories, it may be noted, are told in countries on the continent of Europe where deer are to be found in any number. But, alas, the general opinion among experts would seem to be that 80 years or thereabout is the limit of a deer's life.

Her Bible Views.

There is in New Orleans, according to the Boston Traveler, a negro woman "who has some deeply rooted if not clear ideas about the Bible, among them being the conviction that while God wrote some parts of the great book men put in other portions. One thing which God wrote sure enough," says the article, "is the story of the tower of Babel. 'Yassir, yassir, God writ dat,' she says. 'No doubt 'bout dat been writ by God hisself. Dat's probed glory to de Lord. W'y, dey ain't no nowhere, 'cept Mexicans, kin talk clear so 'you kin onderstan 'em. Dat probes God writ 'bout dat tower.'"

A Queer Advertisement.

Anything but a compliment to some one is implied in the following advertisement which is a French provincial journal publishes:

"For Sale—One monkey, two poodle dogs and a parrot. The owner, Mlle. L., being about to marry, has no further use for these animals."

There will be a special leprosy conference in Berlin next October. Participating physicians are requested to have their papers printed in advance and distributed so that the meetings can be devoted entirely to discussions.

Bulwer's "Richelieu" is to be performed at the Paris Odeon next season. M. Ginisty announces a long list of new plays by young authors and a series of matinees at which old French and foreign plays will be given.

7 pounds of sweet potatoes for 25 cents at Beer & Goff's 245, 2in.

PRINTING FOR EVERY DAY USE

Requires to be done neatly, promptly and cheap. There is only one place in the city, where you can get the fullest satisfaction, that is at.

JAS. D. TAYLOR,

The Printer

"Planet" Flour.....

Gives Satisfaction

IT IS.....
SOLD ON MERIT

Ask your grocer for it.
Every barrel guaranteed.

sept15—31m

MISS H. McDONALD

FANCY DANCES, including Highland Fling, Flag Dance, Strathspey, Spanish Dance, Sailors Hornpipe, May Pole and Villagers Dance. Skirt Dance, Andalusia, etc. For this season only these dances \$5 each, being one third of price. Rooms in Masonic Building. sept30

Oysters Oysters Oysters.

JOY! JOY! JOY!

Victoria Cafe, Great George Street.

Oysters served in every style; Lunches and dinners with despatch. As usual, I am prepared to deliver Oysters in any quantity to customers to any part of the city.

Telephone Connection.

JOHN P. JOY

VICTORIA CAFE

Gt George St.....

FOR SALE.

RARE CHANCE

The property occupied by J. J. Gay and son situate in the village of Pownal, 7 miles from Charlottetown, is offered for sale. The proprietors have carried on a large market garden nursery, and seed business for thirty years, and the purchaser will no doubt retain a large share of the local trade. The premises comprise a large dwelling house, store, warehouse, barn, shed, orchard, and about 15 acres of the most fertile land on the island. This land has been manured year after year, for so long that as an old man said the other day: "It is all a bed of manure and could be hauled for top-dressing." This would be an ideal spot for a country merchant, or it would be admirable for a summer resort. The situation is one of the most beautiful on the island. Good bathing, fishing, boating, shooting and within easy distance, churches, post office school, telephone and shops all at the door. For terms and further particulars, apply to Von Clure Gay, J J Gay & son or to, JOHN T. MELLISH, Solicitor Charlottetown.

d&w oct 7

TO LET.

A comfortable dwelling on Dorchester St, containing eight rooms. Immediate possession given. Rent moderate.

Apply to

ARTHUR G. PEAKE.

Office on Peake's Wharf.

oct 21—

Scrofula is a word you don't quite understand, but if you talk with your doctor, he will tell you that it is generally believed to be due to the same cause which gives rise to Consumption. It appears mostly in those who are fat-starved and thin, usually in early life. A course of treatment of Scott's Emulsion with the Hypophosphites wherever Scrofula manifests itself, will prevent the development of the disease. Let us send you a book. Free.

SCOTT OWNE, Belleville, Ont.



First-class Athletes and Racers use

ADAMS' Tuffi-Frutti

GUM.

It gives staying power banishing fatigue and thirst.

See that the trade mark name "Tuffi-Frutti" is on each 5c. package.

All others are imitations.

FREE. Send your address (write plainly) to Adams & Sons Co., 11 & 13 Jarvis St., Toronto, Ont. and one Tuffi-Frutti wrapper, and you will receive two beautiful paper dolls with movable heads and bodies free.

CHARLOTTETOWN

BOSTON

Buy your tickets for Boston by the fast Steamer Halifax.

W. W. CLARK, Ticket Agent

HOW MANY PLANTS?

What the Naturalists Tell Us About the Number of Species.

The number of different kinds of plants that are to be found on the surface of the globe has long been a disputed question. The history of the efforts to determine it is a curious one. These efforts began in 390 B. C. with Theophrastus, who enumerated 500 kinds of plants. This may be presumed to represent all that were then known. The botanical knowledge of King Solomon had, then, comparatively narrow limits, even though he discoursed on all the plants from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop on the wall. Pliny—A. D. 79—increased the number to double that named by Theophrastus.

In the beginning of the seventeenth century the number had increased to 6,000. The second edition of Linnaeus' great book, included no more than 8,800. Willdenow, up to 1807, had detected 17,457 species of flowering plants. From this period the increase in the number of known species is very rapid, as a result of the stimulus given to botany by Linnaeus and his successors, so that, at the beginning of the present century Robert Brown had estimated the flowering plants at 37,000 and Humboldt all plants, flowering and non-flowering, at 44,000.

Progressing still further in 1820 De Candolle estimated that at least 50,000 were known. It was found that the number of species preserved in the herbarium at the Jardin des Plantes was estimated at the same figure, and that the collection of M. Delessert contained 80,000 species in 1847, although Dr. Lindley had estimated in 1835 that all the plants in the world might be included in that number.

Humboldt entered upon a series of calculations about this time to show that all these estimates fell short of the number that might be supposed to exist. "Such considerations," he writes, "seem to verify the ancient myth of the Zend-Avesta, that the creating of primeval force called forth 120,000 vegetable forms from the sacred blood of the bull."

In 1845 R. B. Hinds estimated the phenogamic and cryptogamic plants at 124,000 species. The next estimate we meet with is in Henfrey in 1857, 213,000, but in 1855 De Candolle had by another process of reasoning come to the conclusion that the total could not be less than 375,000 for flowering plants.

At the present time the very lowest estimate of authentic species of cryptogamia cannot be less than 500,000, and they probably exceed that number. Here, then, we have an approximate idea of what may be regarded as a very low estimate of the number of species of plants scattered over the face of the earth. If we feel confidence in asserting that there are not less than 500,000 distinct and different species of vegetable organisms, including land and water, it is because it has been proved that the number is even in excess of that—Philadelphian Times.

Fireboats and Burning Vessels.

Mr. Charles T. Hill contributes an article on "Floating Fire Engines" to St. Nicholas. The article describes New York's three fireboats. Mr. Hill says:

These boats serve a double purpose, for they are not only effective water throwing engines, but powerful tugs as well. When a fire is discovered on a ship lying among other vessels, a line is fastened to her, and she is towed out into midstream, where she cannot spread destruction about her. A few dashes from the powerful monitor nozzle soon put out any fire in the rigging and upper works. If the fire has spread to the hold or has eaten in among the cargo, she is towed down to the mud flats near Liberty island or to the sand bars south of Governors island and beached. Then the big lengths of hose are passed aboard, large metal connections are fastened to the ends, and these are thrust into the hold or into any compartment where there is fire, and she is soon pumped full of water and the fire drowned out. If a boat like the New Yorker has charge of this work, it is quickly accomplished.

This saves the hull of the vessel and lessens the damage considerably, for the owners can have her pumped out afterward, and the hull remaining intact, there is nothing but the burned interior to repair. If she were scuttled in midstream, and it would cost a large amount to raise the vessel, so it can be seen that these boats can render other services than that of extinguishing fires.

In fires on vessels loaded with cotton (they make ugly fires to handle) a lighter is usually brought alongside, and after the worst of the fire has been subdued the bales are hoisted out one by one and extinguished as they are brought out. By this means part of the cargo is saved, for only the surfaces of the bales are on fire, and they can be picked over and rebaled and sold again, while to fill the vessel full of water and drown out the fire would destroy the whole cargo, and a cotton fire might burn for months if fought in any other way.

BAGS - BAGS BAGS

15,000 second hand.
10,000 new, at lowest current prices.

Carvell Bros.

Evening - Classes

AT THE
E. I. COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,

COMMENCE ON

Monday, 18th Oct. inst

7.30. Open to all. Individual instruction in all commercial subjects. No waste of time here. Apply at once to I. OXENHAM, Principa

Oct 0—1f