ABOUT MOTHER GOOSE.

AUTHOR OF THE OLD RHYMES STILL A MATTER OF DOUBT.

Due Authority Places Her in Boston, but Documentary Evidence Goes to Show That Goldsmith Wrote the Jingles for Children—A Bit of History.

The question, Who was "Mother Goose?" arises periodically in various journalistic story departments, and in recent years has generally been answered in one way. In fact, the tradition of this venerable character's Boston origin is so universal, as it were, into spontaneous belief that very few dispute it. The story is that Mrs. Elizabeth Goose, widow of one Isaac Goose (or Vergoose), was the mother-in-law of Mr. Thomas Fleet, a printer in the early part of the Eighteenth century in Boston.

She seemed to have been a troublesome mother-in-law, too, for her multiplied improvised songs to her little grandson greatly annoyed the printer, Fleet. He, however, found his account and revenge by finally collecting them and making the book known as "Mother Goose's Melodies." This accounts substantially with the reply to a New York Ledger query as to the authorship of the Mother Goose Rhyme.

But it is probably one of the cherished myths. Bastering as it is to local pride, where, like that of the Williams Club Sp- and and many others equally dear, the solid verities of history draw out, in our opinion, scores to sustain. There never was, I think, any just foundation for it. While it is possible that Mr. Fleet, of ancient Boston fame, may have issued a "Mother Goose" book, no copy of such an issue can be found, nor can its former existence be proved. If he did print such a book it is merely reprinted one that was imported in his time.

CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE.

According to the best accounts that we have in this subject the first book bearing the Mother Goose name was in Perrault, a French author. This was titled, "Contes de Temps Passe de Ma Mere L'Oye." The first English translation of this was by Robert Samber, Vera, as Mr. Whitmore shows, it appeared in Mr. Newbery's list of publications in London. He says the seventh edition was printed May 16, 1777. Thomas Carman entered for copyright "Mother Goose's Melody or Sonnets for the Cradle," and was brought out in Worcester, Mass., by Isaac Thomas. Carman was Newbery's stepson, who formed a copartnership in Boston in 1802 in business with Francis Newbery, the original Newbery's nephew.

It was from Mr. Newbery's efforts, therefore, that "Mother Goose" got its circulation in England—the Newbery who made famous the new forgotten but once celebrated story of "Goody Two Shoes." Both these books appeared without recognized authorship, but there is very strong analogy for believing that the "Goody Two Shoes" was written by no less a personage than Oliver Goldsmith. The facts supporting this assumption it would take too much space to place back, but they seem in addition to internal evidence, to make out a very plausible case.

It is believed also by Mr. William H. Whitmore, a noted Boston historical scholar, that Mr. Goldsmith had a hand in the "Mother Goose" book likewise. The center of the fable, like Topsy, have grown in number from time to time, and many of those from the Newbery press were no doubt additions and possibly additions from Goldsmith's own pen. A curious piece of evidence on this point is furnished by Mr. Whitmore. Washington Irving, in his famous "Life of Goldsmith," gives proof that Goldsmith was very fond of the children and was familiar with nursery rhymes and games. He writes that Mrs. Hawkins says, "I little thought when I should have to beat when Goldsmith told me to play Jack and Jill by two pieces of paper on his fingers."

INTERESTING HISTORY.

Mr. Whitmore also adds the following scrap of history:

"Jan. 29, 1768—Goldsmith's play of 'The Good Natured Man' was produced. He went to dine with his friends after it. May, to insure his friends still more fertility with at dinner of his magnanimity he even sang his favorite song, 'An Old Woman Tossed in a Blanket Seventeen Times as High as the Moon,' and was altogether very sober and loud. Our readers will find this identical 'favorite song' in the preface to 'Mother Goose's Melody,' page 7, dragged in without any excuse, but evidently because it was familiar to the writer."

Mr. Whitmore has lately brought out an edition of the Newbery "Mother Goose," to which he adds twenty-eight pages of historical and bibliographical notes. He has undoubtedly settled the whole history of this vexed question of authorship so far as it can now be settled, and with as little pains to himself, and has certainly explained the alleged Boston origin of "Mistress Goose."

Forty years ago "Mother Goose" was much more current than it has been of recent years, but within ten years past a variety of editions have been issued, some lot—some full and padded with inferior rhymes and a few containing only those that are the oldest and best known. To those who are greatly interested in that form of literature, "Halliwell's English Nursery Rhymes," edited with minute notes, as become a great Shakespearean commentator, is a book that will richly repay perusal. It seems to contain the whole of "Mother Goose," and nearly all of note that has been written by her imitators, but it lacks the amusing and almost necessary adjunct of pictorial illustration.—New York Home Journal.

Advice to College Students.

"Take care of your health," President Patton tells the Princeton boys. "You may pass off a biannual dissipation, but you will send your digestion every day. I wish I had thought of my health. A frequently recurring headache, a bad appetite and sleeplessness are serious warnings that you have sinned. Dyspepsia is not a thing to make fun of."

A Military Novelty.

A vegetable cartridge shell, which is entirely concealed in Eritg, is now coming into general use in the French army. The cartridge has scarcely half the weight of one with a metal shell, the cost is considerable less, besides the inconvenience of removing the shell after each shot is avoided. At present the composition of this military novelty is kept a secret.—New York Telegram.

THE ART IN ACTING.

The Essential Point in Which the Actor Differs from the Dramatist.

A great French critic said once, in concluding an essay, that actin, was the lowest of the arts. He admitted that it was an art, but only by courtesy. I agree with him, and I do not think it requires much reasoning to arrive at that conclusion. The dramatic art means simply the interpretation of the creative art. Its function is to show. A poet in the brain sets may switch the Venus de Milo on paper with such vigor that his fellows are nonplussed. But the visible representation on paper of the action does not place the other mortal in the market, nor does the representation of Phoebe put the actor on the pedestal of Racine.

The sculptor, the painter, the dramatist, the musician—they create. A thousand different persons, a thousand different things rush to be assimilated by their genius. The effect is an aggregate of beings taken from the whole of a human. The individuality of the creative genius is despoiled, but is not annihilated. His art is of the highest, because he is the embodiment, the representative of nature. Rather than that he should be lost in the multitude, he turned himself for the moment into trees and grass, and fountains and stars, and sunlight, and thus reached the heart of that which he would reproduce. In other words, he created the landscape just as Romeo would create the same landscape upon his books of canvas.

But for the actor—for him there. Performance is not with those who for the lowest crowds. It is his function to represent the creation of genius—to interpret them to the public. He has not the Gothard impertinence of the painter, he has only the suggestions of the dramatist. The actor is subservient to the author, nevertheless to say figure, put the bandage for a brief five minutes and breathe the fire of genius.

Three years ago in Paris, they say, when actors were provided simply with the frame-work of the drama and left to improvise the rest. Infact, Goldoni, the Italian dramatist, spoke of supplying plots to the French King's players, from which they improvise the operation. But we have no evidence that the actors rose above the level of the Chinese stage of today, where a similar practice prevails.

Mind you, this opinion is not derogatory to the public. I know it may be unpopular of necessity. The public looks upon Siddons, Mars or Rachel interpreting the grand creations of poetry and regards the actor as the embodiment of Shakespeare or Racine or Corneille. The public shouts with applause when the actor trembles with feigned passion, but the same public forgets that the words, the action, the expression are all simply echoes of another genius. In the clamor of approval the creative art is forgotten, although that is the base of the entire structure. No actor brings the genius nearer to the heart of the public, to be sure, but at the same time he has to remember that he is only the interpreter, after all, and the shouts are really for Shakespeare and Racine.

And, to end with a suggestion, is not the actor's art akin to the journalist—that is, in the relation of the latter to literature? It seems to me that the playhouse and the newspaper go hand in hand. They are popular vehicles of thought, and are within the scope of the people. Perhaps this is not flattering and perhaps it is unjust—but then, it is only a suggestion.—Sam Bernhardt in San Francisco Examiner.

How the Starfish Eats the Oyster.

The starfish is a curious animal. Its mouth is directly in the center, and almost immediately under it is the stomach, while the digestive organs are in the arms. Starfish eat oysters, but naturalists differ as to the precise way in which they devour them. Ancient naturalists believed that the starfish waited for a moment when the oyster opened its valves to introduce one of its rays into the opening, and having put one foot into the mouthfuls it soon put the other four in and finished up by devouring the entire. Modern observations have proved that this is not quite correct.

Some naturalists assert that, on obtaining possession of the oyster, the starfish brings his mouth to the edge of the shell and then with the assistance of a fluid which its mouth secrete it forces open the valves and the entrance is obtained. Another naturalist gives a different explanation of the transaction, namely, that the oyster is seized by the starfish and held tight by its mouth, the starfish then exerts its stomach and envelope the oyster, which forces it to open its shell. However this may be, it is clear that the starfish swallows oysters in the same manner as human beings.—London Tit-Bits.

The Inventor's Dream of Fame.

Every inventor has some idea of discovering a great useful article, which will benefit the whole human race and carry his own name down to posterity as a great son of genius. Often those splendid discoveries are never realized, but the best part of the inventor's life is spent in vain efforts to accomplish this great result. Such high aims sweeten and dignify his work, and, though they may never be realized, he has the satisfaction of knowing that others will come after him to take up the work which he has left unfinished.

Many of the great inventions of today have not been the product of one man's genius, although he may enjoy all of the credit, but the result of generations of thought, experiment and suggestion, a dream of necessity and invention.—George E. Walsh in New York Epoch.

Hamilfa, the founder of the Hanifites, the most ancient of the four sects of Orthodox Mussulmans, did not accept the doctrine of absolute predestination. His commentary on the Koran was entitled "The Ship."

The most powerful telescopes now in use magnify 1,000 diameters. As the moon is 240,000 miles from the earth, it is then, to all intents and purposes, brought to within 240 miles of the earth.

In the ten years that elapsed between the census of 1880 and that of 1890, there the increase in population by sex was 1,000 per cent. Tacoma by 2,000 and Spokane Falls by 3,500 per cent.

A compound composed of acetate and hydrogen has been discovered which will dissolve metals, and when mixed with mercury and silver it forms a powerful explosive.

Safety Among Executors.

A few prisoners who were out for a morning stroll witnessed a brief but steady battle through the windows of the Market street bird store shortly morning.

Among the denizens of the place is a monkey called Jocko, whose proclivity for adopted for his him nine disgrace ladies. On the morning in question Jocko determined to make a hit. He succeeded in pitching the back of his cage, and once free turned his attention to his feathered companions. It took but a few minutes to unlock a dozen of the various cages in the room, and was a funny procession of monkeys and parrots were strutting about. In a few minutes trouble began to loom. One of the parrots, in a spirit of fun, bit a little monkey in Jocko, and a brief battle ensued. Polly soon found out she was getting the worst of it and made a rush for her cage, minus her tail feathers and part of a wing.

Jocko, who was then temporarily arrested, called in his general reserves and in a short time had the floor to himself, save for Mamie, a little sparrow, who was too frightened to fly. With one blow the bird was stretched lifeless on the floor. The monkey then offered battle to a lady stuffed owl which had been gaffing constantly upon the scene, and, mistaking the owl for a real bird, threw the bird off its pedestal. Jocko's Waterloo was awaiting him however. A large vampire bat, which had been watching the battle, jumped down from its perch and Jocko started for him. The contest was brief. The sharp beak and talons of the bird buried themselves like a flash in the monkey's flesh, and Jocko was glad to escape with the loss of a few of his hairy wardrobe. At this juncture the proprietor appeared and hostilities ceased.—San Francisco Chronicle.

A Tree Has Ears.

Here is a new and absolutely true bat story. A New York gentleman, dining at a hotel in Boston, found on coming out that his car was the last to leave the dining room, and that his hat had been taken by somebody who had preceded him, leaving one very shabby, but unmistakably not his, in its place. It was a sufficiently good substitute to allow of his wearing it for some weeks after the return home, when, after dinner one day, three weeks later, he said to a friend with whom he had dined been dining.

"I must replace this hat; its not mine, and it doesn't fit. Come with me and I'll do it now."

Together they sought a neighboring shop and began to examine hats. One after another was tried on by the innocent purchaser, none quite suiting him.

"It's too flat," said his friend. "Like you, I am hard to fit. Now, this one is the most comfortable I ever tried."

"It looks so," remarked the hat seeker; "let me try that on." The hat was handed to him. It adjusted itself perfectly to his head. "Man alive!" he exclaimed, "this is my own hat," and he took it off quickly, turned back the inside band, and, sure enough, there was his name and residence in indisputable proof. It turned out that the friend had been in Boston the same day, though they had not met, had dined at the hotel, but had not discovered that he had worn away another man's hat. And the shop lost a sale of a hat.—New York Times.

Not an Elementary Institution.

"It's funny about some people one meets traveling," remarked a drummer at the Cadillac as he threw his feet upon the writing table.

"How?" inquired the man next to him.

"On a dining car, for instance, the other day," he went on jerkily.

"What?" asked the other man encouragingly.

"Chicago over from New York. Odd sort of a guide across the car from me. After he left the car the waiter who had served him brought the remains off of my table.

"'See fat man, boss?' he asked. 'Reckon he never was on a dining car before.'

"'Why?' I inquired.

"'Case, boss, he axed for a second helpin. Genuine man eats on dree yer dinn eahs, boss. Knows dey ain't no charbitible institutions for given victuals away in no sen manner as dat.'

"I had been thinking I wanted a little more than had been allowed me, but I didn't ask for it after that," and the drummer sighed.—Detroit Free Press.

Hens Hot.

There is a family of little folk not far away who are delightful from their love for each other. Vin has the greatest admiration for his sister Molly, and will do anything for her—Vin's no prig, Molly." He is free and she is three. One cold morning Molly's mamma set her in her high chair, while baby had her customary cup and pap are his breakfast. It was rather cold, and Molly was in her nightdress.

Vin wanted to make her warm, so he wrapped up her feet in a newspaper, but poor Molly slipped and fell really on the floor from her high chair. "Oh, Molly," said Vin, in tones "that you hurt you!" "No," said Molly, winking back the tears which would come. "No, indeed. I fell on a paper."—Boston Mass.) Home Journal.

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LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court of the 3rd Judicial District, Utah Territory.

In the matter of the Estate of James Sheffie, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned administrator of the estate of James Sheffie, deceased, has filed his final account and report of said estate in said Probate Court, and that the 14th day of November, A. D. 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the Court House, in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, has been appointed by the Judge of said Court, for the settlement of said account and report and the settlement of said estate, at which time and place all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear and contest the same if they see proper.

Witness, the Hon. Charles S. Zane, Judge of said Court, and the seal of said Court, this 3rd day of November, A. D. 1891.

JOHN W. WINCHESTER, Clerk.

LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court of the 3rd Judicial District, Utah Territory.

In the matter of the Estate of Thomas Cowan, deceased.

Notice of time and place for the proving of the will of the above named deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Monday, the 14th day of November, A. D. 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the Court House, in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, has been appointed by the Judge of said Court, for the proving of said will, at which time and place all persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to appear and contest the same if they see proper.

Witness, the Hon. Charles S. Zane, Judge of said Court, and the seal of said Court, this 3rd day of November, A. D. 1891.

JOHN W. WINCHESTER, Clerk.

By C. S. Wedgwood, Deputy Clerk.

SUMMONS.

In the District Court in and for the Third Judicial District of Utah Territory, County of Salt Lake.

Rosalinda Bickel, Plaintiff,
vs.
Michael Bickel, Defendant.

The People of the Territory of Utah send Greeting:

To Michael Bickel, Defendant:

YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED TO APPEAR in an action brought against you by the above named plaintiff in the District Court of the Third Judicial District, in and for Salt Lake County, Utah, and to answer the complaint filed therein, within ten days after the service on you of this summons, if served within this county, and within twenty days if served out of this county, but within four weeks from the date of this summons, or else judgment will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint, which is filed in the office of the clerk of said court, a copy of which is hereunto annexed and herewith served upon you, and to do and receive what the court may decree in the premises.

Your attorney is required to serve a copy of your answer or demurrer on the undersigned at his office, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Given under my hand and seal of the Third Judicial District Court, this 3rd day of November, A. D. 1891.

[SEAL.] ELIAS A. SMITH,
Clerk of the District Court.

ASSESSEES' NOTICE.

Lucky Bill Mining Company, Location of Principal Place of Business: Park City, Utah. Location of Mine: Bonne County, Mining District, Wasatch County, Utah.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT AT a meeting of the Board of Trustees held on the 2nd day of October, 1891, an assessment of five (5) cents per share was levied upon the capital stock of the corporation, payable on or before the 30th day of November, 1891, to the undersigned, at the office of the Secretary, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Any stock upon which this assessment shall remain unpaid on the 30th day of November, 1891, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before the time of sale, will be sold on Saturday, the 19th day of December, 1891, to pay the delinquent assessment, together with the cost of advertising and expenses of sale.

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