

What animal falls from the sky?—Why, the rain, dear (reindeer).

Under what tree does a rabbit sit when it rains?—Under a wet tree.

Why does B stand before O?—Because a man must be before he can see.

What sort of a smile does the victor wear?—A winning smile.

When is a house like a bird?—When it has wings.

What is that which becomes too young the longer it exists?—A portrait.

When is a man thinner than a lath?—When he is a-shaving.

Who was the greatest financier of early times?—Noah—he floated his stock when all the world was in liquidation.

Why is a proud woman like a music book?—Because she is full of airs.

Why cannot a deaf man be legally convicted?—Because it is unlawful to convict a man without a hearing.

Why is a clock the most modest piece of furniture?—Because it covers its face with its hands and runs down its own works.

What is the sun's trade?—A tanner.

SMILE RAISERS.

Visitor: "Whatever is the matter?"

The Other: "I don't know what to do! If I buy new things, I shan't have any money left to go away with, and if I don't buy new things, what's the good of going away?"

Mother: "Poor boy, how did you hurt your finger so?"

Little Son: "With a hammer."

Mother: "When?"

Little Son: "A good while ago."

Mother: "I didn't hear you cry."

Little Son: "I thought you were out."

Butcher: "I am in need of a boy about your size. I would pay you 10s a week."

Applicant: "Will I have a chance to rise?"

Butcher: "Oh, yes; I want you to be here at four every morning."

Persistent Caller: "So her ladyship is not at home again?"

New Footman: "No, madam. And what's more, she really is out this time."

"Doctor," said he, "I'm a victim of insomnia. I can't sleep if there's the least noise, such as a cat on the back fence, for instance."

"This powder will be effective," replied the physician, after compounding a prescription.

"When do I take it, doctor?"

"You don't take it. You give it to the cat in some milk."

The soldier was late in returning to barracks, which did not endear him to his commanding officer. So special confinement was ordered.

"But, sir, I lost my way in the town," pleaded the private.

"Well, we will reconsider the sentence," said the officer; "but you had better stay in the barracks until you get acquainted with the town."

O! pins and needles! O! needles and pins!
When a man marries his worry begins—
Nurses and babies and plasters and pills,
Doctors' prescriptions and dressmakers' bills,
Mumps and measles and quinsey and croup,
And all the ills that make one droop—
But amid such worries comes solace sure,
When using Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.

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SCIENCE SIFTINGS

(By "VOLU.")

Tree of Catholic Interest Passes.

A remarkable and historic tree which was of special interest to Catholics of Honolulu is being mourned in its passing to make way for the advance of progress. It is the original algaroba tree, a parent tree which for 91 years stood in the Catholic mission grounds as a monument to the memory of Father Bachelot, who planted it there in December, 1828. The tree has been severely affected by city improvements, and had to make way for the new K. of C. building. It had had a remarkable history. From it, with the help of stock, have been established large additions to the island's forests, which now cover some 90,000 acres of what was formerly barren lands. It has been called the most valuable tree in Hawaii.

Priest Tells Why World Didn't End.

Now that the "last day of the world" has passed and the world didn't end after all, probably a good many of us are wondering just what all the fuss was about anyhow. Father M. S. Brennan, of St. Louis, an astronomer, whose opinion has been quoted many times, explains just what might be expected to take place in the heavens on December 17, 1919.

The solar system, he said, would be perturbed, or, to use a term more readily understood, six of the planets would be drawn slightly out of their orbits.

The phenomenon would be due to what is known as a near conjunction. Six of the planets—Neptune, Jupiter, Saturn, Mars, Venus, and Mercury—would be on the same side of the sun. Uranus was to be on the opposite side, and the earth, off to one side with its inhabitants looking on.

Jupiter, Saturn, Mars, and Venus are morning stars, and such an alignment as took place December 17 will not occur again for nearly two thousand years.

Though six of the planets were to pull in one direction, Father Brennan didn't expect the weather on the earth or sun spot activity to be affected.

As the solar system is static—that is, tending to revert to its normal condition—the perturbation soon will be rectified, and the planets will get back to their regular orbits.

In fact, they would not be drawn aside enough for the perturbation to be detected by the casual observer, but astronomers with their accurate instruments would be able to indicate the number of degrees the planets are out of their regular orbits.

Neptune and Uranus are not visible to the naked eye. Jupiter is the bright star about in the zenith at 5 a.m. Saturn is a bright star east of Jupiter; Mars is the star with a reddish tinge still further east, and Venus is the extremely bright star in the eastern sky. Mercury being near the sun, is visible only shortly before sunrise, and because of the haze near the horizon, seldom can be seen by the ordinary observer.

Umbrella Handle Plantation.

Did you ever examine the wooden handle of your umbrella and wonder where the makers found such a curiously gnarled piece of wood? If you do give it a passing thought, you simply think that the kinks and twists are freaks of nature and dismiss it as such. But *Popular Science Monthly* tells us that these knots and twists are the result of careful training. "Somewhere in France" there is, or perhaps was, a plantation of several hundred acres devoted entirely to the culture of umbrella handles. The trees are cut a little above the ground level and a number of saplings sprout from the roots. Then the buds of these sprouts are nipped off. By cutting the bark and training the shoots, almost every variety of design may be produced. It takes two and sometimes three years to harvest a crop of umbrella handles.

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