Sketches of Peck, Who Has "a Bad Eoy," and Bill Nye, the " Boomerang."

George Peck, the father of the "bad boy," was here a few days ago. In the past few years Peck has become one of the most successful of professional humorists. His income is said to be nearly \$25,000 a year. In 1871 he was a reporter on the New York Herald, "several hundred dollars worse off than when he was dead broke." He left New York with a resolve "never to come back mitil I had accumulated \$13." Teck originated and grew up in Wisconsin. With "Brick" Pomeroy he went to New York to start a Democratic paper.

He was fortunate, losing but \$2,000all that he had, however. After reporting on the Herald for a short time, he returned to Wisconsin, and, locating at La Crosse, started Peck's Sun, which has brought rays of brightness to many households on dark and gloomy days. Five years ago he removed to Milwaukee, and there he has met with continuous success. A friend to him told me a few days ago that he owned the whole town. That's perfectly natural. It's a way we editors have. The Sun consists mostly of real and sparkless wit and humor. Peck does nearly all the editorial work himself. His expenses are light and his profits large. The humorist is about 40 years of age, heavy set, and wears an immense imperial. He has fitted up an elegant office and has a beautiful home. He is very popular, especially so with the ragged newsboys. Not long ago he gave several hundred of them a banquet, and they in turn presented him with a pair of diamond cuff buttons.

Bill Nye, another Western humorist, and the funny man of the Rocky mountains, is baldheaded, and the top of his head shines like a shirt bosom in the hands of a Chinaman. He is married. He is a tall man, with full brown beard and brown eyes, and has the general appearance of a prosperous country merchant. He is quiet in his ways, and to look at him one would not think he could cause his fellow-beings to laugh. But appearances are deceptive. There's Henry Watterson. People say he looks just like the individual who is supposed to run things in an excessively warm climate. But he isn't such a person, notwithstanding he lives in Kentucky, and raises—the Democrats sometimes. Nye was a justice of the peace in Wyoming. He wrote a number of letters to the Denver Tribune. They contained considerable exaggerated humor, and gave him some local notoriety. A few years ago he started the Boomerang, and has succeeded in making about \$15,000 profits. He has long wanted to establish a funny paper in Minnesota, and his friends say he will soon locate near St. Paul.-Indianapolis Journal,

### The Origin of Earrings.

According to the Moslem creed the reason why every Mohammedan lady considers it her duty to wear earrings, is attributed to the following curious legend: Sarah, tradition tells us, was so jealous of the preference shown by Abraham to Hagar, that she took a solemn vow that she would give herself no rest until she had mutilated the fair face of her hated rival and bondmaid. Abraham, who had knowledge of his wife's intention, did his utmost to pacify his embittered spouse, but long in vain. At length, however, she relented, and decided to forego her plan of revenge. But how was she to fulfil the terms of the vow she had entered into? After mature reflection she saw her way out of the difficulty. Instead of disfiguring the lovely features of her bondmaid, she contented herself with boring a hole in each of the rosy lobes of her ears. The legend does not inform us whether Abraham afterward felt it incumbent upon him to mitigate; the smart of these little wounds by the gift of a costly pair of earrings, or whether Hagar procured the trinkets for herself. The fact remains, however, that the Turkish women, all of whom wear earrings from their seventh year, derive the use of these jewels from Hagar, who is held in veneration as the mother of Ishmael, the founder of their race,-Deutsche Roman-Bibliothek.

### Comin' Taro' the Kye.

A pictorial published an illustration of "Comin' Thro' the Rye," and blundered into what we presume is the popular misconception of the ditty, giving a laddie and lassie meeting and kissing in a field of grain. The lines

If a laddie meet a lassie Comin' thro' the rye,

and especially the other couplet:

A' the lads they smile on me, When comin' thro' the rye,

seem to imply that traversing the rye was an habitual or common thing; but what in the name of the Royal Agricultural Society could be the object of trampling down a crop of grain in that style? The song, perhaps, suggests a harvest scene, where both sexes, as is the custom, are at work reaping, and the fields, indeed, but not through the rye itself, so as to meet and kiss in it. The truth is, the rye in this case is not grain at all, it being the name of a small shallow stream, near Ayr, Scotland, which, having neither bridge nor ferry, was forded by the people going to and from the market, custom allowing a lad to steal a kiss from any lass of his acquaintance whom he might meet in midstream. That is the true explanation; any one will see this who will refer to Burns' original ballad, in which the first verse refers to the lass wetting her tivines in the stream.

If you are troubled with a "hacking cough," Downs' Elixir will give you relief at once. Warranted as recommended or money refunded.

As well expect life without air, as health without pure blood. Cleanse the blood with Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

W. H. Crooker, druggist of Waterdown, says, when all other remedies fail for Bowel Complaints, then Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry comes to the rescue.

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Mrs. McArthur, of Hopeville, Ont., says she could not keep house without Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam to cure prevailing throat and lung troubles.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the most effective blood purifier ever devised. It is recommended by the best physicians.

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There is no rival for Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. It is the acknowledged champion for the cure of all Summer complaints.

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Mrs. Mary A. Dailey, of Tunkhannock, Pa., was afflicted for six years with Asthma and Bronchitis, during which time the best physicians could give no relief. Her life was despaired of, until in last October she procured a bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, when immediate relief was felt, and by continuing its use for a short time she was completely cured, gaining in flesh 50 lbs. in a few months. Free Trial Bettles of this certain cure of all Throat and Lung Diseases at John McKinnon's Drug Store, Beaverton. Large Bottles \$1.00.

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# County of Ontario

Sittings of Division Courts for 1884.

Published by order of the General Sessions.

WHITBY.—Jan. 2, Feb. 1, Mar. 1. Apr. 1, May 1 June 1, July 2, Sept. 1, Oct. 1, Nov. 1, Dec. 1, BROUGHAM.— | May 2, July 3, Sept. 2. DUFFIN'S CREEK.— | Jan. 3, Mar. 3, Nov. 3. PORT PERRY .- Jan; 22, Mar. 12, May 5, July 7 Sept. 22, Nov. 17.

UxBRIDGE,-Jan. 23, Mar. 4, May 6, July 8, Sept CANNINGTON,-Jan. 24, Mar. 5, May 7, July 9, Sept BEAVERTON.-Mar. 6, May 8, July 10, Sept. 25

UPTERGROVE .- Mar. 7, May 9 July 11, Sept. 26 Whitby, Jan. 1. 1884 J. E. FAREWELL. Clerk of the Peace

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Insurance Agent.

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Signed. JAMES PARSON Woodville, June 14th, 1884.



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