

CRITICISMS.

Criticisms are good things for a man's business,---we welcome them in ours. They are very good ballast. They keep one close to the ground.

We have some from our friends in the trade,---we are sorry that there is not always enough to go round. We must get ours.

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GLEANINGS — WISE AND OTHERWISE.

One of the most famous contralto singers was staying with a friend in a cathedral town, and the Dean offered to escort her over to the "venerable pile." A service preceded the tour, and the Dean, whose musical judgment is not too sound, was rash enough to ask the lady what she thought of the choir. She looked at him with a quiet smile, and replied—"Oh, Mr. Dean, your cathedral is indeed most beautiful." He changed the subject.

Mrs. Bacon: "Why, that piano has several keys that make no sound at all." Mr. Bacon: "Yes, and there are some other good features about it.

Garrick was once accosted on the street in London by a man in rags with "Hallo, Garrick! Don't you know me?" "I do not," replied the actor. "Strange," said the tattered man, "we acted together at Drury Lane Theater;" "Impossible," replied Garrick. "In what play?" "In Hamlet. I took the part of the cock, and crowed three times behind the curtain."

"Where are you going?" "To the coronation." "What?" "Yep. Going to have a crown put on a tooth."

Ignoramus: "How did England's great comic journal come to be called Punch?" Wiseacre: "From the modus operandi of getting a joke into an Englishman's head."—Puck.

A tourist in Germany went to visit a certain old castle. He wandered about guide book in hand, searching carefully, but in vain. At last he applied to the gatekeeper—"My book says there was an ancient hunger-tower here, where they used to starve prisoners to death." "Precisely, mein Herr, come this way; it is now made into a restaurant." And yet there are still some people who assert that Germans have no sense of humor.

A lawyer once asked a man who had at various times sat on several juries, "Who influenced you most, the lawyers, the witnesses, or the judge?" He expected to get some useful and interesting information from so experienced a juryman. This was the man's reply: "I'll tell yer, sir, 'ow I makes up my mind. I'm a plain man, and a reasonin' man, and I ain't influenced by anything the lawyers say, nor by what the witnesses say, nor by what the judge says. I just looks at the man in the docks and I says, 'If he ain't done nothing, why's he there?' And I brings 'em all in guilty."

An old friend of the family had dropped in to see a young lawyer whose father was still paying his office rent. "So you are now practising law," the old friend said, genially. "No, sir," said the candid youth, "it appear to be, but I am really practicing economy."

One rainy day, a countryman boarded an omnibus and took a seat inside. He began soon to feel the regular pattering of water drops upon his head. The roof of the bus leaked, and the countryman was suffering from this fact. The conductor just then came in to collect the fares, and the victim said to him—"What's the matter with this roof? Does it do this always?" "No, sir, only when it rains," the conductor answered without a smile.

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