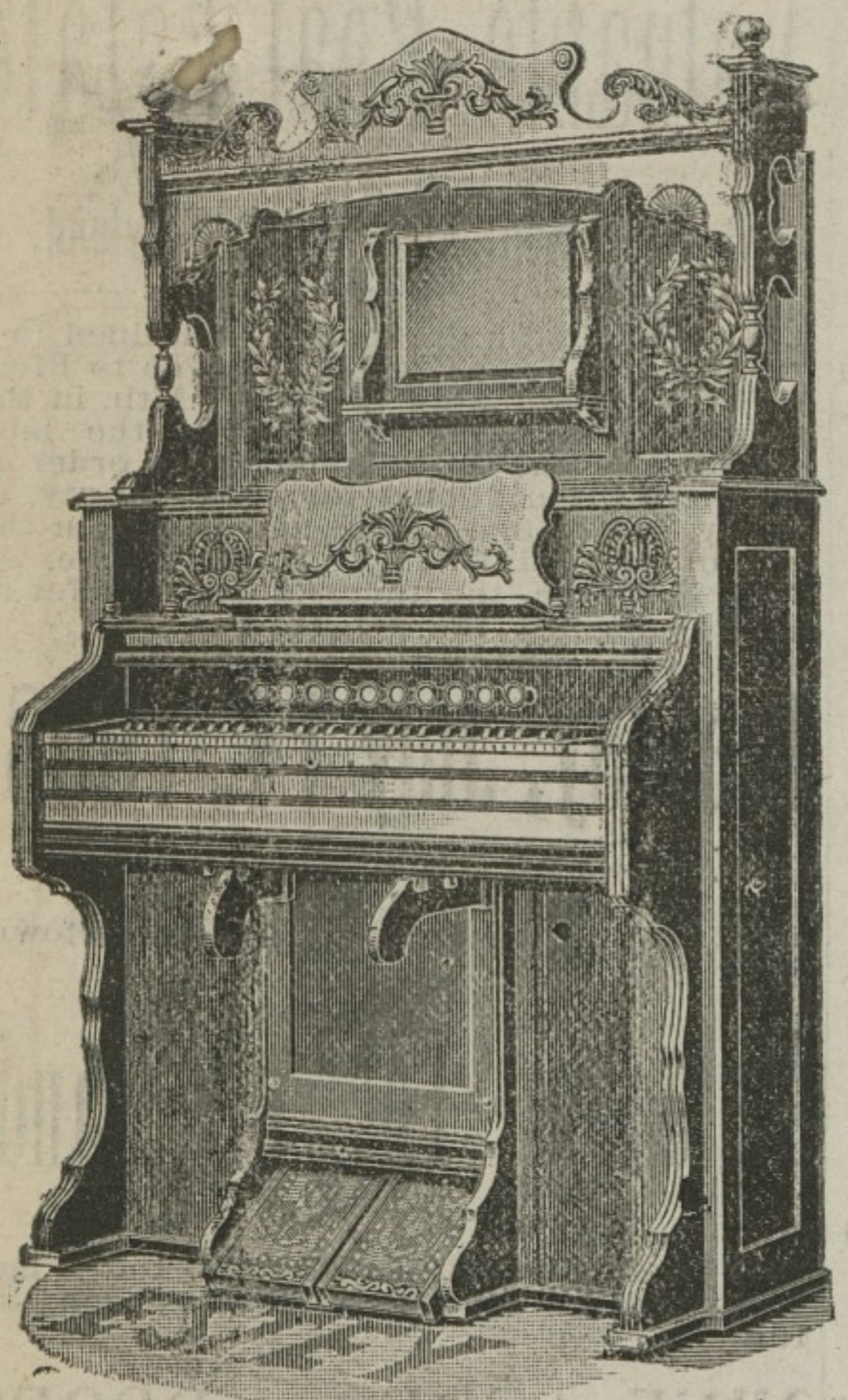


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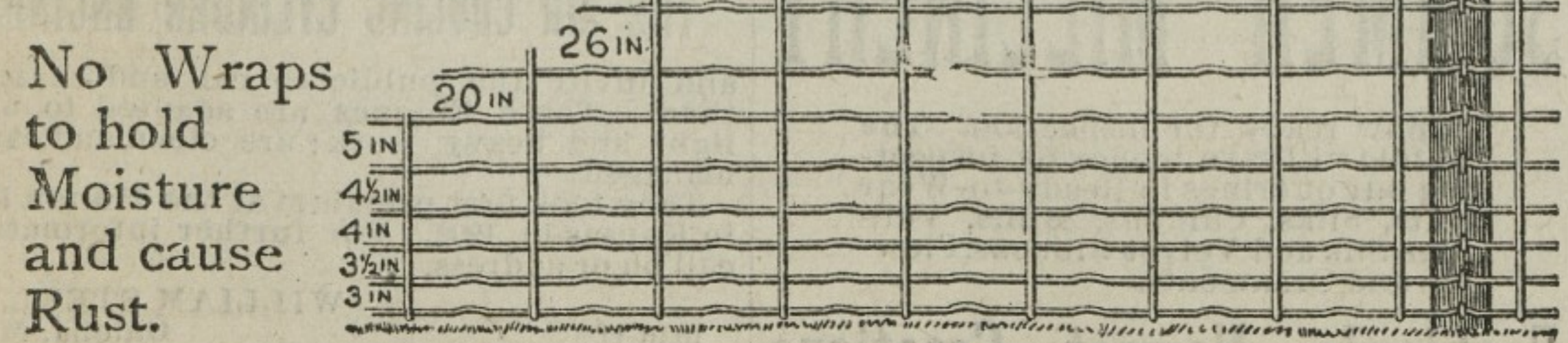
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HOW IT STRIKES A YANKEE.

You ask me what I think, John? Well, I've just ben lookin' round An' s'izing up things gen'ally, sence I struck English ground. I've ben here now for quite a spell—sence June, I believe, an' so I think I'm in a position to express my views below.

When I see John Princes, yes, an' Fiji niggers, too. An' strappin' lads from New South Wales, an' that New Zealand crew, And all the rest that gathered here for just one single thing, To show their loyal homage to their Emperor and King.

Why, John, I tell ye, it's a sight I never kin forget! It stirred up my old blood-pump so that—well—'t's stirrin' yet! An' tho' I'm a Yankee, John, a loyal Yankee, too, I couldn't help a-feelin' proud that I come down from you!

I ain't forgot, John, what you did, when I wa' fightin' Spain. When my boy Dewey, in the East, was givin' them a pain; Ye know some fellows poled a nose where noses didn't b'long, An' George, he didn't waste no time in sayin' it was wrong.

An' when them fellers come to you, to find out what you tho't, You didn't say a blessed word; but, John, you looked a lot! That kind o' thing I can't forget, because—well—I dunno, The words won't come exactly, John—but—shake! That—now, ye know!

An', then, John, there's some other things that link us, old and young; Our ideas are about the same, 'n' we speak one mother-tongue; We've had our little scrapper, John, but now we've drawn the line, It ain't on your mind much, I guess; I know it ain't on mine.

You're shamed to know, John, sometimes, but when you let down the bars There's not a better feller underneath the sun—'an' stars! I poke my fun at you, John, an' you poke your fun at me, But 't's a'al'n best of feelin', cause we understand, you see

SCHOOLBOYS' COMPOSITIONS.

Sympathy for the trials of a teacher's life gives way to a momentary envy when one occasionally gets a glimpse of the surprisingly original versions which their pupils give of matters long familiar. Nothing, for instance, could be more refreshing than this contribution to history by a school boy:

Alfred the Great was King of England many thousands of years ago. The Danes came to conquer the country, but Alfred went to their camp and played upon a harp so beautifully that the Danes all rushed down into the sea and were drowned. The Danes were a red-headed people and therefore very fierce.

Equally surprising is the following revelation: The Americans made the revolution because they were tired of tea and wanted coffee. Also because there was not enough taxation.

It is to be hoped that the author of a Washington's Birthday essay was mistaken in one of his assertions, namely: George Washington was noted for being the only great statesman and patriot who never told a lie nor wanted a third term.

A "Columbus Day" essay contained this tribute to the great discoverer: Columbus meant to discover India and not America. He was a good man tried hard not to discover America but fate was against him and he was cruelly put in prison by the Spanish who seem to have known what would happen sometime.

A boy who had evidently read books written in England is responsible for this definition: Treason is another name for molasses. One lad was able to quote an old saying, but the addition he makes shows him not quite satisfied: A weed is a plant whose use has never been found out. A man who would find out would be a very useful citizen.

A youngster with a strictly logical turn of mind says: Africa is called the dark continent on account of the darkies. A youth who had not the least desire to "speak disrespectfully of the equator," gave this definition: The equator is a broad belt of land, 47 degrees wide, and extends east and west through the hot regions of the torrid zone.

A boy who had heard the last echoes of a now obsolete discussion made this declaration: Shakespeare was a great man who wrote many fine poems. He was assassinated by two conspirators named Donnelly and Bacon.

After all, this is not much worse than the candidate for a position on the New York police force, who said, in his examination paper that Lincoln was shot by Ballington Booth.

A LEGAL PROPOSAL.

And How Clarence Distanced it at a Bound. "I received this afternoon," said the bright-eyed, common-sense girl, who while a slight blush of maidenly coyness tinted her peach-hued cheeks, a "written proposal of marriage from Horace J. Pokelung, the rising young attorney, and"

"Huh! that petrified dul!" jealously ejaculated the young dry goods dealer, who had been hanging back because of his timidity and excessive adoration. "He says," proceeded the maiden, gently ignoring the interruption, and reading aloud from the interesting document, "I have carefully and comprehensively analyzed my feelings toward you, and the result is substantially as follows, to wit: I respect, admire, adore and love you and hereby give, grant and convey to you my heart and all my interest, right and title in and to the same, together with all my possessions and emoluments, either won, inherited or in any other manner acquired, gained, anticipated or expected, with full and complete power to use, expend, utilize, give away, be stow or otherwise make use of the same, anything heretofore stated, expressed, implied or understood in or by my previous condition, standing, walk, attitude or actions, to the contrary notwithstanding; and I furthermore"

"I—I—" fairly shouted the listener, springing to his feet and extending his arms. "Miss Brisk—Maude—I love you! Will you marry me?" "Yes, I will!" promptly answered the lass, as she contentedly snuggled up in his encircling embrace. "And I'll reply to the ponderous appeal of that pedantic procrustinator with the one expressive slangism, 'Nip! I am yours Clarence!'" Smart Set.

A Dangerous Innovation. Deacon Carter could remember the day when the minister lined out the hymn and the congregation sang it. Although he has long been too feeble to go to church, his opinions still found their way to the people.

"We shall have some good organ playing this summer," an unwary visitor remarked to the deacon's daughter in the old man's hearing. "That teacher from Boston is going to play every Sunday while Annie Trumbull is off taking a vacation."

"You send for the minister to come here and see me, Daughter Mary," he said as clearly as he could. "I won't have such goings on! A musician playing on that organ! Let 'em go without till Annie Trumbull gets home again!"

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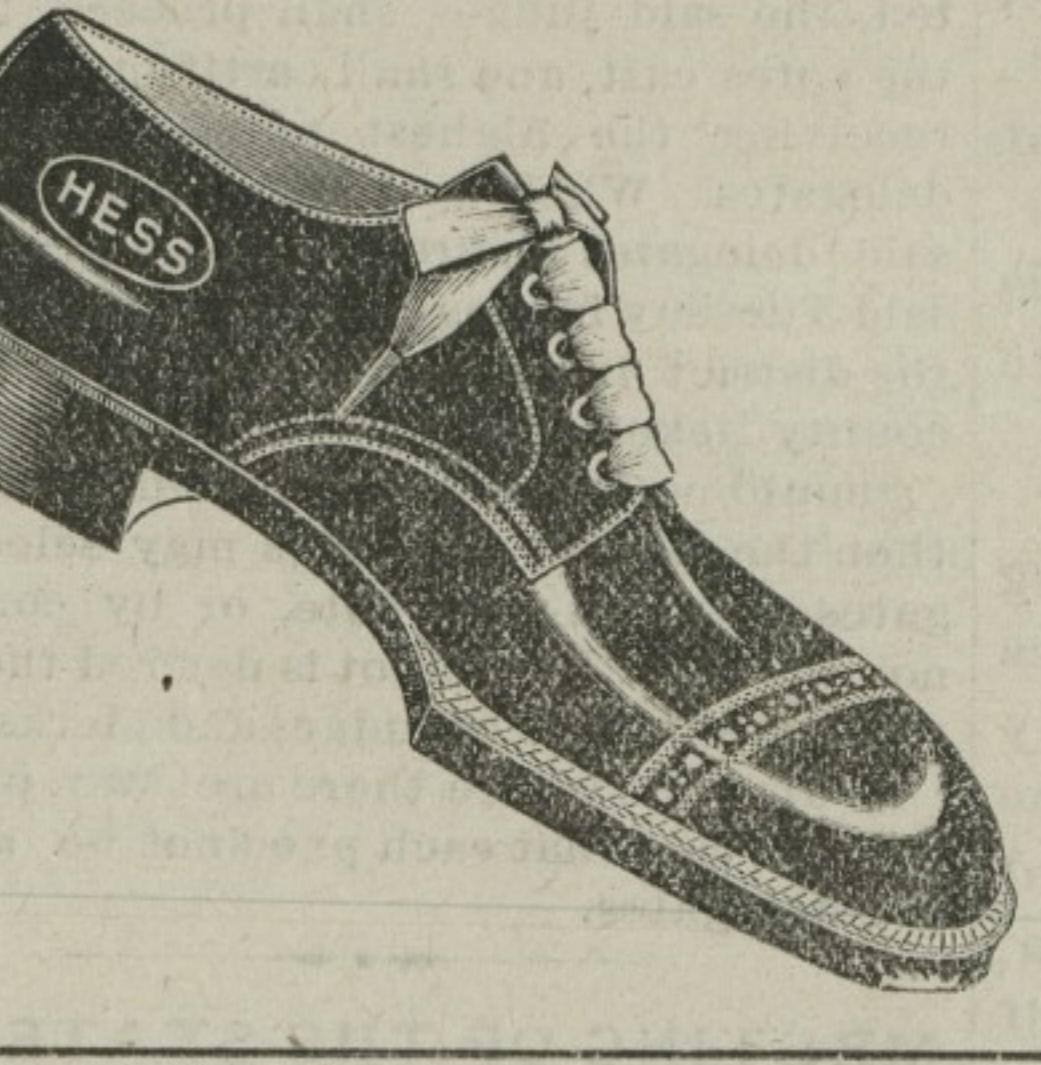
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