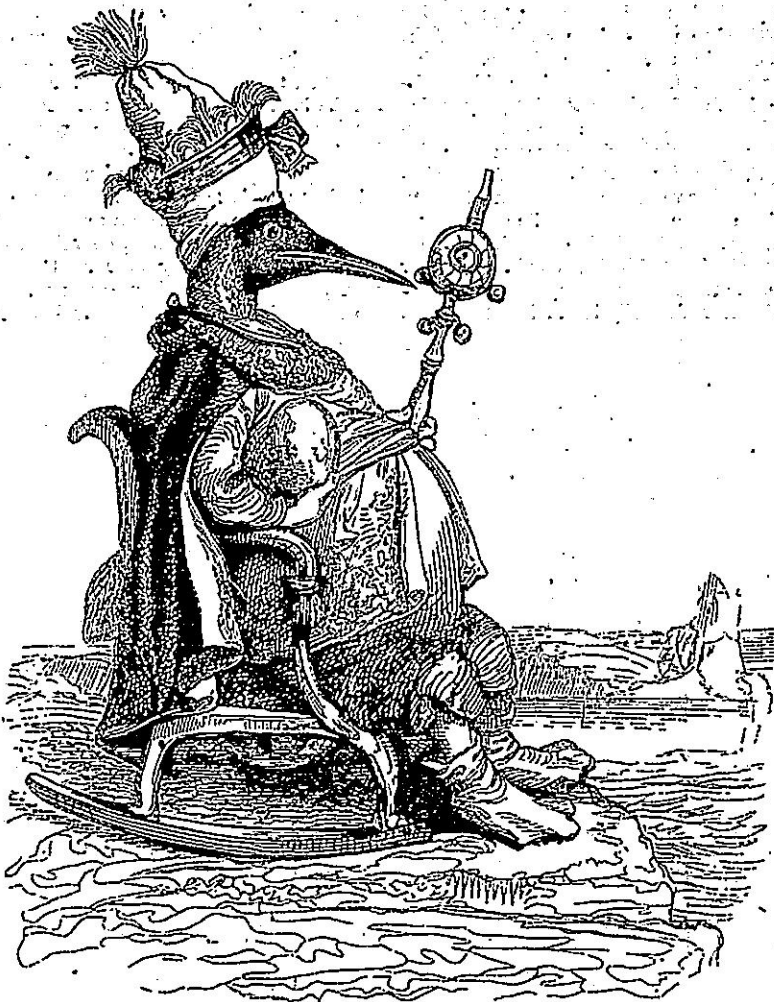


# HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. LXXX.—JANUARY, 1857.—VOL. XIV.



HIS MAJESTY FRANK PENGUIN, KING OF THE BRUTES.

## THE ANIMAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

IT has been well known for some time in certain circles that a movement was on foot for the emancipation of the brute creatures (so called) from the thralldom of man. For years a correspondence has been kept up between Africa, the Rocky Mountains, the Jungles of In-

dia, and the various Menageries throughout the world; all the beasts were unanimous for freedom.

After deliberation, it was decided that the first blow should be struck in America, while mankind was absorbed in the Presidential election. The next question was what part of America should be selected? The Rocky Mountain-

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interest was urgent in favor of the other side of the Mississippi. An eloquent delegation from Hudson Bay pressed the claims of Canada. The Alligators, a large and powerful community, protested that it would be death to them to travel north of the Carolinas; and as they held a power of attorney from the fishes, who sympathized in the movement, though, from obvious reasons, they could not take an active part in it, their opinion had considerable weight. Finally, on the proposal of an ancient Gander, the question was referred to a Committee consisting of the Horse, the Monkey, and the Maggie. It has been pretended that this Committee did not discharge its functions with the integrity which might have been expected: the Jackass afterward brayed, within hearing of many respectable brutes, that the Horse felt his oats (of course implying that that vegetable had been used to corrupt him); and a young Crocodile asseverated, with many tears, that the Monkey did not come out of the business with clean hands. However this be, the report of the Committee was unanimous in favor of the Elysian Fields at Hoboken

—the time, a fine, bright November night, just before the election.

The decision being final, all the brutes submitted except the Alligators, who intrusted a friendly Polecat with their remonstrance. I regret that I am unable to give this document, which, I am told, was remarkably touching and effective; but, from reasons which delicacy forbids me to mention, it was never read, and still remains in the possession of its custodian.

On the evening fixed, the Monkey who served on the Committee, and who had had the advantage of an intimate acquaintance with Mr. Hobbs, picked all the locks of Barnum's Museum, and led the imprisoned animals forth. A boat belonging to the Staten Island Ferry Company had been chartered by the Jackass (a relative, as it appeared, of one of the managers), and by midnight the whole party had crossed the water without other accident than a rencontre with a party of police-officers, who, on being assured by the Parrot that they were all Democratic voters, let them pass without comment.

On reaching the ground, the fugitives found



THE HYENA, WITH MUCH BITTERNESS, ROSE TO HOWL, ETC.

a large party assembled. Delegations had arrived from every country in the world. A select body was in attendance from the Zoological Gardens, headed by a fine Bull; and at least thirty representatives of the *Jardin des Plantes*, with a Frog as spokesman, were discussing the Rights of Brutes and the theories of Proudhon. Several Ermine, of judicial aspect, and an Eagle or two, with drooping wings, came special from Moscow and Siberia. A party of Bears, with famished looks and a terrible flavor of garlic, were standing on their hind-legs and their dig-

nity, as became deputies from Spain. A Fox, with the finest and smoothest brush in the world, might have been heard discoursing eloquently on the throne of the Caesars to a group of Hippopotami, who were evidently delegates from the Nile. Apart from the common herd stood a small party of Lions of very distinguished aspect; they refused to fraternize with their fellow-creatures from Van Amburgh's, and communicated with the rest of the assemblage through the medium of their valets, the Hyenas. A serious Giraffe, from Barnum's, was



THE LION ENTREATS THE ASSEMBLY TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOT VANTY OR AMBITION WHICH INDUCES HIM TO SOLICIT THEIR SUFFRAGES.



THE DOGS DECLARE THAT THEY WILL NOT SUBMIT.

noticed in close conversation with a female ostrich; from sentences which were overheard by the by-standers, he seemed to be urging her to adopt skirts, and so cease to scandalize the public by the exhibition of her legs. In fine, there were present members of nearly every respectable family in the Animal Kingdom—all impressed with the importance of the work in hand, and imbued with the noblest spirit of conciliation. Nothing was heard but exclamations of friendship on every side; and though an enthusiastic Wolf did strangle a Lamb, and a Fox, in a fit of absence of mind, choked a fat Duck, these accidents were rightly ascribed to the force of habit, and did not mar the harmony of the proceedings.

At about one o'clock the assemblage was called to order by a loud snort from a WILD BOAR, from Ceylon, who, in compliment to the country, moved that the Buffalo take the chair.

The PORCUPINES volunteered to act as Secretaries.

The BUFFALO, squatting on his hams, wished that some worthier person had been selected for the responsible post of President of this august assemblage. He was no orator; but he trusted that his heart was in the right place. [Loud applause from the Dogs and Vultures.] He had long been satisfied that man was not entitled to the sovereignty he had usurped over the world. What was man? Had not one of his own race described him as a biped without feathers? And should a biped command quadrupeds?

The EAGLE would have a remark to make on that subject.

The CHAIR meant no offense to any honorable brute or bird. He was ready to resign the chair, if any member desired. He knew he was incompetent— [Here the tender-hearted brute became visibly affected.]



The WOLF declared that the Chair enjoyed his confidence; he had long known him, and, though their opinions differed on some points, he could speak favorably of his honorable friend. Especially his nose and ham—continued the Wolf, musingly, when he was interrupted by

The OX, who declared that delicacy prevented his taking part in a debate which concerned so near a relative; but he moved that the meeting do now proceed to business.

An old MONKEY moved that Committees on Credentials, on Resolutions, and on a Plan of Action be appointed. Carried unanimously.

The CHAIR appointed the Moles, assisted by an Owl, a Committee on Credentials; the Mag-

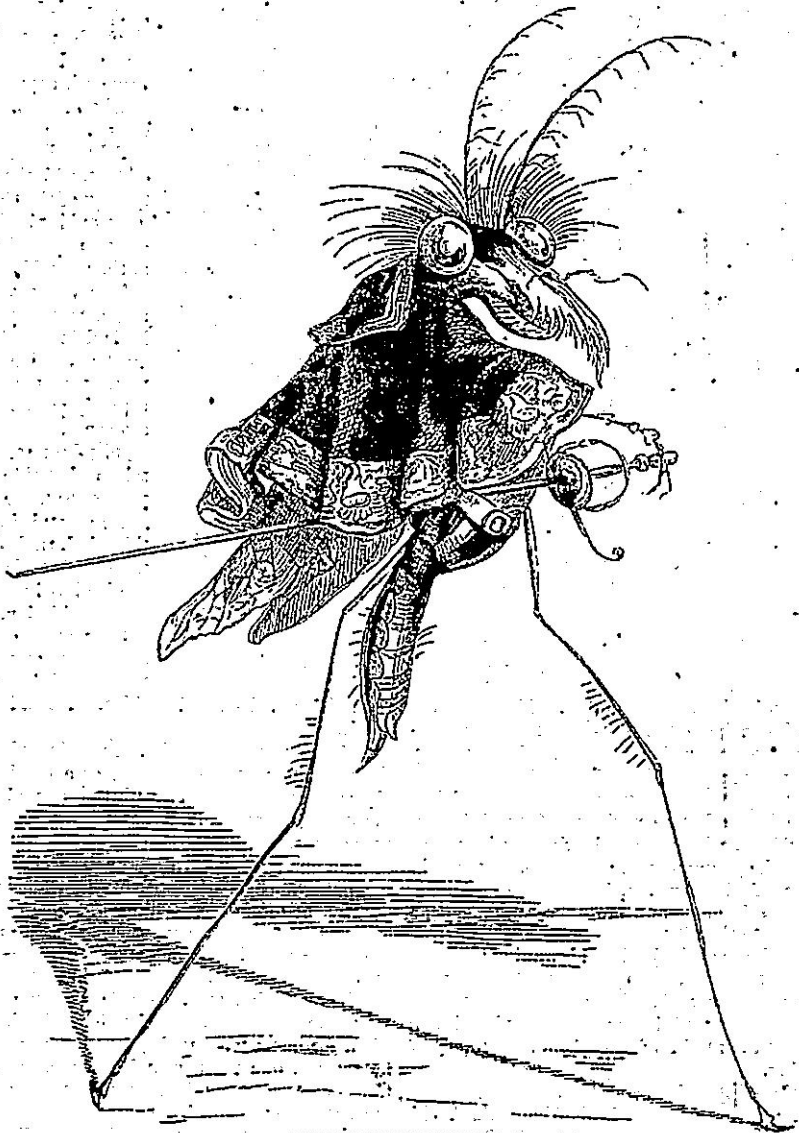
pie, the Rattlesnake, and the Panther a Committee on Resolutions; and the Mosquito, the Elephant, and the Cockchafer a Committee on a Plan of Action.

A HYENA rose with great warmth to shriek that a Permanent President should be appointed.

The SWAN would feel obliged if the Hyena would not spit in her face.

The BLACK SNAKE hoped he had not come there to be insulted. He considered a reference to spitting personal.

An old TOAD, who had got into a rock under one of the Pharaohs, and been got out by the railroad engineers, did not wish to occupy the time of the assembly, but the presumption of





LEO JUNIOR.

some animals was astounding. He would assure the Snake that he was present, and on questions of expectation he would object to any one trying to head him off.

The RAVEN knew and respected the claims of the Toad; but he would submit to his honorable friend, whether, considering the advances which the young men of America have made in the art of expectation, it would not be dignified and decorous and proper to relinquish the practice to them?

The TOAD apologized for his want of information on the point. He had been 3563 years in a crevice of a rock. If the men of America were as great proficient as the Magpie said, he was not the reptile to deny them a monopoly of spitting.

Cries of Question, Question.

The CHAIR would ask his friend, the Wolf, what business was before the meeting?

The WOLF growled, abstractedly, that she was small but tender.

A RAM butted the Wolf to order. Not content with desecrating the very beginning of their proceedings by slaughtering one of his (the Ram's) children, this ferocious creature was evidently absorbed in horrible visions of eating her—

A VULTURE exclaimed that language failed to portray such depravity.

The JACKAL concurred.

A BULL DOG snarled that, with the permission of the Chair, he would vindicate the outraged dignity of the assemblage.

The WOLF would ask leave to say that he had been misunderstood. His remark was made in a purely parliamentary sense.

The JACKASS submitted that this was perfectly satisfactory.

The RAM being of this mind, rubbed his nose against that of the Wolf's in token of reconciliation.

On motion of the MOUSE, the assembly resolved itself into

Committee of the Whole, with the MOLE in the Chair.

A COCK rose to crow that the business before the meeting was the selection of a President. He was deeply impressed with the solemnity of the occasion, and, albeit not given to crowing over others, he thought he might venture to say that no one there had so just an appreciation of the importance of the struggle in which they were about to engage as himself. Nor did he believe that there were any there whose peculiar capacity—ahem! he would not say more—was so well adapted to the responsible duties of President as his own. He had been accustomed to command. While his friend, the Lion, for instance, thought himself fortunate if he secured one partner in his home, he (the Cock) had never less than seven in his harem. He had historic prestige too. His friend, the Frog, would certify that that highly intellectual

race of men, the French (groans from the assembly), who almost redeemed mankind, had chosen him to typify their best qualities. Personally, he had enjoyed the friendship of one of the greatest heroes of modern times—Santa Anna—under whose eye he had learned the art of war: [Here the Sloth was heard to snore, and the Hyena to laugh bitterly.] He (the Cock) was well aware of the motive of these ill-bred interruptions. But neither threats nor insults should divert him from his purpose. He offered himself as a candidate for the Presidency. He concluded with cock-a-doodle-doo.

The Horse had but a few words to neigh. With all due respect for the last speaker, he had a constitutional aversion to spurs; nor could he conceal his dislike of coxcombry. Cocks were very well in their way, and he would admit that this assembly would be badly off without them, considering their courage and military experience. Still, bearing in mind the qualities they required in a leader—coolness, watchfulness, bravery, skill, and strength—he thought the cock was not the animal to choose. He would prefer the Dog, the Newfoundland Dog. [The Dogs wagged their tails applaudingly; the Cocks crowed indignantly.]

The HYENA, with much bitterness, howled that they had listened to a one-horse argument in favor of the slave of man. What claim had the Dog to the supremacy of the brutes? Had

he not notoriously taken the side of their oppressors from time immemorial? He would go so far in his respect for man as to admit that he had given them a hint of which they should profit. He (man) had given to one animal the name of the King of Beasts. He was entitled to it. He was a King; He anticipated their applause when he nominated for President the noblest denizen of the forest, the Lion. [Roars from the Lions, and general confusion: Dogs bark, Oxen low, Sheep bleat, Crows caw, Cats mew, Hyenas laugh till a young one splits its sides and has to be carried out. In the confusion a cry is heard. An Elephant on his way to his seat has crushed a family of Rats; the Chair, on motion of a Tom-cat, calls the Rats to order for not keeping out of the way.]

The RHINOCEROS was not a beast of many grunts. He thought that something was due to the able animal who was the means of bringing them together. He nominated the Monkey for President. [Tremendous uproar.]

A TERRIER of doubtful breed snapped that if the Monkey was elected he would not submit. [Applause from the Lions, Dogs, and Cocks.]

The MOLES and the OWL from the Committee on Credentials having reported that, so far as they could see, all the delegates were duly entitled to their seats, the Pig moved that a ballot be taken.



THE DUEL.



MAJOR-GENERAL COCK.

The PORCUPINES, after declaring that the task bristled with difficulties, reported the number of animals present to be 745; number necessary to a choice 373.

The chair appointed two Mollusks scrutineers.

The result of the first ballot was :

The Lion .....	261
The Dog .....	136
The Monkey .....	65
The Cock .....	1
The Jackass .....	1
The Goose .....	1
Scattering and not voting .....	280

The JACKASS rose and brayed : with the permission of the assembly he would withdraw the Cock.

The GOOSE cackled that that was just like him.

The HARE murmured tremblingly that he thought it would facilitate matters if both the Cock and the Goose withdrew their names, as they were evidently not the choice of the assembly.

The COCK crowed that the Hare lied and he knew it.

A BULL DOG barked to know if the Cock was responsible for his words?

The COCK : Of course, when and where you please.

The HARE would rise to apologize—

The BULL DOG growled that he would allow no such thing. Matters must now take their course. [He seized the Hare and drew him to one side.]

A second ballot was taken as follows :

The Lion .....	261
The Dog .....	42
The Monkey .....	294
The Cock .....	1
Scattering .....	147

After this ballot a conference took place between the leading friends of the Lion, the Dog, and the Monkey. The Lion's friends claimed for him the Presidency of right, and quoted *Æsop*, *Phædrus*, *La Fontaine*, *Gay*, and other writings of men to prove his divine right to the supremacy of beasts. The Monkey observed that the world had got over these old notions; that democracy was the only sensible form of government for the present age; and urged upon his rivals to withdraw, as the majority of the convention were evidently in his favor. The Dog's chief spokesman, the Terrier before-mentioned, repeated that if the Monkey was elected, he would not submit. Overtures were made on behalf of the Dog to the Lion, to the effect that if he (the Lion) would transfer his votes to the Dog, the latter would behave handsomely

by him. The proposal was indignantly rejected; the Lion would, however, give the Dog a mission to Timbuctoo to organize matters there, in return for the Dog's friends' votes. The Dog replied that the Lion's size alone protected him. The Monkey went out and chattered to the Scattering, winning over the Rats, who were mourning over the death of their friends, by liberal promises of cheese, in the event of his election. The Terriers also canvassed actively.

A third ballot was taken with the following result:

The Lion .....	231
The Dog .....	172
The Monkey .....	324
The Cock .....	1
Scattering .....	17

The LION must make a few remarks. He entreated the assembly to believe that it was not vanity or ambition which induced him to solicit their suffrages, and to urge them to come to a decision. He was moved solely by considerations of the public good. Who was there in this assemblage so able to defend, to protect, to rule them as himself? "What hardy beast should dare contest his strength?"

A VOICE was heard to say that there might be a bird, perhaps, if not a beast. [This was afterward discovered to be a Peacock.]

The Monkey and his friends were actively engaged in tampering with the supporters of the Lion during this speech. After a few moments' silence,

The Pig (commonly known as the learned Pig) rose on his hind-legs, and grunted that it was evident that the assembly was embarrassed to choose between three such excellent candidates. He could understand it. Between the majestic Lion, the trusty Dog, and the sagacious Monkey, a conscientious brute might well hesitate. Believing, for his own part, that the dispatch of business was the main consideration, and feeling satisfied that there was no prospect of coming to a choice, in consequence of the eminence of each of the three candidates before them, and the enmities aroused by that eminence, he felt it his duty to propose a candidate

of whose soundness he was assured, and against whom even the most malignant could not breathe a word of scandal. He would propose his friend Frank Penguin, of Discord, in the Isle of New Hants. [Tremendous sensation. Cries of "Order!" "Put him out!" "Hurrah for the Penguin!" "Bravo Pig!"]

The ELEPHANT raised his trunk, and squeaked for a ballot. The Chair having fallen asleep in the act of chewing the cud, a Flea was appointed a committee to wake him, which he did very skillfully by biting him within the nostril.

On the fourth ballot the votes stood :

The Penguin.....	465
The Lion.....	80
The Monkey.....	103
The Dog.....	64
The Cock.....	1
Scattering.....	62

The DOVE moved that the vote be made unanimous, which was done accordingly.

The PENGUIN returned thanks. He would try to deserve their confidence. It was not in his nature to contradict any one. He had once tried fighting, but it was so foreign to his tastes that he fainted in the attempt. He would never do it again. He would do just what they wanted, and if he was advised differently by different counselors, he would always be careful to follow the advice last received. As to his policy, man was to be overthrown, and he thought the best mode of achieving that end was to preserve a "masterly inactivity." The Penguin spoke at some length in a strain of piercing eloquence, quoting Hail Columbia, Shakspeare, and Martin Farquhar Tupper.

The JACKASS could not refrain from rising to congratulate the assembly on their choice of a President. He believed that history might be ransacked in vain for a parallel to the noble bird who was now their ruler. [Great enthusiasm, during which many of the Dogs, headed by the Terrier, withdrew, declaring that they would not submit.]

The LION believed that an injustice had been done him, but he would bear it. His son there—Leo Junior—had advised him to bolt and set up a rival convention [Great



THE WOLF ON SENTRY.





THE OWL ON PATROL DUTY.

excitement, and general scattering in the Lion's neighborhood], but he had repelled the counsel. He would, however, make a suggestion. Why should they change their good old name? Had they not been known from time immemorial as the Animal Kingdom? Why talk of republics, like mere men? [Tremendous cheering.] He moved that the Penguin be crowned.

The Crow, assisted by the Kingfisher, was appointed to crown the Penguin. As the ceremony was performed the Elysian fields rang with shouts of "Long live King Frank Penguin!"

The WOLF moved that the meeting do now adjourn to Nebraska Territory, there to organize measures for the great War of Independence.

A number of Fowls objecting that this was rather far to go, a friendly Fox promised to help them along.

The meeting then adjourned.

## II.

Within an incredibly short period of time the animals met in a convenient plain in Nebraska. The muster roll was called by a Parrot, and the following were reported as missing:

Seven Fowls, believed to have been eaten by a Fox.

Two Sheep, devoured by a Dog and a Wolf on joint account.

One Monkey, seized in Missouri on the ground that he was a Free State settler destined for Kansas.

Two Baboons, detained by the Free State Committee on suspicion of having Pro-Slavery designs.

Two Pigs, stopped at Cincinnati, and barreled.

Three Dogs, locked up by the Governor of Kansas as invaders.

One Tomtit, arrested by telegraphic order of the President for disturbing the peace and order of the country.

With these trifling exceptions the assembly was integrally the same as that which had met at Hoboken.

The meeting being organized, the Magic read the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That it is our right, as it is our duty, to shake off the galling yoke of the human race, and to assert our paramount claims to the exclusive enjoyment of the earth; to resume our freedom in the forests, or the plains, or the swamps, as we please, and to lead the life which is best

suited to our instincts.

*Resolved*, That work is a nuisance, and that any animal who proposes any form of labor, shall be handed over to a committee, consisting of the Lion, the Bear, and the Wolf.

*Resolved*, That all things shall be in common between us, and that no animal shall be permitted to claim any thing as his own.

*Resolved*, That carnivorous animals are earnestly solicited to try a vegetable diet, as more wholesome and more conducive to the comfort of the community than that to which they have been used.

*Resolved*, That we except from our denunciation of the human race, one man whose services entitle him to our respect and veneration—Professor Agassiz.

*Resolved*, That deputations be sent throughout the world with these our resolutions, and that the same be communicated to every creature.

*Resolved*, That as we may not succeed in exterminating the human race for some time to come, a prize of \$500 be offered to the human creatures for the best poem descriptive of our declaration of independence, the same to be handed in to the office of the *Evening Post*, whose

editors are hereby authorized to pay over the prize-money; also a prize for the best life of King Penguin, with a full account of his genealogy and early youth, in the style of Mayor Wood's; also a prize for the best essay on the Rights of Brutes (Mrs. L— M—, Mrs. A— K— F—, Miss L— S—, need not apply); also, a prize for the best argument to show, from Grotius, Puffendorf, and other authorities, that we are entitled to our independence (the Hon. W—m L. M—y is assured that he may save himself the trouble of competing).

These resolutions being put by the Penguin from the throne, were carried unanimously.

A COLBERTON was chosen to be the bearer of these resolutions to foreign parts.

The GIRAFFE objected to his selection. He reminded her of the New York dandies whom she used to see when she was at Barnum's; he would not be good for any thing.

The COLBERTON replied with warmth, that he did not deny the analogy. If he had claimed head-work, it might have been urged as an objection to him; but he only sought a post for which his legs eminently fitted him.

The GIRAFFE withdrew her objections.

The Committee on a Plan of Action, reported that a commander-in-chief should be appointed.

The YOUNG LION, Leo Junior, proposed himself.

A SNAPPING TURTLE rose to object. It was said that Leo was in the habit of tearing his food with his left paw instead of his right; this was fatal to his claims. It was also understood that he was in the habit of winking his eye, and every time he winked his eye, it meant something. This was not clear. It had been reported that he was a believer in the plurality of worlds; how could this be got over? In fine, his moth-

er had had a flirtation in her youth; his father had a lame leg; one of his brothers ate his food without mastication; and a fox, now dead, but who told it to a wolf, who mentioned it to a hawk, who whispered it to a barn-door fowl, who told the present speaker, had accused his great uncle of preferring mutton to beef. He submitted that these reasons should suffice to defeat Leo, and proposed a stall-fed ox, of steady habits and correct deportment.

At this moment the MAGPIE entered the assembly, and craved the attention of the meeting. He had, he said, important correspondence to read. It was as follows:

THE FOX TO THE HARE.

"SIR,—I am empowered by my friend, Doodle Cock, Esq., to demand a retraction of the words uttered by you in debate this morning. In case you should not see fit to retract or apologize, be pleased to name a friend with whom I can arrange a meeting. Respectfully yours,

"REYNARD FOX."

The Hare, cried the Magpie, on receiving this communication, at once sat down to write an apology. Happily his friend, Bull Dog, Esq., dropped in and put a stop to the letter. He told the Hare plainly that he would not permit him to show the white feather—that he must either fight him or the Fox. Under his dictation, the Hare replied as follows:

THE HARE TO THE FOX.

"SIR,—I have no apology to make. My friend, Bull Dog, Esq., will arrange matters. Respectfully yours,

CRAVEN HARE."

On receiving this the Fox wrote to Bull Dog:

"SIR,—In accordance with a letter just received from Craven Hare, Esq., I address you in reference to the meeting between that gentleman and my friend, Doodle Cock, Esq. My friend is anxious to arrange matters if possible; if not, we will meet,





THIS DIVOUAC.

if you please, this evening, outside the camp: weapons, spurs; distance, six inches. Respectfully yours,  
REYNARD FOX."

**BULL DOG TO REYNARD FOX.**

"SIR,—I apprehend that according to the Code of Honor, which must govern us, we have the choice of weapons. I therefore appoint teeth, and distance three inches. In the event of any other weapon being chosen, such as beak, claws, or spurs, I shall use my constitutional privilege of strangling the offender. Respectfully yours,  
"BULL DOG."

**REYNARD FOX TO BULL DOG:**

"DEAR SIR,—I fear you have misapprehended the Code of Honor. If you refer to the work on the subject by Governor Hair-Trigger, you will find that you have no right to choose weapons, but that the choice is ours, as we are the parties most anxious for the fight. For my own part, candidly, and as a friend of both parties, I can not see why

your friend, Craven Hare, Esq., should object to fight with spurs.

"If, however, the meeting can not be arranged on any other terms, we are willing to waive our privilege, and to adopt the weapon of human duellists, the pistol. Very respectfully yours,  
"REYNARD FOX."

**BULL DOG TO REYNARD FOX.**

"SIR,—I appreciate your civility, and reply that we will meet you, with pistols, this evening at seven. Respectfully yours,  
BULL DOG."

At the hour appointed, continued the Magpie, the parties were on the ground. The Cock, gentlemen, stood erect as a ramrod; the Hare, I am sorry to say, was in a pitiable plight, tried to double, and would have run away altogether but for the exertions of his friend, Bull Dog. The Fox, whose wit you know, playfully suggested that before meeting the Cock face to face,

the Hare should try a cocktail; which suggestion was, instantly adopted by his sagacious second. Even that did not answer. The Hare was only held in his place by main force, and when shots had been exchanged, one of which, I regret to say, carried off the tail of a tom-cat who had come to see the affair, the cowardly animal could not be restrained from rushing to the feet of the Cock, throwing himself on his knees, and apologizing in the most abject manner.

At the close of his remarks the Magpie observed that on such an affair comment was superfluous. It must be obvious that the Hare had grossly insulted a valuable member of their assembly, and then attempted to shirk the responsibility of his acts; he had in fact only afforded him the satisfaction due from one honorable brute to another, when forced to do so at the tooth's point. Ho (the Magpie) therefore moved the expulsion of the Hare from their society, as a poltroon and a disturber of the public peace.

BULL DOG (who entered the meeting at that moment) was happy to second the motion. He had had some experience in the field, and it had been remarked of him, that when he took hold of any one he seldom let go; but he was compelled to say that he not only could make no defense of his late principal, but felt in honor bound to denounce him.

The Chair put the motion—Shall the Hare be expelled? requesting the Ayes to raise their tails, the Noes to hold them down.

The Chair pronounced the motion carried, there being only four Noes to several hundred Ayes. [It was afterward explained that of these four three were frogs, who requested to be counted among the Ayes, urging that they had no tails, and therefore could not raise them; but this motion was pronounced irregular, after a legal argument by the Owl, and a vote of censure was passed upon the frogs, who were admonished not to repeat the offense. The fourth was the Jackass, who, with loud brays, declared that it was quite impossible for him to raise his tail in such well-bred company.]

A BRUTE inquired of King Pinguin what steps he proposed to take for the public defense?

HIS MAJESTY replied that eighteen inches were his usual step, and he did not think it consistent with his dignity to increase it.

THE OSBORN cried that if he had taken little part in the debate hitherto, the fact was due to an accident, and not to any want of zeal. The fact was, that on the way he had been pressed by hunger, and had lunched on a cask of cut nails, which had interfered with his digestion. He would now suggest that a commander-in-chief was needed to lighten the heavy burdens of the Sovereign, and after the correspondence just read, he could think of no one so fit for the office as the Cock.

The Cock was elected commander-in-chief, with the title of Major-General, and instantly sent forth the Owl on patrol, and placed the Wolf as sentinel to windward of the camp.

On recommendation of the Cockatoo, a newspaper was established, to be the organ of the insurgent animals, under the title of the *Daily Barker and Biter*. The Chair, confessing his inexperience in such matters, called upon any brute present who felt competent to edit the paper, to rise and state his views. Four hundred and sixty-three animals immediately rose and professed their willingness to undertake the duties of editor, and spoke confidently of their ability.

The KANGAROO, who had been appointed Secretary of the Treasury, felt it to be his duty to state that, his pouch being empty, the post of editor would not be a salaried one for the present. Four hundred and sixty-two of the candidates then declared that, on reflection, they felt satisfied that their occupations would not allow them to undertake the editorship. The remaining candidate, the BABOON, was forthwith appointed.

The CAPE hoped that the new journal would be free from personalities; and suggested that, to secure this all-important point, no names should ever be mentioned in its columns. Carried unanimously.

THE TURKEY had seen so much mischief flow from party violence, that he trusted their organ would remain strictly neutral on all questions, and would express no opinions whatever. [Loud applause.] Carried *nem. con.*

THE GOOSE believed that his experience in the newspaper world entitled him to speak. Not only had large numbers of his family filled conspicuous posts on the press, but there were very few journals to which he had not at some time or other lent a pen. So far as his observation went, no reliance could be placed in statements of fact made in newspapers; they were quite as often false as true. He therefore moved that, in order to prevent the propagation of error, the new journal be prohibited from making any statement of fact whatever. Carried unanimously.

The Chair then instructed the Baboon that the paper must be made entertaining, useful, and influential from the start. Forty foreign correspondents were engaged, who were to stay in the office; a lame Bear, with both fore-legs broken, found suitable employment as traveling commissioner; a Beetle was appointed to supervise contributions; telegraphic communications were promised by the electric Eel; the department of fashions and light literature was intrusted to the Hippopotamus. A number of oysters desired to contribute, but their offerings were rejected on the ground that the paper wished to keep clear of the shells. A Crab, however, assisted by a Wasp, obtained charge of the reviewing of books; while the Bluebottle Fly was charged with the department of music. No sooner were these arrangements made known than a number of Gulls sent in their names as subscribers, and an industrious Flea, immediately offered a sum which we decline to mention for the exclusive use of the advertising columns



for one week. On inquiry it proved that the Flea—who had literary propensities—desired this to advertise a new novel of his, entitled the "Ghostly Ghoul of the Grave-yard." The advertisement began thus:

"We believe that our acquaintance with light literature is pretty extensive, but we are obliged to confess that until we read the 'Ghostly Ghoul of the Grave-yard,' by the inimitable Jigger Flea, Jun., we had no idea of the power of the human imagination. After this, the novels of Scott, Bulwer, Cooper, James, Hawthorne, and Melville may be tossed into the fire. We understand that proof-sheets have been sent across the water to Dickens and Thackeray; that the former has resolved, in consequence, not to proceed with *Little Dorrit*; and that the latter, in disgust, has renounced literature forever, and taken to drive a milk-cart," etc., etc.

The editor of the *Barker and Biter* was on the point of sending this to the printers when he was visited by a Leech, who, strange to say,

like the Flea, came to purchase the exclusive use of his advertising columns. The editor at once remarked that one of the rules of his paper was to exclude quack notices.

The Leech replied with dignity that he excused the expression, though it hurt his feelings (on this he rubbed his eyes with the tip of his tail). He was no quack, as the editor would perceive by reading the advertisement he desired to insert. It began thus:

"Mankind has been afflicted with colds in the head, it is believed, ever since the expulsion from Paradise. It may, indeed, be a question whether Adam was or was not afflicted in this manner previous to the fall; but as in all things we perceive a beautiful and unerring fitness, the chances are that he was not, as there were evidently no pocket-handkerchiefs at the time, and a sig-leaf can not be thought of as a substitute in this case. However this be, there is little room for doubt, considering the costume of our early parents, that they must



THE TIPSY REVILLERS ARRESTED BY THE GUARD.



have taken cold at a very early period of their sinful career. It harrows every sensitive mind to reflect that the beautiful Eve—whose picture is so admirably drawn by the divine Milton—must have spoken at times through her nose, and been compelled to use her apron for purposes which we shrink from describing. Nor can it be questioned but Cain—”

“Sir,” said the Editor to the Leech, after glancing at the remaining portion of the manuscript, “what on earth have you to do with Eve’s nose? What will it profit you to publish a history of colds in the head, at ten cents per line?”

“My worthy friend,” replied the Leech, fastening on him, “that is my business, not yours. Be careful to publish my address in small caps, east side of the frog-pond, hole No. 496. So long as you are paid your price, you don’t care what you publish, do you?”

“Oh! certainly not,” replied the Editor, who knew his trade.

### III.

Matters were progressing bravely. Every night a bivouac fire was lit, around which the most somnolent brutes, under a special officer, snored in concert. But few incidents of moment had occurred. The Lynx had been caught awake while on duty, and had very properly been cashiered. A dinner had been given by the Cormorant to a select party of brutes: the Sponges got so much wine that they remained under the dinner-table till they were squeezed by the Elephant, who called next morning; and a dissolute Dog, returning home with an inebriated Goat in a riotous manner, was arrested by the guard and conveyed to the station-house.

Private theatricals had been got up by a select set of ingenious brutes; and operas and plays, written for the occasion by an old stage Rat, had been performed with astounding success. The prima donna, Madame Spaniela, and the baritone, Signor Porcupinini, had covered themselves with glory. On the morning after the performance the Bluebottle Fly thus commenced his criticism in the *Barker and Biter*:

“Ye gods! what heavens of bliss were opened to our souls, into what a paradise of maddening exquisite deliciousness were we plunged when the *diva* Spaniela, throwing herself on her lovely knees before the obdurate Porcupinini, burst into the *ri-tournelle* in the *andante*, and passing, with indescribable *légèreté* into an *allegro staccato*, gave the *ut de poitrine*, then floated down a liquid lake of *fortissimi*, and culminated in the inimitable, never-to-be-sufficiently appreciated *C sharp*! The Tordini was great, the sensuous Bumbottomi was rich and mellow; but in comparison with the angelic Spaniela—ah! how they fade into oblivion,” etc., etc.

Various little accidents had occurred to break the monotony of wood life: A curious quarrel had taken place between the Peacock and the Macaw. The former, who, as every body knows, officiated as Master of the Ceremonies to King Penguin, had excluded the Macaw from a grand levee on the ground that his tail was not suffi-

ciently full. A Bald-headed Eagle, who happened to be in the company of the Macaw at the time, had resented the official *outréances* of the Peacock and withdrawn with his friend. Some inquiry was instituted by order of the Penguin, and the following facts were elicited: The rule of ceremony was as the Peacock alleged—dress and full tails were indispensable: on the other hand, it was clearly shown that the part of the tail which the Macaw had not spread had, in fact, been put up a spout, in a difficulty into which the Macaw had got some time before. Friends of the Macaw indulged in remarks of a democratic and revolutionary tone (considering the recent establishment of the monarchy), and reflections were cast upon the conduct of the Peacock’s sisters, and the courage of his uncle the Colonel; while the partisans of the Peacock contented themselves with repeating the story of the spout. But so far as could be ascertained, public sentiment, at bottom, among the Macaw’s party, favored the Peacock, while the private sentiments of the court were on the side of the Macaw.

Several eloquent speeches had been made in the course of the debates. One dull day, when the business before the house was on the preservation of the Union of the Beasts, and the Parrot had been four hours on his legs, a Crocodile suddenly arrived in the assemblage, and was received with the applause due to his character and the length and hardships of the journey he had performed. The Parrot gracefully yielded the floor, observing, that he would pass to the third of his nine points on the following day.

The CROCODILE, with a sob, cried that he would ask their indulgence to plead the cause of suffering brutedom. He believed, as they all did, that all brutes were born equal; and yet it was notorious that his intimate friends the Turtles were kept in a state of degrading inferiority. They were not allowed to fly through the air—merely through the prejudice of the rest of creation; they were compelled to adopt a slow, waddling, ungraceful gait, simply because beasts made up their minds that they could not walk otherwise, and would not try to teach them differently. He was satisfied, for his part, that with a proper course of training for several generations, the Turtles would not only learn to fly, but would run with his friend the Ostrich, and even sing like his honorable neighbor the Thrush. He would quote authority on the subject. [Here the learned brute read from U—T—C, by H—B—S., and various other works of men.] Why should they thus continue to outrage brutedom? Had they no heart? Was there no retribution to be feared? And who was the brute who dared to set himself above his fellows, and say that the seal of superiority had been set on him?

The SEAL inquired whether the Crocodile meant any thing personal?

A WOOLLY Horse observed that this and other matters would be regulated as soon as a



SIGNORA SPANIELLA IN THE FAVORITE AIR, "TIDDLI FIDDLI."

judicial officer had been appointed. Meanwhile he would say that he entirely concurred in the view taken by his friend the Crocodile. It was a disgrace to the age that the wrongs of the Turtle should be allowed to continue without even a single effort to relieve them. At the present time especially, when they were all engaged in a holy movement for the redress of grievances and the assertion of the natural liberty of brutekind, it was disgusting to see the indifference with which many honorable brutes viewed the condition of the Turtle. Was he not a beast and a brother? Had he not a head, tail, legs, intestines, eyes, mouth, and et ceteras, like them all? Nay, which of them could boast of a shell like unto his? He would like to see how the Peacock, in whose tail he noticed a scornful curl, would look, if he (the Woolly Horse) were to set his hoof on his back; yet the Turtle would

rather enjoy such an experiment than otherwise. And this brute, this noble creature, this wonderful animal, was doomed, by the heartless selfishness of his fellows, to wallow in mud-holes and swamps, to grope painfully through reeds and bogs, and to squeak in a manner that shocked the sensitive ear! He blushed for his kind when he thought of it. Let the honorable brutes dwell on the subject. Let them remember that they were responsible to future ages for the proper use of their opportunity, and that if they willfully left the Turtle in his present degraded condition while they were embarking in a revolution based on the very principles whose violation he illustrated, they would only have themselves to blame if the Fates punished them by meting out to them the measure they had meted to the Turtles. [The eloquent animal here lay down amidst thunders of applause.]

The Fox had long been impressed with the importance of the subject, and had intended to call the attention of the assembly to it at an early day. He thought for the present, however, that the election of a judge should take precedence of all other matters.

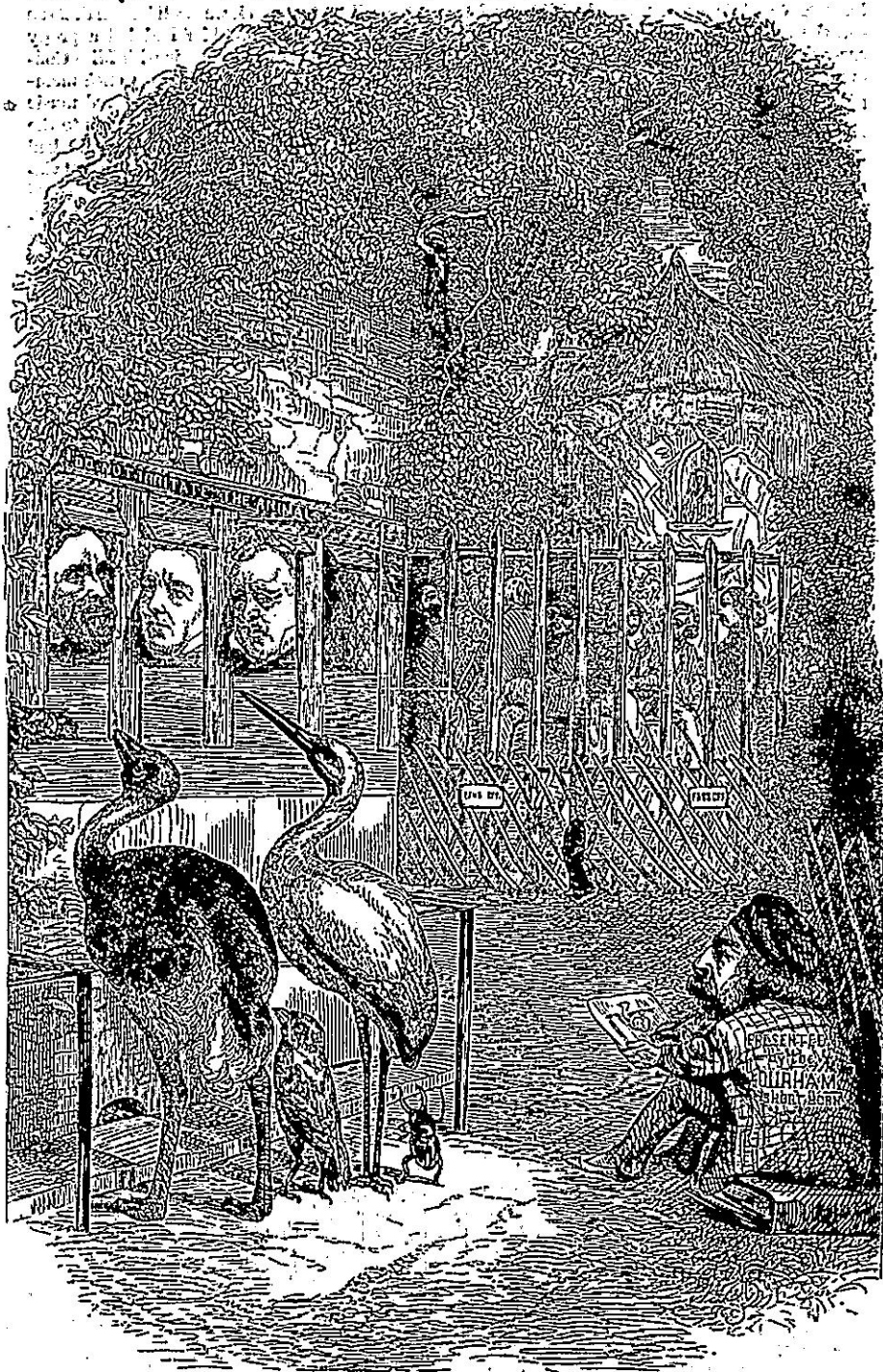
The beasts concurring, the meeting adjourned for the day.

It was, in fact, urgent that this office should be filled, for already some important legal cases had arisen and were awaiting settlement. A formal complaint had been laid before his Majesty by Dog Noble, Esq., protesting against the disturbance of his slumbers by Major-General Cock. It appeared that the worthy Commander-in-Chief was given to vocalizing at undue hours, having visions of operatic distinction; old Mr. Dog, whose conscience troubled him o' nights, protested that he couldn't get a wink of sleep. What aggravated the case was the outrageous

character of the melodies selected by the military vocalist. Though it was well known that the worthy Commander-in-Chief had led a pretty wild life, and his delicate affair with Miss Coddle Shanghai was quite fresh in every one's memory, he persisted in commingling sacred music with profane, and sang operatic *bravuras* to the most orthodox psalm-tunes. Dog Noble had borne, he said, with false notes, and flagrant violations of all the laws of harmony; but he could not bear to have his religious feelings insulted. His well-known piety left him no choice but to protest. When the complaint was laid before the King, Frank declared that the conduct of the Cock was unjustifiable, and that he would have him dismissed the army. An hour afterward, at the close of an interview with the Cock, his Majesty gave out that Dog Noble had best apologize without loss of time. That evening, having had the case re-explained by Dog, Jun., King



MAJOR-GENERAL COCK OPERATES AS A NIGHTMARE ON DOG NOBLE.



THE MENAGERIE.



Frank swore that he had put up with Doodle Cook long enough; but before retiring to roost, after receipt of a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, he gave orders for the arrest of Dog Noble.

Under these circumstances, the necessity for the appointment of a responsible judicial officer was apparent to every beast. Three candidates for the office were informally nominated—the Mule, the Fly-Catcher, and the Raven. The claims of the Raven rested, first, on his appearance, which was admitted to be judicial; and second, on his known keenness of scent. Friends of the Fly-Catcher urged that his very name proved his expertness at the pastime which is known to be the chief occupation of judges. As for the Mule, it was said on his behalf, first, that he was obstinate, and therefore not likely to be influenced by arguments of counsel; second, that he was somewhat deaf, and therefore that his attention would not be easily diverted from the matter in hand; and third, that as a descendant of the Ass, he had in a measure hereditary claims to judicial eminence. The friends of all three canvassed actively, and bets were made freely by the Stag, the Pointer, and the Hawk. On the day before the election; however, the following correspondence appeared in the *Barker and Biter*:

*Important Correspondence.—The Vacant Judgeship.*

"TO REYNARD FOX, ESQ.

"DEAR SIR,—The undersigned, citizens of the Animal Kingdom, and engaged more or less actively in securing its independence and watching over its welfare, have heard with deep regret that you do not intend to offer yourself as a candidate for the office of Judge. We had hoped that your known integrity, your remarkable ability, the unflinching strictness of purpose which has marked every step of your career, would have pointed you out ere this as the fit brute for the office, and that you would once more have sacrificed your private wishes to the public weal. May we trust that it is not yet too late to solicit you to trample your individual desires under foot, and to devote to the commonwealth those shining qualities which have earned for you the name of the Aristides of Beasts?"

"We are, Sir,

"Your most obedient servants and admirers,

"THE OX, THE ASS, THE GOOSE, THE ZEBRA, THE WORM, THE TURTLE, THE TURKEY, THE OYSTER, THE PELICAN, THE HIPPOPOTAMUS, THE GULL, THE FLATFISH, THE MOLE, and ninety-four others."

"TO THE OX, THE ASS, AND OTHERS.

"GENTLEMEN,—When I retired from the office which I last received at your hands—that of superintending the journey of the unfortunate Fowls, who perished so unaccountably on their way hither—I resolved that no consideration should again induce me to relinquish the charms of private life for the dazzling splendors and the racking cares of office. I have found, gentlemen, in the delights of study and in the bosom of my family, a peace of mind and a happiness which I fear I should vainly seek elsewhere. My own wish, therefore, is to remain where I am.

"At the same time, I am not insensible either to the reasoning so cogently put in your kind letter, or to the duty which every beast owes to the community. I admit that I do dread the misfortune of having a corrupt man in the position of Judge. And though I am far from setting so high a value on my poor abilities as you are pleased to place, I will say, however egotistical it may seem, that I am upright and straightforward, and that no man ever accused Reynard Fox of trick, equivocation, or double-dealing. If, therefore, it seems to you, on the one hand, that the danger of having a corrupt Judge, or a Judge of foreign habits and ideas, is imminent; and on the other, that it is my duty to serve the State, nominate me, I care not, I will serve.

"Frankly yours,

"REYNARD FOX."

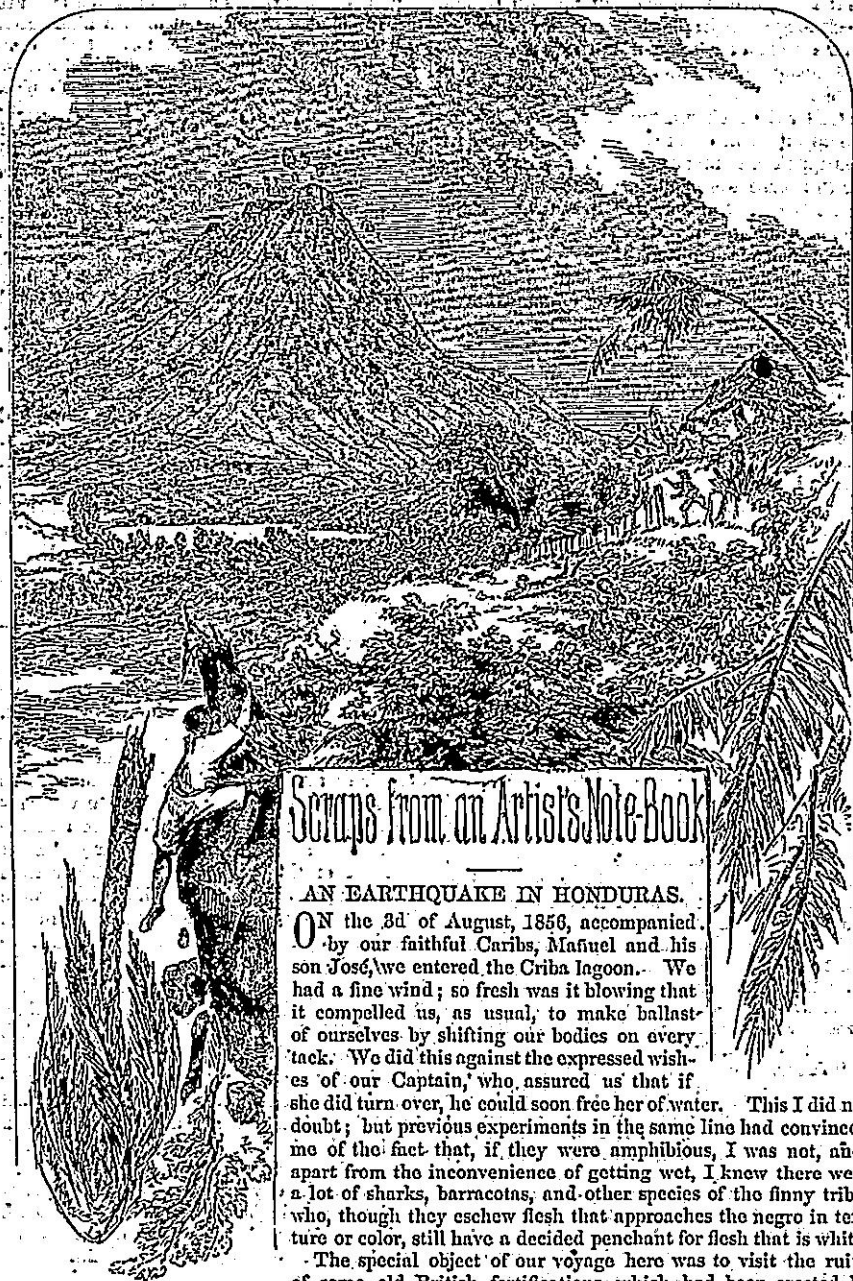
The publication of these letters threw the brutal public into an uproar. The Fox had hardly been thought of, and his connections, especially among the fighting beasts, made him a most formidable rival. One passage in his letter dealt a fatal blow to his most dangerous competitor, the Mule. It was the sentence, "a Judge of foreign habits and ideas." Beasts asked what this meant? And then it came out, when it could no longer be concealed, that the Mule was a native of Spain, and had carried sherry over the mountains of Andalusia.

Uproar is a weak word to describe the scene which followed this astounding discovery. The Buffalo, though, from his position as chairman, he ought to have preserved a neutral attitude, confessed to the Mocking-Bird that he would despair of the success of their movement if so important an office as that of judge were intrusted to a foreigner. The Possum and the Wild Cat concurred. But the most vehement opponent of the foreigner was a Tiger from Hindostan; who declared that if the Mule were elected the country would be ruined in six months. Up and down the camp this Hindoo ran, foaming that destruction was at hand unless the Mule were defeated. The Eagle of the Rocky Mountains persisted that if the Mule were eligible in other respects his Spanish birth should not stand in his way. But he was in the minority; especially when the Booby wrote an article in the *Barker and Biter* to prove that the Mule had once carried a Jesuit on his back, and had the sign of the cross on his forehead, were the brutes resolved to have none of him.

So when the day came, they elected Reynard Fox by a great majority, and he made a speech on the occasion, which drew tears from the Stag, and almost overpowered King Penguin.

Here, unfortunately, our account of these interesting proceedings terminates. We have received, however, from an old acquaintance among the beasts, the cut on the preceding page, and a brief note with it, to say that the animals may shortly be expected to act on the offensive, and that they intend to establish zoological gardens for the accommodation and exhibition of various specimens of men.





### Scraps from an Artist's Note-Book

#### AN EARTHQUAKE IN HONDURAS.

ON the 3d of August, 1856, accompanied by our faithful Caribs, Mafuel and his son José, we entered the Criba lagoon. We had a fine wind; so fresh was it blowing that it compelled us, as usual, to make ballast of ourselves by shifting our bodies on every tack. We did this against the expressed wishes of our Captain, who assured us that if she did turn over, he could soon free her of water. This I did not doubt; but previous experiments in the same line had convinced me of the fact that, if they were amphibious, I was not, and, apart from the inconvenience of getting wet, I knew there were a lot of sharks, barracotas, and other species of the finny tribe, who, though they eschew flesh that approaches the negro in texture or color, still have a decided penchant for flesh that is white.

The special object of our voyage here was to visit the ruins of some old British fortifications, which had been erected by

the English during the existence of a colonization project on the coast.

We landed at one of the small islands in the lagoon where the ruins were in the best state of preservation, but saw nothing to detain us; and after stopping long enough to regale ourselves in rather a jolly manner, started for the mouth of the Poyas River, where we saw a Sambo settlement.

We stopped on the Point for a view, and for some bananas which were growing there. We took in quite a supply of this fruit, as our journey up the river, from the swiftness of the current, was likely to prove both long and tedious. The scenery at this point is intensely beautiful; the trees and small shrubbery dotting the savanna in a picturesque manner, while beyond