

THE ABUSE OF ENGLISH.

An Occupation in Which More Than Press Writers Engage.

THE STUDY OF LITERARY STYLE.

Authors for Students' Reading—Examples of Everyday Errors.

Authors and tutors occasionally indulge in criticism of what they are pleased to call "Newspaper English," having references, of course, to the frequency with which writers for the daily press furnish examples of etymological and syntactical errors...

With all our boasted educational facilities we have few masters of English composition and literary style. A French writer, quoted by Colton, has said truly: "To acquire a few tongues is the task of a few years; but to be eloquent in one is the labor of a life."

Literary style is an acquired art, and acquirable only in a high degree where there is a natural aptitude. But the worst of literary style may be improved by a course of thoughtful reading of the best authors.

The errors common to writers for the daily press are not in any sense peculiar to them. Indeed if the contributions with many of their errors were published without the kind supervision of editors and proofreaders their authors' titles to models of etymological and syntactical perfection would not be worth five minutes' purchase...

The errors common to writers for the daily press are not in any sense peculiar to them. Indeed if the contributions with many of their errors were published without the kind supervision of editors and proofreaders their authors' titles to models of etymological and syntactical perfection would not be worth five minutes' purchase...

EXAMPLES OF COMMON ERRORS.

Words like "either," "neither," "between," "among," "whichever," "alternatively," etc., are frequently misused. Many writers lose sight of the fact that they are applicable only in speaking of two subjects.

Mutual is another much abused word, even by writers like Pope and Dickens. It is in meaning "reciprocal," and implies an interchange of the thing referred to; hence it is quite proper to speak of "mutual friendship," whereas "our mutual friend" is a palpable absurdity which even the authority of Dickens cannot justify.

Apparent is another word that is much abused. It is often employed when the context leaves no doubt that "obvious" or "evident" as opposed to "seeming" was meant. "Evidence," too, is used where "testimony" should be the word chosen.

But that "and but what" used for "that" are found in the works of writers of some note. Even Trench says: He never doubts but that he knows their intention. The "but" is just as useless as the buttons on the back of the waiter of a man's coat.

The errors common to writers for the daily press are not in any sense peculiar to them. Indeed if the contributions with many of their errors were published without the kind supervision of editors and proofreaders their authors' titles to models of etymological and syntactical perfection would not be worth five minutes' purchase...

Tall Chimneys.

The tallest chimney in the United States now, is claimed by Kearney, near Newark, N. J., it being 335 feet high, 29 feet in diameter at the base, and containing not less than 1,697,000 bricks.

The tallest chimney in the United States now, is claimed by Kearney, near Newark, N. J., it being 335 feet high, 29 feet in diameter at the base, and containing not less than 1,697,000 bricks. A writer in the Boston Globe states, however, that enormous as some of the American smoke shafts are, they are but pigmies beside those in the "Old Country."

An Anglo-Saxon South. The New Orleans Times-Democrat corrects a statement in the Record ascribing a Latin origin to a majority of the white people in the Southern States.

The Open Season. College graduate—When does the hunting season open, father? Hard headed father—Right away, my son. You had better start out to-day and hunt up a job and earn enough to pay your board.

Dyed to Die. Laura—How beautifully Miss Van Geant, the tragedienne, dies. Jack—Yes, I noticed that her hair was yellow in the second act and red in the third.

Where He Stamped. "You seem at home here," remarked a man at the post-office to the Postmaster. "Yes," replied the latter, "this my stamping ground."

A Smooth Talker doesn't always tell the plain truth. He can trace the radius vector With a geometric sector. And can give the moon's diameter in feet He can analyze the arum. Classify the optic carum; But he cannot tell a cabbage from a beet.

ARE BLINKERS HURTFUL?

Reasons Why They Harm Instead of Benefit Horses That Wear Them.

When a horse is used for the saddle no one thinks of meddling with his eyes, and we allow the animal to use them freely, as nature has directed. But no sooner do we put the same animal into harness than we think ourselves bound to fasten a black leather flap over each of his eyes, so as to prevent him from seeing objects at his sides, and to limit his view to those which are in his immediate front.

The worst example of the blinkers that I have ever seen was in the United States, where the blinkers (or "blinders" as they are there named) are often brought so closely together in front by means of a strap and a buckle that a mere narrow strip barely half an inch in width is left for vision.

The Friendship of Men. If you want a friend who is beyond the reach of envy, of mistrust, of infidelity, of all those sordid influences which mar and break the friendly tie, you will not find him in the flesh and blood. I write "him" advisedly, because friendships of the platonic kind, in which the opposite sex forms a party to the contract, are not lasting.

An Unkind Cut. Miss Sere—I suppose you have heard that Mr. Short has proposed. Miss Fresh—Indeed? Miss S.—Yes. Now I wonder if it is my money he is after? Miss F.—What else can it be?

Two blind men are on a train. Suddenly loud snatches are heard all over the car. "There," said one to the other, "that's the fourth tunnel we have passed through to-day."

Mother and the girls, ecstatically—My isn't it big? Eopper, in a gloom that reaches to the base of the tower—Well, what of it? Have you seen anything in Paris this summer that wasn't high?

It is officially stated that the almost futile campaign conducted by Italy in Abyssinia cost King Humbert's Government upwards of 20,000,000 francs. Seventy houses were burned in the village of Stettin, near Wuerzburg yesterday. Many persons were injured and a large number are homeless.

At Gen. Boulanger's request, M.M. Deroulede and Naquet have abandoned their proposed visit to Jersey. This indicates that the General desires to drop the agitation. The steamer La Bourgogne, which arrived yesterday at New York, brought Millet's picture, "Angela," recently purchased for the American Art Association for \$100,000.

A SCENE ON THE DESERT.

Wild Scenes on the Great Sahara in Africa. (New York Mail and Express.)

Under the fairest skies the desert is an awesome solitude, but when a storm comes it is terrible and appalling. I shall never forget a scene I witnessed some forty miles beyond the great pyramid. I had gained an isolated hillock, some 200 feet above the level of the surrounding desert.

With my sextant, as I stood in security, I measured the height of the centre column of sand; it was nearly 1,000 feet. The other columns were rising so rapidly that they soon reached a height greater than that of the centre column. When the junction of them all took place the sudden eruption of sand, leaves and grass reached to a total height of over 4,000 feet.

When these awful turmoil are over, and the disturbing elements have resumed their normal state, the burning sand becomes saturated with a heavy dew, the sun is less angry, and the African desert more amenable to life in both man and beast.

They Need Nerve. "Engineers at rest, sitting in the narrow cabs of their engines, lying at the depot waiting for the signal to start, often look to be a sleepy set of fellows," said the man the other night who runs the limited to Alliance. "Do you know," he continued, addressing a reporter, "that engineers are always wide awake when they seem to be indifferent to events happening around them?"

A good engineer is always on the lookout. We see plenty of things ahead of us that harrow our nerves and make the hair stand up straight, but as long as the passengers behind us don't know it, and we all escape unharmed, we have a sigh of relief and say nothing. I tell you, it is no easy matter to hold a throttle, shoot around sharp curves and watch for obstructions. An engineer looks down for a moment at the connecting rods of the locomotive, moving backward and forward with lightning-like rapidity. He doesn't know as what minute a pin may break and one of the rods knock his brains out as he leans out of the cab.

We have to make schedule time; the road is full of curves, and we are likely to bang into these trains as we pass them. Little do people know how rasping it is on the nerves to be continually making narrow escapes, and yet one invariably feels that some day he is bound to get it in the neck. It is the uncertainty of the business that is so trying. Pittsburgh Dispatch.

On the Eiffel Tower. Mother and the girls, ecstatically—My isn't it big? Eopper, in a gloom that reaches to the base of the tower—Well, what of it? Have you seen anything in Paris this summer that wasn't high?

It is officially stated that the almost futile campaign conducted by Italy in Abyssinia cost King Humbert's Government upwards of 20,000,000 francs. Seventy houses were burned in the village of Stettin, near Wuerzburg yesterday. Many persons were injured and a large number are homeless.

At Gen. Boulanger's request, M.M. Deroulede and Naquet have abandoned their proposed visit to Jersey. This indicates that the General desires to drop the agitation. The steamer La Bourgogne, which arrived yesterday at New York, brought Millet's picture, "Angela," recently purchased for the American Art Association for \$100,000.