

SOME FUNNY PIECES.

"Tommy, is it a new brother you have? Tommy (perplexed)—"Ye-es-er; but one of him are a girl."

Little boy—"How long have you had that doll?"—Little miss—"This is a girl doll, an' you oughtn't to ask her age."

"Pa, man's tuning the piano next door." "Great suffering Job! I'd suppose I don't know it, child?"

Teacher—"When water becomes ice, what is the great change that takes place?" Pupil—"The change in price."

Clerk—"Are you going to discharge me, then?" Druggist—"Yes; I think we can dispense without you."

Claude—"I would not marry a girl who is not self-sacrificing." Marie—"The girl who marries you, will be."

"And you don't admire that new hat that young DeNoodle has on?" "No; there's so little in it to admire."

Cholie—"I've got an awful cold in my head. What'll I do, Dawson?" Dawson—"Oh let it alone. It'll die of ennui."

"Why do you not stop begging and try to get some work?" "Because I do not wish to give up a sure thing for an uncertain one."

"Say, Fringes, if you had a fortune, say \$20, left you, what'd be the first thing you'd try to get?" Fringes—"Dyspepsia."

"Just think, captain, the major has actually married the rich old maid." "Obviously he wanted to have his golden wedding at once."

"Don't you think it is rather cowardly," said the bald-headed professor to the fly, "for a six-footer like you to jump on me in this manner?"

Husband (very late from the club)—"Hum! I told you not to sit up for me." Wife (sweetly)—"I didn't. I got up to see the sun rise."

"That's too bad! My wife has gone and put my handkerchief in the wash, and I am positive that I tied a knot in it to remind me of something!"

"Dawson is awfully in love with himself." "Well, it's natural that a man should reciprocate the affection of the only person who ever admired him."

Anxious inquirer (to crusty old gentleman)—"When do you suppose this rain is going to stop?" C. O. G.—"When it gets to the ground, of course."

Sadism—"You say Reckless has sealed his doom?" Cooley—"Yes; I just saw him lick an envelope which contained a letter asking Miss Bossall to marry him."

New arrival (to subdued-looking man in the hotel office) "You are the clerk of this hotel, I suppose, sir?" Subdued-looking man—"Oh, you flatter me, sir! I am only the proprietor!"

She—"Mr. Bacon tried to put his arm about my waist four or five times last night." He—"Is Mr. Bacon a freak or is your waist so very small?"

She—"There is a new ice box advertised in which a person can keep anything." He—"I'll get one, and see if it will help you to keep your temper, dear."

Office boy—"Here's two fella's want to see you. One of 'em has got a gas bill and the other's got a 'riginal poem." Editor—"Bring in the man with the gas bill."

"Whur ye bin?" said Meandering Mike. "Lookin' fur work," replied Plodding Pete. "Well, you want'er look out. Yer idle curiosity'll be the ruination of ye, yit."

Hicks—"Look at snigs flirting with the girls over there. I thought you said he was a woman-hater." Wicks—"So he is, but the woman he hates is not here."

Madge—"This is a kind of a day that poets rave about." Harry—"Well, they're blamed unreasonable then. It is perfectly delightful; neither too cool nor too warm."

"What does a Welsh rabbit look like?" "On a plate it is a symphony in A gold, but when you are asleep it is a five-eyed elephant with eight feet, all planted on your chest."

"That's the most loudly dressed young man I ever saw," said one girl to another, in church. "The one in the cream-colored coat?" "The one with vivid yellow shoes that squeak."

Toby (to eccentric man)—"What are you doing with that box?" Popperka—"Going to make a wagon of it." Toby—"Where'll you get the wheels?" Popperka—"Out of your head."

The young man—"Gracie, what is it your father sees in me to object to, darling?" The young woman (wiping away a tear)—"He doesn't see anything in you. Algeron; that's why he objects."

Mrs. Yearwood (beseechingly)—"Oh, if I only knew some way to keep my husband at home nights. Can't you, from your long married experience, suggest a plan?" Mrs. Oldhand (grimly)—"Certainly; chain him."

Mr. E. Conomie—"Did you write to that man who advertises to show people how to make desserts without milk, and have them richer?" Mrs. E. Conomie—"Yes, and sent him the dollar." "What did he reply?" "Use cream."

Mrs. McPhiz—"Tell me, doctor, is there any danger of becoming insane by using complexion bleaches?" Dr. Blunt—"None at all. When a woman begins to use them she is about as crazy as it is ever possible for her to be."

WHENEVER I see Hood's Sarsaparilla now I want to bow and say:

"Thank You"

I was badly affected with Eczema and Scrofula Sores, covering almost the whole of one side of my face, nearly to the top of my head. Running sores discharged from both ears. My eyes were very bad, the eyelids so sore it was painful opening or closing them. For nearly a year I was deaf. I went to the hospital and had an operation performed for the removal of a cataract from one eye. One day my sister brought me



Mrs. Paisley.

Hood's Sarsaparilla which I took, and gradually began to feel better and stronger, and slowly the sores on my eyes and in my ears healed. I can now hear and see as well as ever." **MRS. AMANDA PAISLEY, 176 Lander Street, Newburgh, N. Y.**

HOOD'S PILLS cure all Liver Ills, jaundice, sick headache, biliousness, sour stomach, nausea

UNEXPLAINED FIRES.

Incandescent Lamps Proved to Be Capable of Starting Them.

A fire occurred in the business portion of Victoria, B. C., recently. Fortunately the loss was only \$15,000, and the records would show the origin "unknown" but or experiments made after the fire was extinguished. In the upper storey of a dry-goods house, several thirty-two candle-power incandescent lights were installed. One of the lights was connected with a long insulated wire, and several feet of spare wire allowed the moving of the light from one portion of the room to another. Through ignorance, or carelessness, the globe was laid on a pile of goods. The fire occurred shortly after the light was turned on at the power-house, which goes to prove that the globe was placed in the goods during the day. The tests were made in the room where the fire originated, and were reported in the Victoria "Times" as follows:—

"There is no longer the slightest doubt as to how the fire originated, as two tests have shown that the incandescent light will ignite cloth. Last evening, in the presence of Mr. Hutcheson, Chief Deasy, representatives of the "Times," and a few others, a child's woolen hood was tied around the 32-candle light, the latter having been turned off for ten minutes previously. Steam came from the wool almost immediately, and then smoke. At the end of eight minutes the hood was on fire and the globe burst."

"A similar test was made the evening before, and the cloth ignited in six minutes. Wool is the least inflammable of fabrics, and the test last evening was as severe as could be desired. All danger in this connection can very easily be avoided, either by hanging the globes free from anything that will take fire, or by placing fireguards around them."

BIG GUN PRACTICE.

The Concussion Is Tremendous, and the Ironclad Quivers from Stem to Stern.

To one unaccustomed to the experience, it is any thing but pleasant to be on board of a line of battle-ship at sea when the big guns are being fired. Before they are discharged the decks are cleared for action, and all the chairs in the cabin are laid down and tied together, whilst every bit of movable furniture is secured. The doctor goes round and makes sure that every man has had his ears stopped with cotton wool. The concussion, when the charges are fired, is tremendous, and the ironclad quivers from stem to stern with the vibration; in fact, the shock of the explosion is so great that every pane of glass in the skylights is invariably shattered, and much of the ornamental woodwork is splintered. After a few hours of this rough play the carpenters have a busy time in making things look presentable once more, for the ship resembles a wreck when she has finished her practice. Nobody likes it. The sailors standing by the big guns sometimes find themselves thrown all of a heap across the deck, and after an hour or two officers and men become as black as sweeps. It is impossible to be well out of the way of annoyance, though, perhaps, the one place in the vessel where the guns trouble the crew the least is down in the engine-room, which is below the level of the deck upon which most of the armament is put.

Dyeing by means of Electricity.

For a long time the work of indigo dyers was much hampered by the silting up of sediment in the dyeing vats, and when it was first demonstrated that indigo could be reduced by electrolysis they hailed the improved method as a great achievement. It was presently found, however, that the prolonged electrolytic treatment of indigo causes a change in the dye-stuff, which eventually leads to its total destruction. Further researches established the fact that although the reduction of indigo can now be satisfactorily effected in the cold, the operation can be most successfully accomplished at the boiling temperature. Goppsroeder, who was the first advocate of the electrolytic treatment of indigo, has discovered a means whereby the objections to its use are entirely overcome, and its maximum efficiency is attained. The cloth to be dyed is impregnated with the indigo, in a finely powdered condition; it is then immersed in a solution of caustic soda or lime, and passed in contact between two copper plates forming electrodes in a vat. The passage of the current through these plates causes the reduction of the indigo in the cloth, and on subsequent exposure to the air the cloth becomes dyed a fine blue.

The Female British "Drummer."

The "lady commercial" is fast becoming an institution in Birmingham, England, as elsewhere. She is, generally speaking, quite as smart and resourceful as her male competitor, and her sex gives her an additional advantage. Apart altogether from the difficulty of saying "No" to a woman, especially if young and handsome, the more drastic methods of getting rid of unwelcome importunities are obviously out of the question when the "traveler" is of the gentler sex. And then, of course, the lady is bound to have the last word. An enterprising member of the fraternity—or should I rather say sisterhood?—called upon a local firm the other morning. She was assured that the stock in her special line was full up. "But I should like to show you my samples. I'm sure you'd like them." "Not to-day, thank you. Besides, we have no account with your firm." "I know you haven't, but you'll allow me to open one, won't you? Only a small line, for a beginning." "No, we positively don't require anything in that way just now." "Really? Well, good morning. I'll call again in the afternoon. Gentlemen are generally more open to reason when they have dined."

Taught Him His Error.

His Mother—"Johnny, always remember what I told you. When you see any little boy showing anger, take him aside and make him feel that he is wrong. Did you do so yesterday with naughty Tommy Tabbs?" Johnny—"Yes, indeed, I did. I punched him good, too."

CAN YOU ANSWER?

Any of These Catch Questions Which Trip Up Even Wise People.

If a goose weighs ten pounds and a half its own weight, what is the weight of the goose? Who has not been tempted to reply on the instant fifteen pounds?—the correct answer being, of course, twenty pounds. It is astonishing what a very simple query will sometimes catch a wise man napping. Even the following have been known to succeed:

How many days would it take to cut up a piece of cloth fifty yards long, one yard being cut off every day?

A snail climbing up a pole twenty feet high ascends five feet every day and slips down four feet every night. How long will the snail take to reach the top of the post?

A wise man having a window one yard high and one yard wide, requiring more light, enlarged his window to twice its former size, yet the window was still only one yard high and one yard wide. How was this done?

This is a catch question in geometry, as the preceding were catch questions in arithmetic. The window was diamond-shaped at first, and was afterward made square.

As to the two former, perhaps it is scarcely necessary seriously to point out that the answer to the first is not fifty days, but forty-nine; and to the second not twenty days, but sixteen—since the snail who gains one foot each day for fifteen days climbs on the sixteenth day to the top of the pole and there remains.

Germany's Strict Laws.

In no country is the government more strict than in Germany. If a foreigner wishes to remain in a town for some days he must take his passport to the police, and receive in exchange for it, together with a six-penny piece, a permit card which entitles him to remain there for six months. The passport is pigeon-holed. If, however, you wish to change your lodging, both you and your landlord must give notice to the police. This system recommends itself not a little, for it prevents pauper immigration.

No German is allowed to leave the country unless he can show he has done the military service required of him. If a man is on the point of starting he must delay his departure until he gets a passport showing that he is a free man.

Most severe press censorship is exercised, and there is no free press like we know it. Any derogatory remark relating to the sovereign is visited with heavy punishment, and frequently an editor is at a total loss to know why his paper has been seized. Foreign publications are always scrutinized before they are allowed to be circulated, and if there is any criticism reflecting on the laws of the kingdom the paper is confiscated.

In one respect, at any rate, the rule is beneficial. It kills off the inglorious sheets of the anarchists and other paid agitators. A German journal, *The Socialist*, pathetically announced the other week that it was about to remove its offices from Berlin, owing to the fact that its editors are continually being thrust into prison.

The Only Born King in Europe.

Recently Alfonso XIII of Spain celebrated his 8th birthday, El Nino having come into the world on the 17th of May, 1886. He is the one sovereign in Europe, who is a born king, for his father died six months before his only son saw the light. Moreover, he can claim to be a solitary bachelor among the crowned heads of the continent. Brief as has been his reign, he had not escaped troubles; for delicate health has more than once threatened to cut short his career, and political anxieties, of which he is happily as yet unconscious, have harassed his devoted mother. The boy, according to all who have come in contact with him, is bright, intelligent and high-spirited. They tell a story of a dance at St. Sebastian where his Majesty took a great fancy to a partner of his own age, and the young lady innocently offered her cheek for a royal salute. Alfonso, however, proudly stepped back, stretched out his hand for her to kiss, and exclaimed, "I am your King."

How Some Large Fortunes are Made.

The largest fortunes of the present day have been acquired by applying an acute and enterprising mind to the improvement of the conditions of life. Some of the largest among them may be traced to the extension of the railroad, telegraph, and telephone systems, to the sewing machine, to the automatic agricultural machines, to the application of electricity to mechanics, to new application of chemistry to manufactures. Henry Bessemer, who discovered a way to convert carburated iron into steel, was a type. He rendered it possible to grillon this country with steel rails, and, of course, he became a millionaire. Any young man who will devise a method of making an article of general use at less than the present cost, or of making it better in quality at the same cost, will make a fortune as he did. The article need not be an important one, so long as it is generally consumed.

Did Her Best.

Husband—"Our bills for household expenses are as large as ever. I told you to reduce them."

Wife—"I did. I took from ten to twenty dollars off of each one, but the tradesmen acted so about it I thought you'd better go around and reduce them yourself."

An Advantage.

Mother—"But, my son, this young person is a woman of no family." Son—"Why, I should suppose that was in her favor." Father—"Yes, my dear, Harry is right." Mother—"Will you never stop twisting me about poor, dear mamma."

ORDERING AN ELEPHANT.

An Anecdote Illustrative of the Magnitude of the Business of a Great London House.

A London correspondent, describing a great business house of that city tells this anecdote illustrative of the magnitude of their business. Their favorite form of advertisement is that they "furnish everything that man can want, from the cradle to the grave on 24 hours' notice."

Knowing this, and wishing to disconcert them, one of their customers filed in one of their blank order forms that he happened to have in the house, requesting the firm to send to his residence the next afternoon a large elephant.

Chuckling in anticipation over the firm's embarrassment he was astonished the next afternoon to hear a commotion in the street, and on going to the door to learn the cause, there stood a large elephant in charge of one of the firm's messengers, who touched his cap, saying:

"The elephant you were pleased to order, sir."

The unhappy joker rushed frantically off to the establishment where he had ordered his elephant, and endeavored to explain matters to the head of the firm.

"I did not really want the elephant, you know," he exclaimed. "I only wanted a little joke."

"Very sorry, sir," was the urbane and smiling response. "A little joke is the only thing we don't keep in stock, but there is your elephant."

And the wag departed a sadder and a wiser man.

Facts About London.

Some interesting statistics regarding London have recently been prepared by the county council, with some conjectures as to the population which the city may have in 1941. According to these figures, London already contains one and a half per cent. of all the population of England and Wales. If the city grows at the rate of the last three decades, in 1941 it will have a population of 17,500,000. If there be no additions from the outside, as there have been in the past, but merely the natural increase is added which comes from the excess of births over deaths, it will contain nearly 11,000,000.

London contains about one-quarter of all the paupers of England and Wales, and it furnishes a larger percentage of the criminals. The women sentenced to penal servitude from there constitute 25.86 per cent. of the whole number from the two countries, and the men 29.75 per cent. The metropolitan poor law debt is nearly one-half of all owed for that purpose in England, and the police force costs 41.97 per cent. of the total cost of police in the country. The fire brigade costs 23.24 per cent.

Twenty-two persons in a thousand died in London in 1882. Bronchitis carried off 10,000, consumption 8,000, pneumonia 6,000, and influenza and cancer 3,000 each.

London contributes to the exchequer about one-quarter of its total receipts.

Baptismal Water from Jordan.

A citizen from Philadelphia who recently returned from an extended tour promised his wife before he left to bring home a bottle of water from the river Jordan with which to baptize a tiny baby which had joined the family a few days before. True to his promise he journeyed across the hills of Palestine to the sacred river and filled a bottle with the precious fluid. The bottle was not disturbed till he was crossing the Atlantic, when he undertook to exhibit the relic to a fellow-passenger. He was not aware that the water must be boiled to insure its preservation, and when the cork was lifted a nauseous quantity of slime was revealed. The good man took his disappointment heavily, and when crossing the ferry to Jersey City he threw out the Jordan water and refilled the bottle in the East River. The baby was subsequently baptized with it and the mother believes that the sacred influence will be of great assistance to the child in leading a moral and upright life.

The Horrors of Future Battles.

Hitherto the largest number left dead in any battlefield was that on Bannockburn with its over 30,000 ghastly scene, for doubtless every wounded man belonging to the invading army was knocked on the head. This is a gory list, but good authorities calculate that in the first great battle of the next great war not less than a million will be on the field, and that the butchers' bill will tot up to 150,000; of these 35,000 will be slain, 35,000 severely and 70,000 slightly wounded. This is not the worst, the victor must follow up his success, and these poor wretches will be left behind with what surgeons can be spared to live or die upon the field of glory. How prettily the glory comes in just here. I wonder what a wounded man thinks an ounce of such glory exactly worth. The wounds made by the new Mannlicher rifle are shudderingly dreadful to think of. In every five hit four are killed. The bullet cuts clean through the body like a flying dagger, and it is simply a case of bleed to death. In all this there is, I think, food for thought.

Is Sunday the Sabbath?

Chronologically speaking we are badly mixed up on the question asked in the heading. No one, whether he has devoted all his life to studying the question or has only casually glanced at the subject, can strike nearer than six days to the true Sabbath. No one knows whether it is pre-Mosaic or purely Mosaic in its origin. True, the division of the week into seven days originated at a period so remote that it is reckoned as being almost prehistoric; yet the consecration of the seventh day to Jehovah is first biblically mentioned after the exodus from Egypt. There is no trace of its celebration in patriarchal times consequently the man or woman doesn't live who can tell which of the seven days is referred to in the commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

DIED OF A BROKEN HEART.

The Rev. Dr. John W. Teal, Who Had Lost Two Children in a week, Expired at His Breakfast Table

Rev. John W. Teal, D. D., for almost eight years pastor of the Westminster Presbyterian Church, in Elizabeth, New Jersey, died on Saturday morning of a broken heart, so his physicians say, less than two hours after the passing away of his twelve-year-old invalid daughter, Mabel, whom he was most fond.

Every day for years Rev. Dr. Teal could be seen wheeling the youthful invalid around the streets of Elizabeth in a carriage, and, while he knew she was crippled for life with a spinal affection, his solicitude for her care never flagged. The Rev. Dr. Teal lost his second wife nine years ago. He had married two sisters, and was left with seven young children to look after, and last Monday his eldest daughter, Florence, seventeen years old, died from consumption, after her return from the Catskills.

She was buried in the family plot at Rhinebeck Wednesday. The father felt this blow the more from the fact that his youngest daughter was failing rapidly, and the physicians informed him that she could not live much longer. To add to his affliction one of his sons came home Friday and informed his father that he would have to go to Colorado by the advice of his physician, as his lungs were affected.

All these sorrows combined to break the heart of a strong, robust-looking man, and while sitting at the breakfast table shortly after his youngest child's death, the Rev. Dr. Teal collapsed and fell forward from his chair and almost instantly expired. The clergyman was fifty-six years old and a graduate of Yale College and Union Theological Seminary.

The Rev. Dr. Teal was the finest looking clergyman in Elizabeth and very popular. His sudden death was quite a shock to the community. He leaves a daughter and four sons. Since last November, when his father died, five members of the family have passed away.

A WEALTHY JANITOR.

J. H. Hudlum is dead and the Chicago board of trade is without a janitor. Bright disease carried off the old man, who for thirty-nine years has had charge of the cleaning department of the great Chicago exchange. No new man will be quite the janitor that Hudlum was. He died a rich man. He left a large family that will divide up \$100,000, the fortune that the old janitor had amassed. During the years he took care of the floor and tributary rooms he managed to lay up this fortune from his wages. Among other little things of good fortune that fell to him in the way of crumbs were the sweepings of the floor. The sweepings of the board of trade are valuable. Merchants buying and selling wheat corn and oats for spot, like real traders who cart away their purchases after acquisition, are generous in handling of the samples. Every day they pass through their hands large lots of grain. After blowing on it and flattening it out on their hands, they throw it away. Hudlum gathered it up and sold it to small dealers for chicken feed.

Cancer Houses and Their Victims.

Mr. Shattock, in the Morton lecture before the Royal College of Surgeons, called attention to the fact that cancer, like consumption, may frequently show itself in certain houses. The British Medical Journal publishes an article by Mr. D'Arcy Power in which he gives a number of instances of this coincidence. In each instance a series of cases occurred in a certain house amongst persons who were not related by blood to each other. He observes that these cases and others like them may be coincidences, as might happen when we consider the enormous number of deaths which occur annually in Europe from cancer. They may, however, point to a more specific origin of the disease. No one imagines that cancer is directly contagious. It is possible, however, in epidemic cases, that there may be some condition of earth or water common to all the individuals attacked, in which the organism, if such there be, may pass a part of its existence.

An Armless Nimrod.

An armless Nimrod is the wonder of the people and the envy of all the sportsmen of Bucks County, Penn. He is John Simon, of Zion Hill, and his prowess is something marvelous. Simon's arms were ground off above the elbows in machinery a few years ago, but his love of hunting spurred his ingenuity, and he overcame his seeming insurmountable obstacle. He straps his single-barrel breech-loading hammerless gun to his right arm, and when he sights game he swings the piece over the stump of his left arm, takes quick aim and fires, generally with telling effect. His mode of loading is as unique as his shooting. He carries his shells in his hat, and when he wants one, bows low, drops his hat on the ground, pulls out the empty shell with his teeth, and in a similar manner loads, then pushing his head into his hat to recover his head. Despite his affliction, Simon has done some of the best shooting in Bucks County the past year, his record standing: 16 opossums, 5 pheasants, 5 dozen blackbirds, 37 rabbits and 21 quails.

By a recent law New York policemen have their pay raised \$200. The salaries of the policemen in the first grade shall not be less than \$1,400 a year; in the second grade, \$1,300; the third grade, \$1,240; the fourth grade, \$1,150, and the fifth grade, \$1,000.

Fifty of the older Chicago musicians have purchased the uniforms, instruments and accoutrements of the famous infantry band that attracted so much attention in the German village during the World's Fair and have organized as the German Military Band of Chicago.

Mrs. Philip Sheridan is said to be almost the only widow of a great war chief who has absolutely declined purses, funds and any such testimonials after his death, and to have resolutely opposed all offers from military societies and others who wished to erect his monument.