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THE ACTON

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ACTON. Buy your Harness at the Ontario to Miss Baldwin.' addlery, where you get the worth

A splendid lot of NEW COLLARS voice said as plainly as words gould him that day, since it was the All parties intending to pur case, I don't wonder. Miss Baldchase Harness should do so at once | win is young, pretty, and a society before the rush commences in order | belle, and it has always been unto secure a good set.

Acton, Jan. 7, 1878.

Those wishing to learn

would do well to address S. W. GALBRAITH Free Press, Acton.



rounding neighborhood that he has procured a magnificent HEARSE. And is prepared to attend and conduct Funerals on the shortest notice and most moderate terms.

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Acton, Feb. 10, 1877.

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FREE PRESS OFFICE,

Next the Post Office Mill Street.

IS IT ANYBODY'S BUSINESS ? Is it anybody's business

If a gentleman should choose To wait upon a lady, Or, to speak a little plainer, That the meaning all may know, Is it anybody's business

If a lady has a beau ? Is it anydody's business When that gentleman does call, Or when he leaves the lady, Or if he leaves at all? Or is it necessary

That the curtain should be drawn

To save from further trouble The outside lookers on ? Is it anybody's business
But the lady's, if her beau Rides out with other ladies, And doesn't let her know ! Is it anybody's business

But the gentleman's, if she Should accept another escort. Where he doesn't chance to be? Is a person on the sidewalk, Whether great or whether small, Is it anybody's business Where that person means to call

Or, if you see a person As he's calling any where, Is it any of your business What his business may be there The substance of our query, Simply stated would be this:

Is it anybody's business; What another's business is? If it is, or if it isn't, We would really; like to know; For we're certain if it isn't, There are some who make it so.

MAN'S MISTAKE.

round table in the cafe of the St. Dennis Hotel, discussing the five Boy's Libraries, At an adjacent table, half hid-At an adjacent table, half hid-

other gentleman; waiting for his 'So Glenham has been caught at last! You've heard of his engagement, of course?'

The gentleman addressed laid down his knife, in the very act. of carving a slice of roast duck. where did vou hear such astound-

ing news? Nonsense; it can't be true! Glenham! Why he must be--well, nearly fifty.' , ' Forty-four-I happen to know. Well, he certainly is engaged to something from the other side of

'Miss Baldwin? Miss Lilian cher's private office that made him Baldwin ? O-h !' and the tone of have said : 'Well, if that is the

derstood that she was to marry R. CREECH. money, and Glenham has any quantity of it. ' Yes, she is the lucky girl who has secured the greatest match of the day. Of course it is his money

hat has done it—only, with his well known horror of being married for it, it is decidedly very much to the fair young angel's 'It's all very very well, but you

see I am not so sure of it. I te you Glenham hast't the girl heart; for I know to a certainty she was engaged to Harry Marior and nearly killed her when her people broke it off on account his impecuniosity. I shan't believe Glenham's marriage to Miss B. until I read it in the papers.

Then these two noble specimens of the sex that never is guilty of weakness of gossiping went out and Mr. John Glenham took his absorbingly interesting newspaper from before his face, behind which he bad heard every syllable.

Was it true? Had these gentlemen spoken the truth? Was his little Lily only accepting him because he had so much money wherewith to deck her out like a princess His dainty, affectionate little bethrothed, who had so often clung so lovingly to his arm, and looked in his face with her sweet, pure eyes-was it possible that she had simulated the tender, modest love she had shown, while her heart really was with Harry Marion?

Mr. Glenham remembered young Marion well-a fine-looking, dashing fellow, over whom girls and women had a way of going into ecstasies-a gallant, lazy, good natured fellow, who had made love violently to pretty Lily Baldwin and who, rumor declared, had been engaged to him, and the engagement had been broken on account

of Marion's general shiftlessness. Mr. Glenham thought of all this, as he ate his dinner-with less keen relish than usual-and the more he thought the more uncom-

e ad testimonials from his patrons, thought, with a pang; but he did nounced. not take into consideration the fact | Lily gave a little, startled, subthat he was the fine, manly, self- dued exclamation. possessed, cultivated gentleman, or that his grave intelligently-handsome face, with his luxurious annoyed at the intrusion, but he whiskers of dark brown, and the bowed courteovaly. beavy moustache, and the thick, 'Ab, Mr. Glenham! curling bair, sprinkled with gray, afternoon!"

was far more attractive to most women-of refined tastes-than ed them both in the cold bow he Harry Marion's offeminate blonde gave them.

beauty. ' Mr. Glenham's was a warmly several minutes, and from what affectionate nature, which had have heard, I took the liberty never gone out to any woman but forcing myself upon you, as I had suffered a horror of being mar- the matter under discussion. ried for his money.

'I believe Lily loves me. I won't believe she is so false as these tonguoy, jealous fellows Sit down. Mr. Glenham.' reason why I should fret myself have simply to say that there will three of his comrades spied him might be truly written that "ne'er nohow." into a state of misery until I have be not the least difficulty in the from ufar, and Laws, the wag of did pencil trace a whiter eye or Did you not have some sussome foundation, at least.'

the horrid suspicion out of his your freedom, Miss Baldwin, and him treat.' mind, and went on with his dessert my endorsement of your admirable as if he had risen superior to the tact in securing your old love, Mr. two. disturbances that annoy ordinary | Henry Marion.

But after he had got into his sarcartic. 'Lily listened bewildercarriage, and was being driven ed, and looked at him with wide slowly up Broadway, the thoughts open eyes of astonishment. came back again with redoubled 'I don't know what you mean

'If she doesn't love me! I won- engagement with you? What do der whether I could be mistaken | you mean? What have I done? in thinking she could ? How could ! she act and look as she does if she were playing a game? My precious have I done? you had better ask little girl! Am I wronging you that you deliberately tell and punishing myself by such thoughts ? Or is it one of those subtile instincts of warning ? If I thought her people had forced her Delarcher admit it was Mr. Marinto this, I'd release her now, for her own sweet sake even if it kill-Two gentlemen sat at the little ed me! Ought I to speak to her about it ?'

> The self-put question was still manswered when Mr. Glenham iumped out of his carriage at the thing as that?"

He went in, and was told by some one of whom he enquired that he shook the president of the bank, Mr. Delarcher, whom he wished to see moment? He would inform him for her wedding, at Stone & · Glenham to be married! Mark, instantly of Mr. Delarcher's leisure, Sparkle's and desires to back out

and picked up a last edition of the News, and prepared himself to be patient, when all at once he heard be married-in a very short time, the walnut and plate-glass parti- the engagement? That's rich!' tion that divided off Mr. Demrwonder if Fate was in league with

> second time he had heard his own idea of throwing me over? was another sensation of dismay, love you, you would never hart me and the masonry toppled over as left there. He hastily opened the and pain, and heart sickness-for by asking such a cruel question ! easy as the walls of Jericho.

Mr. Delarcher. I am determined and promised never to be so foolish- (vision is very keen in the lower soon after arrived there, and you cannot enter the kingdom of to back out of the engagement somehow, and I came to you to

'Back out of the engagement Ah, how it cut and thrust him,

that sword speech from the lips of Then his worst fears had their him, and a general way she had solid foundation, and John Glenham's hand trembled so he could her heart was. hardly control his hold of the

'Well, I can't say I uphold you in your wish, Miss Baldwin. am old fashioned enough to think when an engagement is entered into, it ought to be kept. Still, in you are convinced you are dissatisfied-if you are sure you will be miserable if you stick to your

bargain-why I suppose there's nothing to do but break it.' Lily laughed joyously. John Glenham could hardly endure ide him with anguish.

'You dear, good old friend! course it's best I should get out The only thing that worries me is, it is so near the wedding-day; but, then, I know I will be so much better suited, and Mr. Marion will be so grateful that I can afford to put some other people

throw him over for Harry Marion ! de way yer tongues is bin a car-Great drops of cold perspiration | ruscatin' is scan'lour." were on Mr. Glenham's bands. 'Oh-h!' aspired Mr. Delarcher.

half dubiously. 'So it's Marion you're going to be good to, is it Have you thought what Mr. Glenham will think? 'John ? Oh, he won't care !"

And then Mr. Glenham found got? it impossible to remain quiescent. His eyes were full of hot indigna-He knew he was, as his noble tion, his face was stern and pale, VERTISER (Catalogue Edition) and eighteen-year Lily, he had often president's private office unan-

'Why, John!' Mr. Delarcher looked a little

And Mr. Glenham comprehend-

'I have been waiting outside Lily Baldwin; but all his life he lieve I am equally interested in His words were crisp, curt and

'Certainly you are interested would make out. There is no Thank you, no! I believe I able St. James street restaurant, the subject of our anecdote, it couldn't bear up under the affliction way of Miss Baldwin's backing out the party, said : And he bravely strove to put of her engagement to me. Accept There's Piggledy. Let's make Dr. H_____, had taken great ing such a move resked the neigh-

He was stern, and cold, and

John! You release me from my Glenham smiled bitterly. What have you done? What

gentleman friend and adviser that you want to back out of your engagement. Did I not hear Mr. ion you were to be good to? Lily turned to Mr. Delarcher,

piteous, quivers on her lovely 'I don't understand what be

means. Did I say any such horrid! And the grave, portly, self-important bank president laughed till

'Such a mistake-such a natural mistake! Bless my soul, Mr. Glenwas specially engaged at the mo- ham, this young lady and I were of her engagement to take them, So Mr. Glenham took off his hat, on account of Mr. Marion's (that young scamp, Harry's) father knowing of a better bargain for her, and which will put a stiff commission in his pocket. Break

Mr. Glenham listened with mingled bewilderment, relief and to reflect. delight on his face.

'Lily, is that true? You had no "Oh, John, you dear, foolish old Only besides the wonder he felt darling! If you only knew how I | Satan quietly raised his hoof, paper, which he knew he had not the cruel words he heard were It is much more likely you will I hesitated a long time before in it cried out that it was a miracle. spoken in Lily Baldwin's sweet throw me over.'

ly jealous and mistrustful again. Nor was he; not even 'when

Mrs. Glenham danced three waltzes at their wedding with handsome Harry Marion-for their was light in her blue eyes when she sought her husband's and a cadence in her voice when she spoke to which was proof positive where

And he never regretted the day he first loved her. And she is happy, cheery, joyous little wife, who realizes daily what a treasure she has in her fond husband.

Uncle Moses's Lesson

Uncle Moses is the chief execu- claimed tive of a suburban colored Sunday. school. The other Sunday, raising him treat." bees in a hive just under his nose. | me.

"Ordah! Chillen, ordah! Don't yer heah me, chillen ? Leetle Jim Lumpkins, dere, hesh hat talkin' like a consterble on 'lection day." When Jimmie reased his conver-

sation the chief executive resumed "I calls de detenshan ob de school ter de way yous been a carryin' on dis bressed day. Mr. Marion! She was going to ver bin a doin'? Yer knows! An' The black fingers pushed the

> tall collar back and pulled the black chin forward: "Now, I puts it ter yer, an' do chin walked up an I spit on my you all listen, an' you; too, Lize head. Millins : I ax you dis question-

How menny eyes you chillens

Chorus-" Two." " How menny mouves yer got Unamimously-" One."

" Wat does dat mean ? It means

ver must see twice as much as yer tells. Now how yeres yer got?" "An' how many mouves ?

" One.". fore we jines in prar. He Didn't Treat.

The miser is, perhaps, the most incorrigible of men. means about town, always ready to | ronized by the colored folks of all accept the invitation of friends to ages. Coy maidens of 30, and an oyster, glass, or a cigar, but who bashful lads equally old, gayly, has never, in a solitary instance, trudged to school with diminutive o' rheumatiz. To think that a

the sidewalk, in front of a fashion- the education question. Of Pete, upon her, from her infancy up. I

"I'll bet you I succeed." Piggledy was accosted, the usual | sun was in total eclipse in August.

The third, to a Golden Eagle.

companions, who were inwardly next week." chuckling over the winnig of the wager. He saw his straits, and re- | folks talkin' 'bout it.' solved on a coup d'etat.

'Piggledy,' said he abruptly, curious dream last night?"

'And all about you.'

'Ah!' died and had gone down to the know dat school opens in Septemwrong place. When Satan saw ber? How den, can de world come me at the gate, he expressed sur- to an end in August?" prise and even pity, saying that he didn't believe that I was so bad as all that. I replied, of course, that the thing couldn't be helped, and

At last I said :

And he kissed her, and begged looking hard at a mountain that and hastened to the church to an-

regions), I said ' You can't blow that away.' Lucifer gave a gentle puff, and

the mountain disappeared. I was desperate now, and inclined to give up, but my friend encouraged me to make a final effort. took courage, and began to think gain. Finally an inspiration eized me, and, looking steadily at the devil, I said:

Do you know Montreal? Very well. Have plenty riends there. ' And do you know a man nam

'Yes. He is one of my best troiter got into a dispute at the man. Then, clapping my hands, I ex-

his black face with its snowy Get out of here, you rascal, as laws over here, and don't want to fringe, he peered over his ante- fast as you can,' roured the Prince be locked up. If you will come bellum "stock" and collar at the of Darkness, in a voice of thunder, over to Canada I'll pay your fare don't kare what trumps are.

> The whole crowd received this story with shouts of merriment, in which Piggledy joined loudly, but proposition awhile, and then asked: -but-he didn't treat.

So He Thought.

Yesterday forenoon a sedate looking young man of five and twenty walked into the Central "I was sitting in a saloon down iness and saying nothing to nebody. when a big fellow with a double

Did. eh ? queried the captain. 'Yes, and then he said he begged my pardon-thought my head was wood box.'

'And what did you say ?' ' Why, I didn't say nothing, but I've been thinking it over and there's a deep mystery about the ' He didn't think your head was a wood-bux.'-he mean't to insult

you,' replied the captain 'That's just what I think !' said "Dat means yer mus' lieal theyoung man. 'Wood-boxes are twice es much es yer talks. Now, always square, while my head is 'member dis lesson, an' you, Henry round, and I don't believe he could Gills, contribute de papers 'roun' have made such a mistake,' and the ground that her father was not sulpher, and go to bed, because he young man went out musingly.

A Colored Skeptic.

When schools were established in the South for the education of Piggledy is a young man of the negro, they were eagerly patbeen known to return the compli- primers in their hands, while the darter o' mine would do such a dissmall fry swarmed in the school One day, as he was standing on houses, and were enthusiastic on affection me an her father ravished

blacker face." His former master, picion that they were contemplatpains with him instructing him bor. 'Impossible!' exclaimed the other daily in reading and writing. In the fall. Pete was to go to school, and anxiously looked forward to it. This was in 1869, when the with the mop, I didn't think he'd

alutations were exchanged, and There were all sorts of rumors Samanthy again. And she appearhe four entered the guilded saloon. among the colored people about The first treated to a Malgecque. | calamities which would happen at The second, to a toothful of the time of this phenomenon. A handed contentions. But all the few days before it occurred, the following conversation took place used to meet clandestinely, when I Piggledy enjoyed all these, but between Pete and a friend:

Laws was sharply eyed by his gwine to be a clipse ob de sun Well, Samanthy has made her bed "Yes." said Pete. "I heard de

"Pete, I hear dat awful things is gwine to happen when it comes. do you know that I had a very Dey say dat de world is gwine to

come to an end." Curling his lip in scorn and fixing his big white eyes on him, Pete answered with contempt, 'Yes. I dreamed that I had "Go 'way, niggah. Don't you

A Laughable French Miracle.

Father Bridaine was always ment, but would see him very discussing a business affair! She put on such an air of resignation poor, for the simple reason that he as I could, which so moved the old gave away everything be had. them, an' I told father to let 'em shortly. Would be be seated a has agreed to buy a suit of pearls fellow that, after mumbling a while, One evening he asked for a night's alone, and they'd come home after Laws, I'll tell you what I'll do. through which he passed, and the behind 'em. But I tell you, Mrs. I'll give you a chance. If you can worthy man having only one bed, mention three things, one of which | shared it with him. At daybreak | house except over the dead body I can't perform, I'll let you off. he rose according to custom, and of my defunct corpus. You just went to say his prayers at the remember that.' 'I knew it was an almost hope- neighboring church. Returning less undertaking, but as there is from his sacred duty, he met a nothing like trying, I returned beggar, who asked alms. "Alas, thanks to my benefactor and began my friend. I have nothing!" said

the good priest, mechanically putting his hand into his breeches 'I see a wall over yonder, five pocket, where to his astonishment million feet high and as many feet he found something hard, wrapped thick. You can't knock it down.' very carefully up in a piece of paper, and seeing four half crowns making a second attempt, but, He gave the money to the beggar But I am very much in earnest, her pardon, and Mr. Delarcher's was about two thousand miles off nounce the miracle. The curate

Father Bridaine related the miracle Heaven, because there is nothing with the greatest unction; the so unclean as the breath of a curate turned pale, put his hand smoker. What do you say to in his pocket, and in an instant that? perceived the Father Bridaine in getting up in the dark, had taken the wrong pair of breeches. He had performed the miracle with the

curate's crowns.

Rejected the Terms The old saying that some men yould want more if they had a billion was exemplified the other day when a Windsorite and a De- preshan, but they don't make the

Said the Canadian: 'You ought to be well pounded, 'I'll bet that you can't make and I'm the man that can do it However, I don't understand the dy, while he sat there almost be- little nigs, who were buzzing like as he opened the black gate for both ways on the boat, buy your dinner, treat you to the cigars, lick I awoke, and found I was safe.' you till you can't squeal, and send kums, the more laws, and officers you home with beef on your eyes? The American thought of the

'If I go over with you will you uv me a new overcoat? 'I-I-yes, by thunder! I will! eplied the mad Windsorite. ' And a suit of clothes?'

Well, those are the only terms was ever licked on, calmly replied the other, 'and your rejection ers, but experimentalists abroad. of them shows that you are all The solution of the question, 'Is blow and no fight."

The oldest lunatic-Time out of Barnum calculates that he has

Detroit Free Press.

tickled people out of \$83,000,000. Why is the rigging of a ship, when it is wet, like a school boy ? the young lady has even the slight-

and a barn is that shingles are ap-

fused an offer of marriage on the room for, swallow a pint of four of able to support a larger family. has the "diphthery," sure.

plied to the roof of the barn.

Samanthy's Elopement. 'Yes,' said the old lady, as she wiped her eyes and proceeded to tell of the elopement of herdaughter, ' yes, Mrs. Slobs, you may say it ar' a dreadful stroke. I ain't had such a shock since that last spell graceful act after all the care an'

'No, we never suspicioned nary contemplation. After I'd run the conceited upstart off the premises have the insurance to speak to ed to be so consigned, that I never respected her of having any undertime -- so I have beerd since -- they thought Samanthy was at the meet-" Pete, did you know there was in', an' decoct their plan to elope. an' she will have to lie on it. wash my hands of the ongrateful

girl from this time forthwith." Did you make any effort to in-

tercept them? No; you see we didn't know it, or else we'd intercepted them "I mean did you try to have

them stopped when you found they vere gone ? 'Yes, indeed. Father telescoped to five or six towns, and gave their prescription - cost him lots of money, too; but he said he would not mind spendin' the price of a we never heerd anything from lodging of the curate of the village a while with five or six children. Stobs, they shan't set a foot in this.

On Smoking A hater of tobacco asked an old negro woman, the fumes of whose pipe was annoying to him, if she

thought she was a Christian. 'Yes, brudder, I 'spects I is.' Do you believe in the Bible. 'Yes, brudder.' 'Do you know there is a passage

the Scriptures which says that nothing unclean shall inherit the 'Yes, I've heard of it.' Well, Chloe, you smoke, and

'Why. I 'spects to leave my

Josh Billing's Proverbs. There are but phew things a man duz in this life, be they good, bad, or indifferent, but what kan be traced to self-luv.

Good clothes make the im-

I have got a patent rite way tew induce people to be happy. - It iz this, make everybody think they are better oph than you are.

Thare are cortain things in this world that are bound tew win. It is kind ov phanny that the

of the law, we hav tew hiv. "Around Town."

It is surprising to think of the widespread interest taken in scieutific thought and study by our young people. Astronomical, geo-'No, I won't! That's asking logical, biological, etc., etc., discoveries are read with a real interest and zest, unknown a few years ago; and not only are there great readdiptheria transmitted by kissing? They took it out in jawing - involves many experiments before a satisfactory answer can be hazarded, and the numbers engaged would largely swell the list of martyrs to science. As the result of the experiments, we glean that there is danger in even the ordinary friend. ly salutation; but when it comes to one of those red-hot, hang-antill your-breath's gone slobbers, If est symptom of a cold or red flan-The difference between a boy nel, we earnestly advise the young man to run home, soak his feet it la pail or tub (according to the size of the feet) of hot water, put on as A young lady in Wisconsin re- many mustard plusters us there is