

FLASHES OF FUN.

Experience is a teacher good
And makes his lessons understood,
But then we learn a thing or so
That we'd much rather never know.

"I stood there in the silent night," said the poet, "wrapped in thought."
"Dear me!" murmured Miss Cayenne, "how chilly you must have been!"

Young Wife—But aren't you the man I gave some cake to on Monday?
Tramp—Yes, mum; but I've got over it.

Hezen—I like to see a man stick by his friends. Now, for instance, if a man told you I was an ass, you wouldn't join right in with him, would you?
Dilby—No, sir; I'd rebuke him. I'd tell him that the truth should not be spoken on all occasions.

The Sire—"And do you think you can make my daughter happy?"
The Sucker—"Confident of it, sir; I am full of faults she can nag me about."

"How does your husband spend his time in the evening?"
"He stays at home and thinks of schemes to make money."

"And what do you do with yourself when he is thus occupied?"
"Oh, I think of schemes to spend it."

Miss Pal said—I'm surprised you don't like him. Why, if he had money he would make an ideal husband.

Miss Summit—That's nothing! So would any man.

Dawkins—How's your indigestion, old man?

Philips—It's doing nicely, thank you; but I don't feel very well myself.

"His success in a financial way has been something marvelous."
"Yes?"

"Yes, sir. I have often heard him tell how, when he came here fifteen years ago, all his owed in the world was \$1.25, and last week he failed for a million."

He—When did she begin to fear that he had married her for her money?

She—Well, I believe her suspicions were first aroused when she had to fee the minister.

"Another quarrel going on next door."
"What's the matter this time?" "She wants to name the baby 'Dewey' and he wants the name for his wheel."

"Of course John," said a teacher reported by the Detroit Journal, "you would rather be right than be President." After thinking the matter over for a few moments, John cautiously replied: "Well, I'd rather be right than be Vice-President."

"It strikes me, Mr. Brief," said Mr. Dogway, "that your charge of \$150 for this opinion is pretty steep." "No doubt," said Mr. Brief. "But you see, Dogway, when you come and ask me for an opinion which violates all my convictions, you've got to pay not only for your law, but for my conscience."

From the "Stygian Punch."—"I say, Noah," cried Admiral Nelson, "was your ark a battleship, an armored cruiser, or what?" "Well, I never looked into that matter," said Noah, "but I should judge from the assistance she rendered me and my family and household pets generally, that she was what you might call an auxiliary cruiser."

Bilkins—My wife used to be rather foolish, but she's one of the most calm and sensible women in this town now. Why, say, do you know what she did yesterday?

Orcutt—No; what?

Bilkins—Saw a telegraph boy coming across the street toward the house, and never fainting nor hollering that she knew "something had happened to mamma!"

"What is a furlough?" asked a Columbus Ohio, teacher. "It means a mule," was the reply of Mary. "Oh! no," replied the teacher, "it doesn't mean a mule." "Indeed, it does," said Mary. "I have a book at home that says so." "Well," said the teacher, now thoroughly interested, "you may bring the book to school, and we'll see about it." The next day Mary brought the book, and in some triumph opened to a page where there was a picture of a soldier standing beside a mule. Below the picture were the words: "Going Home on His Furlough."

Bosom Friend—That gentleman who lodges at your house seems to be very attentive to you, my dear.

Sweet Girl—He is, and I—I love him; but oh! what a risk I am running! We are engaged.

"Risk?"
"Yes, it nearly breaks my heart when I think that he may not love me for myself alone, but—boo-hoo!"

"Calm yourself, my dear. Why should he marry you if he does not love you?"
"He—he owes my mother six months' board."

Mr. Rich—You ask my daughter in marriage—er—what may your income be?

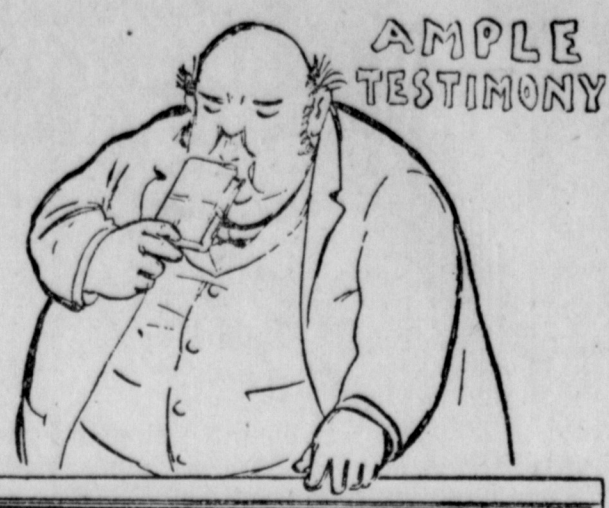
Mr. Stoney Broke—I will leave that entirely to you, sir!

Mrs. Mushroom—Josiah, what do you think about having a beautiful freeze in the parlor?

Mr. Mushroom—It won't do. There's no use making a show of the fact that I got my money at the Klondike by havin' freezes in the parlor. There are some of the things I want to forget.

Evil Rings of Feathers.

Witch wreaths have been steadily losing prestige since old colonial days, when witches were burned and old ladies of taciturn nature were supposed to take mid-



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night rides upon long, rakish-looking broomsticks. The University of Pennsylvania, however, recently received a veritable witch wreath of the old sort. It was presented to the university by Dr. George B. Kline of Pittsburg. The curiosity consists of a matted ring of chicken feathers, and is about three inches in diameter. It is common belief among ignorant residents of parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey that the witch wreath is an instrument of evil. The legend is that the wreaths form in pillows subjected to evil influences, and that a person sleeping on such a pillow will surely die. The superstitious put bibles under their pillows to prevent the evil circle from forming. The wreath presented to the university was found in the pillow of a resident of Pittsburg, who died while using the pillow.

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Smoke and Powder.

It is always pleasant to read of instances in which would-be practical jokers have had a chance to sample their own wares. In "Life in California," Alfred Robinson tells of a Senor Lugo, who often amused the travellers by his stories and eccentricities, and one evening attempted a practical joke, with the following result:

He had loaded a paper cigar with gunpowder, and placed it among his cigars. During his visit with me he repeatedly asked me to smoke, but I fortunately missed the cigar he had prepared, until finally, from the lateness of the hour, he withdrew. In the course of the night he awoke and feeling a desire to smoke, selected from his bundle, quite forgetful of the evening's amusement, the very cigar he had prepared for me. Having lighted it, he returned to bed. The cigar was about half consumed and he more than half asleep, when a sudden explosion carried away the better part of his mustache, and thoroughly frightened his poor wife that I venture to say the event will never be forgotten.



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THE REACTION OF ABSENCE.

What one Wants to do to be Remembered Kindly.

Young Mrs. Dean was bidding a friend good-bye at the station. The look of sincere affection in her pleasant face, and the genuine tears that shone in her eyes, needed no gushing explanations to help them tell her regret at parting with the beautiful woman beside her, fluttering about with a satisfied notion of the attention she excited, and chattering noisily says Every Where. After explaining for the last time, "how sorry" she was to go, what a "delightful visit" it had been, and a hope of seeing her more quiet friend again "very, very soon," she bustled out of sight. Feeling depressed and rather lonely, the young hostess turned homeward, thinking all the way how fond she had grown of her pretty friend, and how much she should miss her; but surprised to find that, very soon, a certain feeling of relief predominated over all other.

As the days of absence multiplied, she wondered at the thoughts which presented themselves concerning this friend, whose visit had been so much enjoyed. It was strange that she had been able to overlook so many disagreeable and preventable occurrences. How foolishly she had worked and given up all her plans to entertain this giddy, thoughtless person, who had not made any effort to save her annoyance and trouble, and whose selfish demands on her time and patience she had cheerfully borne!

"I must be very changeable, I fear," she told her husband, one evening. "But it is a real task to keep up my correspondence with Louise, and I am not sure that I care to have her come again. Yet when she was here, I enjoyed her company and thought I should miss the charming little butterfly when she went home."

"Absence always brings a certain reaction of thought and feeling," responded wise and observing Mr. Dean, "and in order to be remembered kindly we have to do something more than present an attractive appearance and keep up an interesting conversation. The friend you want in your home is the one who shows some unselfish thoughtfulness for your pleasure and comfort, or proves the genuineness of her regard for you by a little practical effort and appreciation."

"We excuse and overlook, when in the presence of one we admire and love, what appears in a most disagreeable light, viewed from a distance."

"Then it rather necessary that we make an effort to show our friendship in practical, helpful ways, when we want to be remembered kindly, isn't it?" remarked Mrs. Dean, thoughtfully: after which she began to try and count the friends she felt sure would miss her in like circumstances, and resolved to increase the number.

RICKETS.

A Disease of Childhood due to Defective Nutrition.

Many of the common deformities of mankind, especially knock-knees, bandy legs, chicken-breast and twisted back, are the direct result of rickets in early life. This is a disease of childhood, due to defective nutrition, involving all the tissues of the body, but most evident in the bones, which become soft and misshapen.

A child suffering from a typical case of rickets presents a peculiar appearance which can scarcely be mistaken. The head is large, with a high, square forehead. The bones of the arms may be bent or twisted more or less, but usually much less than the legs. The wrists are enlarged through the swelling of the ends of the arm-bones, and the same deformity, though to a less degree, exists in the ankles. The chest is narrowed and the breast-bone pushed forward, producing the deformity called chicken-breast or pigeon-breast. At the end of each rib, near the breast-bone, is a swelling, caused by an enlargement of the bone similar to that found at the wrists and ankles, and the double row of knobs so formed, running down on either side of the breast-bone, is called the rachitic rosary. The child's abdomen is enlarged, not by fat, but by a swelling of the intestines. The teeth are usually bad. The muscles are all weak. There is a constant tendency to catarrh, as shown by running at the nose, earache, cough and the like, and the child often suffers from profuse sweating. Wakefulness is an early, often the earliest symptom of this trouble, and the child, if a baby will sometimes sleep well when held in its mother's arm, but will lie and scream for hours if laid in the crib. Another early sign of rickets is a boring with the back of the head into the pillow, sometimes to such an extent that the hair is worn off. Night terrors are common, and when awake the child is cross and fretful. These early signs of the disease are very important, as at this stage its progress may be arrested, and the child be saved from deformity which may embitter all its subsequent life. Forwardness is lorearmed nowhere more truly than in this disease, and an early and strict attention to diet, under the physician's directions, will quickly result in a disappearance of the symptoms.



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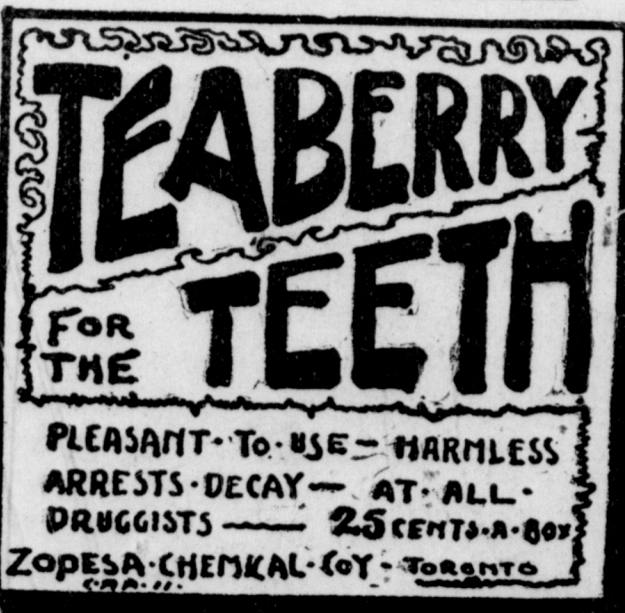
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