

E JOKER'S BUDGET.

TS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Double Entendre—Very Fly Indeed—A Strained Joke—Spring, Gentle Spring Better Than Nothing, Etc., Etc.

A DOUBLE ENTENDRE.
You don't know yet how she fools to you?
No, but I'm going to make her show it to you.
I shall present her with a diamond ring.

VERY FLY INDEED.
Vool—Bronson seems to be as fly as you was.
Vool—What has he been doing?
Vool—When I saw him last night he seemed to be trying to walk on the ceiling.

STRAINED JOKE.
First Anarchist—The members of our club seem to be afraid of suspension.
Second Anarchist—Why should they be afraid?
First Anarchist—Because it always is fatal. —[The Club.]

SPRING, GENTLE SPRING.
Come, put away the ulster big,
And the sealskin cap we wore,
For gentle spring is coming on,
We shall not need them more.

Pull down the camphorated trunk
Forth from the attic high,
And pack those winter clothes away,
For spring is drawing nigh.

And when we get them packed away,
Up out of sight, why, then,
Well shiver and we'll shake to find,
That cold snip's here again.

BETTER THAN NOTHING.
"Am I the man of your choice?" he whispered.
"Well, no," was her hesitating reply, not exactly; but I guess you'll do.

HIS REVENGE IS SWEET.
Jack Hardup (with unwonted enthusiasm): By Jove! I see that some fellow in the House making it a misdemeanor to send annoying letters to any one. Very low idea that. I'll have my bully picked up for six months by the law.

THE DIFFERENCE.
"What is the difference between a college student and the man who has college degrees conferred upon him for his own title?"
"One gets his learning by degrees and the other gets degrees by his learning."

THE CONSOLATION OF THE SIX-FOOTER.
"Little maiden, tell me true,
What sort of man most pleases you?"
She blushed and hung her pretty head.
"Tis Hyman I like best," she said.
—[Life.]

NO FINANCIER WANTED.
Jess—And you want to be closer to me than a brother?
Dick—Yes, dear.
Jess—I won't do; he is altogether too close.

COULD THERE BE ANY DOUBT OF IT.
Acquaintance—Going to be married next Thursday? I congratulate you, old boy! Who is to be the best man?
"Fwedly, highly indignant"—Best man? Baw Jove! Me! —[Chicago Tribune.]

BALLS AND HAULS.
He—It is so good of you, darling, to accept me. But even my great wealth, I am afraid, can't make you forget that my grandfather was a common fisherman.

THE FAINTING RACKET.
First Tramp—"What's the matter wid Mike? He looks as if life wasn't wort' livin'."
Second Tramp—"That's jist how he feels. Ye mind two days ago a poor man fainted in front o' that big house over yonder, and the kind lady rushed out wid a bottle o' brandy to restore 'im?"
"Mind."
"Well, Mike, he tried th' fainitin' racket theris mornin', an' th' old lady rushed out th' same as before. But when she seed Mike, she said, 'Poor fellow, his pores is all stopped up so he can't breathe,' says she, an' then she turned the hose on 'im." —[New York Weekly.]

SCHEDULE TIME.
Hungry Traveler (at railway dining station)—How soon will the train start, conductor?
Conductor—I'll start on time to-day. I ain't got much appetite.

HER ANSWER.
"I guessed you loved me, sweet," said I, and gazed within her eyes.
Like violets shyly raised to mine
In maiden's soft surprise.
"When first your little hand I held
I guessed you loved me then."
She raised her lovely eyes once more
And whispered, "Guess again!"
—[New York Herald.]

TOO CONSCIENTIOUS.
First policeman—I think we ought to raise Dr. Tibbitt's salary.
Second policeman—It is a case of conscience. The man is a doctor.

ONLY GETTING READY TO GO.

"Has that lady who called on your mother gone yet?"
"No, and she won't go for another hour."
"How do you know?"
"Because she just got up from her chair and said: 'Well, I must go—good-by.'"

A MARKET IDYL.

It was her first essay at marketing, but she tackled the work with the beautiful haughtiness of youth and inexperience.

"Have you canvassed ducks?" she inquired of the man in the stall.
"Yes, miss, and they are beauties, and mightily scarce at this time of year." An I've got mallards and red-heads, too.
"You may cut me off three-quarters of a yard of the canvas-back," she said, in her clear, classic tones; "and cut it diagonally so that it will not ravel," and she looked about for the yardstick to see that he did not cheat her in measurement. —[Detroit Free Press.]

DEATH AND THE CHICKENS.

The festive spring chicken, With death, is alone In rightfully claiming All seasons its own.

THE AMENDE HONORABLE.

She (with some severity)—I have been told that you speak in very complimentary terms of me to others. I do not wish you to do so, for people may get the idea from your praise of me that there is something between us. That is an impression that I do not wish should get abroad.

He—I'm sorry for what I said. It was only in fun.
She—Fun?
He—Yes; when I said you were beautiful and amiable and all that I did not mean it, upon my word, so please forgive me. —[New York Press.]

SURE OF HER GROUND.

"I don't wish to influence you, Mabel," said the mother, "in any way that would do violence to your own feelings or inclinations, but does not young Blannerfan appear to be partial to your society of late?"
The queenly young girl bowed.

"I thought I had observed an inclination on his part," pursued her mother, looking with pride and tenderness at the beautiful face and figure of her eldest born, "to pay rather exclusive attention to you. He is a man of excellent habits, well connected, and of good prospects, is he not?"

Again the young girl bowed her lovely head.
"And he seems to be intelligent, well educated and unassuming, besides being handsome and of good address."
"Yes."
"He is not personally objectionable to you, is he, Mabel?"
"He is not."
"Do you think, my dear, you will pardon the question, I am sure—that he seeks to win your love? Do you think he intends to offer you the highest honor that a high-minded man can tender to the maiden who has won his heart's best affections?"

"Ye-es, mamma," yawned the beautiful girl. "If I want him he's my pudding." —[Chicago Daily Tribune.]

A VITAL DIFFERENCE.

Wickers—I don't believe there is much difference between genius and insanity.
Vickers—Oh, yes there is a heap. The lunatic is sure of his board and clothes. —[Indianapolis Journal.]

AN HOUR AHEAD.

An oldish couple who had come in by the Erie Road were crossing on a Pavana ferryboat recently, when the wife asked her husband about the time of day. It was about 2 o'clock by the right time, but he looked at his big silver watch and replied that it was 3.
"But they said we'd get here about 2," she protested.
"Train might have been late."
"It wasn't quite 2 by the clock in the depot."
He took out his bull's eye again for another look, held it up to his ear to see if it was going, and then suddenly exclaimed:
"Oh, pshaw! I'm an hour ahead! I've had her set for the hired man to get up by, and forgot to turn 'er back." —[New York Observer.]

A DESIRABLE FREAK.

Wiggs—I suppose you know "Forewarned is forearmed."
Futiles—Never heard of him; let's offer him three hundred a week.

A Versatile Gunboat.

A new gunboat, the Svensksund, has been added to the Swedish navy. It has been built by the Kockum Engineering Works, of Malmo. Her dimensions are: Length, 120 feet; breadth, twenty-one feet; draught, nine feet. The armament consists of four Nordenfolt guns and torpedoes. The vessel will, however, be more useful in time of peace than in war, as, first, she is a powerful ice breaker, fitted with water tanks for sinking to the desired depth; secondly, she is furnished with heavy gear for towing or hauling off stranded vessels; thirdly, she is equipped as a fire steamer, having ten large suction hoses and a centrifugal pump capable of delivering 22,000 cubic feet of water per hour; fourthly, she is fitted with condensers furnishing 800 gallons of water per hour; and fifthly, she is equipped as a torpedo repairing vessel. The engines with which this vessel is equipped are, first, a compound steam engine, water pump, torpedo repairing engine, and secondly, a steam engine, which is used for the purpose of generating steam for the engines of the torpedoes.

THE SILVER DEBATE

An Exciting Meeting Expected in the House.

THREE DAYS DEVOTED TO BILL.

The Arrangement Made Not to Philbuster Is Off.

Mr. Harter, of Ohio, Was Willing to Make the Proposal, But Messrs. Tracy and Williams, the Leaders of the Democratic Anti-Silver Men Would Not Be Bound—Proceedings in the Senate During the Coming Week.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—This week will probably be the most exciting of the present session of Congress, so far as the House is concerned, as to-morrow the silver debate will begin, and a vote is now expected to be reached on Thursday. To-day is suspension day, and it is supposed that several important bills will be passed under the two-thirds rule. To-morrow, Wednesday and Thursday will be devoted to the consideration of the Bland Free Coinage Silver bill—on these days the House will meet at 11 o'clock, with a recess from 5 until 8 and adjourn at 10 p. m. unless a change in the programme occurs. Friday private bills will be considered as usual, and on Saturday the private pension bills passed last Friday night in Committee of the Whole will be put to a vote. The Free Wool bill will thus be side-tracked for over a week. This bill and other tariff measures will be taken up next week, however, and considered without interruption.

It is understood that the arrangement between the silver and anti silver wings of the Democratic party by which in return for a promise of the anti-silver men not to filibuster against the Bland bill, the time was extended from three to five days, is off. As stated in these dispatches, Mr. Harter, of Ohio, was willing to make the promise, but Messrs. Tracy and Williams, who are in charge of the Democratic opposition to the bill, refused to be thus bound. The time is to be divided among the parties, so that the anti silver Democrats and Republicans will have half between them. Representative Abner Taylor, of Illinois, has charge of the time for the Republicans, Mr. Tracy for the anti-silver Democrats and Mr. Bland for the silver men.

The pending special orders in the Senate are a bill for the repayment of the purchase money and fees paid on certain entries of public lands, which is opposed by Mr. Berry, of Arkansas, and has therefore been taken out of the morning hour so as to allow of more extended discussion than is permitted under the five minute rule; and the resolution with regard to the refunding of the West Virginia direct tax, upon which Senator Morrill is anxious to speak.

It is not deemed probable, however, that the aged Senator from Vermont will be sufficiently recovered from his recent severe illness to be able to take the floor during the present week.

For to-morrow, Mr. Gibson, of Louisiana, has had assigned his bill for a permanent system of improvement of the Lower Mississippi, to extend over a series of years and to cost about fifteen millions of dollars.

To this plan Mr. Allison has given notice of an intention to move an amendment so as to take in the Upper Mississippi.

Mr. Dolph and Mr. Mitchell desire to follow this measure with bills for the improvement of the Columbia River, Oregon.

The Indian Appropriation bill and the District of Columbia Appropriation bill will be called up for the Senate's action during the week.

Found Drowned in the Passaic.

NEWARK, N. J., March 21.—The body of a woman was found in the Passaic River, half a mile below this city. It was lying on the shore among the meadow grass at a place called Brill Point. The woman was apparently 45 years old. She wore nothing but underclothing, which was of fine material. The identity of the woman is unknown.

Sick Statesmen Improving.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Secretary Blaine is improving, and it was said at his house that he was out yesterday for a short time. Dr. Bussey, the physician in attendance upon Senator Morrill, says that the Senator is still improving. Representative Springer continues to improve. Dr. Curtis, his physician, reports a rapid change for the better during the past three days.

First Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms.

DENVER, Col., March 21.—Mr. I. N. Stevens of this city has been appointed First Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of the Republican National Convention to be held at Minneapolis next June. Mr. Stevens was formerly district-attorney of this county, and became known all over the country through his connection with the Graves murder case.

To Resume Work.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., March 21.—The Montour Iron and Steel Company of Danville, Pa., will resume work to-day, and will employ 400 men. The puddlers have agreed to accept the \$3.50 basis. The families of the men who went on strike eight months ago are in a destitute condition.

The Beginning of Judgment.

BOSTON, March 21.—Lieut. C. A. L. Totten, United States America, professor of military science and tactics at Yale University, lectured at Music Hall yesterday evening. The lecture was on "The New Star of the East." The lecturer said that March 20, 1894, the night he lectured upon "The Beginning of Judgment."

THE GERMAN CRISIS.

The Resignation of Caprivi Causing Intense Excitement.

BERLIN, March 21.—The impending Cabinet crisis and the startling reports regarding Emperor William's health are the all absorbing topics of conversation throughout the German Empire. It is rumored that there is being considered a plan to bring the obstinate and fiery young ruler to reason, if not to restrain him to some degree in his headlong policy of government. A meeting of German Princes, it is said, will be called with this object.

Since the fall of Bismarck, two years ago, the political tension here has not been so intense as it was yesterday. From the elegant Bismarck Hotel, Linden to the bare cafes of Karlstrasse, in the student's quarter, the one topic has been the action of Zedlitz and Caprivi. Last night the restaurants Unter den Linden were crowded with officers and politicians eagerly discussing the probable course of the absent Emperor. The general opinion is that Zedlitz will be allowed to go and Caprivi will be commanded to stay.

Bismarck Satisfied.

BERLIN, March 21.—While dining with the Burgomaster of Hamburg last evening, Prince Bismarck said: "Well, you see the Emperor is his own Chancellor again; Count Caprivi has retired."

GRATITUDE TO PHILADELPHIA.

Mayor Stuart Receives a Telegram from Russian Officials.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—Mayor Stuart has received the following telegram, signed by a number of Russian officials: "Leningrad, March 19. The Hon. Edwin Stuart, Mayor of Philadelphia and Chairman of Committee. Russian society welcomes the dear American brethren who happily arrived here with the Indians. They pray you to transmit to the inhabitants of Philadelphia their expressions of lasting gratitude. God save America!"

Supplies for the cargo of the steamship "Conceaug," which is to be sent to Russia, are already coming in. Bills of lading have been received in the Mayor's office for two cargoes of flour from the towns of Derry and Mercer, Pa.

The Girard Point Storage Company has tendered the free use of its docks, wharves and warehouses for the unloading of cars, as was done for the "Conceaug."

A REMARKABLE FREAK.

An "Infant" 30 Years Old That Was Helpless Since Its Birth.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 21.—There died last night at Wharton, in the western part of this county, one of the most remarkable of creatures, an "infant" aged 29 years. The child, or young man, was the son of Amos Parker, and during all the years of its life was nothing more than a mere baby. It developed in no respect and died in its cradle.

It could neither walk nor recognize anyone, and was as helpless when it reached manhood as the day it was born. Doctors were completely baffled and could do nothing, and for twenty nine years its death has been patiently waited.

Consumptives Barred Out.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Assistant Secretary Nettleton has instructed immigration officers that "tubercle of the lung being classed by the medical authorities as a dangerous contagious disease, the law absolutely prohibits the landing of aliens suffering from that disease. Obviously a bond, if permissible in other cases, cannot afford any protection against the spread of a contagious disease. Only when Congress sees fit to make an exception in favor of this class of persons will their landing be legal."

Disasterly Students.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 21.—A party of Yale men, bent on a lark, broke up the last act of "The Vendetta," at up the last act of "The Vendetta," one of Bunnell's Grand Opera House, hitting the students threw a snow ball, hitting one of the characters. Another missile of the same character struck Miss Frances Field, the leading lady of the company, and inflicted quite a severe blow, stunning her for a few moments. For a few minutes there was considerable excitement in the theatre, which was packed. Four of the disturbers were arrested for breach of the peace.

Cardinal Taschereau Congratulated.

QUEBEC, March 21.—Cardinal Taschereau is receiving the congratulations of the clergy and laymen of the diocese of Quebec on the occasion of the 22d anniversary of his elevation to the episcopate. The venerable Cardinal is in excellent health despite his advanced years. It is said he will commemorate his anniversary by donating a considerable sum of money to Laval University to construct an observatory in place of the dome lately destroyed by fire.

Ex-Senator James Daly Dead.

NEW YORK, March 21.—Ex-Senate Senator James Daly died at his home in this city yesterday after a lingering illness. He was 74 years old. Mr. Daly served three terms in the Assembly and saw a similar length of service in the State Senate. Later he was Commissioner of Accounts for this city, which position he gave up to take the office of Collector of City Revenue and Superintendent of Markets. This office he held at the time of his death.

Tried to Sell Brian Born.

NEWARK, N. J., March 21.—Thomas Gilroy of Paterson tried to sell the race horse Brian Born to a horse dealer in this city for \$10. The dealer's suspicions were aroused by the small price asked for the animal and he had Gilroy arrested. It was found later that the horse had been stolen.

Shoe Strike Settled.

AYER, Mass., March 21.—Trouble at the Leighton shoe shop is practically at an end and the employees accede to Mr. Leighton's terms. Some worked on Saturday. The girls go to work to-day, but the men will not go till to-morrow on account of the town meeting.

THE READING DEAL

Looks as if the Whole Scheme is a Failure.

AN APPARENTLY FATAL DEFECT

Discovered in Statutes of the State of New Jersey.

The Statute Giving the Governor Thirty Days for the Consideration of a Bill After the Legislature Adjourns is in Violation of the Constitution of the State—Lawyer Peshall, Who Has Twice Saved Murderer Hallinger from Being Hung, Found the Flaw.

NEW YORK, March 19.—There seems to be a strong probability that the great Reading Coal Combination will prove an utter and ridiculous failure.

When it was announced that the New Jersey Central and the Lehigh Valley railroads had been leased and virtually absorbed by the Reading after a series of negotiations extending over a period of several months, no one for a moment imagined that an arrangement, so carefully perfected by some of the greatest railroad manipulators and corporation attorneys, would fail because of an oversight in the manner in which it was carried out.

This opinion was confirmed and strengthened when it was found that the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has been most actively opposing the gigantic deal, as well as the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, the New York, Susquehanna & Western and the Erie railroads, which were also hostile to it, had failed to stop the successful carrying out of the Reading programme. When the Reading carried their point in the New Jersey Legislature and a bill was passed March 11, legalizing the deal, it looked as if the Reading folks were the victors and that the opposition must needs hold its peace.

Now, however, it looks as if the whole scheme to control the anthracite output of the country had been frustrated because of a flaw in the statutes of the State of New Jersey. The man who has made known this apparently fatal defect is Charles J. Peshall of Jersey City, the lawyer who found the loophole in that State's criminal statutes by which he has thus far been enabled to twice save the murderer, Edward W. Hallinger, from the gallows erected within a few feet of his cell in the Hudson County jail. Mr. Peshall is a railroad lawyer of considerable experience and an intimate friend of Robert Garrett, formerly president of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. His argument is as follows:

"The act to legalize the leasing of corporations by others was put through the last day the Legislature was in session. The bill then went to the Governor for his signature, and he had thirty days in which to sign or veto it. So far as I know, the bill was properly drawn. That is not the point.

"The whole thing lies right here. The statute giving the Governor thirty days for the consideration of a bill after the Legislature adjourns is in violation of the Constitution of the State, and is, therefore, null and void. This is as plain as a pikestaff. I am surprised the point has not been brought out before, because there are hundreds of acts now in force that are no more legal enactments than are editorials in a daily paper.

"This act with the thirty day clause was passed long after the State Constitution was adopted in 1875. Now the provision of the constitution on this subject is as plain as plain can be. It reads thus: 'If any bill shall not be returned by the Governor within five days (Sunday excepted), after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Legislature by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.'

"Now it is a well settled principle of law that legislative enactments can never restrict or extend a constitutional limitation. New York State has an identical constitutional provision, except that the term there specified is ten days instead of five.

"But bear in mind that in the case of New York this power is conferred by the Constitution itself, and not by any legislative enactment. Why, the Governor is a component part of the Legislature. Just think of it. If that body could extend the time of signing a bill for thirty days, it could do it for three hundred. Thus he might get things fixed so that he could approve bills at any time during the administration if such extensions were possible.

"The whole Reading deal is illegal and can be overthrown. The only way Governor Abbott can bring it into life is to reconvene his Legislature and have the act passed again."
Several corporation lawyers in Jersey City who have considered the point raised by Mr. Peshall well taken, think that it may destroy the carefully laid plans of the great coal combination.

Suits Threatened.

KINGSTON, N. Y., March 19.—The excitement that prevailed throughout this section, and which was aroused by the report of the alleged conduct of Principal Blakesley of the Stamford Seminary, with one of the lady teachers at that institution, has somewhat abated. Students Reynolds and Easton, of Roxbury, who claim to have seen the alleged unbecoming conduct and who were suspended for circulating the report in relation to the same, have both gone to attend the Delhi Academy. Suits for defamation of character are threatened against the parents of the young men.

Stroke His Neck.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Stephen Knaves, colored, while riding a spirited horse around the White House lot, south of the Executive Mansion, was thrown from the animal and, striking on his head, broke his neck.