

THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

JESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Lost Speed—What She Wanted—Large Doses—Well Named—Reward of Virtue—Etc., Etc.

LOST SPEED.
Mr. Gotham—Did your ship break the record this trip?
Sea Captain—No, we met with too many interruptions.
"Icebergs."
"No, only barks, and schooners, and things. We lost speed every time we hit one."—[New York Weekly.]

WHAT SHE WANTED.
Lady (in shoe store)—These shoes pinch terribly. Haven't you anything larger?
Salesman—You asked for No. 2's, ma'am. I can give you No. 3's or No. 4's, or—
Lady—The idea! I want something larger in No. 2's.

LARGE DOSES.
Fortieth Friend (since breakfast)—By Jove, old fellow, you've got a fearful cold. What are you taking for it?
Sufferer (hoarsely)—Advice.—[New York Weekly.]

WELL NAMED.
Little Dot—What do they call these watercrackers for?
Little Dick—'Cause you have to drink so much water with 'em, of course.

REWARD OF VIRTUE.
Little Dick—I told mamma what a good boy I was to-day, and she gave me a penny, and then I gave it to Johnny Stout if he'd commence goin' to school.
Little Dot—What good will that do?
Little Dick—When I tell mamma that Johnny Stout is goin' to school, she'll keep me home, 'cos Johnny Stout's brother's got the measles.—[Good News.]

ALWAYS READY.
Mrs. De Goode—Why are you throwing stones at that little boy? Answer me that, sir.
Small Son (very good at excuses)—'Cause his folks doesn't belong to our church.—[Good News.]

HELEN'S TROUBLE.
"What was Helen crying about, Polly?" asked Polly's mamma, as the little one came in from the playground.
"She dug a great big hole in the garden, and her mamma wouldn't let her take it into the house with her."—[Harper's Young People.]

IN HALF MOURNING.
Pat to Mike—Why do you wear your pants so high?
Mike—Me other-in-law is dead and I have them half mast.—[New York Herald.]

NOT THAT KIND OF A BLIND.
Frank—It's very foolish of you, dearest, to put that rouge on your face!
May (pouting)—I thought love was blind.
Frank—Well, you never heard that it was color-blind, did you?—[Buffalo Quips.]

HARD TO UNDERSTAND.
Little Boy—I shud' think these 'thousand-leg' bugs would starve or somethin'.
Little Girl—Why?
"The've got to hunt for things to eat, same as other bugs, haven't they?"
"Of course."
"Well, I don't see how they can keep all those legs goin' 'n' think of anything else."—[Good News.]

A GOOD CHARACTER.
Flopson—I say, Johnny, which is the way to the Theatre Royal?
Small Boy—How do you know me name's Johnny?
Flopson—I guessed it.
Small Boy—Well, guess the way to the Theatre Royal.

AN ARTFUL MAIDEN.
How shy she looks, how fair, how young;
But a slyer maiden is seldom found,
For she keeps a sprig of mistletoe hung
From her parlor ceiling the whole year round.
—[New York Press.]

A PROUD BOY.
"My brother wears long trousers," bragged Wallis.
"Hoh!" sneered Bobbie. "So does my papa."—[Harper's Bazar.]

WAITING FOR THE TEST.
"Did he give you a diamond ring when you accepted him?"
"I don't know whether he did or not until I show it to the jeweller."—[Truth.]

FRENCH TACT.
The mayor of a small village in France, having occasion to give a passport to a distinguished personage in his neighborhood who was blind of an eye, was in great embarrassment on coming to the description of his person. Fearful of offending the good man, he adopted this ingenious expedient of avoiding the mention of his infirmity: "Black eyes, one of which is absent."

THEIR LOVE IS YOUNG.
She—Why do you toy so nervously with that fan—are you afraid of it?
He (gallantly)—I am afraid of anything that could produce a coolness between us.

WANTED A BIBLE.
Housekeeper—Now, you clear out right square off, or I'll call the hired man.
Tramp—Please, mum, I only wanted to borrow a Bible, if you have one to spare.

"Bibles? I've got about forty."
"Well, mum, will you please lend me one a few minutes? I want to read about Belshazzar's feast. Mehby it will stay me appetite till I get to some town where folks has fewer Bibles an' more pics."—[New York Weekly.]

A LAMENTABLE FAILURE.
McLester (sadly)—The new figure I invented for the german failed last night.
Friend—What was it?
McLester—I arranged a set of beautifully decorated flowerpots in one end of the room each with the name of a gentleman, and then the ladies were to get partners by throwing a golden heart into the flowerpots.
Friend—Why didn't it work?
McLester—They smashed all the windows and didn't hit a flowerpot.—[New York Weekly.]

THE BODY AND ITS HEALTH.
An invention which will, no doubt, add to the health and long life of our city population, is a ventilator to the gas jet. This consists of a pipe piercing the wall and arranged above every gas jet, and through this the residue of combustion is carried off to the outer air.

BEST GERM DESTROYERS.—Corrosive sublimate, in the strength of sixty-four grains to the gallon of water, is found by the health authorities of New York to be the most effective of the germ destroying agents. Carbolic acid comes next, employing twenty-four grains to the gallon; then bromine, one ounce to about eleven gallons; chloride of lime, four ounces to the gallon; sulphate of iron, 10 pounds to the gallon, and last, in point of effectiveness, sulphate of zinc, two ounces to the gallon.

LOW SPIRITS.—Low spirits are a common excuse for a great deal of selfishness, says a writer in the *Tribune*. It is certainly a matter of doubt whether any one has a right to be melancholy in a world so full of the graciousness and generosity of Providence, and it is a miserable piece of egotism to thrust one's low spirits upon others. Melancholia is undoubtedly a disease, but it is one of those diseases which is largely, if it is not wholly, under control of the will, contradictory though the statement may seem. There are many diseases recognized by physicians as brought about purely by patients allowing themselves to drift into morbid conditions of mind. Even dreaded scourges, like typhus fever and cholera, are known to be induced by morbid fear. Constantly brooding over some fancied wrong or imaginary slight, showing an exaggerated state of selfishness which is too often considered supersensitiveness, will readily induce that condition of mind which we know as melancholy. The selfish idler is condemned by every one, but the one who wastes his time in the much more foolish manner, groaning and complaining till he becomes a chronic hypochondriac, often passes for a hard worker from the very excess of trouble he takes to find trouble. As a matter of fact, such people accomplish very little real work in the world. They are greater wasters of time than the most flippant gay idler of the world, because they take away from the nerve force and the life of others. Minus quantities, they represent much less than nothing, for they reduce the working power of all around them, enervating them by their continuous dole and plaint. Strange as it may seem, a disposition to melancholy often appears in children, and if not discouraged may develop into a fixed habit in later life. There is no better cure for such morbid tendencies than some method by which the individual can get outside of himself and forget for a time his own selfish interests and desires. Peevishness in a young child should be treated as a serious fault, yet in nine cases out of ten, the fretful child is petted, and so rewarded for his fretfulness; and the fretful child makes the complaining melancholy man or woman. The best prescription for depression of spirits, generally, is work—work which is all absorbing. The poor who drudge for a living seldom develop chronic diseases of the nerve and the mind, despite the greater hardships to which they are subjected. How often it happens that the woman of wealth, who believes herself to be an invalid, and is suddenly thrust into poverty, is able to meet the emergency and forgets all the morbid tendencies in the necessity which calls forth her supreme strength! A certain way of paralyzing our faculties is to allow them to waste with disuse. Employment keeps away the rust. It keeps the mind and heart alive to the interests of the day. It has been said that the reason why so many old men break down and become childish is because they abandon business, and thus lose much of their everyday interest in the world around them. It is no uncommon thing to-day for people who are quite advanced in life to take up courses of study, and successfully pass through them. All such occupations serve to keep the interest alive in something besides mere selfishness, and do more to ward away the "fumes of dusky melancholy" than all the herbs in the old wife's pot, on which our ancestors relied. There is far less tendency to brooding now in this active, work-a-day world than there was formerly when people had little to think upon but their pains and ills. The daily newspaper, the railroads and the telegraphs which bind the interests of the world together in a common brotherhood, give now, to even the most ignorant person, but little time for selfish brooding. The melancholy maiden, with clinging skirts and uplifted eyes, for whom Mme. D'Arbly wrote and Mrs. Hemans sang, is no longer a fashionable ideal, but has given place to the athletic woman, with her robust health and practical nature.

Helpful Ailments.
In England gout is a very prevalent and painful disease. In this country it is less common. Our climate inclines us to excessive mental activity. As a result of this the brain appropriates nervous force at the expense of the digestive system, and so disposes us to dyspepsia; but dyspepsia compels its victims, in spite of themselves, to indulge somewhat sparingly in rich food, in the too free eating of which gout originates.
Of the two diseases, dyspepsia is to be preferred. It seldom interferes with the day's work, and, except in very obstinate cases, is almost certain to be relieved by proper diet and exercise.
Sick headache may often be counted in the class of helpful ailments, though it is a "bitter pill." There are two forms of it; one has its primary source in the brain, the other in the stomach. In both cases there is commonly some hereditary tendency to the disease, but the exciting cause is overwork; of the brain in one case, of the stomach in the other.
The headaches necessitate occasional rest, while the dread of them acts as a constant check upon the tendencies which might otherwise result in great harm. Indeed, attention to diet, with a little letting down of the average cerebral activity, professional, business or domestic, will generally insure a comparative immunity from attack.
Acute rheumatism often gives rise to permanent heart trouble. Chronic rheumatism, on the contrary, may be healthful in cases of heart disease. For instance, enlargement of the heart tends to increase until it reaches the dangerous limit. The patient's safety depends largely on his training himself to such habits as reduce strain on the heart, and rheumatic joints in the lower limbs are an admirable aid in this respect. The former rapid movements cease. A fatal running to meet the cars or the ferryboat is out of the question. The rheumatism is an uncomfortable companion, no doubt, but it may help to a long life—a decade or more, perhaps, beyond the three score and ten.—[Hall's Journal of Health.]

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Sworn to before me this 6th day of December, A. D., 1888.
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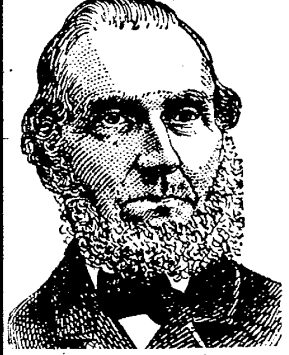
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