

called up before the city editor. The idiot of a compositor had set up my carefully-written sentence to read: 'The happy pair will reside at the Old Man's.' "

* *

Purity in English

The principal of a certain school relates an incident in connection with the closing day exercises: "At the conclusion of the programme, a prize-winner was surrounded by congratulating friends.

"Weren't you awfully afraid you wouldn't get it, Hattie?" asked one, "when there were so many contestants?"

"Oh, no!" cheerily exclaimed Hattie. "Because I knew that when it came to English composition I had 'em all skinned."

* *

Friday Luck

'Twas Friday when Columbus first
Set foot upon our soil;

'Twas Friday when the river's gleam
Rewarded Hudson's toil;

'Twas Friday when the Pilgrim dads
On Plymouth sat them down;

The Mayflower on a Friday morn,
Sailed into Provincetown.

And Friday was the natal day
Of our George Washington,

Of Martin Luther, Winfield Scott,
And famous Stephenson;

Of Gladstone and Disraeli, too;

Of Isobel and me—

Oh, Friday seemed the lucky day
Of days in history.

And yet, though backed by sober fact,
I can't believe it so,

For 'twas on Friday eve, likewise,
That Isobel said "No."

—C. W. R. in the Century.

* *

Winning a Wager

Lord Marcus Beresford, the brother of the famous admiral, has all the high spirits and love of practical jokes for which the witty Irish household is renowned. On one occasion he drove down Rotten Row for a wager. This, of course, no one is allowed to do, with the exception of the Duke of St. Albans, who, if he likes, can exercise the privilege. However, Lord Marcus laid odds that he would himself drive down in broad daylight, and without the risk of police interference. He got the wager accepted, and the time fixed for the attempt was between 11.30 and noon. The hour arrived, and many of his friends were assembled near Rotten Row. But nothing could be seen of the reckless sportsman. However, at last a watering cart was spied, driven by a workman in a smock frock. The cart passed slowly along the Row, and at the end the driver jumped down, threw off his cap and frock, and disclosed the familiar features of Lord Marcus Beresford.

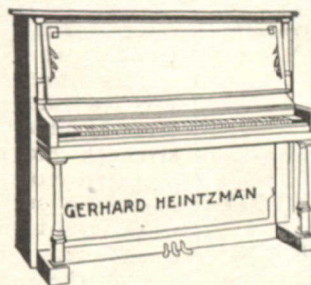
* *

A Libel on "Bobs"

At an Australian banquet over which Lord Tennyson presided last year, he told an amusing story. He had occasion to think highly of the colonial press, he said, during his Governor-Generalship of Australia; but once he was seriously misreported. Speaking of Lord Roberts, he had remarked that that distinguished soldier had "never told the truth to serve the Army." Next day he found himself described as saying: "In order to serve the Army, Lord Roberts never told the truth."

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