

philosopher. But if the villain perseveres just shut him off straight. You'll find out, when yer as old as me, that philosophy is not what it is cracked up to be; you'll find that every philosopher, when his stomach is full, is ready to burst with pernicious doctrines. But you just take that man, and put him on small rations for a while, an he always comes down a few pegs, an considers any doctrine good nough, if it only makes his victuals a sure thing. And to stick right to the question I claim that after a man does eat, he should take one hour's sleep. You know that in this here age of lectricity there is too much thinking and not enough rest. I, as a philosopher, who wishes the most good to his fellowmen, recommend that one hour after each meal should be given to sleep as the antidoter to this cursed agility on the part of the man's brains. I know just what I am talking bout. Lookye here, I have the daily experience of well nigh on twenty-five years at my back, an I have put this here question to a multitude of men, an every one of them always considered one hour's rest little enough. My reasoning is mighty close. You know we are in this world to follow the rules of the reason and conscience what Heaven gave us. Now my own as well as the reason of every man as I know, declares that

sleeping one hour after meals is an absolute necessity in this here age. What argument can be brought against me on that score?" The foreman stopped short. He waited for old Jim or some of the fresh gentlemen to show fight in the way of a few objections: None were offered, because nearly everybody was asleep, and even if they were not, it is highly improbable that they would feel disposed to argue against the pleasure of sleep, at so late an hour. So the gallant foreman Thos. Knott retired unworsted.

And thus flourishes the Boom School. Let pedants howl and weary students follow the examples of their illustrious predecessors; but verily if there is not so much truth in the ideas of the immortal Knott, there is a great deal more balm for the worn-out minds of embryo-philosophers, than in many more pretentious systems. For as great men say, there is scarcely any system of philosophy but at least contains some truth. And whenever in the future great questions trouble us, we shall refer the case to the judgment of the Boom School of Philosophy; being assured that if we obtain neither logical nor metaphysical truth, we will receive an answer easy to swallow, easy to understand, and not too hard on our now nature, if we are concerned therein.

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