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IN LIGHTER VEIN

His Idea.—Eli Perkins used to relate this anecdote of President Lincoln, says the Baltimore Sun: One day an old negro, clad in rags and carrying a burden on his head, ambled into the executive mansion and dropped his load on the floor. Stepping toward President Lincoln, he said: "Am you de President, sah?"

"I am," said Mr. Lincoln.

"If dat am a fac', I'se glad to meet yer. Yer see, I lives away up dar in de back o' Virginie and I'se a poor man, sah. I hear dere is some pervisions in de Con'stution for de culled man, and I'm here to get some ob 'em, sah."

Queer Payment.—The bright little surgery at the rear of the doctor's house was occupied by two—the medical man and a patient who was being attended to for the last time, seeing that he had got over his illness.

"Yes, yes," said the doctor; "you're all right now. You needn't come here again."

"But, sir," remarked the patient, "vot aboot der bill? I aint got mooch money. Vill you dake der bill out in trade?"

The sawbones looked the man up and down.

"Well, I might do so," he replied. "What is your business?"

"I am der leader of der liddle Cherman band, sair. Ve vill blay in front of your house every evening for von month."

Pertinent Question.—Third-party baby is born, but is the father doing as well as could be expected?—Wall Street Journal.

Hitting at the Press.—Martin Clardy, of St. Louis, general solicitor for the Union Pacific and Iron Mountain Railways, is a lawyer who sometimes objects to being interviewed, and when reporters are too insistent Mr. Clardy has a stock story which he tells to shut off the interview.

Says Mr. Clardy: An irate shipper once entered the general offices of a railway company.

"Where's the general superintendent?" he demanded.

"Out on the road," was the reply of the clerk.

"Where's his assistant?" This very angrily.

"Gone to the ball game" snapped the clerk.

"Then where's the vice-president and general traffic manager?" exploded the shipper.

"Gone north for the summer," was the still indifferent reply.

"Well, then," the angry caller fairly howled, "who in thunder is running this railway anyway?"

"Oh, if that's what you want to know," replied the clerk, as he reached for another typewritten report, "it's being attended to by our kind friends on the newspapers."

Proof of It.—Doris was radiant over a recent addition to the family, and rushed out of the house to tell the news to a passing neighbour.

"Oh, you don't know what we've got upstairs!"

"What is it?"

"It's a new baby brother!" and she settled back upon her heels and folded her hands to watch the effect.

"You don't say so! Is he going to stay?"

"I guess so"—very thoughtfully. "He's got his things off."

No More Use for Them.—A Southern sewing machine agent drifted into the Seminole dominion one day and set up a machine in Tiger Tail's tent.

The old chief with great deliberation watched him put it through its paces. He then arose, brushed the agent to one side, and, seating himself, adjusted his feet in the treadle. He started the wheel and found that he could make it go. He sewed up one piece of cloth and down another, and then gravely and critically examined his work. At last he appeared to be satisfied that it was all right. He then turned quietly to his wives, who had watched the proceedings with interest, and kicked them, one after another, out of his tent.



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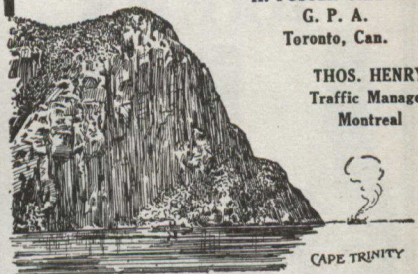
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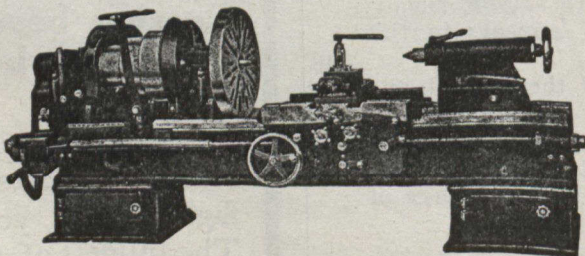
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