

MY FUST GONG.

BY JOHN HILLINGS.

I never can eradicate holy from my memory the sound of the first gong I ever heard— I was sitting on the front steps of a tavern in the city of Buffalo, pensively smoking. The sun was a gold to bed, and the heavens fur and nero was blushing at the performanse. The Erl kannil with its goldin waters was on its windin wa ty albany, and I was perusin the line botosa flotin by, and thinkin ov Italy, (where I used to live,) and her gondolers and gallus wimmin. Mi entiro sole was, as it ware, in a swet, I wanted to climb, I felt grate, I actually grow. Thar ar things in this life tu big tu be trilled with, thar ar times when a man brakes luce from hisself, when he sees speerita, when he kan almost tuch the moon, and feels as tho he kud fill both hands with the stars ov heavin and almost sware he was a bank president. Thats what ailed me. But the korse ov tru lov never did run smooth, (this iz Shakesperes opinion too, I and he often think thru one quill) just az I was during my best,.....dummer, dummer, spat, bang, beller, crash, roar, ram, dummer, dummer, whang, rip, rare, rally, dummer, dummer, dummer, dum..... with one tremenjis jump, I struck the center of the side walk, with another I cleared the gutter, and with another I stud in the middle of the streets snorting like a infjn pony at a band ov musik; I gazed in willed dispare at the tavern stand, my harte swelled up as big as an out door oven, mi teeth were as luce as a string ov prairy beads. I thout all the crokey in the tavern stand had fell down, I thout ov fenom-enous, I thout ov gabrel and his horn. I was just on the pint of thinking ov sumthing else when the landlord cum out to the front steps of the tavern stand holding by a string the bottom of an old brass kittle. He called me gentla with his hand, I went slowla and sadla to him, he calmed my feres, he ced it was a gong; I saw the cused thing, he ced supper was redly, he axed me if I would have black or green tea, and I ced I would.

Husbands ought to "keep out of the kitchen." A husband that did not, writes thus of the consequence: "I found fault, some time ago, with Maria Ann's custard pie, and tried to tell her how my mother made custard pie. Maria made the pie after my recipe. It lasted longer than any other pie we ever had. Maria set it on the table every day for dinner, and you see I could not eat it because I forgot to tell her to put in any eggs or shortening."

In the Police Court, in Chicago, a wife thus ingeniously explained away serious charges of harsh treatment of her husband:—One day when she was running across the room with a fork in her hand, he jumped in the way and struck his wrist against the fork, wrenching it from her grip by the tines, which he ran into his wrist. Then he undertook to strike her, but she held up a pan of hot dish water between them, and he spilt it all over his head. Then he got still more angry at this incident, and started to jump at her, and his head came against her hand and he fell down. She took hold of his hair to raise him up, and the hair was moistened by the hot water so that it came off. Then she saw it was no use to reason with him any longer, and she left the house.

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FINANCE DEPARTMENT, Ottawa, Dec. 9, 1870. 2-25c

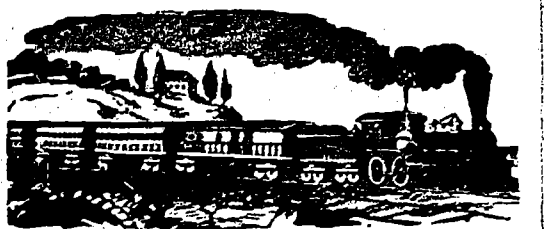
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