

The Curate's Love Verses.

FROM LONDON LETTERS.

Rev. Ignatius Smith sat one Monday morning at his "dressing-table," with a sheet of paper spread open on his dressing-table...

The young lady to whom they were addressed, sat at her dressing-table, with her hair...

But he could see, by certain signs in her countenance, that the girl was not a stranger...

Why, even at the best, his vision would only be that there was something wrong...

He always had to go there on Monday mornings to arrange with the curate about their division of labor for the week...

"And oh, by the way," his chief confidant, "I was writing it last night, I happened to think of an old-fashioned hymn...

"What is the curate's little puzzle?" "What he called the first verse at the young man's nuptial feast..."

On going back to his lodgings, Rev. Ignatius looked out the window containing the required hymn, and wrote down the words on a sheet of newspaper...

Children Cry for

stately in her direction during the course of the service. At last the time for the sermon came...

As his eye fell upon the first line, he could not repress a slight start. His face grew suddenly very pale, and the hand which he held the paper trembled perceptibly...

Just for the moment, startled and disconcerted though he was by this discovery, Rev. Ignatius did not fully realize what it implied...

Why, even at the best, his vision would only be that there was something wrong in that line of his quotation, and he might even stumble through several lines of the love epistle before he was aware what he was doing...

Rev. Ignatius wiped his brow with his pocket handkerchief, and felt decidedly sick at heart and desperate. Hoping to look unobserved, he sought Nellie Hill's eye...

"I know the hymn," he exclaimed. "I got it out of an old-fashioned hymn book in my father's library at home..."

Of course, the vicar should now detect the mistake—would stop suddenly, in confusion, and—

"By the way," remarked the old fellow, in a tone of voice that was casual indifference, "you made some mistake about that hymn, did you? I suppose you mistook it for a new hymn..."

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

"Not exactly," answered his chief, with a chuckle. "It has scarcely sufficient reason for that. But fortunately, I read your lines through last night..."

Then after a moment, he added, with a quaint mixture of seriousness and jest: "I say, Smith, take my advice. Stick to hymns for the future, and eschew verses..."

Another epistle reads as follows: "Wear of distilling, I have seen of late, I have seen of late, I have seen of late..."

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