

## THE SEARCHLIGHT.

### Didn't Believe In Gas.

"Do you want to take gas?" asked Dr. Pullem of a big, robust looking woman who had come into his office to have some teeth extracted.

"Well, that's what I hardly know, doctor, and I wanted to talk to you about it. I'm just an awful coward, and I'm afraid I'll screech awfully if I don't take anything; and then, again, may be it wouldn't be so bad, after all. My husband's sister had fourteen teeth out at one sitting, and never took a single thing, nor give a single screech. But, then, she ain't a bit nervous, and I am, and I don't think that I could have even one out without screeching awfully, and—"

"Have you ever taken gas?"

"No I've not; and I said I never would. My cousin's wife's mother took gas, and she says that she felt everything exactly the same as if she hadn't taken it, and it made her so dreadfully sick she had to be taken home in a carriage, and she never did get clear over it.

"My husband's sister's aunt gets her work done here, and she says I could depend on the best work and the most gentlemanly treatment, and that if I did take gas it would be of the best; but my sister-in-law's stepmother took gas in a nice place where she paid 8s for it, and it made her carry on awfully. She laughed and hugged the dentist and talked silly and squirmed out of the chair and carried on awfully, and I'd hate dreadfully to do anything of that sort. Then, again, I think: What if I shouldn't come to! I've read of several different persons dying in dentists' chairs. My heart ain't weak that I know of, and my doctor says I could take ether or chloroform if I wanted to, but that's something I simply would not take. I've a perfect horror of anything of that kind, and I'd be sure I'd never come out of it. My husband's half-brother's wife's sister's husband took ether and never came out of it; and as for cocaine, I'm afraid of it, because my brother's son by his first marriage—"

"Do you want to take gas?"

"That's what I want to talk to you about. If I could be sure it wouldn't leave any after-effects, or make me do anything silly, or sicken me, or— An old friend of mine named Lucy Jane Tandy—her name is Hocper now

—she married a man of that name the winter I married my husband, and she lives in Africa now, and has five lovely children. She sent me all of their photographs only last week. If I'd thought, I might have brought them with me. Anyhow, her husband took something to have his teeth out, and Lucy Jane thinks it salivated him, and he did think of suing the dentist—and no one could blame him, either. But then it wasn't gas he took, and—Well, my teeth don't pain me very much, and I'm in no hurry about having them out, so I'll come in again and talk to you about it; but, to tell the honest truth, doctor, I don't believe very much in gas."

"No; I should think you didn't!" muttered the dentist sarcastically as she disappeared.

To restore lace that has become quite yellow, and yet should not be as white as it must surely become through washing, make a suds in a glass jar, drop the lace in, and stand the jar in the sun.

To remove mildew from white cotton materials dissolve one and one-half ounces of chloride of lime in one quart of boiling water. Strain the liquid through a thick cloth and soak the mildewed spots in the liquid for several hours, and then rinse thoroughly in clean water. Wet the goods before putting them to soak.

Shoe leather may be dressed with vaseline or glycerine. This is especially good treatment for leather that has become stiff through being wet. When shoes are wet, before putting them away to dry they should be filled with paper. The paper absorbs the moisture and renders the shoes softer than they would otherwise be.



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