

Sparbles.

SUFFERING humanity read Carbolic Smoke Ball advertisement, cures Diseases of the Nose, Throat and Lungs. See page 594.

The decline of natural gas production in the midst of a presidential campaign is another evidence of Nature's independence of man.

A CYNIC man says that there are two occasions when he would like to be present. One is when the gas company pays its water bill; the other is when the water company pays its gas bill.

Dr Wiggs: Old fellow, I am truly sorry for you. You seem to have married a tartar. De Biggs: It is true. But then, she's beautiful and wealthy. De Biggs: Ah! a sort of cream of tartars.

CHOOSING the lesser evil.—Office boy (to editor): There's a female book agent outside, sir, an' a red-eyed man what wants to whip de editor. Editor: Well, show in the man what wants to whip the editor.

"And did he say all that, Pat?" "Yis, yer riveonce—all them names he called me, and sez I, 'I wuddent demane meself to lose me timber wid such a blaygard,' so I jist knocked him over wid me shtick, an' kem away.

"ARE you going to the party this evening, Maud?" "No, I guess not; I'm afraid that horrid Smith girl will be there." "Oh, no she won't; she said she wasn't going." "Why not?" "Because she was afraid you would be there."

At an evening party one of the guests preserved a strict silence no matter what might be the subject of conversation. Theodore Hooke at last advanced to him and said: "If you are a fool, you are a wise man; if you are a wise man, you are a fool."

An old darky in Kentucky signs himself Col. Henry Clay Jones. When asked why he should prefix that title to his name, as he had no right to do it, he replied: "Yes I has, sah." "But you are not a Colonel." "Dat do'n mean Colonel, boss; dat means coloured."

SCENE—Table d'hote at fashionable hotel on Decide big market day. Farmer of the old school has dined. Waiter: Finished, sir? Farmer: Fat's the charge? Waiter: Five shillings. Farmer, startled: Five shillings! Weel, I'm nre done yet." Resumes operations.

CIVIL Service Examiner (to coloured applicant for the situation of letter carrier: State the distance from London, England, to Calcutta, India, via the Suez Canal. Coloured applicant: Say boss, ef yo'se gwine ter put me on dat route, yo' kin dis remove my applica-tion offen de book.

He (at Saratoga, tenderly): I think I have met you before; your face is very familiar. She (coldly): Yes, sir, and those goods that you warranted would wash, I tried to give away to my maid. And then the silence became so wide and solemn that you could hear them pumping the gas into the mineral springs.

A FRIEND in Need.—DR. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY is a friend in need. Who has not found it such in curing coughs and diseases of the lungs and throat? The sick are assured that the high standard of excellence on which the popularity of this preparation is based, will always be maintained by the proprietors.

DEACON WILLIAMS: Brudder Jones, how did yer son come outen de trial? Brother Jones: De judge done giv' im two muns in de jayul. Deacon Williams: Pears ter me like as if you oughter be pow'ful thankful. He got off mighty light, he did. Brother Jones: 'Twam' s' light s' you seem ter think. Dey's a gwinter hang im when de two muns is up.

"JOHNNY," said the school teacher, "in the sentence 'They held a convention,' parse the word 'convention.'" "Is it a political convention, please, ma'am?" "I don't know—that hasn't anything to do with it." "It would help me considerable if I knew it was a political convention." "In what way?" "Because then I could sort of take it for granted that it was in the nomenclature case."

The following is a favourite story of Mr. Gladstone's about the late Dean Burzon. His devotion to the Anglican *via media* theology as distinguished on the one hand from Romanism, and on the other from Puritanism, is well known, and once, in the pulpit of St. Mary's, after expatiating on his favourite theme with passionate vehemence, he concluded with the fervent aspiration, "Be more blest than to live the life of a Taylor and die the death of a Bab."

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