

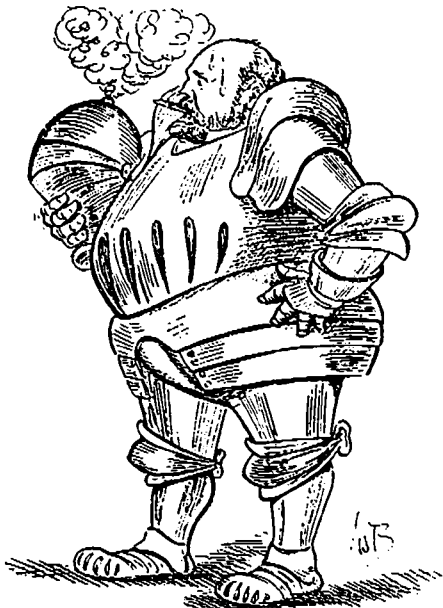
### JOHN BULL'S LATEST ALTERATION TO THE MAP OF AFRICA.

[By the terms of the treaty just concluded with Belgium, Great Britain has obtained a strip of land in the Congo Free State, thus providing a right of way clear through the African continent from north to south].

#### MEANT FOR AN IRISHMAN.

A LADY of great beauty and attractiveness, who was an ardent admirer of Ireland, once crowned her praises of it at a party by saying: "I think I was meant for an Irishwoman."

"Madam," rejoined a witty son of Erin, who happened to be present, "thousands would back me in saying you were meant for an Irishman."



#### YE VALIANT KNIGHT, SIR VAN.

"Yes," quoth he, "these royal honors are all well enough, but I don't believe a man of my build can hope to feel really comfortable in these cast iron clothes!"

#### THEIR PRINCIPLE WEAKNESS.

"MY good man," said the kind old lady to the peddler, from whom she was buying some dead herring, which he had lately declared in a loud voice to be "all alive." "You can do business without telling lies, can't you? I'm afraid untruthfulness is the besetting sin of you fish-peddlers." "There you're wrong, Missus," he replied, "our principal weakness is sell-fish-ness."

#### SUNDAY PLAY.

"CHILDREN! Children!" cried Mrs. Goodwife, rushing into the nursery where her youngsters, arrayed in paper hats, were marching round with drums and tin pans and making a terrible din, "For gracious sake, stop! don't you know this is Sunday, and you mustn't play on the Lord's day?"

"That's all yight, mamma," replied Captain Tommy, "this is the soldiers goin' to church, you know!"

#### A NEAT RETORT.

ONE of our would-be city society ladies lately sent an invitation to Mrs. B——, who is an accomplished *artiste*, having before her marriage studied successfully under celebrated musical professors in Leipsig and Dresden. The invitation ran:—"Mrs. A—— would be charmed to see Mrs. B—— if she would be good enough to bring her music with her."—"To which the ex-pupil of the Royal Conservatory immediately answered, "Mrs. B—— would be charmed to see Mrs. A——, if she would be good enough to come to her house and behave as a lady."

THE work that should to-day be wrought,  
Defer not till to-morrow;  
The help that should within be sought  
Scorn from without to borrow.

Old maxims these, but stout and true,  
They speak in trumpet tone;  
To do at once what is to do,  
And trust ourselves alone.