

**Smiles**

"What are you plunging back into the water for, Pat? You just swam ashore." "Shure, Oi had to save meself first. Now I'm goin' back to fetch Molke."

She: "O, Jack! Do you know Mr. Gibson punctuated his fire yesterday?" He: "You mean 'punctured' my dear?" She: "Well, any way, he came to a full stop."

"Why," asks a Missouri paper, "does Missouri stand at the head in raising mules?" "Because," says another paper, "that is the only safe place to stand."

An insurance man in Montreal the other day remarked: "We have just received a very queer postal card. It reads thus: 'I am dead two days. Send the money.'"

"It is bitter cold," remarked the shivering husband. "Why don't you button up your jacket." "The Idea!" exclaimed the wife. "Why, if I did that no one would know it is lined with fur."

Harold ran back from the lion in the museum. "Don't be afraid, dear," grandmother said. "That lion is stuffed." "Yes," said Harold, "but maybe he isn't stuffed so full that he couldn't find room for a little boy like me."

A visitor at a small resort on the coast asked one of the men whom she saw at the village store what he did all summer. "Loaf and fish," replied the native. "What do you do in the winter?" continued the inquiring visitor. "We don't fish!"

A teacher in a boarding-school was recently examining a class of small boys in mental arithmetic. She said: "If your father gave your mother thirty shillings to-day and two pounds to-morrow, what would she have?" A small boy near the bottom of the class replied: "She would have a fit."

At a recent debate among the members of a Philadelphia Literary Society on the question, "Should Capital Punishment be Abolished?" a speaker in the negative took the position that, as the general sense of justice of mankind for centuries had justified the death penalty for great crimes, therefore those of this generation ought not to abolish it. "for," said he, "if hanging was good enough for my father, it is good enough for me."

Our little youngster, six years old, has just reached the "learning-to-write" stage in school. Sometimes his teacher has the children copy moral precepts from the blackboard into their copy-books. Among the last was the statement: "Kind words are never lost." In Freddy's book, however, written clear across the paper to the other margin, this appeared: "Kind words are never lost." When he was asked, "Where is the t, Freddy?" he replied, "Oh, there was no room on the paper for the t, so I left it on the desk. You can see it there if you go to the school."

Joseph Jefferson believes in early marriages. At Yale recently he advised a group of juniors to marry just as soon as they could afford it. Then he went on: "I abominate bachelors. The older they grow, the more conceited they grow. I took one down a peg, though, the other day. He was talking about this woman he had known and that woman he had known, and all these women, it seemed, had married. 'Why, you,' I said, 'are in danger of getting left. Why don't you, too, get married, before it is too late?' 'Oh,' said the bachelor with a chuckle, 'there are still plenty of good fish in the sea.' 'But the bait,' said I—'isn't there danger of the bait becoming stale?'—Selected.

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