

cried, "I 'loaf' you!" and then I gazed up into her glorious eyes; they were sparkled with tears, her hand shook and trembled violently, and then she burst into a hideous fit of laughter: it was not hysterical laughter, Sir, it was a mere side-splitting peal, the laughter which is produced by something that the laugher considers intensely comic.

"Oh, Mr. Nibbs," she cried, "I never thought you were a wolf in sheep's clothing. Oh, you bold, bad man! Why I'm Mrs. Dobbs!"

And then the whole truth burst upon me at once; and just then Young Dobbs re entered the room which I had asked him to quit, in order that I might propose to his wife.

"Good heavens, madame!" I cried, as I sprang to my feet; what on earth possessed you" I blurted out, and then I suddenly stopped.

"To have married Harry," she replied, in those soft silvery tones of hers. "Well, Mr. Nibbs, I'll tell you; because he's the stupidest old darling I ever met, and because he knows nothing whatever about literature; and because, Mr. Nibbs—well, because I was in love with him;" and then she deliberately put her arm round that handsome young oaf's neck, and kissed him before my very eyes. And if ever a fellow looked a fool—it was Young Dobbs. "And I hope you'll always go on 'loafing' me, Mr. Nibbs," she said, and then she began to laugh once more, and then Young Dobbs—and I laughed too, for I thought it was the best thing to do under the circumstances.

I stayed to supper with them, and ever since that evening I and the Dobbss have been as thick as thieves. After this, it may not surprise you to hear that I am about to stand godfather to Miss Blanche Bellasis' second son.

M. A. QUINN.

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Dr. S. says: Mrs. Smith, I understand your husband is suffering from a Carbuncle.
Mrs. SMITH: Suffering, why, he is delighted with it. He wears it in his scarf!

TOMMY:—(who had concealed himself under the sofa during the betrothal scene.
Sister, I am not your ring.
His SISTER: Why Tommy?
TOMMY:—I want to see if the galoot 'old the truth when he said his heart was in it

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Answers to Correspondents.

The Editors will be pleased to answer any queries under this heading, but should the answers be required by post a fee of 10 cents must accompany the inquiry.
All queries must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender.

PATER:—We do not think that a man has fulfilled his duty to his children when he has given them an education equal to what he had himself. It is an unfortunate thing that so many think as you do; if all practised the same creed, there would be an end to advancement at once. It does not by any means follow that a prosperous tradesman should train his sons for the professions; this is done too often already, with the very natural result that many professional men prefer to put their sons into business. But apart from this, the consciousness of having a good education is just the same satisfaction through life to a business man as to a professional man, and does not in any way unfit him for business life. In answer to your question, then, we should say: Give your boy as good an education as you can afford, putting him to whatever occupation you think him best fitted for; and do not be tempted to make a professional man of him, unless he develops in a marked degree, some, at any rate, of the qualities essential to success in the "learned professions."

M:—The word "Golosh" is commonly used in England to denote "overshoes" or "rubbers" which latter words are rarely heard except on this side. The derivation from "Goliath's shoes" is an old one, very ingenious, but without any foundation in fact. The word no doubt comes from "Gallicæ" (Gaulish shoes), through the Spanish "galocha"—a kind of wooden shoe.

YANK:—18 carat gold simply means a mixture of 18 parts gold with 6 parts alloy, the alloy usually consisting chiefly of copper. Standard gold is 22 carat, i. e. 22 parts gold out of 24. The carat was a small abyssinian seed, used for weighing gold and precious stones. Neither pure gold nor pure silver are ever used in the manufacture of coins or jewellery, as both metals are too soft to wear well. The standard silver used for coinage contains 925 parts silver out of 1000.

SKATER:—The fastest time on record is a mile in three minutes. This was accomplished by "Fish" Smart, the British Champion, in 1881. A mile in three minutes and half a second was attained by A. W. Norseng last year. The same Norwegian skater accomplished five miles in 16min. 48½ secs. which is at the rate of a mile in 3min. 52sec. Longer distances of 30, 40 and 50 miles were skated in the times and at the speeds undermentioned by S. J. Montgomery in 1882, namely:—

Miles.	Hours.	Time Min.	Secs.	Time per mile. Min.	Secs.
30	2	31	12	5	21
40	3	21	22	5	21
50	4	13	36	5	43

Mr. Donoghue, at Amsterdam, skated one mile in 3 minutes and two-thirds of a second, which is a fraction of a second longer than the time of Mr. Norseng. Mr. Donoghue, however, accomplished the five miles in 16min. 21secs., or at the rate of a mile in 3 min and two-fifths of a second. The fast express train record is a mile in 50-ecs.; the racehorse record 1 min. 35secs. The best trotting horse time is 2min. 8secs., and the record for safety bicycles on a cinder path is 20 secs.