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Just So!

On one occasion when he was busy, President Lincoln received a delegation of men who were endeavoring to hurry the passing of some petty bill. When they entered, Lincoln looked up gravely and said: "If you call the tail of a sheep a leg, how many legs will the sheep have?"

"Five," said the spokesman.
"No," replied Lincoln, "it would have only four. Calling the tail a leg wouldn't make it one." The delegation departed in discomfiture.

Her Reason

"Look here, Matilda," said the mistress to the colored cook, "you sleep right close to the chicken house, and you must have heard those thieves stealing the chickens."

"Yes, ma'am. I heard de chickens holler, and heard de voices ob de men."

"Why didn't you go out, then?"

"Cause, ma'am, (bursting into tears) I knowed my old fadder-was out dar, and I wouldn't had him know I 'se lo'ks' confidence in him for all de chickens in de world. If I had gone out dar and kitched him it would have broke his ole heart, and he would hab made me tote de chickens home fah him besides. He done tote me de day before dat he's gwine to pull dem chickens dat night."

Responsibilities of a Son

When Archbishop Trench was Dean of Westminster he delegated Canon Cureton to preach at the Abbey on a certain saint's day. On such days, says a writer in the Philadelphia Public Ledger, the boys of Westminster School attended service, and afterward had the rest of the day as a holiday.

While Mr. Cureton, on the morning of the day he was to officiate, was looking over his sermon at the breakfast-table, his son asked, in a tone vibrating with anxiety:

"Father, is yours a long sermon to-day?"

"No, Jimmy, not very."

"But how long? Please tell me."

"Well, about twenty minutes, I should say. But why are you so anxious to know?"

"Because the boys said they would thrash me awfully if you are more than half an hour."

O Ye Tears!

The president of one of the well-known colleges tells this story, says Harper's Weekly, of one of his professors of chemistry:

"It seems that the professor and his wife had not agreed upon some domestic question, the professor asserting that his means would not warrant the expense involved. His wife had used all her powers of persuasion without avail, and at last resorted to the final feminine expedient—a flood of tears. At this the professor picked up his hat, but paused to remark:

"You might save yourself the trouble of that, my dear; your tears have absolutely no effect upon me. Why should they, being nothing but common water with a very small percentage of phosphorus salts and a trace of chloride of sodium!"

Russian Official—You cannot stay in this country, sir.

Traveller—Then, of course, I will leave it.

Russian Official—Have you a permit to leave?

Traveller—No, sir.

Russian Official—Then I must tell you that you cannot go. I give you twenty-four hours to make up your mind as to what you will do.

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