

TIP-BITS

Ruskin thinks that this century has produced very few books worth reading. But for his modesty he could name the few.

"Too much absorbed in business," was the comment of a newspaper on the death of a brewer who was found drowned in a tank in his own beer.

The best way to settle a quarrel is for the innocent one to take the initiative and forgive the guilty one. A quarrel is seldom heated in any other way. Try it.—*Independent*.

The Greek statesman Papamichaelopoulos, declined to form a make shift Ministry. Naturally he wanted to stay in office long enough to write his name on the page of history.—*Springfield Republican*.

He was looking for a rich wife and thought he was on the trail. "I love you," he said to her in rich, warm tones, "more than I can tell you in words." "You'd better try figures," she replied piously, for she was not so green as she looked.

"SOLD AGAIN!" — Robinson (at window): "Hullo! There goes that woman Brown's so dead sweet on!" Mrs. B. (rushing up, with excitement). "Where?—who?—where? What, that—in the gray? Why, George, how ridiculous you are! That's his wife." Robinson: "Exactly, my dear" (Tab.eau).—*Punch*.

Mr. Jones: "No dinner to-day? That's a nice state of affairs. Where's Mrs. Jones?" "Servant: "Writing, sir." Mr. Jones: "Writing what, pray?" Servant: "I don't know exactly, sir, but I think she said it's an article for the *Housekeeper* about how 'It's Better to Keep House than to Board,' sir, or something of that sort"

WHAT HIS HABITS WERE—"One more question, Mr. Parks," said a counsel to a witness, who happened to be a tailor. "You have known the defendant a long time; what are his habits—loose, or otherwise?" "The one he's got on now, I think is rather tight under the arms, and too short-waisted for the fashion," replied Parks. "Stand down," said the counsel.

Dr. S. G. Howe was found once by Francis Bird with his feet swathed in flannels and extended on a chair. Calling the next day, and finding him in like position, he said: "Howe, what is the matter?" "I have the gout," said Howe. "You have the gout, such a temperance man as you?" "Yes," said the great philanthropist; "yes Bird, my ancestors drank wine, and I must fool the bills."

A CAPE BRETON PARSON.—He was a tall angular parson of the old severe Presbyterian type. As the local idiom has it, "You would know by his English that he had the Gaelic." He was preaching in a brother parson's pulpit, to a congregation who were strangers to him. Descanting on the lamb as a type of gentleness, meekness, etc., he said:

"The lamb is quite and kind. The lamb is not like the other beasts, the lion and the tiger and the wolf. Ye will not be running away from the lamb. No. The lamb is kind; the lamb will not eat ye, whatever.

"And there is food in the lamb, too. Oh, yes, you will be killin' the lamb and the sheep when the cold weather will come in the winter. You will be wantin' some good strong food in the winter, and it is then you will be killin' the lamb.

"And there is clothing in the lamb—he is good for the clothing. You will tek the wool off him, and you will mek clothes for your-elves." And how would you and I look without clothing?" etc.

At the close of the exercises he gave out the following very peculiar notice, to explain which I must state that ravages had been made among the Presbyterian flock by the influence of a divine of a different persuasion: "And there will most likely be a family from X. that will be baptized here after meeting on Friday night, but"—here he leaned forward and adled, in a loud stage-whisper—"ye'll no be saying a word about it, de r brethren, as I do not think they want it known."—*Harper's Magazine for July*.

KISSES THAT COUNT.—There are three kisses in a world of miscellaneous kisses which may be counted true—the kiss the mother lightly lays upon her baby's dewy lips, the kiss the mother gives her boy as he goes forth into the world, and the kiss we press upon the still, pale lips of the dead. All the rest are like the strawberries in the bottom of the basket—to be taken with suspicion.—*Chicago Journal*.

THE LAWYER'S FUNCTION.—Fair Applicant—I desire, sir, an absolute separation from my husband.

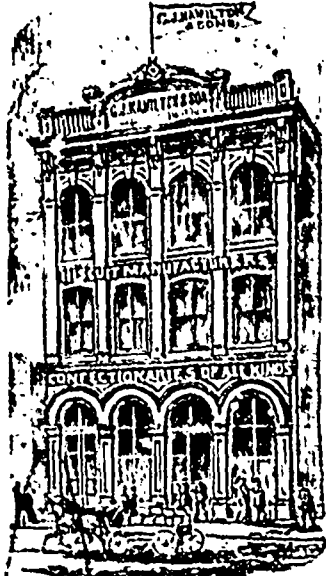
Attorney—Upon what ground, madam, do you base your plea.

"We are not suited to each other. He does not appreciate the finer sensibilities of my more delicately organized nature, and—but perhaps that is sufficient?"

"I fear, madam, in the absence of more substantial cause for complaint, an action would not lie."

"Not lie? It is you, sir, I supposed would do that."

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