

His Only Chance

A "ganger" of navvies went away one day, and during his absence he left an Irishman named Mike in charge. When he returned Mike was sitting on a stone smoking. Not seeing any men working, the "ganger" asked Mike where they were. "Sure," said Mike. "I've sacked 'em." "Sacked 'em?" roared the "ganger." "Yes," said Mike. "It's the first time I've been foreman in my life, so if I didn't sack 'em then I should never have another chance to show my authority."

Not True to Nature

"Mark Twain was visiting H. H. Rogers," said a New York editor. "Mr. Rogers led the humorist into his library. 'There,' he said, as he pointed to a bust in white marble, 'what do you think of that?' It was a bust of a young woman coiling her hair—a very graceful example of modern Italian sculpture. Mr. Clemens looked at it a moment, and then, in the exaggerated nasal drawl that he affects in his humorous moments, he said: 'It isn't true to nature.' 'Why not?' Mr. Rogers asked. 'She ought to have her mouth full of hairpins,' said the humorist."

A Disappointing King

When King Edward visited Italy recently, says Home Notes, the little Princess Yolande was greatly interested in the royal visitor and very anxious to see him. However, to her great disgust, she was so closely confined to the nursery during the visit that she never caught a glimpse of him until one morning she eluded her keepers and hid behind a chair in the room where King Victor and Queen Elena were talking to King Edward. Presently the Queen spied her. "Yolande," she asked, "why did you run away?"

"I didn't," replied the child. "I only wanted to see King Edward's crown, and they kept me in the nursery. And the nasty man hasn't got a crown after all."

Claiming His Rights Promptly

An instance of the application of a precocious knowledge of the law by a child occurred in a Parisian school last January.

In France, education is obligatory, but the law cannot compel children to remain at school after the age of thirteen. This law, needless to remark, is usually a dead letter; but on the occasion in question a pupil suddenly got up in the middle of a lesson, gathered up his books, placed them neatly in his desk, took up his hat, and moved toward the door.

"Where are you going?" asked the teacher, with a certain amount of ascertaining.

"Sir," replied the boy, with irritating nonchalance, "I was thirteen years of age four minutes ago, and you have no longer any right to keep me at school."

He Understood

One of Marshall P. Wilder's stories of American humor is about a fond husband coming home and finding his pretty young wife in tears.

"What's the matter, darling?" asked he. "The dog ate up the lovely cream pie I made for your dinner," sobbed the wife.

"Never mind—dry your tears, little girl—I'll buy you another dog," said the husband.

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