

WITH THE WITS

NOT HIS FAULT.

Teacher, to Little Boy—Freddie Brooks, are you making faces at Nellie Lyon?

Freddie Brooks—Please, teacher, no, ma'am. I was trying to smile, and my face slipped.—'Lippincott's.'



AN ALMOST PARDONABLE PUN.

Jones: 'What became of that old dog of yours, Pat?'

Pat: 'Shure, he shwallered a tape measure, an' it kilt him.'

Jones: 'He died by inches, thin.'

Pat: 'Indate he didn't. He wint round an' died by the yard.'



ATROCIOUS GRAMMAR.

Some people claim the owl is wise.

If that were really true,
It would exclaim: 'To whit, to whom!
And not, 'To whit, to who.'

—'Catholic Standard and Times.'



ON THE STILL HUNT.

Mrs. Subbubs—No, my husband isn't at home; he's out hunting, as usual.' Mr. McCall—'You don't say? After something big?' Mrs. Subbubs—'We don't care whether she's big or little, so long as she can cook our meats and do plain housekeeping.'—Philadelphia 'Press.'



RECESS.

Allessandro is an adorable infant—to his parents. One day his mother, to punish him, deprived him of his fruit at dinner. He yelled at the top of his voice for two hours, and then stopped.

'Well,' said his mother, 'are you going to be good? Have you finished crying?'

'No,' replied the boy. 'I have not finished. I'm only resting!'



HOPE DEFERRED.

I know the rose will bloom again,
I know the butterfly
Will flaunt once more across the plain
His beauties to mine eye;
I know this world is springtime's glow
This mien severe will doff,
But ere that time what tons of snow
We'll have to shovel off.

—Washington 'Star.'



ART OR NATURE.

She had just turned from the blackboard where for five minutes she had been demonstrating a 'sum' which to her very youthful pupils seemed difficult.

'Now, children, are you perfectly sure that you understand?'

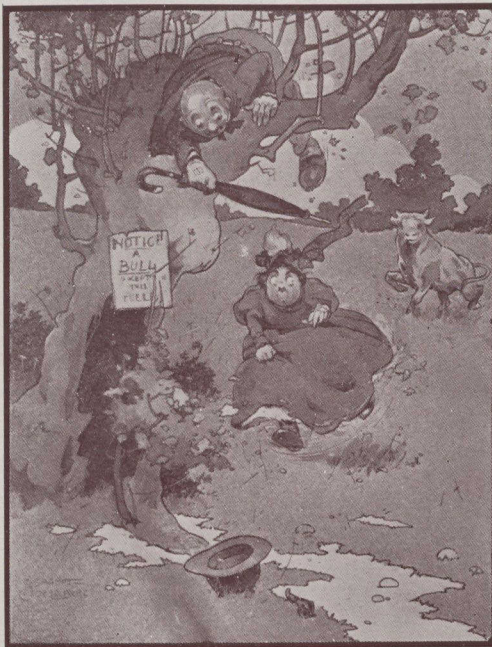
There was a murmur of assent.

'Do any of you wish to ask a question?'

In the back of the room a small hand was raised aloft. The teacher, looking into the earnestly eager face, felt that glow of satisfaction which we all experience in assisting a budding intellect.

'What is it, Annie? What do you wish to know?'

'Miss M—, are your teeth false?' demanded the earnest little seeker in a shrill treble. And she swept away.—'Cassell's Magazine.'



Self-Sacrifice

Mr. Bodger, (heroically from above), "Here Maria, you take the umbrella, never mind about me."
—Black and White

IN TURN.

John was a very practical young man, and in order to start straight he said to the young lady:

'You know, Juliet, I promised my mother that I would marry only a good housekeeper and a domestic woman. Can you make good bread? That is the fundamental principle of all housekeeping.'

'Yes,' Juliet replied, 'I went to a cookery school, and learned how to make all kinds of bread.'

'And can you do your own dressmaking? I am comparatively a poor man, and quite unable to pay dressmakers' bills.'

'Yes,' she said frankly. 'I can make everything I wear, especially hats.'

'You are a jewel!' he cried, with enthusiasm. 'Will you marry me?'

'Wait a minute—there's no hurry,' she said coolly. 'It is my turn to ask a few questions. Can you carry coal and light the fire of a morning?'

'Why, the maid would do that.'

'Can you scrub floors, beat carpets, sweep chimneys—'

'I am not a domestic servant.'

'Neither am I. It has taken most of my time so far to acquire the education and accomplishments that attract you to me. But as soon as I have learned all the professions you speak of, I will let you know. Meantime, good afternoon.'



WHOLESALE PRICE.

The busy shopper paused at the fruit vender's stand. 'How much are your pine-apples?' she asked.

'Eight cents apiece, lady.'

'Well, I declare, that's too good to be missed; I'll take eight of them,' she said.

The dealer placed them in a bag and said: 'Eight eights—eighty eight. You take dem along for eighty-five.'

The lady's eyes sparkled at the bargain price, and she departed in a happy frame of mind—happy until her husband told her to brush up on the multiplication table.—'Lippincott's.'

KEPT IN REMEMBRANCE.

'I never forget a joke that I once hear,' remarked a youth.

'No,' returned the friend wearily, 'and you don't give anyone else a chance to!'



CONTAGIOUS.

An Irish lad on the East Side was obliged recently to seek treatment at a dispensary. On his return home after the first treatment he was met by this inquiry from his mother: 'An' what did the doctor man say was the matter wid your eye?'

'He said there was some furrin substance in it.'

'Shure!' exclaimed the old woman, with a I-told-you-so air, 'now, maybe, ye'll kape away from thim Eyetalian boys!—'Success.'



A STARTLING PROPOSITION.

'If I engage two clerks on Jan. 1,' said a merchant, 'at \$500 a year each, with the understanding that one is to get a raise of \$100 every year and the other a raise of \$25 every half year, which will draw the bigger salary?'

'The one that gets the \$100 yearly raise, of course.'

'Do you mean to say that, starting equal at \$500, the man getting the \$25 semi-annual raise will draw more salary than the one getting the \$100 annual raise?'

'Precisely.'

'Bosh.'

Then the merchant took paper and pencil and proved his contention thus:

	Half-yearly increase.	Yearly increase
First half-year	\$250	
Second half-year	275	
	—\$525	\$500
Third half-year	\$300	
Fourth half-year	325	
	—\$625	\$600
Fifth half-year	\$350	
Sixth half-year	375	
	—\$725	\$700



THEY MISSED THE POINT.

An unusually fine collection of schoolboy 'howlers' appears in the 'University Correspondent.' Here are a few of the most brilliant gems:

The name of Caesar's wife was Caesarea; she was above suspicion.

Tolstoy was the leader of the Passive Resisters; he had his goods sold rather than be vaccinated.

Charon was a man who fried soles over the sticks.

The Duke of Marlborough was a great general, who always fought with a fixed determination to win or lose.

The Transvaal is situated on a plateau 4,000 miles high, and produces large crops of serials.

Socrates died from a dose of wedlock. The heart is over the ribs in the middle of the borax.

A thermometer is an instrument for measuring temperance.

To keep milk from turning sour you should keep it in the cow.

The embalmed body of an Egyptian is called a dummy.

Contralto is a low sort of music which only ladies sing.

The articles of our belief are the Creed, Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments and the Vulgar Tongue.