

## In Lighter Vein.

(Each month we give a prize of a book for the best original joke or story. Who will be the prize-winners next month?)

The prize this month goes to Lea Rishard, Sion, Alberta for the following.

### A Good Answer.

A little Canadian girl asked a little German girl what size shoes she wore—whether they were ones or twos. She pointed to her feet and said, "I wear one on this foot and one on this foot."

### A Genius.

A prize was offered for the largest egg at the Pilot Mound fair. A young boy was anxious to secure it. So he got a good sized goose egg and suspended it in front of the hen's nest with this label on it. "Keep your eye on this and do your best!" He won the prize.

### Figure it out.

"I notice she bowed to you. Is she an old acquaintance?"  
"Yes; we're slightly acquainted. In fact, she's a sort of distant relation. She was the first wife of my second wife's first husband."

### Preface or Appendix.

A prominent insurance man in San Francisco tells the following:  
A man went to sleep in the midst of a curtain lecture. When he woke up in the morning the words were flying as fast as when he went to sleep. "Say," he interrupted the harangue to inquire, "are you talking yet or again?"

### Why They Laughed.

"Marr," said a lady to her cook. "I must insist that you keep better hours, and that you have less company in the kitchen at night. Last night I was kept awake by the uproarious laughter of one of your friends."  
"Yes, mum, I know," was the reply; "but she couldn't help it. I was telling her how you tried to make a cake one day!"

### A Way Out.

Of Sawbath-breaking north of the Tweed there is the story of the Scot and his wheelbarrow, which has been fathered upon Sir Archibald Geikie. Donald was hammering away at the bottom of his garden when his wife came to the door.  
"Mon," she said, "ye're making much clatter. What will the neebours say?"  
"Dom the neebours," said the busy one. "I maun get ma' barra mendit."  
"Oh, but, Donald, it's vera wrang to work on Sawbath," expostulated the good wife; "ye ought to use screws."

### Singular and Plural

It is 2 o'clock in the morning and a temperance town at that.  
A belated individual approaches the faithful officer, who is trudging his beat, and asks confidentially: "Could you tell me where I can get a drink at this time of night?"  
"No, sir!" says the officer rebukingly. The belated individual goes on his way, but at the next corner he has a new idea, so he returns to the faithful officer and inquires confidentially: "Could you tell me where we could get a drink at this time of night?"

### Not Exempt.

To President Hadley, of Yale, is accredited the following:  
An evangelist at a church in a Western town was exhorting his hearers to flee from the wrath to come. "I warn you," he thundered, "that in the language of the Scriptures, 'there will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth.'"  
"At this point an old woman in the gallery stood up. "Sir, I have no teeth."  
"Madam," returned the evangelist, severely, "teeth will be provided."

### Epigrams.

"If one were great in everything he would be too great to be of any use—either to himself or to the world."  
"Many who think they are going to land in Heaven all right will find considerable trouble at the custom-house."  
"Any one nowadays who lets the grass grow under his feet, is gradually going to grass."  
"A cat in a trap would be one of the finest exhibitions of Zoology that a mouse ever saw."  
"Be as little of a bully in your own home as you are in the street."

### Impossible.

In a certain town are two brothers who are engaged in the retail coal business. A noted evangelist visited the town, and the elder brother was converted. For weeks after his conversion he endeavored to persuade his brother to join the church. One day he said to him: "Why can't you too join the church, Richard?"  
"It's all right for you to be a member of the church," replied Richard, "but if I join, who's going to weigh the coal?"

### Needed Help.

A ten-year old street urchin, a product of the tenement, was recently accused of stealing jam from a woman living in an adjoining house. When brought to the children's court the child confessed, broke down and wept. The judge looked at him pityingly.  
"My boy," he said kindly, "how many times have you done that?"  
"Onct," was the reply.  
"Will you promise not to steal any more jam?"  
"Yep," he muttered between his sobs. "if she'll keep her pantry door locked all the time."

### Champion Cricket.

It was at the conclusion of the first evening's practice, and a number of young cricketers were talking in the pavillion about record performances. After a few wonderful events had been related, one of their number, noted both as a bad bowler and batter, began—"Well, chaps, I don't suppose you'll believe me, but I once scored a hundred runs and followed it up by taking nine wickets, and I should no doubt have taken the other but—"  
"But what?" queried his listeners as the speaker hesitated.  
"But my father knocked at my bedroom door and I woke up!"  
Then he dodged out of the pavillion to escape a shower of bats and stumps.

### A Boy who wouldn't be discouraged.

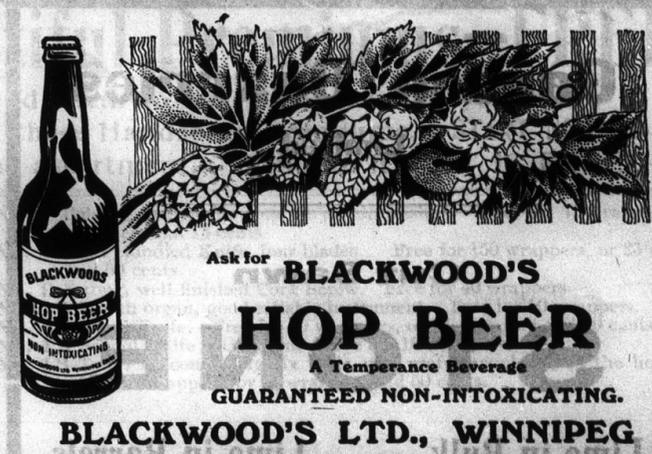
A small boy was hoeing corn in a sterile field by the roadside, up near Bethel, Ind., when a passer-by stopped and said:  
"Pears to me your corn is rather small."  
"Certainly," said the boy. "It's dwarf corn."  
"But it looks yellor."  
"Certainly. We planted the yellor kind."  
"But it looks as if you wouldn't get more than half a crop."  
"Of course not," said the boy. "We planted her on shares."

### He Was the Limit.

The dear girls were comparing notes on subjects of more or less importance. "Your beau seems rather bashful," said Stella.  
"Bashful!" echoed Mabel. "Why, bashful is no name for it."  
"Why don't you encourage him?" queried her friend.  
"I have tried," answered Mabel, "but the attempt was a failure. Only last night I sat all alone on the sofa, and he perched up in a chair as far away as he could get."  
"I asked him if he didn't think it strange that the length of a man's arm was the same as the distance around a woman's waist, and what do you think he did?"  
"Just what any sensible man would have done—tried it, I suppose."  
"Not any, thank you. He asked if I could find a piece of string, so we could measure and see if it was a fact. Isn't he the limit?"

### Life's Ups and Downs.

He was a porter in a linendraper's, and had put in five years without a rise of wages.  
So he went to the manager and said: "Sir, meat has gone up."  
"Yes."  
"Rent has gone up."  
"Yes."  
"Clothing has gone up."  
"Yes."  
"Everything has gone up."  
"Yes."  
"Well, sir—well—"  
"No need to go further, James. Pack up your things. You have also gone up. We shall get a new man tomorrow."  
The porter pondered. Then: "Sir," he said, "I think I was mistaken."  
"Yes."  
"Everything has gone down."  
"Then you may go down and help finish packing those boxes."  
And James went down.



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