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The "Sir" Added.

Some one asked Edward Elgar, the English composer, why he is so often called 'Sir Edward.' "That is a joke on me," answered Elgar; "It dates back to the time when I was an ignorant little country lad, and went up to school to Worcester. When I came into the classroom the teacher asked me, 'What is your name?' 'Edward Elgar,' I replied. 'Add the sir,' reprimanded the teacher, sharply. 'Sir Edward Elgar,' I corrected. Ever since that day all my old school friends call me 'sir.'"

The Dust of Idleness.

"How dusty these chairs are, Norah!" said the mistress of a rosy Celtic treasure, lately acquired. Norah looked disturbed for a moment, but quickly recovered.

She ran her finger along the seat of one of the chairs and then regarded it closely.

"Now who'd ever think 'twud make all that difference to have nobody sit in 'em just the wan day, mum?" said Norah, in amazement. "If 'twasn't for visitors Oi'd have to be at 'em wid a cloth all the time!"

His Dilemma.

"We-ell, some ways I'd like to an' some ways I wouldn't," said Farmer Bentover, when the suave dispenser of encyclopedias had paused in his strenuous song.

"You see, if I was to sign for that 'ere cyclopedee in forty-seven parts, including the index and appendicits, I'm sorter afraid I'd hev to work so hard to pay fer it that I'd be too tired to enjoy readin' it; while if I read it at my leisure, as I'd ort to, in order to get the good of it, I wouldn't have time to earn the price. So, all things considered, I'll have to deny myself the privilege, as it were. Looks sorter like rain off to the sou'east, don't it?"

Surgeon's Wit and Wisdom.

Some excellent sayings of the late C. H. Surgeon are given in a volume of "Personal Reminiscences," by the Rev. William Williams. Here are some of them:

"I don't like dancing. It was through a dance that the first Baptist minister lost his head, and I may well be afraid of it."

"Mind your illustrations are correct. It will never do to describe Noah as one did, sitting outside the ark reading his Bible."

"Always get the true meaning of a text. One local preacher took 'He for our profit' and preached on 'The Prophetical Office of Christ.'"

"Mind your figures of speech are not cracked. Don't talk like the brother who said, 'I fly from star to star, from cherry-beam to cherry-beam.'"

"Get amongst your people, or somebody may be saying of you as one old lady said of her minister, that he was invisible all the week and incomprehensible on Sundays."

"Shun all affectation in the pulpit and mind you never get into the goody-goody style. One of his sort once said, 'I was reading this morning in dear Hebrews.'"

"Mind the theme of your sermon suits yourself. A beardless boy should not preach from 'I have been young, and now am old.'"

Might Have Been Worse.

"You look worried to-night, William," said the rural editor's wife. "Anything wrong?" "Well, rather," replied the local moulder of public opinions. "An indignant subscriber came into the office this afternoon and nearly punched the life out of our person." "My goodness!" exclaimed the power behind the press. "I hope he didn't stop his paper."

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