

TIT-BITS.

"Now is the accepted time," remarked the poor young man solemnly, when his girl told him she would have him.

He: "I can't see why the word 'obey' should be eliminated from the marriage service." She: "Can't you? It will relieve the bride from promising that which she has no idea of performing."

Antiquarian Gent: "Got any old—ah—Roman weapons or pottery lately?" Dealer: "'Xpect them in nex' week, sir—ain't quite finished rustin' yet, sir—about Toosday, sir."—*Punch*.

Never say a woman can't keep a secret. Four of the wives of Cabinet Ministers knew of the President's engagement since January 1. It was a man who finally let the cat out of the bag.

"What reason have you for asking for leave of absence for a week?" "A domestic affliction, sir." "Ah! very sorry. A near relative, is it?" "Well—I—sir—you see, sir, I'm going to get married."—*Texas Sittings*.

"Give us, O give us a man who sings at his work," says Carlyle. Oh! yes; give him to us; deliver him into our hands. He occupies the next office, and we can't get at him.

At the entrance of a restaurant in Pesth, where young ladies are engaged, is posted a notice reading, "Gentlemen are requested to abstain from kissing the waitresses on the stairs, as this is a frightful source of breakage and impedes the service."

A few days ago as two ladies, not one hundred miles from Winsted, were discussing the merits and qualifications of their cows, one asked the other if her cow was farrow. The answer was: "No, she is an Alderney."

Missionary (to newly-converted chief of a cannibal tribe): "Well, Luke, how about cannibalism? Four weeks ago you slaughtered your father; have you not improved since?" Cannibal. "Yes, indeed, my teacher; since then I have only eaten a couple of very distant relatives."—*Fliegende Blätter*.

The ideas of the colored man in the South are somewhat confused on some subjects. An old Negro from Onion Creek applied to an Austin lawyer to bring suit against Uncle Mose for \$10 borrowed money. "You must have a witness who saw you lend him the money." "Boss," replied the colored agriculturist, after a minute's pause, "ef I brings two witnesses what seed me han' him de ten dollahs, kin I make him pay me back twenty dollahs?"—*Texas Sittings*.

Gen. Jackson understood no language but English, and he was often in a dilemma from being unable to converse with foreign Ambassadors in Washington. The following comical story is told in a recent book, "Court Circles of the Republic," and is said to be true:—

When Mr. McLane was Secretary of State, a new Minister arrived from Lisbon, and a day was appointed for him to be presented to the President. The hour was set, and Mr. McLane expected the Minister to call at the State Department; but the Portuguese had misunderstood Mr. McLane's French, and he proceeded alone to the White House.

He rang the bell, and the door was opened by the Irish porter, Jimmy O'Neil. "Je suis venu voir Monsieur le President," said the Minister.

"What does he mean?" muttered Jimmy. "He says President, though, and I suppose he wants to see the General."

"Oui, Oui," said the Portuguese, bowing. Jimmy ushered him into the Green Room, where the General was smoking his corn-cob pipe with great composure.

The Minister made his bow to the President, and addressed him in French, of which the General did not understand a word.

"What does the fellow say, Jimmy?" said he.

"Don't know, sir; I reckon he's a furrier."

"Try him in Irish, Jimmy," said Old Hickory.

Jimmy gave him a touch of the genuine Milesian, but the Minister only shrugged his shoulders with the usual "Plait-il?"

"Och!" exclaimed Jimmy, "he can't go the Irish, sir. He's French to be sure!"

"Send for the French cook, and let him try if he can find out what the gentleman wants."

The cook was hurried from the kitchen, sleeves rolled up, apron on, and the carving-knife in his hand.

The Minister, seeing this formidable apparition, and doubting he was in the presence of the head of the nation, feared some treachery and made for the door, before which Jimmy planted himself to keep him in.

When the cook, by the General's order, asked who he was and what he wanted, and he gave a subdued answer, the President discovered his character. At this juncture McLane came in, and the Minister was presented in due form.

But it is said General Jackson always resented allusions to this incident.

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