



### FOOD FOR THE MIND.

HE (literary)—"How do you like Rice and Besant?"

SHE (worldly)—"I never tasted it—but I like rice and curry!"

—Funny Folks.

### HOW HE WAS "VINDICATED."

THE other evening a very pleasant and recherche little affair came off at the establishment of Mr. Mike Guffin, York Street, popularly known as the "Bummer's Roost," the occasion being the return to Toronto, after a two years' absence in Kingston, of Mr. Henry Muggins, generally known by the more familiar appellation of "Hank the Tough." It was Mr. Muggins' misfortune some time since to incur the enmity of some narrow-minded and vindictive persons, owing to the circumstance that a watch and pocket-book bearing a resemblance to those alleged to have been lost by a stranger from Hamilton were found in his possession, and the harsh and illiberal treatment he received at the hands of a judge, actuated by a very manifest bias against gentlemen of Mr. Muggins' stamp, caused great indignation among his numerous friends. Accordingly, it was resolved on his return to manifest their unswerving belief in his rectitude of character, and to testify their entire want of confidence in the judicial system, by tendering Mr. Muggins a grand banquet. The company which assembled in the spacious kitchen of the Bummer's Roost was a thoroughly representative one, including the eminent Professor De Jones, tonsorial artist, selected for the position of chairman on account of his lingual powers: P. Wratz, Larry the Kid, Shorty O'Toole, Snoozer Mike, Bill Budger, One-Eyed Bob, Dick the Clysfaker, Dago Pete, Tomkins, *alias* the Dude, Hinglish 'Arry—and many others. The menu included fried liver, bolonies, crackers and cheese, tripe and peanuts, with the usual beverages.

Professor De Jones said that they were there to vindicate, in the most emphatic way, the guest of the evening from the aspersions cast on him by a gang of malevolent persecutors. (Cries of "beer! beer!") He had pleasure in standing by a brave man. ("You bet he is. D'ye mind how he slugged the cop.") They could attach no sort of importance to the verdict of the court. ("Course we don't—courts be blowed!") Judges were a pernickity lot anyhow—actuated by a mean prejudice—he rejoiced that this gathering had cleared the character of Mr. Muggins, or, if he might call him so, "Hank the Tough," from the dastardly slanders of his adversaries. ("You bet—he's a daisy.")

Mr. Muggins, who was received with enthusiastic shouts of welcome and cries of "Here's a lookin' at yer, Hank," "Toot yer bazoo, old man," etc., said that he warn't no speaker, but by jiminy it was pretty nigh worth putting in two years at Kingston to get such a welcome from the gang. With regard to the kind of unfortunate circumstance attending his absence it wasn't his purpose to enter into any explanation. As to the charge against him the presence of the crowd that had met to do him honor was sufficient to show what they thought of its gravity. (Applause.) He had been grossly misrepresented by the press—(groans for the press)—and a judge and jury had attempted to ruin his character. If he had made mistakes they were of the head and not of the heart. Anyway the fellow that made all the trouble about his blooming old watch and a few cases was from Hamilton, and this public spirited Toronto gang would recognize that a man from Hamilton was fair game. He decidedly refused to accept the verdict of the court.

At this juncture of the proceedings a fight between Shorty O'Toole and Hinglish 'Arry temporarily interrupted the flow of oratory. The affair was in other respects a grand success and ought to reinstate Mr. Muggins in the good opinion of the public as completely as Gen. Middleton has been vindicated by the dinner eaten in his honor and Charley Rykert vindicated by the vote of the Lincoln electors. It is to be regretted, however, that there are still some bitterly censorious and prejudiced persons who cling to the opinion that Mr. Muggins is not altogether a trustworthy person, as his application to be appointed nightwatchman to a Bank has been very positively refused.

### YANKEE MEANNESS.

TELEGRAM EDITOR—"I've always said that the Yankees were the meanest nation on earth and this Chapeau business proves it."

WADSNICK—"How so? I don't quite see."

TELEGRAM EDITOR—"Don't see! Why, what could be plainer? Here was Chapeau, a Canadian, that had a chance to be the first man electrocuted for murder but the Governor of New York has just commuted the sentence. They do hate to see Canadians take the lead in anything."



### A NEW TERROR.

Probable effect of the Greek knot if it continues to grow at the present alarming rate.