The (ireat shleme Matell.
The matel was arranged on tho following basis: Mr. Hamn ollured to bet Mr. Banka that Mrs. Janks could keop aboolately silunt louger at at single streteh than Mra. Himm. Mr. Banks sadd ho did nut know much abont Mrs. Hunn's capacity as a talker, but ho folt certain that Mrs. Banks couldn't hold her tongue for ten minutes excepring when sho was asleep, and uron then she always talked a little. So it was agreed to make a trial, Hunn to pay for a silt dress if Mrs. Banks spoko inst, and Banks to pay for it if Mrs. Hunn spoka first. When the match was proposed Mr. Humn sugiested that the contestants should go into training, but lauks protested, upon the ground that if Mrs. Banks got so trging too hard to keep quite it mould kill hur. The contest took piace in Mr. Hunu's diming room, the too ladies sitting oppusito to each other. When the signal was given Mrs. Banks was it the midst of some remarks about the cheapness of calico. but she broke off short, and by holding her hand over her mouth resolutely, suppresed a powerful impulse to finish the sentence. There was profound sentence.
silence for ten minutes ; and then Mrs. Gunn started to say then Mirs. Gunn started to say
somathing, but remembering hersomathag,
self, she turned it off by pretending that she was clearmug her throat. MIr. Hunn claimed the stakes upon the glound that it
 Then Huan, rith mali. nant ingenuity, started a diacussion rith Banks about sprine bnnocts, and as they talked it was noticed that 3ire Huan had ' the incapacity of serranes, and of the amful to hold on tightly to the chair to restrain her- dimensions of their ragea, followed; but both self, whilo Mre. Banks was absolutoly palo from contestants held out, although Mrs. Hunn rushed suppressed emotion.
This having failed, Banks turned the conversation on the infamous prica of butter, with a disbolical purpose to strike Mrs Banks in the meakest poinh Violent twitchiags were ohserv. able about the muscles of her mouth, and Banks felt certain for a moment that he was going to win; but Mrs. Banks sirddenly arose and pounded the dinner table half a dozen times vigorously with her fist and this seemed to give great relief : to ber feelings.

Mrs. Hunn meantime had her fingers in her ary. She recognized that as her only hope A brief diacuasion of the hired-girl question, of


Sim Johs: "Whle Thes seven Let ur."
his parents to come out, and when he sam him a happy though. struck Banks. Ho went out and paid Mre. Jones, next door, a dollar to spank Harry, and to a dollar to spank Harry, and to do it in front of the windur whore Mre. Banks eat. When
Mr. Hunn saw Mrs. Banks Mr. Hunn saw Mrs. Banks
charge though the sidedour upon Mra. Joues he ielt that he might as well throw up the oponge ; but as Mrs. Jones sun. ceeded in gotting away bufore the indignant mother reached her, and as Mrs. Banks found that she could expend her fury by indulgence in frantic pantomitue expressive of hor purpnes to amilulate the entire Junes family, Banks bogan to feel leas contident. Half an hour and buth contestanss held out brave. Jy. Mr. Hunn saw that a singlo bold stroke would give the victory to either ono side or the wher. He rang the bell on the tablo. Mrs. Hunn's chamber. usid came in. She was rather uncommouly good- louking, and Mrs. Hunn was-well homely. Aa the girl entered. Hunn, brute and rultim that he was, went up to ber, put his arm azound h. $r$ waist and kissed her. Drs. Humn grav white about the lips, and her fout beat a wild tatico upon the llucr. Then Hunn chucked the chambermaid under the chin and kissed her ayain. With no bound Mrs. Huan leaped between them, and, hurling the girl aside, she screamed : "Out of this house this instant, you hussy ! or I'll break every bone in your body!" had then turning to Hunn she said: "Who wants your old silk dress, snyhow !' Then she followed the chambermaid from the rooan in a fury. Banke gave in-he had lost; but as he went home be shispered to Hunn: "You've won, old fellow ; bu: I wouldn't bo in your place for the amount of the Canadian North-west rebellion debt." to the cupboard, and getting a piece of paper wroto on it: "I' must scream! Is screaming atnwed?" Banks asid it maso't, and then Mr. Hunn burst into an extravagant eulogy of Mrs. Hunns present servant-girl, with such effect that Irs. Hunn became partly hysterical. And then Hunn, with unparalleled brutslity, actually ex pecturatod right upon the carpot Mrs. Hunn oundeć from her chair and ahook her fist at him and when he laughed she flew round the room at the rate of sixty knots an hour. diahereling her backhair and hehaving wildly. Huno thought she wnuld succumb, but she didn't. Bunls's little Garro was playing in the yard, waiting fo:
"Madam, in order to treat your disease suc. cessfully, I n, ust know your ago," said a physician to a spiaster.

## am?

" Oh , no; all I wanted to ask you was how young sou aro."
"I really don't know. The family Bible atrayed off somethere. and I can't tell.'
"That's enc":gh ! I know all that I want to," replied the doctor, as be wrote out a prescription fur a pernod 65 jeara of age.
The girls rant the papers, of course-for court reports and marry-time newz.

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