

In Lighter Vein

The Idea.—The Caddie Master (to a greenkeeper, who has had a mishap with a load of mold): "Ere, stow that langwidge. Wot d'yer mean by it, be'vin' yerself as if yer was a full-blown member of the club?"—Sketch.

The Last Straw.

Wayward Traveller—"Pardon, but what do you have your mattresses stuffed with?"

Tavernkeeper—"With the best straw in the hull country, b'gosh!"

Wayward Traveller—"Now, that accounts for it! I know where the straw came from that broke the camel's back!"—Judge.

Close.—"An' you were at MacDougal's last night—what kind o' mahn is he?"

"Leebral wi' his whisky—but the quality o' it's that indeffrent I verra near left some!"—Boston Transcript.

Carrying it to an Extreme.—The late Captain Charles Barr, the famous yachtsman, was almost as famous for his neatness as for his seamanship. As the story goes, Captain Barr one summer took a cottage in the country. It was a marvel of neatness—velvet lawns, bright flower beds, red fences—and the cottage was snow-white, with green shutters. An old shipmate was invited down in August over Sunday. On Saturday night, after their wholesome supper of hot brown bread and baked beans, the two friends sat on green wicker chairs on the tidy piazza, smoking good cigars. The visitor, on finishing his cigar, tossed the butt down on the grass. "What did you do that for, George?" said Captain Barr. "Look at it smouldering down there. Don't it look nasty on the nice green grass?" George turned red. "I don't think anybody would notice a little thing like that," said he. "George," said Captain Barr, "it's just these little things that make neatness and order, and neatness and order are a big part of success." George, who had never been a very successful man, smiled sarcastically. He said nothing. But a little later he got up and hurried down the neat white path and out of the gate. He was gone over a quarter of an hour. "Where the dickens have you been?" said Captain Barr uneasily, on his return. "Only just down to the hollow," said George, "to spit in the river."

The Sporting Instinct.—The room was full of little girls in pigtailed and pink pinnies. They sat in rows at wooden desks as quiet as mice. Over them presided a damsel sweet-faced, but stern withal. The lesson concerned coins of the realm, and they had been through the entire range, from farthings to sovereigns. One little miss, however, was singularly inattentive. Her gaze was fixed upon a playful sparrow on the window sill, and she had no thought for coins. Suddenly the teacher pounced upon her. Placing half-a-crown on the pupil's desk, she demanded: "What's that?" "Eads!" came the instantaneous reply.—Pearson's Magazine.

The Only Damage.—Two negro men were employed in tearing down a three-story brick building. One negro was on top of the building taking off the bricks and sliding them down a narrow wooden chute to the ground, some thirty feet below, where the other was picking them up and piling them. When this latter negro was stooping over to pick up a brick the former accidentally let one fall, striking him directly on the head. Instead of its killing him, he merely looked up, without rising, and said, "What you doin' thar, nigger? You make me bite my tongue."—The Argonaut.

Surgery in Cannibal Land.—"Good gracious, man," the doctor said to the cannibal king, "you're in a dreadful state. What have you been eating?" "Nothing," groaned the sick man, "except a slice of that multi-millionaire whose yacht was wrecked on Cocoonut Reef."

"Merciful powers! And I told you under no circumstances to eat anything rich. George, get the saws and axes. We must operate at once."—Judge.

A New One.—Mrs. Proudman: "Our Willy got meritorious commendation at school last week."

Mrs. O'Bull: "Well, well! Ain't it awful the number of strange diseases that's ketched by school children?"—Tit-Bits.

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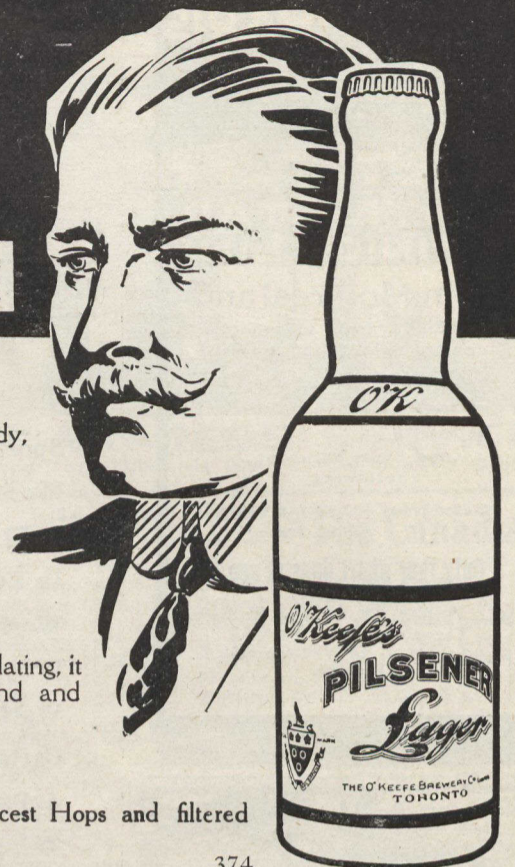
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