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In Lighter Vein

Unsanctified Vocabulary.—A bird-dealer had in his shop a taciturn parrot. Day after day it sat silent on its perch, indifferent to every question. At last a Cuban lady came into the shop and spoke to it in her native tongue. The parrot brightened up at once, opened its beak, and emitted a jubilant volley of vehement Spanish words. When the parrot finally ceased speaking the lady turned to the owner and, blushing violently, asked:

"Do you understand Spanish?"
"No," he replied.
"Thank heaven!" she said, and left
the shop.—Philadelphia Public Led-

The Alternative.—They were building a new church and the funds had not come in as fast as had been expected and the priest thought he would simplify matters by appointing a sum of money which he thought proportionate to each man's wealth, and so he taxed Con Hagerty \$1,000. Con had begun to feel the religious in difference that sometimes goes with difference that sometimes goes with success, and when he heard that he had been mulcted a thousand dollars he was frantic. "I'll niver pay it," he exclaimed; "I'll become a Presby-terian and go to hell first."

This Censor Stuff.—Dr. Frank Crane in the New York Globe says: "Before leaving for Corfu on his vaca-tion the Kaiser issued two commands, directing society people how to be-have themselves at their own dinner-

'The first order was "The first order was that they should not sit at dinner more than forty-five minutes; the second, that the gentlemen, instead of lingering for a while alone to smoke and tell man stories, should rise when the ladies retire from the board, and go with them into the drawing-room. It is added that fashionable society is

with them into the drawing-room. It is added that fashionable society is going meekly to obey.

"It is getting to be a nice, fine world, thanks to the zeal of the regulators. Pretty soon the only place where a man can go to commit a crime in any sort of comfort will be out in the barn or down in the furnace-room.

"Indianapolis has a dance censor, a lady who hangs around whenever a dance is given and sees to it that a visiting card can be inserted between the tangoers.

tangoers.

"It is as much as a man's reputa-tion is worth to ride in a crowded

tion is worth to ride in a crowded street-car. Some pure-minded vestibule virgin is liable to have him arrested for standing too near, or for not standing near enough.

"When you hear a woman scream you'd better make off as fast as you can run. The fact that you have been a church member for forty years and are old, bald, and reputable can not save you from heing arrested as a save you from being arrested as a poison-needler. Beat it!"—The Argo-

Experienced.—At a negro wedding, when the clergyman read the words "love, honour, and obey," the bridegroom interrupted and said: "Read that again, sah! Read it once mo', so's de lady kin ketch de full solemnity ob de meanin'. I'se been married befo'."

Your Part in a Dialogue.—"Why, Mrs. Codlins, 'ow are you, 'ow are you? I 'aven't seen you to speak to for ages." "No, Mrs. Whidden; no more 'aven't I you, neither."—Punch.

"The Whole Truth."--"You say the prisoner had been drinking," said his Worship. "Drinking what?" "Whisky, I think," replied the in-

whisky, I think," replied the intelligent officer.

"You think? Don't you know the smell of whisky? Aren't you a judge?"

"No, yer Worship; only a policeman."





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