

cross-examination which occurred last month shows: Counsel—Mr. Brown, will you have the goodness to answer me "yes" or "no" to a few plain questions? Witness—Certainly, sir. Counsel—Well, Mr. Brown, is there a female living with you who is known in the neighborhood as Mrs. Brown? Witness—Yes. Counsel—Is she under your protection? Witness—Yes. Counsel—Do you support her? Witness—Yes. Counsel—Have you ever been married to her? Witness—No. (Here several jurors scowled on the witness.) Opposing counsel—Stop one moment, Mr. Brown—Is the female in question your mother? Witness—She is.

That witness evidently did not know the old wheeze, which we fear, we have already told in these columns. A witness asked to answer "Yes" or "No" declared it was impossible to answer some questions with a plain "Yes" or "No." Counsel ridiculed the idea, and defied the witness to ask him a question which he could not satisfactorily answer with a plain "Yes" or "No." "Very well," said the witness, "answer then 'Yes' or 'No.' Have you left off beating your wife?" —*Law Notes.*

Contempt of Court.

"Ten dollars," said the Magistrate.

"But, Your Honor," said the prisoner, "I protest against this fine. I have the right to make a defence against the charge."

"But you have already pleaded guilty," said the Magistrate.

"I beg Your Honor's pardon; I denied the charge in the plainest terms."

"Young man," said the Magistrate sternly, "I want to call your attention to the fact that the

Court understands the English language. You have pleaded guilty in unmistakable words. The plaintiff charges you with assault and battery. It is clearly evident that he has been assaulted and battered. According to your statement he approached you on the street and used abusive language towards you. Then you say that you 'didn't do a thing to him.' If the Court understands the language spoken by seventy millions of people, you immediately wiped up the earth with him. The fine stands, and any further reflection upon the Court's knowledge of English will cost you ten more.—*Detroit Free Press.*

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On the Jaffa and Jerusalem Railroad.

Ben-Ali-Sneezee, late one afternoon,

Met Sheik Bak-Gammon on old Horeb's mount,

And thus he, in the language of the East,

His multifarious hardships did recount:

"O Sheik, I bow me in the dust and mourn,

For lo! while browsing on the fertile plain,

Two of my choicest heifers—fair and fat—

Were caught in limbo and were duly slain

By that infernal pest of recent birth—

The half-past 8 accommodation train!"

Then quoth the Sheik: "One of my whitest lambs,

Which I did purpose soon to drive to town,

While frisking o'er the distant flowery lea

Was by that self-same fatal train run down;

Now, O Ben-Ali! by the Prophet's beard,