

## HUMOROUS.

Fireside companion—the poker.

The first mosquito of summer has called and ordered his paper to be sent regularly until further notice.

There is very little difference between a man who sees a ghost and one who swallows a bad oyster, so far as looks are concerned.

"What will the harvest be?" asks an exchange. Well, just wait till the harvest bee crawls up your trousers leg, and you'll find out.—*Middleton Transcript*.

Emily—Although you promised to take me to the races, I find you have been without me. Charlie—Well, my dear, I only went to see whether you would like it some other year.

An old maid up town, being asked why she had never married, replied that she had never yet seen the man for whom she was willing to get up three meals a day for forty years.

"England, sir! England rules the seas; Britannia rules the waves," pompously remarked an Englishman to an American. "That's nothing," was the reply, "every Yankee has a notion of his own."

"What shall I ever do with such a bad boy?" said a loving mother as she strove to impress on the mind of her six-year-old son her manifold troublesomeness. "Oh! you let me alone; I ain't half as bad as I can be."

A certain little damsel, being aggravated beyond endurance by her big brother, fell down upon her knees and cried—"Oh Lord! bless my brother Tom. He lies, he steals, he swears. All boys do; so girls don't. Amen."

"Hey! come and help me get this man out of the mire," said one man to another. "How deep is he in?" "Up to his ankles!" "Well, I'll be there soon; there's no hurry," said the other. "Yes, but he is in head first," was the reply.

A great many marine disasters for this year have been reported, but of the number of (partly) ships that have been wrecked, of barks (of dogs) that have been lost, and schooners (of beer) that have gone down, no account has been kept.

It was a fourth of July orator who, warning with his subject, exclaimed: "There is no man or child in this assembly who has arrived at the age of 50 years that has not felt the truth of this mighty subject thundering through his mind for centuries."

The trouble with a tramp is, he is not romantic enough. He can't appreciate the great pleasure of hoeing in a garden all day in a hot sun, and the glory of turning a woodpile into kindling wood in a single day. The poor blind tramp—*Richmond Express*.

A sick man sent word to his family physician that he needed a come again, as he had "got along now where he thought he could die without a doctor's assistance." When the wife called the doctor he said she alluded to her departed husband's thoughtfulness in touching terms.

A prating, tedious speaker finally asked a Sunday School which he had been boring beyond endurance: "What is the meaning of the phrase, 'God reapers the wind to the storm'?" "It means that He stops off folks that are too long winded," replied a smart boy. A hymn was then sung.

A young man was eating an onion at a late supper the other night, when it was observed that half of it remained after he had finished. He was asked why he did not eat it all, to which he replied: "The other piece was so strong that I couldn't pull it away from my mouth, so I didn't try the rest."

Mrs. A—"Somebody's in the next room. I wonder what they're doing." (Looking wistfully at the keyhole.) "I'm a good mind to peek." Mrs. B—"Oh, I won't! It isn't right." Mrs. A—"I don't care; I'm just dying to know." (Pats eye to keyhole, but immediately takes it away, disconcerted.) "Hm! the key is in." Mrs. B—"Yes; so I found before you came in."—*Boston Transcript*.

A lady writing to the "hash" department of the Detroit Free Press asks how to improve old butter. To prepare old butter for table use is a good plan to shampoo it until the dandruff is thoroughly removed. Some over nice people go over it with a horse dandy, but an ordinary pair of scissors will trim it sufficiently for week days. It should then be put into a cool place, in a deep dish with steep sides to prevent climbing out and running around the cellar, until wanted for the table.

A Litchfield man has been arrested for obtaining a quarter of beef under false pretenses. He would have been much like to know what these pretences were, but they are not explained. Perhaps he borrowed the quarter of beef to play ball with, and then sold it or he may have told the butcher he wanted it to drive a nail in a post, and would fetch it right back, and then ate it; or he may have pretended that he was just going around the corner to show it to a sick friend. It is pretty difficult to tell, after all.

Millais, the artist, was introduced to a lady at a dinner party, and handed her down to the table. Neither in the introduction, except the name of the other. When seated the lady asked: "Have you been to the Academy?" "I have," said Millais. "And did you notice that odious old Mallais's picture?" "Well, yes, I saw them." Soon after the champagne came round, Millais asked the lady to drink a bumper with him, which she did. He then said: "Now that you are fortified I may venture to say that I am the odious old Millais." The lady put up both hands in horror, but could gasp out "good gracious!"

An Irishman's Pride of Birth. An evening or two since a son of Erin was telling a crowd about the man who fell into the South Utah shaft last winter, breaking both legs and lying at the bottom of the shaft some three days before he was discovered. He said: "It was only by mercy of God that the man was saved. By a wonderful chance—devil knows what—saw him!—a man went into a tunnel, groping and groping his way along toward the old shaft in the face of the same. As he was snoring along there in the dark he heard the call of a voice. It was faint, like the voice of a sick man or the groan of a ghost. The hair of his head stood on end. The voice was repeated. The man was bold spite of his fright, and he groped ahead

and soon came till the mouth of the mine. He listened and the call of the voice was repeated. It came up from the bottom of the old shaft.

"Is it there yet?" said the man at the top.

"It is here I am," said the fella at the bottom.

"Air ye for down?" said the fella at the top.

"I'm Corkonian," says the fella at the bottom, and divil a bit more do I know of how the poor fella got found."—*Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise*.

The Wickedest Book Agent. A clever fellow, an expert in the calling, rang the door bell, and soon the lady of the house was before him. Said he, "Will you be kind enough to take this book and give it—?" "I guess not today, sir," said she, closing the door. "But, madam, you don't understand. I only want you to give it—?" "I cannot possibly to-day, sir; I'm very busy."

"Why, my dear madam, the folks in the next house are away; won't you please to hand it to them when they return? It's a valuable work, and you will save me many steps and also oblige the lady very much."

"Oh! oh! certainly, sir; excuse me—I thought you see we have so many—?" "I see, madam; don't fret yourself, but can I further trouble you for a pencil to write the address on the book?"

"Most certainly, sir," she said, throwing the door open, "walk in, I hope, sir, you will excuse my mistake." "I will, but I can't help feeling hurt," said he, looking in; "but the lady is anxious to get it, and no wonder; just see the engraving—only 87. Shall I not add your name to the list?" She was powerless; he got it.—*Boston Journal*.

Just How and Why Nero Fiddled. Nero fiddled while Rome was burning. And when we go behind the returns, we discovered that Nero was what the lamented Artemus Ward would call a "sagacious cuss." He he was so frequently disturbed and threatened with death by the neighbors, whilst playing "Baby Mine," and "Whoo, Emma," at home, that he determined to have a quiet time at least once, without interruption. So while Rome burned Nero took a seat on a stump on the outskirts of the city, and rattled off "Lullaby," "You Never Miss the Well Till the Water Runs Dry," "Where was the Light when Moses Went Out?" and other airs popular in his day—and not a single brickbat was heaved at him. He knew that all his neighbors, and their wives, and their daughters, and their sons, were down in the city listening to the firemen swearing at each other, and shouting through their ridiculous horns, "Turn-on—the water—Phonix H-o-o-o-o!"—*Nor. Her.*

HOUSEHOLD HELPS. People snore because they lie with their heads thrown back, and there is consequently a dropping of the under jaw. To break the habit, sleep with the mouth closed and the chin low.

Persons may outgrow disease and become healthy by proper attention to the laws of their physical constitutions. By moderate and daily exercise men become strong in limb and muscle.

Relative to changing the clothing, we consider it hazardous to lessen its amount after dressing in the morning, unless active exercise is taken immediately. No undergarments should be changed for lighter ones during the day, ordinarily. The best, safest, and most convenient time for loosening the clothing is in the morning when we first dress for the day.

GILT FRAMES.—It is said that flies will not light on frames which have been brushed over with water in which onions have been boiled.

TOMATO PIE.—Take six or eight tomatoes, two lemons, one teaspoonful of flour, and sugar to taste. Crust top and bottom.

SMALL ARROWROOT.—SCUTS.—One ounce of best arrowroot, one of butter, two of sifted sugar; mix all well with your hands; wet them stiff with part of an egg in a little cream; roll them half an inch thick; cut them out and bake on tins in a moderate oven.

Fresh meat, after beginning to sour, will sweeten if placed out-of-doors in the cool air overnight.

Sawdust in rough casting has been found satisfactory. It should be first dried and sifted through an ordinary grain sieve, to remove the large particles. The mortar to be made by mixing one part cement, two times two sawdust, and five sharp sand, the sawdust being first mixed dry with the cement and sand.

How to TELL GOOD MEAT.—1. The colour should be neither too pale nor too dark. If the meat be pale and moist it indicates that the animal was either young or diseased; if dark or livid, that the animal probably died with the blood in it, and was not slaughtered. 2. Both muscle and fat should be firm to the touch, not moist or spongy; and no fat should be free from blood points. 3. Good meat should be dry on the surface after standing a day or two. Any juice exuding should be small in quantity, of a reddish tint, and give a distinctly acid reaction to test paper. The juice of bad meat is alkaline or purplish matter between the fibres of the muscle. 4. The odour should be slight and not disagreeable. This may be ascertained by thrusting a long clean knife into the flesh and smelling it afterwards.

TO PREVENT HAIR FROM FALLING OUT.—Use the following dressing:—Glycerine, two ounces; tincture camellias, two drachms; mix in enough alcohol to make six ounces, and perfume to suit. Wash the head occasionally with soft water and use this dressing. It greatly strengthens the hair and promotes its growth to wash the scalp occasionally with tepid ammonia water (not too strong) or with borax water. Avoid too free use of the comb, as it irritates the skin and causes dandruff. Protect the hair with a cap of hair net (not cure a good stiff brush of bristles (not wash the hair for five minutes, every night before retiring. This creates a healthy glow, removes dust, brings out the oil nature has provided, and thus promotes the growth and beauty of the hair. Clip the ends slightly as often as once a month, and select fine combs, as they are the prime causes of many scalp diseases.

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W. M. McBRIDE, Secretary. WESTERN FAIR OFFICE, London, July, 1879.

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Tenders must be on the printed form, which, with all other information, may be had at the Pacific Railway Engineer's Office, in Ottawa and Winnipeg.

F. BRAUN, Secretary. Department of Railways and Canals, OTTAWA, 16th June, 1879.

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