

A CASE OF FALSE PRETENCES

God made man upright, but he hath sought out many inventions. Among others one to cheat hens and flowers of their sleep. It is a cruel new kind of electric light which gives such a plausible imitation of daylight that indoor daffodils and other potted flowers can not close their eyes, but bloom themselves to death in short order. As for the rubber plant, it hasn't a chance to quit rubbering, and expires in spasms of nervous prostration. Placed in the poultry house, this dreadful light keeps the hens working night shifts, laying eggs until they are worn to a shadow. The fool hens never stop to think. The only redeeming feature about it is that it cuts light bills down two-thirds.—*Canadian Collier's*.

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HE KNEW

"The Malays have a queer marriage custom," remarked the traveller. "The groom holds his nose against a small cylindrical object. I couldn't quite make out what it was——"

"A grindstone, probably," interposed Mr. Grouch.—*Kansas City Times*.



The National Anthem. —*Jugend* (Berlin)

THE CHAMPION

Irate Visitor—"I call this a downright fraud! You advertise on your bills, 'The Most Remarkable Dwarf in the World,' and he turns out to be five feet, five inches high."

Bland Showman—"Exactly so, sir. That's just what's so remarkable about him. He's the tallest dwarf on record."—*Tit-Bits*.

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THE LAST STRAW

Old Money (dying)—"I'm afraid I've been a brute to you sometimes, dear."

Young Wife—"Oh, never mind that, darling; I'll always remember how very kind you were when you left me."—*Sidney Bulletin*.

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NO WONDER

Mrs. Baye—"She is simply mad on the subject of germs, and sterilises or filters everything in the house."

"How does she get along with her family?"

"Oh, even her relations are strained."—*Tit-Bits*.

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THE ONLY WAY OUT

Peter (sent for the milk)—"Oh, mercy, I've drunk too much of it! What shall we do?"

Small Brother—"Easy. We'll drop the jug."—*Meggendorfer Blaetter*.

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NOTHING IN IT

"I regard conversation as a gift," remarked the studious woman.

"It usually is," replied Miss Cayenne. "If people had to pay for it there would be much less of it."—*Washington Star*.

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A TRIUMPH

"Was Helen's marriage a success?"

"Goodness, yes. Why, she is going to marry a nobleman on the alimony."—*Judge*.