

# LAUGHS

At an evening party the hostess offered some refreshment to a rather foolish gentleman, who declined, saying: "You may take an ass to the water, but you can't make him drink." "Then I won't press you any more," was the lady's reply.

Lady—"Why did you leave your last place?"

Cook—"I couldn't stand the dreadful noise between the master and missus, mum."

Lady—"What was the noise about?"

Cook—"The way the dinner was cooked, mum."

Watson—Women are always curious. Johnson—My wife isn't a bit curious. Watson—Then she must be a curious woman.

"So you've lost all your marbles, eh? Well, it serves you right. Boys always lose who play on Sundays." "But how about the other fellow who won all my marbles?"

"Would you like to have your fortune told, miss?" asked a gypsy of a young lady. "I don't mind if I do, providing you make the future a happy one for me," replied the lady. "That I can, miss; for sixpence I will show you your future husband's face in this magic glass." All right," said the young lady; here is sixpence—show me my future husband's face." The fortune teller uncovered the glass and the young lady gazed at it abstractedly for a moment, then exclaimed, "I see only my own face!" "Correct," said the gypsy—"that face will be your husband's when you are married."

"I am sorry, doctor, you were not able to attend the church supper last night; it would have done you good to be there."

"It has already done me good, madam; I have just prescribed for three of the participants."—Richmond Dispatch.

Ethel—"Was there a donkey on our steps when you came in, Mr. Featherly?" Mr. Featherly—"Why, no, Ethel! What would a donkey be doing there?" Ethel—"I don't know; but Clara said, just before you rang the bell: 'There's that donkey coming in here again.'"

"So that seedy-looking fellow is your friend Little? He doesn't seem very prosperous."

"No; he gets a very small salary and he has a big family of boys, too." "How on earth does he get along?" "Well, every Little helps."—Philadelphia Press.

His Better Half—"This is a pretty sort of life you are leading." "Oh, shut up." "The day before yesterday you didn't come home until yesterday, yesterday you came home today, and today, if I hadn't come to fetch you, you wouldn't have come home till tomorrow."

Father (trying to read)—"What's that terrible racket in the hall?"

Mother—"One of the children just fell down stairs."

Father—"Well, tell the children if they can't fall down stairs quietly they'll have to stop it."

He—Our engagement is off. You have deceived me, and from this time henceforth you shall not occupy my mind.

She—Oh, thank you! I'm so glad. He—Glad! Why are you glad, pray?

She—I never could bear to occupy a flat—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Diggins—"Say, if I were as bald as you I'd wear a wig." Higgins—"My boy, if you ever become bald don't invest in a peruke." Diggins—"Because why?" Higgins—"It would be money thrown away. What's the use of putting a roof on an empty barn?"

He (at dinner: "May I assist you

A clergyman in New Jersey hired a man to act in the capacity of coachman and gardener. One day the clergyman bought a bottle of horse liniment and told the man to apply it to a lame horse according to the directions on the bottle.

About an hour afterwards he went to the barn and found Silas industriously dipping a spike into the lini-



IT ALL DEPENDED.

BEN JOHNSON—"Goin' teh hev ony turkey foh Christmas, Mr. Thompson?" MR. THOMPSON—"Well, ah sut'nly am, of ah kin git near enuff 't one."

to the cheese, Miss Girton?" Miss Girton: "Thanks, no—I am very comfortable where I am; but you may assist the cheese to me, if you will!"

"Would you like the cause of your late husband's death explained on the monument?" asked the sculptor. "Well," replied the widow, "if it doesn't cost any more, you might engrave a couple of cucumbers on it."

Mrs Young (proudly): "The landlord was here today; I gave him the month's rent and showed him the baby."

Young (who was kept awake last night: "It would have been better, my dear, if you had given him the baby and shown him the month's rent."

"A nice husband you are!" said madam, in a passion. "You care less about me than about those pet animals of yours. Look what you did when your poodle, Azor, died."

Husband (quietly): "Well, I had him stuffed."

Wife (exasperated): "You wouldn't have gone to that expense for me—not you, indeed!"

Little James had been imparting to the minister the important and cheerful information that his father had got a new set of false teeth.

"Indeed, James!" replied the minister, indulgently. "And what will he do with the old set?"

"I suppose," replied little James, with a look of resignation on his face, "they'll cut 'em down and make me wear 'em."

Speaking of the idiosyncrasies of the English speech, the Nashville American wants to know if there is a better example of them than the fact that when you "best" a man you "worst" him. The answer is, No, except, perhaps, that when a man is "cleaned out" he's "all in."—Pittsburg Gazette.



UNCLE LIJ.



AUNT MELINDA.

Daughter (marriageable): "I think, pa, that you do Arthur injustice when you say that he is penurious."

Precocious Brother: "What's penurious, pa?"

Pa: "Why, Bobbie, penurious is close."

Precocious Brother: "Ten you're right, pa. Mr. Penrose is awful penurious whenever he comes to see sis."

"It's easy enough to guess pretty nigh it," said the other man, a stalwart farmer, looking with some contempt at his companion.

"Oh, well," said the Cockney, "I think I could guess as near as you can."

"Could ye, now?" roared the farmer. "Well, I'll bet ye a sovereign ye can't."

"Done!" returned the Cockney. "How much do you say?"

After a critical survey the farmer replied: "A hundred and seventy stone."

"Well," said the Cockney, "I'll say a hundred and seventy stone, too. Now hand over the money."

"What do you mean?" "Well, I said I'd guess as near as you, and I've done so. I've guessed exactly the same."

And the bystanders, taking his part, the bumptious farmer had to give him the money.

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