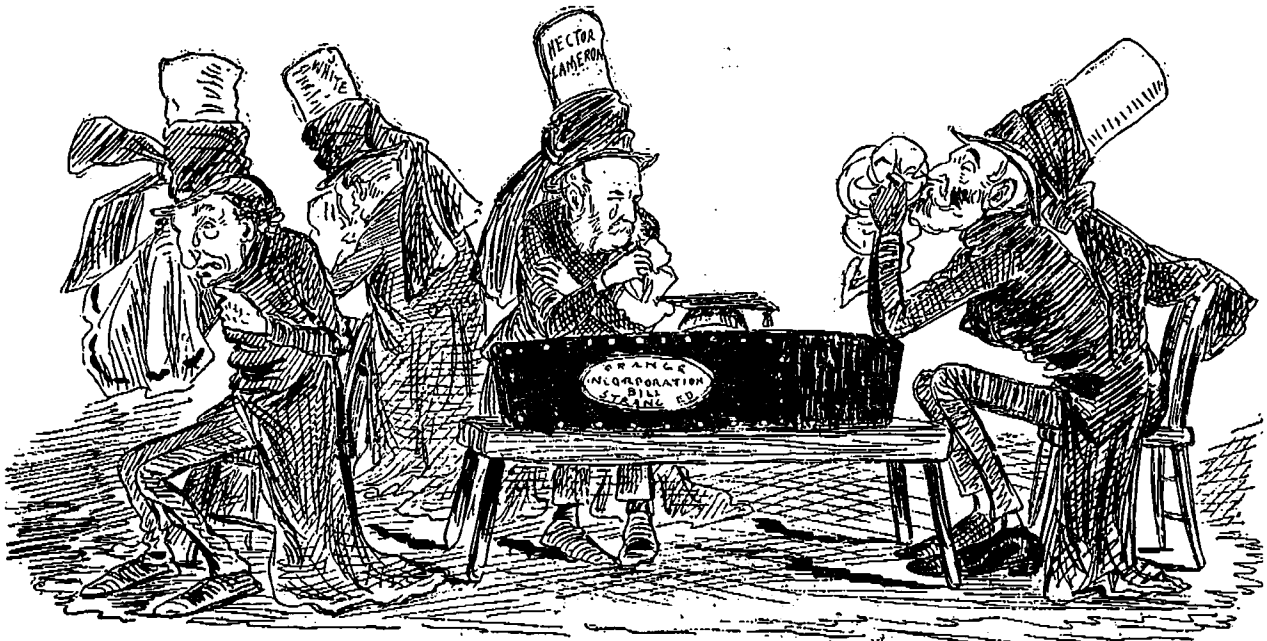


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SAD DEMISE OF THE POOR LITTLE ORANGE BILL.

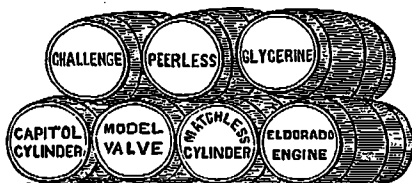
PLAYING SCHOOL.

Two little tots on the carpet at play,  
Tired of their usual games one day,  
Said one to the other: "Let's play stool;  
I'll be teacher, and don't you fool,  
But sit up nice, like a sure 'nough stolar;  
You'll mis your lesson, I'll bet you a dollar."  
Casting about for a word to spell,  
Blue eyes on pu-s and kitten fell.  
As an object lesson they pose with grace,  
The mamma washing her baby's face  
"Spell tat," the teacher grandly gives out,  
"Quick, now, mind what you're about."  
The "scholar" failing, with ignominy  
Is sorely shaken and dubbed a nimby,  
The word repeated, again she falls,  
When the scene on the rug again avails,  
And the teacher relents, conscious smitten,  
"If you tant spell tat, spell titten!"  
—N. Y. Sunday Mercury.

The consistency of woman is beautifully illustrated by the fact that she will calmly open a can of salmon with her husband's razor, and yet fly into a sort of wild, weird, poetic frenzy when she sees her husband endeavoring to remove a cork from a claret-bottle with her best embroidery scissors.

"I thought I heard Fred kiss you on the piazza last night," said a Burlington father to his daughter the other morning. "Oh, no pa," was the artless answer, "he only kissed me on the ear." "Well, perhaps that was it," cruelly rejoined pater familias. —Free Press.

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"Why, how wonderfully life-like!" said Mr. Dorrix, gently caressing a bumble-bee which reposed among the artificial flowers and insects of his wife's new bonnet. "If it was on a garden flower I'd swear it was all—Gr-r-reat Caesar-r-r!" he suddenly shrieked, inserting a wounded finger in his mouth and dancing round like a whirling dervish. "Why, the blame thing is alive!"

An old minister in Ohio seemed rather opposed to an educated ministry. Said he: "Why, my brethering, every young man who is going to preach thinks he must be off to some college and study a lot of Greek and Latin. All nonsense! All wrong! What did Peter and Paul know about Greek? Why, not a word, my brethering. No, Peter and Paul preached in the plain old English, and so 'll I." —Christian at Work.

"I want to return a quarter of my salary to the city on the ground that I am overpaid for my work," said the Mayor of Blue Island, Ill., to the City Treasurer. "Pass it over, and I will charge it as a receipt for the conscience fund," observed the latter official. "All right," says the Mayor, "here's the quarter—twenty-five cents." The Treasurer grabbed it, and seizing the Mayor by the arm charged for the nearest saloon. —Found Floating.

"I have a fit of melancholy," said a man limping along slowly. "Why, what's the matter?" inquired a friar. "These eternal boots are three sizes too small." —Merchant Traveller.

We call the attention of our readers to the large advertisement of the Golden Argosy in this issue. The Argosy is one of the best publications of its class, and the offer by the reliable publishers is a liberal one.

Scrabble has come back disgusted from Florida. Among the repellant things, he says he was driven out of his hotel by a young lady weighing two hundred and twenty pounds avoirdupois, who came there for health, and getting possession of the drawing-room piano, continually did sing, "Do they miss me at home?" Scrabbles saw her at dinner and thought they did.

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