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In Lighter Vein

Falsely Accused.—Bayard Veiller, at a luncheon in New York, was accused of writing broad plays in order to make money; but Mr. Veiller insisted vehemently that he writes such plays in order to do good.

"My accusers," he said, "put me in the position of the benevolent old gentleman.

"A benevolent old gentleman was walking in Central Park when the loud sobs of a little girl arrested him.

"What is the matter, my child?" he asked.

"'Boo, hoo, hoo! I've lost my penny!' cried the little girl.

"The benevolent old gentleman drew a penny from his pocket, and, extending it, he said, with a beatific smile:

"Here's your penny, my dear child. And now stop crying."

"The little girl, instead of thanking the benevolent old gentleman gratefully, stamped her foot, and said, with scornfully flashing eyes:

"Oh, you wicked old man, you had my penny all the time!"

A Fatal Attack.—Sympathizer—"Poor little chap! Where did that cruel boy hit you?"

Small Boy—"Boo-oo-oo! We were 'avin' a naval battle, and 'e torpedoed me in the engine-room!"—Tit-Bits.

Her Preference.—Before the fire Christmas Eve two old maids were planning for the holiday.

"Sister Molly," said the younger, "would a long stocking hold all you'd want for a Christmas gift?"

"No, Elvira," said the elder, "but a pair of socks would."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Lost Again.—It is the custom at a certain public school down in Maine for the teachers to write on the blackboard any instruction they desire the janitor to receive.

The other morning the janitor saw written:

"Find the greatest common divisor."

"Hullo!" he exclaimed. "Is that durned thing lost again!"

I WANT you more than words can tell—

I need you—I who knew so well
The tender warmth of your embrace.
I need you in your wonted place,
That you may nestle on my breast;
That I may feel your willing arms,
And know again your close caress.
For months I have forgot your charms,

But now I need you, oh, ma chere!
My woolen, winter underwear!
—Claudia Cranston, in Vogue.

Sarcasm Up-to-Date.—"Why is he so bitter at the girl he was only recently engaged to?"

"Because, when she sent the ring back she labeled the box, 'Glass—with care!'"—Lippincott's.

A Wise Youth.—A small boy had been vaccinated, and after the operation the doctor prepared to bandage the sore arm, but the boy objected.

"Put it on the other arm, Doctor."

"Why, no," said the physician, "I want to put the bandage on your sore arm, so the boys at school won't hit you on it."

"Put it on the other arm, Doc," reiterated the small boy; "you don't know the fellows at our school."—Ladies' Home Journal.

Went Too Far.—Quizzer—"What's the matter, old man? You look worried."

Sizzer—"I have cause to. I engaged a man to trace my pedigree."

Quizzer—"Well, what's the trouble? Hasn't he been successful?"

Sizzer—"Successful! I should say he has! I'm paying him hush-money."—Yale Record.



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