

Words of the Wise.

To smile at the jest which plants a thorn in another's breast is to become a principal in the mischief.

God's saints are glorious within, though often disguised and shaded by poverty and afflictions without.

EVERY man we meet with in this world, though we should never meet with him again, will meet with us at the day of judgment.

THE truth, men will tell you, can never do harm; which nobody denies, if by truth is meant truth understood; but truth misunderstood, as it will be if men are not prepared for it, is one of the subtlest, and often one of the most mischievous of errors.

[Toronto (Canada) Globe.]

AN AMUSING SCENE IN COURT.

NOW A WITNESS WON A POINT AND CONVULSED THE COURT WITH LAUGHTER.

It is not often that Levity raises her laughing eyes before the face of blind Justice, but when she does, the rogue, she is sure to cause more merriment than (as they say over in the States) "the law allows." The very surroundings which are prone to give birth to any thoughts other than those of laughter, are exactly what will make anything ridiculous seem doubly so. It appears that in the course of a trial pending before one of our tribunals, one of the chief witnesses proved to be our very highly respected and well-known friend, Alderman John Baxter. Mr. Baxter, on being questioned by the Crown's Attorney as to his knowledge of the defendant, etc., said among other things:

"If your Worship please, I called on the defendant and had an interview in private with him; I drew him to one side, and said, while I looked him fairly in the eye with a very penetrating glance, 'Did you do it, sir?' It was fully a minute before my penetrating gaze was removed from his face. He bore the look calmly and answered: 'Mr. Baxter, I am as innocent as an unborn child.'"

Now, this was all quite commonplace, and Mr. Baxter, in the innocence of his soul, saw nothing in it. The prosecution for the Crown, however, in his argument before the court, in referring to that portion of the testimony said: "May it please your Worship, when I entered on this case, I did so with the firm conviction that the defendant was guilty, as charged in the indictment, with the offence therein named and contrary to the law; but since my esteemed friend, the Hon. Mr. Baxter (he of the penetrating glance), hath gazed in a penetrating manner into the eye of the defendant, and he (the defendant) having under-took to gaze with me instinctively, I feel that I must submit when I contemplate the tremendous powers of penetration possessed by the optics of my learned and honored friend. And especially the left one. And if I mistake not, Mr. Baxter looked at him with the left one. May it please your Worship, I know of nothing that possesses penetrating qualities equal to Mr. Baxter's eyes—I may say the left eye—but St. Jacobs Oil, the Great German Remedy!"

This sally on the Crown's Attorney produced unusual mirth in the court, and for the time being it seemed that the attorney was, as is usually the case, being to have the best of it; but not so. Mr. Baxter could not let it pass in that way, so he simply rose to his feet, and in the dignified manner characteristic of the gentleman, he said:

"May it please your Worship, I am delighted to hear my able colleague speak in such terms, for despite any allusions which that gentleman may have made as to my eyes and their penetrating qualities, I wish to say that if they do possess the penetrative power of St. Jacobs Oil, they are infallible truth-searchers, and the innocence of the prisoner is established beyond doubt, for St. Jacobs Oil possesses penetrating qualities unequalled—it will penetrate to the bone to drive out pain. I know it, for I have tried it. And I wish to say that it hits the mark every time. If, therefore, it cannot fail—and from the gentleman's view of the case my eyes possess the same qualities—it is time the defendant was dismissed."

Mr. Baxter was decidedly ahead on this rencontre, as the laughter which followed, and in which ever the court joined, fully testified. After adjournment a representative of this paper met Mr. Baxter, and the gentleman laughingly said:

"That little affair pleased me in more ways than one, and I am glad it came off. I wanted a chance to 'speak right out in meeting' for St. Jacobs Oil, it did my rheumatism so much good, and that was my chance."

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