

BADGERING WITNESSES.*(Selected.)*

The following incident in connection with the American Bar is told as having really happened in Albany Court-room.

The plaintiff, who was a lady, was called upon to testify. She got on very well, and made a favourable impression on the jury, under the guidance of her counsel, until the opposing counsel subjected her to a sharp cross-examination. This so confused her that she fainted, and fell to the floor. Of course, this excited general sympathy in the audience, and the opposing counsel saw that his case looked badly. An expedient suggested itself by which to make the swooning appear like a piece of stage trickery, and thus destroy sympathy for the witness. The lady's face, in swooning, had first turned red, and this fact suggested the new line of attack. The next witness was a middle-aged lady. The counsel asked, Did you see the plaintiff faint a short time ago?" "Yes, sir." "People turn pale when they faint, don't they?" A great sensation in the court, and an evident confusion of witness. But in a moment she answered "No; not always." "Did you ever hear of a case of fainting where the party did not turn pale?" "Yes, sir." "Did you ever see such a case?" "Yes, sir." "When?" "About a year ago." "Where was it?" "In this city." "Who was it?" By this time the excitement was so intense that everybody listened anxiously for the reply. It came promptly, with a twinkle in the witness's eye and a quiver on her lip, as if from suppressed humour—"Twas a negro, sir." Peal after peal of laughter shook the court-room, in which the venerable judge joined. The opposing counsel lost his case—not to say his temper.

EXCELLENT INTEREST RULES.

The answer in each case being in cents, separate the two right-hand figures of answer to express in dollars and cents.

Four per cent.—Multiply the principal by the number of days to run. Separate right-hand figure from the product, and divide by 9.

Five per cent.—Multiply by number of days, and divide by 72.

Six per cent.—Multiply by number of days, separate right-hand figure, and divide by 6.

Eight per cent.—Multiply by number of days, and divide by 45.

Nine per cent.—Multiply by number of days, separate right-hand figure, and divide by 4.

Ten per cent.—Multiply by number of days, and divide by 35.