

### An Irishman's Excuse

Mr. Choate, the ambassador of the United States at London, tells a story of a sculling-match that took place between an Englishman, a student at Oxford, and an Irishman, a student at Cambridge. The Briton won handily. At no time was he in danger of defeat. Moreover, in a spirit of fun and bravado he stopped two or three times in his course, and bade the Irishman in the rear to "hurry up."

After the race the Irishman came in for a good deal of chaff, in view of the overwhelming defeat he had suffered. But he merely shrugged his shoulders. "Faith," he said, "if I had the long rests that he took, I could have beaten him easily."

### Brought it on Himself

She was a demure little woman with a baby. As the open car was crowded, she did not put the little one, who was old enough to sit up, on the seat beside her, says the New York Times. She carried it on her lap, and made room for a fierce-looking, big man with a bad cigar and a newspaper.

The child kicked its tiny feet in delight at the strange things it saw while riding along, and its shoes rubbed against the man's trousers.

"Perhaps, madam," he exclaimed, "you imagine that this conveyance is your private carriage?"

"Oh, no, I don't," was the prompt reply. "If it were you wouldn't be riding in it."

### None to Dispute.

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### Who Found the Baby

There was great excitement among the little Periwinkles. Everybody hurried and scurried about, looking into all the "tight places," as if the lightest, fattest Periwinkle of all could possibly squeeze into any of these.

For ten long minutes nobody had seen the baby, and how homesick it made everybody.

"I've looked in the coal bin!" cried Polly.

"He isn't in the preserve closet!" cried her sister.

"He isn't in the sugar firkin!" said another.

"He isn't anywhere!" cried all in a chorus.

Then they stopped joking, and for ten more long minutes the hunt went on. All the little Periwinkles began to look very sober, and five little homesick spots in five little hearts grew bigger. They ran round the house and over the house and under the house. They called till they were hoarse. And just when they could not bear it any longer, who should suddenly appear, trudging calmly round the house, but the lost Periwinkle baby! His eyes shone like stars.

"I found myself!" he said smiling serenely.

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