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A Lively Squirrel

An old negro who lives in the country came into town and saw an electric fan for the first time in his life. The whirling object at once attracted his attention, and, after intently gazing at it for several minutes, showing all the while the greatest astonishment and curiosity, he turned to the proprietor of the shop and said: "Say, boss, dat sottenly is a lively squirrel you got in dis yeah gear. But he sure goned to 'tuss' his heart if he keep on makin' dem resolutions so fa'."

Hard on Margaret

Little Margaret was only ten years old, but there were two younger children, and she had already taken upon her shoulders some of the responsibilities of life, but did not pretend to enjoy them all.

"Where are Helen and Agatha?" asked a visitor who found Margaret sitting on the doorstep alone one afternoon, looking particularly sober.

"They've gone off to have what mother calls mischief and they call fun," said the solitary one.

"And you didn't go with them?" said the visitor, with a hint of sympathy in her voice.

"Oh, no," said Margaret with a sigh.

"Mother trusts me so dreadfully I can't have much of any fun."

Cause and Effect

A large and robust Irish woman appeared in a New York court recently to prosecute a case in which her husband was charged with having beaten her. The defendant, a small, stoop-shouldered man, had the appearance of having been run through a threshing-machine, and seemed scarcely able to stand. The judge surveyed the two with an amused light in his eyes. "You say this man beat you," he asked the woman. "He did not," the prosecuting witness said with emphasis, folding her powerful arms. "He knocked me down." "You mean to tell me you were knocked down by that physical wreck?" the judge queried. "Tis only since he struck me that he's been a physical wreck, your honor," she explained.

Enterprising

The neighbor's young hopeful was very ill, and Willie and the other youngsters in the block had been asked not to make any noise in the streets. The neighbor's door-bell rang one day, and she opened it to find Willie standing bashfully on her front steps. "How is he to-day?" he inquired in a shy whisper. "He's better, thank you, dear; and what a thoughtful child you are to come and ask!" Willie stood a moment on one foot and then burst forth again: "I'm orful sorry Jimmy's sick." "The mother was profoundly touched. She could find no further words to say, but simply kissed him. Made still bolder by the caress, Willie began to back down the steps, repeating at intervals his sorrow for his playmate's illness. At the bottom step he halted and looked up. "If Jimmy should die," he asked, "kin I have his drum?"

Always the Same

Professor (coming from his club, holding up triumphantly his umbrella to his wife)—You see, my dear Alma, how stupid are all the anecdotes about our absent-mindedness; you see, I haven't forgotten my umbrella.

Mrs. Professor—But, my dear, you didn't take your umbrella with you; you left it at home.

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