

Each to His Calling.

Bourke Cockran was asked by a St. Louis reporter to give the public some advice on the art of public speaking.

"A youth," Mr. Cockran answered, smiling, "once went with your question to an old Englishman who had made a good success as a lecturer.

"How may I become, sir," said the youth, "a successful public speaker, like yourself?"

"The old lecturer laughed.

"'Tha wants to be a public speaker, do tha, lad?' he asked. 'An' tha thinks Awm the chap to put tha up to a wrinkle about it? Tha's reight, lad. Ah am.

"Now, hark tha. When tha rises to mak the speech, hit thaible an' oppen thy mouth. If nowt comes, tak 'a sup o' water an' hit thaible again, an' oppen thy mouth wider than afor.

"Then, if nowt comes, tak thysen off, an' leave public speykin' to such as me.'"

Silenced by a Word

As Professor Peirce, of Harvard, was a man of very decided likes and dislikes, and had the gift of putting his convictions in a pleasing way, he was once chosen to represent the views of the college professors on a question coming up for discussion in town meeting.

Several of the professors attended the meeting, and Peirce made his speech. Then a townsman rose and took the opposite side, expressing the hope that the meeting would not allow itself to be dictated to by these nabobs of Harvard College. When he sat down, Peirce remained in placid silence, making no reply. When the meeting broke up, some one asked Peirce why he had not replied to the man.

"Why, did you not hear what he called us? He said we were nabobs! I so enjoyed sitting up there and seeing all that crowd look up to me as a nabob that I could not say one word against the fellow."

Cured.

Rev. Madison C. Peters, of Philadelphia, is a favorite with boys. Talking to a group of boys one day, he said: "When I was a youngster I wanted to be a ventriloquist. I wanted to play ventriloquist jokes on every one in the world. So I bought a book on throwing the voice, and, with a friend named Jake, I began to study the difficult art. I had poor success, and Jake also had poor success. He, thought, imagined he was doing well, and one day he declared that he was a good enough ventriloquist now to begin to do a little fooling. Jake knew an old engineer in a factory, and the next afternoon he visited him. He seated himself in a corner, and, after a little conversation, he imitated the squeak of badly oiled machinery. The old engineer trotted to a certain valve and oiled it. Jake let a few minutes pass, and emitted another series of squeaks. 'That that valve,' said the engineer, and he oiled it again. A third time there came a squeak, and now the engineer saw through the joke. He walked up quietly behind Jake, and squirted a half-pint of oil down the back of his neck. 'There,' he said, 'There'll be no more squeaking to-day.'

A Sensible Horse

Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, on seeing a horse frightened at the approach of an automobile, remarked: "That horse was less intelligent than one I saw the other day. I was walking down Fifth Avenue. The horse stood before a rag dealer's. A motor-car stopped close by, and the wise animal, instead of shying at it, edged up and gave it a hearty kick."

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