TID-BITS.

Picking Apples,

PPLES to pick! Applea to pick!
Come with a basket and come with a stick.
stic the trees and shake them down.
d let every boy take care of his crown.

There you go Tommy! Up with you Jim! Crawl to the end of that crooked limb. Carefully pick the fairest and best:
Now for a shake, and down come the rest.

Thump! plump! down they come raining! Shake away! shake, till not one is remaining. Hopping off here, and popping off there, Apples and apples are everywhere.

Golden russets, with sunburnt cheek, Fat, ruddy baldwins, jolly and sleek; Pippens, not much when they meet your eyes, But wait till you see them in tarts pies!

Where are the Pumpkin Sweets! Oh, here! Where are the Northern Spys! oh, there! And there are the Nogheads, and here are the Snows And yonder's the Porter, best apple that grows.

Sort them and pile them, the red and the brown What! are the Blue Pearmains not down! They're blushing purple with rage, I see, And the Oxfords are black with realousy.

Beautiful Bellefleurs, yellow as gold, Think not we're leaving you out in the cold? And dear fat Greenings, so prime to bake, I'll eat one of you now, for true love sake,

Oh, bright is the Autumn sun o'erhead, And bright are the piles of gold and red! And rosy and bright as the apples Are Jim, Tom and Harry, as merry as elves.

It's papa's birthday next week, Johnuy,

remarked mamma, and you ought to thinking of giving him a present. Yairp, said Johnny. You hadn't forgotten it, had you?

Yop.
Then you hadn't thought of anything to Nawp.

Let's see. You've saved up two dollars,

Yup.
Then don't you think it would be a good thing to give him a real nice pair of slippers . Whap? A nice new pair of slippers, with red

Nawp! said Johnny, with solid emphasis; what's the matter with giving my money to the heathen? Tubbley (bashfully, and removing his has

spasmodically)—Is Miss Tremmer in?

Maid—She is, but she is engaged.

Tubbley(who settled things last night)—
I know—I'm the young man. Buyer-How much are these trousers, Mr.

Mr. Solomons-Vell, mein freund, ve are yust givin does pants avay.
Buyer (effusively)—Thanks—thanks! I'll
take this pair. (exit rapidly with trousers)

Mistress (to cook)—Bridget, I expect to Bridget-Yis, mum ; ain't it's not objectin'

Or am mum, av yez will be so koind as to hape mine werrum for me till I come down. Wife—What does this circus advertisement mean when it speaks of a man with an liusband-Means what it says, of course

Wife—Dear me! I don't know what I would do if I had an iron jaw. Husband-You'd wear it out in about six

Indignant citizen-When I bought this horse you told me that with a little training he would make a first class animal for the Horse dealer—And so he will !

Citizen—I tried him yesterday, and he seventeen minutes trotting a mile! se dealer—Oh, I didn't mean a race friedd. I meant a street car track. ne window of a drug store is displayed a wous sign "vaccine." A young lady hicago walked into the store yesterrnoon to get some soda water.
t syrup, please? asked the slender

Vaccine, promptly replied the fair She took it for the latest thing in soda, only she didn't get it. The clerk fainted. They stood beneath the stars, and, silent

as the heart-beats of the night, looked far away into the diamond-studded shirt front Is that Mars? he whispered, as he slipped

his arm about her taper waist and gazed up on a gilttering orb in the distant blue, No, it ain't, she exclaimed, jerking away, its mine, and if you think you are hugging mother I can tell you are mistaken.

The matter was amicably adjusted before

anvithing serious resulted. Wife-piously; Henry, I wish you would M & SWear SO. Husband-shocked: I don't swear, my

Wife-Yes you do, or just the same thing. You mustn't say 'by George,' or 'by Jove,' or 'by Ned,' or by anything.

Husband—submissively: Not even buy a

new bonnet, love? Then she was very, very sorry for her thoughtless reform movement, and coming close to him, threw her arms about his neck

and asked him to forgive her. Pa-What would you like to be when you grow up, Johnny?

Johnny-I think I'll be a soldier. You might get killed. Who by? By the emeny, of course.
Well, then, I guess I had better be the

enemy. You must give me time, George, to think over. It is all so strong, so enexpected.

I will give you a year's time if you wish it

My love for you is great enough to bear that Oh! I don't want a year—give me five

Pa, do you know that this is my eighteenth birthday?

Yes, my dear.
Ps. I want you to do me a great favour on my birthday, and the beautiful girl buried her glowing face on the parental And what is the favour my little girl wants.

haven't you? Well, yes, my dear.
Then have them remove that gas-lamp away from right in front of our gate.

Thus it was that the fond father discovered that a daughter isn't a little girl always. She

Pa, you have influence with the city council, Bobby was spending the day with his aunt. So you are learning to spell, are you, Bouby. Yes, I can spell first-rate now.

Let me hear you spell bread. I don't believe I can spell bread, auntie, but I can spell a sm all piece of cake. The bulk of my fortune I wish to bequeath to my scapegrace nephew, George, said the

dying man.
Why, it was only yesterday he called you an old skinflint, said the lawyer. I'd cut the boy off. he boy off.
That's all right, replied the testator. You

make the will out the way I tell you. I know enough about wills to know that if I leave him all the money he won't get a cent

Would you mind if I lighted a cigar, Miss Clara ? he asked. Certainly not, Mr. Sampson, she replied. And presently the old man, who was get-

ting desperate, spoke from an open window Daughter, he said, I left my rubber overshoes near the kitchen stove and you had better see to 'em. I can smell something

The new servant girl came to the lady crying and holding on to her finger.
What's the matter? asked the lady.

I've run a fork into my finger, and it's this plated stuff I'll get lockjaw.

Don't be afraid. All my silver is genuine.

I don't keep any plated ware in the house.

Next morning the servant girl and all the silver were missing, and the table ware was all plated for some time after, until the - Unnecessary for it to begin at the office. from 11,456 in 1870 to 17,300 in 1888.

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Broker—I'm sorry, Uncle Rastus, that I can't do anything for you, as charity begins at Uncle Rastus—All right, sah. I'll call around at yo' house dis ebenin' bout seven,

A seedy-looking man came into the office Philadelphia the other day, and said; Mr. Mr. Dreydoppel, I'm a needy man, and would like twenty-five cents.

Well, now, remarked the man addressed I consider that cool. You might have fared better if you had asked for a few pennies. With a look of real indignation, and a voice almost angry, the suppliant said:
Now, see here, Mr. Dreydoppel, you know your business and I know mine; but if you think you can give me any points on begging, just start out and try it.

Mr. Dreydoppel handed over the quarter.

She Couldn't Pass the Salt. Perhaps you can imagine the sensation created by the following incident, which occurred at a very select and formal dinner party on Beacon street one day last week ays the Albany Argus :-

One of the guests on this festive occasion was a young lady from Baltimore, whose at tractiveness-for the men, at any rate-is not diminished by a tendency to be mildly giddy. On either side of her at the table were seated two nice young men, who vied with one another in their efforts to engage her attention. With both of them she seemed equally pleased, bestowing her smiles this way and that with charming impartiality. Having been introduced to the pair but five minutes before sitting down she had seemed equally before sitting down, she had cast a spell upon them before the fifth oyster on her plate was awallowed; when the soup plates were removed they had already abandoned themselves to her fascinations, and by the time the roast was on the table each was hopelessly enraptured. When the fowl was brought it chanced that, while the butler and assistant were out of the room for a moment, the hostess, who sat close by the head of the table. wanted some salt.

"My dear," she said to the Baltimore girl, will you hand me that little cellar by you?" The young woman spoken to looked up responsively, but made no motion to comply with the request. Supposing that she had not understood Mrs. K—, said again:—
"Will you not give me the sait, if you blesse?" please?

By this time the attention of everyone present had been called in that direction. young lady from the Monumental city, however, was not perturbed. "I am very sorry, Mrs. K.—," she said, "but how can I do what you ask?" And with this she lifted her hands suddenly from beneath the table, holding in her left the hand of the young gentleman on that side and in her right the hand of his rival. Both had been holding hands with her, unknown to each other, under the mahogany.

Why He Was Called "Venus." An amusing story, related of the late Dean of Chichester, appears in the Liverpool Mercury: "While he was vicar of St. Mary-the-Virgin's church, of Oxford—from the pulpit of which Cardinal Newman delivered his of which Cardinal Newman delivered his famous sermon—a parishioner brought a male child to be christened. Upon Mr. Burgon asking the sponsors what name they desired to give the baby they replied: 'Venus.' Venus!' he exclaimed, indignantly. 'How dare you say me to call it are such arrest.

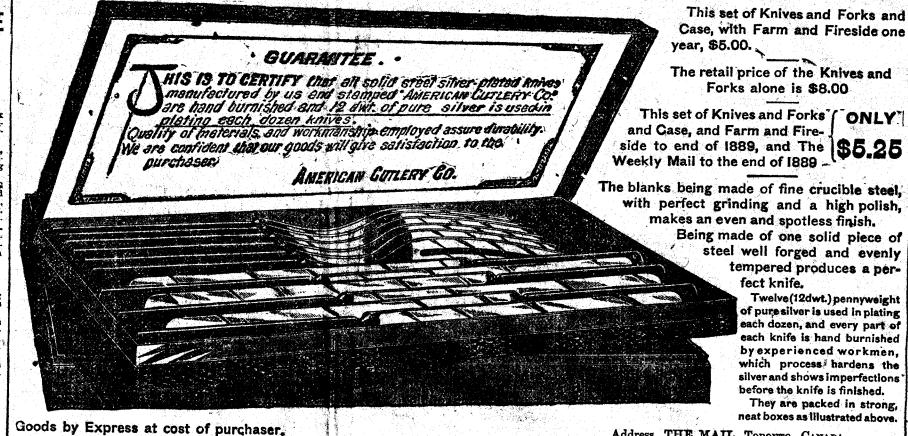
dare you ask me to call it any such name ? In the first place it is not a man's name at all, but that of a most wicked and abandoned female.' 'Please, sir, the child's grand-father was christened Venus,' exclaimed the godmother, very much alarmed. "What, do you mean to say he's got a grandfather called Venus? Where is his grandfather? The christening was suspended till he came, a poor old fellow, bent double with rheumatism, years, and toil, and looking as little like Venus as can possibly be imagined. Do

years, and tool, and looking as need has Venus as can possibly be imagined. 'Do you mean to tell ine, my good man, that you were christened Venus?' 'Well, no, sir,' he coughed and stammered; 'I was christened. Sylvanus, but folks always call me Venus." The population of Kingston has advanced

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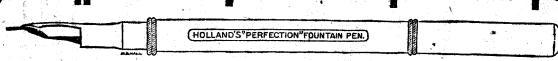
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