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Quips and Cranks.

The most cautious man we ever knew was the one who was afraid to buy a lead pencil for fear the lead wouldn't reach right through it.

"A feller don't know what to do," complained Tommy. "The kids that maw wants me to play with, their mothers don't want 'em to play with me."

Napoleon (bracing himself to keep his place on the pedestal)—Stop that! who's pushing me? The Goddess of Fame—Shut up and move over! It's Bismarck.

Miss Blanc (contemplatively): That a nice looking watch. Did you have to buy a suit of clother to get that? John Ware (reflectively): No; on the contrary, I had to sell one.

Teacher: Do you understand the meaning of the terms capital and labour? Small Boy: Yes'm. If a boy has a sled, that's capital; if another boy rides down with him and then pulls the sled up, that's labour.

"Well," said one bacillus to another, "how are you and your human being getting along?" "It's a pretty close struggle," was the reply, "as to which of us can hold out the longer under the doctor's medicine."

"Can I write my name under the received payment on this bill?" asked the bill collector who likes to put things as delicately as possible. "No, thank you," replied Mr. Brokely, "I'm no autograph fiend."—*Washington Star*.

"Don't you find it—ouch—pretty hard pulling to make a living at this business?" asked the disagreeable man. "Yes, sir," said the dentist, applying the forceps again; "I live principally—hold still—from hand to mouth."

The husband of a new apostle of Malapropism had betaken unto himself a costume for a fancy ball. And his wife thus describes him to the people who drink her wine and eat her dinners: Then he came in in the garb of a monk; and all I could say was "Exit homo!"

In a prominent church the choir sang one Sunday morning an unusually brilliant Te Deum which had a grand *fortissimo* ending. At its close the rector arose, and in his quiet voice read the second lesson, which, on this particular Sunday, was the twentieth of Acts, beginning, "And after the uproar was ceased."

WANTED TO KNOW HOW HE KNEW.

"Last Sunday," said the clergyman to his congregation, "some one put a button in the collection bag. I won't mention names. I will merely say that only one individual in the congregation could have done so, and I will expect the same member, after the service, to replace the button with a coin of the realm." After church a well-to-do but close fisted individual sought an interview with the clergyman in the vestry.

"I—er," he began hesitatingly, "must apologize for the—er—button incident, which I can assure you was an accident. I happened to have the button in my waist-coat pocket, together with a shilling, and took out the former by mistake. However, sir, here is the shilling."

"Thank you," said the clergyman, taking the shilling and gravely handing him the button.

"By the by, sir," said the man, "I cannot understand how you should have known that it was I who—er—committed the—er—much-to-be-regretted mistake."

"I didn't know," replied the clergyman. "Didn't know! But you said, sir, that only one individual in the congregation could have done so."

"Just so. You see, sir, it is scarcely possible that two individuals could have put one button in the bag; is it now?" said the clergyman with a bland smile.

It was so much easier for the button contributor to say "good day" than to answer this puzzling question that he made his bow at once.

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