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Wid-Bits.

#20.00 IN GOLD

Given Each Week for the

BEST TID-BIT.

We are giving weekly a prize of TWENTY DOLLARS IN SOLD for the less selected or Original Tid-Bit, which, in the judgment of the committee, is thought suitable for this page. No conditions are attached to the compitation overpt that each person competing must become a subscriber to TRUTH for at least three months, and must therefore send along with their Tid-Bit, half a dollar for the quarter's subscription. Present subscribers competing will have their tendence of the competitors must send One True Bit coly (the one among their collection they think is the best. The article, or Tid-Bit, need not necessarily be the nork of the sender, but may be selected from any jumphict, book, newspaper, magazine or any other judication, and should be attached to a sheet of paper on which is written the name and post-office address of the sender. If two or more persons happen to send in the same article, the first one received will have the preference, if it is considered by the consultee as worthy of the prize offered. We want to make this one of the most interesting pages in TRUH. Look up your old or new scrape, or send us something original, and whenever it is published the prize all be promptly forwarded. The article, or Tid-Bit, maybe only one line (if it contains the necessary joint) and must not exceed a half a column in length. Address—Prize Tid. Bit. Committee.

A RICH PRIZE GIVEN.

This page will contain each week the best of all the lid lits sent, and each subscriber is invited during the following week to send to the Publisher his or her ballot, naming to the l'ublisher his or her sainot, naming the Number of the Tid-Bit best entitled to the prize; all such to be mailed not less than six days from the date of its publica-tion. The Tid-Bit receiving the largest number of votes to be awarded the prize. A printed form of coupon will be found

A printed form of coupon will be found in the last column of page 27. Cut this out, fill up the blank, and enclose it in an unscaled envelope, or pasted on a post-card, to the Publisher. In either case the cost is but one cent

Every subscriber is invited to compete, and every subscriber is asked to vote. Let their be a friendly content in connection with this page.

-Original.

A Nation's Prayer.

O Thou I the Great Creator-Thou Who made this boundless sphere On headed knees, we to Thee bow Incline, O Lord, Thy ear.

We thank Thee Lord, for favors past, That Thou didst condescend To grant to us prosperity; May we our lives amend!

Upon this favored land, O Lord,
No Thou increase our store,
Not peace and ple ty be our lot
lioth now and evenuore. GEO. D. LUCAR.

20 Louisa St., Toronto.

-Original. A Rejoinder.

DEAR TRUTH, -In you number of Dec. 29th, under the heading "Tid-Bits," there are some verses subscribed a "Wisely Anonymous Man." If you could find space for the following as a reply to him, I would be greatly obliged :-

I know a man so wondrous wise; So decpty learned is he. He knows the hidden mysteries Of a woman's tongue at tea.

He knows her very heart and soul is in her sisters' hats; He knows the charm of sewing school is gossiping and spats.

lie trembles for the trading man if down she tries to hat him; lictears the silly little lamb Will let the woman creat him,

Leat his model weman might amaze, And fill his friends with wooder, He makes her out both dost and dumb-What a cunning little blunder.

I know a man, a little man, So dwarfish in his mind. That he tries to find a smaller thing, And hite on womankind.

Poor little thing we pity him;
To scorn him is unklid,
For he is only half a man,
Quite deaf, dumb and blind.

A Bummer WORLE.

An Acrostic.

T hy name is wendrous, thy fair fame R ound the earth afar shall spread, U null each home within the land T hy golden treasures have explored—H ence gladly greet thee every week.

T ruth is mighty, and shall prevail, R evealing stores of choicest lore U nknown to millions, yet required To make our leisure heurs in life H appy and full of cheerful content.

Jarris Ontario.

Mns. O. GRINDELL.

About Truth.

My grand-pa, Levi Beach, now seventyfive years of age, composed the following for my TRUTH tid-bit competition :-

" Oh send out thy light and thy truth," ... Ps. 43-3.

Truth is of God, and cannot fell.
It stands secure and must prevail—
Though Heaven and earth may pass away,
The word of truth shall with us stay.

Truth, like its author, is divine;
May each one say that it is mine.
Shall we not on the truth rely?
Our Savior says 'twill sauctify.
Natrie Cols.

-Original Our Countrymen

[Slain in the Egyptian desert, Saturday

in. 17th, 10.

Immissioned officers and men. 1

Husb.,

Oal the roll,

The trut -rowall g roll!

Anche, yet snother; U herr of Englandshiver.

On the crust brain g and of the far Happdon land.

Bank on rank they found, thin feat, cas hearts, a grim.

Bank on rank they found, thin feat, cas hearts, a grim.

Lot the cannons flash as drow, the mode, the grouns,

the surging charge, the goating eyer; life's gain and

Los the cannons flash as drow, the sobbing,

The surging charge, the graing eyer; life's gain and

Los the cannons flash as the continual flash of the sobbing.

From their sures, so them hand down

Minaway's down, the oof questors or was

Violancias, girings.

When down along

When down the of questors or was

Life them along.

When down the of questors or was

-Ori

Vest'

An Attempt to Prove Man a Verb.

"A verb signifies being, action, passion, sufering." Man is a being; on that there needs no light; lie can est, um, jump, walk, drink and fight, lie can est, um, jump, walk, drink and fight, Man feel passion; can both hath hate and low. The things of carth, as well as things above. Man exfers, too, from hunger, cold and gout—Oft by his folly these are brought about.

"A verb is either active, passive, or neuter." Man's action when attending his sfairs,
And helping others through this world of cares.
Man is also passive when he lies in bed,
Neglects his tessiness, cares not how he sted.
You will admit man's neuter when a sot—
The most contemptable part of speech amid the lot.

"A verb le regular, irregular, or defective," Man is a regular humbug, one may plainly a-e, liecause he's seldom home at the hour for tea. Man is irregular who out late at night. Coming home at all hours, a miserable, boosy wight. Man is defective when deaf dumb, tame or bind—Or it, excaping these, through love has lost his mind.

"A verb also has its moods, indicative. etc." Man's in th' indicative mood when he boldly claim his rights,
Or w ispore suitly to his dear, "I love you day and
night."
Potential when he tells her "she may safely trust to

him.
That he will be her guiding star throughout this world of sin."
While subjectively he adds "li you will but be mine.
The hapitest verb e'er conjugated, my dear, will then be thire." When in the imperative mood he must not be triffed

with,
Or the poor passive verb will find his love a myth.
When in th' infinitive to this his mind is apt to fly—
To live, to love, to be beloved, and then, also I to die

"Verbehare their tenses, present, past and future."
When our verb-man...le blest with commen sense,
He's sure to make the best use of what we call pre-

sent tense.

He also will be guided by his knowledge of the part,
And try to make the couling year more prosperous
than the last.

Will look bopefully to the future making up for any Knowing that it's better for a man to bear his cross

" Verbe have their terminations in d. or 44." Men have their terminations in d. or st."

Men have their terminations; some a medest Eq.,
And some a K.C.B.; while some win theirs in schools,
'lis true,
Such as R.A., M.A., LL.D., and many are, also—
Though they never wish to sign it—nothing less
than ASS.

Mas. W. C. GRIMON.

Portago La Preirie, Man.

-Original

About Love.

What is love, that all the world Talks so much about it? What is love, that neither you Nor I can do without it?

Love's a tyrant and a slave, A torment and a treasure; Having it, we know no peace, Lacking it, no pleasure."

Would we shun it, if we could? Booth, I almost doubt it; Faith, I'd rather bear its pain Than live my life without it." M. GILLIER.

-Original. Hamilton, Ont.

-Selected.

The Death of the Just.

How calm is the summer sea's wave How softy is swelling its breast. The lank it just reaches to lave, Then sinks on its bosom to rest.

No dashing, no foaming nor roar, But mild as a zephyr its play; It drops, scarcely heard, on the shore, And passes in silence away.

So caim is the action of death
On the haloyon mind of the just,
As gently he rifles their breast,
As gently dissolves them to dust.

As genus was an increase and nor a stear, Nor a grief, nor a wish, nor a sigh; Nor a cloud, nor a doubt, nor a fear, But calm as a number they die.

JANE ROCHE.

Haliburton, Ont.

Shakespearean Acrostic.

ome-keeping youths have never homely wits, woman's thought runs before her actions, any a good hanging prevents a bad marriage, ove delights in praises, very one can master a grief but he that has it.

L ove designes as possess. Every one can master a grief but he that has it. T bought is free.
Proffers not took reap thanks for their reward.
It ich honesty, sir, dwells like a miser in a poor

R ich honesty, sir, dwells like a miser in a poor house.

In time the savage bull doth bear the yoke.

No man means evil but the devil.

Comparisons are odlous

E very why hath a wherefore.

O mitance is no quittance.

F at paunches have lean pates.

D uty never yet did want his meed.

E very man with his effects is born.

No profit grows where is no pleasure ta'en.

M ake a virtue of necesity.

A madman's epistles are no gospel.

R esson and love keep little company together nowaday.

K eep a gamester from his dice, and a good student from his books, and it is wonderful.

Miss Harsman.

187 Jarvis-st., Toronto.

The Bible's Contents.

The Bible's Contents.

"Matthew," "Mark," "Luke" and "John"
The holy Gospels wrote,
Dosoribing how the Saviour died,
His life and all He taught.

"Acta" proves now God the apostles owned,
With signs in every place;
St. Paul in "Romans" t aches us
How men are saved by grace.
The apostle in "Corinthans,"
Instructs, exhorts, reproves;
"Galatians" shows that faith in Christ alone the
Father loves;
"Christians" shows that faith in Christians ought to be;
"Colossians' shows that faith in Christians ought to be;
"Colossians' bide us live to God, and for eternity.
In "These ionians" we are taught the Lord will come
from Heaven;
In "Thinoth" and "Titus" too,
A bishup's rule is given;
"Phi'emon" mark a Christian's love
Which only Christians know;
"He'benew" reveals the gospel,
Profigured by the law.
"James" teaches, without holinoss
Faith is but vain and dead;
"St. Petr" points the narrow way
In which the saints are led.
"Jonn," in his three epistles
On love delights to dwell;
"St. Jude" us awful warning gives
Of Judgment, writh, and hell.
The "Revelation" prophesies
Of that tremendous day,
When Christ, and Christ alone, shall be
The trembling sinner's stay.

Mrs. Purvis.

Guelph, Opt

Not at Home.

-Selected.

Love stood upon the doorstep, And twirled about the pin, And whispered through the keyhole "Is anyone within?"

But she was husy sweeping And dusting high and low, And he his books was deep in, So they let him knock and go. Better the book unwritten,

Better the book in the floor,
Than such sweet and soldom visitor
Turned from the thankless door. CATHARDIS E. TATLOR.

St. Helent, Out.

-Selected.

Under the Snow.

Thus under the snow—four feet low—
That form still silent lies;
But a spring shall shine, and a Voice divine
Shall one day bid it rise.
So I will not weep, for the angels keep
That grave in their loving eyes.

When earth and its snow, beneath the glow of that spring, shall melt away,
That tormshall rise beyond the skies,
And bask in Heaven's ray;
Shall re-unite with the spir t bright
Which left its illeless clay.
W. H. Boows W. H. BOOMER.

London, Out.

-Selected.

Neglected Opportunity. For the sake of recreation, Once I asked an applaination From a voung man (no relation) What was meant by "osculation," White I shifted inly location To invite the sweet sensation.

Well,—imagine my vexation
When he gave me the translation,
And its latin derivation.
And a lot of information,
Like a pedagogue's oration
Just as if we were at school!
Wasn't he an awful fool?
R. J.

Newmarket, Ont.

R. J. GREEK.

-Selected. Alphabetical Curiosity. A jovial swain may rack his brain, And tax his fancy's might To quiz in vain, for 'tis most plain That what I say is right.

[In the above lines you will find all the letters of the alphabet, with the exception of the letter E. I think it rather difficompose even a verse without the letter E being used.]

MRS. At & L. NORTH. Allandale, Ont.

-Selected. Must Keep His Word.

The following is apropes of a recent court care, Boulthee 1s. Burke, about which the political papers have a good deal to say:-

"So you say you cannot help me get the post office?"

"I am sorry, but I cannot." "Didn't you tell me that if I voted for you for Congress you would be under ever lasting obligations to me?"

-Selected

"Well-"But you see if I should get you the post office I would be paying off the obliga-

"Certainly." "And I promised that the obligation should be everlasting. I must keep my promise, sir." A D. KRAN.

Orillia, Out.

-Selected Four Thousand Ways.

Taken from an old book belonging to our library. It is a wonderful piece, and can be read upwards of 4,000 different ways. By beginning with the centre letter, T, and taking the most zigzag course to any of the four corners; it will be found that it invariably makes the following words, viz. : Taylor is our president.

tnediscrprpresident nediscrprurpresiden ediscrpruourpreside discrpruoscurpresid isorpruosisou rprosi scrpruosirisour pres scrpruosirisourpres crprousirolorisourpre rpruosirolorisourpre pruosirolyaylorisour pruosirolyaylorisour uosirolyaylorisour ruosirolyaylorisour pruosirolyaylorisour pruosirolyaylorisour pruosirolylorisourpre rpruosirolylorisourpre serpruosiroisourpre serpruosiroisourpre serpruosiroisourpreside fiserpruosourpreside diserpruosourpreside mediserpruorpresident mediserpropresident mediserpruorpresident mediserpresident mediserpresident mediserpresident mediserpresident mediserpresident mediserpresident mediserpresident mediserp

MRS. (REV.) W. HAYDE CLARK.

Bolton, Ont.