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"There is an immensity of trick in all Shakespeare wrote," he said, "and the people are taken by it. Now, if I had a mind, I could write exactly like Shakespeare." "So you see," proceeded Charles Lamb, quietly, "it was only the mind that was wanting."

(167)

Go On.

Selected.

"Forward, march!" That is the order of the day; and the dream of the night is "Go on!"

Paul's desire of the church was that it go forward, and the work of the church is to go on.

The Master's command is:—"Why stand ye here all the day idle?" Go on!

The call of the suffering and the perishing to temperance people is, "Go on!"

If ye be at work, do ye well. Until your work is done, go on!

If ye be indifferent and idle, raise yourselves—make a start, and go on!

If you are travelling a hard road, and find it up hill business, brace yourself and go on!

Are you weary with the march? Add another weary. Go on!

Are you hungry? Let hunger be increased; tighten your buckle, and go on!

Are you half clad and shivering with cold? Stop the quicker. Go on!

Don't you know what to do? Then do this, and keep doing it: Go on!

Have you got discouraged? Don't stop to be discouraged. Go on!

You may be lame and halt; never mind it. The best treatment is to go on!

You may be weak and fainting; strength will be gained if you go on!

Temptation will assail, and the devil sometimes prevail, but go on!

Has somebody made a false report? You have no time to pick it up. Go on!

You will meet with naught but the Master has met; face all things. Go on!

Nobody may thank you for your pains. The pay is at the end. Go on!

Mrs. E. Brown.

George Street, Peterboro'.

(168)

Nautical Eloquence.

Selected.

A speaker who attempts to use nautical metaphors should be thoroughly familiar with the sea and the working of a ship, or he will strand his speech. A clergyman was once supplying a pulpit by the seaside. Thinking to impress the truth more distinctly upon the congregation, many of whom were seamen, he drew the figure of a ship trying to enter a harbor against a head wind.

Unfortunately for the success of his metaphor he knew little of seamanship. After putting the ship into several singular positions, he cried out in a tone intended to be emphatic:

"What shall we do next?"

"The Lord only knows," exclaimed a disgusted old tar, "unless you let her adrift sternmost!"

That prince of sailor-preachers, Father Taylor, was once silenced by a compliment to his eloquence. He had depicted the imminent danger under the figure of a storm-tossed ship, with her sails split, and driven by the gale towards the rock-bound coast of Cape Ann.

"O, how," he exclaimed, in tones of despair, "shall this poor sin-tossed sinner be saved?"

Instantly an old salt in the gallery, who had listened with open mouth and straining eyes to the preacher, jumped to his feet, and in a voice that would have sounded above a hurricane shouted—

"Let him put his helm hard down, and bear away for Squam."

Hamilton.

Mrs. A. Grice.

(169)

A Bishop's Riddle.

Selected.

The following compound riddle was composed by the Bishop of Clifford:

1. I have a box.
2. This box has two lids.
3. It also has two caps.
4. It contains three musical instruments.

5. It has in it two established measures  
6. It contains a great many articles that a carpenter could not dispense with.

7. The box has always about it two fish.  
8. Also a great number of smaller size.

9. In it you will find lofty trees.  
10. Also some gaudy flowers.

11. The fruit of an indigenous tree.  
12. Two gentle little animals are found in it.

13. Also a number of smaller and less tame animals.  
14. A fine stag is found with it.

15. A great many small whips without handles.  
16. It boasts of two halls or places of worship.

17. Some weapons of warfare are always found in this box.  
18. And in it you will find a number of weather cocks.

19. The steps of a hotel are also found in it.  
20. The House of Commons resound with two of my essential articles when on the eve of a decision.

21. In the box you can find two scholars.  
22. And then find ten Spanish grandees to wait upon them.

All pronounce me a wonderful piece of mechanism, but a very few have remembered the strange things that make up my whole.

ANSWER.

1. The box is the human body.  
2. Eyelids. 3. Knee-caps.  
4. Drums. 5. Feet.  
6. Nails. 7. Soles.  
8. Muscles. 9. Palms.  
10. Tulips (2 lips) 11. Apples (of the eyes)

12. Calves. 13. Hairs.  
14. Heart. 15. Laashes.  
16. Temples. 17. Arms.  
18. Veins. 19. Insteps.  
20. Eyes and nose. 21. Pupils.  
22. Tendons.

Hernesfield, Man. M. E. THOMPSON.

(170)

About Right.

Selected.

"Now, children, about what shall I talk to-night?" asked a prosy Sunday school superintendent. "About three minutes," said a little girl, amid the merriment of teachers and pupils.

Carrington, Dakota. ANNIE EDWARDS.

(171)

Had Plenty Before.

Selected.

An Irishman being asked why he left his country, for America, replied, "It wasn't for want, for we had plenty of that at home."

Oakland, Ont. C. M.

(172)

Curious Love Letter.

Selected.

"MADAM,—Most worthy of estimation! After long consideration, and much meditation on the great reputation you possess in the nation, I have a strong inclination to become your relation. On your approbation of this declaration I shall make preparation to remove my situation to more convenient station, to profess my admiration; and if such oblation is worthy of observation, and can obtain commiseration, it will be an aggrandizement beyond all calculation of the joy and exultation

Of yours, SAM'S DISSIMULATION.

THE ANSWER

SIR,—I perused your oration with much deliberation, and a little consternation, at the great infatuation of your imagination, to show such veneration on so slight a foundation. But after examination and much serious contemplation, I supposed your animation was the fruit of recitation, or had sprung from ostentation to display your education, by an odd enumeration, or rather multiplication, of words of this same termination, though of great variation in each respective signification. Now, without dissipation, your laborious application in so tedious an occupation deserves commendation, and thinking imitation a sufficient gratification, I am, without hesitation,

Yours, MARY MODERATION.

Pembroke, Ont. MRS. J. BLAND.

(173)

Query.

How much superior is a Christmas present to a Christmas past?

Barnia, Ont.

T. O. FOSTER.

(174)

The Young Idea.

Selected.

A gentleman, interested in Sunday School work, visited a school one Sunday on which the subject happened to be Jacob's dream. After the exercises were over, he addressed the children as follows:

"My dear little boys and girls, I have been very well pleased with your good behavior to-day, and the intelligent answers given to the questions asked; now, if any little boy or girl would like to ask me a question I will be very glad indeed."

After a pause the following one came from a small boy:

"Please, sir, why did the angels require a ladder when they had wings?"

This was a staggerer, but our friend, rising to the occasion, exclaimed,—

"A very good question, my boy, and I am so delighted with you all this afternoon that I will give a quarter to any little boy or girl who will answer that question."

Our friend was rescued from his dilemma, and the quarter won by a mite of a girl suggesting that "perhaps the angels were moulting at the time."

Brockville, Ont. WM. SHEARER.

(175)

Which Meant For.

Selected.

It is told of Samuel Lover, the Irish novelist, that he was once in company with an English lady of great beauty and attraction, who was an ardent admirer of Ireland, and she once crowned her praises by saying—

"I think I was meant for an Irishwoman."

The quick reply was,—

"Cross over there, madam, and there are hundreds of my countrymen who insist that you were meant for an Irishman."

Toronto. M. G. W.

(176)

Proverbs.

Selected.

"A secret is like a hole in your coat—the more you try to hide it the more it is seen."

"It is upon the smooth ice we slip; the roughest path is safest."

J. L. LANOLIS.

La Grange, Illinois.

(177)

Nothing Defined.

Selected.

A minister of the Church of England, holding an examination of children, asked a pupil a question. The answer was "No thing." "And what is nothing, my little fellow?" asked the examiner. The boy looked up with eyes and mouth open, thinking it strange to be asked so simple a question, yet not finding words to express himself, had to let it pass. The examiner then passed to the next—"Can you?" A shake of the head. To the next, "Can you? Can you?" At length coming to an urchin with a merry twinkle in his eye—"Can you?" "Yes, sir, I can." "And what is it, my fine fellow?" "It's a legless stocking without a foot." The minister had to turn to hide his own levity with the exclamation, "That is nothing!"

THOS. MILLER, Sen'r.

\$2 Bond Head-st., Kingston, Ont.

(178)

The Bar-Room as a Bank.

Selected.

You deposit your money—and lose it. Your time—and lose it. Your character—and lose it. Your health—and lose it. Your strength—and lose it. Your manly independence—and lose it. Your self control—and lose it. Your home comfort—and lose it. Your wife's happiness—and lose it. Your children's happiness—and lose it. Your own soul—and lose it.

Wheeling, Virginia. NETTIE KERR.

(179)

Amazing Grace.

Selected.

The following is vouched for by one of the most reliable of Philadelphia divines:

A young clergyman having agreed to sup-

ply the pulpit of an older brother absent from home, escorted to church the daughter of the pastor, and having seen her safely in her father's pew, ascended to the pulpit, unconscious that this natural attention to the young lady was sufficient to excite lively imaginations and inquiries in the audience.

Upon reading the hymn to be sung, the young clergyman was surprised to perceive evident efforts in the congregation to suppress laughter. The daughter of his friend possessed the mellifluous name of Grace, and, all unsuspecting of that fact, he had chosen the hymn beginning with the words "Amazing grace," and proceeding with:

"'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed!"

Through many dangers toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home!"

Glen Morris, Ont. Robt. Rose

(180)

Put It Back.

Selected.

A Highlander who sold brooms, went into a barber's shop in Glasgow to get shaved. The barber bought one of his brooms, and, after having shaved him, asked the price of it. "Tippence," said the Highlander. "No, no," says the shaver, "I'll give you a penny and if that does not satisfy you, take your broom again." The Highlander took it, and asked what he had to pay. "A penny," says strap. "I'll give ye a bawbee," says Duncan, "and if that dinna satisfy ye, put on my board again."

Brooklin, Ont. MRS. W. T. MURRAY.

(181)

The Rat at Prayers.

Selected.

Dr. Sheridan, the celebrated friend of Swift, had a custom of ringing his scholars to prayers in the school house at a certain hour every day. The boys were one day very devoutly at prayers, except one, who was stifling a laugh as well as he could which arose from seeing a rat descending from the bell rope in the room. The poor boy could hold no longer, but burst out into an immoderate fit of laughter, which set the others a going as he pointed out the cause. Sheridan was so provoked that he declared he would whip them all if the culprit was not pointed out to him, which was immediately done. The poor pupil of Momus was instantly hoisted, and his posterior laid bare to the rod; then the witty school-master told him if he said anything tolerable on the occasion he would forgive him, as he was the greatest duce in the school. The trembling culprit, with very little hesitation addressed his master with the following beautiful distich:

There was a Rat for want of stairs  
Came down a rope, to go to prayers.

Sheridan instantly dropped the rod, and instead of a whipping gave him half a crown.

Mrs. M. MALCOLM.

Graceville, Minnesota.

(182)

The Cheapest Wives.

Selected.

They were spinning yarns. One old man sat apart from the others and looked sad and forlorn, as if he never had thought of levity in all his life.

"My wife has been one of the cheapest luxuries a man ever enjoyed," said one. "We have been married eighteen years, and she has cost me less than a thousand dollars all told."

"Pooh!" said another. "I have been married nine years, and my wife's total expenses have been scarcely three hundred dollars."

The sad man drew a deep sigh and said,—

"Well, well! I was married forty years ago, boys, and from that day to this my wife has cost me only one hundred and nineteen dollars, and she has had everything she needed, too."

"How in the world did you get through so very cheap?"

"The poor gal died the second week after I married her."

The crowd spared his life because he was sad.

Toronto. MRS. J. THOMPSON.