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A Mean Trick.

He was not tagged the meanest man in town, but he might well have been. He came through the front door of a Broadway car. The first thing he did after stepping inside was to fall over a suit case, and the next was to astonish his neighborwith an out burst of vigorous language.—His virile remarks mad the owner of the suit case uncomfortable.

"I am sorry," he apologized. "The suit case does seem to be in the way, but I have no other place to put it."

"No place else to put it!" repeated the irate passenger. "You could easily find a place. Any place would be better than right here by the door."

The man in the corner seat surveyed the crowded car doubtfully. "But I can't move," he said, "and I can't move the suit case any farther along with nobody to look after it. Somebody might take a sancy to it."

The irate passengar reflected a moment. "I'll tell you what to do," he said. "Ask somebody to change places with you.—Almost any man dow there in the middle of the car would be glad to change. You ought to try it anyway. Somebody is going to get a broken neck if that suit case is left standing there much longer."

The prospect of being charged with homicide quickened the corner man into immediate activity. He picked up the suit case and advanced to the middle of the car.

"Sir," he said addressing a gentleman of portly mein, "will you change places with me? I have a seat in the corner, but my suit case appears to be in the way. If you will let me sit here, I will appreciate the favor."

"Certainly," said the stout man, and began to rise. Before fully surrendering his advantageous position, however, he looked toward the corner seat and then sat down again heavily.

"I believe," he then said, "that I'll remain where I am."

The meanest man in town had usurped the seat vacated by the man with the suit case and was intently studying the panorama of Broad way as viewed through the platform window. His victim sighed and cluched a strap, and during the rest of the trip he imperiled his own neck by stumbling and staggering over the inconvenient suit case.

The Key to the Situation.

Baron Kaneko, of Japan, is spending the summcer in the Maine woods, and the people of the picturesque Maine village of Harpswell enjoy greatly his interesting comments on American life.

"I down't know," said Baron Kadeko one day, "that I altogether approve of the compulsory instruction in music that is put upon the American children. If a boy or girl has an ear for music, then cultivate it by all means; but don't try to make musicians out of all children indiscriminately, and thus you will avoid such household conversations as one I overheard the other day.

"I was on a train, and a father and his young son sat near me. The father said—

"'John, do you practise regularly on the piano while I am away at business?'

"'Yes, father,' replied the boy.

"'Every day?'

"'Yes, sir.'

"'How long did you practise to-day?'

"'Three hours.'

"'And how long yesterday?'

"'Two hours and a half.'

"Well I'm glad to hear that you are so regular.'

"'Yes, father.'

"'And the next time you practise be sure you unlock the piano. Here is the key. I locked the instrument last week, and I have been carrying the key in my pocket ever since.'"

Backng up His Grammer.

Among the men waiting at the village postoffice for the mail to be distributed were a New York drummer and a dozen of the town people and farmers, and one of the town people by and by said to one of the farmers:

"Jim, is your wife going away tomorrow?"

"My wife has already went," was the reply.

"You mean gone?"

"I mean went."

"But that's bad grammar."

"I'll leave it to the stranger here."

Jim ceased to whittle and looked at the stranger, and after a minute he said:

Mister, you may have one kind of grammar and me another. I hain't got a word to say agin your grammar add I jest want to say that if you have anything to say agin mine one or t'other of us is goin' to git laid on his back in that mudhol.—Now, then, has my wife went or not?"

"She has certainly went," promptly replied the drummer.

CASTORIA
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A REAL GHOST.

If Chesapeake City hasn't a real able-bodied blood and thunder ghost, some of the colored residents of the place are very much mistaken. Several of them are positive in their declaration that they have seen him and never want to see him again, and their friends, to whom they have told the story, have not expressed a profound desire to meet the rumored spook.

The apparition was first reported one night early last week, when a black man named Sam entered a store where a dozen members of his race were celebrating the holiday and told them that he had seen a man standing near the canal lock with a fishing rod and basket in his hands.

It was very late, very dark, very cold and very unseasonable for fishing and the opinion was expressed that Sam was either dreaming or that the hard winter had affected the minds of some of the denizens of the place.

An investigation was agreed upon and several of the colored men started out to locate the alleged fisherman. No one was to be seen in the immediate vicinity of the lock, and Sam was being soundly berated by his shivering colleagues when one of them uttered an exclamation of surprise and pointed to a figure sitting on a canal bank about a hundred yards away. To all appearances this was an old darky, who held a fishing rod in his hands while he gazed steadily at the cork which indicated the point at which his line entered the water.

The investigators moved closer without apparently attracting the attention of the figure, and when near it one of them civilly inquired as to the luck of the fisherman. No answer was received, and, undecided as to whether the fisherman was deaf or frozen, the men continued to advance.

They reached the side of the figure and one of them extended his hand as if to lay it on the fisherman's shoulder. Then, according to the story that is being told, nothing was there.

After standing dumfounded and trembling for a moment the whole crowd united in a yell of terror and nearly ran their legs off getting back to the store from which they started.

Several nights later it was reported that the fishmen had again been seen, but no one attempted to investigate.

The white residents who have heard of the story are inclined to attribute it to too much indulgence in "redeye." but the witnesses of the incident strongly protest the accuracy of the story.

Just Like Boys.

In the days when a brown stone front was regarded as the outer and visible sign of "gentility," and when life in New York was a simpler matter than it is to-day, there lived in one of the orthordox mansions a certain highly respectable maiden lady and two nephews, cousins, to whom she was guardian.

A classmate and chum of the older boy had become the hapyy possessor of a rooster, which, the seller assured him, had a "big gamy streak to him." Inflamed by this eulogy, both boys were wild for a "match;" and not having the means wherewith to purchase an antagonist, they put their heads together to compass the borrowing of one, and with the following results:

The younger cousin, an unusually polite and gentle little boy, was dispatched on the first holiday to the grocery where the family dealt, ostensibly to order a chicken for dinner.

"But," he said, pointing to a coop of live fowls, "my aunt wants to see it before you kill it."

The grocer assented and forthwith drew from the coop what he considered a desirable bird. But the boy would have none of it. He had set his heart on a rainbow-colored rooster with enormous comb and tail.

"Why," said the grocer, "that is the very toughest old customer in the bunch."

"My aunt likes them tough," said the gentle little boy.

In a couple of hours the rooster was borne back to the store—one eye shut, his comb torn and bloody, and but one feather in his beautiful tail left. But he was crowing so triumphantly that a small crowd followed him. He had suffered, but the bird with the "big gamy streak to him" was nowhere.

"My aunt is much obliged to you," said the polite and gentle little boy to the anstonished grocer. "She can't decide to-day, but she would like to look at him again next Saturday."

How Long to Sleep.

Up to the fifteenth year most people require ten hours, and until the twentieth year nine hours. After that age age every one finds out how much he or she requires, though as a general rule at least six or eight hours are necessary. Eight hours' sleep will prevent more nervous derangements in women than any medicine can cure. During growth there must be ample sleep if the brain is to develop to its full extent; and the more nervous excitable or precocious a child is the longer sleep should it get if its intellectual progress is not to come to a premature standstill or its life cut short at an early age.—Health.



HOW TO WIN A HUSBAND.

Woman's sphere in this 20th century is not limited any more than is man's. She can occupy almost any business position or profession, and yet the popular view of womanhood is that she best fits the position of wife and mother and head of the household. Every girl should know her heart and also know that her womanly system is equal to the strain of marriage. If a girl is nervous and irritable ten chances to one it is due to some trouble peculiar to womanhood.

Cupid has no place in a girl's heart if she is nervous and irritable, feels dragged down, worn out for no reason that she can think of. The weak back, dizzy spells and black circles about the eyes are only symptoms. Go to the source of the trouble and correct the irregularity. Stop the drains on the womanly system and the other symptoms will disappear. This can be done easily and intelligently. So sure of it is the World's Dispensary Medical Association, the proprietors of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, that they offer $500 reward for women who cannot be cured of leucorrhea, female weakness, prolapsus, or falling of the womb. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

"After confinement I gained no strength," writes Mrs. A. Davis, of Sweetwater, Ala. "Even when my baby was a month old I could hardly do any work. I don't know what to call the disease. I had a weak feeling in the pit of my stomach, felt miserable all over. I was sick three months and a lady friend told me to try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription as it had done her so much good. I did so, and after taking three bottles was cured. This was about five years ago and I have had no return of the disease. Am very thankful for the remedy. I cannot praise your 'Favorite Prescription' enough. It is a wonderful medicine for women."

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