HOME OF BILL NYE

Description of the Residence of the Famous Humorist.

IT INTERESTS MANY PEOPLE

The Description Is Condensed From That of the Architects — Buncombe, N. C., Is the Location.

The new home of Edgar William Nye, the genial humorist, in Buncombe county, N. C., interests many people. The following description is condensed from that of the architects, the Wills Bros., of Knoxville, Tenn., and Asheville, N. C.

The residence is a two story frame, in quadrangular style, the first story rough boarded, the second shingled in style still common in the older sec-

HOME OF BILL NYE.

tions of Canada; and between them is a heavy band course. At the northwest corner is an octagon tower and there is a fine balcony. The idea evidently is to combine the quaint attractiveness of the old Colonist dwellings with all the conveniences of modern life.

The visitor enters, by a porte cochere, the old fashioned English hall in which is a stairway. On one side of the hall is a wide, open fireplace for wood. To the right a sliding door gives access to the drawing room, 15 by 16 feet, which is further enlarged by a pretty alcove on one side and a music room on the other. Out of the drawing room casement windows gives egress to the porch under the tower. Sliding doors also admit one from the hall to the dining room on the left, in which a stained glass transom over each window gives a softened effect to the light.

From the dining room an arch, closed by a portiere, opens upon a conservatory, and beside this is the "den" of the humorist himself. For dignity's sake it might be called a private library. The second floor is given up entirely to bedrooms, bathroom and closets, and to every one, the closets included, a window admits abundant light. The third floor is "in the roof," as architects say; that is, it takes up the available space, which furnishes very commodious servants' quarters. There is also an elegantly lighted studio in the tower, and from the balcony one overlooks a splendid view of hill and dale, the Broad River winding below, the Buck shoals and the Blue Ridge mountains.

Although the structure is a two story one, the slope of the ground gives the basement a fine light on one side, and there is a 16 by 29 billiard room. The rest of the basement is taken up by furnace, fuel room and storeroom.

HOW HE SAVED HIMSELF.

They Had the Advantage at the Start, but He Won All Right.

Long year had been on for a month, and Ethelind had her net spread for Athelwold.

She had loved him long, because she could not well avoid it, inasmuch as he was 6 feet 6 in his sock feet.

She would have loved him short, however, just the same.

It is thus with women always.

And Ethelind was a woman, and had been one since the spring of 1870.

Now was Athelwold a pallid.

Indeed, the tongue of envy had said he was a regular old rooster.

Be that as it may, Ethelind was dead set not to let another leap year escape into the irreclaimable past.

"Athelwold," she said to him on the evening in which this story opens as they sat before the great open fireplace in the oak wainscoted drawing room of her ancestral castle, "don't you think it is about time you were married?"

He started nervously, but there was no escape.

"Ethelind," he said seriously, "I thought so this evening when I found four buttons missing from my clothes, and discovered that my shirt front was so frazzled with wear that it could be combed out and parted in the middle with a brush.

Ethelind's face was less tender. Athelwold went on gravely:

"Again, Ethelind, I thought so when I discovered that my landlady did not know a terrapin from a mock turtle and dropped my champagne in a soup plate; and again when the chambermaid forgot to put my slippers out, and I went to bed with my boots on."

The years which had erstwhile perched Ethelind's sweet face began to wilt.

But Athelwold went on as gravely as before.

"Yes, Ethelind, I think it is time I was getting a wife. On three occasions last week I was in danger of contracting pneumonia by waiting at the front door for some one to let me in, and it was only 8 a. m., and night before last, when the boys were playing poker in my room and became drier than a line full of clothes in a March wind, the landlady heard a row because we made a little hole foraging around the pantry for something that was wet."

He never ever neared her side and offered to take her hand.

"Ethelind," he said with deep earnestness, "I think it is time I was getting a wife to keep things in more convenient shape about me. Will"——

Ethelind arose to her full height and looked down upon him.

"Hold off, Mr. Athelwold Dunkurst," she whispered hoarsely. "Hold off. I asked you if you didn't think it was time you were married. You have answered me. I believe you. But Mr. Dunkurst," and her voice grew harder still, "I don't think it is near time I was getting married. You will find the front door in its accustomed place. Good evening, sir."

And Ethelind went hurriedly to her maiden chamber over the portcullis window.

Athelwold found the front door as she had said.

As he stood upon the other side of the moat he looked toward the mike grown walls of the grim gray castle and saw the flickering light in the portcullis window.

"Truth crushed to earth may rise again," he said, as he turned away, "but a bachelor, never."

And the light over the portcullis sputtered and went out.—Detroit Free Press.

A Persistent Man.

"I should like to sell you a gimlet," said a careworn looking man, as he walked into an office the other day.

"We have no use for one," replied the cashier.

"But you should always look into the misty future," went on the fiend demurely. "This winter you will want to make holes in your boot heels, so you can get your skates on."

"I use club skates—no straps required."

"You may want to screw some boards together some time. The old fashioned method of driving the screws in with a hammer is pernicious, as it deteriorates the tenacity of the fangs of the screws, as it were."

"Nothing today, sir."

"The gimlet also acts as a corkscrew."

"I don't want it."

"It may also be used as a tack hammer, a cigar holder and also a toothbrush."

"I don't want it."

"It has an eraser, a pen, an inkstand, a table for computing compound interest, and a lunchbox attachment."

"I can't help it. I don't want it."

"I know you don't. You're one of those mean men that won't buy a gimlet unless it has a restaurant, and a trip to Europe, and an Italian opera company attached. You're the kind of a man that would live near an electric light to save a gas bill." And the peddler walked out with his head thrown back and tail feathers spread.—Texas Siftings.

His Last Sensible Speech.

Almost every man learns, sooner or later, to think of his doctor as one of his best friends, but this fact does not hinder the world from laughing at "the profession."

"How is our patient this morning?" inquired a physician.

"Oh, he is much worse," answered the sick man's brother. "He has been delirious for several hours. At 2 o'clock or thereabouts, he said, 'What an old woman that doctor of mine is!' and he hasn't made a rational remark since."—Youth's Companion.

Everything Comes to Him Who Waits.

I.

II.

III.

IV.

—Texas Siftings.

Winter Practice.

Tom (to Jim, who has rolled Harry up in a snowball)—Send him in red hot, Jimmy, I'll knock him out de first lick widout hurtin a hair of his head!—Life.

The Little Calculator.

Hans—How old was Methuselah, auntie?

Aunt—Nine hundred years.

Hans—And how old are you, auntie?

Aunt—Thirty, my child.

Hans (after a moment's reflection)—Then my cousin reckoned wrong by 870 years. He said you were as old as Methuselah.—Humoristische Blätter.

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