

Flashes of Fun.

—“Pa, is it right to call a man born in Poland a Pole?” “Of course, my child.” “Well, then, if a man is born in Holland is he a Hole?” “Tut, tut! I’ll answer no more of your silly questions.”—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

—An editor in southern California managed five different papers in the last year, and they all collapsed on his hands. He has just started another, and has named it *Kind Words*, because kind words can never die.

—“I don’t know what you mean by not being an Irishman,” said a gentleman who was about hiring a boy, “but you were born in Ireland.” “Och, your honor, if that’s all,” said the boy, “small blame to that. Suppose your cat was to have kittens in the oven, would they be loaves of bread?”

—Some men who were pumping water from a vessel thought to be tight found that the water did not fall, after an hour’s working. One of the laborers, an Irishman, on making an examination, found a hole near the stern, upon which he cried: “Shtop, boys! Sure ye’d pump the whole ocean away before the ship would float!”

—A merchant traveler at dinner requested the waiter to bring him a piece of rare beef, and when it came, it was rare indeed. “Waiter?” he remarked warningly, as he looked at the undone dish. “Yes, sah,” responded the darkey. “Take this beef out, please, and kill it.” The waiter crawled into a napkin ring and disappeared.

—Heard on the street: “Why, that man was your chum at school, and you two were always inseparable, yet now you pass him with a cool bow. Has any dispute occurred?” “Oh, no; we dearly love each other still, but it would not look well to show it. I have become a doctor and he has become an undertaker.”—*Philadelphia News.*

—An old darkey was endeavoring to explain his unfortunate condition. “You see,” remarked Sambo, “it was in this way, as far as I can remember: “Fust my fader died, den my mudder married agin; and den my mudder died, and my fader married agin; and somehow I doesn’t seem to hab no parents at all, nor no home, no, nuffin.”

—The irrepressible Mission School boy is always ready with his odd answer, sometimes showing himself, as in this instance, “a regular brick.” The question was, “Do bats ever fly in the day time?” “Yes, sir,” said the lad. “Not so,” said the teacher. “What kind of a bat did you ever see flying in the day time?” “Lots of ’em, sir; they was brick-bats.”

—“There is a fine specimen of a bulldog,” remarked Smith to Jones at the dog show. “Yes, he is a beauty.” “You ought to have a dog like that, Jones. Living in the suburbs, as you do, a watch dog is almost a necessity.” “No, it isn’t,” replied Jones, wearily. “A man who has seven daughters, all over twenty-two and unmarried, stands in his own light if he keeps a dog.”

—Merchant (to his clerk, “Young man in love.”) “John, are you crazy? I told you to write and ask for the best figures on that coffee, and you hand me this: ‘My little birdie,—I have told your pa that I love you to distraction, that you are more to me than the sun, moon and stars, and sweeter than the honey that is sipped by the bees,’ and a lot more nonsense. Now, sir, suppose I had hastily signed that letter and sent it!”

—A gentleman at the theatre sits behind a lady who wears a very large hat. “Excuse me, madam, but unless you remove your hat I can see absolutely nothing.” Lady ignores him. “Excuse me, madam, but unless you remove your hat something unpleasant will happen.” Lady ignores him again. Gentleman puts on his own hat. Loud cries from the audience. “Take off that hat! take off that hat!” Lady thinks they mean her hat, and removes it. “Thank, you, madam.”

—An illustration of the ridiculous and annoying way in which a church choir will sometimes run together the words of a hymn, is afforded by the remark of a small boy in one of the front pews of a large and (alas!) fashionable church in Boston. “The consecrated cross I’d bear” had just been sung, and in the momentary quiet which followed, the perplexed youth turned to his father and asked, in an earnest whisper, “Say, pa, where do they keep the consecrated cross-eyed bear?”

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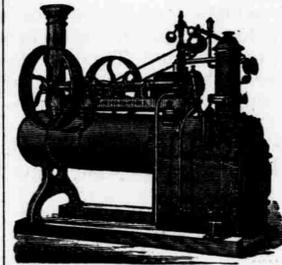
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