

### SARCASM OF DEAN SWIFT.

#### Humor in His "Rules and Directions for Servants."

There was a servant problem when Dean Swift was alive just as there is to-day, and he died in 1745. In his "Rules and Directions for Servants" he wrote: "When you have broken all your earthen vessels below stairs—which is usually done in a week—the copper pot will do as well; it can boil milk, heat porridge, hold small beer, apply it indifferently to all these uses, but never wash or scour it." And again: "If you want paper to singe a fowl, tear the first book you see about the house. Wipe your shoes for want of a clout, on the bottom of a curtain or a damask napkin." "In roasting or boiling," he goes on, "use none but the large coals and save the small ones for the fires above stairs." Another touch that might have been written to-day is the following: "When a butler cleans the plate leave the whiting plainly to be seen in all the chinks, for fear your lady should not believe you had cleaned it." Once more: "There are several ways of putting out a candle; you may run the candle end against the wainscot, which puts the snuff out immediately; you may lay it on the ground and tread the snuff out with your foot; you may hold it upside down until it is choked in its own grease, or cram it into the socket of the candlestick; you may whirl it round in your hand till it goes out."

### DOES NOT LIVE IN FIRE.

#### Popular Idea About the Salamander Is Fallacious.

Now that "spontaneous generation" has exchanged the realm of superstition for that of fact, an older theory about it becomes interesting. In Andrews' "Anecdotes Ancient and Modern" (1789), one reads: "Should a glass house fire be kept up, without extinction for a longer term than seven years, there is no doubt that salamander would be generated in the cinders." This probably accounts for the popular idea that a salamander lives in the fire, a fallacy so far removed from the truth that the curious lizard-like beast so called cannot endure even the heat of the sun, but skulks away under stones to avoid it. It will never lose its reputation for fire-eating, though, which lingers still in the heating utensil that is named after it.

#### Passing of the Camp Meeting.

A venerable American institution, the camp meeting, is on the wane. It is still far from dead, but those who know it best perceive most clearly that its sunset hour has come. As the old preachers of to-day recount in the past tense the experiences of the circuit rider, that pioneering apostle of Christianity to new communities, so the preachers of to-morrow will tell on occasions of reminiscence of the former glories of the hilarious camp meeting, when people "got religion" and were not afraid to make a noise about it. Fewer and fewer of the strongest preachers attend the camp meetings. The more cultivated church members become the less taste they appear to have for this sort of "old-time religion." Plainly, the camp meeting is on the decline.

#### The Mother's Religion.

Often our children fail to respect our religion because we do not fill our highest capacity. We allow some

sudden passion, some overwhelming care to cause us to lose our self-control and drag us down to the lower levels of life. Our children measure us by the assiduity with which we follow and practice our beliefs and the eagerness and hope under which we strive to make them grow. Of what value is our religion if it does not smooth the temer and add cheer and comfort to our lives? If it does not put more justice, sweetness and love into human life?—Montreal Herald.

#### Learn Science of Smiling.

To the woman who wishes to make her path through life an easy and agreeable one, the science of smiling is a most necessary study. Like acting, or art, or engineering, it is a thing in which only practice can make one perfect. A little theory may go a long way, but it is enough to remember these two rules: First, the honey of a smile catches more hearts than the vinegar of a frown or the pepper of a sneer; second, it is not the mechanical beauty but the significance of the smile that is attractive.—Exchange.

#### She Rests.

The woman that really wants her husband to be happy, and doesn't find delight in saving her blackest, most doleful side for him, rests before it is time for him to come home. She doesn't work hard until she hears his step, and then, worried and nervous, run to meet him with a complaint upon her lips. She stops work before it is time for him to come, bathes her face, combs her hair, slips into a comfortable, clean dress, and either lies down or sits doing nothing until he comes.—Exchange.

#### Weight of the Earth.

A cubic foot of earth weighs about five and a half times as much as a cubic foot of water. A cubic mile of earth then weighs 25,649,300,000 tons. The volume of the earth is 250,880,000,000 cubic miles. The weight of the world without its atmosphere is 3,666,250,000,000,000,000,000 tons. If we add to this the weight of the atmosphere given above we get a grand total of 6,666,255,819,600,000,000,000 tons.

#### Eye-Glasses and Romance.

It is curious to observe that even the greatest realists do not venture to bestow eye-glasses on their heroines. It is rather odd, too, seeing how many charming women do in real life wear them, and are not debarred by them from the most dramatic careers and the most poignant emotions. But while the modern novelist has bestowed eye-glasses on everybody else he has not yet had the hardihood to put them on the nose of his heroine. Why?—By Mrs. John Lane in the London Outlook.

#### Mean of Him.

Mrs. Stubbs carefully unfolded the paper.

"Listen, John," she said. "How is this for a thrilling account of a great naval battle: 'For four hours the huge man-of-war spoke incessantly and—'"

"Hold on!" interrupted Mr. Stubbs. "You say it spoke incessantly for four hours? Why, that must have been a woman-of-war."

### JUDGE WOULD FIGHT THE CASE.

#### Alling Jurist Tells Humorous Story to Prove Determination.

Mr. Justice Scott, now in a hospital, where he has undergone a severe surgical operation, never was so ill that he could not appreciate and recite a humorous yarn. Lying flat on his back, nurses and doctors with arbitrary rules around him last Friday, he appealed from one of the nurse's orders.

When the physician was summoned he told him what he wanted. "The nurse here thinks I shouldn't have it," he said. "So I have come to you," and then he told the doctor of a case that once was before the supreme court. In the lower court the trial judge was an enemy to one of the pleaders at the bar. The suit was decided adversely to him and it was taken up higher.

"When it was reached in the supreme court," the justice went on, "counsel arose and said: 'If it please the court this is the case of Robert versus Scott, on appeal from—' county, Judge Jones presiding. But there are other reasons why this decision should be reversed.'"

"And," continued the justice, "if I don't get what I want I will take the matter up to the chief physician and cite that Roberts case to him."—Chicago American.

### REED GOT EVEN WITH DINGLEY

#### Repatee That Furnished Amusement for Diners.

When the town of Brunswick, Me., celebrated, some years ago, the 150th anniversary of its incorporation, there was a big dinner, and "Tom" Reed and Nelson Dingley were present, and were, of course, called upon to speak.

Dingley spoke first, and said, in conclusion, that he had made no preparation, and would now make way for a gentleman who had come with a prepared speech, meaning Reed, who got back at Dingley as follows:

"Mr. Toastmaster, I am sorry to begin with an apology. Some time ago I attended a celebration like this in Unity, in Waldo county, and there heard Gov. Dingley refer touchingly to Unity as his birthplace. I afterward learned that the Governor was also born in Durham, in the county of Androscoggin, and I know that nothing but my presence here prevents claiming that he was born in Brunswick, too. And I feel like apologizing for being here, for it will hereafter be an honor to have even shared in the birthplace of Gov. Dingley."

#### Calculating.

A west Philadelphia grocer relates that some few days ago a little girl entered his store, and, laying down a dime, asked for ten cents' worth of candy.

"It's for papa," she explained. "I want to 'spise him when he comes home."

The grocer displayed several kinds, but none seemed to strike the fancy of his young customer, who finally said:

"Give me caramels; I just love caramels."

"But I thought you wanted them for papa," said the grocer.

"I know," assented the little girl, "but when I give them to papa he'll just kiss me and say 'cause I'm such a generous little girl he'll give them all back to me,' so you'd better give me caramels."

### Pope Pius Encourages Athletics.

Pope Pius X. has gone in for a startling new departure. His holiness has thrown himself warmly into the encouragement of athletics in Italy ever since he ascended the papal throne, and now he is actually going to hold an athletic competition within the precincts of the Vatican itself. He has given over 200 gold and silver prizes for the competitions and it is even said that he intends to be present in person at the final event of the program, which will probably take place in the Cortile della Pigna. He often advises elderly cardinals who are inclined to look askance at such bodily exercises to go and watch them in the gymnasiums.

#### Long and Short Tails.

A traveler in New England saw the following sign on a board that was nailed to a fence near a village:

"Horses taken in to grass. Long tails, \$1.50; short tails, \$1."

The traveler halted and asked the owner of the land why there was a difference in the price for board for horses.

"Well, you see," said the man, "the long tails can brush away the flies, but the short ones are so tormented by them that they hardly eat at all."

#### Germans Claim "Marseillaise."

A German origin is now claimed for the national hymn of France, the "Marseillaise." The tune is, it is averred, a variant in quickened tempo of the "Credo" of an old mass, written in 1775 by a choirmaster named Holzmann, and the original version is said to be preserved in the musical library of the town church at Maersburg.

#### Anniversary of First Pledge.

The seventy-third anniversary of the first teetotal pledge taken in England was celebrated in many Lancashire towns on Sept. 1. The document (signed by seven men), which is still preserved, was drafted in Preston on Sept. 1, 1822.

#### Little Rain in Switzerland.

Tourists in Switzerland have been extraordinarily favored this summer. From early in June to the middle of August there was hardly any rain.

#### Romans Ate Oysters.

The ancient Romans were great oyster epicures. They ate the bivalves in immense numbers, and were able to tell, with eyes closed, just what coast they came from.

#### Destroys Adulterated Food.

Six million pounds of adulterated and harmful foods were destroyed by the Health Department of New York in the last twelve months.

#### Umbrella Stands on Cars.

There is an agitation in Glasgow, Scotland, to have umbrella stands provided on the platform of the electric street cars.

#### Motor Cars for Naval Men.

Some of the officers of the British navy now carry motor cars to sea with them, for use in foreign ports.

#### Costly Travel.

Between Tonopah and Manhattan, Nev., fifty miles, there is an automobile service. Round trip, \$25.