

Bohemia Nugget

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COTTAGE GROVE... OREGON.

Health brings wealth more often than wealth brings health.

A philosopher is a man who can see how others make such big mistakes.

Birds of a feather flock together—and so do fallbirds of the same stripe.

Those flighty parlor matches can never be depended on. They lose their heads so easily.

Dogs don't try to show off before strangers. No wonder some people prefer dogs to children.

The greatest man in the world is probably wondering what he can do to morrow to keep up the bluff.

Down in Mississippi the children have quit being afraid to go to bed in the dark. They know there are no bears there.

Marie Corelli is screeching at the United States for having such quantities of money. Marie Corelli is mad because she is not getting more of it.

An actress swallowed her watch while asleep. We fear that the lady who sings next door to us will swallow the music rack some day when taking high H.

The man who wrote "The Mocking Bird" is dead. He got \$35 for the song. The publishers made \$3,000,000 out of it. He has been sufficiently punished.

M. Jusseland, the newly appointed ambassador from France to this country, sees in the United States a "world power." Clearly the gentleman has his glasses properly focused.

Judge Hogan, of Chicago, has decided that this is a free country and that girls may smoke cigarettes. Sure, they may! But they ought to be obliged to have their breaths laundered afterwards.

A New York "gent" who rose in two years from office boy to the Presidency of a trust company has been sent to the penitentiary for fraudulent operations. It appears that it is still possible now and then to be too bright.

In suggesting that our army officers should not marry until they are majors, Major General Corbin overlooks the possibility that when an officer gets to be a major he may not want to marry, and if he does nobody might want to marry him.

A court has decided that there is no law against women smoking cigarettes or even big, black cigars. Now all we need is a similar decision in favor of the clay pipe, preferably the short, black one of the peasant woman, and the emancipation of woman will be complete.

The power of a nation of 70,000,000 people, with such enormous advantages of soil, climate and transportation facilities, is almost unthinkable and makes it inevitable that the United States shall control the world's markets, unless Europe should unite her various peoples in the zollverein so often suggested. Considering the difficulties of the different languages, religions and social customs, to say nothing of conflicting interests, such a union is impossible, but we already have it in the United States.

The moral influence of soda water is said to be very apparent in the Philippines, "where a man can raise a thirst," and where, if unable to get temperance drinks, he too often turns to something less wholesome. Not only are substantial profits made on the soda fountain and ice cream parlors in the Manila building of the Young Men's Christian Association, but these necessities do an amount of good that money could hardly measure. Is there any moralist so severe that he would criticize this method of checking a bad habit by the substitution of a harmless one? If so, he ought to be reminded that no crime was ever committed under the influence of orange phosphate, and that over-indulgence in ice cream never deprived a family of bread.

After a lapse of 2,400 years the Persian ambassador has found his way to the court of Greece. Some important changes have taken place at Athens in that time; in fact, a good many things of interest have occurred in the world at large since Darius so insolently disrupted himself at the expense of the Greeks. In some parts of the world women vote for trustees of the State University, and in other parts they carry things with a high hand and drive their husbands out of the family tree when they (the husbands) are drunk and disorderly. It would worry old Darius not a little to come back and see the changes. But we are glad diplomatic relations have been resumed between Greece and Persia; it shows us clearly that segregation is short lived.

Not long ago the governing board of one of the Eastern colleges said in its annual report, in discussing the "pranks" of the students, that "the arrest and conviction of a few bumptious youths, followed by their prompt dismissal from college, would prove an object lesson in citizenship of incalculable value to the entire student body." The authorities of some other colleges wink at what they regard as the overflow of animal spirits among the students, and attempt to restrain the youths from too flagrant disregard of the conventions of society rather than to suppress all "prankishness." Thus we have the two schools of discipline, one of repression and the other of regulation. Just as we have two schools of medicine, two great divisions in the Christian Church, two political parties, two parts of the day, light and darkness, two sides of the earth, and so on through the various dualities. Each

has its merits and its demerits. The pranks of students are seldom, if ever, vicious. That is why the school of regulation does not believe in repression. The pranks are often violations of law; they frequently disturb the public peace, and result in the destruction of property. That is why the school of repression thinks regulation is inadequate. In France, Germany and Russia the civil authorities have to interfere with student activities more frequently than in the United States, for in Europe revolutionary movements are fomented in the great universities. Interferences there means an act of self-defense by the existing government; here it means only the suppression of an ordinary and usually thoughtless breach of the peace.

Buried deep in an old chest I found, the other day, among other boyish trinkets, an old-fashioned almanac. How the ghost of happy, olden days walked the halls of memory at the sight of that old almanac. I remember where it hung in its place of honor over the wood box behind the little kitchen stove. There were no "kitchen ranges" then. It was a part of the furniture, as were the little cracked mirror and the towel rack, where, after ablutions at the pump outside, I betook me to comb a towed head. It hung from Jan. 1 to Jan. 1. Father got it at the drug store early in December. Or if he forgot it, mother said: "Now, pa, don't forget to get an almanac up at the store before they are all gone." Turning over the first inside page I found, where I knew it was the "signs of the Zodiac." Those signs with their Latin accompaniments were to me as weird as the Eleusinian mysteries to the Greeks, and are to this day, for that matter. Even the preacher could not explain their full significance! And here are the advertisements of the pills and blood restorers with all their old-time frankness and infallibility. I knew the names of the deponents and the towns where they lived, by heart. And at the slightest indisposition I felt every symptom they described. And the jokes at the bottom of the pages. Somehow they do not make such jokes nowadays. They were durable jokes. They lasted all the year, like the honest blue jeans of the times. The jokes and the jeans were wash goods. And the jokes had about them the flavor of eternal humor. Yet, somehow, as I try to read those ancient jokes I do not laugh. The tears get in my way. Maybe if I could go back thirty years the jokes would be funny. And not only the tears, but the faces that came between the faces that are faded in the yellow leaves. They are like the faded faces in the old daguerotypes. Somewhere those faces shine, doubtless, in eternal youth, but I cannot see them! There are almanacs a plenty now—tons of them, but I have been too busy to keep track of the moon's phases and read the jokes. And oh, weary and worn spirit of man, how I sometimes yearn for those days when "we were so happy and so pure," for the homely and happy days of the old almanac!

How the World Laughs. High mentality is shown in a laugh, according to Anaxoras. There are savages in Africa who never laugh; they grin, that is all; and this lack of the quality of laughter is a symptom of their low mentality. The Chinaman has no hearty bursts of laughter. He titters cynically—titters over the misfortune of an enemy or the elopement of a daughter of a friend. He cannot laugh. When he is delighted, or amused, or happy, he just looks calm. The Frenchman has a reserved laugh, one which he holds well in hand. Being a great stickler for dignity, he is afraid that a loud and honest laugh would injure his deportment, would demean him in the eyes of the world. You will not hear much more laughter in Paris, though it is true that the women have a cultivated, musical "ha-ha-ha," that they use in cafes when they wish to attract somebody's attention. The German's laugh is cavernous. It comes from far down somewhere in his stomach. The laugh of the Irishman is, upon the contrary, rather soprano, not a stomach laugh, nor even a chest laugh, but a head one. The English and the Americans laugh the best. Their mirth is so naturally and heartily and musically expressed that you cannot but rejoice on hearing it.

Cruel Slaughter. When you see a woman with a band of white plumage almost invariably tinged with blue and green and more strongly with golden brown ornamenting her hat, know that from one to six of these harmless, lovable, sweet-voiced little grebes were stripped to supply it. And when you see that other woman wearing a cape the collar of which reaches above her ears to be made up of almost indiscernible sections the size of your hand, know that each section stands for the life of one of these charming little creatures. The breast of the grebe is its curse. Its feathers are so tiny and fine as to be almost spineless, so thickly set they stand on end, and so delicately colored as to render adequate description impossible. Crest grebes are killed without mercy for this little patch of rare feathering, and the little ones do not escape.

There is no bird slaughter for plumage more wanton, unless it be that of the egret, which takes the life of the brooding bird for a few beautiful feathers found on the shoulders only at nesting time and leaves the young to die as they may.

Arctic Hunter. "I think that man is rather suspicious about me," remarked the seal, indicating the Eskimo hunter approaching in his kayak. "Suspicious?" queried the walrus. "Yes, I think he's inclined to take me for a skin."—Philadelphia Press.

Evidently Not Becoming. "I wonder why Tom is raising a beard?" "Don't know, unless it is because he can't raise the price of a shave."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

MILLIONS FOR RIVER

UPPER MISSISSIPPI IN NEED OF VAST SUM.

Big Projects Undertaken by Residents of Valley—Prominent Men Interested in the Improvements—Urged Development of Navigation and Commerce.

The Mississippi River problem is one of the oldest and most difficult with which Congress has to deal. It is many-sided and subject to constantly changing conditions. Years of discussion and millions of money have not completely solved it, for the old father of waters is decidedly human in his characteristics and is afflicted with the frailties, the perversity and viciousness of humanity as well as possessing many of its virtues. To reform his habits and hold his mighty power in subjection to the will of man, to require him to surely and safely carry the commerce of an empire, are some of the details of what is known as the Mississippi River problem.

Upper Division Neglected. The appropriations in the river and harbor bill show that the bulk of money appropriated for the improvement of this great water way has been and is being expended on the lower division of the river from Cairo to New Orleans. The inadequate work upon the upper division, northward from Cairo to St. Paul, has resulted in a gradual lessening of the depth of the channel until at the present time only small steamboats of light draft ply north of Cairo. Big packets like those between St. Louis and New Orleans have almost vanished from the upper Mississippi, and in periods of low water navigation for freight transportation purposes becomes uncertain by reason of long stretches of unimproved river. These conditions have aroused public



RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

sentiment in the upper Mississippi valley in favor of demanding permanent improvement of the upper river adequate for the needs of commerce and industry in that region in particular and for the benefit of the country in general. This sentiment found form and expression in a large and representative convention held at Quincy, Ill., in which twenty-four river towns were represented by men prominent in the agricultural, commercial and industrial life of their communities.

Fifteen millions of dollars is the sum they ask Congress to appropriate, and to secure this they have organized the first Upper Mississippi River Improvement Association ever formed. These men represent an enormous constituency in the upper Mississippi valley and they will base their claims upon the broad ground that the contemplated improvements in the upper river make for the general improvement of the entire stream from its headwaters to the Gulf. It must not be taken for granted that the government has wholly neglected the upper division of the Mississippi. On the contrary, it has recently approved of a project for improving that division, but has failed to provide a sum which the people of the valley consider sufficient. The present available appropriation for the upper division is \$200,000 a year, while on the lower division the appropriations are about \$2,000,000 a year, or ten times greater. A large part of the latter amount, however, is used for the construction of levees made necessary by floods.

Project Now in Hand. The upper river improvement project, which has been approved by Congress, calls for a channel of four and one-half feet in depth, to be increased to six feet. This is on the basis of the extreme low water of 1854, which does not occur at periods of more than once in ten years. It practically means a low-water channel of six feet at ordinary low water, to be increased to eight feet.

In carrying out this project the Des Moines rapids at Keokuk have been overcome by a canal with three locks 80x250 feet. The depth of the canal was placed at five feet below extreme low water. The Des Moines rapids are immediately above the city of Keokuk, Iowa, between the States of Illinois and Iowa, with the State of Missouri a few miles to the southwest and beyond the Des Moines River. The canal extends along this west or Iowa shore between Nashville and Keokuk. It was opened to navigation in 1897. It is seven and one-half miles long and surmounts a fall of twenty feet, which is the slope of the river from the head of the canal to the foot. At high water boats go down outside of the canal, but when the river recedes to a stage of three feet above low water all boats pass through the canal.

In the opinion of the government engineers this canal has been the means of preserving navigation on the upper Mississippi for the past twenty years. During that time there has been a gradual cheapening of freight rates and the decline in that particular in connection with the heavy charges necessary to transfer freight over the rapids by rail or by flatboat when the water was low would have been a greater tax than the traffic would bear and as a result river navigation would have fallen into disuse.

Keokuk Canal L. cks. The locks of the Keokuk canal are massive structures of solid stone and the gates are operated by hydraulic pressure from the central point of the

locks. Two men operate the locks and it is an impressive sight to see a towering steamboat enter the lock, the gate close, the water subside, the opposite gate open and the boat pass out, all under the control of two puny human instruments.

The Keokuk canal offers the difficulty of a long and shallow channel interrupted by three locks. Twenty minutes' time is consumed at each lock by the passage of a large boat, while the compensating advantage is absolute safety and certainty.

A movement is afoot which is a part of the general plan of upper Mississippi improvement, although there was no mention of any specific detail by the recent river convention, to replace the present canal with and its three locks by a single large lock adequate for all the needs of the large steamboats and towage which are the development of modern navigation. This project also includes a dam clear across the river, converting the rapids into a deep pool, on which boats may ply at any speed without hindrance. It is claimed by engineers who have investigated these proposed improvements an added advantage of such a dam would be that, while by substituting a quicker and more convenient passage of the rapids, it also would develop a great water power with a fall of from twenty to twenty-two feet and a volume of water sufficient to furnish power for all the manufacturing within 100 miles of the rapids.

Another important recent improvement is the government dry dock at Keokuk, built in 1880 at a cost of \$125,000. It is 400 feet long, 100 feet wide and is entered from the canal. Unlike most dry docks, no pumping is required to empty it of water, for the situation is such that by opening a sluice the water falls by gravity directly into the river outside of the canal, which is an enormous saving in the cost of operation. This dock is used for repairing the fleet of boats



BUILDING A WING DAM.

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System of Improvement. In improving some sections of the upper river the work has been done by means of shore protection, closing dams and wing dams, constructed of brush and stone, which are found in abundance on the banks of the river. By this method of improvement all the side channels are closed by what are termed closing dams, thus con-



OHIO'S FIRST CAPITOL AND DR. TIFFIN, HER FIRST GOVERNOR.

ning the low water flow to a single channel. One bank of this channel is usually protected from caving by bank reversion and the river contracted by the construction of wing dams from the opposite shore. The width of contraction varies from St. Paul to the mouth of the Missouri in accordance with the low water discharge of the river at different places. At St. Paul the prescribed width of the improved river is 400 feet; at the mouth of the St. Croix it widens to 600 feet; below Lake Pepin it is 800 feet; below the mouth of the Wisconsin river, 1,000 feet; at Quincy, 1,200 feet; from the Illinois river to the mouth of the Missouri, 1,000 feet.

The expenditures since 1874 have failed to meet the requirements of the people engaged in the navigation of

the river and in commercial and industrial enterprises in the upper Mississippi valley. The only part of the river that has been thoroughly improved is a short piece extending from St. Paul to Red Wing, Minn. Just above Lake Pepin the river is now a broad sheet of water and occupies the entire valley from bluff to bluff. In that part of the river the improvement works are almost continuous and the results obtained have been very successful. While the river there is the smallest in volume than any other place in its course and the channel is only 300 feet wide, there is a continuous good channel the year round—far better, in fact, than is sometimes found between Cairo and St. Louis, after the river has received the tributaries of Missouri, which is as large as the Mississippi itself. So far the work done has been very local in character, and improvements have been made principally at places where experience has shown they were needed most. These improved places are often disconnected by miles of unimproved river, and at the unimproved places sandbars still develop which give trouble at the low water season.

OHIO'S CENTENNIAL.

Commonwealth Has Celebrated 100th Anniversary of Its Statehood.

The sons of Ohio the world over recently celebrated the centennial anniversary of their native State and in Chillicothe, the first capital of Ohio, a tablet was unveiled commemorating the signing of the State's constitution. On the site of the present Ross County courthouse, in the city of Chillicothe, stood the historic old stone courthouse in which was adopted the original constitution of the State of Ohio.

The story of the rise of Ohio is of interest to every American. It was the first State to be admitted to the Union out of the great Northwest Territory, and in the hundred years of its Statehood it has increased just one hundred times. In 1800 its population was some 40,000. At the present time it has over 4,000,000 people, and ranks as the fourth State in the Union, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois holding the first, second and third places, respectively.

But what stirs the pride of a native of Ohio perhaps more than its growth in population and material wealth is her contribution of great men to the nation. Five of the twenty-five Presidents of the United States were born in Ohio, and six are regarded by the citizens of this State as their own. The five that belong to Ohio by birth are Grant, born at Point Pleasant, April 27, 1822; Hayes, born at Delaware, Delaware County, Oct. 4, 1822; Garfield, born in Orange Township, Nov. 19, 1831; Benjamin Harrison, born at North Bend, Aug. 20, 1833, and McKinley, born at Niles, Trumbull County, Jan. 29, 1843. The President who is regarded by Ohioans as theirs by adoption was William Henry Harrison. Although born in Virginia, Harrison made Ohio his home, and before he was elected the ninth President he had been a member of Congress from this State, a State Senator and a United States Senator.

On the United States Supreme bench Ohio has also had five representatives. They were John McLean, Noah H. Swayne, Salmon P. Chase, Morrison R. Waite and Stanley Matthews. Of these Chase and Waite were Chief Justices. Other national characters who have gone out of Ohio are John Sherman and William R. Day, Secretaries of State under President McKinley; Thomas Ewing, Thomas Corwin and Charles Foster, who were Secretaries of the Treasury at different times; Lewis Cass, Edwin M. Stanton, William Tecumseh Sherman and Alphonse Taft, who were all employed in many high positions of state, including for one that of Secretary of War.

Few outside of Ohio know much of Chillicothe, where the centennial ceremony was held. At the present time it is of no great significance in point of population, having not more than 15,000 inhabitants, nor in point of situation, for it is located in the interior of the State, in the valley of the Scioto River. The centennial ceremonies, however, recall to the world a time when Chillicothe was a great city, as compared with the other settlements on the frontier. In the first place, Chillicothe was the capital of that vast stretch of land known as the Great Northwest Territory, comprising the present States of Ohio, Indiana, Illi-



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nois, Wisconsin, Michigan and a part of Minnesota, lying east of the Mississippi. When Ohio became a State Chillicothe was its first capital, and here the seat of government remained, with the exception of only one short lapse, until 1810, when it was moved to Columbus. The present constitution of Ohio dates from 1850, when the original draft was amended in some particulars.

Some Doubt About It. "Will you be engaged this evening?" "Well, I don't know. I half expect Mr. Bright to call."

Why He Failed. Loss of voice was one of the reasons given by a London auctioneer for his insolvency.

POETRY VERSUS SCIENCE.

Naturalist Bore Silenced by Sidney Smith's Quotation.

For Sidney Smith to joke was no great effort, but not even he could always joke so effectively as in the instance mentioned in "Memories of Half a Century." He was the guest at dinner of an archdeacon at whose table there were others of the cloth, among them one who was greatly interested in natural history. As the man rode his hobby to death, he was the prince of bores, and his entrance was therefor viewed with something like consternation. He was unknown to Sydney Smith, but his peculiarity was soon laid bare.

"There'll be no talk at all unless you can manage to floor him," said one of the men to Smith. "Can't you manage it?"

"I can try," he returned gallantly, although with some doubt, for there was not telling to what branch of his crotchets the bore would turn. The dinner began. The one or two customary toasts such as "The Queen," "The Church," had been honored, and there came a full which was the bore's opportunity.

"Mr. Archdeacon," said he, "have you seen the pamphlet written by my friend, Professor Dickenson, on the remarkable size of the eyes of a common house-fly?"

The archdeacon courteously said he had not had the privilege, and in spite of the discouraging looks on the faces of the guests, the bore pursued his advantage: "I can assure you it is a most interesting pamphlet, setting forth particulars, hitherto unobserved, as to the unusual size of that eye."

"I deny the fact," said a voice from the other end of the table.

All smiled save the bore.

"You deny the fact, sir?" said he. "May I ask on what authority you condemn the investigations of my most learned friend?"

"I deny the fact," replied the voice, which was Sydney Smith's; "and base my denial on evidence wedded to immortal verities well known to every scholar, at least, at this table."

The emphasis laid on scholar nettled the naturalist by its implication. "Well, sir," he said, as calmly as he was able, "will you have the kindness to quote your authority?"

"I will sir. The evidence is thus: well-known, I may say immortal, lines: 'Who saw him die?'"

"I said the fly."

"With my little eye?"

The guests roared, and during the rest of the dinner nothing further was heard on the subject of natural history.

QUEER STORIES

Thunder is rarely, if ever, heard at a greater distance than eighteen miles.

The wife of the Governor of New Bernese has a baby rhinoceros for a pet.

There are but nine subscribers to the post office telephone in Swansea, Wales.

The moose deer has the largest horns of any animal. They often weigh from fifty to sixty pounds.

Beetles in the East and West Indies are so brilliant in coloring that they are beautiful as gems.

Denmark has the largest army in proportion to her size. She has 187 soldiers to every 10,000 of her population.

The largest butterflies are the "bird-winged" of the Moluccas. Their wings are sometimes twelve inches in expanse.

A person usually begins to lose height at the age of fifty, and at the age of ninety has lost at least one and a half inches.

A wall thirty feet high and thirteen feet broad could be built all round England with the coal annually raised in that country.

Malta is the most thickly populated island in the world. It has 1,350 people to the square mile. Barbadoes has 1,054 people to the square mile.

The reindeer can endure more than any other draft animal except the camel. A reindeer has been known to pull 200 pounds at ten miles an hour for twelve hours.

The world now consumes 6,300,000,000 pounds of tobacco yearly, or 2,812,500 tons. This is worth \$200,000,000. In other words, the world's smoke bill is just \$5,000,000 a week.

A Berlin periodical, Der Weinkenner, relates that when Bismarck died about 10,000 bottles of the choicest wines were found in his cellars, mostly gifts from friends and admirers. They came from all countries.

But eight States do not now require examination by a State board of those who wish to practice medicine. They are Arkansas, Colorado, Kentucky, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota and Tennessee.

Prizes of \$1,200, \$750 and \$500 for the best instruments to measure wind pressure are offered by the Hamburg Marine Observatory to German and foreign inventors. The plans must be sent in by April 1, 1903.

The New York City Record, an official publication, owned and issued by the municipality, is the biggest newspaper in the world. It appears every day in the year, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, and sometimes contains as many as 383 pages.

Five of the twenty fellowships recently awarded in the department of philosophy, University of Pennsylvania, were given to women. Most of these fellowships carry with them an income during the academic year of \$500 and free tuition, with an additional \$100 for particular research work.

Honesty is a prevailing virtue among most Chinamen. Some of them, in their native towns and cities, often leave their places of business unguarded while they go off for half an hour or more. Should customers arrive in the meantime, they find the prices of goods plainly marked, select what they want and leave the money for them.

It is one sign of age when a woman imagines she is looking old, and some one asks why she is looking so sour.



The problem of what to do with out millionaires is being rapidly solved by the automobile.—Saturday Evening Post.

"She seems to have lost her head over that young man." "Yes, I saw it on his shoulder."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Largely Supplied.—"Are you a man of family, sir?" "Yes, sir; my third non-in-law moves in to-day."—Detroit Free Press.

Pat—"An' so ye struck fer shorter hours?" Mike—"Yis. We want each wan to consist av forty minutes, be-gorry!"—Puck.

Fractional.—"Where the wife is the better half, what is the husband?" "Perhaps he is what is meant by the submerged tenth."—Detroit Journal.

Just in Time.—"Was your last book a success?" "Oh, immense. The publishers sent the entire edition up to my house just as we ran out of coal."—Exchange.

First M. D.—"What a lot of things have been found in the verminiform appendix." Second M. D.—"And look at the money that has been taken out of it."—Life.

Mrs. Dearborn—"They tell me your cook is an angel." Mrs. Washburn—"I reckon she is. She tried to light her fire with kerosene this morning."—Yonkers Statesman.

A High Testimonial.—Lady (engaging a maid): "Was your last mistress satisfied with you?" Maid—"Well, mum, she said she was very pleased when I left."—Punch.

Farmer—"See here, boy! What are you doing up that apple tree?" Kid—"Can't you see nothin'?" One of yer apples fell off de tree, an' I'm tryin' it on again!"—Brooklyn Life.

Mrs. Watts Truump—"Oh, yes! We had a delightful time. We played cards the whole evening." Mr. Watts Truump—"Nonsense, Lucy! We only played between anecdotes."—Puck.

Literary Taste.—Cook—"Don't get the pork sausages at Brown's, Mary; get them at Smithson's. They do wrap 'em up in such beautiful love letters you can't think."—Tit-Bits.

What Doughton is.—"A doughtin," children, said the practical teacher of digestive economics, "is a round hole in the center of a compound mixture of dyspepsia."—Baltimore News.

Lecturer.—"And what man is most apt to reach that elevation whence the earth may be viewed as one vast plain?" Voice (in the audience): "The one that works in a powder mill."—Life.

Manufacturing evidence.—"I'm sorry to have to mess your face so, kiddy," said Tommy, as he dabbed pussy's face with jam, "but I can't have folks suspecting me."—Columbus (O.) State Journal.

The Parting Shot.—Clara (after a tiff): "I presume you would like your ring back?" George—"Never mind; keep it. No other girl I know could use that ring unless she wore it on her thumb."—Tit-Bits.

Nothing Lacking.—Customer (emerging from a bargain-counter, crush—"Help! My leg is broken!" Floorwalker—"You will find the crutch department, sir, on the fourth floor in the rear."—Tit-Bits.

Scientific and Nervous Visitor (at country hotel): "I suppose there's no 'tomorrow' in this place?" Walter (quite equal to the occasion): "No, sir. We never puts that in unless specially ordered."—Punch.

"Remember, Pat, it is the hand that rocks the cradle that rules a nation." "Well, begorra, yez may be right, but O'm fer thinkin' meself, 'tis the cart ye've got before yer boss; 'tis her hand as cradles ther rocks pivot rules er nation."—Exchange.

Playwright.—"You'd better say a few kind words to the star before the performance. She seems dispirited." Manager—"In what way?" Playwright—"Well, she says there are moments when even she doubts that she is the greatest actress in the world."—Brooklyn Life.

Heartless Fellow.—Wife—"Be sure to advertise for Fido in the morning newspapers." Next day the wife read as follows in the newspapers: Lost, a many lapdog, with one eye and no tail. Too fat to walk. Answers to the name of Fido. If returned stuffed, \$2 reward."—Tit-Bits.

Vanity of Vanities.—Our Amateur Romeo (who has taken a cottage in the country, so as to be able to study without interruption): "Arlas, fair sun, and kill the envious moon—'Owner of Rubicund Countenance (popping head over the hedge): 'Beg pardon, zur. Bo you a talkin' to Ol, sur?'—London Punch.

Woe Be to Him.—George—"I have been invited to a 'flower party' at the Pinkies. What the heck it means?" Jack—"That's one of the newest ideas this season. It is a new form of birthday party. Each guest must send Miss Pinkie a bouquet containing as many flowers as she is years old, and the flowers must have a meaning. Study the language of flowers before ordering." Florist's Boy (a few hours later): "A gentleman left an order for twenty of these flowers to be sent to Miss Pinkie, with his card." Florist—"He's one of my best customers. Add eight or ten more for good measure."—Exchange.

Wonderful Scales. The grand balance or scale used in the Bank of England is probably the most wonderful piece of mechanism to be seen anywhere. It stands about seven feet high and weighs probably two tons. This scale is so perfectly adjusted that it can weigh a grain of dust or 400 pounds of gold. A postage stamp placed on one of the two weighing portions will move the index six inches. If the weight placed upon the scale is beyond its capacity an electric bell is set ringing, the machine declining to execute a task of which it is incapable.