

Stories the World Meets With Smiles

King Henry's Merry Wives.

THE English literature class of one of the schools of Los Angeles was recently requested to memorize the titles of Shakespeare's plays.

One bright boy, called upon to recite them, began with the "Henry" plays because those were the easiest for him to remember. He rattled the names off with much glibness and ease. "Henry IV, Henry V, Henry VI, Henry VIII—and—Henry's Wives of Windsor!"—L. A. Times.

Good at Figures.

Sammy was not prone to over-exertion in the classroom; therefore, his mother was both surprised and delighted when he came home one noon with the announcement: "I got 100 this morning."

"That's lovely, Sammy!" exclaimed his proud mother, and she kissed him tenderly. "What was it in?"

"Fifty in reading and 50 in 'rithmetic."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Strange Symphony.

A certain clergyman was the guest of the Rev. Edward Everett Hale overnight. In the morning he came downstairs with a look of pleased surprise on his face.

"What a delightful custom you have here," he said, "of chiming the bells at midnight!"

"Yes," continued the guest, "I got up and leaned out of the window to listen. It was a pretty air they played, although I did not recognize it."

"This," said Dr. Hale, telling the story afterward, "was the first time I ever heard of a fire alarm being taken for a symphony."—St. Joseph News-Press.

Sentence Not Correct.

Reference to the good old school days at a recent social session led William Gillette to tell this story.

Some time ago the teacher of a country school went to the blackboard and wrote: "James can ride the mule if he wants to." Then she turned to the class before her and bent her eyes on little Johnny Jones. "Johnny," said she, pointing to the blackboard, "is that sentence correct?"

"No, ma'am!" answered the youngster, emphatically.

"Indeed!" responded the teacher, considerably surprised. "Can you tell me how it should read?"

"Yes, ma'am," confidently returned Johnny. "It should be: 'James can ride the mule if the mule wants him to.'"—Boston Advertiser.

Two of a Kind.

Appropos of the "dryness" into which West Virginia has entered by a prohibition majority of 90,000, H. L. Kirk, the Mayor of Wheeling, said:

"Well, for the next four years, at any rate, you'll hear no such horrible dialogues in our West Virginia barrooms as a man heard recently in Parkersburg.

"This man saw two thin, pale, nervous wrecks standing side by side tossing off whiskies feverishly.

"The first wreck wiped his mouth on the back of his thin hand and said:

"I'm just up out of a sick bed. I've been awful sick. Snakes and pink toads crawled all over me."

"The second wreck started. With a frown he regarded the first wreck intently. Then he shuddered and drew back.

"Why, man," he said, "they're crawling all over you now!"—Boston Advertiser.

Losers and Finders.

A lawyer having offices in a large office building recently lost a cuff link, one of a pair that he greatly prized, says the Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph. Being absolutely certain that he had dropped the link somewhere in the building, he posted this notice:

"Lost—A gold cuff link; the owner, William Ward, will deeply appreciate its return."

That afternoon on passing the door whereon this notice was posted, what

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were the feelings of the lawyer to observe that appended thereto were these lines:

"The finder of the missing cuff link would deem it a great favor if the owner would kindly lose the other link."

The Only Change.

"The old-fashioned dime novel has disappeared from circulation."

"Yes. The same kind of a story now costs a dollar and a half."

Too Fresh.

"How do you tell bad eggs?" queried the young housewife.

Said the fresh grocery clerk: "If I had anything to tell a bad egg, I'd break it gently."

The Woman of It.

"Mabel, I'm drawn on the grand jury."

"So am I, Gertrude."

"Our responsibilities will be heavy."

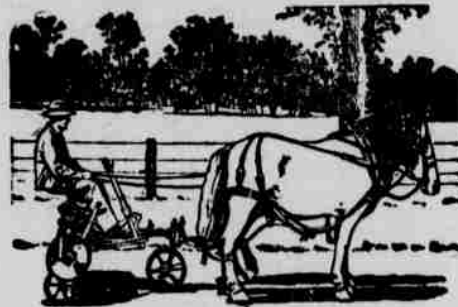
"I realize that. What shall we wear?"

Simple Request.

Two little brothers had been bathed and dressed and then sent out to play in the hammock, says the Literary Digest. They got in with their heads in opposite directions and lay quietly for a while, but soon started scuffling. The younger began yelling "Mamma, ma-a-a-ma." The busy mother did not reply for some time, but the repeated calls forced her to answer. "What do you want, Bobby?"

"I want you to make Charlie take his feet out of my nice clean face."

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