

# HUMOR

## A HARD WIND.

And the Man Who Told It Never Cracked a Smile.

The man with the whisk broom goatee crossed his legs and remarked: "I never seed such wind as we had in the state of Kansas last summer."

"Blow your barn away!" asked the landlord sympathetically.

"Not much. Barn blowed into the next county last April."

"Lost the house long in June. Kited over east about three miles and lit in Cherry creek. Didn't mind that so much," he continued. "Got 'em back and anchored 'em again all right, but along about July I got to havin' real breezy weather."

The landlord said nothing, and the group around the hotel stove prudently followed his example.

"The 9th day of last July," continued the stranger after a reflective pause, "there come up the doggondest wind I ever seed in the state of Kansas. When it began to blow, my bantam rooster was just flapping his wings to crow."

"Did it blow the crow out of him?" inquired the stableman jocosely.

"Gentlemen," said the man with the whisk broom goatee impressively, not heeding the interruption, "before that bird had done crowin' every feather on his body was blowed clean off."

"Leave the pinfeathers?" asked the landlord skeptically.

"Yes, sir. Left the pinfeathers, and in three minutes along came a streak of Kansas lightning and singed that rooster clean."

There was an awkward pause in the group around the stove. The stableman looked around the stovepipe elbow to get a view of the stranger.

"Hank Laffin's brown mare has gone lame," he said.—Detroit Free Press.

"I just heard of Fanny's engagement, and I came over to congratulate her," said Miss Hiland to Mrs. Dukane.

"Suppose you step up stairs," replied the matron. "Fanny is in her room and will be glad to see you."

Miss Hiland entered her friend's room and found her sobbing bitterly.

"Why, Fanny, what are you crying for?" asked the caller.

"Boohoo!" sobbed the newly betrothed.

"What's the matter?"

"I—I'm engaged, Boohoo!"

"Yes, I know. Is that why you are crying? I came in to congratulate you."

"The what's the trouble? Do you think Frank has quit loving you already?"

"N-n-o, but—"

## Getting at It Diplomatically.

Mrs. Smooth—Reginald, dear, I saw a lovely little bit of ribbon down town today, and I want it so much. Don't you think I might buy it?

Mr. Smooth—A ribbon? Of course. What a question!

Mrs. Smooth—And there's a beautiful feather in the same place—just a little one. May I buy that too?

Mr. Smooth—Certainly.

Mrs. Smooth—And just one thing more, my dear. They've got a frame for a hat at the same place. You won't object to my buying that, will you, lovey?

## A Literal Interpretation.

TAKE THE CARS HERE

"WELL, THESE CITIZENS ARE GENEROUS!"

Dobbs started out the other morning with the toothache, and of course he met everybody he knew.

"Hurts, doesn't it?" asked No. 1 as he tried to look sympathetic.

"Well, I should smile."

"Thanks, awfully, I'm saving my teeth."

"See here," said No. 2, "if you'll fill it full of pounded ice mixed with salt and alum, it will stop the pain."

"Thanks," said Dobbs, "but I prefer the pain. Ouch!"

"Go to the dentist and have the nerve killed," suggested No. 3.

"It's being killed now," howled Dobbs.

"Next."

"Take creosote," suggested No. 4.

"And smell like a burning chimney?" snarled Dobbs. "Excuse me."

"Grin and bear it," said No. 5, trying to be funny, and he nearly got his head broken for his pains.

"If it's jumping toothache," began No. 6, but it evidently was by the way he jumped for the door, and then Dobbs filled that tooth with whisky and stopped its aching vow.—Detroit Free Press.

## Old Men Barred Out.

"Some people have very queer notions about renting furnished rooms," said the proprietor of a very large establishment of the kind to the writer.

Upon being asked why, he explained that he knew of a woman who would never rent one of her rooms to an old man and had her servant girls instructed to ask each applicant his age.

"I happened to be on the steps one day when a rather elderly man applied for a room," said he. "How old are you?" inquired the girl.

"Sixty-five," replied the rather astonished applicant.

"That settles it. You can't have a room here. The mistress doesn't want any funeral from her house."—New York Mercury.

From a "Local" Point of View.

City Editor—Yes, there is a vacancy on my staff. Do you think you could condense a column of ideas into two inches of space?

Applicant (facetiously)—I think I would succeed better in spreading two inches of ideas over a column of space.

City Editor—You won't do for this department. Apply at the editorial room.—New York Weekly.

Puck.

Foreman of Pressroom—Ink's all out, sir, and I ain't printed but 300 copies.

Editor—Have you cleaned all the soot out of the lamp chimneys and used that?

Foreman—Yes, sir.

Editor—Well, then boil down last week's returned copies and squeeze the ink out of them. This paper is bound to get on.—Brooklyn Life.

A Sudden Coolness.

Miss Highdier—Oh, Mr. Sappy, how nice it was of you to name your new hunter after me! What is she like?

Young Sappy—Well, she's a regular stunner, Miss Highdier. Not much to look at, don't cher know, but very fast.

And he cannot make out why she is so cool to him now.—Vogue.

Newspapers in New York State.

Since the centennial year, 1876, the number of newspapers in New York state has nearly doubled. There were 1,088 published then, and there are 2,181 now.—Printer's Ink.

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## His Apt Reply.

Countess—, who is an American by birth and a delegate to the Columbian exposition from a foreign country, applied for a complimentary card of admission not long ago.

The official to whom she spoke of the matter explained to her that it would be impossible for him to issue a card, because if it were lost he had no way of tracing it.

"A photographic pass is much better," he said, "as it can be readily traced. Such passes," he added, "are used by all members of the board of lady managers."

The countess objected to having her picture taken for a photographic pass on the ground that she was a titled personage, and it would not be in conformity with etiquette.

"Well," replied the official, by way of persuasion, "my mother is a member of the board of lady managers, and when she comes to Chicago next week she will have her picture taken just like the other members."

"But you see," said the lady, "I am a countess."

"Yes, I know," retorted the official, "and my mother is a queen."

The countess stamped her foot and without another word turned and left the office.—Youth's Companion.

Soup and trip.

The grip and pneumonia are prevalent—do not be alarmed, this is not an advertisement in thin disguise. The Italians, when they are in their own land at least, believe in soup as a fortifier against such diseases. But let the soup be strong, and let the stock be well chosen. None of your thin dishwasher concoctions. If the soup is clear, sprinkle in it cheese, and with a liberal hand. Let the cheese be Parmesan, not bottled, but grated from an honest hunk.—Boston Journal.

Thoughtless or Unkind.

"Here," said the very young man, "is a chameleon."

"Oh, Mr. Callow," she exclaimed, "this is very kind of you! I shall take good care of it."

"I hope you will keep it to remind you of me."

"I shall take the greatest pleasure in doing so." And after a pause she added, "What a pity it doesn't stay green all the time!"—Washington Star.

The Doubtful One.

An old negro being on trial, his lawyer challenged a number of the jury who, his client said, had a prejudice against him. "Are there any more jurymen who have a prejudice against you?" inquired the lawyer. "No, sah, de jury am all right, but I want to challenge de judge."—Green Bag.

Her Only Consolation.

Friend of the Family—Aren't you afraid to let your husband take that trip into the mountains at this season of the year?

Mrs. Billis—It drives me nearly frantic to think of it! But he's well insured.—Chicago Tribune.

Full Shot.

She walked along the thoroughfare. The wind she heeded not. For its embrace she was prepared. Her dress was filled with shot.—Indianapolis Journal.

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