

A Banker: 'Principal is the principal thing, and a source of great interest.'

A Baker: 'The staff of life I do supply; by it you live, and so must I.'

A Butcher: 'We kill to dress, not dress to kill.'

A Builder: 'I send innocent men to the "scaffold."'

A Clerk: 'I possess more pens than pounds.'

A Dentist: 'Look "down in the mouth" and be happy.'

A Doctor: 'I take pains to remove pains.'

A Farmer: 'I plough deep while sluggards sleep.'

A Hatter: 'I shelter "the heir apparent" and protect the crown.'

A Jockey: 'I witch the world with noble horsemanship.'—Shakespeare.

A Photographer: 'Mine is a developing business and mounting rapidly.'

A Printer: 'I act as mouthpiece of the human race.'

A Soldier: 'For the right I fight with all my might.'

A Solicitor: 'I study the law—and the profits.'

An Umbrella-maker: 'I "hail" all storms, and bless the "longest reign."'

An Undertaker: 'No complaints from our customers.'

WHAT WAS WRONG

The professor of surgery in one of our universities has the reputation of being one of the most painstaking and delicate operators in Australia, thoughtful of the patient and careful in the clinic. One day, in the course of a clinical demonstration, he turned to a student who had just commenced his studies with the question:

'Now, sir, can you tell me what is wrong with my dressing?'

The ingenuous youth turned red and preserved a discreet silence. The professor, however, was not to be put off, and repeated the question. After a long pause, the youth stammered out, in a fit of desperation:

'Well, sir, if you insist on my telling you, I should say your tie is not quite straight.'

ODDS AND ENDS

'Pop, what do the financiers you read about make pools for?' 'For the ducks and drakes that other men make of their money, my son.'

'You're not so stout as you used to be, old man.' 'No; since I've started to ride a bicycle I've fallen off a good deal.'

'Ah, how do I find you this morning?' 'My breath, doctor, is getting much shorter.' 'Oh, don't worry; I'll stop that!'

FAMILY FUN

Mimicking.—All the players except one go out of the room. He calls in one of the others and asks: 'What did I do when I was alone?' The newcomer proceeds to guess, and tries to imitate the supposed action. The leader mimicks him as closely as possible, altering the form of the question by saying, 'What am I doing now?' After much fruitless guessing, the answer, 'Mimicking,' is discovered. Then the victim joins his tormentor, and a fresh guesser is called in. When the turn of the last player is reached he is much surprised and confused to find the whole company imitating his every gesture and expression.

A Trick that Seems Impossible.—Can you remove a man's waistcoat without first causing him to remove his coat? This is the way to do it: Ask him, in the first place, to wear an easy-fitting coat of some sort, say a loose overcoat. Now, unbutton his waistcoat, unfasten the buckle at the back, and ask him to hold his arms above his head. Slip your hand down the back of the coat, grasp the bottom of the waistcoat, and pull it up right over the head of the wearer. Next, take the right-side bottom end of the front of the waistcoat and put it into the armhole of the coat at the shoulder, at the same time putting the hand up the sleeve and drawing down the end. This will release one armhole. Next, draw the waistcoat up again, put the same end into the left armhole, put the hand up the left sleeve, and draw the whole of the waistcoat down.

All Sorts

Every house must be decked with flowers on New Year's Day in Japan.

'You make an awful noise with that cornet.' 'Well, I am sorry to hear it.' 'So's everybody else.'

In Buenos Ayres the police alone have the right of whistling on the streets. Any other person whistling is at once arrested.

In Ashanti many families are forbidden the use of certain meats. In like manner others are forbidden to wear clothes of a certain color.

'All in favor of the motion will please wink,' said the astute chairman. And then he added at once: 'The eyes have it.'

The best men have no price; they can be bought neither with the hope of reward nor fear of punishment; purchased neither with money nor place, nor with pleasure.

If a carriage upsets or injures another carriage in the streets of St. Petersburg, or if a person is knocked down, the horses of the offending vehicle are seized and confiscated to the use of the fire brigade.

It is the practice of the Ashantees and Fantees to bury one-third of the property of a dead man, converted into gold dust, under his head, and rifling the grave of an enemy is considered the proper action for a warrior.

Clapping the hands in various ways is considered the polite method of Central Africa of saying 'Allow me,' 'I beg pardon,' 'Permit me to pass,' and 'Thanks.' It is resorted to in respectful introduction and leave-taking.

'Madame, your husband does not seem to have any organic trouble,' said the physician. 'Oh, no,' exclaimed Mrs. Pneuritch, 'not in this neighborhood. But the folks that live next door to us have a gramophone that worries him nearly to death.'

The conversation turned on the effect produced on the emotions by pictorial art, when one gentleman remarked: 'I remember one picture that brought tears to my eyes.' 'A pathetic subject, I presume?' 'No, sir; it was a fruit painting. I was sitting close under it when it dropped on my head.'

Over three doors of the Cathedral of Milan, Italy are three inscriptions. The first, amid a wreath of sculptured roses, reads: 'All which pleases us is but for a moment.' Over another door, around a sculptured cross, we read: 'All that which troubles us is but for a moment.' On the central door we read: 'That only is important which is eternal.'

It is a waste of time to be busying yourself with what you conceive to be the faults of other people. Be assured that others see quite as many and as reprehensible faults in you. A good many people, who think themselves reformers especially chosen to point out and reprove the sins of others are merely insufferable nuisances.

At an exhibition of curiosities a skull was exhibited which professed to be Oliver Cromwell's. A gentleman present observed that it could not be Cromwell's, as he had a very large head, and this was a small skull. 'Oh, I know all about that,' said the exhibitor, undisturbed, 'but you see this was his skull when he was a boy.'

There is no doubt about it (says the 'Sydney Mail'), the ostrich is profitable. Wherever the ostrich is introduced and bred and worked as a systematic branch of production, it is held in such value that it is practically impossible to purchase birds for export. Prices for this bird at various ages are: Six months old chicks, £20; one-year old birds, £30; two-year old birds, £40; and at four years, when they pair, £160 is wanted for a pair. In the United States of America there are 2200 ostriches; the progeny of a pair brought from California in 1888. An acre of lucerne in Queensland suffices for the maintenance of four birds, and the yield of feathers is about 13lb per bird; £5 per lb of feathers is the market price, and each hen may be expected to lay from 36 to 90 eggs a year. Ostriches are very long-lived (some say they live a century), and their diet is simple—maize, wheat, barley, oats, and lucerne, though with plenty of green food grain is not required, except at breeding time.