

Then on our way home Uncle Nathan had to tell us about his being in the army—the same old stories he'd told ever since I can remember. I was nearly bored to death, but Cousin Mary acted as interested as though she had never heard them before. And now she's gone over to see Mrs. Dill. That's the 'climax'!

'And, incredible as it is,' she summed up after a moment's pause, 'I venture that every one of those people is talking this very minute about what a wonderfully accomplished girl Cousin Mary is. And it's all so funny, because she really hasn't a single accomplishment, only that she just loves everybody, and tries to make everybody happy.'

'Don't you think that any girl might be proud of such accomplishments?' inquired her mother tenderly.

'Indeed, I do, mother, dear, and I'm going to begin this very night to practise up on Cousin Mary's accomplishments!'

AN APT QUOTATION

The present election campaign in this Dominion reminds us of how a Canterbury aspirant for public honors in the days that are past made use of a quotation in a political speech that had the effect of completely silencing a rather noisy opponent.

During this speech he was repeatedly interrupted by a butcher, the proprietor of a large sausage-making plant. An adherent of the candidate finally took offence at the butcher's mocking remarks and yelled:

'Hey, you, leave politics alone and go back to your sausage machines.'

The butcher glared at the man and retorted:

'If I had this speaker in one of my sausage machines I'd soon make mincemeat of him.'

Then the candidate quoted from the platform with a smile:

'Is thy servant a dog that thou shouldst do this thing?'

ODDS AND ENDS

'Try the waiter with some of your French, dear.'

'By all means. Gass-on! Gass-on!'

'No, sir; only the electric light.'

'What do you think of the two candidates?' asked one elector of another the other day.

'What do I think of them?' was the reply. 'Well, when I look at them I'm thankful only one of them can get in.'

'I think I have the most tender-hearted husband in the world,' remarked Mrs. Smith. 'He can't bear to beat his children, even when they need it ever so badly.'

'That's nothing,' replied Mrs. Brown. 'My husband is so tender-hearted I can't get him to beat the carpet.'

'Pa,' said Johnny, 'what is a law-giver?'

'There ain't any such thing, Johnny,' replied papa, who had been involved in considerable litigation in his time.

'But this book says that somebody was a great law-giver, persisted the youngster.

'Then it's a mistake,' replied the father, cynically. 'Law is never given. It's retailed in very small quantities at very high figures.'

FAMILY FUN

Balancing an Egg.—All the world knows how Columbus on a historic occasion made an egg stand on end. After many learned theories had been advanced for balancing the egg he set the egg on end by, of course, mashing it down hard enough to form a base, but the problem is capable of still another solution. It is an easy matter to set an egg on a plate, for instance, if you know how. The trick is impossible until the egg has been boiled in an upright position. The portion of the hardened yolk at the end of the shell lowers the centre of gravity until the sphere can be spun or even balanced with ease.

Chinese Shadows.—Here is a simple way of making shadow pictures. Place a candle on the table and fix a piece of white paper on the wall at the same height from the floor as the light is. Now place some non-transparent object, as, for instance, a large book, between the candle and the paper, and on one side of the table place a mirror, so that it will reflect the light of the candle on to the paper on the wall. If you now put little cardboard figures between the candle and the mirror a shadow will be thrown on the white paper, and you can move your figures about just as you please.

All Sorts

For every ton of gold in circulation there are fifteen tons of silver.

Hyde Park contains 400 acres; Phoenix Park, Dublin, 1760 acres; Central Park, New York, 862 acres; Yellowstone National Park—the largest in the world—is 2,288,000 acres in extent.

Seafish and shellfish are hatched artificially on an enormous scale in Norway and North America, the Newfoundland hatchery turning out in one year 15,000,000 of cod fry and 400,000,000 of young lobsters.

'As swift as the flight of a swallow' is no idle phrase. Indeed, the little swallow is said to be the swiftest of all birds. It easily accomplishes two hundred and ten feet a second, and has been known to attain the tremendous speed of two hundred and ninety feet in the same short time.

A lady on one of the ocean liners who seemed very much afraid of icebergs asked the captain what would happen in case of a collision. The captain replied: 'The iceberg would move right along, madam, just as if nothing happened,' and 'he old lady seemed greatly relieved.

'I'm going to tell my daddy of you,' said little Willie, as the blacksmith was paring some shavings from the horse's hoof.

'Why, what have I done?' asked the blacksmith.

'You haven't got any shoes to fit Dobbin, an' you're cutting his feet small to suit those you have got.'

China took its name from Tsin, an emperor who founded a dynasty 300 years before the Christian era. He was the monarch who built the great wall and accomplished many other works of utility to the empire. It is also called the 'Celestial Empire,' because most of its early rulers claimed to be of heavenly descent.

'And have you any brothers and sisters, my little man?' asked the kind old lady.

'Yes'm,' replied the little man; 'I've got one sister and one and a-half brothers.'

'What?'

'Yes, ma'am; two half-sisters and three-half-brothers.'

The oldest man in the world, as far as we can discover, is a Russian peasant, Michael Boudnikoff by name. He is now one hundred and twenty-eight years old. He entered the Russian army in 1797, was married ninety-six years ago, and has been a widower for the last sixty years. His health is excellent and his mind perfectly clear, and he still smokes his pipe.

Recently a certain candidate for political honors was addressing the electors of the district, and was engaged in pulling to pieces the claims to election put forward by his opponent. 'To sum up,' he remarked, 'my opponent has not a leg to stand upon.'

From the back of the hall came an answering voice, 'The more reason that he should have a seat.'

Upon moving into a new neighborhood, the small boy of the family was cautioned not to fight with his new acquaintances. One day Willie came home with a black eye and very much bespattered with mud.

'Why, Willie,' said Mamma, 'I thought I told you to count a hundred before you fought!'

'I did, mamma,' answered Willie, 'and this is what Tommy Smith did while I was counting.'

When King William of Normandy invaded England and conquered the people, he made some very strict laws, and deprived them of many things they had enjoyed before. Every night, all over the kingdom, he caused bells to be rung at exactly eight o'clock, as a signal for all fires to be put out and all lights extinguished. The curfew-bell at eight o'clock came from the Norman French *couvre* and *feu*—'to cover the fire,'—because at that time the embers on the hearthstone had to be covered with ashes.

MYERS & CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth....