

## WHAT NEXT?

There came to a young doctor in an English hospital an uncommonly unclean infant, borne in the arms of a mother whose face showed the same abhorrence of soap. Looking down upon the child for a moment, the doctor solemnly said: "It seems to be suffering from 'hydropathic hydrophobia.'"

"Oh, doctor, is it as bad as that?" cried the mother. "That's a big sickness for such a mite. Whatever shall I do for the child?"

"Wash its face, madam," replied the doctor; "the disease will go off with the dirt."

"Wash its face—wash its face, indeed!" exclaimed the mother, losing her temper. "What next, I'd like to know!"

"Wash your own, madam—wash your own," was the rejoinder.

## A GREAT DIFFERENCE.

The river Clyde has been brought to its present draught by dredging, and the Scotch are very proud of it. A party of Americans scorned it one day.

"Call this a river?" said they. "Why, it's a ditch in comparison with our Mississippi or St. Lawrence or Hudson."

"Awceh, mon," said a Scotch bystander, "you've got Providence to thank for your rivers, but we made this one ourselves."

## CANINE ETIQUETTE.

In their relations one with another dogs have a keen sense of etiquette. A well-known traveller makes this unexpected remark about a tribe of naked black men, living on one of the South Sea Islands: "In their every day intercourse there is much that is stiff, formal, and precise." Almost the same remark might be made about dogs. Unless they are on very intimate terms, they take great pains never to brush against or even touch one another. For one dog to step over another is a dangerous breach of etiquette unless they are special friends. It is no uncommon thing for two dogs to belong to the same person and live in the same house and yet never take the slightest notice of each other. We have a spaniel so dignified that he will never permit another member of the dog family to pillow his head upon him, but with the egotism of a true aristocrat, he does not hesitate to make use of the other dogs for that purpose.

## FROM THE FOOT OF THE LADDER.

There's an authentic story of two boys who were companions all through school. They passed all the examinations with credit, and in due time entered college.

These boys studied hard, for they knew that they would have to support themselves as soon as their college days were over. At last they were graduated, and, with congratulations from professors and letters of recommendation to a large shipping firm, they entered the world to seek their fortunes.

Ushered into the presence of the senior member of a shipbuilding firm, the first young man presented his letters of recommendation and introduced himself.

"Well," said the business man, "what can I do for you?"

"I'd like a clerkship in one of your offices."

"Leave your name and address and I'll look for you when there is a vacancy. Just now we're full."

Then came the second young man, and again the senior member of the firm asked, "What can I do for you?"

"I'd like to do any kind of work that you think I'm fitted for. I'm inexperienced, but I'll do my best."

This boy got something to do immediately, and after a time worked his way up to a responsible position.

## A LESSON IN PUNCTUATION.

"Father," asked eight-year-old Alice, returning home from school, "are you good at punctuation?"

"Yes," replied the father.

"Well, tell me, please, how would you punctuate 'The wind blew a five-pound note around the corner'?"

"Well, daughter, I would simply put a stop at the end of the sentence."

"I wouldn't," said Alice, mischievously; "I would make a dash after the five-pound note."

## A POINT OF ORDER.

While Mr. Webster was once addressing the United States Senate on the subject of internal improvements, and every Senator was listening with close attention, the Senate clock commenced striking, but instead of striking twice at 2 p.m., continued to strike without cessation more than forty times. All eyes were turned to the clock, and Mr. Webster remained silent until the clock struck about twenty, when he thus appealed to the chair: "Mr. President, the clock is out of order! I have the floor!" To say that a long and loud laugh from every Senator and person in the august Chamber was indulged in is a faint description of the merriment this exquisite pun produced.

## AN AMERICAN WHO TOLD THE TRUTH.

"William," asked the teacher of a rosy-faced lad, "can you tell me who George Washington was?"

"Yes, ma'am," was the quick reply; "he was an American gen'ral."

"Quite right," replied the teacher. "And can you tell us what George Washington was remarkable for?"

"Yes, ma'am," replied the little boy; "he was remarkable because he was an American and told the truth."

## SEEKING INFORMATION.

The little agricultural village had been billed with "Lecture on Keats" for over a fortnight. The evening arrived at length, bringing the lecturer ready to discourse on the poet. The advertised chairman, taken ill at the last moment, was replaced by a local farmer. This worthy introduced the lecturer and terminated his remarks by saying: "And now, my friends, we shall soon all know what I personally have often wondered—what are Keats?"

## INDEPENDENT.

A thriving but somewhat miserly farmer was in the habit of leaving his horse and gig at the door of the Black Bull Inn on market day in charge of the first person he could find.

One day Jamsie, the "softie" of the place, had been engaged for this purpose, but on re-entering his gig the farmer, much to Jamsie's annoyance and surprise, drove off without the slightest acknowledgment for his time and trouble.

Next market the farmer again engaged Jamsie for the same purpose.

"Na, na, Mr. Campbell," he returned, "I dunna need to haud horses any mair."

"And how's that?" inquired the farmer.

"Oh, ye see, sir," replied Jamsie, "what ye gied me last time has made me independent."

When you have to remove, remember that our men possess the happy knack of handling furniture—lifting, packing, carting it—without scratching, breaking, or bruising it. By employing us, you avoid loss and save yourself the worry of having your things knocked about.—The N.Z. EXPRESS CO., LTD. Offices in all towns....

**"PATTILLO"**

THE BRIDAL PHOTOGRAPHER : Specialists in Artistic Portraiture.  
Charming Wedding Groups and Realistic Enlargements at Popular Prices!  
GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.