



A BAKER'S DOZEN.

'WILLIAM,' she said in terror, 'the clock has just struck thirteen.'

'Has it?' he replied, with a yawn.

'Yes. Isn't it dreadful?'

'No. It's all right.'

'You must get rid of it. I won't have it around the house.'

'It's none of my clock,' was the impatient response.

'You bought it yourself, you know.'

There was silence for a time, then she remarked complacently:

'It's all right, William.'

'What's all right?'

'The clock. It's a bargain clock. I guess the man threw in the extra strike for good measure.'

SHE DODGED THE RULE.

THERE is a wise rule at Smith College that an undergraduate must not go to dine with a man who is not a member of her family present or prospective. A nice young fellow went to see a girl at Smith and asked her to go to dine. She had to ask the president if she might do.

'Is the young man your brother?' inquired that functionary.

'No,' said the girl.

'Is he your cousin?'

'No,' said the girl.

'Are you engaged?'

'Not yet,' the blushing maiden answered, 'but I think we will be when we come back, if you will only let me go.'

Professor Seelye relented.

KLEPTOPHOTOGRAPHY.

HE: 'See that nice looking chap over there?'

SHE: 'Of course I do. Would I miss anything like that?'

HE: 'Well, you want to watch him; he'll take anything in sight.'

SHE: 'Gracious. Is he a kleptomaniac?'

HE: 'No; he's an amateur photographer.'

NEEDFUL EXERCISE.

CLARA: 'I have not seen Mr Niccelfello with you lately.'

MAUD: 'He is practising at the boat club.'

'I did not know he cared for rowing.'

'He doesn't, but he joined a crew to please me.'

'To please you?'

'Yes. I thought rowing would strengthen his arms.'



ETHEL: 'What did you do when your fiance said he was going to have his moustache shaved off?'

MAUDE: 'Oh, I set my face against it.'

PUT TO THE PROOF.

'Do you love me well enough, Laurence, to walk with me on the avenue when I wear my bloomer suit?'

'Too well, my love, far, far too well.'

NOT A BOMBARDMENT.

KISSAM: 'Has her papa ever fired you?'

Higgins: 'He has never resorted to bombardment. His tactics are more in the nature of a passive blockade.'

'How is that?'

'When I call to see his daughter, he remains in the parlour during the whole of the interview.'

ANSWERED.

SHE: 'Do you men still pursue the even tenour of your way?'

HE: 'No; we are content to pursue the even fiver now, if we think you have it to lend.'

'That's enough to try anybody's patients,' as the doctor exclaimed when he found his bottles all mixed and without labels.



A LA FRANCAISE.

HE had proposed to her, and she was about to reject him, so she began: 'Well, to be plain to you—'

'You can nevah wiz me be plain, nor wiz anyone else. You can nevah be plain, nevah, nevah; you are too beautiful for zat.'

What could she do but accept him after that?

SOLEMN EXPERIENCES.

SHE HAD HAD ENOUGH TO KNOW ALL ABOUT MATRIMONY.

A MINISTER'S wife who conceived it to be her duty to give a kindly and motherly word of advice to the young couples who came to the parsonage to be married one day went down into the parlour in advance of her husband for the usual little chat with a couple who had called on important business, as they had expressed it.

The good woman found the couple sitting side by side on a sofa in bridal array. The bridegroom, who was evidently several years younger than the bride, seemed a little frustrated, but the bride was perfectly calm. After a few commonplacees the minister's wife said:

'You realize, of course, that marriage is a very solemn thing. It is not to be entered into lightly. It is, or ought to be, for life.'

'Yes, that's what I used to tell Jim,' said the bride.

'Jim?'

'Oh, he was my first husband.'

'Indeed! Then, of course, you know what the duties and responsibilities of married life are. They are many and serious. Both husband and wife must learn to bear and forbear.'

'Yes; that's exactly what I used to say to Bill.'

'To Bill?'

'Yes; he was my second husband.'

'Oh, you must realize deeply the solemnity of marriage because of these experiences.'

'Yes; I used to say to Jake that marriage was no laughing matter. Jake was my third husband.'

'Indeed? My words must seem useless to you after—'

'Well, to tell the honest truth there's mighty few pointers you kin give a lady whose had three husbands an' all of 'em livin'. If I don't know what the rocky side o' matrimony is I don't know who does. Serious business! Well, I should say so! But Willie an' me are startin' out right an' I guess we'll stick fer good, eh Willie?'

The bridegroom blushed and smiled faintly, and when the minister entered at that moment the bride arose to her feet and said:

'Come on, Willie; here goes for another solemn experience.'

THE SUMMIT.

'SPRINKING of the drawing,' remarked the artist, 'I reached the acme of the draughtsman's ambition to-day.'

'Ah, indeed?'

'Yes, I drew a check and it was honoured.'

METHOD IN HER MADNESS.

'I OBJECT, my dear, to your asking that woman to dinner. She's the greatest gossip in town,' said Mr Perkins.

'I know that, John, but we don't know any newspaper men, and I don't see how else to get an account of our dinner in the papers,' replied Mrs Perkins.

A MEAN FELLOW.

MR BLINKS: 'I met a woman to-day that I thought a good deal of once.'

Mrs Blinks: 'Oh, you did?'

'Yes. I used to do my very best to please her.'

'Humph!'

'I did everything I could to win her affection.'

'My goodness!'

'And at last I succeeded.'

'Wha—'

'She granted all that I asked, and by so doing made me the happiest man alive.'

'Merciful—'

'I asked her to come right up to the house with me to-day, but she had some shopping to do, and cannot get here until supper time.'

'Mr Blinks, I am going right home to my mother.'

'She isn't at home, my dear. It was your mother that I met. She gave me you.'

KEEPING THE TEMPERATURE DOWN.

MAJOR MCLAUGHLIN put a new man at work at his mine the other day drying out dynamite.

'Now,' said he, by way of explanation, 'you have to keep your eye on that thermometer in the heater. If it gets above 85 you're liable to hear a noise around here. When it reaches 82 degrees you have just three minutes in which to work, for it takes three minutes in which to rise to 85.'

'A hour later the major returned to see how the man at the heater was doing.'

'Well, how is it getting along?' he inquired.

'Oh, first rate.'

'Do you watch that thermometer?'

'You bet your life, I do, and I'm keeping her down.'

He reached into the heater and pulled out the thermometer.

'Whew! She's up to 84,' he remarked. 'There, that'll fix it.'

He jammed the thermometer into a bucket of cold water and hung it back in the heater. Then he wondered what McLaughlin was running for.

DENTIST WOULD NOT MIND.

HE: 'You were getting ready to go out, and I'm afraid my call is inopportune.'

SHE: 'Really and truly, I would much rather stay here and talk with you than keep my engagement this afternoon.'

HE: 'I am delighted. But can the engagement be broken without causing hard feelings?'

SHE: 'Oh, yes; the dentist won't mind.'

AMONG THE HEATHEN.

HILLEN, aged four, was spending a night away from home. At bedtime she knelt at her hostess' knees to say her prayers, expecting the usual prompting.

Finding Mrs I— unable to help her out, she concluded thus:

'Please, God, 'scuse me. I can't 'member my prayers and I'm stayin' with a lady that don't know any.'



LITTLE BESS (to visitor): 'You ain't black are you, Mr L.?'

'Black, child? No, I should hope not. What made you think I was?'

'Oh, nothin'; 'cept pa said you was awful niggardly.'

PORTS take in the beauty of Nature. Their wives take in washing.

We have an idea that we will purchase a bicycle after a while. We know of a good place to get the wind with which to fill the tyres.