

a tall structure, which he called a silk hat, having a shiny lustre, and calculated to frighten timid people. Several women fainted at the unusual sight, while children screamed, dogs yelped, and a young son of Cordwainer Thomas, who was returning from a chandler's shop, was thrown down by the crowd which had collected, and had his right arm broken.' The defendant pleaded that he was merely exercising a right possessed by every citizen, to appear in any headdress he chose, and had not violated any law. He was, nevertheless, bound over in £500 to keep the peace.

HENCE THOSE TEARS

A sad story was told us the other day by a man of a lad in his town who, like many another boy, has been obliged to wear the cast-off clothing of his father.

One afternoon this lad was discovered in tears. 'What's the trouble, my boy?' asked the man who tells the story.

'Why,' explained the youngster, between sobs, 'father has gone and shaved his face clean, and now I s'pose I'll have to wear all them red whiskers.'

THE SPECIALIST'S ADVICE

The eminent specialist leaned back in his chair. 'What you need, my friend,' he said, 'is broadening of vision. You should read more. You should read the opinions of leading writers on the current events of the world. Your mind is stagnated. The pretty happenings of the little sphere in which you move have dulled your mentality. I advise you to read the newspapers and become familiar with daily happenings. May I ask your business?'

The patient sadly smiled.

'I'm an exchange editor,' he replied and drifted away.

HIS FEAT

Have you ever heard Jimkins relate about the time he got half-way up Mont Blanc with one of his little nephews and no guide?' asked one man of another. 'How long ago did he tell you about it?' was the evasive reply. 'Last March, when he'd just got home,' said the first man. 'Well,' said the other, 'in eight months since then he has climbed the rest of the way, succored a fainting guide, and sustained a snowstorm on the summit, resuscitated two benumbed strangers on the way down, and guided the entire party to the foot, where a group of frantic relatives were waiting.'

ACCORDING TO CUSTOM

Sally, from the slums, was the guest of a great lady who interested herself in 'the poor.' Sally, perfectly self-possessed, sipped her tea, and proceeded to engage her hostess in small talk. 'Does yer 'usband drink?' she queried politely. 'My dear child—no!' 'Ow much does 'e make a week?' 'He—er—does not do any work.' Her ladyship was beginning to feel slightly annoyed. 'Well,' continued Sally, 'I 'ope yer keep out of debt?' 'Why, of course, child! Don't ask such ridiculous questions! Don't you know you are being very rude?' Sally was amazed. 'Rude is it? Well, mother says to me: "Now, be sure and behave like a little lady," she says. And when ladies comes to our 'ouse they always begins by asking those questions!'

DEW-PONDS

There are found in Great Britain many shallow excavations known as dew-ponds. These are very ancient, being remnants of what is known as the Neolithic age. The purpose of these ponds was to furnish drinking water for cattle. An exposed position was selected, the bowl hollowed out, and covered with straw or a similar non-conducting material. Above this was spread

a thick layer of clay strewn with stones. At night, the cold surface of the clay caused an abundance of moisture to condense. Some of these old dew-ponds are still in use.

THE SKIN OF A UNIT

The blunders of children are often due to bad teaching. 'This,' said a teacher to her class in arithmetic, 'is a unit.' She held up a pencil. 'This book is a unit, too,' she said; 'and these are units.' And she showed them a ruler, a flower, and an apple. Then she peeled the apple and, holding up the peel, said, 'Now, children, what is this?' A little hand went up slowly. 'Well, Johnny?' said the teacher. 'Please, ma'am, the skin of a unit.'

NEVER MORE

A well-known author was making a pedestrian excursion in a wild rural district. Feeling rather hungry, he looked at his watch to see if it were nearly dinner-time, but found the watch was stopped. Just then, happening to meet with a country boy, he asked him, 'What time is it, my lad?' The boy replied, 'Just twelve, sir.' 'Only twelve?' said the minister. 'I thought it was more.' 'It never is more round these parts,' said the boy simply. 'It begins at one.'

HELPING ALONG

When a stowaway is found on an ocean steamer he is immediately set to work to pay for his passage. One such was discovered in the hold of a Mediterranean liner, and was ordered to the galley, where the cook found plenty to keep him out of mischief. A lady on tour of inspection paused near the stowaway as he sat busily peeling potatoes. 'How soon do you think we'll reach Naples?' 'Well, madam,' he replied cheerfully, 'I'm doing all I can to get her in by Tuesday.'

A TRAMP OF RESOURCE

Much experience of thirsty tramps had caused the author of *An English Holiday* (J. J. Hissey) to fore-know almost exactly what they would say to him. One day, when sending his motor car slowly along a shady English road, he met one of this guild, who accosted him with the preliminary touch of his cap. Mr. Hissey anticipated him by exclaiming:

'I be mortal thirsty! Have you, good sir, the price of a glass of ale about you? I've driven nearly fifty miles to-day, and since the morning not a bite of food has passed my lips.'

The look of astonishment that tramp gave me was a delight to observe. But this tramp was a man of ready resource, and seeing I was a hopeless case, he rose to the occasion, and promptly exclaimed, with what dignity he could command, and with a comically serious expression:

'If there were a policeman in sight I would give you in charge for begging, that I would!'

FAMILY FUN

Finding the Sum of Odd Numbers.—The sum of the odd numbers beginning with 1 will always be found to be the same as the square of the number of terms added. Thus the sum of 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 is 25. We used five terms, and the square root of 25 is 5. It thus will be easy to tell the sum of any number of odd numbers in succession if the first term is 1, for all that is needed is to square the number which indicates the number of terms taken.

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