

A retired army officer joined one of the British volunteer corps as a good example to others, and it happened that the assistant inspector, a rather pompous character, came down to inspect the regiment.

Hiding down the lines he noticed a private in an array of medals on his chest and drawing up his horse he remarked patronizingly:

"Very good man, so you've seen some service?"

"Yes, sir."

"Gained a Mutiny, eh?"

"Yes, sir."

"How did you get your sergeant's stripes?"

"Yes, sir."

"You were a private on your discharge, were you?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well—rather testily—"what was your rank when you left the service?"

"Sergeant, sir."

Coming as near to a blush as he had seen for years, and utterly confounded, the pompous assistant inspector rode on.

A Georgia Magistrate was perplexed by the conflicting claims of two Negro women for a baby, each contending that she was the mother of it. The Judge remembered Solomon, and, drawing a bowie knife from his boot, declared that he would give half to each.

The women were shocked, but had no fault to find with the proposed course of the Judge in settling the proposed case— "That's all right," they both exclaimed in unison. "Now you keep it, your honor."

"I'll be the quipster with the glass-
eyes!"

"I'll be a couple of minutes, last even-
ing and I think he must have a pain in
his stomach." - Balthazar, American.



A lesson in mythology was in progress; the subject for the day was Atias. Ten minutes before the school closed the teacher devoted to asking questions. This was the time when she generally discovered what a lot of talking it is possible to do without being heard. "Now, Alice Ermytrude, what did Atias do?"

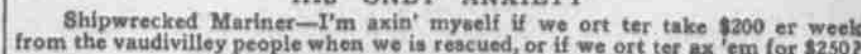
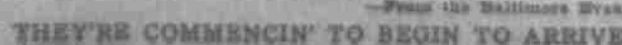
"That's right, dear," answered the gratified teacher. "Now, Gervangeline Ellen, if Atlas supported the world, what sup-

Covering the Case

lawyer story: An Irish lawyer was attorney for a man charged with murder. Addressing the judge, the attorney said:

proved to the jury that the prisoner could not have committed the crime with which

when he committed it. If that fails I shall prove an alibi."



In a hospital at Cape Town during the South African War, the kindness of certain amateur members of the nursing staff tended to aggravate, rather than alleviate, the sufferings of some of the wounded.

At last the British soldier's native wit came to the rescue. One morning a sick soldier's bedclothes displayed a slip of paper inscribed:

"Too ill to be nursed today!"—TIT-BIT.

Mrs. Morelock's birthday was nearly dawn, and one morning shortly before the event, George, her young son, said:

"Mother, will you give me a dollar? I want to get you a birthday present."

"That is very thoughtful of you, dear," replied the mother, very much pleased, "but what is it that you need a dollar to buy?"

"Well, you see, mother," explained the little boy, "one dollar is the price of it. It's the dearest, nicest cake you ever saw."

He-You promised me if our 11 won to-day you'd marry me.
She-Yes, I promised the whole 11 the same thing, just to spur 'em along—Chicago News.

He--What if I should kiss you?
She--I would follow the Golden Rule.--
Boston Transcript.

Bank Teller (politely)—I'm sorry, madam, but I cannot cash your check. You must bring in some one to identify you; that is, some one who is known to both of us.

Fair Customer (loftily)—Indeed! I am sure our social spheres are entirely too distinct for such a thing to be possible.—Life.



"To remind myself that I had forgotten why I had tied a knot in my handkerchief."