

Mr. Topnoody sat at the supper table Tuesday evening as his wife cleared away the things, and after a moment's silence he remarked: "My dear, do you know what day to-morrow will be?" "Of course I do; it's Thursday." "I don't mean that, my dear. Do you know what anniversary it will be?" "I don't recall."

"Why, my dear, don't you know that it is the anniversary of our marriage? On that day, thirty-five years ago, we were made man and wife, and—"

"And I have had a grudge against that preacher ever since," interrupted Mrs. Topnoody.

"And," he continued, not noticing it, "since that day hand in hand, we have gone along the pathway of life, gathering its thorns and its flowers, bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's happiness. Whatever of sorrow we may have had, my dear, has been lightened by dividing it between us, and whatever of joy, has been doubled by a mutual possession."

"That sounds like you had been reading a novel, Topnoody."

"No, dear, it is merely the outgrowth of a pleasant retrospection. Do you know, my dear, it seems to me but yesterday since I saw the orange blossoms in your hair, and heard the music of the mystic words which joined two hearts and two lives in a unity blessed of heaven. Has time sped on winged feet for you, my dear?"

"Not hardly, Topnoody."

"But, my dear, how long have the joyous moments seemed to you?"

"Well, Topnoody, I haven't figured it out quite as fine as hours and moments, but taking it in a lump, I should say it had seemed about four thousand years. I might throw off an hour or two on an exact calculation, but not more than that, Topnoody."

Mr. Topnoody didn't ask for an exact calculation.

MR. SMART has a wife who is fond of gossip, and the other evening when she was making various remarks about other people he said to her:

"Isn't Mr. Boone a friend of yours?"

"Of course; and he is a mighty nice man."

"Well, I saw him not two hours ago with his arms around a woman."

"What? What's that? His arms around a woman, and he a married man?"

"Just that, exactly."

"Well, what is this world coming to, anyhow?"

"Really, I don't know. Boone seemed to be enjoying it."

"Where did you see him?"

"Out on a certain back porch. He put his arm around her, and she put her face close to his, and then they kissed each other and I went away."

"Who could the huzzy have been? Did you see her?"

"Yes, and that was the strangest part of it all. I honestly never thought Boone would do such a thing."

"Who was she?"

"His wife."

A country tramp who brought up at a farmhouse a few days ago claimed to have had all kinds of bad luck, and among other things he mentioned that three fingers of his right hand had been so badly frozen during a cold snap in Dakota that the doctor had amputated them.

"Let me see," replied the farmer. A dirty paw was held out in response.

"Why, your fingers are all here and all right?"

"Oh, of course, they are all right now, but during the three years it took to grow new ones I got so badly in debt that I lost all hopes and took to tramping."

He got his dinner, but the farmer was in Detroit next day making inquiries about the wonderful western climate.

One day two or three weeks ago a retail grocer over in Jersey sat down with his clerk and said:

"James, I owe New York houses over \$3,000."

"Yes, sir."

"We have \$2,000 in cash in the safe, the stock is all run down, and this would be a good time to fail in business."

"It certainly would."

"But I want a reasonable apology to give my creditors when they come down upon us for explanations. See if you can't think of something to-night, and let me know in the morning."

The clerk promised, and the grocer

wheeled a chest of tea and a bag of coffee home as a beginning. Next morning when he appeared at the store the safe was open, the cash gone, and in the desk was a note from the clerk, reading:

"I have taken the \$2,000 and am prepared to skip. It will be the best excuse in the world for your failing so flat that your creditors cannot realize two cents on the dollar."

At the Flatbush Lunatic Asylum, Visitor pointing to a sad-eyed, emaciated inmate:

"Victim of religious excitement, I suppose?"

"No."

"Dipsomaniac?"

"No."

"Failed in business?"

"No."

"What then?"

"A Republican who tried to reform his party."

A teacher who was trying to make Johnny understand the science of simple division.

"Now, Johnny," she said, if you had an orange which you wished to divide with your little sister, how much would you give her?"

Johnny thought it over for a moment, and replied:

"A suck."

"What sort of a place is that, pa," asked a little boy of his male parent, while they were out walking.

"That's a beer garden."

"I didn't know beer grew in gardens."

"There is a great deal of it raised in gardens, my son."

The sex: In one of the new girls' schools. The Inspector arrives to make an examination. "I wish to have the best informed young lady come to the blackboard," he says solemnly. No one moves. "Then," said he gracefully: "I should like the prettiest one to come." They all stand up.

Several ladies who had been reading reports of Washington society, where Mrs. Senator, Mrs. Congressman and Mrs. So On, were mentioned, attended an entertainment in Little Rock recently, and the next morning's paper contained the following notice: "Among the guests were Mrs. Justice of the Peace Jackleton, Mrs. Deputy-Sheriff Pugelmore, Mrs. Policeman Latsopps and Mrs. Assistant Dog Catcher Bezierian."

"Yes," she said, "I always obey my husband, but I reckon I have something to say about what his commands shall be."

"Why Sam, how do you expect to get that mule along with the spurs on one side?"

"Well, boss, if I gets dat side to go ain't de older side bound' to keep up."

A patent medicine manufacturer advertises for bald men who are willing to have advertisements painted upon the tops of their heads 'for high pecuniary recompense.'

A Vermont paper says that no lady or gentleman, however costly at tired, will sit in church and est peanuts. But then it would tire them to stand all through the service.

"Never look at your boy when he is speaking," writes a father. It embarrasses him when he is explaining how he happened to be at school and out playing ball at the same time.

Mistress to her new cook: "Wednesdays and Saturdays I shall go to market with you." "Very well, mum; but who's agoin' to carry the basket, the other days, mum?"

In some places a broken down front gate, produced in court, furnishes all the evidence a pretty girl needs to insure a favorable verdict in a breach of omise suit.

There is a difference between "ingot" and "got in." Many folks have "got in" to silver mining companies easily enough, but the "ingot" has not yet rewarded their expectations.

"I don't know much about the style in gentlemen's apparel," said a lady, but the latest thing in spring overcoats is my husband; he never gets in until 1 A. M."

"It seems to me," moaned Algernon, as he flew towards the front gate with the old man behind him, "that there are more than three feet in a yard."

Light on the Tell myth—A magazine writer declares that William Tell never shot an apple off his son's head. Oh, yes, he did. That is where the schutzen core originated.

It may not be generally known, but the fact is nevertheless true that the man who will beat a carpet in the backyard is greater than he who stays up town until midnight talking politics.

"Doctor," said a grateful patient, seizing the physician's hand, "I shall never forget that to you I owe my life." "You exaggerate, said the doctor mildly; "you only owe me for fifteen visits; that is the point which I hope you will not fail to remember."

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