'Might, eh?' said the editor.

'Yes, sir. For instance, there's a mammoth winter-storm landscape I've just finished for Mr. Mudd, the bonanza king. It's called 'A Hail Storm in the Adirondack,' and a visitor who sat near it the other day caught a sore throat in less than fifteen minutes. The illusion is so perfect you understand. Why I had to put on the finishing touches with my ulster and arctic overshoes on.'

'Don't say.'

'Fact, sir; and then there's a little animal gem I did for Gov. Gerkin the other day-portrait of his Scotch terrier Snap. The morning it was done a cat got into the studio and the minute it saw the picture it went through the window like a ten-inch shell.'

'Did, eh?'

'Yes, and the oddest thing about it was that when I next looked at the der rent and go pack to Shermany." cenvas the dogs hair was standing up all along his back like a porcupine. Now how do you account for that?'

'Dunno.'

'It just beat me. When the governor examined the work he insisted on my painting on a post with the dog chained to it. Said he didn't faction.' know what might happen.'

'Good scheme,' growled the edit-

'Wasn't it though? You know Mr. George Bromley, and how abstracted he is sometimes. Well he dropped in one morning and brought up before an 8x12 of the San Joaquin river with a boat in the foreground. I'm blessed if he didn't absent-mindedly take off his coat and step clear through the canvas trying to jump into the boat, thought he'd go out rowing, you know.'

'Have they carried out that journeyman with the small-pox?' said the editor, winking at the foreman, who had come in just then from the composingroom to swear for copy.

'Small-pox? That reminds me of a realistic subject I'm engaged on now. entitled 'The Plague in Egypt.' I had only completed four of the principal figures, when last Tuesday, the janitor who sleeps in the next room, was taken out to the hospital with the most pronounced case of leprosy you ever saw, and this morning the boy who mixed the paints began to scale off like a slate roof. I don't really know whether to keep on with the work or not. How does it strike you?

'It strikes me you had better slide.' said the unesthetic moulder of public opinion.

'Don't care to send a reporter around?

'No, sir.'

'Wouldn't like to order a life-size 'Gutenberg Discovering the Printing Press,' eh ?'

'Nary order.'

'Don't want a 7x9 group of the staff done in oil or crayon?'

'No,' said the editor as he again lowered himself in the depths of a leader on the Roumanian imbroglio; but if you care to touch up two window frames, some desk legs and the fighting editor's black eye for four bits and a lot of comic exchanges you can sail

'It's a whack!' promptly ejaculated the disciple of esthetic culture, and, borrowing a cigarette from the dramat. ic critic, on account, he drifted off after his brushes.

## An Old Revolver.

A boy went into a Michigan avenue shoe shop, says the Detroit Free Press, to have his boots patched. Two other boys saw him there and entered and sat down. On the shelf in the shop was an old revolver.

The reader will imagine 5 minutes to have elapsed.

The first boy looked at the old weapon and grew uneasy.

The second boy wished he owned it and began to whistle.

The third boy wondered if it was where you can get a good view."

loaded, and he made up his mind to

The shoemaker waxed his thread and remarked:

"I doan'd like some poys to come in here und fool aroundt mit mine

Five minutes more have slipped in o the back townships of the past. The first boy has gained five fieet on

The second boy has ceased to whis-

tle and began to wink. The third boy is only a neck behind the first.

"Pecause," continued the shoemaker, as he cut out the patch, "it vhas dangerous to fool mit tools dot you doan'd know aboudt."

The first boy has the revolver.

The second boy will bet him a cent he dasn't snap it.

The third will raise the bet two to

Bang! Zip! Bluff!

Bullet rakes along the wall and throws mortar all over the shoemaker. Three boys stand and hold their mouths open.

"Vhel, I hopes you feel petter;" said the shoemaker as he finished spanking the last boy and shot him through the door. "Dot vhas shust like a poy. If he sees some tools hanging mit de vall he can't pe still undil he kills some poor man dot leaves his family mit no life insurance to square oop

### A Story With a Moral.

Handsome Young Millionaire-'So you would like a position as compan ion to my sister?'

Pretty Girl-'Yes, please; I would do my very best to give satis-

'Can you sing?'

'No, I am sorry to say.'

'You play the piano, I suppose?' 'No, I never studied music.'

'Ah! Probably, then, you paint crockery or-

'It is needless to continue the list, sir; I have no accomplishments.

'Indeed! Why how have you passed your time since you left the

At home helping mother. You'see,

'Pardon me for interrupting. You have said enough, and-"

'Oh, do not say I will not do; necessary, I can pick up some accomplishments in reasonable time. I am

'You will not do as a hired compan. ion because you are entirely too good for the position; but if you will take half my fortune and me with it, I shall consider myself the luckiest man in the world.'

She did.

A rising business-Naking yeast.

Who ever heard of a hat-band playing a tune?

A man is seldom able to raise the wind by whistling for a breeze.

The capacity of a base ball pitcher does not depend upon the number of

quarts he will hold. When the woman thinks this world revolves around her husband she nat.

urally speaks of him as 'hub by.' 'He loved not wisely, but too swell.'

was the remark made by a young man who had been jilted by an heiress. 'Darling has your love grown cold?'

asked the bride of her young husband. 'Not as cold as the coffee is,' was his unfeeling response.

The editor of a scientific monthly asks for correct drawings of a tornado at work. An experienced married man ought to accommodate him.

'What will the future be?' asks an excited exchange. It is pretty hard to live. tell this early, but the chances are that it will be about as bad as the pres-

sting only once in two minutes. Those who have tried assu re us that it is quite often enough.

The inventive genius of this coun. try is becoming exhausted in providing work and fortunes for medical man. The latest success is a one-wheeled velocipede.

'May I have the pleasure of seeing you home?' he bashfully asked. 'Cer. tainly," she graciously replied. "There is a high hill just in front of the house; or, if you prefer it, you can climb a big tree in the cow lot. Go anywhere

A Diplomatist.

'The next time I catch you loafing around this plantation, I'll shoot off the top of your infernal head!' exclaimed Col. Lawson, addressing a tall gentleman of ebon complexion-Every time you come around here something is missing.'

The tall gentleman placed one foot on a stump, and bringing his elbow to rest on his knee, looked at the Colonel for a moment and replied: 'Yer say dat ebery time I comes yeah suthen's missen ?'

'Yes, I do.'

'Well, dat's a mighty good sign dat I doan take it, 'case ef I did, it woulden' be missen' when I comes, but when I goes er way.'

'You know what I mean, you black scoundrel!'

'I knows whut yer say.' 'Yes, and you'll fell what I say if

you don't keep away from here. What has become of the plow that was lean ing up there in the corner of the

'Ain't de plow dar now, sah?' 'Don't you see that it is gone?'

'How ken I see a thing when it's gone? 'Clare to goodness de white gennermens is er gettin' so cuis I kaint unnersan' 'em ha'f de

'I'll make you understand me, the first thing you know. What became of the saddle that was hanging on the

'Saddle gone too, Colonel?' 'You know it is now, you infernal

"Look heah, doan come crowdin' me dat way. I tries to do the bes' I kin, an' I doau like ter hab my reppertation dragged erroun' in de dew pizen o' a white man's spite. I ain't vice?' been 'tendin' dat night school ter be bused.

'Move on and don't come skulking around here any more.

He took his foot from the stump, turned and walked slowly to the fence then, throwing one arm over the top rail, he looked back at the Colonel and

'Dars a time er comin' when yer'll take back all dis yeah slander. I come up heah ter day spectan' ter hab peace wid yer. De niggers down on de Young plan'ation sent me up heah ter 'zamin' yer ez er 'vailable cannurdate fur de bug,' said Miss Fussanfeather after she PRICES THE LOWEST.

Legislatur', but I sees dat yer doan had recovered from her fainting spell PROMPTNESS AND DISPATO want de perzishun.'

'Look here,' the Colonel replied. let's talk this matter over.'

'No, I'se er 'bliged ter yer. I'll go on back an' tell de fool niggers wut a mistake da's made. Good day, sah.' and he began to climb over the

'Hold on a minute, I thought you could take a joke.'

'Yer 'cused me o' takin' eberything else,' sitting on the top rail of the

'Simon, you have been around here ong enough to know me.'

'Yas, putty well 'quainted, 'bleeged

'Come on, old boy, and let us look this matter over in a sensible way. The colored people know they have no better friend than I am.'

He got down and approached the Colonel. They talked for some time and the smooth flow of conciliatory words of the Colonel were occasionally interrupted by the pleased haw haw of the colored gentleman. When everything had been satisfacorily arranged old Simon said:

'I's mightily in need o' little money sah. Dat udder cannurdate is flingin' his silver 'mong de niggars, an' I wants a leetle to sorter offset him, Bout ten dollar'll do. Thankee, sah, as the Colonel gave him the money; wish yer good day, Mr. Ripersenta-

Shortly aftert the dipomatist went away, the Colonel discovered that a fine set of buggy harness was missing and that a game rooster, for which he A scientist tells us that a bee can had paid quite a large sum, was also

> 'Yes,' said an ant 'I prefer small ionic parties rather than large ones. They allow a greater concentration of energy, which of itself is an important element of success.'

'Speaking of absent-minded men,' observed Mrs. Augur, 'my husband is the most absent-minded man I ever own since we were married."

'Soled again !' exclaimed the young man as he went flying down the front steps for the third time inside of a week, propelled by the vigerous foot of his charmer's papa.

A young man drove up to one of Toronto's livery stables, signaled to the proprietor, and gallantly handed a young lady out of the carriage. The pair were about to walk away, when

the proprietor called out: 'Ahem! One moment young man,

'Well?' said the young man, coming back reluctantly.

'Ah-yes. Look here a minute, Mr.

They stepped into the stable to-'You saw that girl?' queried the

'Yes.' 'We're engaged.'

young man, nervously.

'Indeed!'

'Yes; got engaged while we were out

riding.' 'Well, I don't see how that relieves you from paying for my team,' said

the liveryman, dubiously. 'Oh, no, no,-it don't. But it suggests a way to my mind.'

'What's that?' 'Hold on a couple of weeks and

I'll pay you in duplicate wedding pres. ents.' Following the doctor's advice

Doctor I want you to do something for me. My nerves are shattered com pletely. I am not able to eat anything and I sleep very little at night. What would you advise me to do?"

'What has brought about this con-

'Drinking too much I am afraid.'. 'Well, I would advise you to give up drinking.

'H'm, that idea never occurred to me. What's your charge for the ad-'Nothing.'

'Nothing?' I am much obliged to you, doctor. Let's go and take something.'

An old organ grinder is permitted to visit the palace of PrinceCharles Frederick at Berlin and interlard the atmosphere with his music. He is said to be the only person who can make the prince laugh. It is suspected that the prince only laughs when he feels the saddest.

'No, indeed I wasn't afraid of the at the church picnic the other day, 'but I knew such a horrible shade of green wouldn't harmonize with my new pink dress!"

A little girl was trying to tell her mother how beatifully a certain lady could trill in singing, and said, 'Oh, mamma, you ought to hear her gargle -she does it so sweetly.'

REFRESHING RAIN,-"I was mighty thankful for the rain we got yesterday.' "Yes, it did the corn a world of good. How many acres have you got planted

in corn ?" "I've got no corn planted this year at all. I wasn't thinking about crops." "Well, how then can the rain benefit

"You see I don't often get a decent dinner at home, as my wife says she can't cook in hot weather, but yesterday there was to be a church pienic' and she fixed up a lunch basket for the preacher's table, but it rained so the picnic could not come off. To keep the preacher's lunch from spoiling we had it for dinner, and it was the best dinner I've had since married. There was no end of chicken, and jellies, and that sort of alleviations. I feel like a new man, just as if I was born again. Don't tell me that rain yesterday didn't do the country any good. It was the most refreshing shower we have had for years.' Texas Siftings.

"You are looking extremely happy this morning, Smith," said Robinson; what is the cause of the joy ?"

"My mother-in-law is coming to me," gleefully replied Smith. "Your mother-in-law! Good gracious,

is that cause of happiness?" "You bet it is. The times are hard and money tight. My mother-in-law is a great church member. My wife bothers the life out of me for a new dress that I cannot afford. I send up and invite her mother to come and see us. I meet her at the depot, put on a long face, tell her what a frivolous world it is, and how extravagance in dress prevents many men from sending more money to aw. He hase't had any mind of his the foreign missions. By the time she eaches my house I have her loaded, and the new dress is promptly sat down upon. It is a good scheme."

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