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HUMOROUS ITEMS

The following congratulatory telegram was lately received by a wedding pair: "Congratulations on your nuptials. May your future troubles be only little ones."

Bibbs married the other day to a very quiet not to say stupid girl, with a face like a doll's. Some one remarked to Mufflington that Bibbs had been on the lookout for a wife for some time, and had "wooded and won." Mufflington said, "Yes, a wooden one, that's just what she is."

A drunkard was staggering along singing at the top of his voice, "Rock me to sleep mother, rock me to sleep," when suddenly a voice from the other side of the street startled him by exclaiming, "I don't know of rocking you to sleep, but I'll stone you to death if you don't dry up."

A good story is told of a clergyman in a Massachusetts town who forgot his notes on a Sabbath morning, and as it was too late to send for them, he said to his audience, by way of apology, that this morning he should have to depend upon the Lord for what he might say, but in the afternoon he would come better prepared.

How many essential elements are there in baptism? Boy: "Three." Clergyman: "Three?" "I'm surprised. Don't you know that there are only two—the word of God and water?" Boy: "Why there must be a baby and isn't that an essential element?"

A short time since a man in this county was bitten by a dog, and as soon as he recovered from the fright he declared that he would kill the animal. "But the dog isn't mad," said the owner. "Mad!" shouted the victim, exasperatingly; "what in thunder has he got to be mad about?" He evidently misconstrued the explanation.

Two young men coming in from the country to see the sights after the Chicago fire, were observed to go into a lunch room and buy ten cents worth of ginger bread and two bottles of pop; total amount spent twenty-five cents. Then they left and going out on the prairie sat down to partake when one of them looking up said; "I tell you, Jim, if our folks knew what a spree we are on wouldn't they feel uneasy?"

An inhabitant of a suburban town after spending a convivial evening, was discovered among the carrots and cabbages of his humble garden, wrapped in slumber. "Well, Bill," said an admiring friend, as he shook the prostrate youth what are you doing there?" "Watching for a hen that's stole her nest," was the sententious answer. "But what are your eyes shut for, Bill?" "Don't want the old hen to see me," gruffly replied the sleeping philosopher.

Dean Ramsey tells us of one who was privileged to use the familiarity of an old friend. He had been so frequently censured for a certain fault, that his master at length lost patience. "John," said he, "you and I must part." "And whur will you be gaun?" asked John. "I'm sure ye'll no get any place like hame;" not supposing it possible that he should go.

A western lawyer was accused of being the owner of a dog which had attacked a testy old gentleman, and bitten him in the calf of the leg. Expecting an action for damages, the wag drew up the following articles as the ground for his defence: 1st, by testimony in favor of the general good character of my dog, I can prove that nothing would make him so forgetful of his dignity as to bite a calf; 2d, he is blind and cannot see to bite; 3d, even if he could see to bite, it would be utterly impossible for him to go out of the way to do so, on account of his age, fatness and severe lameness; 4th, granting his eyes and legs to be good, he had no teeth; 5th, my dog died six weeks since; 6th, I never had a dog.

In one of his tours, Elder John Leland came up at night to a public house, where he was acquainted, and where he proposed to pass the night. The landlord met him with a smiling countenance, and told him that, having built a new barn, he was nicely prepared to accommodate the clergy. "I have," said he, "a very good stable, with all the improvements, for Episcopal horses, and a comfortable sort of stable for Presbyterian horses, while I keep the old barn for Baptist horses; the feed is according to the style of stable."—"Well, replied the elder, "everybody knows that I am a Baptist, but my horse is an Episcopalian."

A few days ago a couple of Boston runners entered a restaurant in Portland, and ordered dinner. One called for a plate of baked beans. When he came to settle he asked the price, and was informed that forty cents would be satisfactory. The runner was astounded, and exclaimed, "Isn't that a devil of a price for beans?" The man of grub got mad, and said that was the price, and that it must be paid.—The runner re-uttered the same pious explanation of astonishment several times, and paid the bill. On going out of the door he turned and yelled it again, but the bean-seller was silent. The next day the restaurant keeper received a dispatch and paid the telegraph boy forty cents. Judge if you can, of his utter disgust when upon opening it he read, "Isn't that a devil of a price for beans?"