

## THE JOKERS' BUDGET.

JOKE AND YARN BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

**Avoiding Offense—What She Could Do**  
—Ready for Business—A Difference, Etc., Etc.

### AVOIDING OFFENSE.

Jimson—I say, old boy, come in and take pot-luck with me to-day.

Billson (who has tried Jimson's pot-luck before)—Um—really, I'd be delighted, but—er—important matter to attend to.

Jimson—Oh, nonsense. Business is duller than a country churchyard—nothing going on at all.

Billson—Yes—er—of course—business can wait, of course, but this is—er a domestic matter, you know.

Jimson—Get out! Your folks are out of town, and I know it.

Billson (in desperation)—Yes, that's so; but my—er—mother-in-law doesn't leave until to-day, and I want to go to—er—the railway station and kiss her good-by.—[New York Weekly.]

### BREAKING IT GENTLY.

It was the first she had ever baked and she said proudly:

"Don't you think I could go into the bread business?"

"My dear," answered her husband, gently, "if they sold bread by weight you'd make your fortune."—[Washington Star.]

### READY FOR BUSINESS.

Tramp—Please, mum, if you'll kindly help me on my journey, I'll be much obliged.

Housekeeper—Huh! On a journey, eh?

Tramp—Yes, mum: I'm going West to start a bank.—[New York Weekly.]

### FASTIDIOUS.

Haversup More—Weary Walker's too much of a "riscocrat" for de business.

Maney Steppes—What's he doin' now?

Haversup More—Got so he won't sleep anywhere 'cept on a flower bed.—[Puck.]

### BEATS TWO TAILS.

They were out looking at the comet. One of the guests said he thought he could see two tails.

"That's nothing," put in the enfant terrible. "I've heard ma say that pa often sees two moons."—[Judge.]

### A VAIN SEARCH.

Von Blumer—I hear that burglars broke into your house last night. Did they find anything?

Witherby—No. My wife is cleaning house.—[Judge.]

### A GREAT INVENTOR.

Mrs. Crimmonbeak—My husband is a great inventor.

Mrs. Yeast—Indeed! What does he invent, excu—[Yonkers Statesman.]

### AN EMOTIONAL ROLE.

She—Why were you so awkward and embarrassed when you proposed to me?

He—Oh, I was trying not to look so cock-sure of being accepted as I felt.—[Age.]

### HE STOPPED BOARDING.

Mrs. Snaggs (reading)—A man in South Duxbury, Mass., has coughed up a ten-cent piece he swallowed some time ago.

Mr. Snaggs—Yes, I've noticed other indications that the hoarding of money is coming to an end.—[Pittsburg Chronicle.]

### THE BEST OF IT.

Lawyer—When I ask you your age why do you say eight and twenty instead of twenty-eight?

Lady Witness—I believe in putting the best foot forward.

### RELATIVE IMPORTANCE.

Mr. Skidds—It may seem to you an odd time to ask the question, but before we start to the theatre I want to know if you will marry me, Delia.

Delia—I, too, have a question to ask.

"Ask it."

"Is my hat on straight?"

"Yes. Will you marry me?"

"Yes."—[New York Sun.]

### REPARTY IN THE BARNYARD.

The chanticleer announced with joy:

"The day, my dear, doth dawn."

And the hen, engaged in hatching eggs, rejoined in brief: "I'm on."—[Puck.]

### MAKING PREPARATION.

"Smith is very busy getting ready to attend the fair."

"What is he doing?"

"Learning to live on one meal a day."—[Chicago Inter-Ocean.]

### SHOES TO FIT.

The funny man's wife was reading an English almanac and he was smoking and resting his gigantic intellect on the back of his chair.

"Notice here," she said, "that in the matter of shoes, temperance people should wear pumps. Now what sort of shoes would you say drinking people should wear?"

The gigantic intellect began to roll over and exert itself.

"Well," he said, thoughtfully. "I think they should wear tight ones."—[Detroit Free Press.]

### READING HIS MIND.

She—It can hardly be questioned that every woman is more or less of a mind reader.

He—Do you think you could read mine?

She—Tut-tut-tut. Mamma is a little particular as to the character of my reading.—[Boston Globe.]

## ROMANCES ON THE ROAD.

Tramp—Please, mum, I am told that most women save a piece of their wedding cake for years.

Mrs. Saburb.—I presume that is true. I have mine.

Tramp—Yes, mum. Would you be so kind as to lend it to me to put under my pillow to-night, so I'll dream of the one I'm goin' to marry?—[New York Weekly.]

### HE SAVED HIMSELF.

She (slightly tintured with woman's rights notions)—Do you believe in the equality of woman?

He (emphatically)—I do not.

She (drawing away from him)—What!

He—I believe woman to be eminently superior to man.—[New York Press.]

### A COUP D'ETAT.

Weary Walker—See here, Walter! we're desperat, an' you gotter try a new game.

Go up to—dat house an' ask de lady for a drink of ice-cold water, an' perhaps you'll git a pic.

Walking Walter (horrified)—Yes, but wha-wha-wha if she offered me de water?

Weary Walker—Why, den cut an' run, an' we'll tink up a new scheme.—[Judge.]

### DISTANTLY RELATED.

Livingston—I didn't know you and Miss Featherspray were so well acquainted.

Nina—Oh, yes; we are distantly related.

Livingston—How?

Nina—We are both sisters to the same young man.—[Vogue.]

### WHAT SHE COULD DO.

Mr. Stavlaté—At any time when in company I can, by mere force of will, prevent myself from sneezing.

Miss Wearie—I never tried that, but I can prevent myself from yawning.—[Good News.]

### A DEFENDER OF PURE LANGUAGE.

"Did you enjoy seeing the foreign tribes at the Fair?"

"Naw. I tried to chin wid tree or four of dem an' dey can't speak a word of decent English."—[Chicago Record.]

### EXCEPTIONAL.

"Say," said the regular customer of the side-street restaurant, as he stopped at the desk, to pay his check, "where did you get that beef you are serving to-day?"

"What's the matter with it?" aggressively asked the cashier, who scented another kick.

"There's nothing the matter with it; that's why I asked."—[Life.]

### ODDS AND ENDS.

It is better to give than receive. But it is pretty good to be a receiver.—[Chicago Post.]

The Fiend—Her face is her fortune. The Enemy—How interesting! Made it herself, too, didn't she?—[Life.]

Although fully as sensitive to pain as other people, it is a fact that the deaf and dumb man is happiest when he is mute-elated.—[Buffalo Courier.]

He—How do you like Lord Foppington, Miss Barrow? Miss Barrow—Not at all. He can't pronounce his r's, and I do detect being addressed as Miss Bowwow.—[Tit-Bits.]

She—Oh! isn't that a bull? He—Yes, but you needn't be afraid so long as I am with you. She—But I am afraid you wouldn't be with me long if he came this way.—[Drake's Magazine.]

Mr. Biggleswade—My, dear, how on earth did you ever choose such an awkward, slatternly, ignorant creature as that new servant girl? Mrs. Biggleswade—My love, I didn't choose her. She chose me.—[Puck.]

"How did Chadler discover that drinking hot water would cure headache?" "By drinking coffee at his boarding-house continually."

Solicitous Mother—My son, is your fiancée a girl of thoughtfulness and foresight? Son—Foresight? Well, I should say so! She keeps a piece of chewing-gum under every chair in the house.—[Puck.]

### The Toilet of Birds.

The feathered tribes have many peculiar ways and fancies about the details of their toilets. Some birds use water only, some water and dust, while others prefer dust and no water. Birds are not only exceedingly nice in their choice of bath water, but also very particular about the quality of their "toilet dust."

Wild ducks, though feeding by salt water, prefer to bathe in fresh water pools, and will fly long distances inland to do so.

Partridges and quails, where they preen and dress their feathers in the early hours of the morning. Sparrows bathe often, both in water and in dust. They are not so particular about the quality of the water as about the quality of the dust. They prefer clean water, but I have seen them take a dip in shallow pools that were quite muddy. The city sparrow must take a water bath where he can get it—in the streets or on the tops of houses—but he is most careful in his choice of his dust bath. Road dust, the dryest and finest possible, suits him best. I have noticed the city sparrow taking his dust bath in the street, and invariably he chooses a place where the dust is like powder. Partridges prefer dry loam. They lie on to scratch out the soil from under the grass and fill their feathers with cool earth. Most birds are fond of burnt ashes. Some early morning take a walk across a field that has been burnt over, and see the number of winged creatures that fly suddenly from the ash heaps. A daring form, a small cloud of flies, and the bathers disappear.—[New York Times.]

## A SPIDER FARM.

Several Thousand Living Specimens Traded in One Room.

Many will be inclined to discredit the statement that spider raising is an established industry at Chattanooga, and is being successfully conducted by Ernest Reyber, the proprietor of the Enterprise Bottling Works on Cowart street. Mr. Reyber estimates that between 5,000 and 8,000 of these insects make their homes in his bottling establishment, which occupies a large room probably sixty feet square. The ceiling is fairly covered with thousands upon thousands of little patches of fibry material, within which the insects nest and lay their eggs. At this season they spend little time in their nests, but in daytime hide in dark out-of-the-way cracks and corners, and in easy command of their woven snares.

Spider webs are everywhere, spanning the space between floor and ceiling or spread about the machinery, in front of the window—wherever, in fact, the busy weavers can find a place from which to hang their network. A big corner of the room is besides given up to the insects, which have apparently divided the space into many four-walled apartments.

Mr. Reyber is a pleasant and intelligent talker and a shrewd observer. His fair complexion betokens his Teutonic descent. Said he: "Those creatures know more than a great many people. I keep them because they wage such constant war on flies, cockroaches and other such vermin which are very troublesome to me, and which are attracted by the sirups, sugar, &c., used in the bottling business. A spider never cares for sweet things nor drops into any vats or bottles.

Flies and cockroaches are nature's scavengers, but these spiders watch every one that approaches like hawks, and soon lure him into their meshes. I never disturb them when I can help it, except to feed them occasionally. They appear to know my call, and will come when called and crawl upon my hand or take a fly from my fingers. They are tame and have never bitten me, though I couldn't promise so much to a stranger. This spider is a hibernating animal, and shuts himself up during most of the winter in those little nests you see stuck like mud daubs on the ceiling. When winter comes I brush away these webs, for the spiders prefer to weave new webs every spring.

As a cow must be milked every day this wary and provident little creature must unravel each spring the silken fabric that is stored in its body. He does not make his appearance till May, when the flies have laid their eggs and hatched their first young, else the fly crop would soon give out. Meantime the hundreds of eggs which each female spider laid during the previous summer and fall have been going through a process of incubation, and now turn out with the older ones to seek a living for themselves. Mr. Reyber has encouraged the insects to harbor in his establishment for two years past, and finds the spider of such practical utility as to be almost indispensable.—[Chattanooga Times.]

### Electricity in Gardening.

By the use of electric light W. W. Rawson, of Arlington, Mass., claims he makes a gain of five days in each of his three crops of lettuce—that is, two weeks in a season; that the gain on one crop pays all the expense of the electric lighting for the season, thus giving him the gain on the other two for extra profit. His attention was first called to the usefulness of the light by the advance made in the growth at the ends of his greenhouses next the street and in the glare of the electric light. This was so marked that he introduced the light through the lettuce and cucumber houses. Dr. Bailey, of Cornell University, says, as the result of his own experiments, that the influence of the light is greatly modified by the interposition of a glass roof. Plants insured by a naked light were benefited by the protected light. Five hours' light per night at a distance of twelve feet hastened maturity a week or ten days, but proved injurious to young plants and those newly transplanted.

### Two Strange Friends.

Not long ago I was passing a barnyard in this place, and stood to look over the gate at a pretty half-grown lamb standing alone outside the barn. But the sight of me so enraged a fierce, shaggy hairy dog tied up to his kennel between the lamb and me that he barked himself nearly into fits, showing all his teeth, and straining so furiously at his chain as to make me quite nervous lest it should give way. In the meantime I struck such terror into the heart of the lamb that it fled across the yard to place itself under the protection of the dog, and stood close by his side, while he barked and danced with fury. As I drew a little nearer, the lamb backed right into the kennel, and when, after I had made a circuit in order to watch the further movements of this strange pair of friends from behind a tree, I saw their two faces cautiously looking out together, cheek-by-jowl, while the dog's anger was being reduced to subsiding splutters of resentment. He was not a collic, but a very large sort of poodle.—[London Spectator.]

### Found.

After a search of nearly thirty years during which time advertisements were inserted in Southern papers, the flags belonging to the Twenty-second Michigan have been found. They were captured in 1863, on the last day of the fight at Chickamauga, and from that time until a short time ago their whereabouts were unknown. The flags have been discovered at Washington among some Confederate flags.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

# Royal Baking Powder

## ABSOLUTELY PURE

### RELIABLE RECIPES.

**CORN PUDDING.**—Cut from the cob three ears of tender green corn, add three fresh eggs, beaten very light, one cupful of sweet cream, and two heaping tablespoonsful of butter. Bake one hour; serve with or without sauce, as liked.

**SANDWICH-MAKING.**—For meat and other sandwiches, cut slices of bread about one-eighth of an inch thick, then with a sharp knife, cut off all the crust, leaving trim, straight edges; butter each slice and cut across the centre, or, with two more sharp cuts, shape each piece into the form of a triangle, making the three sides as nearly even as possible, and fold carefully together. Once having learned the right quality of bread to use, how to cut evenly, butter smoothly and fold exactly, the sandwich may be varied indefinitely. Slice ham or tongue almost to paper thinness, and lay between buttered bread. Roast beef, ham and chicken should be chopped fine and seasoned before spreading, and a delicious variety is made by using thin slices of Hamburg loaf. In making cheese sandwiches or sandwiches of smoked fish or sardines, use if possible bread made from some form of the entire-wheat fine brown flour. This will cut smoothly without crumbs. Spread with sauce Tartare and then with the cheese or fish. To make egg sandwiches, boil fresh eggs five minutes, plunge them in cold water and leave until cold; this will prevent any discoloration of the yolks which sometimes darken if left to cool otherwise. To chop the eggs, use a knife and plate, season with salt, pepper and a little mustard and spread on the buttered bread. For nasturtium or lettuce sandwiches, the flowers or vegetable should be very fresh and crisp. Spread the bread with mayonnaise dressing instead of butter, and add finely torn lettuce leaves or a stem of nasturtium, with leaves and flower just before serving.

It is stated by the London Lancet that "The English professional classes, who head the list as the tallest of adult males, attain the average height of 5 feet 9 1/2 inches. Next on the list come the American males, and a minute fraction behind come the English of all classes. Most European nations average for the adult male 5 feet 6 inches; but the Austrians, Spaniards and Portuguese just fall short of this standard."

In the navies of the world are enlisted 191,000 men; the commercial marine employs 692,000; coast trade and fisheries, 810,000, a total of 1,693,000. If marines, coast guards and the men of the life-saving service are included the total will exceed 2,000,000, or 3 per cent. of the able-bodied men of the Christian world.—[St. Louis Times-Democrat.] U 39



### KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many, who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance. Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

**PENSION JOHN W. MORRIS.** Washington, D. C. Successfully Prosecutes Claims. Late Principal Examiner U. S. Pension Bureau. 3 years last war, 15 adjudging claims, 845 since.

"DON'T BORROW TROUBLE." BUY

# SAPOLIO

'TIS CHEAPER IN THE END.

The South Kensington Museum, assisted by a number of amateurs, has bought a splendid carpet, and for many years in the Mosque at Audehli, Persia. It is 345 feet long and 17 1/2 feet broad. All was done slowly by hand, the design and filling being produced by the accumulation of knots, of which, it is reckoned, there are 33,000,000 in the whole piece. The design shows a large central medallion in pale yellow, with cartouches of different colors about it. In each corner is a section of a medallion like the one in the center, with its attendant cartouches. On the broad border are long and circular panels alternating and floral traceries relieved against a brown ground. On the panel at the top is a Persian inscription, translated: "I have no refuge in the world other than thy threshold. My head has no protection other than this porchway. The work of the slave of the Holy Place, Maksud of Kashan, in the year 942."

## DR. KILMER'S SWAMP-ROOT CURED ME

AFTER TWENTY YEARS SUFFERING WITH Chronic Rheumatism.

Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. "For the past twenty years I have been troubled with Rheumatism and doctored a great deal without realizing any benefit. Two years ago my attention was called to Dr. Kilmer's SWAMP-ROOT, which was highly recommended to me. I thought I would try a bottle and I used fourteen bottles. It has done me more good than all the Doctors and all the other medicines I have ever taken in the past twenty years. The past year has been one of comfort in place of suffering. A great many are using your SWAMP-ROOT in Van Wert. Yours respectfully, MRS. CALVIN FARLEY, Feb. 19th, 1896. Van Wert, Ohio.



At Druggists 50 cents and \$1.00 Size. Details "Guide to Health" free. Consultation free. Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

Dr. Kilmer's U & O Anoints cure Piles. Trial Box Free. — At Druggists, 50 cents.

## MEND YOUR OWN HARNESS

WITH THOMSON'S SLOTTED CLINCH RIVETS.

No tools required. Only a hammer needed to drive and clinch them easily and quickly, leaving the clinch absolutely smooth. Requiring no heat to be made in the leather nor ruin for the Rivets. They are strong, tough and durable. Millions now in use. All lengths, uniform or assorted, put up in boxes. Ask your dealer for them, or send 40c. in stamps for a box of 100, assorted sizes. Made by JUDSON L. THOMSON MFG. CO., WALTHAM, MASS.

**AN IDEAL FAMILY MEDICINE** For Indigestion, Bloating, Headache, Constipation, and all Disorders of the Stomach, Liver and Bowels. **RIPANS TABLETS** are gently yet promptly. Perfect digestion follows their use. Sold by druggists or sent by mail. Box 6, Waltham, Mass. For free samples address **RIPANS CHEMICAL CO., New York.**

**BIRD MANNA** Makes Cakes that attract and cure their ill. Sold by druggists. **BIRD FOOD** Made by the same process. **BIRD HOUSES** Made by the same process. **BIRD BATHS** Made by the same process. **BIRD FEEDERS** Made by the same process. **BIRD CAGES** Made by the same process. **BIRD TOYS** Made by the same process. **BIRD BEDS** Made by the same process. **BIRD NESTS** Made by the same process. **BIRD HOMES** Made by the same process. **BIRD SHELTERS** Made by the same process. **BIRD PROTECTORS** Made by the same process. **BIRD GUARDS** Made by the same process. **BIRD FENCES** Made by the same process. **BIRD BARRIERS** Made by the same process. **BIRD OBSTACLES** Made by the same process. **BIRD TRAPS** Made by the same process. **BIRD NETS** Made by the same process. **BIRD LINES** Made by the same process. **BIRD ROPES** Made by the same process. **BIRD CORDS** Made by the same process. **BIRD TWINES** Made by the same process. **BIRD STRINGS** Made by the same process. **BIRD THREADS** Made by the same process. **BIRD YARNS** 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