They were sitting together, side by side, on the sofa, in the most approved lover fashion—his arm encircling her taper waist etc.

"Jinie" he said "must have read my heart ere this; you must know how dearly I love you."

"Yes, Fred; you have certainly been

very attentive," said Lizzie.
"But, Lizzie, darling, do you love me! Will be my wife?" "Your wife, Fred! Of all things, no.

No, indeed, nor any one else's." "Lizzie, what do you mean?"

"Just what I say, Fred I've two married sisters."

"Certainly! and Mrs. Hopkins and Mrs. Skinner have very good busbands I believe."

"So people say; but I wouldn't like to stand in either May's or Nell's shoes; that's all."

"Lizzie, you astonish me."

"Look here, Fred: I've had over twenty-five sleigh rides this winter, thanks to you and my other gentlemen friends."

Fred winced a little here, whether at the remembrance of that unpaid livery bill, or the idea of Lizzie's sleighing with her other gentlemen friends, I sannot positively answer.

Flow many do you think my sisters have had? Not the sign of one, either, of them. Such pretty girls as May and Nellie were, too, and so much attention they used to have!"

"Now, Lizzie"-3 "I am fond of going to the theatre occasionally, as well as a lecture or con cert sometimes, and shouldn't like it, if I proposed attending any such entertainment, to be invariably told that times were hard, and my husband couldn't efford it, and then to have him sneak off

"Lizzie, Lizzie"-"And then if once in a dog's age he did condescend to go with me anywhere in the evening, I shouldn't like to be left to pick my way along the slippery places, at the risk of breaking my neck, he walking along unconsciously by my side. I'm of a dependent, clinging nature, and I need the protection of a strong arm-"

"Lizzie, this is all nonsense."

**I'm the youngest in our family, and perhaps I have been spoiled. At all vents, I know it would break my heart to have my husband vent all the illtemper which he conceals from the world on my defenceless head."

"But, Lizzie, I pormise you that

*Oh, yes, Fred; I know what you are going to say—that you will be different; but May and Nell have told me time and again that no better husbands than theirs ever lived. No, Fred: as a lover you are just perfect, and I shall hate swfully to give you up. Still, if you are bent on marrying, there are plenty. of girls who have no married sisters, or who are not wise enough to profit by

But before Lizzie had concluded, Fred made for the door, muttering some thing "unmentionable to ears polite."

"There!" exclaimed Lizzie, as the

door closed with a bang. "I knew he was no better than the rest. That's the way John and Aleck swear and slam doors when things don't go just right. He'd make a perfect bear of a husband, but I'm sorry he came to the point so soon, for he was just a splendid beau."

PASS DE HAT ABOUN,

[Detriot Free Press.]

When the triangle had called the meeting to order, Brother Gardner arose with his usual sleekness and said:
"Gem'len, if it wasn't for de wi

on a waggin it wouldn't move. When de you did it. I walked, quietly replied the gentlemen.

"Greate!" solemaly exclaimed the old men Toots.

"K-rect!" whispered the president softly, rubbing his hands together.
"We haz de waggin an' de wheels.
We will now pass de hat aroun' fur de 1 61 2

Vesterday afternoon a boy went down
Fifth street singing, 'Dare to do right!
Dare to be true!' so loud that he waked
up all the babies in the block, and the
awitchman at Market street couldn't
hear the engine bells, and while this enthusiastic young Moody going from Division street church down to Glazeby's
he breke two windows in the parsonage,
sassed a woman in the next house, hit a
dog a whack with a shunny club that
made him howl till his back achied, broke
objecten's leg with a stone, shot a farin the cheek with a 'nigger shooter,'
slapped a little boy and took his cooky
way from him, and pulled two pickets
of a fonce. It takes an awful sight of
religion to go around a boy.—Hawkeye.

MR, POTTS LOOKING FOR

One night during the troubles in the Pennsylvania coal regions, Judge Potts brother, of Thomas Potts, was round at a

meeting of the mine owners, and after pour meeting of the mine owners, and after popped into a tavern. While there, he met some friends, and in the course of an hour or two he got very intoxicated. On his way home he lost hit hat, and a miner; why home he lost but hat, and a littler, who knew him, feeling compassion for him, clapped on his head a miner's hat, and, in order to make the dark street look brighter, he lighted the lamp in front of the hat. When Potts reached the house his wife had gone to hed, and the lights were out; but Potts felt our the lights were out; but Potts felt certain the lamp was burning in the hall, but he couldn't for the life of him tell

He looked at the regular lamp and it He looked at the regular lamp and it seemed to be out; then hunted in every direction for the light, but he was unable to find it, although it seemed to shine, brightly wherever he went. Presently he happened to stop in front of the mirror in the hat rack, and then he saw precisely where the light was After a brief abjurgation upon Mrs. Potts for leaving a light in such a place he went up to the mirror and tried to blow it out. He blew and blew, but somehow the flame burned as steadily as before.

as before.
"That," said Potts, "is the most extraor nary lamp's ever been my misfortune t'encounter."

Then he took off his coat, and, hold ing it in front of him, crept cautiously up to the mirrer, and tried to crush the

coat over the lamp, which still burned brightly. He said: "That's cert'inly very extra'norv! Moz 'stonishin' circumstanz ever come un'er my observation. Don'o how to

It occurred to him, that perhaps he might smash the lamp with an umbrella. Seizing the weapon, he went up to the hat, and aiming a terrible blow at the hat, and aiming a terrible blow at the light, he brught the umbrella down. He missed, and smashed his Sunday hat into chaos. He took aim again, and caught the umbrella in the lamp overhead, bringing it down with a crash. Then he tried a third time, and plunged the ferrule of the umbrella through the mirror, smashing it to atoms. He felt exultant for a mon is as the light disappeared from his vision, but he was perplexed to find there was another light somewhere. So he sat down on the stairs and remarked:

"Moz 'stonishin' circumstanz ever come un'er my observation. Whaten thunder doz it mean anyhow? Light's gone, an' yet's shinin'! Perfectly incomprehensible! Wish to gracious Mrs. Potta'd wake up an splain it. Durn 'f I know what I had better de!"

Then Potts took off his hat to scratch his head, in the hope that he might scare up an idea, and the truth flashed upon him. Gazing at the lamp for a moment, until he drank in a full concept. tion of the trouble it caused him, he suddenly smashed it down on the floor in rage, and extinguished it after covering two yards of carpet with grease. Then two yards of carpet with grease. Then he went to bed, and in the morning Mrs. Potts informed him that some of those horrible miners had broken in the night before, and left one of their hats with a lamp. Potts turned over in bed so that she sould not see his face, and said if the stern hand of the law wasn't laid upon these ruffians soon, nobody's life would be safe.

Said a young husband, whose business speculations were unseccessful: 'My wife's silver tea set, the bridal gift of a their example if they have. And don't fret about me, for I've no doubt I can find some one to fill your place"—

But before Lizzie had concluded. the bankrupt that I am. 'His is the experience of many others less wise, who
do not know what is the goblin in the
house working destruction. A sagacious
father of great wealth exceedingly mortified his daughter by erdering to be
printed on her wedding cards: 'No presents except those adapted to an income
of \$1,000.' Said he: 'You must not expect to begin life in the style I am able
by many years of labor to indulge; and
I know of nothing that will tempt you
more than the well intended but pernicious gifts of rich friends.'

A gentleman having boasted that it was easy enough to "do" railroad comwas easy enough to "do" raticoad com-panies out of their tares, and that he had passed from one station to another on a certain road the day before without a ticket, was approached by an officer of the road. The gentleman agreed to tell for 'consideration'. It was paid and then the officer said: Now tell me how

Josh Billings [Henry W. Shaw] is reported to have made more money than almost any American author by the persistant working of his peculiar vein ot humor. Some years he has got \$4,000 from a weekly newspaper for his exclusive contributions; has made 5,000 or 6,000 by lecturing and he had a second

6,000 by lecturing, and has had a profit from his almanac of \$8,000 or \$9,000 more—18,000 or 20,000 per anum.



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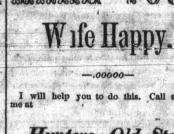
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