

The Advantage of it.

The day had been set, and the young man was happy. But his father failed in business, and he collected together all the faded violet, &c., and started for her father's mansion. He was high-minded and honorable, and he felt in duty bound to release her from the engagement. Yet he grew faint as he was ushered into the parlor. Such love as his wouldn't stay crushed.

"George! dear George!" she exclaimed as she entered the parlor and seized his hand.

"Arabella, I am here to do my duty," he said, as he rose up.

"What's the matter?" she asked. "Haven't you heard of my father's failure?" he inquired, his heart beating painfully.

"Why, yes, dear George, and what of it?"

"Aren't you—won't you—that is—" "I'm glad of it, that's all!" she cried.

"You are?" "Of course I am! I was talking with father, and he said if your father had failed for \$60,000 he'd made at least \$50,000 out of it, and, of course, you'll get twice as much as you counted on!"

AFTER-DINNER SPEECHES.—To make a good after-dinner speech requires a special talent. A man may be eloquent on paper and steady and witty among his friends, but the moment he rises to propose a toast or to return thanks he generally manages to make a mess of it. Thackeray could not do it—his nervousness quite overcame him. Theodore Hook, with all his rattle in private, was a failure. Even Jeffrey felt at sea; and Froude is insipid, Dickens was an exception. He was always ready, always bright, and at his ease; and, when he could be secured, was the best chairman any cause or committee could find.

She used to meet him at the gate with a kiss, and a smile like morning light; but now she comes to the door in a dingy calico wrapper, and shoes down at the heel, shades her eyes with her hand, looks earnestly, to make sure it is him, and as he walks up to the house, tired and care-worn, inquires in a voice that seems to need oiling: "Did you bring that butter?"

The spirit of true religion breathes gentleness and affability, it is social, kind and cheerful; far removed from that gloomy, illiberal superstition and bigotry which cloud the brow, sour the temper, deject the spirits and impress morosity on the manners.

He is good that does good to others. If he suffers for the good he does, he is better still; and if he suffers from them to whom he did good, he is arrived at that height of godness that nothing but an increase of his sufferings can add to it; if it proves his death, his virtue is at its summit, it is heroism complete.

A clergyman was "turned down" at a fashionable spelling bee for spelling drunkenness with one n. Shortly afterwards he returned to his parish, and found himself very coldly received by his parishioners. He sent for the parish clerk and asked him what was the cause. "Well, sir," replied the man, "a report has come down here that you was turned out of a great lady's house in London for drunkenness."

Ludicrous Incident.

One of the turnstiles at the Centennial grounds was the scene of a ludicrous incident on Tuesday. A fat boy fourteen years of age (not Barnum's but a home specimen from Illinois,) visited the Centennial, and upon reaching the usual places of entrance found it not only impossible to pass through any of the stiles, but even uncomfortable to stand in the narrow alley-way leading to the automatic contrivance. The gatekeepers were powerless to render assistance or advice. Their orders were to permit nobody to pass into the grounds except through the stiles, and yet this applicant was in the most literal sense a "body." What was to be done. The boy had his fifty-cent piece in his hand and demanded admission. The department of admission was held, and as a last resort the heavy youth was admitted through the wagon gate.

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