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## GIFT OF

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CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS NEW YORK, MDCCCXCVII

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"They tell awful stories about her. Do you think there is any truth in them?"

LIFE'S COMEDY.



A SALUTATION FROM THE PAST


A MATRIMONIAL AXIOM.
The wrong man? But that is vague. Who is the wrong man?"
"The man a girl marries, of course."


SHE stood by a door that was festooned with flowers.
While the sound of the waltz floated lazily through ; And young bloods of fashion and maids with fat dowers Stood watching us, while 1 was tying her shoe.

She wore a red stocking, soft, delicate sllk.
Her ankle just turned to perfection-yes, two, And the edge of her petticoat, whiter than milk, I saw ; and I trembledwhen tying her shoe.

Ah me! for the days of young love and young life,


For the days when my cares were both trifling and few !

Just seven long years I've been calling her "wife,"
And now think it a bore-when I'm tying her shoe.
Tom Ilalı.


Fashion produces a certain uniformity in the street that is less noticeable


The sweet girl graduate trving in vain to find something she does not know already.

AS BELINDA TRIPS THE STAIR.
[ N her cool, dim-lighted parlor, Many thoughts come to me there, While I wait to hear the music, As Belinda trips the stair.

1 have come with bold intention, Her displeasure I will dare,
But my coward heart beats faster As Belinda trips the stair.

I can hear her gentle footfall, Hear the swish of raiment there,
Coming to me nearer, nearer, As Belinda trips the stair.

From her step 1 try to reason : Does she not, or does she care ;
All I know is, joy is coming, As Belinda trips the stair.

> MacGregor Fenkins.

## LIFE'S COMEDY.



[^0]LIFE'S (COMED)Y.

"You were right first, Mr. Oldbo. I am not yet plucked from the parent stem."
"Take courage, Madam. You know that Naomi, the daughter of Enoch, was 580 years old when she married.


The Coming Woman.



IN TARDYVILLE.
"A lively visit in Philadelphia ! Then they are not as slow as we hear they are ?"
"Oh, yes, they are! Why, just the other day a woman over there didn't die till she was 121 years old."

"I do so admire your lovely hair," Said the maid, with a smile most sweet :
" I'm sure it must be your fondest care,
"It's soft and it falls right down-well there"I almost said to your feet"
"Oh ! do not distress yourself. I pray," The mermaid at once replied.
"I'm not in the least bit sensitive ; they-
"I mean your feet, aren't they in your way?" And the mermaid laughed aside.

The maid sprang up, and her eyes were bright, She was dressed in a gown from France.
" O ! Isn't the ocean divine to-night ?
"And the waves, O ! aren't they feathery light ! "My ! Don't you just long for a dance?"

And the ocean jeered at the maid ashore,
While the mermaid downward flung.
And the moon came up (as it has before)
And said, "Dear me, it's the old uproar,
" And all o' a woman's tongue.


LIFE'S COMEDY.


NOT THE SAME.
'I love, and I am loved."
"Then you must be perfectly happy."
"But it isn't the same man!"


A GIVE AWAY.
$H_{E}$ : I wonder if that chair is big enough for two?
She (inadvertently): Oh, yes, I know it is.


Alas! how wildly hearts will beat
That late kept slowest time; Alas! how many a snowy sheet

Will meet its fate in rhyme!
Laugh, Cupid, laugh, with saucy glee
At all the pangs in store,
But never point thy dart at me-
My heart was hers before.
Samucl Minturn Pcck.


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" No, she can't keep a secret. The other day I confided to her that 1 was going to marry her uncle, and the silly thing went and told him."


LIFE'S COMEDY.


"Why are you taking all those photographs of men to the country 'I don't want to forget how a man looks."


## MISS JONES.

YOU may mention her name, but it never conveys An idea of the exquisite tones
Of her voice or her sparkling, bewildering ways,
For her name-it is simply, " Miss Jones !"

It gives you no hint of her golden-brown hair ; Of her eyes that outshine precious stones ; Of the flash of her wit, or her highly bred air, When they merely allude to "Miss Jones."


A HONEYMOON EVE.


If her name could be changed, what a gain it would be-
A fact which she cheerfully owns;
But, at present, you see, she's confided to ME, She prefers to stay simply - "Miss Jones!"


IN VEIO VOIUPTAS.



## NERVOUS

Uncle Treetop: We must put in a day on the river ; the fish are biting now. Jess, from the city: Is their bite poisono:s?


A MOTION IN HER MIND.

- When he went abroad he threw up his entire business. "Gracious! What a passage!"

WHEN JACK PROPOSED.
I Meant to keep quite calm and cool, And not behave, just like a fool, When Jack proposed.
Intended to be dignified,
And say, "Perhaps, l'll be your bride If - l'm disposed.'

In spite of all 1 thought to do,
My plans so cherished, ne'er came true,
When Jack proposed.
I laid my head against his breast,
And-Jack can tell you all the rest, If-he's disposed.


It did look quee, but--


Edward was behind.





A LOGICAL DEFINITION.
SHE: What does it mean when a man threatens to commit suicide because you refuse him? The Widower: It means he prefers the refrigerator to the frying-pan.

iN PHILADELPHIA
" Did you have a gay time in New York ?"
"Yes, indeed; we went all through the Bible House, and I got fitted to a new pair of spectacles.
gryghtum

LIFE'S COMEDY.



A PRUDENT MAID.
Jack writes he has been playing poker with papa, and papa writes he can't possibly send me a check tor a month.' "What on earth are you going to do?"
"Send for Jack."



IN THE OTHER SENSE.
"You were embarrassed when you proposed to me, George, were you not?"
"Yes. I owed over \$20,000."



DELAYS ARE DANGEROUS.
"Don't you think you would better make him wait a year?"
"Dear me, no! Why, at the end of the year 1 might not want to matry him."

'So you let Mr. Clinker kiss you last night?"
"Yes. How did you know?"
"He asked me to-day if I would forgive him."


'You are getting round-shouldered since you have become engaged to her." "Very likely; but you ought to see the muscles in my arms."



HIS MISCALCULATION.

He: Certainly a New York flat would be large enough for us two. She: Not with the present style of sleeves.


I fell in love with her sweet face
And pooh-poohed at her escort Brown.
The fellow's rich, but such a clown!
1 did not feel he'd rival ME.
I, Reginald de Courcy Browne,
With wealth and-looks, and pedigree.

1 set the man a red hot pace;
It was the talk of all the town;
1 knew that I was loved by Grace-
1 knew it by that yokel's frown.
My ancestors won great renown, While Brown has no ancestral tree. 1 KNEW 1 could the fellow down, With wealth and-looks, and pedigree.

She's married now; has rare point lace, And jewels fit to deck a crown. The man who calls her "darling Grace" Is not the fellow they call Brown. No, I'm the happiest man in town;
I knew she'd not say no to me, One rarely sees Dame Fortune frown On wealth and-looks, and pedigree.


"Now that we are engaged, I really think you might give me a kiss.
"No-o, I mustn't, but (as a happy thought strikes her) mamma told me that if I went out in the canoe I must sit perfectly quiet, and not move until you told me I could."

## gTygnimin


"You love another, Jack."
"How can you talk that way, dearest? I've kissed you thirty times in the last two minutes." "But if you loved me you wouldn't keep count."

A SCIENTIFIC ELOPEMENT.


"A fit husband for my daughter ! Why, in the first place, she is half a head taller than you."
"Well, sir, 1 don't expect to be so short after I
"Well, sir, 1 don't expect to be so short after I am married."


WAR TO THE KNIFE.
The Plain One: Shall you marry Jack if 1 refuse him?
"Yes, and if you accept him."



A HONEYMOON TALK.
How ridiculous you were when you proposed to me! Why did you get down on your knees?" "I didn't want you to come and sit in my lap."


14


HE HAS HAD OTHER AFFAIRS.
"Isn't that a new ring?"
"It's new to me."



FITTED FOR EACH OTHER.
"So there will be nothing to conceal after we are married, dearest. I may as well tell you that I smoke cigarettes, play poker, drink and am rarely home before one o'clock in the morning."
"I am glad to hear you say so. I was afraid we wouldn't be perfect companions."


GOLF IS NOT THE ONIL




He (a practical economist): Darling, do you return my love?
"Well, it's the only thing you have ever given me that 1 can return."


"Why, you've already had four wives!" "But they are not alive, dearest."


HER TURN.
Miss Vivian (to editor who once declined one of her poems): Owing to an overstock of such articles already on hand, I am compelled to decline your offer with thanks.


Intemperate Suitor (bitterly): I suppose you would rather work ior a living
"That's what I am trying to guard against."


The Poet: When you talked with your father, did he seem pleased with the idea of our marriage? The Girl: Oh, yes! He said he had always been afraid that 1 might leave him.



A DISTANT HINT.
"Don't you feel close in this room. Bess?"
"I don't know. 1 might feel closer."




"You looked so sheepish when you proposed to me."
"And you looked so wolfish when you accepted me."


MUSIC OF THE SPPING.




AN IDEAI. DEVICE.
Prevents the necktie from slipping up the collar. Every man should have one.

Ancoo, op


On the Bamboo: I've had fully a dozen cffers of marriage lately.
"Mercy me! Good ones?"
"Yes. All from George."


DEFINITIONS.
Jeannette: This is what you might call a sardine sandwich.
Harold: Oh, no! This is a tongue sandwich with the tongue on the outside



FOR SIZE AND SHAPE.
"The first thing that phrenologist exclaimed when he saw me was: 'What a head!'" "Where were you the night before?"

"If we go to Europe, (.yntha, I don't want you to marry any of them counts or dukes. You fust wait until we renn across some king in

THE AMERICAN FAMILY.


THE BEST OF REASONS.
"Do you remember, Julian, why they shot poor Saint Sebastian full of arrows?"
" Cause they hadn't any gun."

THE AMERICAN FAMILY.


BASED ON EXPERIENCE.
"What makes the sides of the balloon stay out, Ma ?"
"Because it is filled with gas."
"Is it a case of colic?"


Mr. B.: You are trying very hard to be a man, it seems.
Mrs. B.: Well, don't you think we need one in the family ?




THAT SON-IN-LAW.
"Papa, George says he is very much worried about his income."
"I shouldn't think he would worry about a little thing like that."


THE AMERICAN FAMILY.



"No, Marm, there were no centenarians before 1492. .
"Why do you say that?"
"Because l've been reading the papers, and all the people over a hundred have used tobacco ever since they were children, and tobacco wasn't discovered before that."


"He has been dead two years, and to-day I received a bill against him with the request to forward it." "Why, what did you do with it ?"
"Put it in the fire."


He : Well, I must be off. Going to the station to meet my wife's eldest sister. She: But she can find her way to your house.
$\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{E}}$ : She can. But if I meet her in public 1 won't have to kiss her.

> gergman
Non fix


ANOTHER NEW WOMAN.
"Lady, 1 understand yer want a nurse what can ride a bicycle wid yer children."



THE ADVANCED WOMEN.
"Why do you men like the Clubs so well? is it because they are so homelike?" " 1 lt is because they are not homelike."


"Did I understand you to say, John, that the tenor married the contralto ?"
"Yes. The choir was to be disbanded and that was their only means of continuing their quarrel."

"My dear Susan, I wish you would keep your trowsers on your own side of the closet."

THE AMERICAN FAMILY.

"But he is worse than he looks, Uncle. He has given up saying his prayers because he is not afraid in the dark any more."

"Ma, that little baby across the street hasn't any teeth."
"Of course not, Tommy. You didn't have any when you were that small."
"But that baby's Pa is a dentist."

" John, dear, we must take up some kind of reform this year. Now, if I take up dress reform, what will you take?"
"Chloroform."


w her father leaves everything to his unmarried daughters.


NO HEEL-TAPS.
"Is the moon up yet?"
"Yes; if 1 swallowed it."

THE AMERICAN FAMILY.

"Do you know, some of those doughnuts I nade yesterday are missing."
"Don't be alarmed, dear. I took them downtown to a friend of mine."
"Did he eat them?"
"Heavens, no! He is a geologist."

"Here is the account of a man who had four wives, and he is to suffer for it."
"What, again?"



## RETRIBUTION.

WIFE: If I had known before we were married that you swore so, I never would have married you.
The Husband (sadly): That's what comes of being a hypocrite.

"So, sir, you went to that disgusting ballet !"
"Yes, darling, I-_
"You ought to be ashamed of yourself ; but did you see anything that would be a good design for a bathing suit ?"


## MIXING SALAD.

WHEN Polly, fair and deft of hand,
Prepares to make the salad dressing, With fork and spoon I near her stand Man like-my helplessness confessing.

Yet when 1 try to lend my aid In manner meant to be quite pleasing, She says to me-this cruel maid:
"The lemons, Tom-they need the squeezing."


The Wife: Down in the library over the desk. You know I tied ribbons on it for an ornament.

THE AMERICAN FAMILY.

"So he really fell in love with that widow!"
"No. She married him before he had a chance to."


Anxious Father: A boy?


The Newcomer: Sold again! I'm a girl!

"Don't you think that was a marriage for lucre, Bishop?
"Humph. I thought so when I performed the ceremony, but I haven't seen any of the money yet."


Bishop Gullem: You mustn't grieve too much, my dear sister. Remember that though your dear husband has left this mortal body he is still with you.
"That isn't going to affect the insurance, is it ?"


Mrs.: The dentist says I must have a tooth out.
Mr.: Never mind. It can't happen many more times.


[^1]

A REWARD FOR THE GRINDER.
"Papa gave me two pennies to put in the plate in church."
"Do you know who those pennies were for?"
"Course I do ; for the organ man. I heard the music."


PRIVILEGE OF SENIORITY.
"Stop crying, Reginald. Your Grandmother's turn comes next."


"I think I will have a special bicycle sermon next Sunday."
"Why, only a few Sundays ago you preached a sermon denouncing the wheel."
"Yes, but since then nearly every one in the parish has bought one."



A DISCERNING FRIEND.
The Artist: How do you like it ?
The Friend: Best work you ever did. What does it represent


Strabismus: May I have the honor of the next dance ?
Two Fatr Ones (eagerly rising): With pleasure !



She: They tell me you are fickle.
$H_{t: ~}^{\text {I }}$ Impossible! Why, 1 have been engaged to two girls now for over a year.


AT THREE IN THE AFTERNOON.
"No ; I'm going to take a Harlem girl to a theatre party in Brooklyn."



THE THOUGHTFUL SON.
"Is it drue, Bozilski, that your son, Isaac, spent all his money for a new suit of clothes and then shot himself?" "No, he knew petter. He dook boison, und dot suidt of clothes vos chust as goot as new."



NOT AN UNMIXED EVIL.
"So you think I am drinking too much?"
"No, but I think you will kill yourself if you keep on."

## OUR BACHELORS.



HE SCORED
"Look here," he said, coming breathlessly into her presence, "you are the goal of my affections; are you not ?"
"You have always assured me that I was."
"And l've been making steady gains toward you, haven't 1?"
"You have."
"And I'm on your fifteen-yard line, am I not?"
"Yes, I guess you are."
Well, your father kicked me out of the house last night, and I want ten yards for interference, see!"


I hadn't been talking with him three minutes before he called me an ass. What sort of a person is he, anyway ?' "Well, I never knew him to tell a lie.




THE TEACHINGS OF ADVERSITY
The Bitter One: I tell you a man changes his mind about his friends and enemies. "How so, old man ?"
"His enemies stop hitting him when he's down, but it's then that his friends begin."


IN A VERY LOW TONE.
" Berty means well, but he has a habit of telling all he knows."
"Yes, I noticed that last night. I was alone with him nearly five minute.

"Not getting on very well."



A FRIEND'S ADVICE.
The Tenor: It's very hard to keep the wolf from the door.
"Why don't you try singing to it ""




A BACHELOR'S DREAM.

$\because \cdots \cdots$




SHE: Papa's chief objection is that we could hardly get along on your small salary.
HE: But I have a splendid digestion, and am perfectly willing you should do the cooking.


NOTHING
The world's appla


"Such a handy little twap just to win a'vout in, dontcherknow."

"My heart ith in it, and my thole, and love, and my life, and my very exithtenth ith in it :"
"Heavens, Johnny! No wonder it made that little boy tired!"

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APROPOS.
He (consulting tea cup): Ah! you are to be married soon.
"Mercy me! to whom ?"
"To me ; I came to-day on purpose to tell you


ONE THEORY.
HE: Great heavens! live been talking to you for three hours.
She: Oh, it seems only half that time.
He (insinuatingly): Why is that, I wonder ?

- 1 suppose it's because one forgets so much faster than you talk.



The Jester: You broke all the good resolutions you made last year. The Fool: Yes, but I shall make others quite as good.


She: Does inspiration come to you at any particular time?
Mr. Scribbler (who writes): Yes, it usually comes with the bills about the first of the month.


AT THE CLUB.
"Sorry to disturb you, sir, but your governess is waiting - with the carriage, sir.


SUCCESS ASSURED.
Dashaway: Jagway has just invented a new cocktail. I saw him yesterday, and I guess it's going to be a success. Cleverton: What did he say about it ?

Dashaway: He couldn't talk.


HE MEANT WELL.
Grace: I dislike flattery, you know.
Algy: Aw- but it is impossible to speak to you without flattery.



OUR BACHELORS.

"Our landlady says she likes to see her boarders have good appetites."
"Well, I'm not surprised. Some women are naturally cruel."

"There, I am getting wet! That's just like you men; always thinking of yourselves!"


FAR WORSE.
"Jack was very disagreeable last night."
"Was he full of whisky?"
"It was worse than that. He was full of himself."

"Jack, what is the difference between you and the Prodigal Son ?"
"Can't guess."
"You have never been given the fatted calf."




## "Cood morning.

'Good morning.
" I would like you to subscribe for a new edition of the 'Nude in Art."
"No, I don't want it. Try the theatrical agency on the floor below."


AFTER THE FUNERAL.
SHE: Yes, they were superb; but the idea of your getting Jacqueminots for a funeral ! $\mathrm{He}_{\mathrm{E}}$ : But the design was a gridiron, you noticed!

"Dickson resents your pitching into the devil, Bishop."
"On what ground?"
"Says it doesn't do to antagonize people we may have to ask favors of in the future.'


$H_{E}$ : French enables one to express such delicate shades of meaning, you know:
"Yes, I know. And such indelicate ones too."


[^0]:    OVERHEARD
    

[^1]:    CONSOLATION.
    SHE : Poor Uncle! And to be eaten by undiscovered savages !

