

## A WIFE'S TONGUE.

A gentleman of Leeds, in his description of his wife who eloped, says, "she has a tongue that cuts like a razor."

## A WISE FATHER-IN-LAW.

A gentleman after complaining several times of his termagant wife, to her rich father, was told by the latter, that in *his will*, he would cut her off with a shilling, if she did not improve in her husband's opinion.

## BACON'S ABRIDGEMENT.

A barrister on hearing it remarked what a quantity of ham he had eaten, observed that he had been only taking *extracts* from *Bacon's Abridgement*.

## BAD EXAMPLE.

A certain noble lord being in his early years much addicted to dissipation, his mother advised him to take example by a gentleman, whose food was herbs and his drink water. "What, madam!" said he, "would you have me to imitate a man who *eats like a beast and drinks like a fish?*"

## BAD LABEL.

Tom bought a gallon of gin to take home, and, by way of a label, wrote his name upon a card, which happened to be the seven of clubs, and tied it to the handle. A friend coming along and observing the jug, quietly remarked: "That's an awful careless way to leave that liquor!" "Why?" said Tom. "Because somebody might come along with the *eight* of clubs and take it!"

## BAD MEDIUM.

A man, who pretended to have seen a ghost, was asked, "what the ghost said to him?" "How should I understand," replied the narrator, "what he said? I am not skilled in any of the *dead languages*."

## BAD PART.

"I can't say I admire your *style of acting*," said a landlady to a strolling player, when he ran away without paying his bill.

## BANNOCKBURN.

Two Englishmen visiting the field of Bannockburn, so celebrated for the defeat of Edward's army, a sensible countryman pointed out the position of the hostile armies. Highly pleased with his attention, the gentlemen, on leaving him, pressed his acceptance of a crown. "Na, Na," said the honest man, "keep your crown piece, the English have paid dear enough already for seeing the field of Bannockburn."

## BASE JOKE.

A gentleman one day observed to Henry Erskine, that punning was the *lowest* form of wit. "It is," answered Erskine, "and therefore the *foundation* of all wit."

## B BEFORE C.

One asked why B stood before C? Because," said another, "a man must B before he can C."

## BENEFITS OF COMPETITION.

Pope, when he first saw Garrick act, observed, "I am afraid that the young man will be spoiled, for he will have no competitors."

## BEST WINE.

Sheridan being asked what wine he liked best, replied, "The wine of *other people*."

## BEZA.

Beza, the disciple of Calvin, declares Polyphemus "an ass, a great ass who is distinguished from other asses by wearing a hat; an ass on two feet; a monster composed of part of an ass and wild ass; a villain who merits hanging on the first tree we meet."

## BITS.

"Are you looking for any one in particular?" as the mite said to the microscope.

"You can't make any noise here," as the wooden pavement said to the omnibus.

"Young men taken in and done for," as the shark said to the ship's crew.

"I'm particularly uneasy on this point," as the fly said when the young gentleman stuck him on the end of a needle.

## BLACK FLOWER.

The botanists tell us that there is no such thing in nature as a black flower. We suppose they never heard of the "Coal-black Rose."

## BLOW FOR BLOW.

A plebian blowing the froth from a pot of porter which he was bringing to a customer, the gentleman struck him. Boniface eagerly asked why he struck him? "Why" replied the gentleman, "I only returned blow for blow."

## BLUNDER AND MISTAKE.

The difference between a blunder and a mistake is, when a man puts down a bad umbrella and takes a good one he makes a mistake; but when he puts down a good one and takes up a bad one he *makes a blunder*.

## BLUSHING.

A certain fashionable youth, more famed for his red nose than his wit, on approaching a lady, who was highly *rouged*, said, "Madam, you blush from *modesty*." "Pardon me, sir," replied the lady, "I blush from *reflection*."

## BOND TO THE DEVIL.

Colonel Bond, who had sat as one of the judges on the trial of King Charles the First, died a day or two before Cromwell, who it was reported was dead; "No, no," said a gentleman, who had better information, "he has only given *bond* to the devil for his future appearance."

## BOOK CASE.

There is a celebrated reply of Mr. Curran to a remark of Lord Clare, who curtly exclaimed at one of his legal positions, "Oh, if that be law, Mr. Curran, I may burn my law-books." "Better read them, my lord," was the sarcastic and appropriate rejoinder.

## BRANDY AND WATER.

Of this mixture, Charles Lamb, said, "it spoiled two good things."

## BRIEF AND PITHY CORRESPONDENCE.

Many years since we saw a brief and pithy correspondence officially published, as having taken place between J. K. Paulding, while Secretary of the Navy, and an agent of the department, in the State of Alabama. We give its substance from memory:

"DEAR SIR:—Please inform this department by return of mail, how far the Tombigbee river runs up. Respectfully,

J. K. PAULDING, *Secretary, &c.*"

[Reply.]

"MOBILE, ———."

"Hon J. K. Paulding:

"DEAR SIR:—In reply to your letter just at hand, I have the honor to say, that the Tombigbee river don't run up at all.

"I have the honor to be, etc.,

Our word for it, Paulding has never written a tale or invented a fable, whose wit has so much disturbed the reader, as the truthful reply of his clerk. A long letter might have mystified the Tombigbee, that, like the Niger, no traces of its source could ever be developed. Indeed, it is said, a soft answer turneth away wrath;" but an answer can be soft and short too.

## BRIGHT AND SHARP.

A little boy having been much praised for his quickness of reply, a gentleman present observed that when children were keen in their youth, they were generally stupid and dull when they were advanced in years, and *vice versa*. "What a *very sensible boy*, sir, must you have been!" returned the child.

## BRIGHT REJOINDER.

An Englishman paying an Irish shoe-black with rudeness, the "dirty urchin" said, "My honey, all the *polish* you have is upon your boots, and I gave you that."

## BRINGING HIS MAN DOWN.

Rogers used to relate this story: An Englishman and a Frenchman fought a duel in a *darkened room*. The Englishman, unwilling to take his antagonist's life, generously fired up the chimney, and—*brought down the Frenchman*. "When I tell this story in France," pleasantly added the relator, "I make the *Englishman* go up the chimney."

## BROAD HINTS.

Charles II, playing at tennis with a dean, who struck the ball well, the King said, "That's a good stroke for a dean." "I'll give it the stroke of a *bishop* if your majesty pleases," was the suggestive rejoinder.

An eminent barrister having a case sent to him for an opinion—the case being outrageously preposterous—replied in answer to the question, "Would an action lie?" "Yes, if the witnesses would *lie* too, but not otherwise."

## BROTHERLY LOVE.

"Ah!" said a conceited young parson, "I have this afternoon been preaching to a congregation of asses." "Then that was the reason why you called them *beloved brethren*," replied a strong-minded woman.

An affectionate Irishman once enlisted in the 75th regiment, in order to be near his brother, who was a corporal in the 76th.

## BRUSHMAKERS.

Two brushmakers who were *thieving* and contriving to undersell each other, one day met and thus accosted one the other, who had still the upper hand:

"I *steals* the stuff to save my pelf,  
And then make them up myself,  
So cannot think, though oft I try,



How you can cheaper sell than I."  
"I'll tell you friend," the other said,  
"I steals my brushes ready made!"

## BUTLER AND COOK.

A chimney sweep, having descended a wrong chimney, made his sudden appearance in a room, where two men, one named Butler and the other Cook, were enjoying themselves over a pot of beer. "How now," cried the former, "what news from the other world?" The sweep perceiving, his mistake, and recollecting the persons, very smartly replied, "I came to inform you that we are much in want of a *Butler and a Cook*."

## BYRON LIBELLOUS.

The conversation at Holland House turning on first love, Thomas Moore compared it to a potato, because "it shoots from the eyes." "Or rather," exclaimed Lord Byron, "because it becomes less by paring."

## CABAL.

The attempt to run over the King of France with a cab, looked like a conspiracy to overturn *Monarchy* by a *common wheel*.

## CÆSAR.

When Cæsar was advised by his friends to be more cautious as to the security of his person, and not to walk among the people without arms or any one to protect him, he replied, "He who lives in the fear of death, every moment feels its tortures, I will die but once."

## CALF'S HEAD SURPRISED.

A stupid person one day seeing a man of learning enjoying the pleasures of the table, said, "So, sir, philosophers, I see, can indulge in the greatest delicacies." "Why not," replied the other, "do you think Providence intended all the *good things for fools*?"

## CALUMNY.

George the Third once said to Sir J. Irwin, a famous *bon vivant*, "They tell me, Sir John, you love a *glass* of wine." "Those, Sire, who have so reported me to your Majesty," answered he, bowing profoundly, "do me great injustice; they should have said—a *bottle*."

## CANDID COUNSEL.

An Irish counsel being asked by the judge for whom he was concerned, replied, "I am concerned for the plaintiff, but I'm retained by the defendant."

## CANDID ON BOTH SIDES.

"I rise for information," said a member of the legislative body. "I am very glad to hear it," said a bystander, "for no man wants it more."

## CATCHING THE ACCENT.

Mr. Curran was once asked, what an Irish gentleman, just arrived in England, could mean by perpetually putting out his tongue? "I suppose," replied the wit, "he is trying to catch the English accent."

## CAUGHT HIS FISH.

A certain priest in a rich abbey in Florence, being a fisherman's son, caused a net to be spread every day, on a table in his apartment, to put him in mind of his origin: the abbot dying, this dissembled humility procured him to be chosen abbot; after which, the net was used no more. Being asked the reason, he answered, "there is no occasion for the net now the fish is caught."

## CHAIN OF GOVERNMENT.

When Beelzebub first to make mischief began

He the woman attack'd and she gull'd the poor man,

This Moses asserts and from hence would infer

That *woman* rules *man*, and the *devil* rules *her*.

## CHANGE.

A sailor looking serious in a certain chapel in Boston, was asked by the clergyman, if he felt any change, whereupon the tar put his hand into his pocket, and replied, "I have not a cent."

## CHANGED HIS MIND.

A French officer being just arrived at the court of Vienna, and the Empress hearing that he had the day before been in company with a great lady, asked him if it were true, that she was the most handsome princess of her time? The officer answered, with great gallantry, Madam, I brought so yesterday."

## CHARITABLE WIT.

Wit in an influential form was displayed by the Quaker gentleman soliciting subscriptions for a distressed widow, for whom everybody expressed the greatest sympathy. "Well," said he, "everybody declares he is sorry for her. I am truly sorry—I am sorry five pounds. How much art

thou sorry friend; and thou; and thou?" He was very successful, as may be supposed. One of those to whom the case was described said he felt very much, indeed, for the poor widow. "But hast thou felt it thy pocket?" inquired the "Friend."

## CHARLES, DUKE OF YORK.

In cleanliness the Duke was negligent to so great a degree that he rarely made use of water for purposes of bodily refreshment and comfort. Nor did he change his linen more frequently than he washed himself. Complaining one day to Dudley North, that he was a martyr to rheumatism, and had ineffectually tried every remedy for its relief. "Pray, my lord," said he, "did you ever try a *clean shirt*?"

## CHEAP AT THE MONEY.

A shilling subscription having been set on foot to bury an attorney who had died very poor, Lord Chief Justice Norbury exclaimed, "Only a shilling to bury an attorney! Here's a guinea; go and bury *one-and-twenty* of them."

## CHEAP WATCH.

A sailor went to a watchmaker's, and presenting a small French watch, demanded to know how much the repair of it would come to. The watchmaker, after examining it, said, "It will be more expense repairing it than its original cost." "I don't mind that," said the tar; "I will even give you double the original cost, for I gave a fellow a blow on the head for it, and if you repair it, I will give you *two*."

## CHEMICAL ODDITY.

While an ignorant lecturer was describing the nature of gas, a blue looking lady inquired of a gentleman near her, what was the difference between oxygen and hydrogen? "Very little, madam," said he; "by oxygen we mean *pure gin*, and by hydrogen, *gin and water*."

## CHINESE TAILORING.

A gentleman gave a coat to a Chinese to serve as a pattern by which to make a new one; there happened to be a rent across the shoulder, and a large patch on the elbow of the old coat; the faithful Chinese made a large rent, and put a broad patch on the elbow of the new.

## CHOICE OF EVILS.

One asked his friend, why he married so little a wife? "Why," said he, "I thought

you knew, that of all evils we should choose the least."

## CHOICE SPIRITS.

An eminent spirit merchant in Dublin announced in one of the Irish papers that he has still a small quantity of the whisky on sale which was drunk by his late Majesty while in Dublin.

## CHRISTIAN JEWS.

The Jews, as we in Sacred Writ are told, To buy a god, gave Aaron all their gold— But Christians have become so wondrous odd, To heap up gold will even sell their God.

## CLAW FOR CLAW.

Lord Erskine and Dr. Parr, who were both remarkably conceited, were in the habit of conversing together, and complimenting each other on their respective abilities. On one of these occasions, Parr promised that he would write Erskine's epitaph, to which the other replied, that "such an intention on the Doctor's part was almost a temptation to commit suicide."

## CLEAR THE COURT.

An Irish crier at Balinasloe, being ordered to clear the court, did so by this commencement: "Now, then, all ye *blackguards* that isn't *lawyers*, must lave the court."

## CLEMENCY.

When a minister of Alphonsus complained that his clemency was more than became a prince, he replied, "Know ye not that cruelty is the attribute of wild beasts—clemency that of man?"

## CLERICAL.

A preacher, during a discourse, emphatically asked, "What saith David on this head?" The parson's servant replied, "Mr. David says you shall have no more beef from him till you pay off the old score."

## CLERICAL WIT.

An old gentleman of eighty-four having taken to the altar a young damsel of about sixteen, the clergyman said to him: "The font is at the other end of the church." "What do I want with the font?" said the old gentleman. "Oh! I beg your pardon," said the clerical wit, "I thought you had brought this child to be christened."

## CLIENTS' BONES.

A certain mechanic having occasion to boil some cattle's feet, emptied the bones



near the court house. A lawyer observing them, inquired of a bystander what they were. "I believe they are clients' bones," replied the wit, "as they appear to be well *picked*."

## COARSE ARMS.

The late Duchess of Kingston, who was remarkable for having a very high sense of her own dignity, being one day detained in her carriage by a cart load of coals that was unloading in the street, she leaned with both her arms upon the door, and asked the fellow: "How dare you, sirrah, stop a woman of quality in the street?" "Woman of quality!" replied the man. "Yes, fellow," rejoined her grace, "don't you see my arms upon my carriage?" "Yes, I do, indeed," said he, "and a pair of plauy coarse arms they are."

## COFFEE.

A prior of a monastery in Arabia, where coffee grows, having remarked that the goats who ate of it were brisk and alert, determined that his monks, who were lethargic, should use it. The experiment proved successful. Hence the general use of coffee.

## COLD COMFORT.

A jurymen, kept several days at his own expense, sent a friend to the judge to complain that he had been paid nothing for his attendance. "Oh, tell him," said the witty judge, "that if ever he should have to go before a jury himself, he will *get one for nothing*."

## "COLD" COMPLIMENT.

A coxcomb, teasing Dr. Parr with an account of his petty ailments, complained that he could never go out without catching cold in his head. "No wonder," returned the doctor, "you always go out without *anything in it*."

## COLORABLE EXCUSE.

A lady, who painted her face, asked Parsons how he thought she looked. "I can't tell, madam," he replied, "except you *uncover* your face."

## COLORED PARSON'S THEOLOGY.

"And the Lord made Adam out of clay and hung him up against the fence for to dry." Sambo interrupted him by inquiring, "Who made dat ar fence?" The astounded parson replied, "Look a here, Sambo, it's just by sich danged impertinent inquiries as that you'd spoil the best theology in the world."

## COLOR OF SATAN.

A negro servant being asked what color he believed the devil was, "Why," replied the African, "the white man tells us he is black; we say he is white, but from his long age, I guess Old Nick must be *gray*."

## COME OF AGE.

A young man met a rival who was somewhat advanced in years, and wishing to annoy him, inquired how old he was. "I can't exactly tell," replied the other; "but I can inform you that an *ass* is older at twenty than a man at sixty!"

## COMEDIAN AND LAWYER.

A few years ago when Billy Burton, the American actor, was in his trouble, a young lawyer was examining him as to how he had spent his money—there was about three thousand pounds unaccounted for—when the attorney put on a severe scrutinizing face, and exclaimed, with much self-complacency, "Now, sir, I want you to tell this court and jury how you used those three thousand pounds." Burton put on one of his serio-comic faces, winked at the audience, and exclaimed, "*The lawyers got that!*" The judge and audience were convulsed with laughter. The counsellor was glad to let the comedian go.

## COMPARATIVE VIRTUE.

A shop-keeper, at Doncaster, had for his virtues obtained the name of the *little rascal*. A stranger asked him, "why this appellation had been conferred on him?" "To distinguish me from the rest of my trade," quoth he, "who are all *great rascals*."

## COMPARISONS.

During the assizes, in a case of assault and battery, where a stone had been thrown by the defendant, the following clear and conclusive evidence was drawn out of a Yorkshireman: "Did you see the defendant throw the stone?" "I saw a stone, and I'm pretty sure the defendant throwed it." "Was it a large stone?" "I should say a sizeable stone." "Can't you answer definitely how big it was?" "I should say it was a stone of some bigness." "Can't you give the jury some idea of the stone?" "Why, as near as I can recollect, it were something of a stone." "Can't you compare it to some other object?" "Why, if I wur to compare it, so as to give some idea of the stone, I should say it wur as large as a lump of chalk."

"I never knew anything so bad as the *short weight* you give me for my money," said a debtor to his grocer. "Only the *long wait* you give me for *my* money," was the reply.

It is with narrow-souled people as with narrow-necked bottles—the less they have in them, the *more noise* they make in pouring it out.

## COMPARISONS ARE ODISIOUS.

Lord Chancellor Hardwick's bailiff, having been ordered by his lady to procure a sow of a particular description, came one day into the dining room when full of company, proclaiming with a burst of joy he could not suppress, "I have been at Royston fair, my lady, and I have got a sow exactly of *your ladyship's size*."

## COMPLIMENTARY.

Lord North, who was very corpulent, before a severe sickness, said to his physician afterwards, "Sir, I am obliged to you for introducing me to some old acquaintances." "Who are they, my Lord?" inquired the doctor. "My ribs," replied his lordship, "which I have not felt for many years until now."

A gentleman, dining at an hotel, was annoyed by a stupid waiter continually coming hovering round the table, and desired him to retire, "Excuse me, sir," said Napkin, drawing himself up, "but I'm *responsible* for the silver."

## COMPUTATION.

An Irish counsellor having lost his cause, which had been tried before three judges, one of whom was esteemed a very able lawyer, and the other two but indifferent, some of the other barristers were very merry on the occasion. "Well now," says he, "I have lost. But who could help it, when there were an hundred judges on the bench—one and two *ciphers*?"

## CONCISENESS.

Louis XIV, who loved a concise style, one day met a priest on the round, whom he asked hastily, "Whence come you? Where are you going? What do you want?" The other instantly replied, "From Burges. To Paris. A benefice." "You shall have it," replied the king.

## CONCORD.

"I wonder," said a woman of humor, "why my husband and I quarrel so often,

for we agree uniformly in one grand point; he wishes to be master, and so do I."

## CONCURRENT EVENTS.

A young fellow, very confident in his abilities, lamented one day that he had *lost* all his Greek. "I believe it happened at the same time, sir," said Dr. Johnson, "that I *lost* my large estate in Yorkshire."

## CONDESCENSION.

I have heard that when a goose passes under an arch, or through a doorway, of whatever altitude, it always stoops; and this, I suppose, is condescension. To say truth, wherever I have seen an ostentation of condescension, it has reminded me of a goose.

## CONFIRMATION.

Dr. Parr once called a clergymen a fool, who, indeed, was little better. The clergyman said he would complain of this usage to the bishop. "Do," said the doctor, "and my lord bishop will confirm you."

## CONJUGAL CONCLUSION.

A woman having fallen into a river, her husband went to look for her, proceeding up stream from the place where she fell in. The bystanders asked him if he was mad—she could not have gone against the stream. The man answered, "She was *obstinate* and contrary in her life, and no doubt she was the *same at her death*."

## CONSIDERABLE LATITUDE.

Sir Richard Jebb being called to see a patient who fancied himself very ill, told him ingeniously what he thought, and declined prescribing for him. "Now you are here," said the patient, "I shall be obliged to you, Sir Richard, if you will tell me how I must live, what I may eat, and what I may not." "My directions as to that point," replied Sir Richard, "will be few and simple! You must not eat the poker, shovel, or tongs, for they are hard of digestion; nor the bellows, because they are *windy*; but eat anything else you please!"

## CONSTANCY.

Curran, hearing that a stingy and slovenly barrister had started for the Continent with a shirt and a guinea, observed, "He'll not *change* either, till he comes back."

## CONTEMPT OF COURT.

A Judge in Indiana threatened to fine a lawyer for contempt of court, "I have ex-



pressed no contempt for the court," said the lawyer, "on the contrary, I have carefully concealed my feelings."

#### CONTRARIES PLEASE THE LADIES.

A fool and a knave with different views,  
For Julia's hand apply;  
The knave to mend his fortune sues,  
The fool to please his eye.  
Ask you how Julia will behave?  
Depend on't for a rule,  
If she's a fool, she'll wed the knave—  
If she's a knave, the fool.

#### CONUNDRUMS.

Why is a watch dog bigger by night than by day? Because he is let out at night, and taken in in the morning.

Why is a dog biting his own tail like a good manager? Because he makes both ends meet.

What is the difference between an accepted and a rejected lover? One kisses his misses, the other misses his kisses.

Why is a ship like a woman? Because she is often tender to a man-of-war; often running after a smack; often attached to a great buoy, and frequently making up to a pier. [And doesn't she just *make up* to appear?]

Why is a very demure young lady like a steam packet? Because she pays no attention to the swells that follow her. [We a-steamer for it.]

When are babies traveling abroad? When going to Brest.

Name the most unsociable things on earth? Milestones; for you never see two of them together.

What is it gives a cold, cures a cold, and pays the doctor bill? A draught.

Why is love like a canal boat? Because it's an internal transport.

How is it that you can never tell a lady's real hysterics from her sham ones? Because in either case it's a feint.

When may ladies who are enjoying themselves be said to look wretched? When at the opera, as then they are in tiers.

When is a bonnet not a bonnet? When it becomes a pretty woman.

Why should you always choose white cows? Because it is of no use milking those that are dun before you begin.

Where should you feel for the poor? In your pocket to be sure.

What is the best way of making a coat last? Making the trowsers and waistcoat first.

Any difference between a milkmaid and a swallow? Yes; one skims the milk, and the other the water.

When does a shilling act like a razor? When a man cuts off his hair with one.

What is the greatest feat, in the eating way, ever known? That recorded of a man who commenced by bolting a door, after which he threw up a window and then sat down and—*and* swallowed a whole story.

Why are the actions of men like great rivers? Because we see the course they take, but not the source from whence they spring.

Why is a shoe-black like an editor? Because he polishes the understanding of his patrons.

Why is Joseph Gillot a very bad man? Because he wishes to accustom the public to steel pens, and then tries to persuade them that they do write.

What is that which, though black itself, enlightens the world? Ink.

Why is it dangerous to take a nap in a train? Because the train invariably runs over sleepers.

Why is the Isthmus of Suez like the first *u* in cucumber? Because it is between two seas.

Why was the whale that swallowed Jonah, like a milkman who has retired on an independence? Because he took a great profit out of the waters.

Which are the lightest men, Irishmen, Scotchmen, or Englishmen? In Ireland, there are men of Cork; in Scotland, men of Ayr; but, in England on the Thames, they have lightermen.

Tell us the best way to make the hours go fast? Use the spur of the moment.

Why would an owl be offended at your calling him a pheasant? Because you would be making game of him!

Which would you rather, look a greater fool than you are, or be a greater fool than you look? [Let a person choose, then say] "That's impossible."

What was Joan of Arc made of? She was—we have every reason to believe—Maid of Orleans.

When does a leopard change his spots? When he moves from one spot to another.

When a hen is sitting across the top of a five-barred gate, why is she like a penny? Because she has a head on one side and a tail on the other.

When is a policeman very like a rain *beau*? When he appears after the storm is over.

Why is a man who never lays a wager as bad as a regular gambler? Because he's no better.

What would be the proper verdict to pass on an old buck's black moustache? Dyed by his own hand.

What is the difference between the Prince of Wales, an orphan, a bald headed old man, and the gorilla? The first is heir apparent, the second has ne'er a parent, the third has no hair apparent, and the fourth has an hairy parent.

When does a son not take after his father? When his father leaves him nothing to take.

Why are poor relations like a fit of gout? Because the oftener they come the longer they stay.

If Old Nick were to lose his tail, where should he go to supply the deficiency? To a gin palace, because there bad spirits are re-tailed.

What is the characteristic of a watch? Modesty, as it keeps its hands on its face and runs down its own works.

How would you increase the speed of a very slow boat? Make her fast.

Why is love like a candle? Because the longer it burns the less it becomes.

Why is the state of matrimony like an invested city? Because when out of it we wish to be in it, and when in it we wish to be out of it.

Why is a sheep like a professional gambler? Because he is brought up on the turf, gambols in his youth, herds with blacklegs, and is fleeced at last.

What is the key note to good manners? B natural.

Why are good women like ivy? Because the greater the ruin the closer they cling.

Why are bad women like ivy? Because the closer they cling the greater the ruin.

At what period of his sorrow does a widower recover the loss of his dear departed? When he re-wives.

Why, asks a disconsolate widow, is venison like my late and never sufficiently to be lamented husband? Because, oh, dear! oh, dear! its the dear departed.

Give us a good definition of white bait? Widow's caps!

What moral sentence does a weather-cock suggest? It's a vane thing to a-spire.

We hear pleasant people speak of "the land of the living," what do they mean? Why, the parson's glebe, to be sure!

What is the difference between a donkey and a postage stamp. One you lick with a stick, the other you stick with a lick.

When is a schoolboy like a postage stamp? When he is licked and put in the corner, to make him stick to his letters.

What is the difference between an engine-driver and a schoolmaster? One minds the train, the other trains the mind.

Why is a kiss like rumor? Because it goes from mouth to mouth.

Why would young ladies make good volunteers? Because they are accustomed to bare arms.

What is the difference between love and war? One breaks heads, the other hearts.

What is the difference between a potato and a volunteer? One shoots from the eye, the other from the shoulder.

What is the difference between a bee-hive and a diseased potato? None at all; as one is a bee-holder, the other a speck'd-tater.

What's the difference between a piece of honeycomb and a black eye? One is produced by a laboring bee, the other by a be-laboring.

Why are country girls' cheeks like well-printed cotton? Because they are warranted to wash and to keep color.

Why are fowls the most economical things a farmer can keep? Because for every grain they give a peck.

What tree bears the most fruit to market? The axle tree.

How is it that trees can put on new dresses without opening their trunks? Because they leave out their summer clothing.



What is the difference between a French pastry cook and a bill sticker? One puffs up the paste, the other pastes up the puffs.

Why is the root of the tongue like a dejected man? Because it is down in the mouth.

Why are the bars of a convent like a blacksmith's apron? Because they keep the sparks off.

What is the most awkward time for a train to start? 12.50; as it is ten to one you don't catch her.

What is more foolish than sending coal to Newcastle? Sending milk to Cowes.

When is a tea pot like a kitten? When your teas in't, (tea's in it.)

Why are cats like unskilled surgeons? Because they mew-till-late and destroy patients.

Why is a youth encouraging a moustache like a cow's tail? Because he grows down.

When can a donkey be spelt in one letter? When its U.

State why a donkey browsing in a bed of thistles appears unwell? Because he's a little down in the mouth, and looks rather seedy about the face.

Why is a judge's nose like the middle of the earth? Because it is the scenter of gravity.

Why was Blackstone like an Irish vegetable? Because he was a common-tater.

Why ought cocks to be the smoothest birds known? Because they always have a comb about them.

Why are two young ladies kissing each other an emblem of christianity? Because they are doing to each other as they would men should do unto them.

Why is a kiss like a sermon? Because it requires two heads and an application.

Why are books your best friends? Because, when they bore you, you can shut them up without giving offense.

What is the difference between a mouse and a young lady? One wishes to harm the cheese; the other to charm the he's.

What herb is most injurious to a lady's beauty? Thyme.

Why are ladies' eyes like persons separated by the Atlantic ocean? Because, although they may correspond, they never meet.

Why is the letter s like a pert repartee? Because it begins and ends in sauciness.

Why is divinity the easiest of the three learned professions? Because it's easier to preach than to practice.

Why is a short man struggling to kiss a tall woman like an Irishman going up Vesuvius? Because, sure, he is trying to get at the mouth of the crater!

Why are two t's like hops? Because they make beer better.

How do you know Lord Byron did not wear a wig? Because every one admired his coarse hair so much.

What is the most melancholy fact in the history of Milton? That he could "recite" his poems, but not resight himself.

If a tough beefsteak could talk, what English poet would it mention? Chaucer!

Why is little dog's tail like the heart of a tree? Because it is farthest from the bark.

Why are the Germans like quinine and gentian? Because they are two tonics.

Why are lawyers such uneasy sleepers? Because they lie first on one side, and then on the other, and remain wide awake all the time.

What do lawyers do when they die? Lie still.

When is a lawyer like a donkey? When drawing a conveyance.

What is the difference between a spendthrift and a pillow? One is hard up, the other soft down.

It is often asked who introduced salt pork into the navy? Noah, when he took Ham into the ark?

Why is the law like a flight of rockets? Because there is a great expense of powder, the cases are well got up, the reports are excellent, but the stocks are sure to come to the ground.

Why is the nose on your face like v in civility? Because it is between two eyes.

COOL RETORT.

Henderson, the actor, was seldom known to be in a passion. When at Oxford, he was one day debating with a fellow student, who, not keeping his temper, threw a glass of wine in the actor's face; when Henderson took out his handkerchief, wiped his face, and coolly said, "That, sir, was a digression; now for the argument."

COQUETTE.

A coquette has been compared to those light wines which everybody tastes, and nobody buys.

COTTON IS WORSTED.

A man whose name was Cotton, having a dispute, agreed to decide it by appeal to fisticuffs and was vanquished, upon which it was remarked, "that Cotton is worsted."

COULD NOT WEEP.

A melting sermon being preached in a country church, all fell to weeping but one man, who being asked why he did not weep with the rest, "Oh," said he, "I belong to another parish."

COULDN'T CATCH COLD.

On a remarkably hot summer's day, an Irishman, thinly and openly dressed, sitting down in a violent perspiration, was cautioned against catching cold. "Catch it?" said he, wiping his face, "where? I wish I could catch it."

COURAGE, CANDOR, AND MEMORY COMBINED.

A theatrical lady, celebrated for everything but continence, at length resolved to marry and reform. Her conduct was duly canvassed in the dressing room of the theatre. "I am told," cried one, "that she confessed to her liege lord all her amours." "What a proof of courage!" exclaimed one lady. "What an extraordinary instance of candor!" said another. "What an amazing instance of memory!" cried a third.

CRITICAL POLITENESS.

A young author reading a tragedy, perceived his auditor very often pull off his hat at the end of a line, and asked him the reason, "I cannot pass a very old acquaintance," replied the critic, "without that civility."

CRITICS.

Lord Bacon, speaking of commentators, critics, &c., said, "With all their pretensions, they were only brushers of noble-men's clothes."

CROMWELL.

One being asked whom it was that he judged to be the chiefest actor in the murder of the king, he answered in this short enigma or riddle:

"The heart of the loaf, and the head of the spring,  
Is the name of the man that murdered the king."

CROOKED WORDS.

A poor man who had a termagant wife, after a long dispute, in which she was resolved to have the last word, told her, "If she spoke one more crooked word, he'd beat her brains out." "Why then, ram's horns, you rogue," said she, "if I die for it."

CUT DIRECT.

A gentleman having his hair cut, was asked by the garrulous operator, "how he would have it done?" "If possible," replied the gentleman, "in silence."

CUTTING ON BOTH SIDES.

Lord B——, who sported a ferocious pair of whiskers, meeting Mr. O'Connell, in Dublin, "When do you mean to place your whiskers on the peace establishment?" "When you place your tongue on the civil list!" was the rejoinder.

CURE FOR LOVE.

Several years ago, when Mrs. Rogers, the player, was young and handsome, Lord North, and Gray, remarkable for his homely face, accosting her one night behind the scenes, asked her with a sigh, what was a cure for love? "Your lordship," said she, "the best I know in the world."

DANGER OF LOQUACITY.

"Doctor, why have I lost my teeth?" said a talkative female to a physician. "You have worn them out with your tongue," he replied.

DANGEROUS BITING.

Diogenes being asked, "The biting of which beast is the most dangerous?" answered, "If you mean wild beasts, 'tis the slanderers; if tame ones, the flatterers."

DAY AND NIGHT.

A fellow found guilty of burglary before Justice Day, in Ireland, observed, "that his fate was singular, as he had lost by Day what he got by Nights."

DEADLY WEAPON.

"Well, sir," asked a noisy disputant, "don't you think that I have mauled my antagonist to some purpose?" "Oh, yes," replied a listener, "you have—and if ever I should happen to fight with the Philistines, I'll borrow your jaw-bone."

DECANTING EXTRAORDINARY.

Theodore Hook once said to a man at whose table a publisher got drunk, "Why you appear to have emptied your wine-cellar into your book-seller."