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### JOKE AS BASIS OF LAWSUIT.

Interesting Case That Is Said to Be on Record in Chinese Legal Annals.

One of the most interesting cases of compensation for the death of a relative is recorded in Chinese law books. A certain Wu was set on by robbers, and his head nearly severed from his body. His friends, finding him almost dead, with his head hanging by a strip, put the head carefully back in position and applied bandages. The patient, being strong and healthy, the wound healed, and the only sign remaining after a few months was a seam around the throat. Some nine years later Wu was sitting among friends at a banquet. Some one made a really good joke; all laughed; as for Wu, he flung back his head and simply roared.

Horror! The seam opened, and Wu's head fell to the floor. All efforts to repeat the operation of the former occasion failed, and a perceptible gloom was cast over the remainder of the feast.

Wu's father, thus deprived of the future attentions of one of those whose duty it would have been to worship him after death, brought an action for heavy damages against the man who made the joke that precipitated disaster. Unfortunately, the case never went to a decision, as it was settled out of court on terms satisfactory to the plaintiff.

### Youthful Elopers.

The youthful elopement in Dickens' pretty story was duplicated in real life the other day, when Jesse Yeakey, aged four years, and Annie Theresa Unterfashberger, aged three years, left their respective homes in Portland, Ore., and wandered down town hand in hand, intent on getting married. The course of true love never did run smooth, however, and the little romance was spoiled by Patrolman Riley, who met the tots in the heart of the business district. The boy was much abashed by the man in uniform, but the girl blushed out their plan to get married and visit a moving-picture show. When taken to the police station, where their frantic parents were waiting, there was a scene. "No," screamed the little girl breaking into tears as her mother started to take her away, "Annie wants to stay and marry Jesse."

### His Role.

The actor of the stranded troupe protested at the prospect of footling the flies.

"Quit your kicking," said the manager, impatiently; "you signed as walking gentleman, didn't you?"

### A Busy Holiday.

"Now, I don't think 'Timmy'll be staying long on this new job he's took up wid," said Mrs. Herlby. "'Tis too hard for him. Sure he gets no rist at all from Monda' mornin' till Sathurday night, and 'tis not what the man's used to."

"He has his Sundays to rist in," hazarded the caller, boldly.

"An' what o' that?" said Mrs. Herlby. "On Sunda's he has to go to church, an' take the children to their grandmamma's, an' visit wid his cousin's an' all—'tis no rist at all."

"'Twas wan day out of ivery fertint he had wid the odd job, wan't it?" queried the caller.

"It was," said Mrs. Herlby, "an' 'twas a grand vacation he had. I'd save ivery bit o' the vacation, an' he'd wing it out fine, an' bring it on the line for me; this he'd save an' shap'd wad enough to last till the next vacation day, an' he'd save ivery part in the house an' shap'd up the house an' the wiler, an' wath the wiler an' the wiler always be some little extra help. Divin' nolls or the like, he end give me."

"An' whin he'd go to bed at night he'd never fall to say to me: 'Well, Gella, my vacation day is over, but I feel like it's made me ready to go back to work to-morrow,' he'd say."

—Louth's Companion.

### Sinners All.

I fell into temptations incident to my profession. I commit only the crimes that are required in my profession; but I commit them. . . . I think that the clergy would be doing a big service should they take their congregations and know them and the temptations of the men, and the professions that are represented there; and when they find a banker does this thing, know enough about banking to know whether it is real banking or whether it is "financing," and then when they know that, find out how this thing compares with what other men do. . . . Let the man go on committing his sin and take his burden of it, but help him to see that we are all doing it together, that it is a system; that it is true he must do these things, and then prepare his mind for the time when an attempt will be made to change it all, and then tell him to be ready to make the sacrifice with the rest of us.—Lincoln Steffens' Address Before Boston Universalist Clergy-men.

### Lacking Warmth.

"The critics all say that my pictures lack warmth."

"Do you work in oils?"

"Yes."

"Then why not paint in a few oil stoves?"

## Rich Roast Beef.

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