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## JEPSON'S TROUBLES

"I don't know why it is," said Mre Jepson, "that you will persist in sharp ening your razor on the cover of the cyclopaedia. Half of the volumes are all nicked, and I think it's just too aw ful for anything."
"I will tell you why I use the cyclo paedia," replied Mr. Jepson. "In the first place, it puts a fine edge on my razor. In the second plac, no one ever thinks of reading the cyclopaedia, or even refers to it, and I think it is better wo use it an a razor-strop than not to use it at all. In the third place, you went and took my razor-strop to make hioges for the refrigerator. Your mos sudden, but not unusual, outburst, my dear, is only similar in character to one of three or four weeks ago, when you wound my corkserew into the key-hole of a bureau drawer that was stuck by humidity, and then attempted to yank it open. You broke the corkscrew beyond repair aud made it useless, and you flew into a wild empurpled passion when you saw me trying to pry the cork out of a bottle of claret with a ailver fork." Mre. Jepson played a tattoo on the carpet with her dainty Marie Antoinnette slippere, and bit her lips, but said nothing. She had so much to say that ahe didn't know where or how to begin and consequently could eay nothing at all.

Mr. Jepson made up his mind that, as he had his wife at a disadvantage, he would make the beet of the golden opportunity thus offered, so made great haste, not knowing at what moment her power of epeech might be reatored.
"Only two weeks ago you told me that I was not living up to myself or to the dignity of my house and family, because I was wearing bone collar-buttons that are vended on the street at the rate of three for five cents, and you atamped your dear little foot on the floor and demauded a good and aufficient reason for my departure from gold studs to bone collar-buttong. And then you Hew into tears when 1 smiled awe upon you and informed you that it was all because you had appropriated my all because you had appropriated my
etuda to wear in your shirtwaist, and etuds to wear in your shirtwaist, and
were wearing them at the very moment were wearing them at the very moment
that you were taking me to task for not that you were taking me to task for not having them on, and-"
Here her power of apeech returned, and Mr. Japson took a reat, while Mra, Jepson gave an exhibition which set forth the flexibility and scope of the English language. When she subsided, Englieh language.
he went on quietly.
"You ghould try to
"Ynu should try to be consistent, to say the least. Why do you use my lathering-brush for the muesilage when you want to stick autumn leaves it your scrap book?"
"Did I ever do that?" she almost hiseed.
"I don't know that you ever did," he replied, "but I simply mention it as a thing that I don't want you ever to do

Now if it ever nccurs to you to do it, kindly don't do it, like a dear, good girl." Despite her most Prantic efforts to look figrce she smiled a smile that was like a ribbon of sunshine rippling through a deep dark akg.
"And," he continued, "when you have something in the way of fixing to do don't uss any of my things without asking me first. Don't ever ask me if I missed it afterward. Never use my manicure scissors to litt tacks or trim lamp wicks with."
"I never, never do!" replied Mrz Jepgon, who was by this time on the defensive,
"I know you don't, my dear, and kiddly continue not to do it, and then I'll never uss your gold hat-pin to clean my pipe with. Now wouldn't you be hopping mad if I were to ram that delicate fragile gold hat-pin througb the stem of my brier-wood pipe?"
"Indeed I would!" she sald with a keen appreciation of an act so outrag. eous. And then she came up closer and closer, and said, probably to turn the subject of debate, or rather couflict:
"That standing collar doesn't appear to be able to stand the bumidity of to. day. Why don't you puton a clean one or dinner, dear?"
"Bseause I have not a clean one."
"Do you mean to aay that that one you have on is your last slean collar?" "No."
"Then where is it?"
"Why, you have it buttoned on your shirt waiat now."
"Now please don't blow me up,", she pleaded.
"All right. May I sharpen my razor on the cyclopaedia?"
"You may."
"And another thing," he said in conclusion: "Never get mad at me for anything, because that spoils all my attempts to be decent to you."
"All right, I won't," she enghed; "but-but-"
"But what?" he asked.
"But how did you come to get that yellow hair on your coat, aleeve?", she gasped
"That," he eaid, lifting it up and looking at it carefully-'that hair came to get there in this way: Before brushed my coat this morning you part ed the Scotch terriur's muatard-colored hair all the way down the spinal column with my silver-backed clothes brush."
R. K. Munkittrick, in The Buzar.

I'll make you look like thirty centa remarked the facetious nickel us it rubled up againat the quarter.

A man does not have to die in battle to sorve his country.
That's true. Some could serve it jus as well by dying quietly and peacefully at home.

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