

WAS JUST GOING TO SAY.

But the Car Started and She Lost Her Opportunity.

They sat side by side on one of the first open street cars of the season—two middle-aged women, to whom the "art of conversation" was evidently a dear delight.

"And I said to Mary Ellen, says I, 'Mary Ellen, that's no way to act when John Henry is trying his best to get along.' I talked right up to her, because she needed it, and—"

"Yes, and I was going to say that—"

"Of course she needed it, and being old enough to be her mother, she'd stand it better from me than from some others, and—"

"Yes, but I was just going to say that—"

"It's pleasant to have the open cars on again, isn't it?" One can see everything. It rests me to ride on the open cars and I often come out just for the ride; but this warm weather won't last. It wouldn't surprise me to see more snow."

"No, nor me either; but what I was going to say was—"

"Did you ever see the hats and bonnets as gay as they are this spring? And don't they come high? Well, I guess! Lucy Martin got her a \$20 bonnet last week and there isn't much on it, either. How she can feel like putting that much into a bonnet in their circumstances is a mystery to me. But dress is everything to some folks."

"Yes, that's so, but I was going to say—"

"Did you know that the Tynghs had a little boy. Yes, they have, and I guess the city can hardly hold Sam Tyngh. You know they've had five girls right along and no boy. I call that pretty bad luck."

"I think it is. I was just going to say that—"

"A cousin of mine once had seven little boys before she had a girl and they fairly worshiped the child when it did come. My! She was a spoiled piece. Have you noticed that the Springers are painting their house?"

"Yes, and it needed it bad enough. But I was going to say—"

"I was over to Mrs. Springer's the other day. She had her face all tied up with the neuralgia and two of the children had the mumps and they'd just got over the measles, and you know they had scarlet fever in the house all of last fall. I'd hate to have their doctor bills."

"So would I. I was going to say—"

"Oh, I got off here. Come and see me—do! I'm real glad I met you. What a nice long talk we've had, haven't we?"

"Yes, and I was going to say—"

But the car went on and she never said it.

SINISTER CONFESSION.

The Temperance Meeting Only Partially a Success.

"Was the temperance meeting well attended last night, Ike?" inquired the able editor of the Hawville Clarion, the other morning, says the New York World.

"Wal, yes, an' no," replied Alkali Ike judicially. "It began an' ramin' along that way for quite a spell, but sorter petered out in the middle of the evenin' in a drizzling gitaway, as you might call it."

"What do you mean?"

"Tell you how it was: The meetin' opened up ram-jam full of enthusiasm; the speaker tore loose an' depicted the awful work of the rum demon so vividly that the audience was soon worked up mighty near to the yellin' point. The sisters began for to sing out hally-looyers an' the brothers to grunt plenty joyful, an' then, jest as all hands were about to the point of startin' to millin' around, Appetite Bill ariz an' in a voice choked with emotion, begged the privilege of sayin' a few words. Permission havin' been granted him, he said, feelingly, that the hid-jusness of liker-drinkin' had been so strongly impressed upon him that he had determined to swear off, then, an' thar, an', to show that he meant to stick by his resolution, he added that as soon as the meetin' was over he aimed to go and take a jug of meller, 8-year-old Battle-Ax whisky, which he'd hid in the southwest corner of the lumber yard about the middle of the afternoon, an' 'detroy the vile stuff."

"Upon this, the sisters an' old brothers swarmed on to Appetite, an' a grand walk-round, handshakin' ensued, an' when the solemn jollification had sorter quieted down it was noticed that about all of the gentlemen, except me an' the orator an' the good old brothers, who had been powwowin' around the reformed man had mysteriously disappeared. We couldn't seem to git up much enthusiasm after that, an' directly the meetin' adjourned."

"Where had the men gone?" asked the editor.

"Down to the lumber yard after that thar jug," responded Isaac.

"H'm! Why didn't you go, too?"

"Hub! No reason why I should. I'd overseen him hidin' in it in the afternoon, an' had quietly removed it about ten minutes later an' hid it out in a safe place, known only to myself."

What She Liked.

"I hope, Mr. Soonly," murmured the young lady, "that you do not let your right hand know what your left hand doeth." "I—I never do," answered young Mr. Soonly, as with his left arm resting on the back of her chair he felt nervously around with the piece of mistletoe he had brought in his pocket. "I am glad to know it," she resumed shortly afterward as she arranged her hair. "There is nothing like being close-mouthed." So he acted on that hint also.—New York Recorder.

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