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Little Man

The "Biggest Boy" has gone away, But "Little Man" is here. I miss the "Big Boy's" heavy tread, But, rising sweet and clear, I hear the "Little Man's" request When "Daddy's" face he sees: "I'm papa's ownest Little Man— Give me a penny, please!"

The "Biggest Boy" is not at home, And though his absence hurts At least there's comfort—I can find Clean collars, socks and shirts. And when I look about and see The "Little Man" at play, That lonesome feeling in my heart Just somehow fades away.

The "Biggest Boy" has "hit the trail," But "Little Man" still stands Beside his "Daddy's" easy chair And stretches out his hands; He smiles and says with coaxing voice While climbing on my knees: "I'm papa's little man today; Give me some candy, please!"

One boy has gone to fight his fight; One boy remains with me— The "Biggest Boy" with bearded lip, The "Little Man" aged three. And may the one who's far away 'Midst life's hard toil and care Remain as fond of "Dad" as he Who stands beside my chair.

Often the Case

"I have often noticed," remarked Uncle Bill Pepper, "that a lot of men who are always worrying about the pedigree of their live stock never pay any attention to furnishing a good pedigree for their children."

Justified

"You are charged with having violently assaulted the plaintiff while in a public resort. What have you to say?"

"Judge, the orchestra was rendering the 'Sextette' from 'Lucia,' and that fellow sat right behind me and persisted in whistling it through his teeth."

"The prisoner is discharged. The plaintiff is fined \$11 for action calculated to provoke an assault."

Open Season

I feel the tang of April in the breeze, And hear the unlocked waters gently swish;

I see the buds are swelling on the trees—

And, gee! The open season's on for fish.

The April sun is warming hill and glade,

The birds are singing spring songs, early, late;

Now where on earth did I lay down that spade?

I've got to find the thing and dig some bait.

Is This Correct?

A youthful reader in Iowa asks the philosopher of this department to explain the origin of the term "watered stocks."

The philosopher has heard many explanations, but the most likely one is to this effect: Many years ago an old stock shipper in Kansas loaded up a few carloads of steers and started them to Chicago. He distributed a barrel of salt in each car, and by agreement with the railroad

stopped the stock in transit about six hours out of Chicago and watered. The thirst-crazed steers drank all they could hold, and as a result weighed thirty or forty pounds more when they were unloaded on the scales at the stock yards. The old fellow couldn't keep the secret and told a friend. The habit grew until the stockyards people got on to it and put a stop to the practice by refusing to weigh until after twenty-four hours had passed after unloading.

If this isn't the best explanation, will somebody please give a better?

Of Graver Importance

"Bingerly, did you ever stop to think of the terrible injustice wrought upon us by the iniquitous—"

"Ain't worryin' none about iniquities; open season for fishin' an' I got to dig some bait."

"But, Bingerly, the hand of the oppressor is laid heavily upon us and we should rise in our manhood and—"

"Am risin'; ducks flyin' thick an' I'm on my way down t' th' ammunition store."

"O, man, man! With oppression upon every hand, with serfdom staring us in the face, we should—"

"Don't see no oppression; bargain sale o' fishin' tackle at Smith's store, an' th' reel I've been hankerin' for is marked down 50 per cent."

"How can you submit quietly to these injustices when—"

"Ain't submittin' t' nothin'. Pay a lot o' congressmen t' look after that. Can't hire a feller t' do my fishin' for me. So long!"

Muddled

The visitor from Mars was seeking information, thinking to use it to the advantage of his own people when he returned home.

"Why do you put a tariff on wool?" he asked. "Does it not make the people pay more for their clothing?"

"O, no," replied his instructor. "You see, we put this tariff on wool because it increases the price of the product to the producer by shutting out foreign competition."

"Well, does not that result in an increased price for clothing?"

"Indeed not. We follow up the wool tariff by putting a tariff on manufactured woolers, which prevents foreign competition, thus stimulating home manufactures and resulting in fierce competition among manufacturers, which results in greatly decreased prices to the buyer of clothing."

"So a tariff on wool increases the price to the producer, and tariff on clothing decreases the price that the producer receives?"

"Yes."

"Well, I guess I'll go back home. I can see no sense in wasting time trying to secure useful information from a people who accept that sort of doctrine."

So saying the Martian pushed the speed lever of his airship to the fourth notch and sailed away.

Do Not Judge Hastily

"I beg your pardon, sir."

"Well, I'll not grant it."

Before you condemn the man who refused to grant pardon when asked, investigate the facts. It was a convicted horse thief, and he was addressing the governor.

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