2 September, 1893

Bits of Fun

After all, the difference between a true-hearted girl and a flirt is only trifling.--Troy Press.

A short history of China: A seven-dollar tea-cup and a three-dollar servant-girl.—Washington Star.

"That remains to be seen," as the boy said when he spilt the ink on the tablecloth.—London Answers.

"What sort of a girl is she?" "Oh, she is a miss with a mission." "Ah ?" "And her mission is seeking a man with a mansion."-Sketch.

A young lady said to her dressmaker: "If women are ever allowed to vote, what do you suppose will be the fashion for voting-dresses?" — *Tit-Bits*.

Brush—So you're going to give up art and study medicine, eh? Pencil—Yes, it's easier to be a doctor; you don't have to bother about anatomy .-- Life.

It is interesting and somewhat disquieting to note how much more identification it takes to cash a check than it does to get lynched.-Washington Star.

Rescuer—"Hurry! Quick! Throw her a life preserver." Drowning Girl—"Haven't— you—a—white—one? That—dirty—drab— doesn't—match—my—blue—suit."—*Puck.*

Assistant-Who is this Professor Smith that is to speak at the banquet this evening? City Editor—Don't know; just refer to him as the "well-known Professor Smith."—Raymond's Monthly.

Truly, Job was a patient creature! Doubt-less it was in the dry-goods store that he mur-mured to himself, "All the days of my ap-pointed time will I wait till my change come." -Boston Transcript.

Gus De Smith—Well, Tom, I hear you eloped with a rich girl. Was it a success? Tom Fewscads—Not altogether. Her father telegraphed that he will forgive us if we don't come back.—*Texas Siftings*.

Emeline-I'm awfully afraid I've offended Archie. Annabel—In what way? Emeline— I broke our engagement and forgot to tell him about it until I'd given it out to the society papers.—*Chicago Record*.

Little Dot-I don't see how cows can eat grass. Little Dick—I s'e now cows can can young the mother cows keeps sayin' to their childrens, "If you don't eat grass, you sha'n't have any pie."—Good News.

Dealer-This is the best parrot we have; but I wouldn't sell him without letting yon know his one fault; he'll grumble terribly if his food doesn't suit him. Miss Prime—I'll take him. It will seem like having a man in the house.—*Wonder*.

A Detroit man who doesn't worry greatly over burglars, but who does worry over the fact that the house he lives in isn't paid for, fact that the house he lives in isn't paid for, was roused from his slumbers the other night by his wife. "What is it?" he asked drow-sily. "Sh-sh," she whispered, "burglars." "Where?" "On the house. I heard them walking over the roof. There! listen!" He listened and turned over. "Well, my dear," he said yawning, "there's nothing on the house but the mortgage, and the Lord knows they can take that off if they want it. Let's go to sleep and not disturb them."-Detroit Free Press. Press.

English Pronunciation

To say "libel" instead of label, or "stroick" To say "libel" instead of label, or "stroick" instead of strike, would be, says a writer in "Chambers' Journal," to acknowledge our-selves to be of cockney origin; nevertheless, all the world over Thames becomes "Tems." We sound Greenwich as if it were "Grinige," while Woolwich correspondingly becomes "Woolige," and then we pride ourselves upon speaking the queen's English correctly, al-though, perhaps, we really do speak grammati-cally, even in the face of these apparent blun-

recognition of custom with regard to speech? Yet in all this we give strong grounds for dis-ciples of phonography to base their arguments upon. It is doubtless to save time and trouble that Cirencester is abbreviated into "Cices-ter," Willesden into "Willsden," Sydenham into "Sydnam," Woolfardisworthy into "Wool-sery." Brithemstone is a thing of the past, for when that little Sussex village expanded itself into the dimensions of a town, it equal-"Brighton." But even when we meet with a short and seemingly simple word like Derby we must needs sound the "e" as if it were an "a ' and say "Darby j" nor is the reason apparent why the country of Shropshire should be sometimes converted into "Salop," nor Barnstable into "Barum." For brevity's sake we write "Wills," "Yorks," "Berks," instead we write "Wilts," "Yorks," "Berks," instead of Wiltshire, Yorkshire and Berkshire—which last named, by the way, following the before mentioned lead of Derby, metamorpheses itself into "Barkshire." In a similar manner "Harford" or "Hartford" represents Hert-ford. Salisbury is pronounced "Salusberry," and the favorite termination for the name of a town, burg, is sounded as if written "burror," thus expanding the word by a more inexplicable thus expanding the word by a more inexplicable process than that by which Jack Tar calls a helm a "hellum." Baidgeworthy water, a helm a "hellum." Baidgeworthy water, a stream figuring somewhat prominently in "Lorna Doone," is locally called "Badgery water, while in the neighboring county of Somerset an obscure little village with the rather ambiguous title of Bathealton is in-variably known as "Battletown," and Newport (Isle of Wight) becomes "Nipput" in the language of Wessex. Such changes are not altogether surprising in localities where tradi-tional marks are intrusted to the keeping of a tional names are intrusted to the keeping of a semi-educated peasantry, but surely we are entitled to expect more care and consideration in the great centers of learning. However, as a matter of fact, we are disappointed in this respect, even in our universities—at least as regards the names of colleges—for at Oxford we have Magdalen pronounced "Maudlin," while at Cambridge Caius becomes "Keys."

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A Family Paper

ders, for what is grammar but the official

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