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SHORT STORIES.**THAT'S THE TICKET.**

Wife (to husband): "John, what are you going to give your uncle for a Birthday present?"
Husband: "My watch."

THE SAFE SIDE.

The burglar climbed over the office partition. "It is well to be on the safe side," he said. Then he began to work on the vault.

HELD.

Under a spreading tree they sat.
He held her hands, she held his hat,
I held my breath and lay quite flat.
They kissed. I saw them do it.
He held that kissing was no crime,
She held her head up every time,
I held my peace, and wrote this rhyme.
While they thought no one knew it.

A GIVE-AWAY.

Inquisitive neighbour, "Your ma's hair is as black as if she dyed it. Does she really dye it, Tommy?"
Tommy: "Oh no, she don't dye it. That's the colour it was when she bought it."

BEVERAGES.

Stipendiary Plowden was once discussing beverages with a fellow club member.
"Have you ever tried gin and ginger beer?" asked the young fellow.
"No," replied Mr Plowden, "but I've tried a lot of folks who have."

THE DEFINITION.

"Papa, what is a waac?"
"A waac, my lad, oh, I believe it's a specie of a wren."
"Could you tell me how they're caught, papa?"
"Well, I couldn't say exactly, my boy, but I believe one has to make a noise like an officer."

O, DEAR, NO!

"What brought you here, my poor man?" inquired the prison visitor.
"Well, lady," replied the prisoner, "I guess my trouble started from attending too many wedding's."
"Ah! You learned to drink there, or steal, perhaps?"
"No, lady; I was always the bridegroom."

AN EYE FOR THE HOUNDS.

Charles Fox and his friend, Mr Hare, both much incommoded by dogs, were together in a house, when seeing some shabby men about the door, they were afraid they were bailiffs in search of one of them. Not knowing which was in danger, Fox opened the window, and calling to them said, "Pray, gentlemen, are you Fox hunting or Hare hunting?"

GOOD BUSINESS.

"Your business college for young ladies seems to be all right."
"It is all right."
"Do you give the girls a good, practical business training?"
"In reply to that question I can only say that sixty per cent. of our graduates marry their employers the first year."

A CHANGE IN PLANS.

Two tramps had followed a wealthy man through many miles of streets waiting for a favourable opportunity to rob him. Suddenly he stopped before the residence of a lawyer, ran up the steps, rang the bell, and was admitted.

The tramps looked at each other in disgust.

"Well," said one to the other—
"Well," said one, "What's to be done? suppose we shall have to wait for him to come out?"

"Not likely," said the other, "we shall have to wait for the lawyer now."



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