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Bits of Humor

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It is also true that the jury is sometimes moved by a sudden wave of excitement and is prejudiced in its decision.

Fortunately these waves move usually against the guilty. But is the jury moved more than other tribunals? Would a judge render an impartial decision in such a case? Those who answer this question in the affirmative base their argument on the premise that judges are superhuman and that it is harder to influence the mind of one man than the minds of twelve men. The same thing may be said with reference to bribery.

The jury should consist of twelve honest and intelligent men from the community. If we say the American citizen is not equal to his task, we belie American manhood, contradict the course of judicial proceedings, and fail in the duty to the communities which rely upon us for a legislative machine by which juries are to be secured.

Trial by jury is an institution which the people control. To take it away would be depriving the people of their share of the right in the administration of justice.

The advantage of trial by jury may be summed up in the following words of Elihu Root: "I do not now believe that the people are dissatisfied with the time honored institution of trial by jury. I am not dissatisfied with it, sir. I believe it is one of the most important, most vital, and most sacred of the institutions which maintain our free and popular government. I believe it serves to bring the people—not lawyers and judges, the plain people—who vote, and who underlie the whole structure of our government, into immediate participation in the administration of law. I believe that it mitigates the severe logic of our law, and makes its administration tolerable; and I believe that it reaches correct results in fact and in reason, though not always by logic."

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**BITS OF HUMOR**

**Cutting.**

In a case of slander a lady had gone into the witness-box on behalf of the plaintiff, whose counsel was examining her.

"Now, madam," the lawyer began, "please repeat the slanderous
statements made by the defendant on this occasion just as you heard them."

"Oh, they are unfit for any respectable person to hear," was the emphatic answer.

"Then," said the examiner, coaxingly, "suppose you just whisper them to the judge?"—Tit-Bits.

Too Short.

At a time when it was thought that Germany wanted to get a foothold in Holland, Bismarck and the Dutch Ambassador stood watching a review of the German Army. As a well set up body of men marched past the Ambassador said: "Fine soldiers, but too short." Then came the Grenadiers, between six and seven feet tall; nevertheless the Ambassador's comment was the same as before: "Fine soldiers, but too short."

"What does your Excellency mean?" asked Bismarck.

"I mean that we can flood Holland eight feet deep," replied the Ambassador.—Boston Transcript.

Love is a dream; marriage is an alarm clock.

Not What He Meant.

The Nost—"It's beginning to rain; you'd better stay to dinner."
The Guest—"Oh, thanks very much; but it's not bad enough for that."—Yale Record.

Nine Points of the Law.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth," quoted the good deacon.

"They may inherit it, all right," said the backslider, "but they never seem to take possession."—Judge.

Only Way to Get It.

Slowitt—How do you find trade?
Swiftleigh—I don't find it at all. I advertise for it.
No Cause for Alarm.

"This magazine presumes to indict me for nefarious business practices."

"Don’t let that worry you. The magazines indict plenty of people that the district attorney can’t quite reach."

A Nation Contest.

What nation has brought about the most terrible wars? Indig-nation.
What nation creates fear and terror? Conser-nation.
What nation exercises the greatest authority? Domi-nation.
What nation is very crafty and sly? Machi-nation.
What nation is given over to destruction? Rui-nation.
What nation has produced the most kings? Coro-nation.
What nation did the old prophets come from? Divi-nation.
What nation is the slowest nation? Procrasti-nation.
What nation is famous for its lighting system? Illumi-nation.

No Spoils to Share.

An old negro was charged with chicken-stealing, and the judge said:

"Where’s your lawyer, uncle?"
"Ain’t got none, jedge."
"But you ought to have one," returned the Court. "I’ll assign one to defend you."
"No, sah, no, sah, please don’t do dat," begged the defendant.
"Why not?" persisted the judge. "It won’t cost you anything. Why don’t you want a lawyer?"

Vague Questioning.

"Do you believe in whipping?"
"Please be a little specific; eggs and cream, or children?"
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