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MR. PUNCH'S BOOK
OF LOVE





Eduin (suadently, after a long pause). "Darling!" Angelina.
Eduin. "Nothing, darling. Only darling, darling!"
"Yes, darling?" [Bilious Old Gentleman feels quite sick.]

MR. PUNCH'S BOOK OF LOVE

BEING
THE HUMOURS OF COURT-
SHIP AND MATRIMONY



WITH 150 ILLUSTRATIONS

BY

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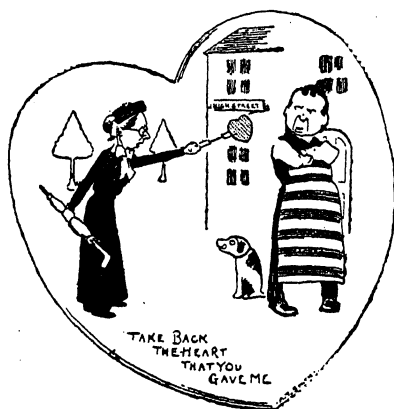
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WITH THE CHILDREN



ABOUT MATRIMONIAL JOKES, AND ONE IN PARTICULAR



F all Mr. Punch's jokes it might be fair to say that none has ever rivalled the popularity of "Advice to persons about to marry,—Don't!" unless it be that of the Scotsman who had been no more than a few hours in London, "when bang went saxpence!" Of the latter, more in its place; here, we are immediately concerned with "Punch's advice." The most preposterous stories are current among the uninformed as to the origin of some of Mr. Punch's favourite jests. Only recently we heard a gentleman telling a group of people in a hotel smoking-room that Mark Twain got a hundred pounds from *Punch* for writing that famous line, "I used your soap two years ago; since then I have used no other," familiar to every one by Mr. Harry Furniss's drawing of a disreputable tramp who is supposed to be writing the words quoted. As a matter of fact, the idea came to Mr. Furniss from an anonymous correspondent. Stories equally, if not more, absurd have been told as to the origin of "Punch's advice," which, thanks to the researches of Mr. Spielmann, we now know to have been the happy inspiration of Henry Mayhew, one of the founders of *Punch*. It was sixty-one years ago that Mayhew wrote the line, and how many millions of