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Autor: Isler, F.
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ABOUT WILLS.

By F. ISLER.

When I was a young boy I had an old Uncle
Whose nose was as red as a flaming carbuncle,
His thirst was terrific, his manners refined —
Supposed to be rich, with his pockets well-lined.

He lived with my parents, his payments were nil,
He borrowed some cash on the strength of his will;
But after his death my parents were worried —
He died without means to be decently buried.

When I was apprenticed, my upright old Chief
Said "Always be honest" and "Don't be a thief."
After long years of service, devoted and willing,
He left me his Bible — and a mouldy old shilling!

Then I posted a letter to a close-fisted Aunt:
"Will you leave me some money? She replied, "No,
I shan't!"
My answer was brief: "Do just as you like —
"I hope you get drowned — or bumped off your old
bike."

Next day came a wire: "Please remove wicked curse
"And I'll make you sole heir of the wealth I disburse.
"Have mercy, dear nephew — I can ride on the path
"When I'm out on my bike — but I MUST have a
bath!"

Once I asked a rich widow to be gen'rous and kind
And leave a donation to the Old and the Blind;
But I read in "The Times" — and it gave me the
rats —
She left All to a Home for Stray Dogs and Old Cats.

There was Darby and Joan, who lived happy for years;
When Darby lay dying, Joan was drowned in her
tears —
But when reading the Will, people said it looked shady
To leave half to one's wife and half to some lady.

I frequently note that substantial bequests
Are going to people with well-feathered nests,
Whilst the Old and the Needy, being timid and tame,
Are ignored or forgotten, which I think is a shame.

Another conundrum which is puzzling my head:—
Why be kept in suspense until people are dead?
Why pray for their peace and eternal salvation
Before being sure of a gift or donation?

I've drawn the conclusion that sometimes a Will
Is a Boom and a Blessing, and sometimes a pill!
When making your Will, spiced with Goodwill and
piety
Remember the SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

* * *

P.S.—Readers who have made their Wills, but
forgotten the S.B.S. should ring up their solicitors
about a Codicil. Alternatively, readers wishing to
assist the Funds of the Swiss Benevolent Society are
invited to send a cheque or Postal Order, crossed and
made payable to the Swiss Benevolent Society, to 31,
Conway Street, London, W.1, mentioning this appeal.



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