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THE VAGABOND

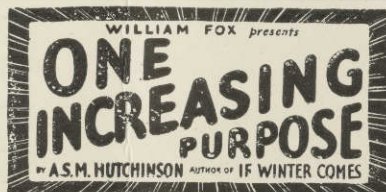
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THE MAGGOTS'LL GITCHA

A fine pair of maggots
Were chinning one day
About the various banquets
That come their way;

And one, unmanneredly—
As maggots will—
Reflectively wielded
A toothpicking quill,

While the other exuded
Pessimistic gloom
In a manner quite unusual
For a maggot to assume.

The cheerful one complacently
Surveyed his girth
And sardonically explained his
store
Of after-dinner mirth;

O her feet were full of dancing,
And her heart was full of love;
She made quite the finest dinner I
have had.

Tho she'd gone a bit romancing,
She was tender as a dove
And quite belied her name for being bad.

But I wouldn't dare enumerate
Specifically her charms,
She was just about as perfect as
they're made.
You're wrong if you presume I ate
Only her lovely arms,
Tho the world had said bon voyage
—with a spade!

Then the gloomy maggot tightened
His dyspeptic belt,
And unburdened his bosom
Thus of how he felt:

I nibbled his old gander-shanks,
I chewed his withered thighs,
In vain I labored till my teeth were
dull;
I couldn't pierce his ga'nt old
flanks,

I didn't like his eyes
So I took a chance on what was in
his skull.

This guy'd been a professor; see?
And many a dusty tome
Was all I found, no matter where
I'd squirm.

Now brother, I confess, for me
A highly cultured dome
Makes dam poor pickings for a
hungry worm!

—Addie Noydes.

The VAGABOND

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