



## CAESAR ERNST INTERVIEW

*In this interview, Mr. Ernst reiterates a story in which he used his deafness, and an ear trumpet to have some fun with a door-to-door saleswoman.*

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We thought everybody in the State knew we were deaf. But once in awhile we find one who is not aware of the fact. A female book peddler came to the office the other day. She wished to dispose of a book. She was alone in this world, and had no one to whom she could turn for sympathy or assistance; hence we should buy her book. She had received a liberal education, and could talk French like a native; we could not, in consequence, pay her less than \$2.00 for a book. We had listened attentively, and here broke in with ----- "What did you say? We're deaf." ----- She started in a loud voice, and went through her rigmarole. When she had finished, we went and got a roll of paper, made it into a speaking trumpet, one end to our ear, and told her to proceed. She nearly broke a blood vessel in her efforts to make herself heard.

She commenced: "I am alone in the world"

"It doesn't make the slightest difference to us. We are a husband and a father. Bigamy is not allowed in this State. We are not eligible to proposals." "Oh what a fool that man is!" she said in a low tone; then at the top of her voice, "I don't want to marry you, I want to sell a b-o-o-k!" This last sentence was howled.

We don't want a cook," we remarked blandly; "our wife does the cooking, and she would not allow as good looking a woman as you are to stay in the house five minutes." - She looks at us in despair, gathering her robes about her, gave a glance of contempt, she exclaimed: "I do believe that if a three-hundred pounder were let off alongside of that deaf fool's head he'd think somebody was knocking at the door.