

A Fable in Engineering Slang

THE BUMPTIOUS YOUTH WHO TRIED TO BUTT IN.

There was once an Elongated Individual answering to the Cognomen of E. Lenny Longman, who was more Stuck on himself than a Fly on a Sheet of Tanglefoot. In other words, he was a Mogul whose Upper Works consisted principally of a Fine Large Whistle. He was such a Warm Proposition that whenever he stood off to get a good look at himself he invariably burnt a Hole in his Crown-Sheet and had to be Shopped for Repairs. Out in High Sassiety he was It, he thought, but whenever he came into the Ball Room towing a Cargo of Perishable Freight, everyone rubbered and wondered when he broke loose. Now, there was a certain young Maid that the B. Y. had his Eye upon, but couldn't Raise Steam enough to Brace up to her. If she looked at him at less than forty-five Degrees, he would Stop on the Center, and they had to get Busy with the Donkey-Engine to throw him over. Then the Sand would give out and he would Slide the Wheels back down the Grade to where he started from. Finally, he resolved to be Real Brave and find out what was In It for him, so he put on a new Coat of Paint with Gilt Stripes, got a Clear Track and did half-time down to the Dame's Palatial Residence. Then he Cut off Behind the Tank and ran in on the Siding. He did the proper Stunt for the occasion, as prescribed in Madame Squeegee's handbook on "How to Propose," and waited for Gwendolyn to cuddle. But, somehow, his calculations were at fault, for he didn't win. In short, she threw him over, and she didn't need a Donkey-Engine either.

Thereupon, Lenny decided that he would never, never do it again, and became President of the Society for the Suppression of Over-Wise Profs.

MORAL:—Never run by a Danger Signal.