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annotations on footnotes
by
orlando mezzabotta

F1 Picking on Nickagain, Pikey Mikey?

300.1: Want to join the police. [1]

If we read "**police**" as Greek "polis" (city), we might detect Kev's invitation to Dolph to be in accord, to accept (**join**) the laws (**police**) of the city (polis), thus an implicit hint at Dublin's motto: "***Obedientia Civium Urbis Felicitas***" (*The obedience of the citizens makes a happy city*). And this triggers the sarcastic remark of the footnote.

Pikey Mikey is Kev, the archangel Michael, armed with his sword/pike, playing the usual (**again**) "pain in the neck / pain in the Nick": picking Nick, piking him and eating him (picnic and French "pain" : bread).

F2 Early morning, sir Dav Stephens, said the First Gentleman in youreups.

300.08 carrotty! [2]

Those who are not acquainted with Italian won't catch "caro te!" (Dear you!), an idiomatic warning advice, a sort of "watch out!", that in this case fits well the context, since Kev is foreboding Dolph's punishment. And there is probably also a hint at the "carrot and stick" policy, with Dolph running after "carrots" (Italian "carote" – plural) and doomed to be beaten hard. In the footnote we find an aristocrat (**First Gentleman in youreups**), 'First Gentleman of Europe', King George IV (fweet), who promotes Davy Stephens, a modest man in the street (to be found soon in F4), an anonymous newspaper vendor



into an aristocratic "Sir", because of his operosity, since he gets up early for work (**Early morning**); but who, in fact, is planning a painful trick against him (**youreups** : up yours!).

By the way: since "**early morning**" could be a "good morning" as well, there might be a vague hint at the Italian proverb "*Il buon giorno si vede dal mattino*", (You predict a good day at sunrise), literally "The good day may be seen at early morning". Quite fitting Kev's orthodox moralism.

F3 **Bag bag blockcheap, have you any will?**

300.12 : me ah err eye ear marie to reat from the jacob's [3]

Here we have a cross reference to the biblical Esau/Jacob episode and to Jacobs' "*Sweet Marie Biscuits*" (fweets). The biscuits corresponding to Jacob's lentils, which Esau cherishes more than his primogeniture, as the first left margin note points out:

*Primanouriture
and Ultimo-
geniture.*

That is something Dolph should retreat from (**marie to reat** : my retreat), his "sweet marie to eat and re-eat", as the footnote underlines. Dolph is the

roguish, cheap "black sheep", a "blockhead" (**blockcheap**) who has no will to restrain his instinctual drives and, instead of "retreating" (**Bag bag** : back back) from evil temptations, puts them in his "bag" and obtains a scornful farewell (**bag bag** : bye bye), a Satan-like (vade retro!)

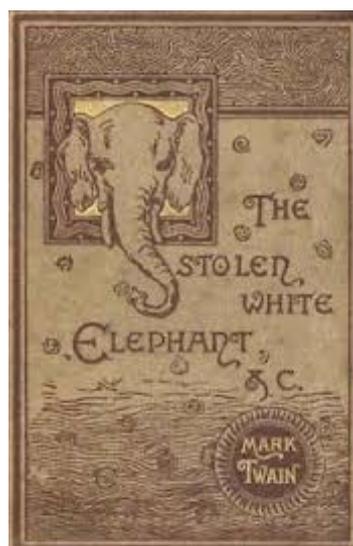
F4 What a lubberly whide elephant for the men-in-the straits!

300.29 the waste of noland's browne jesus [4]

Now "jesus" seems at first to pose some problems, but inside the sentence it acquires a much more earthly meaning, e.g. the debasing of the spiritual "Jesus" into ordinary "juices". The "*Waste Land*" of T.S. Eliot's (fweets) is in fact a no-land, a no-man's land, filled with waste, the "brown juices" which smell of "shit"; the shit around the "waist" of the **godolphing** brother. So a reference to the Nolan/Brown controversy.

And in the footnote we find a clumsy (**lubber**), enormous (**wide**) being, hidden under the "**hide**" of a white (**whide**) elephant, who in fact creates confusion in the already distressed (**men-in-the straits**) ordinary man (*men in the streets*). Which may allude to both brothers.

There is also a possible reference to Mark Twain's story, *The Stolen White Elephant*,



the sarcasm of which fits our context nicely. Quite a "reading", especially if you read "read" as Italian "ridi" (laugh)!

