

the items or asked the stenographer as to his knowledge of ornithology as relating to gulls and ducks; the stenographer meanwhile giving vent to his feelings in Gaelic so sweet and strong that it may yet be heard reverberating amongst the hills where the gentle zephyrs blow.

A common declaration was fyled, but not being in accordance with the Act, 37 Vic., it was found ineffectual, as the landlord, with kindly forethought, had carefully locked the baggage of the party in an inner room, lest the gentlemen of the law might be tempted to break the law by leaving the hotel without first paying the bill. So, lest they should lose the train, now heard in the distance, a subscription was made of all the funds of the party; a compromise settlement was arrived at, which has not yet been submitted to the Divisional Court for its approval or ratification, and a—let us say—more experienced party left Port Elgin for Guelph, fully impressed with the beauty of the old song, anent

“The good old rule, the simple plan,
That they should take who have the power,
And they should keep who can.”

As these occurrences took place in the early history of the country, long before the Wellington, Gray & Bruce Railway system was completed, I may be slightly in error in some parts of my narrative—as the oft-told tale is like the snowball—it increases in bulk and changes its form as it rolls along.

Germans are so slow, so matter of fact, and so honest, that one cannot accuse our host of any idea of a practical joke or of any intention of overcharge or of any departure from the strict justice of the case; but the cadence of the wheels of the railway train, the sighing of the breeze, the murmur of the trees and the smiling of the fields and flowers during that journey from Port Elgin to Guelph, seemed to be singing refrains—sometimes of

“He who will not when he may,
He may not when he will.”

and now of “Six Gooles, Baiser der Madschew,” whilst occasional screeches were heard which did not proceed from owls, although all the members of the party were worshippers of Minerva.

