



WHERE THEY WENT.

DURING Christmas week when, a certain Satanic attraction was on at a down town theatre, the clerical uncle of Mrs. Bjones came to Toronto, intending his visit as a little surprise. He arrived at the home of his favourite niece about nine o'clock in the evening and the new maid, given to needless information, replied to his remark that he would come in and wait.

"I don't know as it will be worth while, for Mr. Bjones has taken Mrs. Bjones to 'The Devil'."

"Good gracious!" ejaculated the horrified uncle.

"At least, that's what I heard them say at dinner and I guess they'll be awful late."

SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT.

THERE were several Canadian newspaper-writers telling of absurdities into which type had betrayed them. It remained for a woman who writes a fair but "frilly" hand to tell the most heart-rending instance of mixed-up lines. She had written a glowing article of highly democratic sentiments, concluding with the Burns quotation:

"The rank is but the guinea-stamp,
The man's the gowd for a' that."

What was her consternation when the proofs came to hand to read:

"The rum is but the gunner's stamp,
The man's the gods for a' that."

THE MINISTER OF MARINE.

Oh, Brodeur is happy
And smiling and gay,
For Cassels' report
Is ready, they say.



"On a Whaling Trip with Father."—Life.

A BIT OF COMEDY.

TWO citizens of Toronto were discussing the propriety of Mayor Oliver's receiving Harry Lauder at the City Hall.

"It's a strange precedent, isn't it—a comedian being received by the Mayor?" said the first.

"Well, why shouldn't Mayor Oliver receive a brother artist?" was the horrible reply, as the city clock tolled twelve.

THE RAILROAD.

THE Hon. Edward Lauterbach's first law partner, says the *Argonaut*, was the late Colonel Charles Spencer. The firm had successfully transacted some business for a prominent railroad, and the senior partner asked the junior what should be charged for their services. "Well, say two hundred and fifty dollars," was the answer.

"You're not accustomed to dealing with corporations. Let me make out the bill," proposed Spencer. Some weeks afterwards, the latter showed

Lauterbach the railroad's cheque for \$1,275. What do you think of that?" he queried.

Lauterbach, the Hebrew partner, looked first at the cheque, then at his smiling partner and gravely replied: "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

HIS EXAMS.

"I tell you what it is," said a student at Osgoode Hall the other day, "when I write on my next exams, my paper will look like the conclusion of a New York murder trial."

"What's that?" asked a startled chum.

"It'll be more unwritten law than anything else."

AT THE SEANCE.

"The spirit of your husband wishes to speak with you, madam."

"What does he say?"

"He says that he doesn't have to dress in a cold room."—*The Bohemian*.

CAREFUL SANDY.

IN Dean Ramsay's "Reminiscences of Scottish Life and Character" there are many tales illustrating the caution of the Caledonian. Certainly, says the author, this cautious spirit pervaded the opinions of the Scottish architect who was called upon to erect a building in England upon the long-lease system, so common with Anglican proprietors, but quite new to our friend. When he found the proposal was to build upon the tenure of 999 years, he quietly suggested: "Cud ye no' make it a thousand? Nine-hundred-and-nineteen years 'll be slippin' awa'."

But of all the cautious and careful answers we ever heard was pre-eminently one given by a carpenter to an old lady in Glasgow for whom he was working. She had offered him a dram and asked him whether he would have it then or wait till his work was done.

"Indeed, mem," he said, "there's been sic a power o' sudden deaths lately that I'll just tak' it noo."

AN ABSENT-MINDED PROFESSOR.

THERE have been many absent-minded professors, but Toronto is said to have one who is a leader in this respect. When a young man, he was away playing cricket with the team from Lindsay, his native town, and when he went to buy a ticket to get back home, he was forced to ask the boys the name of the town in which he lived. When he became a bridegroom he took the ordinary honeymoon trip, but, the day after his return, he forgot the existence of his wife and new home and went to his mother's for luncheon, as usual.

One bright October morning he went over to visit his sister. On the way, he met a tin-can band of youngsters making an attempt to play the "Protestant Boys." When he arrived at his sister's, he found her playing the "British Grenadiers" on the piano. On his return home, with those tunes running in his musical head, his wife asked him to ring up the livery and get a cab to take them to the station. She was greatly surprised to hear him tell the liveryman to make sure that the cab came early.

"This being the Twelfth of July," he told the man; "you know the streets are sure to be crowded!"

HE DUSTED.

A MAN had been invited unexpectedly to make an automobile trip, and was not fully prepared for it. The roads were very dusty, and after travelling several miles, the party came to a village, where the man thought he might be able to purchase something to protect his clothing.

The automobile halted before the general store

of the village. The man alighted and accosted the single clerk.

"I want to get a linen duster," he said.

"I am sorry," returned the clerk, easily, "we are just out of linen dusters. But I can let you have a nice feather duster."—*New York Times*.

A PRACTICAL NOBLEMAN.

ONE of the best stories of the late Duke of Devonshire, that most blase of noblemen, is told in Lady Randolph Churchill's "Reminiscences," and concerns the author's visit to one of the duke's places. When the writer told the then Lord Hartington that she had been "over" Chatsworth with her husband and his chief lieutenant the virtual owner cut short her expressions of admiration of the glories of the place with "Did you break anything?"

NOT THAT KIND.

"You see," said the professor, "the science of chemistry depends on the discovery of certain affinities."

"Pardon me," interrupted Miss Prym. "I trust the conversation can proceed without drifting into scandal."—*Washington Star*.

SAW HIM FIRST.

ABOUT the year 1707, says the *Youth's Companion*, William Penn became heavily involved in a lawsuit, and the author of a recent biography, entitled "Quaker and Courier," states that he was greatly in fear—under the laws of the day—of being arrested. Many noble personages were in the same plight, but no other, it is believed, resorted to Penn's expedient in meeting the situation.

In the door of his London house he had a peeping-hole made, through which he could see any person who came to him. A creditor one day sent in his name, and, having been made to wait more than a reasonable time, knocked for the servant and asked him:

"Will not your master see me?"

"Friend, he has seen thee," replied the servant, calmly, "and does not like the looks of thee."



Mike (as someone knocks): "Sure! If oi don't answer, ut's some wan t' give me a job, an' if oi do, ut's the lan'lord afther the rint."

HOW HE ADVERTISED.

Wife: "Be sure to advertise for Fido in the morning newspapers."

Next day the wife read as follows in the newspaper: "Lost—A mangy lap dog, with one eye and no tail. Too fat to walk. Answers to the name of Fido. If returned stuffed, large reward."—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

INEXCUSABLE BLUNDER.

"Fanny has given notice."

"Why?"

"She says you spoke in a brutal manner to her on the telephone yesterday."

"Yesterday? I thought I was speaking to you."—*Meggendorfer Blaetter*.

BUSY.

"What kind of people are they?"

"Well, when they are not playing bridge, they are working a phonograph."—*Life*.