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BY REV. J. C. SPEER, D.D.

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In this useful and timely essay, Dr. Speer traces the history of the Drama from its earliest organized inception 200 years B.C., and discusses its influences and ethical character. For the preparation of the paper he read all the literature on the subject available, and he quotes freely to substantiate his points. The booklet will be found exceedingly useful by those who seek to show the pernicious influences of the present-day theatre.

**WILLIAM BRIGGS,**

29-33 Richmond St. West, - TORONTO

### Explain! Explain!

Little three-year-old Philo had been taught to say to his mother, "I love you more than tongue can tell." He had repeated this one day to the admiration of some visitors, when looking puzzled, he asked, "Mamma, what is tuncan?" A few years after this he had been at church one Sunday and heard the choir sing, "The Consecrated Cross I'd Bear." On the way home he inquired, "Mamma, what is a consecrated cross-eyed bear?"

### Putting Her College Geography to a Test.

She had graduated with honors at Acadia Seminary, and taken the class prize in geography. Shortly after her graduation she married. One day, as she was sending a beggar away from the door loaded with delicacies of all kinds, her husband came up and said kindly: "You mustn't believe every beggar who comes to your door."

"But this was no common beggar. He was a sea captain who lost everything in a shipwreck."

"How do you know he was?"

"He told a straightforward story about how his ship went to pieces on the coast of Switzerland."

### Shopping in Scotland.

The Scotch have their own ideas of a "bargain day," and their view is not without a touch of shrewdness. A London paper describes a conversation between an English matron and Mr. Angus Melver.

"I suppose, Mr. Melver," said she, "that they have bargain days in Glasgow?"

"Ma conscience, no! It wad na do ava!"

"Indeed!" replied the lady. "Why, I thought bargain days would just suit your people."

"Weel," said he, "that's just it. It wad suit them over weel. If they had bargain days, nobody wad buy anything on the other days, ye ken!"

### He'll No Dae.

In a certain auld kirk not a hundred miles from Perth, the choosing of a minister was in full swing. Three candidates had been heard, and John Thomson o' the Howe, farmer, elder, and worthy man, had pronounced them "no' bairn," but rumor had it that the fourth, who was to preach on the following Sabbath, was a young "star," who would fairly eclipse all the others. John was in his place early, and when the preliminary part of the service was over and the text given out, he, as was his wont, helped himself liberally to the contents of his snuff mull, and having settled himself comfortably in the corner of his pew, was just dropping off to sleep, when a part of the discourse was reached which required emphasizing, and John was heard to mutter, "He's just a wee touchie lood maybe." Matters again went on smoothly until the "star," having again to emphasize, this time more strongly, brought his hand down on the Bible with a thud, which brought John up in the middle of a long-drawn snore. Reaching for his mull, he was heard to remark in an undertone, and with a decisive shake of his head, "Na, he'll no' dae! He's ower lood! ower lood! Wha on earth could slee' an' a din like that gaun on?"

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