

sticks and iron-shod heels. The Lord Lieutenant then again bowed to the house, all round, took his seat and a pinch of snuff, and the play commenced.

I cannot, at this distance of time, call to mind what the performances were which had been "commanded" for that evening's amusement, but I perfectly recollect that, amongst the actresses on the occasion, were Miss Walstein and Mrs. Williams; and amongst the actors were Fulham, and Talbot, and Barry, and Williams—all great favourites on the Dublin boards, especially the last, who was as much esteemed as a man as he was admired as an actor. His manner on the stage has been admirably caricatured in "Familiar Epistles," which were generally attributed to the pen of John Wilson Croker, but which Frederick Jones, the lessee and manager of the theatre, whom they seriously injured, believed to have been written by the late Baron Smith. The lines upon Ned Williams are as follows:—

"Next Williams comes, the rude and rough,
With face most whimsically gruff,
Aping the careless sons of ocean,
He scorns each fine and easy motion:
Tight to his sides his elbows pins,
And dabbles with his hands like fins.
Would he display the greatest woe,
He slaps his breast and points his toe;
Is merriment to be expressed,
He points his toe and slaps his breast."
His turns are swings—his step a jump—
His feeling fits—his touch a thump.
And violent in all his parts,
He speaks by gusts, and moves by starts."

Whatever the play was, there was but little intellectual enjoyment to be derived from it, for in every part of the house, except the dress circle, there were continual disturbances. They appeared to commence in the pit, where the words, "You lie, you scoundrel!" were uttered in a loud voice, followed immediately by the exhibition of two men making vigorous blows at each other, others interfering, and talking loudly, and ending in three or four of the party retiring from the house, soon, however, to appear in another part of it. Then came a desperate uproar from the upper gallery, which was no sooner quelled than a regular boxing-match, in which eight or nine men were engaged, took place on the right of the middle gallery, followed quickly by a scrimmage on the left of it.

At this period the orderly and well-disposed portion of the audience