

brandy, it will make your leg feel again like a Christian's leg, and your toes tingle too if you take enough of it; and when that is done send me word, and we Cape Cod skippers will club and send you another one.'

"'You doubted,' sais I, 'my lord, about his Excellency's chill. what do you think of this case? Aint it a whopper?'"

"'I don't for a moment doubt your word, Mr. Slick; and therefore pray don't misunderstand me,' said he; 'but there is some mistake in it. It is incredible; for if the leg had been so devoid of all feeling it would have mortified. There must have been some slight of hand in this, otherwise it does not appear impossible.'

"'Well,' sais I, 'if I make a mistake it's my fault. I'll bet you a hundred dollars that Minister corroborates it.'

"'Done!' sais he.

"'And done!' sais I; and we shook hands.

"Just before the room was vacated, Lord Horton and Lord Dunk Peterborough bein' the only two left, I saw it was my time. Horton had been talkin' to Minister, and had just made his scrape, and was for quittin'. When he reached the door he turned and paused.

"'Mr. Slick,' sais he, 'one word with you, if you please.'

"That was grand; it was just what I wanted; a diversion like in my favour.

"'In one minute, my lord,' sais I: 'only one minute.'

"'Minister,' sais I; did you know General Peep?"

"'Very well,' he said; for he was a man of few words.

"'Do you recollect the remarkable power he had,' said I, 'of bein' able to thrust a pin into his leg without flinchin'?"

"'I have seen him do it a hundred times.'

"'You are sure it penetrated?' said I.

"'Certain,' said he; 'quite positive.'

"And then he kind of inclined his body forward, as much as to say, 'I guess you may go now,' and we took the hint, bowed, and made off.

"'Are you satisfied, my lord?' sais I.

"'I must be,' he answered; 'the terms have been complied with, but I cannot understand it yet. It is the most wonderful thing I ever heard. I'll send you a cheque in the morning for the amount of the bet. Good-night.'

"'Beg pardon, Lord Horton,' sais I, 'for keepin' of you waitin', but I was just referrin' to Minister to decide a bet between Lord Dunk and me.'

"'What day can you come and dine quietly with me?' said he. 'I want to talk to you very much on colonial subjects, which no one understands half as well as yourself.'

"'Sorry, my lord,' sais I, 'but I am engaged every day until my departure, which is by the next steamer.'