

HIGHLAND IDIOM.

MRS. DONALD F—— is the wife of a well-known farmer near one of the large towns of Western Ontario, where Highlanders "most do congregate." Both husband and wife are rather eccentric, and many amusing stories are told of their peculiarities of thought, speech and action. One of the funniest is this:—Mrs. F—— had occasion to borrow a potash kettle from a neighbor, who reluctantly loaned it, and subsequently grumbled to another neighbor about, having to do so. Mrs. F—— happened to hear about the grumbling, and, when returning the borrowed kettle, thus loftily expressed herself:—"If Tonald spares the Lord till last Summer, she'll have a ketash pottle of his ain, so she will!"

STORIES OF DR. NORMAN MACLEOD.

TALKING to a Scotch friend the other day, he told me the following heretofore unpublished stories about Dr. Norman Macleod, with whom he was intimate, and who, he says, related to him the incidents with his own lips:—He had occasion one stormy day, to cross a loch in order to fill an appointment. His companion was a brother minister, out on a vacation,—a diminutive man, unused to the water and rather nervous about embarking on the trip. At first the Doctor felt no trepidation, but as the little boat got farther out into the lake, he began to feel that he had undertaken a rather perilous voyage. Turning to the boatman, who was bending lustily to the oars, apparently all indifferent to the surroundings, he enquired:—"Isn't it very rough, Sandy?" "I've kenned it waur!" was the brawny ferryman's only reply, delivered in a gruff voice. The storm increased in fury. "I think we are in grave danger!" the Doctor ventured to remark, as sea after sea began to be stripped. "Nae doot, nae doot!" grunted Sandy, without raising his head or relaxing an effort. Finally, when a huge wave struck the frail craft, as if bound to swamp it, the Doctor in great alarm exclaimed:—"Stay, boatman, stay! I will ask aid of Heaven!" Sandy turned his head and, glaring for a moment at the speaker from under his shaggy brows, growled out:—"Hoot, mon! *You tak' an oar! The wee'un'ell pray!*"

Walking one Sunday afternoon, along one of the streets of Glasgow, he saw a party of arabs playing about, wholly unmindful of the Holy day and its obligations. He stopped and spoke kindly-admonishing words to the boys. "God knows of your Sabbath breaking," he said, "and it grieves Him. He knows everything you do, and will reward or punish you, as you do right or wrong." The boys seemed to take the little sermon in a better spirit than the preacher expected, and he was congratulating himself thereon, when suddenly one of the group, a roguish-looking urchin, stepped forward and asked: "Does God ken evrathing." "Yes, my lad!" "Does he ken I hae a bawbee in ma han'?"—holding out a dirty closed fist. "He knows that, my lad!" "Ye're a liar!" exclaimed the urchin, opening the hand and showing that it was empty! And with an exultant and derisive laugh he ran off, followed by his companions. T. T.

THE BARE IDEA.—"Papa," said little Jimmie Briefless, "what do you wear when you go to the court house—your law suit?" "Oh, no, my son," replied the good barrister, glancing. "That is the suit a man puts on when he goes naked. Only the clients wear that."

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DIVIDEND 44.

NOTICE is hereby given that a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum has been declared by the Directors of this Company, for the six months ending 31st inst., and that the same will be paid at the Company's offices, 28 and 30 Toronto street, Toronto, on and after Friday, the 7th day of January, prox.

The transfer books will be closed from the 15th to the 31st inst., both inclusive.
By order. W. MACLEAN, Manager.



Notice to Contractors.

TENDERS will be invited in a few days for the construction of the Section of the Cape Breton Railway extending from the Grand Narrows to Sydney, a distance of about 45 miles. This preliminary notice is given in order that Contractors desiring to tender for the work may have an opportunity to examine the location before the winter sets in.

By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Dept. of Railways and Canals,
OTTAWA, 26th Nov. 1886.

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