

QUIPS AND CRANKS.

"Jones prides himself upon his learning."
 "So I believe." "Self-educated?" "Wholly so."
 "Does he know Latin?" "Know Latin? I should say so. Why, man, when he writes to the papers he signs himself 'Pro Bono Publico.'"

"I am going to buy a light coat to match these trousers," he remarked to his wife; "and a light pair of gloves to match the coat, and a light soft hat to match—" "Your head, I suppose," interrupted the spouse gently; and the household knew no harmony that day.

Small boy (to grocer): If you please, Mr. Welby, my mother wants to know if you will give her an almanack? Grocer (leaning over the counter): But, my little man, your mother does not get her groceries here. Small boy: No, Mr. Welby; but we often borrow your wheelbarrow.

A facetious man had built himself a new house with a stone verandah and steps up to it in the front, and took a friend to look at it. "Very nice—very nice, indeed," said the friend critically; "but it has such a set look—lacks expression, you know." "Of course," replied the owner; "but what else could you expect from a house with such a stony stair?"

Mr. Hay, (afterwards Lord Newton), one of the Judges of the Court of Session, often dined alone, not by any means quickly. A client once called on him at four o'clock, and, to his surprise, heard from the servant that his master was at dinner. "Why I thought he dined at five," said the visitor. "Well, yes, sir, so he does; but this is his yesterday's dinner."

A vacancy having occurred in the office of grave-digger in a small country parish, one Pate Hardie made application for the appointment. The rate per burial having been duly fixed, the minister had almost closed the bargain when Pate, with an eye to self-interest, said—"But am I to get anything like steady work?" "Guid forbid, Pate!" answered the minister, "or ye'd buiry a' the parish in a fortnight."

A fool, a barber, and a bald-headed man were travelling together. Losing their way, they were forced to sleep in the open air; and, to avert danger, it was agreed to watch by turns. The lot first fell on the barber, who, for amusement, shaved the fool's head while he was sleeping. He then awoke him, and the fool, raising his hand to scratch his head, exclaimed, "Here is a pretty mistake; you have awakened the bald-headed man instead of me."

A favourite theme of discussion among the ancient Greek sophists was the following, or something approaching to it:—

If I lie and say I lie,
 Do I lie or do I speak the truth?
 For if I speak the truth I lie,
 And if I lie I speak the truth.

One ancient sage wrote 200 or 300 articles on the subject, and then committed suicide through not being able to give a satisfactory solution.

Archdeacon Blank and his wife were the principal guests of the evening at a country house. The servant had been previously warned that, when the eminent divine arrived, he was to be announced as "The Venerable the Archdeacon Blank." The drawing-room was full; the guests of the evening arrived. The servant looked at the archdeacon and then at the lady, and he got a bit mixed. At last he got it right—he saw how it stood. Great was the consternation when he announced, "Archdeacon Blank and the venerable Mrs. Blank."

That the liberty of the press is only a myth in Germany is proved again by the imprisonment of the editor of the *Lokal Anzeiger*, Berlin, and one of the reporters of that paper, because their paper publish-

ed something that was not true. The *Lokal Anzeiger* contained a report of the sinking of the ocean greyhound *Augusta Victoria*, when no such thing had happened.

The greater the man the greater the crime.

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