



THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

Customs Officer.—MADAM, THESE DIAMONDS ARE SUBJECT TO CUSTOMS CHARGES. I'M SORRY, BUT I MUST DO MY DUTY.
Fair Smuggler.—SO AM I; AND I SUPPOSE I MUST DO MINE!

ELDORADO DISCOVERED.

I'VE heard about a far-off land,
 Where rivers flow o'er golden sand,
 With cities rich and mansions grand,
 But where?

A well of life bursts from the soil,
 That each assault of death will foil,
 And in its bounds no man need toil,
 But where?

That land is an Elysian plain,
 Where ancients sought the gold in vain;
 'Tis o'er some far-off, unknown main,
 But where?

The "winged winds" were asked, but they
 Could not, they said, exactly say;
 They thought 'twas very far away,
 But where?

The moon, the sun, and moaning sea
 Could not just say where it might be.
 It lay somewhere, that country free,
 But where?

At last with weariness I dreamed;
 Bright visions o'er my senses streamed;
 I saw the golden sands that gleamed,
 But where?

I then enquired what land I trod.
 The man replied, in accent broad,
 "Hech mon, ye're i' the Land o' Nod!"
 'Tis there.

W. H. T.

A GOOD BUSINESS OPENING.

AFTER all there is no place like dear old England where a man can introduce a new industry with such surety of success. True it takes considerable time for the Government to look into the merits and demerits of the scheme. For instance, the Ensilage Society wants to find out how

tobacco will sprout and bloom on the free soil of Albion. The Inland Revenue authorities, under the instructions from the Lords of the Treasury, are granting permission to the few daring speculators, under the following slight stipulations and conditions, to raise the weed:

Any occupier of land intending to plant tobacco must, on or before the 5th May, give notice to the Secretary of Inland Revenue, Somerset House, setting forth the extent of the land to be planted, and the place, parish, and county where situated. Bond, under approved securities, will be required, in a penalty of £100 if over an acre of ground is cultivated, and £50 if under an acre, in order to secure that all tobacco grown and gathered shall be removed to drying-room and kept there until properly cured, when it shall be packed in bags, bales, or casks of an approved size, and it must then be weighed by a revenue officer. After weighing the packages the duty must be paid or the tobacco be deposited in an approved customs or excise warehouse.

This order ought to please the Ensilagers. After taking all the time and trouble to raise the tobacco they must hand it over to the Government and pay the same duty as if it came from abroad! Great scheme for some live man now in England.

THE MINISTRY.

(Scene—Barber's Shop in Kirkintilloch—Heated Political Discussion is in progress.)

Tory Weaver—Have ye heard Gladstone's latest advertisement?

Rad.—No.

Tory Weaver—I'll read it:—"I will not be responsible for debts incurred by any of my Ministers, as they are on daily engagements."

OUR language daily grows in beauty and comprehensiveness. Rockland, Maine, announces the establishment of a "shirtery" in that burg.