

## BROKEN STOWAGE

Somebody says, in speaking of flattery that "A little soft soap is a good thing; i' there isn't too much lie in it."

She—"How would you punctuate the following. 'Bank of England notes of various values were blown along the street by the wind?' He—"I think I would make a dash after the notes."

Autobiographical—The self-made man was speaking. He said, "My father was a raiser of hogs. There was a large family of us."—And then his voice was drowned by the applause.

A parish beadle was lately much exercised at the appearance of a strange old gentleman who, when the sermon was about to begin, took an ear trumpet, in two parts, out of his pocket and began screwing them together. The beadle watched him until the process was completed, and then, going stealthily up, whispered: "Ye mauna play that here! If ye dae, I'll turn ye oot!"

The difference between ancient and modern slang was amusingly illustrated in a recent incident at the Chautauqua Assembly, when the teacher of English literature asked, "What is the meaning of the Shakespearean phrase, 'Go to'?" and a member of his class replied, "Oh, that is only the sixteenth-century expression of the modern term, 'Come off!'" The two phrases, while apparently opposite, do, in fact, substantially mean the same thing.

A wealthy Irish lady, whose summer home is situated near a garrison town in Ireland, once sent an invitation to Capt. Armstrong to take tea with her, saying, "that the pleasure of Capt. Armstrong's Company is respectfully requested," etc. To her astonishment she received by an orderly the following note: "Enlisted men Jones and Smith have been detailed to do guard duty, but the remainder of Capt. Armstrong's company accept with pleasure Mrs. Weyler's polite invitation."

The editor of a periodical that pays only on publication sent the following letter to the ancient address of a contributor: "If the author of 'The Cave in the Sea' is still living, he is hereby notified that his story has just been published, and that we have a cheque to his credit." Shortly afterward the editor

received the following reply: "Dear Sir,—He died twenty years ago; but his great-grandchildren will be pleased to receive the cheque, if forwarded during the present century."

A young minister had gone to the home of his boyhood to preach; and, of course, the villagers were full of curiosity to hear him. At the close of the service one of the deacons engaged the young preacher's wife in conversation. "It was a strange coincidence," said he, "that your husband's text was the one from which his father preached his last sermon in this pulpit." "Indeed," said the lady, "that was strange. I hope," she continued, "that it was not the same sermon." "Oh, no," said the deacon, in a deprecatory manner, "his father was a very smart man."

## A WONDERFUL FREAK OF NATURE.

Among the many wonderful freaks in nature there can be none in the geological line that can possibly excel that known as "The Giant's Head." It stands, or rather reclines, against the face of the cliff at Point Pinos, in Monterey county, California, and all who have viewed the wonder declare it to be the most colossal as well as the most marvellous freak in natural sculpture in existence. All portions of the "head" except the back (which appears to be "blocked" into the metamorphic rocks against which it seems to be so naturally reclining) are as perfect as though fresh from the hands of some giant sculptor. The chin, mouth, nose, eyes and brow are all perfect, as is also the hair, which appears to be gracefully drawn back from the forehead. The ears are not so "true to life" as the other features are, but even in this respect no stretch of the imagination is required in order to see tolerably perfect auricular appendages. The bold features, backward wave of the hair, massive forehead, moustache, finely chiselled nostrils, and deep-set eyes, are all reproduced on a natural yet gigantic scale and with wonderful exactness. The freak stands near the Point Pinos lighthouse, being but about 500 feet from that building in a northerly direction. The "head" stands almost at tide level, the lower portion of the face being partially submerged during high water. At time of low tide, however, the wonder is high and dry, and is at that time a marvellous marvel from whatever direction it is viewed.