#### STORIES OF PARISH CLERKS

FROM T. P.'S WEEKLY.

columns by Rev. Peter - Hampson Ditchfield, F. S. A., F. R. H. S., rector of Barkham, Berks, the distinguished author of "Old English Sports and Customs" (1891 and 1896). "Bygone" of the church records of which he was except the teacher's restless pacing. When they were dismissed he put on his hat and took his way to the near-weight of the church records of which he was except the teacher's restless pacing. When they were dismissed he put on his hat and took his way to the near-weight of the church records of which he was except the teacher's restless pacing. When they were dismissed he put on his hat and took his way to the near-weight of the church records of which he was except the teacher's restless pacing. Berkshire," "Memorials of Bucking-copies were kept of the old records. hamshire and Oxfordshire," etc., for THE HARD PEAS. hamshire and Oxfordshire," etc., for amusing stories in connection with this interesting race that has passed away. Very truly, Rev. Mr. Ditchfield remarks, "The old clerk was often a very worthy person, who served God and did his duty according to his light and knowledge." And, in spite of all that may have been said of a contrary nature, he is by no means a personage to be passed over in a flippant man-

garth, in which the clerk manages to keep one eye awake during a long, drowsy discourse on the text, "Come unto me all ye that labor and I will down like hail on his head (he had the labor and I will most a hair between him and to sit idly by and review a Japanese parade.

I'm going away from here.

A good distance away. And if the labor and I will most a hair between him and the labor and I will most a hair between him and the labor and I will most a hair between him and the labor and I will most a hair between him and the labor and I will most a hair between him and the labor and I will most a hair between him and the labor and I will most all as not necessarily a labor and I will most all as not necessarily and the labor and I will most all as not necessarily and the labor and I will most all as not necessarily and the labor and I will most all as not necessarily and the labor and I will most all as not necessarily and the labor and I will most all as not necessarily and the labor and I will most all as necessarily and the labor and the labor and I will most all as necessarily and the labor and

tory of most interesting "ana" con-nected with the church "not set down in the books." As I remember the last of these, the loud, stentorian voice would drown the utterances of the congregation, so that naturally they gave up in the end all thought of joining in the responses and competing with the oratorical efforts of the parish clerk. His reading of the Psalms was really He began, "When the wicked man—" The parish clerk tugged him by his coat. something wonderful. Often, when much affected, he would delay the clergyman several seconds while he duly rounded his sentences. He affected clerical garb, and at times a certain lackadaisical, whining, and doubtless fancied that he would have performed the service much better by far than the humble man of God who occupied the post of rector. Like the organ-blower who asked one of the congregation as they were proceeding home, how he liked the voluntary "we played," so the parish clerk attributed the credit to himself for the success of the services.

A PILLAR OF THE CHURCH. It would require the powers of a Crabbe, as displayed in "The Borough" or "The Village" to give a proper idea of the old parish clerk, with all his Dogberrian air of importance, especially when he donned the John Knox sort of black gown that some of these functionaries wore. Marvelous was his performance of the old Tate and Brady metrical version of the Psalms-hymns/ were not then used. He would roll his eyes in a wonderful way, expressive of a heavenly ecstasy, and prolong his favorite note long after the so-called comparatively humbler efforts at melback parlor of a village inn, in comfortable armchair, and with bright. glowing fire, after repeated warm and generous potations, accompanied by a long clay pipe, and from which he would slowly and gravely puff great clouds of smoke, he would let those in the room into his confidence, and dethe church. With what swelling importance he would disclose the contents portion of the service. 

and Customs" (1891 and 1896), "Bygone when this could not be managed, that there goes the teacher.

ing that there was no congregation ing-desk, above which rose the pulpit, present at his week-day service, and his only auditory was the clerk), most punctiliously going through the whole service, commencing with "Dearly beloved Roger," instead of "Dearly beloved brethren," and so on to the end ing through the aisle be quietly telly took to the pulpit, so was a sounding-board. When the minister, looking down from aloft, saw the clerk nodding, or, worse still, heard the sonor-ous snore that he knew so well echoling through the aisle be quietly took. old clerk who records his daily pro- mediately would awake to give the regive you rest." The one wakeful eye "not a hair between him and heaven." Japanese don't change their tactics. rests on a comely fat matron who is as is a common saying in Ireland), he I'm going to stay away a good while.

> THE WICKED MAN. In one parish, in which there was not He began, When the wicked man— The parish clerk tugged him by his coat, saying, "Please, sir, he hasn't come yet!" As to whether the clergyman took the hint and waited for "the wicked man" history sayeth not

OLD MICHAEL. Freeman (Warnham, Sussex) sends me this interesting communi-

His duty done; beneath this stone

With nodding head the choir he led That none should start too soon; The seconds, too, he sang full true,

With faithful cling to fiddle string He sang himself to heaven.

It can be fancied how, in the ticular being "For tolling the bell for parlor of a village inn, in comtail to them how he was the pillar of present, when Michael (with his violin)

WHAT EZRY'S SISTER DID

The windows and door of the little in the offending pocket. The emptying

school house were wide open. A group process was followed this time by a

shade of the building, and the few small He fully realized when the teacher

boys who could be spared from the got through with him that he indeed

"Teacher come to our house to board usual, the next morning, and Ezry did

"Aw, 't wasn't 'cause teacher board- There was a moment of breathless

he asked in a tart voice. "You from the teacher's lips; still the stuff

nanner."

Now, Ezry well knew that it always between himself and the entry.

of girls made dandelion chains in the sound thrashing.

was 'cause he liked Ezry's sister silence.

Marth'. Wasn't it, Ezry?"
"I dunno; but that's all the good it

done him, if 't was." Ezry answered.

"I heard my sister tell him last night,

fore he went over to your house, that

she didn't like him, nohow. Say, may-

footprints behind them. Ezry came in

man under discussion came to the door me.

an eye on the boys' pockets, but some-how his had not been noticed in this. The i

at last, and now he saw the things dear reader.

to his boyish heart find their way, one

about the teacher's usually stern face. into the well-filled pocket.

somewhere else to live."

itself, sometimes resulting in a loud ously for his return, and all went to to be passed over in a flippant manner.

Itself, sometimes resulting in a loud snore, that might be heard echoing through the building, asserting itself toward them.

Output Description of the parson's voice The old the parson's voice The old them. SWIFT AND HOGARTH.

I knew in one case a coastguardsman who supplied the place of the clerk in this way, whose voice always overtopped that of the rest of the congregation. The fashion of choral sergicles would not an end to this but the church was built at the clerk in this way, whose voice always overtopped that of the rest of the congregation. The fashion of choral sergicles would not an end to this but the church was built at the clerk in this way, whose voice always overtopped that of the reading desk and pulpit a box of hard peas. It should be explained toward them.

"Say, where's the teacher?" they asked in chorus, "Aw, he's over to the house. Marth's a-doin' up his hand, an' a-cryin' 'cause it's burnt. Girls is queer. But say, she'd do anything to keep me from having the control of the congregation. gregation. The fashion of choral services would put an end to this, but such services are to be found only in time that what is known as the "three-very few churches in the sisterland. The story of Swift, at Laracor (find-line) do anything to keep me from having a lickin'. An', boys, he's a-comin' back to our house to board tonight."—New York Tribune's Sunday Magazine. loved Roger," instead of "Dearly be-loved brethren," and so on to the end, is pretty generally known. Swift's "Memoir of P. P., Parish Clerk," per-petuates the memory of the careful the bald pate of the offender, who im-

some little force.

tombstone in Warnham Churchyard:
Sacred to the memory of Michael Turner, clerk and sexton of this parish for fitty years, from Jan. 17, '30, to Jan. 20, 1880. Born May 25, 1796; died Dec. 18, 1885.

Old Michael lies at rest; His rustic rig, his song, his jig, Were ever of the best.

are some interesting articles connected with the aforementioned Michael-viz., the violin mentioned in the verses, a portrait of the old gentleman, and some re-He was in much request at balls and parties for miles around, and was known to have been fast asleep on more than one occasion while playing a country dance, and was always ready to give a capital song. An old inhabitant has told me of one occasion—a very wet Sunday afternoon—no members of the choir were

The bell rang at 9 o'clock sharp, as

"What have you got in your pocket?"

"It-it-isn't anything you'll-want-

sir," Ezry gasped between the lifts on

his pocket this morning.

"Y-y-yes, sir."

and -ive it to me.

"Ezry Grove, come here."

"I-i-it's my dinner, sir.

made no movement to obey.

#### busy; but the suspense was awful. Nothing happened. Perhaps the hand wrapped in the handkerchief was hardly in condition to handle the rod just The noon hour came without incident

The teacher came in. Every one was

A request has been made in these of the church records of which he was except the teacher's restless pacing.

"Ah, I don't care. Only Marth's home

#### Kuropatkin to the Czar

Mukden (temporarily), Sept. 17. Dear Nick-I've left orders with the postmaster here to forward all my mail the Tie Pass postmaster to forward it to the next postoffice north, etc. I am going away from here.

old clerk who records his daily proceedings in a Pepys-like fashion, one entry being: "Smoothed out crease in the great Bible this morning." While a pictorial delineation of the eighteenth century clerk is to be found in "The Sleeping Congregation," by Hogarth in which the clerk manages to You know, in my official dispatches yesterday I said the Japs were going

ast asleep.

A LACKADAISICAL CLERK.

If the old parish clerk was properly rawn out he would discover to his as is a common saying in Ireland), he woke up suddenly and started, "Amen, amen," ad libitum, in the worthy effort to ejaculate an "amen" for each of the hard peas that, coming from a society on their fellow-men, and, I'm goilly to stay away a good while some that my presence here in Manchuria is causing trouble. I was never the sort that force their reached his held boad with drawn out he would discover to his height, reached his bald head with too old to begin now. I haven't been told in so many words to leave Manchuria, but I guess I can take a hint When you've been shot at and stabbed at and trapped for, there's something wrong with the hospitality, to say the least.

> Yes, Nick,I'm going away from here. I had a palmistress read my horny hand a few days ago and she said "You have enemies that even now are endeavoring to encompass your undo ing. I see also that you will take long journey. You will lead a fast life while doing so. You'll be a rover for BOBOLINKS IN COURT; sometime and then you will settle permanently and remain there. Perhaps not from choice, but you'll stay there, all right, all right,' And I jerked my hand right away from her. I think she meant Siberia, Nick. I know she hit the rest of the story all right-the enemies and the journey and the "fast" life-she had that down. She'd had my hand long enough anyway. As soon as I have another licking to explain I'll write again. Till then over the river, as the French say. Yours languidly-Pat. -S. W. Gillilan in Baltimore Ameri-

#### The Learned Stonemason

Andrew Carnegie, in opening the Hugh Miller Institute at Cromarty recently, told an interesting anecdote concerning the learned stonemason's books: At Skibo (he said) three years ago they were honored by a visit from the Speaker of the House of Congress in Washington, Col. Henderson. He was most anxious to pay a visit to the grave of Hugh Miller. "He was," Col. Henderson continued, "the cause of my brother and myself leaving our father's house. My dear old ed, "the cause of my brother and mysen-leaving our father's house. My dear old father regarded his books as heretical, and, therefore, diabolical—the work of Satan—and prohibited us from reading them. This, we said, we could not promise, and my father, to his great grief. found that his two boys believed what Hugh Miller had written. We had to leave our home. He allowed us to remain away for two years, and then we received a letter entreating us to return, and saying that he had been wrong—all wrong. 'Come back and read any books you like.'" you like.'''
"And this man, who has become famous

in America—one of the most popular of our public men—I brought here," said Mr. Carnegie, "and he paid his tribute to the author who had first opened his mind and elevated it."

### STRAINED HIS BACK WHILE LIFTING

farm work paddled in a tiny brook had fallen from grace, but he bore up Was in a Bad Way Till He Used Dodd's Kidney Pills.

last night," said Jimmy Weed, the not appear until the last arrivals were smallest boy in the group. "Hope I'll in their places. There was the most stand in with him like you did, Ezry, innocent expression in the world on his Now William Sharam is as Well while he was to your house. Seem isif face, and—could they believe their you could do most anything, and he eyes?—a bigger bulge than ever was in

Murray Harbor South, P. E. I., Oct. ed there," spoke up a larger boy; "'t suspense; then the teacher broke the 7.-Hurt through straining his back, while lifting, Mr. Wm. Sharam, general storekeeper here, got so weak that he could scarcely hold up. Today he is en- trusted to awaken me, failed to work. joying the best of health once more, and when asked how he got his health

back he unhesitatingly answers, "Dodd's "A likely story; take it out of there Kidney Pills." "Having sprained my back with be he wasn't mad! That's why he went Ezry stood with drooping head, and heavy lifting," Mr. Sharam says in telling his story, "it brought on Urinary At that moment the tall, lank young | "Do you hear, Ezry Grove? Give it to and Kidney Trouble. I got so weak that I almost fainted, and could scarcely hold up. I was terribly troubled with \$100 that time. their dandelion chains and went in; the coys followed, leaving a trail of wet your jacket when I've finished!"

good results I tried Dodd's Kidney Pills. There was an unusual sternness his collar as the exploring hand went have used ten boxes in all, and now I can sleep without being disturbed and He eyed the boys suspiciously as they passed him, and after giving Ezry one and the exploring member was withsearching glance he took him roughly drawn, and something was sticking to neys. Cured Kidneys cure numerous the shoulder. it with the tenacity of glue. Up went diseases, including Rheumatism, Drop-the hand into the air, and a yell broke sy and Bright's Disease.

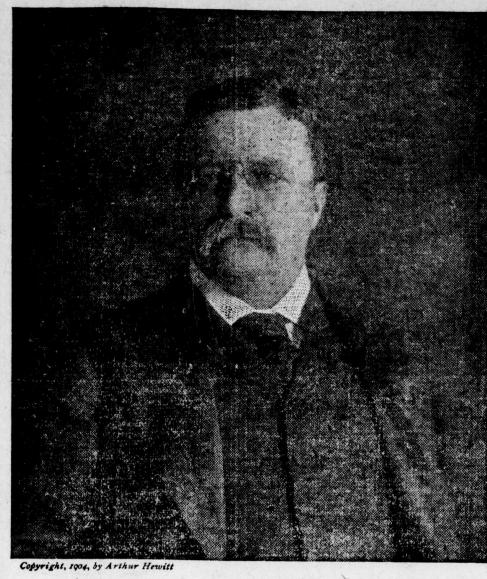
know that I don't allow boys in the clung fast. Then, with hand beating schoolroom with pockets filled in that ang waving, its owner seemed to dance Now, Ezry well knew that it always between himself and the entry. His between the teacher's hobby to keep has been the teacher's hobby to keep exit was followed by a splash, and then treasure, and one that refused to leave the boys' pockets, but somean eye on the boys' pockets, but some-how his had not been noticed in this way before. But Ezry's time had come had his face studiously buried in his

of water on him. to his boyish heart find their way, one by one, through the open window to the Jard below.

"What was it, Ezry?" whispered littlefer, who is a lover of dogs and game chickens, went to the bicycle races on Two dozen ears were strained to catch

the distance of the state of th

# The Story of the Presidency



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mestics, cooks, pages, butlers, grooms,

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He habitually rises at 6 and eats' a

characteristically English breakfast of

ham and eggs bread and butter and

marmalade specially and privately pre-

after breakfast the Czar begins to

smoke some of the heaviest brands of

Havana cigars, which he continues to

puff almost continuously until bedtime.

notwithstanding the fact that his doc-

tors have warned him again and again

that excessive indulgence in this habit

is exposing him to the worst dangers

A TONIC FOR THE DEBILITATED .-

but never inhabited, even for one night.

estimated to number over 50,000 head.

his hundred or more estates.

pared for him, and tea.

ONE OF THE BIRDS WAS PETER for a veritable army of over 30,000 do-JOSIEN'S ALARM CLOCK.

For eight years a trained boboling took the place of an alarm clock in the which he has never seen, a score of home of Peter Josten, of 186 Avenue A. homes which he has viewed externally So he said in the Yorkville police court. He was arraigned by J. E. Overton, a and another score in each of which he state game warden, charged with havhas slept on only one occasion. ing four bobolinks in confinement con-Josten's plea that life without one of of cattle feeding on his own lands are the birds that had been in his posses-

sion the longest, would be unbearable, did not secure for him the leniency of the court. He was held for the court of special sessions, under \$100 ball, and the birds were taken to the headquarters of the State Game Protective Association No. 1 Madison avenue A flutter of interest spread through out the courtroom when a court office carried the cage of birds to the mag subject of comment from Magistrate Flammer, whose interest in natural history was aroused by the testimony. Had it not been for the recent orders to the police to enforce the law against the obstruction of fire escapes, Josten probably would not have been deprived Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, by acting of his pets.

Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, by acting mildly but thoroughly on the secretions

A policeman from the East Sixtyof the body, are a valuable tonic, stimu lating the lagging organs to healthfunction and restoring them to full vigor seventh street station discovered the cage of birds basking in the sunlight on a fire escape, and as a result of the inquiry he made the game warden ailments which they were used to allay.

"Your honor, you little realize what The efficacy of vaccination is proved great loss it will be to me if you by the fact that during the Francodeprive me of these pets, especially the Prussian war 23,000 of the unvaccinated largest bird, that has been in my pos- French soldiers died of smallpox, while ssion for the last eight years," said in the vaccinated German army there

"Why are you so attached to the were only 260 deaths from that disease. "Why are you so attached to the birds?" inquired Magistrate Flammer. "Well, the oldest bird," replied Josten. "is my alarm clock. By a little persistence and training I have got this bird so that it wakes me up at a regular hour in the morning. What is more, judge, I get up good-natured, which I couldn't do if I was awakened by the rasping buzz of a regular clock, instead of by the sweet notes of a bird. "Until I got possession of this bobolink, I was always in trouble, because of an alarm clock. I was formerly a libile Society of Scotland. Some inlink, I was always in trouble, because of an alarm clock. I was formerly a shoemaker, working for another man, and I had to get up about 5 o'clock in

the morning.

"One time the alarm clock to which I crusted to awaken me, failed to work, and as a result, I lost my job.

"In spain were given at the last meeting, who drinks to excess is usually led therewas scarce the people gave eggs in exchange for the Gospel, and throughout the country the sales have largely into the co and as a result, I lost my job. "On another occasion the alarm creased, went off too soon. As a result, I left the house half an hour before a creditor of mine came to pay me \$100 he owed me. I never saw the man again, because he left for Europe that day. So you see the old alarm clock cost ine

having to get out of bed so frequent-ly to urinate. the required time I set the alarm. It used to go off with a bang, wake everybody else in the place, and much ill-feeling was caused. Out of this grew engage in a disgraceful fist fight "So much for the alarm clock, Judge Now, take the other three birds if you will, and do what you wish with them. but spare me my bobolink alarm

> Although expressing regret. Magistrate Flammer said that the law was plain, and that the birds must be confiscated. The prisoner was held for trial.—New York Evening Post.

#### The Czar's Private Life

What was it, Early winder to by one, through the open window to the rard below.

The boys looked at each other knowingly; the girls wondered.

The morning passed, and the noon of the rooms, the dog knew he was the property, and when house came. Ezry hurried out and gather of the reply.

"Tour dinner?" incredulously. "Aw, or perhaps, not fully realizing that his oid standing with the teacher was at an each, he came into school in the afternoon with the same identical bulge.

Monley enough to buy a box of Pills?

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