

the most utter absurdity I have seen. He began by telling us that he had "laid out" to go to Canada, but his health had been "very much impeded," and he was on his way back to St. John. This he told us every mile or two, and then went on to say that probably he was one of the strangest characters and queerest devils we had ever seen; and lest there should be a doubt of this he went on repeating it all the way. "Well, as old Robby Burns says, 'as we journey through life let us live by the way,' I must have my joke and my fun; without jokes there's no fun; my health's very much impeded, or I'm one of the queerest devils; me and Captain ——, how we used to laugh together. I mind when I was at M—— (for I'm an Hirishman myself), as I was out shooting with Lord Hill on my father's estate—I knew Lord Hill intimately well, but I was going to tell you an hanecdote. I always think hanecdotes shorten the way, and as my father used to tell me, 'when you're travelling shorten the way,' and I always like to have my joke and my bit o' fun. So you mustn't mind me, I'm funny; but there's no harm in me; I'm one of the strangest devils, &c. Ye've likely heard, sir," (turning to me), 'of the Marquis of W——?' 'Yes,' said I. 'Well, sir, me and the Marquis of W—— was