

*Minister*—"Never, John; I never get any interest."

*Jock*—"Aye, but I say ye div."

*Minister*—"I never got one cent of interest. No, no, you'll just get your twenty-two dollars, and in silver too, for we have taken in nothing but silver."

*Jock*—"Heth! I'll hae th' discount, ony gate; yeou git baith."

*Minister*—"I tell you I never got a cent of interest or discount on my salary."

*Jock*—"Aweel, outhur yeou or the elders is lyin'—they tould us."

*Minister*—"I never had occasion to get discount; I was always paid in bills."

*Jock*—"Aye, there it's na; wul ye see they wir gar't to gie discount to git ye yir bills." (Then turning contemptuously round to the nearest at hand of the Committee) "Od, there's mony a mean sowl under a black coat."

All this time there was no thought of losing temper on Jock's part, and the minister was only too fond of drawing him out. There was a running spring at the foot of the graveyard, and one day the conversation turned on it thus:

*Minister*—"Don't you think upon the whole, John, that the water there is just scarcely fit to be drunk?"

*Jock*—"Deed do I no; I think it's juist gay gude wetter."

*Minister*—"Hear the man! Who do you suppose would like to drink the juice of your old carcase, saturated as it is sometimes with whiskey?"

*Jock*—"Heth! my body is juist as guid as yeours there ony day."

On another occasion a catalogue of Sunday-school books was written out on a rather large and clumsy blank book, for the use of the minister, who was going from home to invest in some new works. It was necessary to take the blank book along, in order to guard against buying other books like those he had already. The night was pretty far spent by the time the writing was through, and Jock, as usual, was sitting and longing to get away. At last all was ready; the minister took the book, and although it was quite limber enough to put into any of his overcoat pockets, still he evidently had not till then ob-

served its uncomely proportions. He seemed to hesitate about it, and ever and anon would come out with "What an awkward thing! I wonder how I'm going to carry it!" Some suggested one way, some another, until at length Jock, who sat wearying and listening, roared out with great contempt: "Pit it in yer pockit, min! Did ever ony body hear o' sic a like speak?" Controversy, of course, ended at once.

Jock's residence was only a few hundred yards distant from the manse, and in this respect he was quite handy to the minister, who, on odd occasions, would send for him to do a bit chore about the place. On these occasions the pay was certainly no very great inducement, being both small in quantity, and sometimes very loth to come at all; for, to be candid, the minister himself was not just "liberal to a fault." A very common custom also with the minister was the borrowing of Jock's implements,—an axe, a spade, or hoe, &c., &c., all of which the beadle usually kept in excellent trim. Jack stood "matters in general," as he would say, for a long time; but human nature at last gave way. "Heth! I soon tired on't," he used to say; "he's gay mean, the minister, deed is he." "Od," said Jock on one occasion, in talking about his reverence, for he often talked about him when he was not present as well as when he was, "Od, he use't tae borro' ma gully whanever he wanted ane, juist because it was aye sherp, an' no maitter tho' I sherpen't his, the boy aye landed doon again for mine. I wa'dna care for the gully sae muckle, but it was aye sherp when it gaid away, and heth! it aye cam back again juist like a saw. But I fix't him for't tho'. Ae time when it cam hame a' hackit, didn't I juist lay it up as it cam, an' sent it in the same state till him again whan he wanted it. Heth! he's gien ower the borro'in' roo," added Jock with a most significant shake of his head.

One of Jock's kirk duties, besides keeping up the fires, &c., was to cut the firewood into stove-lengths, a job which he rather despised than otherwise; so much so that once, when the supply ran out, and he was authorized by the trustees to buy a load, he bought a cut one, there being no instructions to the contrary. In order to get a