



Arrah, be me sowkins, Father, but its bother lukkin ye're gittin ivery day I mate ye. Faith its a pate taper waist like a cow in the middle, ye're gittin on ye. Av ye keape an growin its the mate sign ye'd make for a sassage factory, a pig an one side av the dure, and Pather an the other. 'Don't be pokin fun at me, Pat Maloney, but give me ten cents. Do you know from your general appearance you'd make a good sign for a scythe smith factory, and if you'd hire out any-way reasonable, I'll guarantee Mr. Ball would take you on trial. 'Thanks! How much do you ask for your three year old chickens?' 'Och! git along wid ye, 'what wud a paysooper be doin wid chickens I don't know?' 'He's a little hard on you, Peter, I'd charge him double fee if I was you, one for sellin, and the other for makin a meat market of his mouth by exposin' his tongue.' 'Hello! Harrison, you get round Saturday as usual.' 'A don't want nowt to say to thee. Thee maks't me speak bad York-shire. Thee made me say 'tother day 'at a wore goin whoman, w'en a said 'a we'r goin whum. Thee'd botter get ponsted i' York-shire, afore thee try's to put it i' the paaper.' 'Well, Pat McMahon, what have you got on the market to-day?' 'Sorra a thing but some eggs and butter, and a few praties.' 'How many eggs have you?' 'Six dozen and you can have them if you take the lot, at 18 cents a dozen.' 'All right, I'll take them. They toll me you've been buying the Ball Island below Brompton Falls.' 'Oh, faith that's an old story, I bought it long ago, but I'm just only after takin' a deed of it.' 'And what are you goin' to do with it? Sure man, didn't you have land enough?' 'Well indeed I did, but you see some of those Shorbrooke fellows do be coming down here spearing and nottin' fish, and if I put them over on the Island at night, so as I can't hear them when they do be tellin' fish stories. I won't know any thing that they do be doin' if the Fish officer should come along. Many the fine fish I've soon taken forinst that Island, but it don't do to know too much, now a days.' 'You're just right, an' hows the old man?' 'Lively as a cricket, and he often wonders you don't take a drive down, for an hour or two's sport.' 'Well then, I'd like to. Ask him if he minds the Christmas night when I called in and found him and Roger O'Halloran havin' a bit of a tussle, and when I asked him what the trouble was, he told me they were 'just tryin' their stringth.' 'I'll hold you he'll remember it, but come down and we'll get some partridge anyway.' 'Don't be callin' them partridge. You haven't got a partridge in Brompton. They're ruffed grouse.' 'Faith then ruffed grouse or smoothed grouse, they're good atin. Bring Jack Whitecher with you. Good bye.' 'Well bigosh don't you say nothin' bout me feesh on Key Pond no more. M'seer Pat he don't say mooch bogar he'll see something sure. Nevare see me net on Key Pond, night lino sometime, don't night lino only for give you an' M'seer Presby *beaucoup des poissons*, for mak' b'leave you got pooty good luck. Probably you'll not forget the time Bill Read and Jack Park teop over the boat, mak' you swemm, eh! My woman, she'll give you her dress for wait till she'll dry your close. Key Pond pooty col' an' wet, *le mois de Mai, bien froid*. Bill Read, dum ole foolish, teop the boat.' 'Nevy mind! Isidore, not drowned yet. Presby

and I are going out to photograph a bear next week. Tell Madame, to keep some eggs for us. Presby's great on pork and eggs.' 'Excuse me, but what sort of a place is Key Pond for scenery?' 'Very good, indeed.' 'Well, for those lime light illustrations, in connection with the lectures that Mr. Ingersoll and myself are giving. I should like a bit of natural scenery. I mean wild and unadorned, except so far as Nature has adorned it.' 'There's plenty of it there, Mr. Armstrong, and by going a little further, to Brompton Lake, you can get excellent photographs of Caribuncle Mountain and the islands.' 'No use go Brompton Lake, Jim Atcheson he'll not let you feesh; better you stay Key Pond. Rester ici, me have some longe at Fred Camirand, me bring some for you an' M'seer Presby. Don't say nothin', M'seer Nagle he'll keep look out for me.' 'Hello! Capt. Parker, is that you?' 'Yes, I was just listening to you and Isidore. I'd like to be out at Brompton Lake myself. We've had some pretty good times there, and I believe if we had Bachelor Bill with us, we wouldn't go fish hungry now.' 'Any buckwheat? I don't believe you'd find 50 bushels of buckwheat in the whole county of Compton. The frost killed all, except what the Italians on the Hereford Railway took for macaroni. Wouldn't turnips do for you in place of buckwheat? Turnips and ducks are the only crops that are likely to mature this season, and two or three more snowstorms would kill them out. If the Moganic Volunteers hadn't been rational men, with a soul above turnips, our supply of them would be short round Sawyerville.' 'Blood puddings!' 'Black Puddins! Les bouidins! Dix cents, *le live*. Ten cents a pound. *Oui, madame, cinq livres. Chiquante cents, soixante sous, merci.* 'Good mornin', Peter, keep you busy takin' toll, ay? Here's mine, and if I hadn't sold them taters just as you came up, I couldn't a' paid it, not in cash, *larshony contony*, or whatever you call it. By jiminy, we're going to have a hard winter, Peter. There ain't no crops in the country, leas'tways in the Province of Quebec, and I swear I reckon the present Government has brought a curse on this part of Canada. There ain't no other part in the same fix as us. By'n by, we'll have to get the right to kill deer out of season for a livin', the same as the Ches ham settlers did.' 'Yes, there'll be lots of deer this winter in the provision line, but we'll have to go short on horns.'

SHERBROOKE, Oct. 11th, 1888.

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