Larry Geogheghan;

A DRIVE with a DUBLIN CARMAN.

"It isn't hard to guess how such a scene meded; but in twenty-four hours my jewel was sayted with me and Norsh in Dublin, informing us of his unlucky result of his worship of the Virgin-bay result of his worship of the Virgin-bay nest of his man, good and blessed luck and satisfaction to her adyship! But Mother Mary might have saved the poor boy, who doated on her for all that, and been none the worse for the good

"But what became of your friend Dinny steer this?"

"Why, your honor, you see he greet mighty onaisy, because he had a rale vocation to the priesthood, which myself, never had. He had niver a Norah at his back to comfort him, and keep up his sperrits; an' further and over. he was mighty fond of books, so that he felt like a fish out of water, or like a hin in a horsepond, living with Rorah and me, for he daren't face, the anger of the people at home, when he was rusty-cated. Well, your honour, he became a true pinnitint, for a while at least, and was very diligent in serving the mass at the Jesuit's chapel close by, and the Rev. Michael O'Farrelly, a kind priest, tak to him kindly. And so, what with Father Mathew's pledge, and what with Father Mick's rippresentations, my friend Dinny was restored after six months' rusty-cation, and came out of Mayneuth in due time a full blown curate.'

"But did he observe the pledge all the time?"

months' rusty-cation, and came out of Mayneuth in due time a full blown curate.'

"But did, he observe the pledge all the
time?"

"Well, sir, ye see, he did, and he did, not.
He vowed that he would not taste one drop
o' liquor while he was in the College. But
for this he found two dispensations, for he
was a 'cute fellow entirely—'because, first
of all,' says he, 'Larry, 'I'm not bound to obsarve the rules of timperance when I'm out
of the College—a man ought to be bound by
the tarms of his oath, no more, no leas;—and
agm,' says' he, 'shure if I take more than
one drop, or more than fifty drops, I don't
violate my oath—for I'm well sure 1, invertuk one drop in my life; they stick to one
another, the drops does, just like so many
bees when they swarrum on a bough; you
can't take one off but a thousand comes with
it.' Och, your honour, and many's the very
big drop we had together on the foot of that
explanation, for he was a great casuist, a
mighty great casuist entirely; and knew
Sanchez, Bailly, Dens, and Delahogue by
heart. When whiskey opened his heart,
your honor, he used to out with a flood of
eloquence about our troubles.'

"Your friend pleaded cleverly in favour of
his 'wakeness,' said we, 'but what became
of him afterwards!"

"He went out as a coadjutor (they call
them all curstes now) to the Very Reverend
Father Aloysius Grogan, Dane of Ballyknockamore; and whin that priest died,
Dinny, who was a good scholar in the humanitics, and well liked by the Bishop, who
was himself a jolly soul, got the parish when
he had been only two years in it. You may
be sure if he drunk before, he enjoyed himself like Bacchus now. He carried it so farthat he was obliged by his parishioners to
take the pledge; and he tuk it, and kept it,
as he did before; he swore he would never
drink 'a glass' of whiskey in 'that other,
a cask of the cravture in his bedroom, and
his dear delight was to lie in bed sucking
the stuff through a straw in a gimlet hole in
the cask. When this didn't satisfy, him, he
used to draw off

and off with him to the mearin' of the country, which wasn't far off, and there he used to squat his legs across the ditch that divided the two counties, and take a swig to his heart's content.

'I am afraid he would find all this impossible to justify in the court of conscience.'

'Perhaps, ay; perhaps, no; it's just as you take it—but my friend. Dinny would maintain that he was right, and would quote no ind of Fathers and Doctors to prove he was right. Well, your honour, on one occasion he gave up drinking for a whole fortnight, and he tuk desperate ill—a kind of low fever of longing I suppose it was, but he ate nothing, drank nothing, said nothing, only just lay with his eyes staring upwards. The doctors came to see him, and at last a regular consultation was going to be held on him; like a jury going to hang a prisoner. Now, helknewithey would never let him know their true opinion so he got his servant, Darby Donohoe, to creep into a press in the small parlour where the doctors would spake with each other after seeing the patient, that he might hear the truth. Well, 'catechising him when he came back, 'what did they say of me?' Och, they said, your reverence dear, that you'd never get over it, replied the faithful creature crying. 'Did they say that—are you sure and certain, Darby?' In troth and by the Holy Virgin's thimble they said that same, and that your reverence would never see the morrow's morning sun.' 'Och, thin,' says he, 'Darby will ye's get me a gallon of punch, for I'm half dead with the drouth? One may as well die drunk as dry, if one can't live; and as I'm to die before morning in any case, they won't be able to say it was the dear mountain dew, the mother of comfort which killed me.'

Well, your honour, he drank three bottles of whisky that night made into hot punch, and they saved his life, more power to them! The doctors never came near him the next day, for they thought it was all over with him, and they sold a carpenter to come and measure his coffin; only one mct Darby in the street: 'W

weat brogues again.

'How did it happen that he died so young?

'You see, your honour, he was always fond of what he called the poetry of Symposiacs, and liked to see malt transformed into whis-ky—or, as he used to term it, Ceres mety-murposed into Bacchus. Now, in a lake in his parish was an island, and a still, and the work going on constant. Some would say he went there, led by his fleshly appetite, to get a drop pure at the fountain head; but himself always maintained it was for the poetry of the thing. And so to be sure it was. He tak a drop of the true Hippocrene, that had never been tested by the exciseman but at the same time he tak tremindous flights upon the Pegasus of poetry. He'd spout Shakespeare and Sophoeles, two great English poets which your honour; mayhap knows better nor me, and would get into a kind of trance of delight. That's how he came by his death. For coming back from an excursion to the island, he grew high-poetical. Some divvel, I suppose, put it into his head, or danced before his eyes in the shape of a bottle, for he began with Macbeth:

"It this as bottle which I see before me, The neck of towards my hand? Come, let me clutch thee:—

I have thee not, and yet I see thee still."

TO BE CONTINUED:

A SMART RETORT.—The Hainant of Brussels says: "A very fat lady on getting into one of our omnibuses, which, it must be said are not over roomy, heard a gentleman make the grumbling remark—'Omnibuses were not made for elephants.' To this she replied, 'Sir, omnibuses are like Nonh's Ark, intended to carry all sorts of beasts.'

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