

TYT-BITS.

The following poem, which recently appeared in the *Bon Accord*, a weekly comic journal, published in Aberdeen, attracted the notice of the Queen, and Her Majesty wrote, expressing a desire to be furnished with the name of the author:—

I'm but an auld body  
Livin' up in Dreadsie,  
In a twa room'd bit hoosie  
Wi' a toofa' bo-side.  
Wi' my coo and my grumphy  
I'm as happy 's a bee,  
But I'm far prouder noo  
Since she noddit to me!

I'm naw sae for past wi't—  
I'm gie' trig and hail,  
'Can plant twa-three tawties,  
An' look after my kail;  
And when oor Queen passes  
I'm out to see,  
Gin y' luck she might otice  
And nod out to me!

But I've aye been unlucky,  
And the blinds were aye doun  
Till last week the time  
O her vesit cam' roon'.  
I waved my bit apron,  
As brisk's I could dae,  
An' the Queen lauch'd fa' kindly  
An' noddit to me!

My son sleeps in Egypt—  
It's nae ease to freik—  
An' yet when I think o't  
I'm sair liko to greet  
She may feel for my sorrow—  
She's a mither, ye see—  
An' maybe she kent o't  
When she noddit to me!

A few years ago, when a Scottish parliamentary candidate was canvassing his constituency, he called at the house of an aged couple. Finding the woman alone, he entered into conversation with her, and asked her to use her influence in getting her husband to vote for him. While they were conversing, the would-be M. P. noticed a kitten amusing itself on the floor, and, taking it up, praised its beauty, and offered £5 for it. The bargain was struck, and, on leaving, he again expressed the hope that she would secure her husband's vote for him. "Weel, sir," answered the old woman, "as I said afore, John's o' man o' his ain mind, an' just does what sticks in his ain noddle; but at ony rate, sir, you've gotten a rale cheap kitten, for yer opponent was in na farer gane than yesterday, an' gae me £10 for its brither."

The new name for the man who throws a banana peel on the sidewalk is a Bananarchist.

Bob Ingersoll recently was talking with an old colored woman in Washington upon religious matters. "Do you really believe, Aunty," said he, "that people are made out of dust?" "Yes, sah; the Bible says dey is, an' so I b'lieves it." "But what is done in wet weather, when there is nothin' but mud?" "Den I s'pects dey make infidols and sich truck."

It is an old proverb that, when drunk, a Frenchman wants to dance, a German to sing, a Spaniard to gamble, an Italian to boast, an Irishman to fight, an Englishman to eat, and an American to make a speech.

A drink for the sick—well water.

Why is there nothing like leather! Because it is the sole support of man.

Teacher—"What is the difference between the body and the soul?" Johnny (vacantly)—"The body is mortal and material; the soul—" Teacher (impatiently)—"Yes; and the soul? Johnny—"The soul is immortal and immaterial."

"Young men believe nothing now-a-days," said Mrs. Ramsbothan, with a deep sigh. "Why, there's my nephew Tom, who was brought up as a Christian, and now he's an Acrostic."

Why is a baker like a beggar? He kneads bread.

Aged negro, speaking into street letter-box: "Hullo, in dar! Is dar any letters for Efraim Simes? Umph! don't pay no 'tention to cullud gentlemen's question, eh? Knowed it ud be dat way as soon as de Democrats got in offis."—*Judge*.

An amusing story about Mr. H. C. Richards and Mr. Herbert Gladstone is going the rounds. "Depend upon it, ladies and gentlemen," said Mr. Richards, at the close of a speech at Southend the other night, "we should never have heard of Mr. Herbert Gladstone if it had not beer for his father." And it is actually said that Mr. Richards was unable for some moments to understand why the audience roared.—*London Figaro*.

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Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied and signed with their actual signatures. Each tender must be accompanied by an ACCEPTED bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, equal to FIVE PER CENT. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

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By order,  
A. COBEILL,  
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,  
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