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Now Angus McRae was a tall, broad shouldered man of some forty years, with a large black beard and bushy eyebrows, from under which peered a pair of piercing dark eyes, which gave an expression of hardness to an otherwise rather handsome face. In addition to physical advantages he was one of the largest farmers in the district and employed several men. But what most impressed the community and probably the widow in particular, was a large new brick house, steam-heated throughout and surrounded by a substan-

It was not so much her personal attractions that made Mrs. McBain a desirable object in his eyes, as the financial advantages that would accrue from such a union. Her modest acres adjoined his land: above all she was a prudent manager and could be trusted to keep a sharp eye on the household expenditure, which had grown considerably since his youngest daughter, the only one unmarried, had gone into a training college: and besides there was no better hand at the butter making than the

His first marriage, which laid the foundation of his fortunes, had occasioned no little scandal and heartburning in the

Now Angus McRae had been in some wise the acknowledged leader of the little band of emigrants. It was to him therefore that their original benefactor wrote,

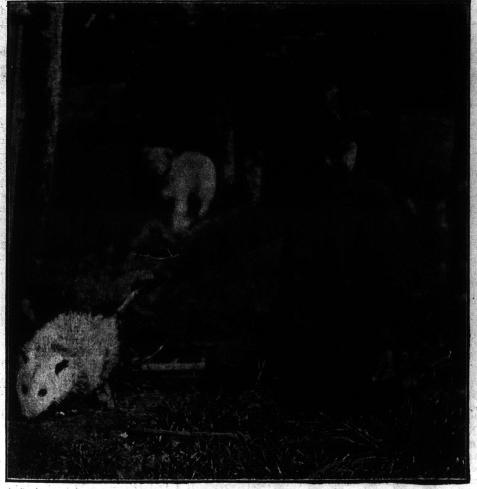
On one occasion—though several years ago the preacher still tingled with shame and indignation at the recollection-McRae had left him in no doubt of his

On just such a day as this the minister, feeling terribly hot and thirsty, turned aside to drink at the farmer's well. Surrounded by trees it lay hidden in a small hollow some distance from the house and buildings. For some little space around the spring the earth lay cool and moist

even on the hottest day.

It so happened that McRae, having filled a large barrel for drinking purposes, had gone to fetch a horse to haul it up to the house. It rested upon a small sledge made for that purpose. The minister had a weakness for bathing and hitherto the muddy waters of the shallow sloughs had been the only means of gratifying it. Therefore the sight of a clean tub brimful of clear water was altogether too much for his discretion. Taking a hurried look round, he quickly undressed: then presenting the appearance of an enlarged prize-baby, tried laboriously to clamber into the barrel. This was no easy task and it was at the expense of a badly scraped shin that he finally lowered himself into its cool depths.

Long and luxuriously he splashed and



Strange Playmates.

\$500 to the first couple to be wed.

In those days, when money was very scarce and payment usually made in kind, this sum represented a small fortune. Therefore Angus, who deemed it sheer wickedness to fling so much good "siller" away, went off post-haste and interviewed Flora McPherson. Finding that both she and her parents were of the same way of thinking, he married her by special license and applied for and obtained the promised

When the facts leaked out, it was MacDuff who voiced the popular indignation and a coolness had arisen between

them in consequence. His wife had died after bearing him four children, all girls, a state of things which caused him much chagrin. He would much have preferred boys who in time would have saved him so much hired help. Indeed when the kindly old woman who acted as mid-wife smilingly announced the sex of the last arrival, he fairly scandalized that good soul by exclaiming in disgust—"Och! Anither dish-wiper!"

Now the Rev. MacDuff was well aware that if once the widow removed to the large house on the hill, the comfortable armchair by the fire where he dozed for hours and the substantial meals at which he presided as host, would be but a sweet

about one year after their arrival, offering | apparition in the tub the animal ran for

ward barking and growling alarmingly.

The minister tried to pacify it and made hurried efforts to get out of the barrel; but the animal showing a formidable set of fangs made a sudden dive forward, which caused him to drop swiftly back again.

It was at this juncture that McRae appeared leading a harnessed horse by the halter. The sight of MacDuff bathing in his drinking water roused an anger which banished all respect for the cloth. Coming to a dead stop he surveyed the scene with a darkening countenance which boded the unhappy bather no good. "Hoot! MacDuff mon!," he exclaimed,

"What in the name o' guidness are ye doing theer?" Turning at the sound, MacDuff realized that the worst had befallen him and that it would take all his diplomacy to weather the storm gathering on the farmer's brow. However he decided to put a bold face on the matter and answered—"If you will kindly call off your ferocious animal I will endeavor to

Now Angus McRae was a violent man and upon any other but the minister would have used his stick. However, he saw in the present situation a grand opportunity for paying off his old score. So

it was with a grim smile that he replied:-"Dinna fash yersel, MacDuff: the dog'll

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