

very educate flea! The flea of wisdom!  
The very teached flea!"

"Hear that, now!" said Flannery, "and did they really come all th' way from France, professor? Or is this a joke ye are playin' on me?"

"The truly French flea!" explained the professor. "From Paris herself. The genuine. The import flea."

"And to think ye brought thim all th' way yerself, professor! For ye did, I believe?"

"Certain!" cried all three.

"An' t' think of a flea bein' worth a dollar!" said Flannery. "Thim can't be crude fleas at sich a price, professor."

"No! Certain, no!" cried the three men again.

"Not crude," said Flannery, "and imported by th' professor! 'Tis odd I should have seen a refrince t' them very things this very day, professor. 'Tis in this book here." He took the list of customs duties from his pocket and leaned his elbows on his knees, and ran his hand down the pages.