

Choking with sobs, he said : ' Yes, marm, it's a place where there is a fire, but I don't remember the name of the town.'

A Glasgow minister was recently called in to see a man who was very ill. After finishing his visit, as he was leaving the house, he said to the man's wife, ' My good woman, do you not go to any church at all?' ' Oh, yes, sir; we gang to the Barony Kirk.' ' Then why in the world did you send for me? why didn't you send for Doctor Macleod?' ' Na, na, we wadna risk him. De ye ken it's a dangerous case of typhus?'

The late Charles Lever, when Consul at Trieste, accompanied his daughter on a visit to London. Lord Lytton, hearing of his arrival, invited him to dinner. ' Ah, Lever,' said he, greeting him, ' so glad you were able to come! You will meet your chief—Clarendon—then Minister for Foreign Affairs. But Lever had omitted the formality of applying for leave. ' I fear I must retire,' he replied, making for the door, which at that instant opened, Lord Clarendon being announced. After shaking hands with the host, his lordship espied Lever before he could make good his retreat.—' Ah, Mr. Lever, I didn't know you were in England! I didn't even know you had asked for leave.'—' No-n-no, my lord,' stammered the witty novelist; ' I thought it would be more respectful to your lordship to come and ask for it in person!'

The clergyman in a certain town having, as the custom is, published the banns of matrimony between two persons, he was followed by the clerk reading the hymn beginning with these words, ' De-luded souls that dream of Heaven!'

The *London Times* says :—' If the affairs of the world were brought to a sudden close at this moment, it would be a curious matter of speculation how many people would be even with their work. One ingenious person did, we believe, attempt such an estimate, and his conviction was that, taking into account the few cases of superhuman excellence in which people would be in advance, we should, on an average, be found to be a quarter of a year behind-hand all round, alike in work and in income.'

It is an affecting sight, says the *Boston Transcript*, to see two young men-only

about twenty or twenty-five years of age, in soldier's blue upon our streets turning a hand-organ and collecting nickles on this gala day. It is all the sadder when it is remembered that the war closed fifteen years ago, and that at the time when those veterans suffered and bled for their country they could not have been more than five or ten years of age.

' Is there any opening here for an intellectual writer?' asked a seedy, red-nosed individual of an editor. ' Yes, my friend,' replied the man of quills. ' A considerate carpenter, foreseeing your visit, left an opening for you. Turn the nob to the right.'

Talleyrand wrote a lord who had bored him : ' Dear Lord Blank,—Will you oblige me with your company on Wednesday next at eight o'clock? I have invited a number of exceedingly clever people, and do not like to be the only fool among them.'

A Farmer in a village in Hampshire, was invited to attend a party at the squire's one evening, where there was music, both vocal and instrumental. On the following morning he met one of the guests, who said : ' Well, farmer, how did you enjoy yourself last night? Were not the quartettes excellent?' ' Why, really, sir, I can't say,' said he, ' for I didn't taste 'em; but the pork chops were the finest I ever did eat.'

A small girl in her first school experience, said : ' Mother, you told me the other day that the ocean was big, but it says in my reader that two drops make the ocean.' Both parents protested that there was some mistake, and asked her to consult the mysterious text-book again. ' Well, mother,' said she the next day, ' I was right. The reader says, " Drop added to drop makes the ocean."'

' I was at church to-day, and enjoyed it greatly.' ' An!' said his pious landlady. ' I am glad of that. I didn't see you, though. On which side did you sit?' ' Ahem—yes—ahem!' stammered the disconcerted Jones; ' I sat on the—outside.'

' I don't see how there ever came to be so many words in the world!' exclaimed a girl who was studying her spelling-lesson. ' Why, sis,' said her brother, ' they come through folks quarrelling. Then, you know, one word always brings on another.'