## PARSIMONY AND PINE PLANKS,

istress Bridget was fresh from the Emerald Isle, we had been in the country no very great while; as judiciously cautioned 'gainst loafers and tramps, and was partial by no means to any such scamps.

hen the boss put his hand on the latch of the door, he was seated with Michael, old times talking o'er, ere the face showed within, all disfigured with blood, and the clothing all over bespattered with mud.

is no wonder that Bridget sustained a sore fright, the sight of the visitor's hideous plight; and indeed she declares that she could not then tell the intruder were burglar, or ghost, or the De'il.

a recovering her presence of mind she showed fight, ith intention of putting the stranger to flight; omptly grasping the first thing to hand, a long broom, oved the force that resides in a muscular arm.

ister C. at this juncture attempted a parley, lled her name and said why he had not returned early; l in vain, he complained of her treatment so rough, or she knew not his voice, as his speech had grown gruff.

nd to no explanation would Bridget give heed, i she rattled the broom handle o'er his sore head ; nen calling on Michael to come to the fore, ney expelled the soiled councilman from his own door.

ister C. would not venture to face his dear spouse, and of course he kept clear of the front of the house; beling tired and exhausted and somewhat forlorn, a retreated and slept on sweet hay in the barn.

the scene that took place with his lady next day, is expedient, we think, to have little to say; and avonching the truth of what's said as a tale, er the private affairs of the home draw a veil.

he brave Bridget indeed for her blunder was blamed, ut enjoined the whole business should never be named ; he received a rich present, a dress of green silk, ad for Michael, a young short horn cow in full milk.

MILL ROAD, October, 1883.

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