

her veil, when he beholds the same colored woman that he met at first, who has put on the bonnet and cloak of her mistress. The mistress enters also now, and both the women laugh at the discomfited fop, who slinks away in disgust as the curtain falls.

Another proverb which affords an opportunity for action is the following:

ALL IS NOT GOLD THAT GLITTERS.

A pair of country people are taking a walk. They gaze into the shop-windows, and seem to be surprised at the novel sights which they see on every side. They walk arm-in-arm and often look tenderly at each other.

Soon they are met by a Jew peddler, who has a tray full of fancy goods. He stops and calls their attention to his wares. They seem to be delighted with the articles which he holds up for their inspection, and at last fix upon a large bracelet, which is made of a band of sheet iron covered with gold paper. They spend much time in discussing the price, and the man says,—

"Is it gold?"

"It certainly's cold," says the Jew, rubbing his ear with one hand.

"If you are sure it is gold," says the bumpkin, "I will give you six dollars for it."

"Ten is the lowest," says the Jew, and after much chaffering the bracelet is purchased for six dollars and a half, and the man proudly clasps it on the arm of his friend, rejoicing that he has outwitted the peddler.

The couple continue their walk, and the lady, after constantly looking at her new bracelet, rubs it with her handkerchief to brighten it. What is her horror to see the gold rub off and the iron slowly come to light under the process. The woman cries, and the man sets out with uplifted stick in eager but fruitless pursuit of the deceitful Jew.

The above examples, it will readily be seen, can be easily enlarged into little dramas by writing in longer dialogues, which will prove an excellent exercise in composition. But if the actors have confidence and wit enough to make up the conversation as they act, it will sound more real than if written and committed to memory.

THE Masonic bodies in Naples have formed themselves into a powerful committee to consider the best means to further cremation.

### Scheming to Evade the Giving of Christmas Presents.

A boy of twelve stood leaning against the fence on Duffield street yesterday, hat pulled down, feet crossed, and his right hand going up occasionally to wipe his nose, when along came another anatomy about his size and asked:

"Sick?"

"No."

"Any the family dead?"

"No, I've just been licked."

"Who dun it?"

"Dad."

"Did your ma ask him to?"

"Yes. She told him I had been aching for it more than a month."

"Say," said the new arrival, "you are in luck. I'm trying my best to get dad to whale me. I'd give fifty cents if he had tanned me this noon and it was all through hurting."

"Why?"

"Why! Haven't I got \$3 saved up to buy pap, and marm Christmas presents, and if I can get 'em to whale me before Christmas won't I spend every cent of that money on myself? How much you got?"

"Two dollars."

"Bully! You are all right! You've bin licked, and they won't expect even a stick of gum from their pounded son. I'll go home and slam the baby around and steal sugar and kick the cat and sass mother, and if I can get walloped to-night I'll meet you here to-morrow, and we'll pool in and buy more pistols and scalping knives and rock-candy and nuts and raisins than you ever saw before! Yip! Peel me down, dear father—hang my hide on the fence, mother darling."—*Detroit Post.*

ACCORDING to *Le Monde Maconique*, the Grand Orient of France has 361 bodies in its allegiance, namely: 313 Symbolic lodges, 35 Chapters, and 13 Councils, which are thus distributed, namely: 67 in the Orient of Paris, 11 in Beaulieu, 229 in the Departments, 13 in Algeria, 9 in the Colonies of France, and 32 in countries outside France and the French possessions. The same authority gives the receipts for the year ending the 28th of February, 1886, as close upon 139,857 francs, and the expenses as 139,866 francs.