

THE STAMP AND CURRENCY NUISANCE.

SCENE: *A Confectionery Store hardly West of Bleury Street.*
Time, 11 A. M. Enter Sedate Female, accompanied
by Ancient Pet of the mongrel order:

SEDATE FEMALE,—addressing good looking matron behind the counter—"Can you give me a stale copper bun for my little dog? Poor thing! he's very hungry! Or, perhaps, you can give me *two* for a copper?"

GOOD-LOOKING MATRON (with slightly arch expression.) "I can give you *one* for a copper."

SEDATE FEMALE.—"Thanks,—that will do;" (Tenders a Philadelphia half dime in payment.) "Perhaps you can oblige me with five Canadian cents in change?"

GOOD-LOOKING MATRON.—"I will see." (Discovers and counts out five Canadian cents.) Exit SEDATE FEMALE and Dog.

The Cynic's omniscience frequently involves omnipresence. He followed that female (she will doubtless think it very mean of him) and saw her repeat the operation in four other confectionery stores with like results. She then entered a News Agency and asked for a quarter dollar's worth of postage stamps. The young man behind the counter, who had just finished reading the notable account of 'ye famous battell between Robin Hood and ye Curtal Fryer.'" and appeared inordinately good humoured, complied with her request and, with incipient gallantry, enclosed the stamps in a neat envelope. He appeared disappointed however on receiving Canadian cents in payment. DIOGENES musing on the financial results of the sedate female's operations, has come to the conclusion that, if properly manipulated, American silver is not the nuisance it is popularly represented to be. Had the lady tendered a half dime on five different occasions, for postage stamps, an additional copper would have been demanded. As it was she netted five coppers, five stale buns for her darling pet-quadruped (now more than sufficiently gorged), and a neat envelope,—something near 33 per cent, or about the same amount the doctors demand from dependent druggists.'

AN ORIENTAL WAIF.

DIOGENES has been requested to publish the following "Curious extract from the History of Persia, by Aboo el Hummum." He does so without entirely vouching for certain statements involving matters of fact:

Address of the Tribe of Bamboozles to the Most Affable and Serene Grand Vizier Kerfoozelum.

We, the most humble and devoted of your subjects, desire most humbly to prostrate ourselves before your affable Serenity, at this most auspicious and appropriate season of the full moon, in order to express our hearty wishes for the health, digestion, and happiness of your Serene Highness.

We are aware, that the time of full moon has passed, but as its effects yet remain in our heads, we doubt not but that you will in your condescension, overlook the apparent irregularity.

Especially do we wish to recall, at this time, the great benefits which have flowed from your Serenity's administration; that whereas we were, before your auspicious advent, living in dull and abject indifference, unity, and peace; your presence has quickened us to a laudable activity, and excited the whole tribe of Bamboozles to a wholesome antagonism and rivalry.

We also gratefully thank you, at this most appropriate season, for the many noble air castles with which you have adorned our country. These we would not, of ourselves, have had the ingenuity to build, or even design, had not our darkness been enlightened by the knowledge which you brought to us.

We should also express our profound gratitude that whereas we were formerly deeply involved in paying our necessary ex-

penses, out of our own resources; and whereas we had been, after the uncivilized manner of our fore-fathers, economising our means, you first taught us the great economic and civilizing value of having debts.

We are, moreover, sincerely thankful, for the vast amount of flummery with which you have so bountifully fed us, without which, we would never have known the value of this new article of food, or our capacities for swallowing it.

We call to mind also, with complacent gratification, the many kind and flattering things you have said,—for had you not enlightened us, we should never have known how excellent a people we are.

We are also as deeply grateful for the many things which you have not done as for those which you have done. Our gratitude will never forget the former, and your faithful adherents will never let us forget the latter.

But in fine, when we consider how nobly and disinterestedly you came to our benighted land, leaving the bones of your fathers, to cast your lot among us, we feel overcome with the weight of obligation under which we labour, and we earnestly hope that the day may soon arrive when, leaving behind so unworthy a people, you may rest from your arduous labours, among the exalted spirits of your native land.

J. A. BOOZLE—wife and six little Boozles,

H. TOOZLE—and three maiden sisters,

C. SNOOZLE,

H. NOOZLE,—and 69 others.

UNIQUE ADVERTISEMENT.

"A. G. Eaves having arranged with J. W. Buckland, Esq., for the use of his theatrical wardrobe, is prepared to *hire* the same on the most reasonable terms."

DIOGENES sincerely hopes that Mr. Eaves may *hire* it on such terms; but on what terms does Mr. Eaves intend to let it out on hire?

ANOTHER.

A respectable druggist advertises Philopena Presents from France. Among them are "Several patterns of Respirators, Chest Protectors, Shoulder Braces, and Eye Shades."

What delightful presents for a lady!

CORRESPONDENCE.

January 26, 1869.

DEAR DIOGENES:

If you think it can be done without endangering the safety of your establishment, propound to the public the following political conundrum:—

"Why do most of the German Princes look with grief into the future?"

As you are not likely to meet with any one so utterly devoid of reason as to stoop to the solution of this enigma, permit me to supply it:—

"Because they do not see themselves in it."

Yours faithfully,

NON COMPOS MENTIS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. M." has omitted to send the paragraph on which he comments.

"T." Quebec.—Please be a little more explicit. DIOGENES fails to see the point of the joke.

"CHEMISTRY OF ODOURS."—Hardly up to the mark.

"A. L. C." Toronto.—Prior engagements prevent the acceptance of your offer.

"T. S."—Too personal, and cannot be softened.