

Sangrado (if he can behave himself) tak' a pilgrimage to my bit biggin, and mak' the offering in your ain person. It's lang since I saw you at Bonnie Braes.

MAJOR.—Many thanks, Laird. With pleasure will I beat up your quarters, but you must let the 15th of July be come and gone first. Next to a smoking house and a scolding wife, wet weather in the country is the most grievous social evil which flesh can inherit.

LAIRD.—Though gleg enough at the uptak', as a general rule, I really am at a loss to understand you.

MAJOR.—Why, man, have you forgotten St. Swithen, and the ancientadage that if it should rain on his day, there will be rain more or less for forty-five succeeding days?

LAIRD.—I mind noo. Does the rule, however, apply to Canada?

MAJOR.—Of course, seeing that it forms a component part of the British empire. Should annexation take place, the saint would, in all probability, withdraw his patronage!

PURSER.—What is the legend upon which this popular fancy is based?

MAJOR.—St. Swithen, Bishop of Winchester, having died in the year 865, was canonized by the then Pope. He was singular for his desire to be buried in the open church-yard, and not in the chancel of the Minster, as was usual with other prelates. The request was complied with, but the monks, on his being canonized, taking it into their heads that it was *infra dig.* for the saint to lie in the open church-yard, resolved to remove his body into the choir, which was to have been done with solemn procession on the 15th of July. It rained, however, so violently on that day, and for forty days succeeding, as ha' hardly ever been known. This hint made the worthy ecclesiastics abandon the design as heretical and unorthodox. Bishop Swithen was permitted to slumber, *sub Jove*, without molestation.

DOCTOR.—Gay, in his *Trivia*, has the following allusion to the day:—

"If on St. Swithen's feast the welkin lours,
And ev'ry pent-house streams with hasty showers,
Twice twenty days shall clouds their fleeces drain,
And wash the pavements with incessant rain."

LAIRD.—Keep mind, bairns, that if the 15th be dry, are a'ye to convene at my tabernacle on the following day. No' a word out o' your mouths! I'll tak' nae denial! A black-faced sheep, rising four years, will be sacrificed on

the occasion; Bauldie Stott will furbish up his pipes; and as cold water potations are the order o' the day, my douce neighbour Leask will aiblins send us oot a gallon or twa o' *mountain dew*, lately received by him frae Balmoral!

MAJOR.—Before you go, Laird, allow me to shew you a *New Guide to Niagara Falls*, and *Traveller's Companion*.

LAIRD.—Right glad am I to see the buik. It's plentifully illustrated!

DOCTOR.—What sort of an affair is it, Major?

MAJOR.—As a guide to the Falls it is everything that a tourist could desire, and perhaps the line of the Great Western Railway, which is also intended to accompany, in its course from the Suspension Bridge to Windsor, is tolerably well described. Touching the other portions of Canada, however, under the head of the Great Northern Route, the writer had better have said nothing than have given the imperfect and meagre description he has done.

LAIRD.—Indeed!

MAJOR.—For instance, Toronto is described as containing *about thirty thousand inhabitants!*

LAIRD.—Hoot! toot!

DOCTOR.—Ha! ha! ha!

[*Excunt Omnes, laughing.*]

FACTS FOR THE GARDEN AND THE FARM.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING BOUQUETS AND FLORAL ORNAMENTS.

Having considered, in our last number, the preliminaries which should be observed by those who expect success in the art of making floral ornaments, I now come to the more practical part of the subject, namely, the making or putting together of the bouquet. And first, of the hand bouquet.

As I have already observed, the hand bouquet, should not exceed eight inches in diameter, and if for an ordinary occasion, the flowers may be gathered without regard to colour; but for a bridal bouquet white flowers should predominate, although Violets, Mignonette, and Heliotropes may be added for perfume. For an ordinary bouquet, six or more large flowers are requisite, giving the preference to Camellias and Roses. The Camellias should be cut off close to the calyx of the flower, and an artificial stem provided for it, either by a bent wire which is thrust down through the centre of the flower, between the petals, so as to be entirely con-