

## A SINKING FUND.

At the last meeting of the Lime Kiln Club the Rev. Penstock rose to a question of privilege. He said:

"Way off on de las' end of de Brush fahm an ole man am dyin'. His ole woman am run'n' away, his chil'en am scattered, an' scattered, an' he lies dar all alone, wid no kind hand to pass him a friel cake or wet his parchin' brow wid cumfur. He am not one of us, and we can't give to him from our relief fund, but I axes de consent of Brudder Gardner dat we may take up a colleckshun."

"You kin—you kin!" was the prompt reply of the president.

"I puts dis dime in de hat, an' I truly hopes de gem'en will depreciate de situashun," said Penstock, as he started on his way. Passing from man to man, the good preacher at length returned to his seat. As he looked toward the president there was a queer cloud on his brow.

"Well, what success?" queries the president.

"Fo' de Lawd, but Ize eben los de ten cents I started wid!" gasped Penstock.

The silence was so deep that it could have been cut up into coal shafts. Not a hair moved.

"Dar 'pears to be a great moral lesson aroun' hear sunwhar," said Brother Gardner.

## SPORTING SPLASHES.

Advices from London, England, state that Cavill is to attempt to swim from Dover to Calais, across the channel, on July 23, for a wager of £300.

At Zanesville, Ohio, recently, the Arizona Boy and W. J. Williams ran 100 yards for \$2.00. The race resulted in a dead heat. Time, 10½ seconds.

Advices from London, England, state that Jesus Leon, the American long-distance rider, has issued challenge to ride six days, or from 1,000 to 2,000 miles, with the use of 100 horses, against any man in the world, for £200 to £500, the race to take place in London.

THE MORRIS-HANLON BOAT RACE.—Pittsburgh, June 8.—The final deposit of \$1,000 was posted to-day in the five-mile boat race for \$2,000 and the single scull championship, between Morris and Hanlon. Harry Beaumont of this city was chosen final stakeholder. The race will be rowed on the 20th inst. at Hulton, Penn. Morris the favorite, having recently rowed over the course in 34:54, which beats the best time on record.

A private dispatch from London announces the safe arrival of Bogardus, the champion pigeon-shooter, who went across the Atlantic to arrange an international pigeon match with Pennell, the English champion, for £300.

## STAGE SPARKS.

Among the probabilities for next season is a Boston Parlor Opera Company, of whom Mrs. Louise Oliver, Adelphi, Randall, Eugene Clarke, Percy Cooper and H. K. Wright, Jr., will constitute the principal soloists. "Martha," "Maritana," etc., will be given, without chorus.

New Babylon, an original drama of London and suburban life, by Paul Merritt and George Fawcett Rowe, is in rehearsal at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, England, and will also be produced during the fall season at a leading New York theatre.

Queen Victoria is about to make her first visit to the theatre since the death of Prince Albert. She goes to hear Patti sing.

Dan Rice couldn't run a twenty-horse circus in a one-horse town any better than the Western editor could print a nonpareil newspaper in a long primer town.—*Turner's Falls Reporter*. Why didn't he pic a better location.—*N. Y. News*.

It would depend a good deal upon how fast a-gate Dan would run them.

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April 27-2m

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June 1-2m