

somewhat alike in sound but totally different in meaning. Sometimes these are as ludicrous as any that have appeared under the name of Mrs. Partington. Dr. Pilot has given a number of instances of this kind, as *bigamous* for bigoted, meaning obstinate in his opinions, *circuit court* for *commendation* for recommendation, as for example, a servant's character. And we have heard a good janitor of a church having his feelings hurt by being obliged to use *antichrist* (anthracite) coal. Then there are words variously mangled in the pronunciation by the ignorant, as *dismolish* for demolish, and *nonsical* for nonsensical. Such a use of words is generally very limited, perhaps not extending beyond a single individual. In any case they are simply the blunders of the ignorant, and unless commonly adopted are of little interest to the student. Sometimes a word does thus come into use, as may be seen in the word *expensibile* for expensive.

Like all uneducated people they have idomatic phrases or a sort of proverbial expressions, often based on the circumstances of their daily life, which are frequently expressive. Thus they will describe a simpleton or greenhorn as *not well baked* or *only half baked*. They will also describe a similar character as having *a slate off*, indicating the same that is meant by a man having something wrong in his upper story. This saying was doubtless brought with them from the old country; but as slates are not used among them for the covering of houses, they have adapted the saying to the country by speaking of such a man as having *a shingle loose*. An increase of cold may be described as the weather being *a jacket colder* and when feeling its severity they speak of being *nipped with cold*. Again, a man describing his poverty said he had nothing to eat but *a bare-legged herring*, meaning a herring without anything to eat with it. So *stark naked tea* is tea without milk or sweetening, or *sweetness*, as the fishermen call it, molasses being known as *long sweetness* and sugar as *short sweetness*. To *put away a thing too choice* is to lay it aside so carefully as not to be able to find it. To *pay ones practice* is to pay the accustomed dues to the minister or doctor. *Over right* is for opposite or against. To *put your handsignment* is to sign your name. When a fisherman has a good catch of fish he has taken a *smart few*, but if he has met with only partial success he has only caught a *scattered few*, and if fish have been very scarce he will describe himself as getting only a *scattered one*. Quite an expressive phrase is *getting into*