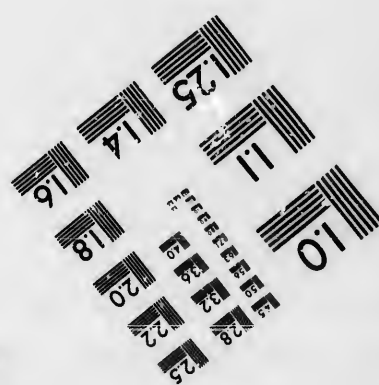
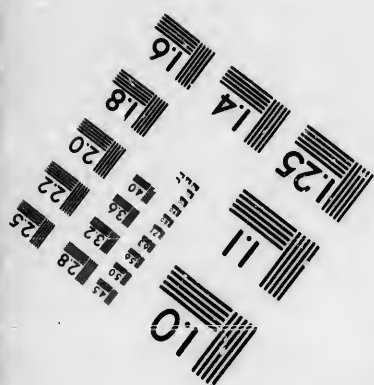
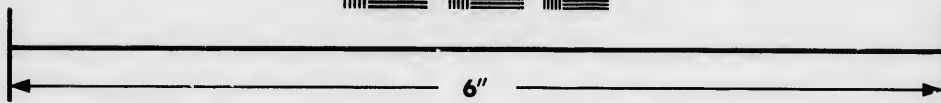
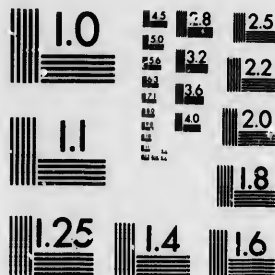


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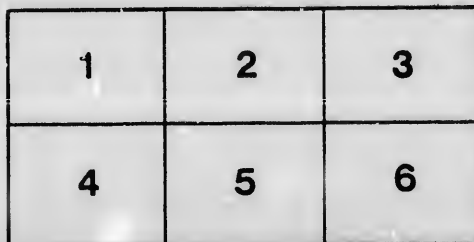
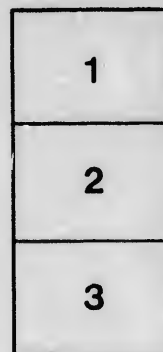
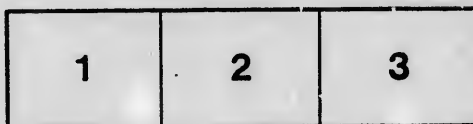
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Letters from Paris

TO HIS

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THADEUS O'TOOLE'S
Letters from Paris

TO HIS

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QUEBEC.

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1871.

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THIADEUS O'TOOLE'S LETTERS.

—
1ST.

PROOSHIN DEPARTMENT,
VERSALES, 10th Feb., 1871.

MR. PHELIM O'TOOLE,
House and Land Inspector,
Quebec, English America.

MY DEAR PHELIM,—Here I am, safe and sound at last, thank God, though a good dale joulted and middlin' yallow after the say voyage, and sudden change in drink and diet. When I wrote to you afore I left Dublin I told ye I made everything comfortable for bein' about the first in Paris when she surrendered, and if aitin' elephants, giraffes and other sweetmates had'nt spiled their taste for bacon, I was certain of doin' an illigent thrade with the Parishins; iv coorse if the Prooshins took a fancy for a taste, instead iv aiting German sassages and such mystarious invinshins, I would'nt purvint thim if we wor agreeable to the price. I did'nt, my dear Phelim, think it would become the ould dignity iv the family to come here to forrin' parts, and let all the ginirels, marshals, and Prooshin nobility know

WINTER

H.

that I was simple Thadeus O'Toole, iv Kevin street, and the pig market, Dublin, and accordingly represented myself as an Irish plinipotenshury in the revictualin and purvishin interest. I took two letters iv interduction wid me, one for aich iv the nations I expected to have dailins wid.

Mr. Loffenbach, the pork butcher, giv me one to his brother, a liftinint iv Yagers (a soort iv sodgers, Phelim) and tould him I was the "gardien angel iv the Germins in Ireland;" (that was for the Mejnheers,) the other Mr. Lojong, the French polisher, giv me for his aunt in the Rue Ste. Marie, inside Paris, and called me the "Apostle of the exiles;" (that was for the Monshures when I got in.) Well, Phelim darlin, I won't trouble ye wid an account iv all my trials and advintures on the road, nor will I till my dyin' hour revale to you the mystarious curiosities I ate; but at once go on 'to the important part iv my letter, my arrival here and interview wid Giniral Bismark.

It was about 10 in the mornin' when I got in, sick and sore, and the heart nearly scalded out iv me wid answerin' Ulanders, Laplanders and all other sort iv Prooshins, as to my business and cetra. The divil a one of them could talk a word of English, and as for Irish, the haythins knew no more about it nor if it was Greek, so seein' it was no use throwin' away "God save ye kindly's" on them, I

flurished a big bundle iv papers (most iv them
 bacon accounts,) and shouted " Giniral Bismark,"
 for as I could'nt see a sight iv my friend the lif-
 tinint, high or low, I thought it best to make a
 bould dash for it. Well, my darlin,' this made thim
 a little pulliter, and I was brought to a big cow
 house (claned out) at the back iv the palace, and
 left waitin' there for near an hour wid about a dozen
 other travellers, whin in comes a little fat ould
 officer to find out our business. I was the first he
 tackled, and divil such a discourse ever took place
 since the bricklayers' conversation at the Tower of
 Babel. What wid he misunderstandin' what I said,
 and I not understandin' what he said, and an, ould
 sergeant who travelled wid a German band once
 purtendin' he understood both iv us. The last
 Army Circular was " readin' made e: heard
 to it. Well, at all events, after tryin' him
 believe I was a plinipotenshury iv great . . . once
 equal to the Lord Liftinint or the Duke of Leinster
 at the laste, the cunnin' ould rogue put me down as
 a victualin' agent from Ireland, and told me the
 Giniral would see me the next mornin' at 10 o'clock.
 I passed the night purty comfortable on a wad of
 straw, rowled up in my big frieze coat, for sorrah a
 bed was to be got for love or money, and barrin' a
 little Frenchman who lay near me, nearly kicking

the small iv my back in, dramain' he was goin' to be shot, was'nt much disturbed till mornin'.

At ten o'clock, punctual, I pursented myself at the giniral's quarters, and, after waitin' a couple iv hours, was at last shewn in furnint him. Begorra, Phelim, he's a fine lookin' man, tall, and as straight as an arrow, wid an eye on him like a hawk, and, barrin' the bowld lock, for all the world like big Tim Delaney, the horse dealer. He was sittin' at a big table covered wid maps and papers, laffin' at somethin'; a little, culd yellow officer, in a giniral's uniform, was sayin', (I heard after it was Giniral Van Molke), as I came in, and, turnin' sharp round, he says, looking study at me for a minute or two, "Oh! you're the gintleman from Ireland, I suppose? Be sated." He spoke English wid a slight Cork accent, for I believe his mother came from thim parts. "I am, thank ye kindly, sir," says I—"my lord, I mane—and proud and happy I am to make yer acquaintance." He bowed quite illigant, for, you see, he's been so long outside iv Paris, that he's picked up the regular French manners. "You've come, I believe," ses he, "on a mishin partly iv a philanthropic and partly iv a business nature." "Yes, your worship," ses I, forgettin' his title again, you see, "philanthropics and business was always my sintimints. May I make so bould as to offer you my

card?" (I had a couple iv dozen printed a purpos afore I started.) He took it, and, turnin' to the window, read—"Mr. Thadeus O'Toole, Pig, Pork, and Bacon. Merchant, Dublin, St. Petersburg, and China. Purveyor to the Queen, Emperor of Rushia, and other Potentates. Armies supplied, Cities relieved, and Countries re-victualled on the shortest notice. Orders punctually attended to. Pigs forwarded by Balloon post, if necessary." "Umph!" ses he, lookin' rather dark at the last line, "this has the appearance iv tamperin' wid the enemy." "Only a flight of fancy," ses I, "my lord, and intirely out iv the ordinary coorse iv business." "I think so," ses he, "a pig in a balloon would indeed be rather a strange flight. But," ses he, again smilin', "I thought that pigs, pork, and bacon meant all the same in your language." "So they do, Giniral," ser I, gettin' more familiar wid him, "its the vicissituds iv life that makes the difference. A pig," ses I, "in the mornin' iv life, beloved and respected by its relations, and admired by its master, is 'a pig;' cut down in its pride, like Julius Sasir; while the tears iv its family are fallin', and the loss weighin' heavy on them, its 'pork;' but when its intirely forgotten, and the grief passed away, by that time its 'bacon.'" "Ah!" ses the Giniral, heavin' a deep sigh, "I'm afraid, Mr. O'Toole, when our time for bein' pork arrives we'll

aisily glide out iv their memory into the bacon of oblivion—what a simple thing taches us a beautiful moral lesson.” “Thrue for yer lordship,” ses I. “But, Mr. O'Toole,” ses he, “though your remarks are highly instructive we must'nt give way to our feelin's; let us, if you plase, return to business. As we're not yet quite ready to go into Paris, perhaps you would have no objection to supply our army outside here?” “Of coorse not, Giniral,” ses I; “what peculiar breed and number would you be likely to require?” “I am sorry to say,” ses he, “me education has been so neglected as to lave me unacquainted with the different varieties of that beautiful animal, so i'll depend intirely on yourself.” “Well, Giniral,” ses I, “there's a fine, hardy, little black breed from Kerry, suitable for light infantry, and I could let you have 500 iv them; for the heavy cavalry and artillery Hampshires is the best, large and nourishing, 500 more iv them will make 1000, to be at yer sarvice to-morrow week.” “Thadeus,” ses he, graspin' my hand, while the tears was in his eyes, “your our benefactor. I accept your offer with the deepest thanks, and the whole Prooshin nation will be equally grateful. Come and dine with me at 7—only the King, Molke, and a few friends will be there, so I'll take no excuse.” Wid that he squeezed my hand again, givin' me an aisy shove out to prevent me making any answer, and shut the door.

That's a true account, my dear Phelim, iv all that happened, and, maybe, in my next letter, I'll tell you all about the King and nobility, and Paris, if we are in it when I write, but, bedad, its little time I'm afraid I'll have, between gettin' the pigs across and moralizing with the Giniral.

I remain, your lovin' Uncle, till death,

THADEUS O'TOOLE.

2ND.

PROOSHIN DEPARTMENT,
VARSALES, 14th Feb., 1871.

MR. PHELM O'TOOLE,

House and Land Inspector,
Quebec.

MY DEAR PHELM,—Here I am still, alive and well, thank God, *keepin' up* the dignity iv the O'Tooles among the nobility, as becomes a descindint iv the ould ancient kings, and *lowerin'* it now and then in the way iv business, as becomes a dacent bacón daler, and future forefather of my own illustrious descindints. Bismarck and me is like two brothers, and, as there's no amusement worth talking about since they knocked off slaughterin' the Frinch and

batterin' Paris to smithereens', he spends most iv his spare time emprovin his mind descoorsin wid me. Peaceful employments is generally the subject; for you see, as he's been all his life fightin' wid students, members iv parliament, ambassadors, sogers and and plinipotenshuries, he knows very little about dacent livin', and a quiet man like myself is a regular God-send to him. Ould Moltke is very gonteel and civil, but has'nt a great dale to say till he warms up towards the heel iv the evenin' after puttin' a couple of bottles out iv sight, and then he comes out purty strong; mostly in the scientific line. He has a very purty idea of algebra, for a forriner, and knows euclid like ould Malachy Kilgobbin the schoolmaster. He gave me a recate for fortifyin the Hill iv Howth that might come in handy some iv these days, *iv we were that way inclined*. The king is a very dacent kind iv an ould gintleman, hasn't the laste objection in life to a good dinner, and could tell you to a spoonful how much water to put in a tumbler iv punch. He's mighty religious in the mornins, when he's writin' his despatches, and thanks Providence very devoutly whin there's plenty of Frinch killed; but after that he takes kindly enough to the comforts iv this world. I'm tould since they made him an Emperor he's put on a good many airs, and wears his Sunday clothes every day,

but may be that's on account iv the objection to a change iv any soort that most Soverins' has. Though he gives me a nod when he meets me, and puts his finger to thé peak iv his cap, I only took dinner wid him once, that was the second day I was here,— and begorra, Phelim, if I don't disremember, I promised to tell you iv the same dinner in my last letter. Oh! Phelim, its you and me and the likes iv us ought to be thankful we live in a country where the aitin' and drinkin' is carried on in an open, straightforward way, and you get your dinner like a Christian hot male, and not have one dish slapped down forninst ye at a time like a game iv "Spoil Five," or "Beggan Me Neighbour." Where is there a purtier or more entertainin' sight nor a table laid out wid a biled turkey at the top (if its a bird you knew from the shell so much the better), a roast shoulder iv mutton at the bottom, or may be a leg iv lamb, flanked off at the sides wid a Limerick ham and a beef tongue, to say nothin' iv the praties, cabbage and bottled porter? There you are, Phelim, every-thing manly and honest; you can face your enemy bouldly without fearin' any resarve more powerful nor an apple pie or a bread and butter puddin'. But begorra, Phelim, that's not the way at all wid the Prooshin nobility, as I found to my sorrah. Sevin was the hour fixed for the dinner, and after makin'

myself as dacent as possible and puttin' on the black shute I bought for Counsellor O'Grady's funeral, I was at the door to the minute. Knee breeches they tell me would have been more iv a coort dress, but as I always wear Conemara stockings, bedad, I'm afeered the gentility would'nt have gone lower nor the knee. The company was'nt long behind me. Bismarck was first wid a mighty handsome young officer, an edge-e-cong, then the king and ould Moltke and by the time I had made nine elegant bows (feur to the king, two to each iv the ginirals, and one to the edge-e-cong) the door was flung wide open and in we went. Begorra, Phe-
lim, I never see such grandeur afore in all my life; a Lord Mayor's show was nothing compared to it. The room was middlin' small, but splendidly painted and full iv pictures. Archangels and cheri-
bums flyin' all over the ceilin', and all the Frinch kings and queens since Adam drawn up in a line, like sogers, along the wall. The table was covered with goold and silver plates, dishes, crame yures and other utensils, and big nose-gays stuck down the centre; but the divil a haporth in the aitin' line was to be seen high or low. "Bedad," says I to myself, "Thadeus O'Toole, this is a sorry look-out for you; its gonteel poverty is the style here, and maybe its a plate iv mixed biscuits and a glass iv

one-and-eightpenny sherry they'll be handin' round, coaxin' you not to be shy, at the same time in mortal dread afeerd you'll ate too much." While I was penderin' over this as we sot down, in comes five or six waiters wid plates, and put one down forninst each iv us. By the smell I knew it was soup, though at first I thought it was strong tay. I was just after rutin' a little Frinch rowl out iv a napkin' by the side iv me, so I made up my mind to be as resigned as possible and take whatever Providence sint, but if I was to be made a coffin for a buttered cake I could'nt make out what soort iv a dinner it was to be at all at all. "Is it war rations we're on" says I, "or maybe the king's digestion is bad after all the bitter pills he got in the English papers, and bein' on light diet its manners for visitors to take the same." While I was reflectin' on this and enjoying the little drop iv soup purty well, for it was hot and I *think* wholesome, I put down my spoon for a minute to get my handkercher, for I felt a soort iv a sneeze comin' on, when a big rapscallion iv a waiter whips it up and walks off with it as bould as brass! "Oh! then, sweet bad luck to you," ses I, "if that's all the manners you brought wid you, you had better get a fresh supply in Paris afore you go home." "There now," thought I, "I suppose that's the end iv the entertainment, light and elegant sure enough,

the divil a fear iv gout while that style is in fashion, no wonder for yez to have plenty iv money for fightin', for sorrah much the house expenses come to." This was what was going through my mind, Phelim, but sure I was never more took in in my life. In a couple iv minutes back comes the big waiter wid a beautiful cut iv salmon on a clane plate instead iv the soup. I was always mighty partial to fish (barrin' dried ling) and from my infancy salmon has been a strong wakeness iv mine. Keepin' my eye on the waiter to purvent him grabbin' it, and puttin' on a little extra steam, I kept well up to the king and elaned off to the minute with him. After that, Phelim, in comes all soort iv dishes, baked, stewed, and biled, but what they were called, or made iv, begorra, even Purfessor Owen himself could'nt tell. Some iv them had French names a yard long, and others Prooshin titles it would take a day to drive round. I tried three or four and at last dropped on a dish of stewed chickens, (as I thought,) in a beautiful rich sauce. I was enjoyin' this when General Bismarck turnin' to me wid a smile ses, "Ah! I didn't think Mr. O'Toole that your countrymen were so partial to "Froosha stuke." "Begorra, my Lord, ses I, "that's a new name for them, but spring chickens was always a favorite in Ireland. "Chickens!" ses he, laughin' outright, 'why, Mr. O'Toole, them's

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stewed frogs." "Mother iv Moses, General, you don't say so," ses I, beginnin' to feel as if I was gettin' say sick. "It's the truth I'm tellin' you, Thadeus," ses he, "but you look wake, try a glass iv brandy." The sperits brought me round, but my confidence in the victuals was shook, and I only played wid my knife and fork till the fruit came on the table. To think, Phelim, iv me, an Irishman, and a Christian, after all the trouble St. Patrick took banishin' varmint from the Island, comin' here to forrin' parts and devourin' them! Bedad, I'm afeerd it'll lie heavy on my mind, Phelim, but sure the way they wor disguised the saint himself would'nt know whether it was from an egg or a tadpole they came. Durin' the dinner we had'nt much conversation; a few remarks about the weather, latest news from Berlin, how they would resave us in Paris, and a little genteel civility as regards the eatables, but when the waiters was gone and the "nourishment" began to go round, we got quite confidential. The king was mighty anxious to know what we thought iv him in Ireland. Iv coorse I had my manners about me, and told him we doated on him, only it would'nt look well to show it too much, afeerd the people would think we wor runnin' after him when he was up in the world. "Oh, faith," ses Bismarck, laughing, "you have disguised your feelins' splendidly in that

case, for one would think by the papers that the Irish were all for France." "We certainly paid them a few Frinch compliments, Ginerall," ses I, "but the raal deep feelin' was towards the Prooshins." (I did'nt think it worth while to mention what soort iv feelin' it was though, at the same time.) "The English," says the king, wid a hiccup (the decanters was goin' round purty quick by this time) "the English loved me like a father once, but I'm afeerd their affection is gone or they'd never think iv marryin' that beautiful young Princess without my advice." "Maybe, yer Majesty," ses I, "they thought you were so busy makin' widows, you would'nt take kindly to makin' wives, and so did'nt trouble you to provide a husband to order as usual; beside yer Majesty, the *exports* to Jarminy iv a matrimonial nature is expected to be more limited in future." 'Twas a hard rub I gave him, Phelim, but bedad it was all true, if it was'nt very pleasant. He did'nt say much more, and went to bed shortly after lookin' mighty glum, as if he was ponderin' on what I tould him. Myself, Bismarck, the Edge-e-cong, and ould Moltke made a regular night iv it, and the last thing I recollect was givin' them the "Groves iv Blarney," and Moltke whistlin' an accompaniment on a fruit knife.

So now, Phelim, God be wid ye, and if I con-

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tinue in my health I'll write to you soon again,
maybe from Paris itself.

Your lovin' Uncle, till death,

THADEUS O'TOOLE.

SRD.

PARIS, *4th March*, 1871.

MR. PHELM O'TOOLE,

House and Land Inspector,
Quebec.

MY DEAR PHELM,—We're inside Paris at last, thank God, and should have been in a week ago only the Frinch and Prooshins could'nt strike a bargain at all as to the price of pace. Faith, Phelim, the same pace is a curious thing, and puts me greatly in mind iv a smashed tay-cup; its aisy broke, but it costs a trifle to patch it together again. They say the Prooshins is chargin' purty high for it, but sure that's no wonder, for there's many in Ireland works by the same rule, and raises the rints when the saison's bad. Part iv the bargain was to let the army in on the 1st March, and in coorse there was great prepurashins for the grand intrance. The sogers was polished up by all soorts iv invinshins to the veins iv niceity, and scourin', clanin', and decoratin' was the order iv the day. New flags was got for the lancers,

brass-ball galore for the dragoons, and, for the "rifles," some soort iv a black mixture that smelt like sperits, and made their belts look as polished as a naygur. The bacon I purvided did them a power iv good. The cavalry was like aldermen, wid the "Hampshires," and the little black Kerrys gev the infantry that hard, wholesome look the army doctors admire so much. Bad seran to them same black Kerrys, Phelim, I had to hand out my twenty good lookin' goold sovrins on account iv them. What do you think, after the honor I did the spalpeens, by bringin' them here, six iv them, instead iv waitin' to be slaughtered like gentlemen, bolted clane out iv the camp wid nearly the whole army, horse and foot, after thim. Sure they might as well have been huntin the Prooshin' eagle; and iv the last heavy fall iv snow does'nt make the Pyrenees too stiff for thim, as the blackguards headed south, I darésay the whole half dozen is at Gibraltar by this time. As the day drew near there was great excitement at Varsales about the purcesshin, and particularly about the soort iv music they'd have, so I thought I'd do thim another kindness, and give thim the benifit of my experience on both points. I tould thim iv all the grand state funerals I had seen from Lord Kilwarrin's, in '99, to the Duke iv Wellington's, in '52, but, somehow or other, the style would'nt shute, and the way we have at home iv

layin' a foundation stone, or makin' a Lord Mayor, was 'nt up to the mark ayther. "Iligant and touchin,' Mr. O'Toole," ses Giniral Bismarck, "iligant and touchin,' indeed, but not martial enough, so we must hit on some other plan; but, as regards the musical arrangements, a native iv your melodious Island will, indeed, be invaluable to us." I bowed and blushed a little, I think, at the compliment (we're a modest people, Phelim), and to oblige him wint to look for the bandmaster iv the Uhlancers to give him some instructions and advice. Herr Von Schomderburg, the B.M., Phelim, was delighted to see me, for the poor crature was at his wits' end, havin' got only two tunes out iv the whole iv his collection that he thought would at all shute. One iv them was an ould thing they had in 1815, when they went into Paris afore, called "Pariser Einsug," and, like a tough turkey, respectable only for its age; the other was a new one, and purty good, called "Wacht am Rhein," but shure nayther of thim could hould a rushlight to our own splendid ould tunes. We got the band out practisin', and I cominced by giving them "Patrick's Day," but about eight bars set them dancin' and hurrahin' like mad, so I had to lave off. "Savoureen Deelish" would'nt do ayther, their sobs was heart-breakin,' and their tears fallin' as big as marvels, so I struck a happy mageum, and gev' them "Brian

Borrohme's March," which was the very thing they wanted. Its bould, martial strains made thim look like salamanders, and, after tryin' it a couple iv times, me and the bandmaster wint to arrange the music. "Which is your favorite instrument, Mr. O'Toole?" ses he. "You have'nt got such a thing as an Irish bagpipes handy," ses I. "No," ses he, lookin' rather downhearted, "the last set was sint to the Emperor iv the Frinch about a fortnight ago to comfort him a little, but, maybe, a violintshellow id shute ye instead." "No thank you," ses I, thinkin' he was tryin' to take a pelt out iv me, "you can confine yer 'violent shellin' and other big gun practices to the Frinch that is used to it; for my part I prefer dyin' comfortably in my bed." "Excuse me, Mr. O'Toole," ses he, "jestin' was far from my mind, I meant a base fiddle." "Oh! I pursue," ses I, "why the divil didn't you say so, and thin there'd be no mistake? Unfortunately its not in my line, but if we had a barrel organ I think we could manage it." He brightened up in a minute. "Fortune is with us," ses he, "there's one up-stairs plays a beautiful set iv psalms, the King sometimes takes a turn at it afore visitors, but I think he won't want any more religion till the next war, so we can change a couple iv them into "Brian Borrohme." Well, to work we went, I liltin' the tune and he

settlin' the fixtures; but, whin' everythin' was arranged, as he thought, the divil a drop iv wurd he could get in it at all at all, the machinery bein' too much shuk. He was in a dreadful state iv mind, but there was no help for it, as he was'nt an organ builder, he had to pack it up and send it to Berlin, where, most likely, it'll be got ready for the grand koranashin. After this failure I was downhearted, and did't try again, so they were unable to have the advantage iv my ganius. Well, Phelim, the first iv March came at last, and a could raw mornin' it was. I was up wid the lark, for the performance was to open wid a grand review, and, after that, we wor to go inside and take up our quarters just as pulitely as if we wor invited, and they had been expectin' us for years. The "Bois de Boulogne" (whatever the divil that manes) was the name iv the place where the review was, and, follyin' up the ginirals and staff, I took up my position a little behind thim on the race coorse. Not, Phelim, that I felt the laste shy or bashful—for, in the black shute, a bunch iv green ribbons in my button-hole, and mounted on a little pie-balded pony, I was equal to the best iv them—but bekase it would'nt be manners for one iv the O'Tooles, descindid from thousands iv kings and imperors, to push forward and throw one only made yesterday into the shade. Just so, Phelim, whin yer

throwin' yer eye over the firmament, always fix it on modesty as yer guidin' star. The review was splendid, I believe, (its little I know about army matters yet, but I'm larin'), the King and ginirals wor highly delighted, the officers all plased, and I had no fault to find, so I suppose everything was correct and proper. Whin it was over, the King, turnin' round, smilin', ses to me, "Mr. O'Toole, this is a glorious day." "Heavenly weather, yer Majesty," ses I. (by the way I thought he was talkin iv the Elemints) "we'll have a beautiful day for the purcession. "I hope so," ses he, "but I'm not goin wid ye." "No? yer majesty," ses I. "No," ses he "me and the young prince is goin' back to Varsales, almost immadiately." "Between me and you, yer Majesty," ses I, "I think you're right, the Parishins is very fond iv makin' targets of kings and imperors, and if some deluded crature happened to miss ye and kill some one else, it might lie heavy on yer mind; so I think Varsales, where everything is dacent and quiet, and where you can get yer males comfortable, is the best after all, I'll slip down nyself in the evenin' to see if everything is pleasant and agreeable. "Thank ye Mr. O'Toole," ses he, "bong swoir." "Bong swoir and God save ye kindly, yer Majesty," ses I. I'm gettin' on in the Frinch, Phelim. Lavin' him, I followed up the Ulanders, and about half-past two, we

got in at the "Grand Arch iv Triumph." It's little, however, in that line iv business, they intended it to do for the Prooshins, for it was hung wid black and all ould Bony's victories covered, which was a delicate compliment to the new arrivals, though they didn't seem to think so. We might as well have gone into the city iv the seven sleepers, Phelim, (supposin' one or two to be just wakenin up). Everything was solemn and gloomy, and barrin a few gossoons, and sour-looking blaguards, no one to bid us the time iv day or take any notice iv us. Ah! ses I to myself, Thadeus O'Toole, ye wor right after all, twas the funeral style they should have tried, and a requiem for a fallen city, they should have asked you to tache them. In we wint, regimint after regimint, horse, foot, artillery and all soorts iv transports, till nigh hand 30,000 came in, most iv them whelin off to the Elisian fields. That was a name, Phelim, the ancient Haythins had for the planes iv Heaven; but begorra I'm thinkin on that same day the Parisins would have been mighty proud to hand over their heavenly planes to the "gintleman that's not as black as he's painted." Goin through the town there was a good many lookin' mighty dark at myself; and, as I took off my hat and bowed very low every couple iv minutes, a report ris that I was the Archbishop iv Prague. Bedad,

Phelim, I never sought after ecclesiastical honors, and the first I got by mistake, was near bein' the death iv me. Lavin' a few Bavarian friends, I took a ride into what they called the Frinch quarter, and hadn't got half the length iv a street when I had about fifty iv the unwashed population about me. Thought I, here's a few more bows wanted, and taking off my hat, had made about a dozen, when it was knocked out iv my hand, and myself off the pony. "Roast him," "Drown him," "Hang him," was a few iv the tender recommendations for my future welfare, and "Baste, Turk, Haythin, and Spy," a few of the pulite titles I received. Whin I had got my breath and a little iv my senses I knew what was wrong, and wid the presence iv mind for which the O'Tooles, since Adam, have been famous, I pulled out one iv my cards and shoved it in the blaguard's hand who had the wakeness for roastin' me. Talk iv the Elixer Hair Dye for maricles! its only soap suds compared with the effect it had. 'Twas read aloud to the multitude in about fourteen soorts of English, and at last they come to the conclusion that instead iv bein' the Archbishop of Prague, I was a Samaritan from Ireland. The reaction was wonderful; I was "saluted" on both cheeks, by every man, woman, and child that could get near me, and havin' shaved off my whiskers to be in the forrin' style,

they nearly drew the stumps out. Now, kissin' Phelim, is a very healthy and invigouratin' amusement whin yer courtin', and pleasant even after mattrimony, till ye get tired iv it; but purmiscuous salutes from a population where soap is scarce is'n't refreshin', so, after a desperate struggle, I tore myself away and ran for my life to the Bavarian lines. The pony, I never saw agin "ong mass" as they say here; but walkin' out yesterday in the shade iv the evenin' I saw what I'll take my oath was one iv his hind-legs, hangin' over the door iv a chape atin' house, and somethin' about "splendid Gascoigne cheval" written under it, so I suppose he's buried in a hundred walking cemeteries afore this. I can't tell ye yet, Phelim, how long I'll stop, as things is mighty unsettled, and it all depends how trade goes; but, with the blessin iv God I'll write soon agin wherever I am, so no more at present from

Your lovin' Uncle, till death,

THADEUS O'TOOLE.

4TH.

LONDON, *24th March*, 1871.

MR. PHELIM O'TOOLE,
House and Land Inspector,
Quebec.

MY DEAR PHELIM,—Whin I last wrote it was from amid strange scenes iv joy and grief, glory and abasemint, a victorious army and a fallen people; and now its mighty glad I am to sind you this from the midst iv pace, prosperity, and rejoicin'. It's in London I am now, Phelim, havin' left Paris shortly after the Prooshins wint; for trade was'nt what I expected, and the Parishins were celebratin' the pace by havin a shindy of their own, in which it would'nt be manners for a stranger like me to interfere. They're keepin' it up still in grand style, I believe, and, by the time the whole population is slaughtered, everything is expected to be quiet and comfortable agin. I often thought that the Irish way iv settlin' a little differance among friends at a fair or pattern was purty lively, but the Frinch pace movements throw us into the shade altogether. I come across by Calais and Dover, Phelim, and havin' a tidy lot iv business to do here, come up at once to settle it, and make everything straight afore goin' home to Dublin. There's very illigant society in London, Phelim, nobility and gentry, to any amount, and lords and

dukes as plentiful as blackberries. Iv coorse ye must be one iv the right soort to jine in wid them, for they are mighty high, and particular, I can assure ye. Thadeus O'Toole, Esq., the bosim friend iv General Bismarck, and adviser iv the Emperor, just returned from the sate of war, was iv coorse a great gun; and, although I only came to town in a quiet way, on a little private business, shure afore I was forty-eight hours in the place, they had me in the "fashionable intelligence," and my piethur and a "biographical sketch" promised by the "Illustrated News." Invitations came pourin' in on me, but havin' my own dignity to look after, and the credit iv the family to maintain, high conservatism was my style. I certainly took a dinner or two wid the Duke iv Cambridge, and Gladstone humbugged me into takin' a could mutton lunch wid him (he has extended his economical principles to the family diet, Phelim); but otherwise did'nt "go out" much as the sayin' is. Last Friday, however, an ould friend called and gev me an invitation, I could'nt find it in my heart to refuse. It was about three o'clock, and I was after nourishing myself wid a few cutlets and a quart of sherry (I have to be very careful iv my health, Phelim) when the waiter comes in and announces the Duke iv Argyl. We went to school together, Phelim, and many's the trouncin' I gave

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him for stalin' my marbles—for he was the divil entirely for nailin' all before him at that time, but its to be hoped he's improved since. We had'nt met for manys the long day, and you may be sure we wor delighted to see each other. "I hard tell iv ye at Varsales, Thadeus," ses the Duke, "and must compliment ye on the proud position you held there wid the Prooshins. I daresay Bismarck was sorely grieved to lose your valuable assistance." "He was mighty down-hearted, yer grace," ses I (if a man has a handle to his name Phelim, HE never forgets it, naither should YOU,) "but he bore up like a hero, and the capture iv Paris consoled him in some degree for my loss." "It's to be hoped so," ses he, "but, Thadeus I daresay you have some idea iv the purpose iv my business besides the pleasure iv seein' you." "Maybe its a few hundred iv the small Kerry breed ye want, yer grace," ses I, "its a fine hardy little pig for the Highlands." "No, thank you," ses he, laffin' "nothing iv a business nature, but surely you must have heard iv the splendid alliance we're about to make." "Iv coorse yer grace," ses I, "Is that what you mane, I was delighted to larn it." The Marquis ought to be the proud and happy man, for sure its not a wife at all he's gettin', but a gift direct from Providence." "She's a sweet crature," ses he, "and as the weddin' is comin' off next Tues-

day, you must run down to Windsor, and honor us wid your presence." "Say no more, yer grace," ses I. "Weddins is things I always encourage and sorrah one I've heard iv for a long time has given me as much pleasure as this." Wid that he took his lave, and I began ponderin' as to which was the best style to appear at the ceremony. I at last came to the conclusion that military full dress was the correct thing; and as my brother Ulic was a liftinint in the Ballinsloughguttry Yeomin in 1802, and I had a couple iv his uniforms at home, I just telegraphed for one and had it polished up to the nines. I must say I persinted a splendid appearance, Phelim, forrin travellin' havin' given me a regular martial look, and as the style iv dress was rather ancient divil a one there could tell what sarvice I belonged to. The mornin' iv the 21st was beautiful and fair, and sure iv there's any truth in the ould sayin' they ought to be a happy couple, for the sun was out bright and pleasant, waitin' to shine down on them. I got down to Windsor early, bein' always iv a punctual turn, but even then the railway station was crowded, and as I stepped on the platform the cheerin' was tremend'ous, as from my mixture of Irish and French style they took me for Marshal McMahan. Iv coorse I bowed perlitely as I passed to the chapel

where my card and the Duke's invitation made everything right. I had to wait a while for the bridegroom's party (me and the Duke was given' him away, Phelim,) so had a fine opportunity iv admirin' the grandeur all round. Rank, beauty and talent was there, sure enough. The greatest statesmen iv the day, grandest nobles, and the purtiest girls you ever laid eyes on, mixed altogether like a splendid nosegay.

The Royal party and the Duke's too soon arrived, and up we wint through the chapel, the organ pealin, out a grand weddin' march for us. The Princess, the darlint,' looked beautiful, just like an angel wid the wings cut off, and smothered in lace and orange blossoms, and, as for the bridesmaids, I wonder they wornt afeerd to be seen lest they'd be taken up as desarters from heaven. I think I made a deep impression on one iv them, Phelim, I caught her lookin' at me sideways purty often, and if I'm not mistaken she tried a wink towards the end iv the sarvace. The Princess, as might be expected, was mighty bashful, and the Marquis was not altogether at his aise; but there was'nt near that amount iv agitation I have seen on some similar occasions. Have you ever found out the cause iv all the weepin' that generally takes place at weddins', Phelim? The bride's mamma is almost sure to start it, and may be

put down as "first fiddle." It puts her in mind iv her own weddin,' she says, to say nothing iv "the grief iv partin' from her dear child." The bridesmaids must be dissolved too, what for I never could larn unless its because they can't get marrid thimselves. Aunts, sisters and young-lady cousins come next all "meltin'," and I generally remark that the bride whom you would expect to be most overcome, manages to keep up the best iv the lot. If the bridegroom is not a brute he should be deeply affected, and a little grief will make him be considered a fine tinder-hearted man. I cried for four hours when I married Mrs. O'Toole, and it was a dead heat with me and my mother-in-law which left off first. That's the way I believe a weddin' should be, Phelim, but as I said afore there was little iv it to be seen last Tuesday. I certainly sobbed purty loud for half-an-hour, but it only made people think I was a Garmin Prince cryin' for the brech iv the marriage law, so the effect was spiled entirely. The breakfast was splendid, and I was introduced to an immense number of the aristocracy. The pipers played every second coorse for us, and the Duke tould me he found it a beautiful thing for the digestion, although I must say it rather upset mine. The young couple went off to Claremont, Phelim, wid all our best wishes after them. I intinded makin' them a

present afore they wint but couldn't make up my mind what to giv them. Somethin' useful is always the best for young married people, so my feelin's was upset between a warming pan and a set iv smoothin' irons. But as I'm late now I think I'll wait and send a few bottles iv Mrs. Winslow's soothing syrup
WHIN ITS WANTED.

I think I'll be off home next Monday, Phelim, as I'm getting tired iv grandeur, so this is last you'll here from this side iv the channel.

I remain, as usual,

Your lovin' Uncle, till death,

THADEUS O'TOOLE.

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