

SCOTTISH HUMOR.

It Is Often Quite Lost to the Speaker Himself. However much or little truth there may be in the aphorism about the joke, the Scotchman and the surgical operation, it will for long remain quoted as an infallible characteristic of the Scottish nation.

As an example, the case may be cited of a Scotch beadle who, upon his death bed, was asked by the minister why he seemed to be so depressed and unhelpful. "It is na that, meenister," was the reply; "I was just mindin' that I've buried 598 folk in the parish sin' I ha' been beadle; and it's sad disappointin' that I canna make it up to the clean sax hunder."

The story of the Scotchman whose dog clattered away from the fishmonger's shop with a live lobster clawing his tail, and who bid the owner whistle back his dog, may be classed with that of the Ighlander, who, being bitten by a farmer's dog, seized a hay fork and instantly impaled the brute.

FORMALDEHYDE. Is Useful and Desirable for Sterilization Under Certain Conditions. The employment of formaldehyde, or its solution, formalin, as a chemical agent for the destruction of bacteria is becoming of far wider application than its earlier use seemed to indicate.

The reported boiling of instruments, especially edged ones, soon injures them, while the unequal expansion of steel and nickel causes scaling of the plating of the other instruments. Drs. Reik and Watson, in the last bulletin of the Johns Hopkins hospital, describe an apparatus for formaldehyde sterilization of instruments which has proved most satisfactory.

Know His Marksmanship. Sunday Huntsman (boastfully)—Hardly had I been hunting a quarter of an hour when a dead hare lay at my feet. Doubting Friend—Do hares ever commit suicide?—Fliegende Blaetter. Gait of a Fly. In proportion to its size, a fly walks 13 times as fast as a man can run.

RELIGIOUS DISSENT.

It Has Been a Leading Feature in the Production of Colonies. The great Puritan settlements of New England are unapproachable examples of the strength, cohesion, durability and power of generating new communities which that sentiment can give. Its complexion may vary. There are many degrees between the ecclesiastical theocracy of Massachusetts and the secular theocracy of Pennsylvania and west New Jersey, with the transcendental theocracy of Rhode Island as a middle term.

As ivory is extensively employed and is rather high in price, it has been attempted to substitute a cheaper substance having the same appearance. Since about 20 years an article has been worked up in this industry, which, in contradistinction to the genuine animal ivory, has its origin in the vegetable kingdom, being derived from the nut of a palm-like shrub called phyllophas macrocarpa, whose fruit reaches the size of an apple. This fruit has a very white, exceedingly hard kernel, which can be worked like ivory. One hundred of these fruits only cost about one dollar, and their use offers great advantages.

Worked on the lathe, this ivory can be passed off as the genuine article, the resemblance being so great that it is sold at the same price. It also can be colored just like the genuine ivory. M. Pasquier, of Liege, now gives a practical method in Science en Famille to distinguish the two varieties of ivory. It is the following: Concentrated sulphuric acid applied to vegetable ivory will cause a pink coloring to appear in about ten or twelve minutes, which can be removed by washing with water. Applied on genuine ivory, this acid does not affect it in any manner.—Newark Call.

CRUSHED UNDER WATER. Singular Death of a Ten-Foot Shark at Vera Cruz, Mexico. At shark over three meters long met with a singular death in the Vera Cruz port works recently. In the prosecution of the works in question enormous stone blocks are raised on derricks and thrown into the water on the mattresses which have previously sunk. About the beginning of the week the workmen on the surface of the water were horrified to observe that immediately after they had dropped in the water one of those huge rocks an immense cloud of blood came up from below, so that the water all around the wharf was soon tinged a deep red. They thought that one or more of the divers had been crushed beneath the tremendous weight.

Soon the rope which attached one of the divers was violently shaken as a signal that the man down beneath the water wanted to be raised. When he was safely back on the wharf the workmen gathered around him to learn the worst. To their great relief he told them that a big shark which had been swimming at the bottom of the bay near where he was at work had been crushed to death by the bowler which they dropped on him.—Mexican Herald.

Poddlers in Mexico. Indian street peddlers throughout Mexico sell bananas for 12 cents a dozen, but when offered 24 cents for 20, refuse it and demand 25 cents. The course of reasoning is that one real is 12 cents, two reals make 25 cents, eight reals a dollar. A Hard Choice. Which would you rather do, miss your best girl when you are flush or meet your worst creditor when you are broke?—Town Topics.

BREVITIES OF FUN.

The law is a jealous mistress; she doesn't allow any flirting with justice.—Puck. "I wish to establish a fine private library. What book is the best to start on?" "I would advise a pocket-book."—Christian Work. "He," said the fond but firm father, "I fear, a young man of extravagant tastes." "Yes," the daughter admitted, "he wants me for a wife."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

More Martial Spirit.—"Our baker's boy takes great interest in his job nowadays." "And for why?" "He calls his morning deliveries roll calls."—Indianapolis Journal. "I always test my poems by reading them to my wife," said the youthful poet. "I should think that was testing your wife," answered the candid friend.—Chicago Evening Post.

"Do you really think you love my daughter as a husband should?" "Love her? Why, I would give up my bicycle for her." (No cards.)—N. Y. Herald. Alice—"Do you know that your papa once proposed to my mamma and was refused?" George—"Yes; I've heard him bragging about it a hundred times."—Richmond Times. Johnny's Last.—"Johnny, I see you have taken more care than I said you might have." "Yes, mother. I made believe that there was another little boy spending the day with me."—Tit-Bits.

"I'd like to be as vain as that man come of the disruption of the Kirk in 1843 and of the Tractarian movement in the same decade. Both societies had all the characteristics of church settlements; the emigration was homogeneous and of an excellent class; the clerical element had a large share in the government; and many of the institutions had an ecclesiastical tinge."—James Collier, in Popular Science Monthly.

He Filled the Bill.—"Why don't you have a sponge to moisten your stamps?" said the unwelcome poor relative to the business man. "Good idea," said the business man; "you can have the job."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mrs. Younglove—"Do you think absence really makes the heart grow fonder, Harold?" Mr. Younglove—"I guess it does. At all events, you are about twice as dear to me when you're away at one of those high-priced summer hotels as when you're at home."—Chicago Daily News.

MIGRATION OF THE SALMON.

It Travels Hundreds of Miles from Its Mountain Home. The young salmon which is born in a mountain stream is soon impelled by something in its nature, to journey downward, even for many hundred miles, until it reaches the unknown ocean, where it would discover, if it had facilities for anything so subjective as discovery, that, while it is born in a little brook, it was made for life in the great ocean. It has brought from its mountain home a natural aptitude for eluding all the strange enemies and for avoiding all the novel dangers which it meets in this new world, and it leads an active, predatory life, fiercely pursuing and destroying its natural but hitherto unknown prey; for growing rapidly, and quickly acquiring all the characteristics of the adult salmon and storing up the intense nervous energy and the muscular strength which will be needed for forcing its way up the rapids in the mountain torrents, for leaping waterfalls, and fighting for its passage, where it long ago darted down with the current. As sexual maturity approaches, some stimulus, which has its origin in the developing reproductive organs, impels it to leave the ocean and, entering the mouth of a river, to journey upward, often a thousand miles or more, to its sources in the mountains.—W. K. Brooks, in Popular Science Monthly.

MINE IN A CITY.

Two Men Who Successfully Worked One in San Francisco. For over 17 years a gold mine has been worked right in the city of San Francisco, says the Call. How much gold has been taken out none but the two miners themselves can say; one of them is supposed to be on his deathbed and the other disappeared on the day that his partner had to be taken to the hospital and the secret of their mine became generally known to the community.

Nelson Shoots, the discoverer of the lead, found the mine over 17 years ago while trying to locate the fountain of the gold dust found along the beach. He was a practical miner at the time, and well versed in all secrets of getting all the gold possible out of refractory ores.

That he succeeded in doing this in his Ingleside mine there is no question. For not only did he make a good living during the 17 years, but he paid \$8,000 damages once for injuring the Spring Valley water main while blasting; he and his partner lost large sums of money at the race tracks and they were known as "spenders" among the resorts in the western side of the city. All the while they passed as hermits, with barely enough to live on. Some of the neighbors believe this was merely a blind to throw curious people off the track of the mine.

Bulletin Financier.

Lundi, 26 septembre 1898. COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

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APPELATIONS D'ESTOMAC, SANG PAUVRE, ANEMIE, MANQUE DE FORCES, FIEVRES ET SITES DE FIEVRES. QUINA-LAROUCHE. RECOMPENSE DE 16.600. PARIS SIX MEDAILLES D'OR. NEW-YORK FERRARA & CO.

Bulletin Commercial.

Lundi, 26 septembre 1898.

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