

will do all in my power to prevent you *lying*," answered he.

FLYING FISH.

A sailor, who had been away many years, returned to his mother. The old lady was desirous to learn what strange things her son had seen upon the mighty waters, but would not believe in the existence of *flying fish*. Jack said, "Mayhap, mother, you won't believe me, when I tell you, that when in the Red Sea, in heaving up anchor, a large wheel was hanging upon one of the flukes. An old Grecian looked at it and discovered it to be one of Pharaoh's chariot wheels." "I can believe that," cried the old woman, "for we read of it in the Bible; but never talk to me of flying fish."

FOLLOWED HIS ADVICE.

"Did you present your account to the defendant?" inquired a lawyer of a client. "I did, your honor." "And what did he say?" "He told me to go to the devil." "And what did you do then?" "Why, then I came to you."

FONTENELLE.

Fontenelle, at the age of 97, after saying many amiable and gallant things to a beautiful young lady, passed before her, without seeing her, to place himself at table. "See," said the lady, "how I ought to value your gallantries, you pass without looking at me." "Madame," replied the old man, "if I had looked at you I could not have passed."

FOOLS.

A county squire asked a juggler "why he played the fool?" "For the same reason you do, out of want; you do it for want of wit, I for want of money."

FOOTIANA.

Foote praising the hospitality of the Irish, after one of his trips to the sister kingdom, a gentleman asked him if he had ever been at *Cork*. "No, sir," replied Foote, "but I have seen many *drawings* of it."

FRENCHMAN.

A Frenchman having repeatedly heard the word *press* used to imply persuade, one evening when in company exclaimed, "Pray *squeeze* that lady to sing!"

FRISKY ANIMAL.

Sterne says that every animal in creation, as it grows older, grows graver, except an old woman, and she grows frisky.

FULL HOUSE.

"What plan," said an actor to another, "shall I adopt to fill the house at my benefit?" "Invite your creditors," was the surly reply.

FULL INSIDE.

Charles Lamb, one afternoon, in returning from a dinner party, took his seat in a crowded omnibus, when a stout gentleman subsequently looked in and politely asked, "All full inside?" "I don't know how it may be, sir, with the other passengers," answered Lamb, "but that last piece of oyster pie did the business for me."

FULL STOP.

A gentleman was speaking of the kindness of his friends in visiting him. One old aunt, in particular, visited him *twice* a year, and stayed *six months* each time.

FULL WEIGHT.

Biddy brought some butter to a store, and insisted it weighed a pound. The storekeeper could not see it; Biddy silenced him, however, with the reply, "And it's your own fault, sure, for didn't I weigh it with the pound of soap I bought here yesterday."

FURIOUS BARKING.

A witness in court, speaking in a very harsh and loud voice, the lawyer employed on the other side exclaimed, "Fellow, why dost thou bark so furiously?" "Because," replied the rustic, "I think I sees a thief."

GAMBLING.

I never by chance hear the rattling of dice that it doesn't sound to me like the funeral bell of a whole family. D. J.

GEORGE COLMAN.

A young gentleman being pressed very hard in company to sing, even after he had solemnly assured them he could not, observed testily they intended to make a *butt* of him, "No, my good sir," said Colman, "we only want to get a *stave* out of you."

GETTING THE WORST OF IT.

Porson was once disputing with an acquaintance, who, getting the worst of it said; "Professor, my opinion of you is most contemptible." "Sir," returned the great Grecian, "I never knew an *opinion* of yours that was not contemptible."

GERMAN PRONUNCIATION.

Many Germans, it is well known by all who are conversant with their pronun-

ation, substitute the sound of *d* for that of *th*. A gentleman from Leipsic being asked how old he was, replied "he was dirty," (30,) and when asked the age of his wife, he answered, "she was dirty-two," (32.)

GHOSTS.

A. author, ridiculing the idea of ghosts, asks how a dead man can get into a locked room. Probably with a skeleton key.

GIBBON'S LOVE.

Gibbon, the historian, notwithstanding his shortness and rotundity, was very gallant; one day being alone with Madame De Crondas, Gibbon wished to seize the favourable moment, and suddenly dropping on his knees, declared his love in the most passionate terms. Madame De Crondas replied in a tone to prevent the repetition of such a scene. Gibbon was thunderstruck, but still remaining on his knees, though frequently desiring to get up and resume his seat: "Sir," said Madame De Crondas, "will you have the goodness to rise?" "Alas, madame," replied the unhappy lover, "I cannot—" (his size prevented him from rising without assistance;) upon this Madame De Crondas rang the bell, saying to the servant, "assist Mr. Gibbon up!"

GIVING THE DEVIL HIS DUES.

Swift preached an assize sermon, and in the course of it was severe upon the lawyers for pleading against their consciences. After dinner a young counsel said some severe things against the clergy; and did not doubt were the devil to die, a parson might be found to preach his funeral sermon. "Yes," said Swift, "I would, and would give the devil his due, as I did his children this morning."

GIVING THE DEVIL HIS DUE.

This common phrase was turned very wittily by a member of the bar in North Carolina some years ago, on three of his legal brethren. During the trial of a case, Hillman, Dews and Swain (the two first named distinguished lawyers, the last also a distinguished lawyer and president of the University of that State) handed James Dodge, the Clerk of the Supreme Court, the following epitaph:

Here lies James Dodge, who dodged all good,
And never dodged an evil;
And after dodging all he could,
He could not dodge the devil.

Mr Dodge sent back to the gentleman the annexed impromptu reply, which we consider equal to anything ever expressed in the best days of Queen Ann or Bess:

Here lies a Hillman and a Swain,
Their lot let no man choose;
They lived in sin and died in pain,
And the Devil got his dues (Dews.)

GIVING WARNING.

A gentleman, who did not live very happy with his wife, on the maid telling him that she was going to give her mistress warning, as she kept scolding her from morning till night. "Happy girl," said the master, "I wish I could give warning too."

GOING FAST.

A gentleman met another in the street, who was ill of a consumption, and accosted him thus: "Ah! my friend, you walk slow." "Yes," replied the man, "but I am going fast."

GOING FROM THE POINT.

Curran, in describing a speech made by Sergeant Hewitt, said: "My learned friend's speech put me exactly in mind of a familiar utensil in domestic use, commonly called an extinguisher. It began at a point, and on it went widening and widening, until at last it fairly put the question out altogether."

GOING TO CHINA TO KEEP COOL.

The Duchess of Bolton resolved upon going to China when Winston told her the world would be burnt in three years.

GOING TO EXTREMES.

When ladies wore their dresses very low and very short, a wit observed that "they began too late and ended too soon."

GOLD TURNED TO LEAD.

Sir John Davis, a Welshman, in the reign of King James I, wrote a letter to the King in these words: "Most Mighty Prince! the gold mine that was lately discovered in Ballycurey turns out to be a lead one."

GOOD ADVICES.

Lady — spoke to the butler to be saving of an excellent cask of small beer, and asked him how it might be best preserved. "I know of no method so effectual, my lady," replied the butler, "as placing a barrel of good ale by it."

A young man, placed by his friends as a student in a veterinary college, being in

company with some of his colleagues, was asked, "If a broken winded horse were brought to him for cure, what would he advise?" After considering for a moment, "advise," said he, "I should advise the owner to sell as soon as possible."

Never confide in a young man—new pails leak. Never tell your secret to the aged—old doors seldom shut closely.

A philosopher being asked of whom he had acquired so much knowledge, replied, "Of the blind, who do not lift their feet until they have first sounded with their stick the ground on which they are going to tread."

GOOD AUTHORITY.

Horne Tooke, during his contest for Westminster, was thus addressed by a partisan of his opponent, of not a very reputable character: "Well, Mr. Tooke, you will have all the *blackguards* with you to-day." "I am delighted to hear it, sir, and from such *good authority*."

GOOD CHARACTER.

An Irish gentleman, parting with a lazy servant-woman, was asked, with respect to her industry, whether she was what is termed afraid of work. "Oh! not all," said he; "not at all; she'll frequently *lie down* and fall asleep by the very *side of it*."

GOOD EXCUSE.

An attorney, on being called to account for having acted unprofessionally in taking less than the usual fees from his client, pleaded that he had taken *all* the man had. He was thereupon honorably acquitted.

GOOD EYES.

A man of wit being asked what pleasure he could have in the company of a pretty woman, who was a loquacious simpleton, replied, "I love to *see* her talk."

GOOD FIT.

"My boots are getting tight," said a fellow, after his fifth glass. "If they were not they would not fit you at all."

GOOD HEARTED FELLOW.

In a valedictory address an editor wrote: "If we have offended any man in the short but brilliant course of our public career, let him send us a *new hat*, and we will then forget the past." A good chap that.

GOOD INVESTMENT.

An English journal lately contained the following announcement: *To be sold*, one

hundred and thirty lawsuits, the property of an attorney retiring from business.—N. B. The clients are rich and obstinate.

GOOD JUDGE.

"Honesty is the best policy," said a Scotchman. "I know it, my friend, for *I have tried baith*."

GOOD MIXTURE.

An eminent painter was once asked what he mixed his colors with, in order to produce so extraordinary an effect. "I mix them with *brains*, sir," was his answer.

GOOD REASONS.

A rich peer resolved to make his will; and having remembered all his domestics except his steward, the omission was respectfully pointed out to him by the lawyer. "I shall leave him nothing," said the nobleman, "because he has *served me* these twenty years."

A certain minister going to visit one of his sick parishioners, asked him how he had rested during the night. "Oh, wondrously ill, sir," replied he, "for mine eyes have not come together these three nights." "What's the reason of that?" said the other. "Alas! sir," says he, "because *my nose* was betwixt them."

"That's a pretty bird, grandma," said a little boy. "Yes," replied the old dame, "and he never cries." "That's because he's never washed," rejoined the youngster.

A gentleman, talking with his gardener, expressed his admiration at the rapid growth of trees. "Why, yes, sir," says the man; "please to consider that they have nothing else to do."

GOOD WIFE.

A very excellent lady was desired by another to teach her what secret she had to preserve her husband's favor. "It is," said she, "by doing all that *pleases* him, and by enduring patiently all that *displeases* me."

GRACE.

Dr. Franklin, when a child, found long graces used by his father before meals very tedious; one day after the winter's provision had been salted, "I think, father," said Benjamin, "if you were to say *Grace* over the whole cask once for all, it would be saving a vast amount of time"

GREAT CABBAGE.

A foreigner asked an English tailor how much cloth was necessary for a suit of clothes? He replied, "*twelve yards*." Astonished at the quantity, he went to another, who said "*seven* would be sufficient." Not thinking of the exorbitancy even of the demand, all his rage was against the first tailor; so to him he went. "How did you dare, sir, ask twelve yards of cloth, to make me what your neighbor says he can do for seven?" "Lord, sir!" replied the man, "my neighbor can easily do it, he has but *three* children to clothe, I have *six*."

GREATEST MONARCH.

A gentleman having a servant with a very thick skull, used often to call him the king of fools. "I wish," said the fellow one day, "you'd make your words good. I should then be the greatest monarch in the world."

GROWL.

He that's married once may be
Pardoned his infirmity;
He that marries twice is mad;
But if you can find a fool
Marrying thrice, don't spare the lad,
Flog him, flog him back to school.

GUESSING.

"Jack, which is the way to Epping?"
"How do you know my name is Jack?"
"I guessed it." "Then guess your way to Epping."

GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT SITUATIONS.

Dr. Henniker, being engaged in private conversation with the great Earl of Chatham, his lordship asked him how he defined wit. "My lord," said the doctor "wit is like what a pension would be, given by your lordship to your humble servant, a good thing well applied."

HALF A REPORT.

"How this world is inclined to slander," said a maiden lady to an English nobleman. "Can you believe it, sir, some of my malicious acquaintances reported that I had twins." "Madam, I make it a rule to believe only *half* what I hear," replied his lordship.

HALF MOURNING.

A little girl hearing her mother say she was going in *half-mourning*, inquired if any of her relations were *half-dead*?

HAM.

A Jew paying particular attention to a ham of bacon, when asked what he was saying to it, replied, "I was saying, thou almost persuadest me to be a Christian."

HAND AND GLOVE.

A dyer, in a court of justice, being ordered to hold up his hand, that was all black; "take off your glove, friend," said the judge to him,—"put on your *spectacles*, my lord," said the dyer.

HATCHING.

James the First would say to his lords in the council, when they sat upon any great measure, and came to him from council, "well, you have *sat*, but what have you *hatched*?"

HEAVY JURY.

The aggregate weight of a late jury of twelve men in Indiana was stated to be 2,832 pounds; just think of a poor fellow's being tried by 2,832 pounds avoirdupois of jury. It would seem fitter that the jury itself would be tried by the tallow-chandler.

HELPING EACH OTHER.

A master of a ship called down in the hold, "Who's there?" "Will, sir," was the answer. "What are you doing?" "Nothing, sir." "Is Tom there?" "Yes," answered Tom. "What are you doing?" "Helping Will, sir."

HEN-PECKED HUSBAND.

Curst be the man, the poorest wretch in life,
The crouching vassal to a tyrant wife,
Who has no will but by her high permission,
Who has not sixpence but in her possession,
Who must to her his dear friends' secrets tell,
Who dreads a curtain lecture worse than—;
Were such the wife had fallen to my part,
I'd break her spirit or I'd break her heart.

HENRY VIII.

This monarch, after the death of Jane Seymore, had some difficulty to get another wife. His first offer was to the Duchess Dowager of Milan; but her answer was, "She had but *one* head; if she had *two*, one should have been at his service."

HINT FOR GENEALOGISTS.

Mr. Moore, who derived his pedigree from Noah, explained it in this manner: "Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and *one more*."

HOGS.

A man on his way to market with a load of dead hogs, observing a girl courtesy to him, asked her why she did courtesy to dead hogs? "I do not," said she, "but pay my respects to the *live one*."

HONEYMOON.

Among fashionables, a coachmaker remarked, that a *sociable* was all the ton during honeymoon, and a sulky after.

HOT HEADED.

A woman in Indiana has demanded a divorce from her husband because he has cold feet. We think she must be as hot headed as he is cold footed.

HOW TO LEARN WISDOM, AND REMAIN DISHONEST.

The "Memphis Eagle," wants to know how a man can "learn the philosophy of human wisdom and be otherwise than honest." The process is very simple: he has only to forget to put into practice the wisdom he has acquired.

HOW TO LIE EASY.

An Illinois editor boasts of having been presented with an exquisite mattress and a beautiful counterpane. We suppose he will now *lie* easier than ever, if that's possible.

HOW TO LIVE TO OLD AGE.

A certain young clergyman, modest almost to bashfulness, was once asked by a country apothecary, of a contrary character, in a public and crowded assembly, and in a tone of voice sufficient to catch the attention of the whole company, "how it happened that the patriarchs lived to such extreme old age?" To which question he immediately answered, "perhaps they took no *physic*."

HOW TO MAKE A MAN OF CONSEQUENCE.

A brow austere, a circumspective eye,
A frequent shrug of the *os humeri*,
A nod significant, a stately gait,
A blustering manner, and a tone of weight,
A smile sarcastic, an expressive stare,—
Adopt all these, as time and place will bear;
Then rest assured, that those of little sense
Will deem you, sure, a *man of consequence*.

HOW TO PREVENT SUICIDE.

A Hibernian senator, speaking of suicide, said, "The only way to stop it is to make it a capital offense, *punishable with death*."

HUMOR UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

A critic one day talked to Jerrold about the humor of a celebrated novelist, dramatist, and poet, who was certainly no humorist. "Humor," exclaimed Jerrold, "why he sweats at a joke like a Titan at a thunderbolt!"

IDOLATRY.

The toilette of a woman is an altar erected by self-love to vanity.

IMPORTANT TO BACHELORS.

Some clever fellow has invented a new kind of ink, called "the love letter ink." It is a sure preventative against all cases of "breach of promise," as the ink *fades away* and leaves the sheet blank, in about four weeks after being written upon.

IMPROMPTU OF R. B. SHERIDAN.

Lord Erskine having once asserted in the presence of Lady Erskine and Mr. Sheridan, that a wife was only a tin canister tied to one's tail, Sheridan at once presented these lines:

Lord Erskine at woman presuming to rail,
Calls a wife "a tin canister tied to one's tail,"
And fair Lady Ann, while the subject he carries on,
Seems hurt at his lordship's degrading comparison.

But wherefore "degrading?" considered aright,
A canister's useful, and polished, and bright;
And should dirt its original purity hide,
'Tis the fault of the puppy on whom it is tied.

IN A HURRY.

A fellow had to cross a river, and entered the boat on horseback; on being asked the cause, he replied, "I must ride because I am in a hurry."

IN BAD HANDS.

A minister approached a mischievous urchin, and laying his hand upon his shoulder, thus addressed him: "My son, I believe the devil has hold of you." "I believe he has too," was the significant reply of the urchin.

INCAPACITY.

A young ecclesiastic asked his bishop permission to preach. "I would permit you," answered the prelate, "but nature will not."

INCREASING THE DISTANCE.

When it was proposed to adopt the

English measure of miles in Ireland, it was humorously objected that it would increase the distance between the towns, that travelers must rise earlier in the morning to perform their journeys.

INDIAN DEVILS.

A clergyman in Massachusetts, more than a century ago, addressed a letter to the General Court on some subject of interest which was then under discussion. The clerk read the letter, in which there seemed to be this very remarkable sentence: "I address you not as magistrates, but as *Indian devils*." The clerk hesitated, and looked carefully and said, "Yes, he addresses you as *Indian devils*." The wrath of the honorable body was aroused; they passed a vote of censure, and wrote to the reverend gentlemen for an explanation, from which it appeared that he did not address them as magistrates but as "individuals."

INDUSTRY AND PERSEVERANCE.

A spendthrift said: "Five years ago I was not worth a farthing in the world; now see where I am through my own exertions." "Well, where are you?" inquired a neighbor; "why, I now *owe more* than a thousand pounds."

INGENIOUS DEVICE.

The Irish girl told her forbidden lover she was longing to possess his portrait, and intended to obtain it. "But how if your friends see it?" inquired he. "Ah, but I'll tell the artist *not* to make it *like you*, so they won't know it."

INGENIOUS REPLY OF A SOLDIER.

A soldier in the army of the Duke of Marlborough, took the name of that general, who reprimanded him for it. "How am I to blame, General?" said the soldier, "I have the choice of names; if I had known one more illustrious *than yours*, I should have taken it."

IN HOPES HE WOULD MAKE A "SLIP."

Two Irish bricklayers were working at some houses, and one of them was boasting of the steadiness with which he could carry a load to any height. The other contested the point, and the conversation ended in a bet that he could not carry him in his hod up a ladder to the top of a building. The experiment was made: Pat placed himself in the hod, and his comrade, after a great deal of care and exertion, succeeded

in taking him up. Without any reflection on the danger he had escaped, the loser observed to the winner, "To be sure, *I* have lost; but don't you remember, about the third story you made a slip? I was then in hopes."

IRISH NEGRO.

An Irishman, with his family, landing at Philadelphia, was assisted on shore by a negro who spoke to Patrick in Irish. The latter taking the black fellow for one of his own countrymen, asked how long he had been in America? "About four months," was the reply. The chop-fallen Irishman turned to his wife and exclaimed, "But four months in this country, and almost as black as jet."

IRISHMAN'S ANSWER.

An Irishman inquired at the post-office in Boston if there were any letters for him. "Your name, sir," said the clerk. "That you will find upon the letters," replied Pat.

IRISHMAN'S PLEA.

"Are you guilty or not guilty?" asked the clerk of arraigns of a prisoner the other day. "An' sure now," said Pat, "what are you put there for but to find that out?"

IRISH WIT.

Irish wit is ready wit. Various phases of it are recorded as follows by travelers:

When I heard a grave gentleman-like man, at the Ballybrogue station of the Great Punster railway, say to a friend, who asked him how he should spend the half hour he would have to wait, that he should spend it thinking of all the kind things he (the friend) had been saying to him, I said, "*The Irish are a polite people*."

When I saw at a Dublin theatre, the whole house to a man get on their legs and howl at the manager because he wouldn't introduce a national jig in the middle of *La Somnambula*, I said, "*The Irish are an excitable people*."

When a Killarney guide swore to me on the tomb of his grandmother that there was a small lake up in Mullacap, County Kerry, which contained a giant eel, that swam twice round the inclosure every day at two o'clock, with a pan of ould gould tied to his tail, I said, "*The Irish are a superstitious people*."

When a Tipperary landlord, in a Galway railway carriage, told me he was sur-

named "The Woodcock," because he had been shot at so often by the "noblest tenantry" and missed, I said "*The Irish are a revengeful people.*"

When I saw my friend Mike Rooney's best blue breeches stuffed into his window to keep out the rain, I said, "*the Irish are a thoughtless people.*"

And lastly, when I refused the beggar woman at Castlebar a half-penny, and she ironically hoped "the Lord would make my bed that night in heaven," I said, "*the Irish are a witty people.*"

IN SUSPENSE.

The sloth, in its wild state, spends its life in trees, and never leaves them but from force or accident. The eagle to the sky, the mole to the ground, the sloth to the trees; but what is most extraordinary, he lives not upon the branches but under them. He moves suspended, rests suspended, sleeps suspended, and passes his life in suspense—like a young clergyman *distantly related* to a bishop.

IN THE DARK.

Upon the memorable dark day, 19th March, 1790, a lady wrote to the celebrated Dr. Byles, in Boston, as follows: "Dear Doctor, how do you account for this darkness?" To which he replied, as wittily as briefly, "Dear Madam, I am as much in the dark as you are."

IN THE STOCKS.

An Irishman being told that a friend of his had put his money in the stocks, "Well," said he, "I never had a farthing in the stocks, but I have had my legs often enough in them."

INTOLERABLE COXCOMBS.

Of all coxcombs, the most intolerable in conversation, is your fighting fool, and your opinionated wit. The one is always talking to show his parts, and the other always quarreling to show his valor.

INTRODUCTION.

A conceited fellow introducing his friend into company, said, "Gentlemen, I assure you he is not so great a fool as he seems." The gentleman immediately replied, "therein consists the difference between me and my friend."

IN WANT OF A HUSBAND.

A young lady was told by a married lady, that she had better precipitate herself from

off the rocks of the Passaic Falls into a basin beneath than marry. The young lady replied, "I would if I thought I could find a husband at the bottom."

JAW.

During the examination of a witness whose jaws were much swollen, the judge told him that he would make an excellent lawyer. "Why so?" inquired the witness. "Because you have an uncommon amount of jaw," replied the judge.

JOE MILLER.

Poor Joe Miller going one day along the Strand, an impudent Derby Captain came swaggering up to him, and thrust between him and the wall. "I don't use to give the wall to every jackanapes," said he. "But I do," said Joe, and so made way for him.

JOHNSON, DR.

When Dr. Johnson courted Mrs. Porter, whom he afterwards married he told her that he was of mean extraction that he had no money, and that he had an uncle hanged! The lady, by way of reducing herself to an equality with the Doctor, replied, "that she had no more money than himself, and that, though she had not had a relation hanged, she had fifty who deserved hanging."

JOHNSON'S OPINION OF MRS. SIDDONS.

When Dr. Johnson visited Mrs. Siddons, he paid her two or three very elegant compliments. When she retired, he said to Dr. Glover, "Sir, she is a prodigiously fine woman." "Yes," replied Dr. Glover, "but don't you think she is much finer upon the stage, when she is adorned by art?" "Sir," said Dr. Johnson, "on the stage art does not adorn her; nature adorns her, and art glorifies her."

JOKES.

The cayenne of conversation, and salt of life. "A joke's prosperity," says Shakespeare, "lies in the ear of the hearer;" and indeed it is sometimes exceedingly difficult to pronounce, whether it be a good one or a bad one, visibly speaking, for the *bon mot* may be too witty to be pleasant, or at least to elicit laughter, while a poor pleasantry, by the help of some ludicrous turn, or expression, or association of ideas, may produce cachination, a *gorge deployee*. Nay, there are cases in which a joke becomes positively good from its being so intolerably bad, and

is applauded, in the inverse ratio of its merit, as the greatest honors are sometimes showered on men who have the least honor. The admiration excited by the highest order of wit is generally serious, because it sets us thinking. It was said of a crafty Israelite, who deserted the Hebrew faith, without embracing that of the Christians, and yet endeavored to make both parties subservient to his selfish views, "that he resembled the blank leaf between the Old and New Testament, belonging to neither, and making a cover of both. No one would laugh at this; it is exactly that description of wit which has been defined, 'an unexpected association of apparently dissimilar ideas, exciting pleasure and surprise.'"

Lord Byron was once asked by a friend, in the green room of Drury Lane theatre, whether he did not think Miss Kelley's acting in the "Maid and the Magpie," exceedingly natural? "I really cannot say," said his lordship, "I was never innocent of stealing a silver spoon." This is drollery, rather than wit, and excites our laughter, without claiming any portion of our admiration.

One of our poets, a remarkably cadaverous-looking man, recited a poem, descriptive of a country walk, in which the following couplet occurred:

"The redbreast, with his furtive glance,
Comes and looks at me askance;"

upon which a wag exclaimed: "Gad! if it had been a carrion-crow, he would have stared you full in the face." A remark so humorous and unexpected that it was received with a unanimous shout of laughter. Here, the absurdity of the idea, if it did not amount to wit, was something better, or, at all events, more stimulative of the risible faculties.

JUMPING "TO" A CONCLUSION.

A young man in Alabama undertook, for a wager, to leap down a bank fifteen feet high, and killed himself in the act. This was one way of "*Jumping to a conclusion.*"

JUST AS WONDERFUL.

A gentleman asked a friend in a very knowing manner, "Pray, did you ever see a cat-fish?" "No," was the reply, "but I've seen a rope-walk."

JUST FORTY.

A lady's age happening to be questioned, she affirmed she was but forty, and called

upon a gentleman, who was in company for his opinion; "Cousin," said she, "do you believe I am in the right when I say I am but forty?" "I am sure, madam," replied he, "I ought not to dispute it, for I have constantly heard you say so for above these ten years."

JUSTICE.

After the Prince of Wales was committed to prison for contempt of court, by the Chief Justice, King Henry Fourth returned thanks to God, that he had given him a judge who knew how to administer, and a son who could obey the law.

JUSTICE MIDAS.

A judge, joking a young barrister, said, "If you and I were turned into a horse and an ass, which would you prefer to be?" "The ass, to be sure," replied the barrister, "I've heard of an ass being made a judge, but a horse never."

KEEN REPLY.

A retired vocalist, who had acquired a large fortune, by marriage, was asked to sing in company. "Allow me," said he, "to imitate the nightingale, which does not sing after it has made its nest."

KEEPING OUT OF THE WET.

An Irishman, angling in the rain, was observed to keep his line under the arch of a bridge; upon being asked his reason, he gave the following answer: "To be sure, the fishes will be after crowding there, in order of keep out of the wet."

KEEP IT THERE.

"I wish to consult you upon a little project I have formed," said a noodle to his friend; "I have an idea in my head—" "Have you?" interposed the friend with a great look of surprise, "then you shall have my opinion at once: *Keep it there!* it may be some time before you get another."

KNEW HIS PRAYERS.

Two gentlemen, disputing about religion, in Button's coffee house, said one of them, "I wonder, sir, you should talk of religion, when, I'll hold you five guineas, you can't say the Lord's Prayer." "Done," said the other, "and Sir Richard Stute shall hold the stakes." The money was deposited; the gentleman began with, "I believe in God," and so went cleverly through the Creed. "Well," said the other, "I own I have lost; I did not think he could have done it."

KNOCKED DOWN AN ELEPHANT.

In Newburyport, a few days ago, a man of but ordinary stature *knocked down an elephant!* He was an auctioneer.

KNOWING BEST.

"I wish, reverend father," said Curran to Father O'Leary, "that you were St. Peter, and had the keys of heaven, because then you would let me in." "By my honor and conscience," replied O'Leary, "it would be better for you that I had the *keys* of the *other place*, for then I could let you out."

KNOWING HIS MAN.

A man was brought before Lord Mansfield, charged with stealing a silver ladle, and the counsel for the crown was rather severe upon the prisoner for being an attorney. "Come, come," said his lordship, "don't exaggerate matters; if the fellow had been *an attorney*, he would have *stolen the bowl* as well as the ladle."

LAP DOGS.

The attachment of some ladies to their lap dogs, amounts in some instances to infatuation. I have heard of a lap dog biting a piece out of a male visitor's leg; his mistress thus expressed her compassion: "Poor dear little creature, I hope it will not make him sick."

LAW AND PHYSIO.

A learned judge being asked the difference between law and equity courts, replied, "At common law you are done for at once; at equity, you are not so easily disposed of. One is *prussic acid*, and the other *laudanum*."

When Dr. H. and Sergeant A. were walking arm in arm, a wag said to a friend: "These two are just equal to one highwayman." "Why," was the response. "Because it is a lawyer and a doctor—*your money or your life*."

LAWYER AND CLIENT.

Two lawyers, when a knotty case was over, shook hands and were as good friends as before;

"Zounds," says the losing client, "how came you
To be such friends, who were such foes just
now?"
"Thou fool," says one, "we lawyers, tho'
so keen,
Like shears ne'er cut ourselves, but what's
between."

LAWYER AND PHYSICIAN.

A lawyer and physician having a dispute about precedence, referred to Diogenes, who gave it in favor of the lawyer in these terms: *Let the thief go before, and the executioner follow.*

LAWYER'S HOUSE.

The lawyer's house, if I have rightly read,
Is built upon the fool or madman's head.

LAWYERS' SUIT.

Says Thomas, "Harry, can you tell
How lawyers do, to dress so well?"
Says Harry, "yes, you may rely on't,
To get a *suit*, they'll strip a client."
Says Edward, "no, they closer nip him—
They first obtain the suit—then strip him."

LAZIEST ANIMAL.

One of our writers asks what sort of animals are the laziest. We think it likely that the oysters are, for they never go out of their bed 'till they are pulled out.

LEADING A MERRY LIFE.

An impudent ridiculous fellow, being laughed at by all who came in his company, told some of his acquaintances, that he had the happy quality of laughing at all who laughed at him. "Then," said one of them, "you lead the merriest life in Christendom."

LEGAL BAKEHOUSE.

"Why, Latital, your office is as hot as an oven," said a client. "So it ought to be," replied the lawyer; "*I make my bread here*."

LEGAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

"Hurrah! hurrah!" cried a young lawyer, who had succeeded to his father's practice, "I've settled that old chancery suit at last." "Settled it!" cried the astonished parent, "why I gave you that as an *annuity* for your life."

LEG WIT.

One night Erskine was hastening out of the House of Commons, when he was stopped by a member going in, who accosted him: "Who's up, Erskine?" "Windham," was the reply. "What's he on?" "*His legs*," answered the wit.

LETTER WANTING.

Said vain Andrew Scalp, "My initials, I
guess,
"Are known, so I sign all my poems, A. S."
Said Jerrold, "I own you're a reticent
youth,
"For that's telling only two-thirds of the
truth."

LIE FOR LIE.

Two gentlemen standing together, as a young lady passed by them, one said: "There goes the handsomest woman you ever saw." She turned back and seeing him very ugly, said: "I wish I could in return say as much for you." "So you may, madam," said he, "and *lie* as I did."

LIGHT BREAD.

A baker has invented a new kind of yeast. It makes the bread so light that a pound only weighs *twelve ounces*.

LIKE A PUPPY.

A gentleman observed to a lady, that a mutual friend, since a late illness, had spoken like a *puppy*. "No doubt," she replied, "for I understand he has lately taken to *bark*."

LIKE TREES BEAR LIKE FRUIT.

A gentleman in the country having the misfortune to have his wife hang herself on an apple tree, a neighbor of his came to him and begged he would give him a scion of that tree, that he might graft it upon one in his own orchard; "for who knows," said he, "but it may bear the same fruit."

LIQUID REMEDY FOR BALDNESS.

Use brandy externally until the hair grows, and then take it internally to *clinch the roots*.

LIVE ON AIRS.

Musicians ought to be compared to cham-eleons. Why? Because they live on *airs*.
LOGIC.

A man once made a bet, that he could prove that *this side* of the river was the *other side*. Pointing to the opposite shore, he asked, "Is not that *one side* of the river?" "Yes." "Well, a river has but two sides; if that be one side, of course this is the *other side*." His antagonist, dumbfounded by such logic, paid the money, and began to think with Macbeth, that "nothing is but what is not."

LONG AGO.

A lady, who was very submissive and modest before marriage, was observed by a friend to use her tongue pretty freely after. "There was a time," he remarked, "when I almost imagined she had *no tongue*." "Yes," replied the husband, with a sigh, "but it's *very long since*!"

LONG BILLS.

An arch wag once said, that tailors were like woodcocks, for they got their sustenance by their long *bills*.

LONG ILLNESS.

A clergyman in the country taking his text from the fourteenth verse of the third chapter of St. Matthew, "And Peter's wife's mother lay sick of the fever," preached three Sundays, on the same subject. Soon after two country fellows going across a church yard, and hearing the bell toll, one asked the other who it was for? "I can't exactly tell," replied he, "but it may be for Peter's wife's mother, for she has been sick of a fever *these three weeks*."

LOOSE READING.

A literary lady expressing to Dr. Johnson her approbation of his dictionary, and particularly her satisfaction at his not admitting any *improper words*. "No, madam," replied he, "I hope I have not soiled my fingers. *I find, however*, you have been looking for them."

LORD ERSKINE.

When Lord Erskine made his *debut* at the bar, his agitation almost overcame him, and he was just going to sit down. "At that moment," said he, "I thought I felt my little children tugging at my gown, and the idea roused me to an exertion of which I did not think myself capable."

LORD JERSEY.

A merry fellow put a number of ram's horns into a basket, and went about crying "new fruit." Lord Jersey hearing the noise, asked the man to show him the fruit, and upon seeing it asked him "Who the devil will buy ram's horns?" To which the fellow replied, "*If you are provided, I may meet others who are not*."

LOST AND FOUND.

The ferryman, whilst plying over a water which was only slightly agitated, was asked by a timid lady on his boat, whether any persons were ever lost in that river. "Oh, no," said he, "we always *finds 'em again*, the next day."

LOST THING FOUND.

An old woman wishing to make a clergyman believe she read her bible, took it as he was coming in at the door, and upon opening it exclaimed, "well how glad I am, for here are my spectacles which I lost three years ago."