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A man was brought into court recently under the new anti-loafing law. The judge looked at him for a moment, and then asked:

"What is your occupation?"

"I am a musician, your honour," was the reply.

"In that case, I'll have to find you guilty of loafing."

"But your honour," protested the man, "I'm regularly employed by the Methodist Church as an organist."

"That only confirms my opinion," said the judge. "The law requires every man to work, but your occupation requires you to play."

A MISUNDERSTOOD TEXT.

The clergy in less exalted stations than the episcopacy have, perhaps more curious experiences than their superiors. It is always well in preaching, to use language which the congregation can understand. They make woful mistakes sometimes. A Buckingham rector once gave out the text, "First Hebrews nine and ten," whereupon an old-fashioned farmer called out; "And a very pretty tippie too; I brews eight!" He explained after to the rector that he meant eight bushels of malt to the hoghead. The rector called on him a few days after, pronounced the brewing excellent, and explained his text more fully and satisfactorily.

EXCHANGE NO ROBBERY.

Two business friends who lived in the country met one day, and one invited the other to dine with him that evening.

At the time appointed the guest set forth in the direction of his friend's house, and as the roads in his village were somewhat dimly lighted he took with him an old-fashioned stableman's lantern.

The dinner was good, the wine excellent, and all went merrily.

The next morning, however, he received the following note from his host of the night before:—

"Dear Old Man,—I am sending my man over to you with this note, and he brings with him your lantern. If you have quite finished with my parrot and cage I shall be awfully glad if you will return same per bearer."

THE FISHING-TACKLE SHOP.

Mr Jones keeps a shop, where he sells fishing tackle. For the sake of advertisement he has a large rod hanging outside, with an artificial fish at the end of it. In the early hours of the morning a man, rather the worse for his night's enjoyment caught sight of the fish, and went quietly to the door and knocked. Jones, being in bed, looked out the window and asked: "Who's there?"

"Don't make a noise," was the reply, "but come down as fast as you can."

Thinking something serious must be the matter, Jones dressed and came down as quickly as possible. "What's the matter?" he asked breathlessly.

"Hush," was the reply. "Pull your line in, quick. You've got a bite!"

"Waiter, do you mean to say this is the steak I ordered?" "Yes, sir." "This looks like the same steak the gentleman across the table refused to eat a few minutes ago." "Yes, sir; we always tries it three times before we gives it up."

Bachelor Friend: "Well, McBride, is there as much billing and cooing as there was before marriage?" Young Husband: "The billing has increased considerably."

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