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MR. PUNCH'S  
SCOTTISH HUMOUR





“BACKSLIDING ”

*The Minister (reproachfully).* “Ah, James! I’m sorry to see this! I thought you were a steadfast teetotaler!”

*James.* “Sho I am, sir. But I’m no a bigoted ane!”

# MR. PUNCH'S SCOTTISH HUMOUR

*WITH 132 ILLUSTRATIONS*

BY

CHARLES KEENE, GEORGE  
DU MAURIER, W. RALSTON,  
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## "N.B."



AN English friend of ours called many years ago at Inverness Post Office for some letters awaiting him there. They were addressed to the Poste Restante, "Inverness, N.B." In handing him the letters, an elderly lady who then graced the postal staff remarked: "You micht tell your freen's that 'N.B.' is quite superfluous. Hoo wad they like us to write 'London, S.B.'? *And we don't think that muckle o' London up here.*" Now, whether we use "N.B." as meaning "North Britain," or "Nota Bene," we shall leave you to guess!

Unless we are mistaken, we have seen more than once in English papers a suggestion that the Scots are a race devoid of humour. "He joked wi' deeficulty" is, we believe, a reference to a Scotsman. "A surgical——" But no, we shall not repeat *that*! Oddly enough, the pages of Mr. PUNCH, true mirror of our national characteristics, yield an abundant harvest of Scottish humour. Have we not already in this same series made merry with "Mr. Punch in the Highlands"? And we are now to laugh with him again at this banquet of Scottish humour, which by no means exhausts his store. We have already heard that some seventy-five per cent. of the jokes appearing in *Punch* contributed by those not on the permanent staff come from Scotsmen; so it is a reasonable assumption that the bulk of the anecdotes in the present collection have originated north of the border, even when they tell against the Scot; for it is not the least of his good points that Sandy is able