

**A PARSON'S EXPERIENCE  
IN A PARISH ON POVERTY  
HILL; A SATIRE: A STORMY  
DAY'S RECREATION**

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A parson's experience in a parish on Poverty Hill; A satire: a stormy day's recreation by Parson Old School

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**PARSON OLD SCHOOL**

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# PARSON'S EXPERIENCE

IN A

PARISH ON POVERTY HILL.

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*A Satire.*

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A STORMY DAY'S RECREATION.

BY

*PARSON OLD SCHOOL.*

BROOKLYN:

ORPHANS' PRESS—CHURCH CHARITY FOUNDATION,

1878.

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## PREFATORY NOTE.

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The following Satire was found among the papers recently left by a country clergyman, and contains a half humorous and half serious description of one of those New England institutions, known as a "Donation Party." The outlines of the picture will doubtless be familiar to many, in all sections of the country, and the result, of this particular one, is not unknown in the experience of some of his own profession.

*PREFATORY NOTE.*

The incidents referred to, are all founded on "*facts.*"

- The Satire was written, merely as the recreation of a stormy day ; but at the request of friends who heard it read, and who thought it would be of general interest, it is now given to the public, as it was found, without alteration or amendment, or any attempt to remould or fashion it, to meet the requirements of literary criticism.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., *March*, 1878.



## THE CALL.

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A PARISH vacant, their church to fill,  
A Parson would call to do their will;  
For a full church would raise the price  
Of land, and 'twould be so nice  
If he would teach, or keep a school,  
Make a wise child of every fool,  
Bring pupils from far, or out of town,  
And make genteel each country clown;  
For this would bring a market home  
To their very doors; and for some  
'Twould be much better than send to a city

*A PARSON'S EXPERIENCE*

To sell their wares ; and, out of pity,  
Could not the Parson otherwise live,  
Something for preaching they would give,—  
Few thinking to church their way to find,  
For each had his own ax to grind.  
The Merchant, had his goods to sell ;  
The Farmer, veal, and butter as well ;  
The Miller, corn would grind at his mill ;  
The Doctor, would be ready to mix a pill ;  
The Cobbler, shoes could cap at toes ;  
The Smith, could make or mend the hoes ;  
The Tailor, ready with shears and thimble,  
Could mend old clothes with fingers nimble ;  
The Joiner, could, when not in bed,  
Make for each boy a wagon or sled.

*IN A PARISH ON POVERTY HILL.*

So they were zealous, and all agreed  
To call a Pastor in their need.  
The question was: Who should it be?  
Some learned, eloquent D.D.,  
Who could fill the church, rent the pews,  
Take the right paper, and tell the news,  
The last "price current," how veal-calves  
Were selling—on legs or in halves—  
What butter was worth; poultry and eggs,  
Potatoes, corn, and shoemakers' pegs;  
For in a small way each kept shop,  
When rain his outdoor work did stop.  
The Parson must be one, who could "draw"  
Members from others; his own wood saw,  
For they were few, and could not raise