



Can You Mix a Merry Metaphor

In no deliberative body in the world is the mixed metaphor so much in its element as in the British House of Commons. As examples of what is commonly called the "Irish bull," the following list is submitted:

"There was I, standing prostrate at the feet of royalty."

"I smell a rat; I see it floating in the air; and, by heaven, I'll nip it in the bud!"

"A thorny subject which has long been a bone of contention among us."

"An oral agreement is not worth the paper it's written on."

"I will repeat what I was about to say when the honorable member interrupted me."

"Our tongues are tied, our hands are fretted, and we are really beating the air to no purpose."

"The honorable member would denude us of every rag of the principles we have been proclaiming from the housetops."—*Kenneth P. Wood, from Your Life.*

