Fenas Siftings.

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STREET SCENE IN NEW YORK.

THESE ARE NOT LUNATICS. THEY HAVE ACCIDENTALLY TRODDEN ON A FALLEN ELECTRIC WIRE.

Siftings.

Entered at the Post-office at New York, as Second Class Mail Matter

ALEX. E. SWEET, Editors. A. MINER GRISWOLD,

I. ARMOY KNOX, Manager.

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Eds. Texas Siftings.

IN "A. MINER" KEY.

A STEEL cruiser—a pirate's crew, sir.

GATHER at the river—river reporters.

Going the rounds—mounting a ladder.

You can send abroad for hams should the Westphalia.

HIGH old time-a clock in the top of the Eiffel Tower.

A MAN may utter words of wisdom and show none in his acts.

THERE is much Whitelawdation of Mr. Reid as Minister to France.

AFTER John L. Sullivan has hit a man the man has sort of rapt look.

THE oldest fire-escape mentioned is that of Meshach, Shadrach and Abednego.

CONGRESSMAN-ELECT CUMMINGS says the result of the election is Amos satisfactory one to him.

J. WHITCOMB RILEY remarked of Nye's first attempt at a lecture, "He, Bill did better than he knew."

Democrats should be the last to complain of Harrison. He has helped them to a sweeping victory.

> A little word in kindness spoken, Its meaning not quite clear, Has caused a suit for promise broken, And cost a man severe.

"Four Acres Enough," is the title of a book written A.man can't sneak into his by an Ohio man. And Ohio seems to have had enough own house just before day-

A BITTER opponent of dancing on the stage says, if this Australian ballet-reform will break it up he is in favor of it.

PERHAPS it is better in some cases for a young woman to be killed by a disappointed suitor than to been a valuable witness in a marry him.

Considering the number of trials he has to pass through, it is a wonder that any man wants to be a police judge.

ARTEMUS WARD, who had a man travel with him to curl his hair, used to say that the way of the hairdresser was hard.

WHEN a Spaniard comes to America and gets to prefer a beer garden to a bull fight, he is on the road to a higher civilization.

Poots won't let the "beer jerker" blow the froth from the beer he has ordered, because, as he says, he is able to blow his own horn.

FASHION makers are the only ones who are not afraid of the signs of approaching age. They are always trying to get up some new wrinkle.

THE one thing that Prohibition seems to prohibit more than anything else just now, is the election of any of its candidates. As a means of promoting temperance Prohibition is a hypocritical sham and a failure.

SHE SQUINTS.

A Denver man has sued his wife for divorce because she squints. Didn't he know that she squinted when he married her, or did his vanity lead him to suppose that she only squinted his way? Little defects of that nature add to a sweetheart's attractions, sometimesuntil love cools. When taunted with the fact that his girl was very freckled, her lover gallantly said that he wouldn't have her with one freckle less. But perhaps he didn't feel that way always. In the sober light of advanced wedlock he may have thought that a few less freckles would have been an improvement. And he is surprised to discover what an unredeemable pug his wife's nose is, wondering why he didn't notice it before. How mean these men can be.

THE N. OF F.

We are tired of the Napoleon of Finance. There are too many of him for novelty. He is ubiquitous, and turns up in remote localities at the same time. Whenever a man has been successful in swindling his creditors, or humbugging people out of money, the press dubs him a Napoleon of Finance. Won't the reporters please invent some other phrase?

THE MILKMAN AS A WITNESS.

It was a milkman, who, on that fatal day, saw the men going into the cottage in which Dr. Cronin was

NO FAIR IN NEW YORK.

The tardy manner in which subscriptions to the \$5,000,000 fund to secure the World's Fair in New York are coming in, must convince any one that the people of this city have become indifferent on the subject, whatever may have been their sentiments three months ago. All enthusiasm seems to be gone and it wouldn't surprise us to see the enterprise abandoned. It is a disgrace to New York that it is so, and the metropolis will lose prestige at home and abroad on account of it. It seems to emphasize the assertion often made that New York, with all her boasted growth and wealth, is a great selfish city, and destitute of public spirit. Chicago will undoubtedly get the prize, and her enterprise and audacity entitle her to it. A great mistake was made in putting a lot of rich do-nothings on important committees. They postponed action and wasted valuable time until the public became discouraged, the wrangle over a sight intensifying it. A committee consisting of hotel keepers, theatrical managers and the like would have accomplished something. "Hustlers" were needed, not millionaires. A World's Fair, such as is contemplated, is a great show. and needs some great showman like Barnum to manage it successfully. Mayor Grant is doing all that he can, no doubt, but was badly handicapped from the beginning.

MONEY IN LIQUOR.

"There is a

great deal of money in the liq-

uor business," re-

marked a man to a friend as

they emerged

from one of the palatial drinking

resorts of New

York. Very true,

but the profit

doesn't accrue to

the man who

stands outside of

the bar. The more money he

puts into the

drinking busi-

ness the worse

he is off. He

draws a dividend, to be sure,

if he keeps at it

steadily, but it is

paid in head-

aches and shat-

tered nerves.

There is an

army of seedy,

broken-down

men walking our

streets every

day, living testi-

mony to the fact that there is

money in the liq-

uor business.

They have put

all of theirs in.

And there are

thousands of

wretched wives,

and ragged, hun-

gry children,

who, if asked the

cause of their

misery might say

with bitter irony:

"It is because

murdered, in Chicago, and whom he positively identified among the defendants. Ah, these milkmen see about everything that's going on. light, after spending the night with the "boys," without the milkman seeing him. And there can't be an early domestic row that the milkman doesn't hear. He has

NECESSARY TO KNOW.

CUSTOMER—Look here! This hair restorer I bought of you is the blamdest thing I ever see. It took out all the hair I had in some places, and made it grow like the deuce in others.

DRUGGIST-That's all right; you see your scalp is fertile in spots and doesn't need any restorer. and in others it will require more. Now you know the spots try another bottle.

there is so much sometimes, and cunningly planned elopements have money in the liquor business." The money that should been foiled by the rattle of his wagon coming around go to them is invested in that miserable traffic day by the corner at an inopportune moment. No milkman day. And what returns it brings to the cheerless firewould spoil an elopement intentionally, however, for side, whenever the head of the house returns! Yes, he is romantically inclined himself, and deals out gal- there is no sort of doubt about it, there is a great deal lant compliments with the milk when a good-looking of money in the liquor business.

domestic is at his wagon hub. "Is this all money?" asked a theatrical friend of Joe Reynolds at the Fifth Avenue Theatre as he account of a remark attributed to him but disavowed, pointed to the audience during the Kendals engagement. "Oh, yes," replied the genial Joe; "not a Scrap of Paper in the house." "I'm sorry for that," the truth be disavowed? A man doesn't need to be a judge friend replied, "for that is the play I came to see."

divorce case before now, and

his testimony has convicted

burglars and sent them to

Sing Sing. It seems to be

his luck to get around just in

the nick of time to see some-

thing that doesn't concern

him particularly. He has

frightened thieves away

THE World says Judge Gildersleeve was defeated on to the effect that the liquor traffic is a prolific source of crime. Why should a sentiment containing so much to know it is true.

A TEXAS HORSE TRADE.

There is a colored man in Austin, Texas, by the move my hat, he name of Sam Johnsing. He has some money which he fixes his gaze on has made trading horses, at which business he is an my bald head expert. One day Judge Peterby saw Johnsing trading and keeps it with an itinerant horse dealer. Having some curiosity the re. I can to know how Sam came out in the trade, he asked him: never catch his

"Did you sell that fellow your horse?"

"I did, boss, for a fac'."

" How much did you get?"

"Twenty doilars."

"Only twenty dollars! Why, you are a fool. That's tion for most peoa valuable horse."

"Lemme tell you somethin', boss. Dat hoss is "yes," as I talk lame."

Judge Peterby happened to meet the horse trader certain they are rafterwards, and said to him:

"So you paid twenty dollars for that horse?"

"Yes, I paid twenty dollars to the darkey. It's a ing. They are pretty cheap horse."

"You have been swindled. The horse is lame."

"I know the horse is lame, but it don't amount to head of hair, anyanything. He limps because he has not been properly how, and how I shod. As soon as I take the shoes off of him he will lost it. If I am not limp a particle. I wouldn't take a hundred dollars married did that for that horse."

Half an hour afterwards Judge Peterby met Sam.

"Look here, Sam, you were swindled, after all, in coming out. that horse trade. The lameness of the horse is caused by his not being properly shod."

"I knows he ain't properly shod. I had him shod bald-headed man dat way on purpose, so as ter make dat hoss trader ber- to revisit the lieve dat he was lame from dat cause, but de troof am home of his youth dat he is lame, sure enough, and he am gwinter stay after years of absence. He calls on an old sweetheart, lame. He nebber will be wuff nuffin. Heah! heah! and as soon as he takes off his hat she exclaims, "Why, How I fooled dat hoss trader."

trader at the railroad station. He was just about to with your hair?" leave on the train for Dallas.

with you, after all," said Peterby.

"That all depends on circumstances. I think I can cure that horse; but if I don't I'm not out anything," observations. The former give him a cold, and the replied the horse dealer, grinning. Ask Sam after he latter make him hot. Won't the public please let up on has tried to change that twenty-dollar bill I gave him the for the horse," said the horse dealer, as he climbed into

THE BALD-HEADED MAN.

the car.

I am a bald-headed man. There is no use denying it, for the fact is patent to every observer. I am not ashamed of my baldness, for I have distinguished company. Most of the prophets were bald, though one of them was so touchy about it that he kept a menagerie of bears to set on any little boys who taunted him with it. Julius Cæsar was bald. So is Ben Butler and Bill Nye. But I don't like it, just the same. If I am talk- afternoon?

ing with a man and chance to reeye again.

My bald head seems to have a peculiar fascinaple. They say to them, but I am not listening to a word I am saywondering if I ever had a good have anything to do with my hair

It is a trying experience for a

John, how bald you've got!" He meets an old school-The same evening Judge Peterby saw the horse mate, and he wants to know, "What have you done

I always select a bald-headed barber to shave me. "That horse is really lame. Sam has got away He cannot, with any show of consistency, recommend any lotion to bring out the hair.

> The bald-headed man is alike sensitive to drafts and BALD HEAD.

EXAMINED FOR ADMISSION TO THE BAR.

Examiner-Can you give me an instance of a person which you travel. inciting another to perjury?

witness how old she is.

A KIND-HEARTED GIRL.

Dude (to shop girl)—Lovely creature, I adore you. Do you give me your love in return?

Shop Girl-Of course I do. Anything else this



THAT LOVELY BLOOM.

VISITOR (to young widow)—What a lovely bloom your boy has on his cheeks! Where did you get it, Freddy?

FREDDY—I found it on mamma's dressing-case.



SOMETHING OF A PAINTER HIMSELF.

ARTIST Von Brush (rapturously)—What a picture is yonder town, suffused in the lurid light of the setting sun. Ah, the sun is a great painter. JAGLEY—No mor'n I am. I've painted that town (hic) red a hun'r'd times myself!

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Alderman-There is a great difference between a chairman and a chairwoman, but you will understand the difference more forcibly by putting the conundrum to any chairman.

Director—A bank cashier on a rainy day always attends a bank-wet.

Dudette-An English lord is built on the same principle as most other men, but with less brains and

Temperance—The drunkenest State in all America is the state of intoxication.

Actor-The distance in time between New York and San Francisco depends entirely upon the manner in

Bard-Jay Gould was never President of the Anti-Candidate-Yes; when the Court asks a female Poverty Society. Pawnbrokers are generally presidents of the uncle-poverty societies.

Pocahontas-European princes vary in price according to birth and financial liabilities. A good secondhand prince is about equal in actual value to a freelunch bummer in this country.

John H.-Your poem on "Rats" is not suitable for our columns, and we therefore return it for ratification. You mice send it to Puck or some other highly-colored sheet.

Mouquet-We have never heard the welkin ring nor the napkin ring, but believe that they both make as much noise as the Tweed Ring did.

Householder—The World's Fair will be held in New York city, to oblige the World and the world at large. No one in Europe ever heard of Chicago before it was burned down, and it is now commonly believed that that was done in order to attract attention.

Alum—Siftings is so called because it sifts the good from the bad and always discards the latter. Hence we return your article on the "Hen that Crowed Too Soon."

Alice F.—Botany Bay is an English possession. Previous to its purchase England hadn't Botany Bay at all.

Gloyina—We decline to state what our salary is or how many days it takes to draw it. We can get through the work without assistance, thank you.

Christmas—The selection of a part of Central Park for the World's Fair is now decided to have been an JOHN S. GREY. over-site.

JUST HER WEIGHT.

Young Medical Student (to his sweetheart)-Do you know, Julia, that the human heart is equal to the lifting of 120 pounds every twenty-four hours?

Julia (demurely)—Well, that's just my weight.

Then he lifted her to his heart.

A DANGEROUS SYMPTOM.

She-I am feeling very bad. Something flickers before my eyes all the time.

He-Great Christopher Columbus! she is hinting for another diamond ring.

FAIRS.

A BRIEF DISCOURSE BY THE REV. WHANGDOODLE BAXTER, OF THE AUSTIN BLUE LIGHT TABERNACLE.



ND now, berlubbed bredderen and sistern, I perpose ter make a few remarks dis ebenin' on de subjec' ob fairs in gineral, and de World's Fair in

pertickerler. You cullured ladies immertate de white folks so close dat yer knows all erbout de church fair. I can't tell yer nuffin erbout de young man who

attends de church fair when de young ladies coaxes him ter spend all de money he has wid him, and den dey want him ter borrer more money and spend hit, too. You knows well enuff how you coaxes him ter pay two dollars for one chance at de raffle for de pin cushion stuffed wid bran, or de clof dog what has been raised on cotton.

Young man, look not upon de oyster in de soup at de church fair, bekase it stingeth like an adder and biteth a hole in your pocketbook big enuff for a bat ter fly frue widout techin' his wings.

Den dar's de county fair. When de little county fair sends out hits posters, on de top can be seen in big letters, de "Competishun ter de World." And de smaller de fair de bigger de type. Ef hit am de fust tair what's held dar de local paper allus calls hit "an unprecedented success."

De principal reason why county fairs am held am for ter gib de big bugs what thinks they am runnin' for de Presidency a chance ter make speeches. Dat's what Gubner Hill has been doing in de Souf dis fall.

Ebery year dar am de same exhibishuns ob patchwork quilts, Jersey cows, de same prize cattle, horses, sheep and poultry. Leastway dey looks as ef dey was a kiss, or I shall punish you severely. de same. Dar's a big parade ob threshing machines in de attenshun ob de young men wid de purty country ous tongue?

gals, and de pumpkins gits left every time. And den dar's de hoss racin' and de man what explains a little game ter de country folks. Heah! heah! I'se been dar, and so has most ob-de membrums ob dis heah congregashun.

Dat's de time when yer boy comes home wid his close scented wid terbacker from bein' whar de men smokes, and he tells his mudder dat de reason he don't wanter eat am because he had too much peanuts and gingerbread.

Dar's some talk about a World's Fair being held at New York. Dat's de place whar de rich folks am waitin' for de pore folks ter build a monurement ter Gineral Grant. Dey has got de air inter which de Grant monurement am gwinter rise some ob dese days; and dey has all de designs for de monurement, exceptin' de design ter raise de money.

Well, New York am fixin' for de World's Fair accordin' ter de same campaign plan ter which dey didn't build de Grant monurement.

I has read dat one ob dese Alaska glashiers trabbles at de rate ob an inch and a half a day. If dat's so I'd like ter see a race between de Alaska glashier, one ob dese heah messenger boys and de New York Committee for de World's Fair. Hit seems ter me dat when all de fac's am taken inter considerashun New York should git inter a nunnery.

De kerlecshun what will now be taken up will be for de benefit ob de New York World's Fair guaranty fund.

NATURAL HISTORY LECTURES.

THE ALLIGATOR.

This animal is a saurian, and flourishes in the water near orange groves. It is considerably larger in length than it is the other way, and traveis on land and in the water by means of four short legs conveniently placed on the under part of its body. It is all tail from its rear legs rearward, and all mouth from its fore legs forward; the rest of, the animal simply serves to hold its head and tail together. The head and tail of the alligator are the best parts of him to let alone. Its head is constructed with a view to barely cover the large mouth that goes with it, and is considerably distorted when the mouth is open. The alligator's mouth is harmless when it is open; it is when it shuts that the danger occurs, and safety lies in being somewhere else when that happens. The tail of the beast is capable of a horizontal agitation only, and it is highly dangerous to be within its reach when it is agitated:

Aside from its usefulness as a check on the increase of the colored population in the South, the alligator is useful in furnishing leather for alligator shoes and traveling bags and sport for Northern tourists, though the tourist does not always have all the sport; the alligator has his inning once in a while, and when it does there is a trunk and a pair of boots sent North without a tourist.

The alligator is a quiet, orderly animal that tends strictly to its business of eating and sleeping. It would be a good substitute for a pug dog as a ladies' boudoir E. R. COLLINS.

THAT UNRULY MEMBER.

Miss Elderly-Come here, Freddy, and give me a nearly all that remains.

Freddy-I don't want to.

Freddy-I'm afraid to. Don't you remember, pa, new red paint. Dar's de big pumpkins which divides you told ma yesterday that Miss Elderly had a venom-



At the Church Fair.



NECESSARY PRECAUTION.

Mk. Redeve-Gimme glass of whisky. BARTENDER (former drug clerk)-Have you a physician's prescription? You know we have to be careful in selling poison.

OBSERVATIONS.

BY JO BOUGHS.

STREET MUSICIANS.

I have observed that the aldermen of New York have issued an imperial edict, banishing the organ grinder, street bands and the like from our thoroughfares. I have never had much respect for a New York alderman, but this act of petty meanness takes away

I don't know in whose interest this is done, though I have heard that the step was instigated by some mu-Pa-Freddy, go to Miss Elderly at once and give her sical union that exists here, as a measure of "protection." They think if hand-organs are allowed in back streets and alleys, and the "leetle Sherman pand" is permitted to load and unload wind with their leaky and battered instruments, in front of a saloon for their beer, that music, heavenly maid, will soon find herself out of a job. Well, she ought to be, if she can't stand a little competition like that.

Street music doesn't hurt anybody, unless it be some grouty old sinner who can't bear to see anybody display even the semblance of gaiety. You don't have to give the providers of it anything unless you wish to, and you might get rid of your surplus pennies in a much more unworthy manner. Everybody can't buy a re served seat at a fashionable opera performance, and if they did they might be bored worse than they are by the hand-organ, many of them. A candid friend admitted to me once that he got more enjoyment out of a strect band on the corner than he derived from a Thomas concert which his wife compelled him to at-

If you can't enjoy street music, you can at least enjoy observing the keen pleasure it gives to the little people who constitute the audience. Recollect that there are thousands in this great city who hear no music except it be on the street, and let a general voice be raised against banishing it.

IMPORTANT TO HUNTERS.

First Nimrod—It will be a great thing if this smokeless invisible powder is used for hunting purposes.

Second Nimrod—That will even up things with the invisible game which casts so sad a gloom over the average hunter.

WHAT SOURED HIM.

C.—You are not so charitable as you used to be. You used to say that no poor man should go away empty handed from the good man's door.

D.—Yes, but that was before the poor man lifted an overcoat from the good man's hall rack.

When electricity is employed to execute condemned criminals, we shall doubtless see a headline like this-"He Volted into Eternity."

THE FAMILY MURAT.

The proposed marriage of the American heiress, Miss Caldwell, to Prince Achille Murat —the engagement is now said to be broken off, however-renews interest in the story of his illustrious grandfather, Joachim Murat. He was born in Cahors, France, in 1771, his father being an inn-keeper. He was educated for the church, but to escape debt he ran away and enlisted in a cavalry regiment. Twice he was compelled to leave the army-once for insubordination and again on the charge of being a Terrorist, and of having applied to have his name changed from Murat to Marat, in honor of the monster whom Charlotte Corday stabbed in his bath.

Once more he re-entered the service, and obtained a position on the staff of Napoleon, whom he accompanied to Italy in 1796, distinguishing himself greatly in that stirring campaign. He followed the rising young general into Egypt, where his skill and bravery decided the victory over the Turks at Aboukir, raising him to the rank of general of division.

In 1800 Murat married Napoleon's younger sister, Caroline Bonaparte, she being then eighteen years old-" with the head of Cromwell upon the shoulders of a beautiful woman," as Tallyrand afterwards described her in speaking of her beauty and administrative qualities when queen of Naples. Murat's suit was backed up by Josephine, whom the chroniclers of the day charge with a too tender regard for the dashing young cavalry officer. Indeed, Napoleon is said to have been furiously jealous of Murat at one time, but he was jealous of every man who came near his beloved Josephine at one period of his life with her. Napoleon, then First Consul, opposed the match for a time, objecting to his sister marrying the son of an inn-keeper, but he yielded at last. There

was a precedent for it, however, in the Bonaparte Austrians, never doubting that it was at my instigation family, his brother Lucien having married a daughter that he took up arms against them, would no longer of an inn-keeper six years before, by all accounts a believe in my word." lovely and virtuous woman.

Poland restored and Murat seated thereon. This, too, 1838, but she died the next year. was the feeling in Paris, where his wife was complinot know.

But Napoleon was always disappointing his family in some way. He seemed to delight in it. In February, 1808, he ordered Murat to Spain, where he established French domination with extreme cruelty, only to see Joseph Bonaparte, his beau-frère, made King of Spain, which position he had himself coveted. To appease him he was offered the throne of either Naples or Portugal, and he chose the former, reigning as Joachim Napoleon.

Murat was weak as a ruler, but his wife Caroline showed considerable talent. She founded schools, protected men of letters, restored the Neapolitan museum of antiquities, and ordered the excavations at Pompeii. Murat remained faithful to Napoleon until the great defeat at Leipsic. He accompanied him in the Russian campaign, and in the retreat from Moscow was left in command by his master when he hurried on to Paris. He, too, turned it over to another, Eugène Beauhornais, Josephine's son, and hastened back to Naples.

After Leipsic Murat negotiated with the Austrians in order to save his kingdom in the crash that he saw coming, but it was too late. He acted with duplicity, siding with Napoleon after his return from Elba, and then refusing him any assistance just before Waterloo. Bonaparte at St. Helena said that Murat was one of the great causes that sent him there. Said he: "He ruined himself and contributed to ruin me, because the



MARRIED LIFE'S THORNY PATH.

SHE-Before we were married you promised that my path through life should be strewn with roses: and now I have to sit up nights and darn stockings.

HE-You don't want to walk on roses barefooted, do you? You'd get thorns in your feet.

In 1804 Murat was advanced to the rank of marshal, satety, and on the second fall of the empire he made an grand admiral and prince of the Empire of France; and expedition to Sicily to recover his throne, and was capfor his services against Austria in the year following tured and shot at Pizzo, Oct. 13, 1815. Queen Caroline he was rewarded with the grand-duchy of Berg. In took up her residence in the vicinity of Vienna, where 1806 he made his triumphant entry into Warsaw and she was privately married to General Macdonald, who was received with enthusiasm by the Poles, who, basely had served on her husband's staff. A pension of £4,000 deceived by Napoleon, expected to see the throne of a year was voted her in the reign of Louis Philippe, in

The Murats had three children-two sons and a mented on her accession. Whether she went so far as daughter. The eldest son, Napoleon Achille, went to to have the crown of Poland embroidered on her under- Florida, and married the grand-neice of Washington. clothing, as Miss Caldwell, who expected to be her The present Prince Achille Murat is a son of the second granddaughter, employed the imperial crown, we do son of the King of Naples. He is a widower, celebrated for his gallantry on the field and in the boudoir.

DEDICATED COCOANUT.

Joe Green and Tom Luster are the new proprietors Defeated by the Austrians, Murat fled to France for of our Bobbletown grocery store. The other day they were taking account of a new stock of goods, just received, to be sold on commission. "Say, Tom, what is this stuff?" asked Joe, taking a package of cocoanut from a box, and laboriously spelling the word "D-e-si-c-c-a-t-e-d." "How do you pronounce that four-horse word, and what does it mean, anyhow?"

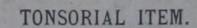
> "Why, that spells desiccated, and it means—why it means-yes, of course, it must mean the same as dedi-

"Well, what in thunder does dedicated mean?"

"Why, dedicated means given away."

"Oh! yes," said Joe, slowly, "I understand it now; these must be sort of 'sample copies' for us to give away to customers."

"That's just it," said Tom, glad to be understood. So, in the course of the day, some hundred and forty-four of the fortunate housewives of Bobbletown were made happy by the gift of a pound package of the best desiccated cocoanut; and many a word of praise was spoken of the enterprise of the young store-keepers who could afford to give away such an amount of delicacies in "sample copies." M. A. B.



Judge (who is bald-headed)—If half what the witnesses testify against you is true, your conscience must be as black as your hair.

Prisoner-If a man's conscience is regulated by his hair, then your Honor hasn't got any conscience at all.

NOT MUCH OF A LOSS.

Dudely-I lost my heart, Miss Fanny, last night when I was talking to you. You have it in your pos-

Miss Fanny (frigidly)-You are mistaken, Mr. Dudely, but I will ask the servant girl. Perhaps she picked it up when she swept out the other trash this morning.

THE MERCANTILE STYLE.

Mose Schaumburg, Jr.-Vader, vile you vas gone Mr. Schmidt paid four tollars on account.

Mose Schaumburg, Sr.-Ish dot so? Vell, next time you writes him a dunning letter you signs it "Very respectfully, your most opedient servant,

Mose Shaumburg.



HIGH HONORS.

FATHER LOCKE-My son, what rank do you take in col-

YAYLE LOCKE (proudly)—Third in the batting average and first in fielding.

A HISTORY OF FRANCE FOR YOUNG PEUPLE.

BY A. MINER GRISWOLD. PART V.



you to know, my dates from Clovis, a Frankish king Clovis was but fif-Although he was kings, it is a singular fact that he foot of territory emblem of it. within the present France at the time

He was ambitious, however. He wanted the earth, and he eventually secured a considerable part of it.

At twenty Clovis defeated the Roman governor of the Eastern District at Soissons, and sweeping away the last remaining vestige of the Roman domination in Gaul, he seized the territory.

a keen appreciation of humor he had, historians relate the following anecdote: It was customary to divide the spoils of war among officers and soldiers by lot. Clovis asked for a costly vase that had been taken from a church in Rheims, as his share, intending to restore it to the Bishop, who had sent a messenger for it. All consented except one soldier, who shivered the vase jocularly, to take his share of the pieces. The king said nothing at the time, but afterwards, when the battle-axe and Clovis skull. Soldiers were accustomed to raising their own battle-axes in those early days.

They planted them early, and the crop was easily though rudely handled, the handle being of wood.

Clovis was the first of the Merovingian dynasty (named from Merovig, its founder) to make himself sole sovereign of the Franks (521). He was converted from paganism by his wife, Clotilda, a Burgundian princess. It happened in this way: He was about to give battle to his enemies, which was the only thing he was ever known to give anybody, when Clotilda told him to invoke divine aid before commencing the engagement. He laughed her to scorn, being a hard-shell heathen, though he didn't attend that church very regularly, either; but at the critical point in the fight he remembered his wife's words. Then he swore that he would adopt her religion if his side won, and such being the result he was duly baptized. Many men since Clovis' day have become pious for revenue only, but that. mes enfants, is no reproach to true religion.

Clovis was baptized into the true faith in the cathedral of Rheims, named for Saint Remy, who was archbishop at the time. Three thousand of his sol-

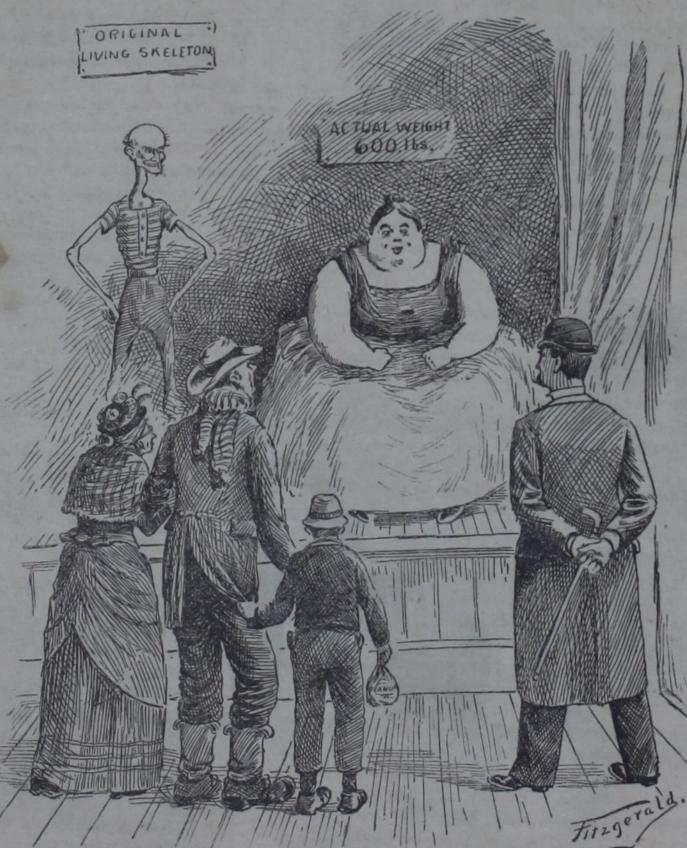
diers were baptized with him, he having detailed them for that purpose. It was in memory of this event that the usage was afterwards established of crowning French kings at Rheims. The ceremony was called sacre du roi, consecration of the king. No business of that nature has been carried on at Rheims for a long time, however. They are not crowning kings of France T MAY interest as much as they were.

The tribe to which Clovis belonged was called Salien children, that the Franks, because they came from the neighborhood of foundation of the the Sala river, in Germany. The Salic law, excluding French monarchy daughters from inheriting the throne of France, originated with Clovis, which act has made him forever unson of Childeric, popular with the advocates of women's rights.

Savage and relentless crimes stained the last days who died in 481. of Clovis. Desiring that there should be no obstacles to his posterity inheriting the domain of the Franks, he teen when he suc- "removed" all the princes and chiefs who might stand ceeded his father. in the way of his ambition, sometimes acting as executioner himself. Many of his victims were his near the first of a long relatives. But this was in a rude age, it must be line of French remembered, and relatives could not be satisfied with office under the administration as easily as they can be now. Clovis died in Paris in 511. To this day libations didn't possess a are poured to the memory of Clovis, and a clove-is the

After the death of Clovis the royal domain was boundaries of divided among his four sons, each being a prince in his own particular district; but there was no harmony to of his succession. speak of, except when two of the brothers united to murder the orphan children of a third brother after he was killed in war. Two of these young princes were assassinated, and the third, Clodowald, only escaped by renouncing his regal inheritance and becoming a priest. The place where he went into retiracy was christened in his honor, and the name, slightly altered, Clovis was fond of his little joke, and to show what survives in the celebrated palace of St. Cloud (pronounced Saint Cloo), near Paris, which was burned in the Franco-Prussian war, 1871.

Clotaire, youngest of the four sons of Clovis, survived his three brothers and was sole king of the Franks until 561, when he died. The man who had been so cruel to his nephews was repaid by the treachery of his own son, who rebelled against him. He was at length into fragments with his battle-axe, and told Clovis, taken prisoner by his father and burned alive, together with his wife and children. Conscience, which was an industrious worker even in that early day, was not idle soldier was a little off his guard, he raised his own in this instance, and cruel Clotaire died of remorse within a year. The domain was divided among his four sons, and then ensued bitter animosities and civil



IN THE DIME MUSEUM.

INCREDULOUS VISITOR-You weigh six hundred pounds? Nonsense; that's too thin!

THE FAT WOMAN-Maybe; but I'm sure I find it thick enough!



Outdoor Costume for the Coming Winter.

wars in the Morovingian family that form the darkest and dreariest period in the history of France.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE VANDERBILT FORTUNE.

An old New Yorker tells how the great Vanderbilt fortune began: In the early thirties Commodore Van-, derbilt, the founder of the family, was running a small boat conveying passengers and freight from Staten Island to New York. A steamer plying between New York and Amboy on the Philadelphia route, attempted to leave the dock at Whitehall when there was a strong tide against her. After making three unsuccessful attempts and returning to the dock, Vanderbilt, who was observing their operations, denounced the seamen as "a pack of - fools."

Gibbons, the owner of the steamer, said to him: " My man, can you take her out?"

"Yes," replied Vanderbilt.

"Come on board and try, then," said Gibbons.

Vanderbilt did so, and instead of trying to round the Battery against the strong tide, he took the stream through the Buttermilk Channel around Governor's Island—a channel little known then, except to the Whitehall boatmen.

Gibbons made Vanderbilt captain and pilot of the boat soon after, and on his death left him \$25,000. The Commodore's wife and family moved to New Brunswick and opened a restaurant and liquor saloon, and having the steamers' patronage, here commenced the great fortune of the house that Vanderbilt.

HIS ONLY FRIEND.

Dude—I hear you have been telling people that I

Friend-You are mistaken. On the contrary, I am the only friend you have got who has always maintained that you have got some little sense.

AN EARLY RISER.

Negro Porter-It's nine o'clock, boss.

Traveler-What! Nine o'clock already? Then I must get up. Why didn't you tell me sooner that it was nine o'clock? You might have let me know an hour ago.

A POPULAR COMBINE.

Jones-There are sugar trusts, whisky trusts; in fact, there are trusts of all kinds nowadays.

Smith-Yes; and Thanksgiving Day I expect to see a turkey trussed.

THE COAL QUESTION.

A.—I see that bacteria have been discovered in coal. B.—You don't say so! Well, now, see if the coal dealers don't make that an excuse for running up the

MATRIMONIAL ITEM.

A.—How long has your neighbor been married? B.-I never feel any desire to investigate the misfortunes of others.



SILAS VASTINE'S TRAVELS.

BY V. Z. REED.

Silas Vastine of the Cracker Neck settlement in the Skunk river bottoms of Iowa, had plowed corn, grubbed generally useful about the farm till he attained the philosophic age of twenty-one, when his liberal sire shelled out one hundred big dollars in cold cash, deeded Silas forty acres of land, gave him a team, harness and wagon, a spick and span new suit of clothes, and a bull calf, and expected him to marry Lucinda Pypes, to whom he had been engaged since he was eighteen, and settle down to a steady life of rearing crops and children. But Silas, who had never been twenty miles from home, thirsted to behold some of the wonders of the world, and determined to travel a few weeks before beginning life in earnest. Lucinda, too, was anxious that her Silas should pick up some "larnin'," and it came heir to the nearest railroad station, and that venturesome youth set off, like Zebulon Pike of old, to explore the wonders of the mystic land of the West. A railroad war of rates was in progress and he could buy a ticket clear to Denver for \$5, so his first stopping point was that booming metropolis of the plains. Before starting he had sacredly sworn to Lucinda that "he wouldn't court no weemin," and also promised to write to her and give faithful accounts of all the wonders he might see upon his journey. His first letter to his betrothed is given verbatim below:

DENVER CHOLERADAH JEWN THE 9TH.

DEER LOOSINDY:-this is the dad-blastedest town i

Big you kaint heer yourself live and the darn fool peepil haint got no more Sewshybillity about em than tree squirls. i met a nice looking feller mozien along down the road-er street, as they say here—an i spoak to him az perlite az a baskit uv taters an he jist looked ugly at me an called me a dam J. i haint Gott no idee what a dam J is butt i dont think it is ennything perlite, stumps, burned brush, split rails and made himself There's a hole lot of Brik houzes here an a lot of brik barns that you wouldent blieve an moar stores than i axshelly blieve they is in the hull stait of Ioway. do you rickellect that time we Went to talleyrand to sea the unkel Toms kabin Show? i meen the time i set down in the soft sope while i was waitin around fur you to git on yure sundy duds, wel, you know in sitties sich plays is plade in houzes built speshil fur that purpis an thay call the places Theayters. good Lord how i did come down kerplunk in that Soft sope. Wel, thare is a hole lott of theayters in this town an thay air owdashiously the dummdest places i ever see. i went to one called the Tabor an pade a dolir to git in too, an all i see was a lot of darned ijits prancin around an about that one day the Senior Vastine drove his son and yellin like as if thay was crazy an a feller settin beside me sed it was Opry, an just as i was a gittin blaimnashun tired of it a woman come out on the stage without a derned thing on but a littel short skirt that dident come haff way down to her knees an the derned fewl peepil klapt there hands an actid as if they thot it was Smart fer a woman to strip herself amost necked and snort around as If she dident hav no shaim about her, the shaimless thing. The feller settin by me sed she was a preemy-ear er sumthin like that, an i thot she ot to bee lernt sum sense uv shaim, so i did. Jist then my new shuze got to hertin my feet an i tuck one uv them off an a snipshus feller called a usher come around an sed that the place wuzent a bath room, an i up an told him i ever see, it haint no more like rose Hill er Talleyrand knowed it an that i wazent sich a darn fewl as some then ole mike Smiths sway back mare is like a ellyfunt other peepil ide seen, an he sed Wel kuntry, i guess i wunst see at Barnum's surkis. The dummed town's so yude better take a walk, an as the peepil all begin to

laff at me i thot so to so hear i am reddy fur bed an ritin to you afore turnin in so no moar form yure trew SILAS VASTINE.

GERMAN JOKES

(Translated for Texas Siftings.)

QUITE APPROPRIATE.

Governess-Miss Emma, have you found in Schiller's works an appropriate poem to recite at the silver wed ding of your parents?

Miss Emma-Yes, I have found an appropriate poem. It is entitled "The Fight with the Dragon."

SHE WAS UP TO HIM.

He-My dearest, darlingest little wifey-She—You needn't employ any of that sort of taffy, for you won't get the latch key, no matter what you say.

MUSICAL ITEM.

A .- So your dog has run away again, has he?

B.—Yes; since my daughter has been taking singing lessons there is no such thing as keeping him on the premises.

HE LIVED HIGH.

Visitor-How did you come to rent a room the stairs to which are so steep and dangerous?

Poet—I had an object in view. You should see how polite the bill collectors are when they get up here and I hint about kicking them down stairs.

AN EYE TO THE FUTURE.

Father-Why do you ask for the hand of my younger daughter instead of that of her elder sister?

Suitor-Because I think the elder sister would more satisfactorily fill the position of aunt to my future children.

A DEAD GIVE-AWAY.

Inquisitive neighbor-Your ma's hair is as black as if she dyed it. Does she really dye it, Tommy?

Tommy-O no, she don't dye it. That's the color it was when she bought it.

NOT AN ELIGIBLE BOARDER.

Landlady's Daughter-Mother, you tell that man in the front room to clear out at the end of the month.

Landlady-Why so, my daughter? He is a very nice gentleman.

Landlady's Daughter-He is a fraud. I've been through his trunk, and found lots of letters from a woman to whom he is engaged to be married. What sense is there in wasting the nice front room to that sort of a boarder? We want one who isn't engaged.

MEDICAL ITEM.

A.—Dr. Jones is a good hearted man.

B.—In what way?

A.—Very often he don't take a cent from his patients. B.-O! I see. The executor of the patient's estate is called on to pay it.

A FEW PASSING REMARKS.

Jones-What did your wife say when you got home last night?

Smith—What did she say? My dear fellow, it would take me three hours to tell you half of what she said.



GEMS FROM THE POETS.

—Bohemian Girl.

" In such a moment I but ask That you'll remember me."

BILL SNORT IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

BY ALEX. E. SWEET.



dude visits New York-How Harrison received the news from Virginia - Snort breaks it gently to the principal survivor-He visits Mayor Grant -- A visit to Grant's Tomb.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.

My DEAR JOHNNY: -On election night, Harrison and myself sat up to receive the returns. Nothing quite so of Sir John Moore.

accident to the unsuspecting survivor.

Harrison, rubbing his hands

gleefully.

"There is no doubt about its being a funeral, but it is not precisely a satisfactory sort of a funeral to us Harrison Republicans."

"Eh!" exclaimed the President.

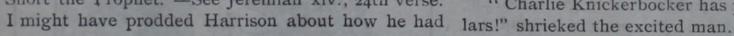
"Man born of woman goeth forth in the morning, warbling like a lark, and when the rereturns are counted at eventide the undertaker hath already got him in his ice box. In other words, Mr. President, on election day the Republican candidate arrayeth himself in his winter pants for the first time, but, lo! and behold, the Democratic wasp hath made her nest therein, and she proddeth him with a sting as long as a barber pole, and laugheth him to scorn," said I, breaking it as gently as possible.

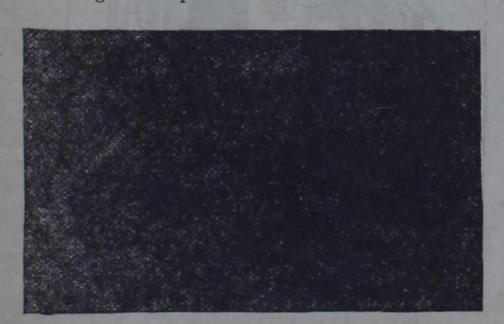
"Col. Snort, will you please drop metaphors, and let me know if Mahone is gaining ground."

"Not a drum was heard, nor a funeral note As his corse o'er the ramparts we hurried."

"Col. Snort, is-Mahone-gaining-ground?"

"Yes, Mahone is gaining ground-downward. He has aspired, conspired, and now he has expired." Then few of the sickening details, whereupon, to use the language of scripture, "King Belshazzar's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that one against the other, and he remembered the words of Snort the Prophet."-See Jeremiah xiv., 24th verse.





Harrison's Outlook in 1892.

have the heart to do it, he made such a poor mouth. tortoise, but it will get there first." Bill Snort is not the man to throw red pepper in the eye of a potato, particularly when the potato is as small a Chicago hare is a Western jack-rabbit, that travels one as Harrison is.

ILL SNORT visiting my friend, Mayor Grant. On entering his York that does all the sleeping." disguised as a office I noticed that he looked sad.

don't look as happy as you ought," said I.

"Col. Snort, did you ever get up World's Fairs for New York city?"

"I never have made a practice of it."

"Then don't talk, Snort."

"Am I to understand that the rich people of New York refuse to 'ante up?'"

"Yes, avarice pinches up their souls until they rest in their bodies like the pith in a goose-quill. Stingy? Why, some of them would carry a mosquito and talks about to a dentist and ask him how much he would give for the World's Fair its teeth. Col. Snort, there are some rich men in New York who are so confoundedly stingy that if their neighbors were to give them a coat of tar and feathers they would try to pawn it. Like one of these pointer dogs, when they get on a scent they never let go of it. When one of these rich New Yorkers whangs a copper cent into the contribution box he leans back with a twentysad has ever occurred in Washington since the death dollar air of benevolence. The subscriptions to the \$5,000,000 fund are pouring into the treasury at the I was detailed to receive the dispatches, figure out rate of a dollar and a half a week. I expected it to the Republican gains, and announce the glad tidings to pour in much faster, but between what we want and Harrison. Pretty soon it began to dawn on me that it what we get there is a fearful chasm. The Alpine devolved on Bill Snort to gently break the news of the glacier that travels at the rate of two inches a year is a toboggan slide compared with the gait of the rich "Another Democratic funeral, I suppose," said New Yorker on occasions like this. Confidentially,



Mayor Grant shows Snort the air in which General Grant's Monument is going to rise.

Snort, it galls me to represent such a snide lot of millionaires. They are as immovable as a man painting a house by the day. They couldn't get out of the way of a lame horse standing still. Now I feel better."

Just at this crisis, an excited man rushed into our presence waving a letter over his head and shouting, I read out the long list of the killed and wounded and a "Victory!" He was the chairman of the World's Fair finance committee, and somewhat of an

"Has another gentleman subscribed a dollar?" the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote asked Grant, who was evidently poking fun at the chairman.

" Charlie Knickerbocker has planked down two dol- way.

"This is really great news. Very likely the Vanderbilks, the Astorgoulds, the Van Snides, the Whinelanders, the Van Chumps, the Doolittles and the rest of them will subscribe as liberally. Janitor, hang feet. out the American flag! Pound the gewhag and sound the loud timbrel' also the instruments of ten strings," and, poking me facetiously in the ribs, Mayor Grant invited me to take a ride.

"Where are we going, Mr. Mayor?"

"I want to show you Gen. Grant's tomb, Col. Snort."

While we were riding up Fifth avenue I remarked: " Joking aside, Mr. Mayor, opportunities are game ewenty-five pounds. birds, and if they are got at all they must be got on the

"Yes, New York is a little slow, but remember the cerned.

neglected to follow the Prophet's advice, but I didn't fable of the hare and the tortoise. New York is the

"Perhaps so, if the hare goes to sleep; but the faster than a prepaid telegram and never sleeps during I write these lines from New York city, where I am business hours. In the World's Fair race it's New

"Well, Col. Snort, I have great hopes that the rich "Well, Hughey, old boy, for a Tammany man you men of New York will come to the rescue, sooner or

> We soon arrived at the site of Grant's tomb, not far from which is a little shanty on which was a big sign, which was so suggestive of the prevailing New York public spirit that I made a copy of it.

WELCOME TO NEW YORK!!

"BITE ONE OF MY TEN-CENT PIES BEFORE WEEPING AT THE TOMB."

Mayor Grant, whom I suspected of having a private understanding with the proprietor of the pie foundry, wanted me to bite a ten-cent pie, but I didn't bite. I have been in New York before. In New York nobody is too proud to twist a "commish" out of a stranger who wants to make a purchase while in the city. Three cents out of every ten-cent pie a pilgrim bites goes to the New Yorker who steers the pilgrim to the piemaker's den, and so it is with everything else a stranger buys in New York.

I was much surprised at the vast number of contribution boxes in New York which strangers are expected to feed with a quarter for some worthy object. I stabbed the hole in a World's Fair contribution box at my hotel with a marked quarter, and when I came to pay my bill I got that identical quarter back in the change. The landlord said it was one of the strangest, coincidences he had ever seen, and he wanted me to put the quarter back in the box and see if it would happen again, but I replied, rémoving the quarter to a place of safety:

"No, I thank you, Mr. Landlord, I am not as entirely eaten up with morbid curiosity as you suppose."

On arriving at Grant's tomb, the Mayor pointed out to me the air into which the Grant Monument is going to rise. The air is all right.

"We have got quite a large number of designs for the monument," said Mayor Grant.

"Is the design to pay for it among them?" I asked.

" Not yet."

"Why don't you have a contribution box placed on the door of the tomb?"

The Mayor replied that the monument committee had put a box there for that purpose, but Gen. Grant's family objected, so it was removed.

On our ride back I remarked that New York was

"Yes," replied the Mayor gloomily," everything in New York is growing except the World's Fair fund and the Grant Monument fund."

From the very start, Johnny, New York has been deliriously enthusiastic in favor of getting the World's Fair, provided somebody else puts up the money. And New York still entertains that unselfish preference.

Your friend,

BILL SNORT.

A PRECOCIOUS INFANT.

Nurse Girl-Sleep, baby, sleep.

Baby (in perambulator)-Now let me tell you, my young lady, that I have had some experience with nurse girls and the "sleep, baby, sleep" racket. You will have to make some other arrangement before you can get a chance to talk to that policeman over the

A CITY NIMROD.

First Hunter—You missed that rabbit by about ten

Second Hunter—Well, you see the truth is, a fellow gets tired of slaughtering them all the time. I did that to break the monotony.

PEDESTRIANISM.

Jones (to fat friend)—Do you walk much?

Fat Friend-Well, I should say so. I expect to lose

Jones-Good idea. The more you lose the more you'll gain, as far as personal appearance is con-



BUFFALO BILL TEACHES HORSEMANSHIP TO THE FRENCH OFFICERS.

The French Government has engaged Buffalo Bill to teach one hundred cavalry officers the American style of riding.-New York Herald

BORN WITH A SILVER SPOON IN HIS MOUTH.

Such is the manner of explaining the luck which attaches to the son of a rich father, who looks with pity if not contempt upon a boy born with an iron or even a silver plated spoon between his gums. But it is one of the compensations of birth in America that the boy who comes into the world with no acquaintance with spoons of any kind, may find himself in possession of spoons of gold before he has reached his prime.

In a great majority of cases the rich man of to-day began life a poor boy. But enterprise and industry, together with the desire to do better by his son than his father had done by him, won the day. How about the beneficiary and inheritor of his wealth, however? watch show me your pawn ticket.

Can he be expected to grub like his father; to live frugally and save money? Not at all. It isn't in the nature of things. The conditions are different and the result must be. His youth is pampered and his young manhood given over to indulgence. Many a rich man's son who has turned out badly might have made a man of himself had his parents been poor, no matter whether they were honest or not.

CHANGEABLE MALES.

"The mails have changed, madam," said the clerk at the post office window, in answer to a question about the time for the arrival of the letter pouch.

"Yes, indeed," replied the old lady, placing both hands on the window ledge and looking straight into the clerk's eyes, "the males have changed. When I was a girl we didn't hear of half the wickedness that we do now, and all owing to the males."

"But the mails I mean—"

"I know what males you mean. The papers are full of their goin's on. And it's a perfect shame. Seems though men get married nowadays just to be supported. When I was a girl a man would a-been ashamed to live off his wife's money; but law, they think nothing of it now. They even hold

themselves in the market to be bought up by some rich girl, like that Prince of What-you-may-call-it, over in Paris. Broke off the engagement because she didn't bid high enough, didn't he? A man like that oughtn't to be worth more 'n five cents. Anyhow, you're quite right, young man, the males have changed."

Then the old lady went away, pleased that she had been able to free her mind.

A NICE LITTLE BOY.

Street Arab-Say, Mister, what o'clock is it? Dude—I haven't got my watch with me. Street Arab-You're a liar. If you haven't got your



ABSENT MINDED.

ALGY (at the door)-I-aw, bless my soul, Miss Gushly! I believe I've forgotten something. Lemme see-

Miss Gushly-Coat-hat-cane? Why, you have them all, Mr. Baboony.

ALGY-Aw, yaas; but-but-Miss Gushly-dear Edith-I fawgot to awsk-will you-will you be my wife?

FABLES.

BY E. SOAP, JR.

THE ANT AND THE FLY.

Once upon a time the Ant and the Fly got into a controversy. The Fly was bragging about his connections and high social position-one of the 400, you might say. He claimed relationship with the aristocratic Butterfly family, while the redoubtable Col. Horsefly was kin to him.

"Why," said he, "there is never a banquet that I don't get the first whack at the viands. At Church I can sit up in the gallery, and select at my leisure the most desirable Bald Head to light on. I am admitted to Court, and if I want the King's ear I can get it, also his nose. Clergymen all like me, for I keep the congregation awake when their sermons can't. And to think, too, that I can enjoy all these privileges without being compelled to do a speck of work."

"That kind of talk is the merest fly-blow," replied the Ant. "I wouldn't think much of going where I wasn't invited. What enjoyment is there in church, when you are liable any moment to step right into a Spider's web. You say you don't do a speck of work, but windows and mirrors tell a different story. Oh, you're too fly, you are."

Moral-When you feel like going for thine Ant, thou sluggard, consider her ways (of getting back on you) and do otherwise.

COMMERCIAL ITEM.

Lady (leaving a store)—You bet I am up to the tricks of these merchants. I made him come down two dollars on the price.

Merchant (to himself)-I am up to the tricks of these lady customers. I put the price up four dollars.

MUSICAL ITEM.

Visitor-You are quite a musical family.

Father—Yes; my daughter plays the piano, and my son is quite expert with the flute.

Visitor-And what do you play?

Father—I play first fiddle.

Mother-in-law-Not much you don't, when I am about and well.

Professor-What is the distance from the earth to the sun?

Pupil-A hundred million miles.

How do you find that?

Find it? I find it astounding, unheard of. . .

HEARTS AND A STAKE.

(From the Portland Transcript.)



HE GIRL WAS fair as the face of a sunny summer, this royal, sweet queen, swung out in her silken hammock under the shadow of the ivy vine and trellis, with a face to mock mysterious coles in her red- funeral. tinted eyes and the passion of peaches had in

beautiful as He could. The willows by the meadow ways that skirt the Mardi river must sit to learn grace at her feet so bending and so lithe was she. Her smile was the challenge of Diana, and she what, Andy, I've an idea-" was as cautious as that goddess. When her white teeth shone under the crimson of her mobile lips, and she smiled on either hand at the love-sick brothers of the Randolph brood, they both shivered out into hot dreams of love, that were all the more tormenting be- ten." cause her smiles were impartial. Ben and Andy were of the ancient romance. I call them boys, because in truth they were but little more. Ben was twenty-four, and his brother but two years younger. They ran like say, 'Here, you sweet, cold, lovely jade, don't you see youths together, racing to test their speed, chasing a sheep or a young steer over pasture and roadway for sheer sport, to vent the overplus of blood in their robust bodies. Tall, and daring and elate, both dark of skin and full of the gaiety of flawless health and good estate, they were the wonder and pride of the burgh, and the my soul, all the same I shall say 'God bless ye' with a envy of all the lesser swains. The Randolphs and the hearty good will, and then-well, I will get excused Reddingtons ruled the Mardi colony from Deersick to from the wedding." the shire town farther down, chiefly because they were the richest and brainiest of the thrifty farm region that had its profits from the rich meadows and the green slopes of the fine old valley where they lived. Tony was the only child of the Reddington house, and not being able to marry both these lusty and beautiful creatures, who rode their scampering colts by her door with a salute and a hilloa, or slung bunches of wild flowers on her piazza at morning time-well, Tony as I have said, smiled on them both, and set them both and coquetted with either ardent boy, without daring to let either push his suit to an issue. She was not, perhaps, a bad girl at heart, but the instinct of conquest was in her, and she never had valued at its worth the ponies and stood before her like angels. soul of a man. To keep these handsome, gay and darback the passion of their eyes, with flushes in her cheek yet with a steady defiance that gave back no hope with the glance, to receive their flowers and their adoration, to hold their hearts in her hand and glory in their devotion, it was sweet and pleasant and gratify-

But at last, one day, these two frank, fine youths grace, between them. looked into each other's faces and saw the truth. They a new pasture, and being through they rested at an old line of wall by the field's edge, panting and full of sweat. God knows how in such a moment they both happened to have the same resolve. Perhaps it came no longer than the times compel." because that very morning Tony drove over to the Randolph house to display a new kind of oleander shrub she had brought from a Florida garden, and when she would return both these gallants sprang to help her into the phaeton. The cunning wench saw neither but sprang in by herself, and turning with a laugh and a blush flung a kiss in the face of either with her saucy hand as she drove away. They both turned to a task at once, neither speaking. Now by the old wall Andy said hotly:

"You are thinking of that which I am thinking-and could hardly speak. we are a couple of fools. Isn't that so, Ben?"

"A trifle broad in the putting on't, perhaps-but yes-that's level sensible I guess. She's fooling us, though she can't well encourage us both. Pity we both

laugh. "If we were not brothers now, we might get down to the old barbarous custom, and shoot. But I ence of two threw her off guard. That she was in reck'n we won't do that, Ben-not for Tony-nor yet for any danger of an issue with them under such circumany other."

"Not especially, as we havn't much reason for think- straight to his point. ing she would cry for either of us afterward."

slapping himself vigorously, "I for one don't propose to dangle. Either she has that reputed and assailable or three years for my health. What will you do?"

"Me? Oh, she may fancy me more. Maybe I'll and to madden, marry her. God bless her."

Ben was fervent and sad, and cast down his eyes quetry of spark- with a sad, queer smile as if he were joking about a not many finer than these tall, handsome brothers,

> "That's so," said Andy moodily; "very likely she would consent. But she knows we are both-well-"

"Mad over her? Yes, I fancy she can't help seeing her oval cheeks. God made Tony Reddington as how we stare at her. We're a rude pair, I reck'n."

What shall we do?"

"Incredible; where'd you get it?" said Andy with a laugh. These royal fellows would laugh and laugh if the grave yawned before them.

to explode."

"We'll go up to my grand lady arm in arm and we'll how we both are dying for you?' And we'll tell her straight that she's wrong to keep us a-dallying and sighing for the moon; and then if she loves eitherwhy, we're brothers, I reckon, and it won't be worse They were so grand and handsome and ardent. than now-and if it's myself that gets the bitter dart in

"I'll go with you by the Lord! It's a fair way, but I reck'n a woman won't be forced up to decision in such a way. She'll just tell the truth, Ben, and say, 'Hoot! my young Randolph chickens, I'll eat neither of ye for my breakfast, nor dinner either. Can't a lady gad about a little and accept a few wild flowers, aye! and fling a friendly kiss with her hand too if she like, and pettishly: not be set upon this fashion? That's all will come of it, Ben, dear."

So that calm sunset evening, while Tony, the lovely wild with her cunning eyes that flashed and drooped creature, swung in the hammock when the red spears of light shot flame through her red-brown hair, and the you care for neither, why not speak out." scent of June roses wafted in to charm her, suddenly these two brown lovers swept up on their clattering two. Perhaps I care for both, perhaps for neither;

"What and a 'how,' " cried the girl, with a bright- to rush at me at this hop." ling fellows at her beck and word, to meet and fling ening eye. "Now that's splendid as can be. Over for the evening, and never sent me a bit of word. Help dington is right." me out of this old hammock, why don't you? there! both of you. I won't stir a bit till I have a hand from either."

> So imperious and royal, she gave each a clinging hand and stood up instantly in her lithe and leesome

is lovely as—as June. I'll call Jamie to lead the ponies you two men? Tell me?"

"No, no," cried the brothers in concert. "We'll stay eyes cast down.

And then Ben being senior said quite stiffly, "We have come to see you."

"Of course you have, you mean fellows. You don't come so often you need to announce it as if I didn't quite still for a minute or more. know. And now you keep those poor little horses at the post and will run back like a shuttle, as quick as you not easy to speak to two-and-" can. Hurry, hurry! Go quick! Don't stay a minute, then!"

and half-sleeved, smiling, laughing, ravishing. They faces-"

"but we want to speak first."

and wicked, you men, I mean."

She wagged her pretty head and flashed at them piquantly with her glances.

want the same thing, Andy-that's so-by thunder." no jest. "We are a sorry pair, no doubt, but you "And we can't divide her," said Andy with a rueful would better listen to us, I think, Miss Tony."

Tony did not know what was coming. The presstances she did not surmise. Ben, however went

"We will stand up here where you can loook at us," "Well," said Andy, stretching out his fine limbs and he said with a smile. "Then when you look in our eyes you can see the truth which we shall speak."

With all-her self-poise Tony began to have a heart thing in a woman which you call a heart, or she has quake. She grew red and looked in some wonder at not. If no, well then I think I'll travel in Europe two the brothers. But she kept up her spirits marvelously and said with a little laugh:

"Oh, I can look at finer every day. Why should I look, pray?"

In her heart she doubted the assertion. There were tawny, and resolute, and straight as forest pines.

"Because." said Ben with a gulp, "we are come to tell you a truth. We are miserable on your account. You are preying on our hearts. Andy and I both love you. God knows whether of us two love more. We "Oh, as for that, Ben, I have an idea she likes it. are come to ask you to say at once, please, and very plainly, if you care for either of us, and, if so, which of "Lord knows. Yes, I think I know too. Tell you us is the man, and may God help you to speak the truth."

Was love ever spoken so before?

They stood looming above her like spectres, while her eyes ran from one to the other in terror. What if "'Tis unusual, but you'll say this is way up. Lis- she loved them both? What if neither? Could she tell? Could she choose? Who shall say what lay in "Well, fire away," said Andy, glumly, "but don't this fair woman's heart? She could not laugh, A splendid boys, strong of build and brave as the heroes frighten me. When ideas go off sudden they are liable laugh then would be a deadly insult, not a fair device to turn them away. She struggled a little and sought woman's ready refuge. She burst into tears. Instantly they bent over her tenderly.

> "We were too harsh," said Andy ruefully. "Still, we want an answer."

> She did not feel as if she could turn them away.

"Give me time," she said with a sob. "I don't

"Love flies straight," said. Ben, sullenly; "if you loved either, you would know. Come, Andy."

He turned on his heel sadly, and would have gone, but Tony was thus driven to speak.

"No, no! Love doesn't always see clear. Perhaps I could care for either if-if-"

"The other were—well, say in Afghanistan?"

Tony gave a little laugh through her tears, and said,

"Well, perhaps. But how can you think to woo this fashion? I shan't choose either; let it go on as before."

"That can't be," said Ben and Andy together. "If

"No. I won't be forced to say aye and nay by you perhaps for one and not for the other. You are wrong

"Let us go, Andy," said Ben. "Perhaps Miss Red-

"Don't be so mean, then," said Tony, in a fright. "If you run off with that tone, then I'll never, never see you again."

"Then why trifle?" asked the elder brother gravely. "Do you think we are joking?"

"Oh, no, no; but I wish you were. I don't trifle, "Sit down, and sit down," she chat- indeed I don't. Wait, I will test you. Come, now, I were helping the farm hands herd the racing steers in tered, pushing a lounging chair for each. "Out here will be as frank as you. Is it true you both love me-

She grew serious, and stood with hands clasped and

"It is true," said Ben.

"I shall never love another," said Andy, in a hot, husky way.

Tony wrung her hands gently together and stood

"I don't know how to speak," she said slowly. "It is

"I see," said Ben quickly, "I will canter in the pike

a half hour. May be I shall have no need to speak She was jolly, charming, winsome, be-wrappered when I come back. It will be enough to look in your

"You don't understand. Don't go. I only meant that "Yes, we will go presently," said Andy, slowly; women are not wont to be won by two at once. But now I think of it, why not? To tell the truth-well, I must "Speak, you pretty creatures, speak. Why not? I say it-I have wavered, and I could not be blind to love to hear you speak. You are all so brave and vain your looks-both of you. So I did not dare to let you speak; for I could not choose; I cannot now. Decide

Boker's Bitters since 1828 acknowledged to be by "We shall speak," said Ben slowly, "and it shall be taken PURE or with wines or liquors. FAR the BEST and FINEST Stomach Bitters made whether

Horsford's Acid Phosphate Recommended by Physicians of all schools, for the brain, nerves and stomach.

it between you. If either of you come back to me and say, 'Here is my heart, and my brother has gone away-well, that will help my heart to choose."

She struggled and pouted, and spoke low and brokenly.

"Give us a test, then," said Ben, with a sigh. "My God, to win you we would either of us go to death's edge."

"But I should grieve for either. I cannot choose. I will accept the one who returns to woo without the other."

Ben and Andy turned in the sunset to look at each other. There was the woman before them, drooping, irrepressibly lovely, and one of them might take her in his arms and say, "forever she is mińe."

They looked in each other's faces silently while she glided away, and the rustle of her presence was heard no more in their ears.

"What shall we do?" said Andy grimly, taking his brother's hand.

make this terrible sacrifice. I ought to say, 'Take her, and be in heaven,' but I can't. If she showed one sign by which we might see her favor for either-but to win her even on such terms! My God! Andy, what shall we do?"

"Run a race for her. What do you say?"

"Would you dare?" asked Ben, breathlessly. "I have outrun you often."

"On the level, yes. But when we climb and hunt on Bald Pate, I am your equal."

"It is true. Are you in earnest, Andy ?"

"Why not? Come, I will drive a stake at the head of the upper lane, by the milking shed. The one who goes to the Monument Rock on Bald Pate and show the right."

"It is a compact," said Ben. "We will start when the sun shows on the roof of the tobacco press."

At gray daylight these stalwart brother lovers met again at the sheep-pen. They both were haggard. Neither had slept. They stood and talked of the most inconsequential matters for fifteen minutes. Then Andy secured an axe and a stake, and both proceeded together to the head of the lane. Here Ben held the stake and Andy drove it into the earth with two or three heavy blows.

"Driving it into my heart, brother. Shall we go on?"

"My heart likely. Yes, it is fair. We can't both have her."

"Very well—only way I reck'n."

"It's eight miles to the top of Bald Pate—hard miles, too. There and back is a hard journey, and a rough way."

"But, for the one who wins, a glorious ending-except for our love for each other, Ben. But we are not the blood that cries baby, and pines for a girl we can't win, are we, brother?"

"If you win I shall stand by the compact without whining. And we'll love each other still."

"Look! the sun about to rise. I have brought my pockets full of bread, and two flasks of wine. You take one, and half the bread, Ben."

"Thank you. I shall give you choice of place to start from. A few feet can't matter in so long a race."

"I shall beat you if I can," said Andy, with his old graceful laugh.

"If you find my handkerchief on the stake when you get here, save it for me," rallied Ben back again.

" Are you ready?"

" All ready." " Well, go!"

Ladies never have any dyspepsia after a wine-glass of Angostura Bttters. Sold everywhere.

And off they sprang—young giants of tireless joints, racing up a wild and rugged country to a mountain-top, three thousand feet high, for a girl's heart.

How they dashed over the stubborn earth. Each chose his course, divergent soon beyond the other's view. Roads were spurned, and rivers, ditches, rocks and ravines, offered no bar to their arrowlike course toward the distant, towering rock summit of Bald Pate, set against the southern sky, grim, defiant, and rugged as their fate. They panted hot, and flung the sweat drops from their hands and brows, but never waited for brush or bough, for stump or stick or stone, for slough or thicket, or ledge or ditch.

When Ben had hurled himself over this eight hard miles of country and reached the skirt of the scrubby wood that fringed the last mound of the elevation, he saw Andy just climbing the great square slab that lay on the summit, and which for its shape and position was known the coun-"I see we have neither the heart to try round as Monument Rock—a huge drift slab dropped by glacial ice in the dawn of the human age. Andy flung down his hat on the rock to show he had been there, and without even seeing Ben, dashed down again and swept out of sight into a ravine.

Ben groaned.

"I must go back quicker," he said within his breath. He rushed up the slope, climbed over the slab and turned to go down. What he then saw caused him to shout like a mad man and sent a chill to his blood. Andy was in view, and as Ben saw him at the last glimpse, he was just disappearing beyond a ledge of rock down the ravine which Ben had seen him enter but a moment before.

"My God!" cried Ben, and rushed down the fearful gully with a terrified gets back to hang his handkerchief first | heart. The ledge broke off before him on the stake shall come the next hour | sheer and steep as the wall of a house. | and woo the sweet one, and may God | Over the edge of it Ben peered. Then he shuddered and drew away.

At the foot of the mountain that afternoon a farmer was riding in his wagon along the rude country road, when a man staggered into the road before him and

"For God's sake come, and help

He was white and trembling and bloodstained. His clothes were torn, soiled, and saturated with mud and sweat. He led the farmer up the mountain side to a place where a spring of water ran into a little glade, from the rook above. He pointed to the form of his brother. The face was reverently covered with the white kerchief that he would have tried to hang on the stake the milking-shed.

"What's the matter?" gasped the rustic, horrified.

"Help me take it home. My Lord help

No one came next day to woo the lovely creature at the Reddington house. But after a while the horrible thing crept in to her ears. She kept her room in silence for many days.

A year went by, and she hoped Ben would now come to woo. But he never came. They both live there; he in the sad, speechless grief that left him as a walking specter, having for her no reproach, but no more under the thrall. That was broken the day he looked in the face of his dead brother mangled among the rocks of the fatal mountain; she, still beautiful and queenly, but with no more sunflash in her red eyes, that often bedew her pillow with their tears.

And there still stands at the head of the upper lane by the milking-shed a rude stake driven in the earth, but there is no handkerchief on it. Sometimes a sadfaced man goes down at dawn where the sun glances first on the roof of the tobacco press, and looks at the stake.

THE END.



Cook's Tourists-The cannibal.-Harvard Lampoon.

THE washerwoman's motto - Let us soap for the best.—Binghamton Republi-

Is a gun thought to be doing great execution when it hangs fire?-Troy Press.

THE more a man becomes wrapped up in himself the chillier he gets.—Oil City Blizzard.

· In the race of life it isn't the fast men who come out ahead.—Binghamton Republican.

It is the popular belief that pugilists should travel in a box car.—Richmond Dispatch.

THERE is one thing certain about the Cronin triangle—it wasn't square.—Philadelphia Times.

A BAD book-keeper may be a good bond keeper when he has a chance.-New Orleans Picayune.

Gubbins insists that corns are like an acrobat, because they always light on his feet.—Dansville Breeze.

PAPER-HANGERS are about the only men who succeed in business by going to the wall.—Baltimore American.

In some places corn is known as fodder. We presume this must be the popcorn.—Yonkers Statesman.

> Full many a man
> Would belching cannon face, Who'd give a hornet Any amount of space.
>
> —Dansville Breeze.

A POLITICIAN is supposed to see his

palmiest days when he is "in the hands | mediæval coats of mail. of his friends."—Glens Falls Republican.

"CLARA, that horrid Mr. Slick has just left. I do think he has a lying tongue.' "I shouldn't be surprised, I know he has false teeth."-Life.

THERE should never be any surprise at discovering that a near-sighted man is an eye-dull person.—Washington Capi-

Waiters seem to be, as a class, quiet, orderly men, yet they are continually being called to order.—Baltimore Ameri-

THE pugilist would rather give than receive, and yet when in battle he shows that he is close-fisted.—Yonkers States-

A DENTIST may pull teeth for children, but we have found that his patients are nearly all groan people.—Yonkers States-

When the tailors send in their bills on the first of the month, the act may be said to be a dress pay raid.—Pittsburg Chronicle.

"Held to Court," says a headline in the Wheeling Register. That has generally been thought to be a good way.-Somerville Journal.

When musicians need a tuning-fork for their instruments why don't they take a pitchfork? It ought to be just the thing.—Baltimore American.

No distinction on account of race, color, etc., is permissible, and yet politicians seem to be at a "white" heat in Virginia.—Florida Times-Union.

No one condemns more loudly the vulgarity of punning than the fellow who didn't see the point until after everybody else had laughed.—Somerville Journal.

Squeers-"Do you know when the first umbrella was made?" Nickleby--'Oh, yes; during the rain of David, to be used as a parry Saul."- Lawrence American.

THE failure of a Philadelphia wool firm is said to be due to the fact that the banks wouldn't take their paper. Some all-wool suits will doubtless be the result.—Rochester Post.

Pain from indigestion, dyspepsia, and too hearty eating, is relieved at once by taking one of Carter's Little Liver Pills immediately after dinner Don't forget this.

Time to Abolish the Corset.

The crusade against the corset is on. The attack is systematic, vigorous, and ought to prove irresistible. Nothing in nineteenth century civilization is so ridiculous as the pertinacity with which the women cling to this relic of barbarism. Statistics do not appal them. Physicians' warnings are unheeded. The absolute knowledge that the corset is harmful does not affect their loyalty to this garment.

There is a firmly grounded belief among women that a corset is necessary to improve their figure. Never was there a greater error. No woman with a poor figure can make it faultless by this means. She can improve her appearance somewhat, but cannot with all the means that art affords supply the deficiencies of nature. A good figure looks better without a corset, and a poor one is little helped with its aid.

But that is not the only point involved. The tight lacing of stays is a serious menace to the health of the wearer and her posterity. This is conceded by all whose opinions on the point are worth heeding. This being so, the proper method to reform the abuse is by introducing some substitute which has all of its advantages and none of its drawbacks. Here is a fortune for some genius.

Those nations most distinguished for the grace and beauty of their women are utterly innocent of the corset. Imagine the Venus de Milo in a corset! Think of the pretty Roumanian, Swiss and Breton girls with their charming figures bound up in stays! It is not to be thought of for a moment. The inconvenience suffered by women from wearing corsets is about equal to what the male sex would endure if obliged to wear

The corset habit is the result of diseased imagination, incorrect judgment and false philosophy. Every woman who values health, without which there can be neither beauty nor happiness, should welcome any movement that will release her from the bondage of the corset.-Philadelphia Inquirer.

Anguish Unspeakable

Is endured by the victims of inflammatory rheumatism, and any form of the disease may reach that agonizing phase or attack the heart and cause death. Unhappily they who feel its preliminary twinges seldom realize this. Like other possibly dangerous maladies, rheumatism is often disregarded at the outset. Well will it be for him if this brief notice shall serve as a warning of future peril brief notice shall serve as a warning of future peril or pain to a reader troubled with incipient rheumatism. The proper sequel will be an instantaneous resort to the great preventive depurent, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, whose brevet of professional commendation popular experience has confirmed. There is no finer or more genial antidote to the virus of rheumatism in the system. Botanic in its origin, it is free from the objections attaching to depurent poisons liable to be taken in more than the infinitesimal dose. The Bitters conquers mala-ria, indigestion, liver and kidney troubles.

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"Intended to break it off at first," returned his friend, "but I have just heard that the company has offered her twenty thousand in settlement."-The Epoch.

The Sign of a Veteran.

"If I were you, dear," said Maudie Thirdstreet to her friend, "I wouldn't put the powder on quite so thick. It is too suggestive."

"Suggestive?-of what?"

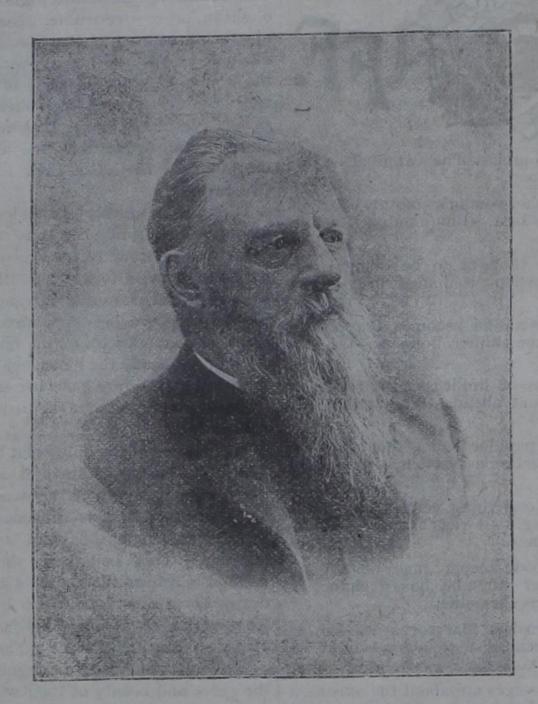
"Why, of several engagements, you know."-Harrisburg Telegram.

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First Boy-" So your uncle is not dead

Second Boy-" No; he was supposed to have died, and they coffined him in the back parlor to be buried to-morrow. Grandpa and pa got drunk and played freeze-out over the corpse, and banged so on the lid that it woke uncle up, who was in a trance, and he raked in the pot before they could get their hair to sit down again.-Epoch.

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THE DOMESTIC MONTHLY.

COR. BROADWAY AND 14TH ST., NEW YORK.



Charles Wyndham is winning applause at Palmer's Theatre.

At the Lyceum Theatre Our Flat has given place to The Charity Ball.

The Juch Opera Company will give five performances at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn this week.

If you want a hearty laugh and a good many of thein, go to Union Square Theatre and see Neil Burgess in the County Fair.

The Tourists in a Palace Car, with W. A. Mestayer and Theresa Vaughn in the leading parts, is doing a good business at the Bijou this week.

There will be a Little Lord Fauntleroy matinée at the Madison Square Theatre every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday until further notice.

Sardou's picturesque and beautiful play, The Exiles, is produced in an admirable manner at Niblo's, under the skillful management of Mr. E. G. Gilmore.

Denman Thompson is fifty-eight and doesn't deny it. But he plays like sixty all the while. May it be long before he is required to leave the Old Homestead and take up with a mansion in the skies or elsewhere.

Alexander Comstock, who is Manager E. G. Gilmore's able lieutenant at the Academy of Music, has closed a contract | with Denman Thompson to take the Old Homestead to London after the close of the season in May.

That naturalness in acting is most popular at the present day is demonstrated by the great favor which has been shown Jo Jefferson's Bob Acres in The Rivals. There is no straining for effect there, and yet the most satisfactory results are attained. When will the stage see another Jefferson?

The engagements of Booth and Salvini in New York were a disappointment in pecuniary results. It is said that the former is growing careless and indifferent in his acting, and Salvini's bellowing has ceased to astonish. There certainly is not much demand for either in the metropolis, but they will probably draw for some time yet in the wondering West.

We are glad to record the growing popularity of the Harlem Opera House, for this beautiful theatre deserves the most liberal patronage. The engagement of the Juch Opera Company was a pronounced success, attracting large and fashionable audiences. Many of the best stars and combinations now before the public are engaged to appear during the season.

A Good Testimonial.

Hotel Proprietor (rummaging in the ruins of his house, which has been burned to the ground)-"Here, what's this?"

Clerk (picking up an iron plate, reading)-"This hotel is strictly fire-proof! Gulliver Munchausen, Inspector of Buildings."—Lawrence American.

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The Mistake.

Would-be Contributor (to editor)-"Now, sir, I have no hesitancy in pronouncing this the best, the ripest product of my pen. I wish you would read it at once, sir, for I know that it will meet with your highest approbation."

Editor-" I'll get to it as soon as I

"Read it now, sir. Indeed, I will stay right here until you do read it. I know it is a great story, and let me tell you that I carried it in my head ten years before I wrote it. Now, read it (editor reads it.) What do you think of it? Don't hesitate to point out a mistake,

"You say you carried it in your head ten years?"

- "Yes. Do you find any mistakes?"
- " One."
- "A serious one?"
- " Verv."
- "What is it?"
- "The fact that you did not continue to carry the story in your head."-Arkansaw Traveler.

A Dream of Fair Women.

Tennyson in his exquisite poem, dreams of a long procession of lovely women of ages past. This is all very well, but the laureate would have done the world a greater service if he had only told the women of the present how they could improve their health and enhance their charms. This he might easily have done by recommending the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Health is the best friend of beauty, and the innumerable ills to which women are peculiarly subject, its worst enemies. Long experience has proven that the health of womankind and the "Favorite Prescription" walk hand in hand, and are inseparable. It is the only medicine for women, sold by druggists, under a positive guarantee from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or money will be refunded. This guarantee has been printed on the bottle-wrapper, and faithfully carried out for many

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Nature is the title of a weekly journal published at No. 10 Warren street, New York, for the gentleman sportsman and naturalist. The contributing editors are Wm. C. Harris, Charles Hallock, Chas. Barker Bradford and J. Charles Davis. It is neatly printed and the contents are interesting. Price, ten cents.

In preparing beautiful books for the holidays Lee & Shepard, the enterprising Boston publishers, seem to be well in the advance. In a Fair Country, which they have recently published, is a magnificent specimen of artistic work in every particular. It consists of selections from Thomas Wertworth Higginson's Out-Door Papers, illustrated by the gifted pencil of Irene E. Jerome. It is a large volume, printed on heavy, cream-laid paper, with golden binding. No one has written so charmingly of New England landscape and flowers as Mr. Higginson, and certainly no more attractive illustrations of them have been afforded than in this work. In reading of April flowers I learn that there were certain plants and flowers in New England that disappeared with the Indians. There was a low plantain that they called prophetically "White Man's Footsteps." It disappeared with the red man. The Bloodroot and Mayflower plants are older than the white man in America-older, may be, than the Indians. Later wild flowers are of foreign importation. The procession of the flowers is followed in the work, from early spring until winter's snow, and the reader will find much information as well as pleasure in its perusal. Price, \$6.

In the North American Review for November the question Is Divorce Wrong? is discussed by three very able writers. Cardinal Gibbons presents the Roman Catholic view, Bishop Potter the Episcopalian view and Col. Robt. G. Ingersoll the Agnostic view. It may be briefly said that the Catholic Church does not allow the dissolution of the marriage bond, although a separation is permitted for one of three causes, viz.; mutual consent, adultery and grave peril of soul or body. The Episcopal Church looks upon divorce with extreme aversion, yet sanctions it in some cases. Col. Ingersoll believes that "the sacramental view of marriage is the shield of vice," and that " when love is dead, when husband and wife abhor each other, they are divorced." Senator Vest has a paper on The Hopes of the Democratic Party, without mentioning either Gov. Hill of New York, or Campbell, who beat Foraker for Governor of Ohio. Mutat Halstead writes entertainingly of Our National Conceits, particularly as observed abroad. There is an article by Harold P Brown, State expert, on executions by electricity, and

Edison tells about The Dangers of Electric Lighting, both timely topics. The Review under the editorship of Lloyd Brice shows marked improvement.

Wilkie Collins as a Novelist.

Wilkie Collins was not, in any sense of the word, a great writer. He has not left one single work that will be living in half a century.

He has not drawn one perfect character, nor depicted one great scene. He grovels in mediocrity-pleasant and exciting mediocrity it may be at times, but it is nevertheless mediocrity. His work is purely ephemeral, as Trollope's was, as Charles Reade's was, as Stephenson's is, as Haggard's is. His stories are read with interest-they amuse, they please, but they seldom instruct or elevate. (We recognize " Man and Wife " as an exception to this latter stricture, and, possibly, one or two others.) At best, his books are read once, and then put aside forever. In a few years, they have almost entirely faded from memory.

And yet, in this age of moral degeneracy, Wilkie Collins deserves well at the hands of the reading public for the cleanly tone of his writings. His novelare pure and decent. They are unsensational and refined, and may with safety be read aloud in the strictest family circle. His style is terse, dramatic, vivid, and clear. There is no straining after effect -no attempt to parade high-sounding phrases and exult in ambiguities. His language is simple, elegant and comprehensive. And so, for this much let us be thankful.-Alexander N. De Menil, in St. Louis Magazine.

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ONE of the very few trusts that fail to hang together is the umbrella trust. Everybody has grown suspicious.-Washington Capital.

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JACK'S JOLLY JOKE.



- "Oh, I am a jolly old tar," he said,
 "And I've got my sea-legs on;
 And they call me Jack as they slap my back,
 Though I was christened John.
- "I walk with a lurch on the solid earth,
 Though when I am on the sea
 Not a single skip is made by the ship
 That isn't as well by me.
- "Oh, yes! it's funny as such fun goes;
 But I don't laugh, 'Haw, haw!'
 As much as you old land-lubbers do.
 That's right!—give me your paw.
- "And you want to know why I walk straight
 On the ship, and not on shore?

 It's because on the ship I'm o'er each trip,
 While on land I'm but half-seas o'er.
- "And you want to know how I got my name?"
 And he gave his trousers a hitch,
 "We don't go far for the name Jack Tar:

It comes from the vessel's pitch."

And that was the gruff old sailor's joke,
Which he made as he luffed aboard,
And which steadied his jog and sweetened his grog
When the wind through the rigging roared.
—Earl Marble.

BLIGHT.

The seasons passed and Adam took
No note of them at all;
Until, alas! there came to pass
A most untimely fall.

-Philadelphia Press.

THE PAN-AMERICAN TOURISTS.

Those gentlemen seem as they vanish

To be something the worse for their toots,

And to walk as they talk—a bit Spanish—

Because of the snakes in their boots.

Well, after a few more receptions

And winings and dinings, I guess,

That "pan"—filled to other repletion—

Will have to be shipped by express.

—Yenowine's News.

WINTER APPLES.

What cheer is there that is half so good,
In the snowy waste of a winter night,
As a dancing fire of hickory wood,
And an easy-chair in its mellow light,
And a pearmain apple, ruddy and sleek,
Or a jenneting with a freckled cheek?

A russet apple is fair to view,
With a tawny tint like an autumn leaf,
The warmth of a ripened corn-field's hue,
Or golden hint of a harvest sheaf;
And the wholesome breath of the finished year
Is held in a winesap's blooming sphere.

They bring you a thought of the orchard trees,
In blossomy April and leafy June,
And the sleepy droning of bumble-bees,
In the lazy light of the afternoon,
And tangled clover and bobolinks,
Tiger-lilies and garden pinks.

If you've somewhere left, with its gables wide,
A farm house set in an orchard old,
You'll see it all in the winter-tide,
At sight of a pippin's green-and-gold,
Or a pearmain apple, ruddy and sleek,
Or a jenneting with a freckled cheek.
—Hattie Whitney, in St. Nicholas.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria, When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria, When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria, When she had Children, she gave them Castoria,

Our Kaleidoscope.

The man who continues to work on a salary will never get rich. Not only that, but the chances are he will never possess even enough of this world's goods to amount to a competency. About one per cent. of those who work for wages accomplish the latter, while not one in a hundred thousand ever gets to be wealthy working on a weekly stipend. It is the man who, having saved a small sum out of his earnings, goes into business on his own account, that makes his pile. Men who are willing, for a time, to pinch and save, to get along on poorer comforts than they could afford with a fair salary, are the ones to whom success is the surest to come. I am not ignoring the fact, either, that a very large percentage of those who start in business for themselves fail, sooner or later; but they have had a chance or two in their favor, even then, and at the end are but little or no worse off than the man who has been plodding along on a salary, out of which he has had a bare living, and where every waking hour almost has been owned by his employers. I assert, too, that the man who long continues to draw his pay in weekly stipends becomes a coward. He is afraid to branch out for himself. He has learned to lean on somebody else, and so he struggles along, barely making ends meet, yet not daring to engage in a venture on his own account, for fear that utter destitution, and that greatest of human curses, enforced idleness, will surely follow. I admire the sturdy independence that is so characteristic of the Hebrew-an independence that prompts him, rather than to work on a salary, to tramp the streets of the city, or the highways of the country, with his pack on his shoulder. He is in business for himself; working his own capital and reaping the full benefits of his industry and sagacity. Take a passing glance at the commercial world, and especially at the Hebrew portion of it; note their supremacy in all lines of trade—a supremacy that is extending so rapidly that it has already called out notes of warning from sources not friendly to the Jewish race. Well, not a few of the men who are to-day at the head of immense commercial and financial institutions began life as common peddlers. In other words, instead of working for somebody else on a salary, they went into business for themselves, on a small scale of course, often in the meanest and humblest way, but they progressed-and that is something the man who works on a salary rarely doesand their success has more than repaid them for the trials and hardships of their earlier years.-Ed. R. Pritchard, in Arkansaw Traveler.

Catarrh Cured.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Prof. J. A. Lawrence, 88 Warren Street, New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

Not Very Flattering.

- "Mighty fine woman I saw you lifting your hat to back there, old boy."
 - "Yes, rather."
- "Some mash of yours?"
- "Yes."
- "Couldn't introduce a fellow, eh?"
- "Might, if you'll come up to the house some evening."
 - "Oh! your wife?"
- "Yes."
- "Pshaw! I supposed it was your cook."—Detroit Free Press.

Cure for the Deaf.

Peck's Patent Improved Cushioned Ear Drums perfectly restore the hearing, and perform the work of the natural drum. Always in position, but invisible to others, and comfortable to wear. All conversation, and even whispers, heard distinctly. We refer to those using them. Send for illustrated book with testimonials free. Address F. Hiscox, 853 Broadway, New York. Mention this paper.

Advance Thoughts.

Every person has a legitimate right to search untrammelled for the religion that brings rest to his spirit or soul and to enjoy it undisturbed.

God's greatest gift to man is his thought power, and to weaken it or interfere with its regular advancement is an insulting offense to the bestower of the gift.

It is no part of religion to pray to God for material accumulations, as man can obtain them for and by himself.

Those who assume to correct all the socalled errors of their friends will soon have so small a circle of friends that the task will be easy.

He is a very weak man whom money can lure away from himself.

We have no desire for a future that is not laden with great things and developments now unthought of by man.

Man's highest happiness will not be reached till he is doing all he can for man.

Life on earth is short, but it determines our future.—Pomeroy's Advance Thought.

It Hurt His Feelings.

Kansas Tramp—" Mister, could you do a little something to assist a poor man?"

Stranger—"You don't look as though you were unable to work. You ought to be ashamed of yourself to go around this way. You are a disgrace to humanity. Why don't you go down to the river and take a bath and try to earn a living?"

Kansas Tramp (pathetically)—" Take a bath? Ain't it enough to have to drink the stuff?"—Merchant Traveler.

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Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

Is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for \$1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

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Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price.

AGENTS Wanted. Bottled Electricity pays \$50 a day. Address Box 443, Chicago, Ill.

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DYSPEPTICS (incurable preferred) wanted. Popp's Poliklinik, Philadelphia, Pa. Book free. Mention Texas Siftings.

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An Economist.

Scene, Chicago cable car. "Helloa, Mack," says Jobble, looking up from a newspaper and recognizing a friend, "you don't live out this way, do you?"

" No."

"Which way are you going?"

"Out to Lake View to get shaved."

"What, all the way out there to get shaved when there are hundreds of barber shops down town !"

"You see, Jobble, I have just gone to housekeeping, and must economize. I get shaved for five cents in Lake View. Ten cents saved every day or so will amount to something after awhile." -

"Yes, but you don't save anything. You may pay only five cents for your shave but your fare there and back is ten cents; don't you understand?"

"Well, I'll swear I'm the biggest fool I ever saw. Been doing this trick for six weeks, wondering all along what befive-cent barber shop. Stop the car at the next street, conductor. Probably I've got sense enough to walk back, but I don't know."-Arkansaw Traveler.

Two or More.

A Portland (Ore.) girl had two lovers and she liked them both so well that she didn't know which one she really wanted. The lovers finally agreed to fight it out according to the prize-ring rules. The challenge came from the smaller of the two and the big one accepted it gleefully. Then they repaired to a quiet spot with their seconds and a referee and the smaller man licked the big fellow to a accepted by the girl and all is supposed to be lovely. But there is trouble ahead loves doesn't really love either, and it may be set down as a truth that the man who gets her is the loser. In the perverseness of feminine nature she is very is still another, or a half-dozen others, for whom her heart yearns. Then the husband will wish that in the contest for her hand he had been knocked out.-Chicago Mail.

The best and surest dye to color the beard brown or black, as may be desired, is Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers. It never fails.

A GREAT many girls are bound to show their feet at a picnic, even if they have to swing for it.--Boston Gazette.

The soft glow of the tea rose is acquired by ladies who use Pozzoni's Complexion Powder. Try it.

HARD work is the best cure for the blues; at least that is what you always tell other people.—Somerville Journal.

The worst Nasal Catarrh, no matter of how long standing, is permanently cured by Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

THE average car horse is a tenderhearted animal. He is always ready to stop and listen to a tale of whoa. - Baltimore American.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it! People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

Women, like diseases, always search out our weakest points for an attack; and they generally find them.-Milwaukee Journal.

Notice the advertisement of the Ohio Farmer, on page 12 of this issue. We know the paper to be in every way reliable, and advise our readers to send

The Wheels of Reform Well Greased.

Studebaker, the Indiana wagon maker, presented President Harrison with an expensive, handsome carriage, after which the President appointed a cousin of Studebacker's to a post-office position | Daily News, Nov. 9.

Pears obtained the only gold medal awarded solely for toilet SOAP in competition with all the world. Highest possible distinction."

came of the money I saved by going to a | in Texas, and thus the wheels of reform move smoothly.—Pomeroy's Advance Thought.

TWO BIG PRIZES.

A Wandering Arab and a Spanish Truckman Win \$20,000 in the Louisiana State Lottery.

Two tickets sold in this city for the October drawing of the Louisiana State Lottery drew big prizes. The lucky ticket holders were Hansa Mohammed, one of the Arabian troupe of jugglers Barnum brought to this country a few years ago, and Anthony Someriva, who, with his son, does the trucking of Hawley & Hoops, manufacturing confectioners, 271 Mulberry st. Mohammed held standstill in nine rounds. The victor was one-twentieth of ticket 71,323 drawing second capital prize of \$100,000, Mohammed's ticket was originally in possession of John F Cunningham of 128 Clinton for the successful claimant. A girl who place, who exchanged it for another, the doesn't know which one of two lovers she | number of which he liked better, but which won no prize. All the money in | ducements the M., K. and T. Railway bought the ticket was one dollar. He sold a half interest in the ticket to another fellow-countryman named Haapt to discover after marriage that there badje, who was performing juggling feats recently in the Bijou Opera House. If Mohammed had retained his entire twentieth part he would have been the possessor of \$5,000; but. as he parted with half of it for 50 cents, his share was only \$2,500. The money came by check through Well's Fargo & Co's Express, and was turned into crisp \$100 dollar bills at the American Exchange National Bank, corner of Broadway and Cedar st. Mohammed was so elated with his success that he went right off to Philadelphia to give Habadje his \$2,500.

> The \$2,500 that Mohammed received was a genuine windfall. He has not been with Barnum for the past two seasons, and was just about able to scrape a living for himself doing odd jobs in the neighborhood where he lives. He thinks the Louisiana State Lottery is a great thing, and he intends, he says to try his luck at every monthly drawing in

the future.

The ticket held by Someriva was number 63,856, and drew one-twentieth of the first capital prize of \$300,000. Someriva is a Spaniard and is still with the firm of Hawley & Hoops, and so is his son. When the package containing Someriva's check for \$15,000 arrived by Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express from New Orleans, Someriva was so nervous that he asked Mr. Herman W. Hoops to open it. Mr. Hoops drew forth a check of the cashier of Wells, Fargo & Co. for \$15,000, and after the express charges were paid, Someriva went to the Emigrant Savings Bank to deposit it. The clerk to whom he handed it scrutinized the check closely, and, convinced that such a poor looking man as Someriva, dressed in the ordinary every-day garb of a truck driver, could hardly be the owner of the check, he conferred with some of the officers of the bank. Finally Someriva was sent to Pres't Hoguet, and to him the poor truckman told the history of the check. President Hoguet congratulated him, took the check on deposit, and Someriva left the bank laughing at the clerks and feeling like a millionaire. He intends to buy a small house in the suburbs and to buy new trucks and more horses. - New York

A Beery Bad Habit.

" Papa, what makes you hold your cup of tea up and blow across the top of it always? There are no flies on it, are there?"

"No, Johnny, no flies. But it is the result of a bad habit that you will probably know more about when you get older. I wouldn't mention it again if I were you."-Dansville Breeze.

To California or Mexico Cheap.

When you make your trip to that perpetual and delightful summerland, California, or if you intend visiting interesting and newly-developed Mexico, take the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway. The M., K. and T. Railway sells round trip tickets to California and Mexico, good six months, and allowing stop-overs en route, at very low rates, round trip first-class rate being scarcely higher than the second-class rate would be. Among the many inthe world that Mohammed had when he offers to the intending Mexico or California traveler are the following: Its lines pass through the States of Missouri, Indian Territory, Texas, Old and New Mexico, Arizona and California, thus insuring, during the winter season, quick time without delays and ideal summer weather. All those who have traveled do, and all those who have not will, appreciate the many advantages and conveniences to be found in the celebrated Pullman Buffet Sleeping Cars which are run on all trains of the M., K. and T. Railway, thus insuring to all a comfortable and pleasant journey. The attention of each and every traveling salesman is called to the field offered for the disposal of his goods in Texas, so that by taking the M., K. and T. Railway and reaching its principal cities, a profitable trip is bound to be made. For tickets via or general information regarding, above, call upon any ticket agent or address, F. L. Manchester, Gen'l Eastern Agent M., K. and T. Railway, 317 Broadway, New York; E. D. Spencer, Nor. Pass. Ag't, 105 Royal Insurance Building, Chicago, Ill., or Gaston Meslier, Gen'l Pass, and Ticket Agent, Sedalia, Mo.

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Money and Brains.

Tom-" Philson and I are going into business—one of us to furnish the brains, and the other the money."

Jack-" I see now what you intend to do with that money your aunt willed to you."-The Yankee Blade.

The analysis of this water shows it to possess remarkable mineral qualities. As a Table Water it has no equal, and for Rheumatism, Gout, Kidney, Liver Troubles and Dyspepsia it is unsurpassed. Send for analysis and circulars.

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