Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., November 28, 1902.

THE PUMPKIN.

It was Indian summer, and the hot air, instead of being sweet with the breaths of flowers, was scented with apples and grapes from the heaps ready for the cider-mills, and the sparse clusters still left on the vines. It was also blue and pungent with the smoke of bon-fires. They were a thrifty folk in Evantown, and made a clean sweep of the debris of the summer before the winter set in, being, as far as the seasons were concerned, well off with the old love before they were on with the new. Sophia Bagley, was not out-done by her neigh-bors, though in every house except hers for a quarter of a mile down the village street there were men. She herself stood out in the south yard raking a bon-fire.

active affection.

New England village one thing-money

enough to live without fear of the poor-

look of ignoble greed brutalized his face.

was fairly hot in the October sunlight.

That was the prize which the pumpkin

would probably bring at the county fair

of the taint, began to see it.

for his keep.

the next week.

Sophia had never been married; until three years ago her eldest brother had lived her; since then she had lived alone with and managed the farm. After Jonas Bagley died everybody thought that Sophia would sell out and go to live with her married sister at the Centre. They were surprised and disapproving when she announced her intention to remain on the farm. "I'd like to know why I shouldn't?" she said. "I guess I have lived here ever since I was born, and I am not going to leave now to live with a half-sister young enough to be my daughter, with half a dozen children, and no land at all except a little front yard. I am going to stay right where I am.

"You ain't going to run the farm?" said the calling neighbor, who was a sort of scont of village gossip, having come in advance to spy out the land. "Why not?" demanded Sophia Bagley.

"Why can't I run the farm? I'm going to sell all the cows but one, and the Wilder boy is going to come over when the weath-er is too bad for me to get to the barn, and help me about here, and when it's hayingtime I shall hire, and hire a man to plough and plant the garden. Jonas 'ain't been able to do much of the work himself of late years. I don't see why I can't do as much as he has. I enjoy good health, and I've got common-sense, and I ain't afiaid to work."

"I should think you would be afraid to live alone," ventured the woman. Al-though she was as curiously insinuating as a screw, she was always more or less intimidated by Sophia Bagley, whose nerves were strung to such a ready response that it seemed aggressiveness. Whoever asked Sophia a question was exceedingly apt to jump at the reply, it was delivered with such impetus. Sophia Bagley was, how-ever, very mild and gentle to see, being small and blue-eyed and fair-haired, with a curious sidewise inclination of her head and shoulders, as if all her life she had leaned for support upon somebody else. People had always thought she had leaned Jonas, and were astonished that after he died she did not lop in the dust. They were even a little aggrieved that she did not; people do not like their theories disproved, even to the advantage of their fellow-men, and moreover, an incongruity like Sophia's manner and deep decisive voice and small gentle personality always irritates. When the visiting woman went bome to report she was distinctly censori-"I believe Sophia Bagley is brazy, ous. said she; "a woman who has always pended on her brother the way she did on Jonas Bagley, to live alone, and try to run

that farm herself !' At first the neighbors used to look anxi-

good deal, though everybody had supposed dare." said she, and sewed on.

it to be the other way around. Sophia herself had often waded through a snow Meantime the boys with the jack-a-lantern had gone across the field to the Wilder drift to milk the cows rather than allow house, though with trepidation. There Jonas to venture out. Jonas had indeed been ailing in his later years, but she knew that the Wilder boy would not weaken if were too many boys there. Their specialty when abroad with jack-a-lanterns was nervous solitary females. he were ailing. Unconsciously the woman began to depend on the boy as she had never depended on any living thing, began watch out, and be all ready to skip, they charged one another before they elevated to love him as she had never loved any one, the grinning pumpkin outside the lighted not even her brother. Jonas Bagley had window of the kitchen. been an uncouth, taciturn man, who had

It was well they did, for there was a wild whoop inside, the sound of scurrying feet, and the door opened with a bang. The Wilder boy was upon them. As it hap-pened, he was all alone in the kitchen. not the ability to awaken, or feel, a very

Sophia had never been in love in her life: no man had ever wanted to marry her. Now for the first time she felt her heart His elders had gone to evening meeting, stirred to a passion half maternal, half and the next younger boy and his sister had gone on errands. The Wilder boy in fraternal, for the two had much in com- had gone on errands. that hurried glance had recognized by some mon. Although the boy would not be coddled and she loved him for it, she used occult sense his own pumpkin. He waited for nothing, but sped to the charge. to watch him anxiously across the field.

The boys with the jack-a-lantern fled She made excuses for giving him some choice tidbits by telling him that she would like wild things. They snatched out the caudle and extinguished it as they run, otherwise have to throw them away. Someotherwise the bobbing fiery globe might times she used to long to stroke his little have betrayed their whereabouts. sunburnt fair head as he ate, but the boy Wilder boy was fleeter of foot than they, but they had plenty of cunning. Finally was no more to be stroked than some little fierce animal intent on his bone. The he passed them like the wind where they were hiding in his own corn-field with the Wilder boy, warped by circumstances into one abnormal slant, had but one purpose pumpkin between them. in life; to get ahead. To get ahead meant, with everyhody, in the little struggling

"Jest lay low," whispered one to the other, and they did. They, peeping, saw presently the Wilder boy returning muttering futile vengeance; they saw him go to the place where had flourished his great house, and the worst greed of all : the greed for money as money. There was no craving for luxuries or pleasures, which were known only by their names, never pumpkin, and they shrank within them selves when they heard his howl of despair having been translated into actualities, but when he discovered that it was gone.

Suddenly they saw, to their great as-conishment, the Wilder boy run violently there was the fierce instinct of the poor, ground always on the wheel of fruitless across the field toward Miss Sophia Bag labor, for money. The Wilder boy's eyes ley's corn, which showed a pale rustling patch some way beyond. "He's going to when he held a coin in his little grimy hand were something terrible. Sophia Bagley, though she herself had something tell her," whispered one boy, fearfully. "Had we better get out?" whispered

"You'd ought to think of somethin' bethe other. side money," she said to him, severely, one

"Hush !" said the first. "'Fraid he'll day. "What else is there?" he demanded, spot us when we cross the bare field. Bet-ter keep still. Lay low."

with wise, keen eyes on hers. Then he looked again at a great silver dollar which So they lay low, and presently the Wilder boy returned, bringing with difficulty Miss Sophia Bayley's great prize pumpkin, which he deposited close to the stem whence his own had been lopped. Two pairs of furtive eyes watched him. When he had she had just paid him, and the terrible "There's a good deal beside," said she "You ought to have an education." "All I want is money," replied the boy. He thrust the silver dollar into his pocket returned to the house two boys, slinking and there was an answering clink. When he left Sophia that afternoon he went to from shadow to shadow, sought the pumpkin and verified it. Then they went home the savings-bank and deposited his wealth. aghast.

The next morning there was a change in His father allowed him to save all he earned, since his work at home more than paid the weather, the wind blew from the northwest. All objects had clearly defined out-lines and could be seen from afar. Sophia On his way home, travelling across the Bagley, looking from her sitting-room winfield, the Wilder boy stopped in Sophia's corn-field to look at the prize pumpkin. That it was a prize pumpkin he had no dow, could plainly see the round gleams of gold among the withered stalks of her cornfield. "Those pumpkins must be bronght in this morning," said she, and again she thought of the jack-a-lantern, and the doubt. It was a wonderful sphere of vegetable gold. There was a monstrous pumpkin of his own growth in the patch possibility which had entered her mind the which his father had given him to cultinight before. The Wilder boy was out in the barn milking. He had crossed the field, in the dusk of dawn in his little thin vate, but it was not like this. He walked around it, he stooped over it, finally he knelt before it. It looked larger than ever. jacket, sternly holding back the shivers. He touched its glossy orange surface; it Sophia thought that she would set him to He work gathering the pumpkins. stood up, and looked away over the fields Finally she put her thick shawl over her

which seemed to be swimming in a blue head and went across to the corn-field, bending her head before the wind which mist from the bon-fires. He sniffed the burning leaves and the scent of apples and stiffened as with life all the friuged points grapes. Then he looked again at the golden vegetable among the ranks of dry rustling of her shawl. Her face gathered wrath when she saw corn. "Fifty cents," he said, to himself.

the empty nest of her great pumpkin. She blew home across the field to the barn. thing else from me." 'Some boys stole my prize pumpkin last

night," said she to the Wilder boy, "and He could face whippings with the courage As he said fifty cents the Wilder boy saw

she dismissed the idea. "They wouldn't some boys ain't any worse than other boys." and both arms were clasped around the She spoke with meaning. Sophia's par- great pumpkin. tiality for the Wilder boy was openly "It is a mercy we hadn't cut into it," said his mother. She had brushed his

criticised among the neighbors. "Well?" said Sophia, and again her hair with a hard old brush that morning voice rang like a pistol. for the first time for years, and that al

"Well," repeated the other woman,

you remember your prize pumpkin, how you thought it was stolen for a jack-a-

antern ?" "Of course I do."

house he could smell spice and roasting turkey, and onions, and stewing fruit; a special atmosphere of love and plenty "Well, it wasn't stolen for a jack-a-lansern, but that Wilder boy's was, and then seemed to surround it. It was a very clear -he jest cut across the field, and-got cold morning, the snow glittered like a yours, and put it where his was, and -took crust of diamonds, the sky was like a con-

it to the fair, and got the prize." cave of sapphire, the gold of the great pumpkin blazed in the boy's eyes. "I don't believe one word of it," said Sophia.

it's so."

"How do you know?" asked Sophia, suddenly, with keen eyes on the face of the

was bearing so painfully, as if he were looking above all the golden dross of earth. -By Mary E Wilkins, in Harper's Bazar.

have thought of taking your pumpkin-hid in the corn, and --and saw him," she

"I suppose one of the boys was your

your pumpkin," said the other woman, feebly

whose pumpkin he took? I think you'd go home and whip him, if you don't

"I'm going up to see Mr. Wilder, if you

ute you go up there and say one word about that pumpkin to Mr. Wilder, I'll tell him how your boy stole his," said she. The other woman gasped. "It was all in sport," said she.

pumpkin was a part of the Wilder boy's

"Then you'll tell a lie, and you a church member.'

sight better than tale-bearing in a bad

"Well, if you want to shield that boy, you can," said the neighbor, as she went

out. "Well, if you want to shield your boy,

came to milk the cow and do the chores, Sophia waited until he had finished, then she called him into the house. here; I want to see you a minute," said she

The boy stood before her small and blue with the cold, shifting on his chilblained feet, his stiff hands thrust into his pockets. a pathetic fringe hanging from one elbow of his jacket, a pathetic hole on each knee interloping upon more pathetic patches. He felt that his guilt was discovered, but he never quailed. Something untamable looked at her out of his blue eyes weakened and watery with the cold wind. The woman, who had in herself something untamable, recognized it as she had done before, but this time from the vantage point

"I'll tell father, and get a licking," said

"Well. maybe yon had better," said Sophia; "I don't know but you'll feel better afterward, but you've got to take some-The Wilder boy undoubtedly quailed.

ago.

Herr Krupp Dies Suddenly of Apo plexy.

Richest Man in Germany—He was Also ths Largest Individual Employer of Labor in the World and Greatly Extended His Works.

Frederick Ather Krupp, the great gunmaker and the wealthiest man in Germany, died suddenly of apoplexy Saturday, at his villa at Huegel.

Herr Krupp had been ill for several days and a report of his condition was telegraphed daily to his wife, who had been several months in Jean under medical treatment. Concerned by the latest dispatch regarding her husband, Frau Kropp left Jena Saturday, accompanied by Prof. Binswanger, of the medical faculty of the university there. The physicians succeeded in restoring Herr Krupp to consciousness, but their pa-tient soon relapsed into insensibility. He died at 3 o'clock. In the meantime, the directors of the Krupp works and Herr Krupp's solicitors had been summoned. They had a consultation, and caused a bul-letin announcing his demise to be posted at the works at 6 o'clock.

SUSPICION OF SUICIDE.

Herr Krupp's villa where he died, is several miles from Essen. The great gun-mak-er lived there in almost feudal fashion, and the place tonight is unapproachable, uobody being admitted within the gates except the police, the directors of the Krupp works, and the undertakers, and their assistants. Herr Krupp was not regarded as a bard master by his workmen. He established various institutions at Essen for their benefit and built hundreds of model houses on sanitary principles for their use, charging for them a moderate rental.

Moderate estimates of the fortune of the deceased place it at \$125,000,000. and his annual income during his recent years of prosperity at \$10,000,000. Herr Kruppmade great sums by supplying armor plate for the navy. Besides his iron works, and shipyards be had an interest in many financial enterprises, and recently had acquired extensive coal properties in connection with the North German Lloyd Steamship Company.

LARGEST EMPLOYER OF LABOR.

Frederick Alfred Krupp, son and successor of the founder of the great gun works at Essen, was born at Essen February 17th. 1854.

He has been at the head of the great manufactory established by his father, Frederick Krupp, since the death of the later in 1887, and had largely extended the works at Essen and the operations there. He was the largest individual employer of labor in the world, there being more than 50,000 men on his pay-roll.

As a recognition of his services and wealth, he was appointed a life member of the Upper House of the Prussian Landtag in January, 1897. For a number of years he was also a member of the Lower House of the Imperial Parliament.

The great gun factory, which has attained a worldwide reputation and has had for its customers 34 different Governments in all parts of the world, was established in 1810.

際 Texas has reduced its state debt in the Wherever there are ships or fortifications there are to be found the Krupp cappon. everywhere, that is to say, except in France, the one country which Krupp would not supply.

MADE BY LONDON EXPOSITION.

Ever since the Franco-German war he had been looking forward to the possibility of a war of revenge, and he vowed that he would never put weapons into the hands of

an avowed enemy of his country. The grandfather of the man who has just

pumpkin blazed in the boy's eyes. Some-how, carrying it, and being himself just twisted aside in his own growth to anoth-"I can't help it whether you do or not, er course, as the vine which had borne the pumpkin might have been, he began to look over the great golden sphere which he

other woman, who winced. "The-the boys who-who took the

Wilder boy's pumpkin-they would never

said.

boy?" "He wouldn't have thought of taking

"What difference do you think it makes

better want him to do something worse when he grows up."

ain't'' said the woman. Then Sophia faced her. "Jest the min-

"I'll tell of it, if it was all in sport; and what's more, I'll tell Mr. Wilder that the

pay.

"Telling lies in a good cause is enough

one," said Sophia Bagley, with the em-phasis of a philosopher.

yon can," returned Sophia. The next morning when the Wilder boy

of victory. "Look here," she said; know all about that pumpkin."

the boy, unexpectedly and defiantly.

been increased 50 per cent in 12 years. It is now \$1,100,000. Nebrasak has no state

same period from \$4,200,000 to \$715,000, Arkansas from \$2,000.000 to \$1,200.000, North Carolina from \$7,700,000 to \$6,200. 000 and Maryland from \$10,000,000 to \$2,

600,000, partly by disposing of its railroad investments. The debt of Kentucky, never large, has

debt. Neither has West Virginia nor New Jersey, which owed \$1,250,000 12 years of a savage, but when it came to the Illinois, Iowa and Oregon have no state debts which, having matured, are payable, but they have small outstandings obligations which have either not been presented for payment or have not matured. These obligations amount to \$18,000 in the case of Illinois, \$10,000 in that of Iowa and \$1,-000 in that of Oregon. The credit of all American States is unexcelled, the rates at which they can borrow money are low. The need of public improvements, buildings and water-ways is often urgent, and of the solvency of American States to pay for these there is no question; but the policy of all the States is to diminish, not to increase. the debts, and collectively the States have done so and are doing so.

Twelve Years. Remarkably healthy and creditable is the showing made by the States in their general reduction of debts incurred for public purposes says the New York Sun. The 45 States have collectively, a bonded

debt of \$200,000,000, and, although other debts, municipal and county, have been increasing largely of late years, State debts have, in most cases, fallen off. The State which has the largest debt-

Debts of the States.

General Reduction in Their Obligations in last

though she was very busy. Sophia had

sent her a great turkey. As the Wilder boy drew near Sophia's

contracted through obligations entailed by the Civil War-is Virginia, which owes \$24,363,000 in bonded debt. Twelve years ago its debt was \$31,000,000 and it has reduced the amount by \$7,000,000.

The financial credit of Massachusetts is so high that it has, since 1890, been pledged to sundry towns for local liabilities, the payment of the bonds issued for which is provided for by direct taxation. The actual state debt, which was \$28,000,-000 in 1890, is now \$12,400,000, a reduc-

tion of \$15,000,000. The debt of Tennessee, which, next to Virginia, suffered most from the Civil War, s now \$16,200,000. Twelve years ago it was \$16,600,000, \$400,000 more. During this period the population of the State has increased a quarter of a million.

Louisiana has a state debt of \$10,800, 000, Twelve years ago it was \$11,800,000, a reduction of \$1,000,000.

New York's present debt, insignificant when compared with its manifold assets, is \$10,000,000, an increase of \$3,500,000, compared with what it was 12 years ago. This increase is due, almost exclusively, to the canal debr, now \$8,500,000, author ized in 1895, and of what remains of the increase \$675,000 is for the acquisition of

Adırondack park lands. The debt of Alabama is \$9,500,000. of Pennsylvania \$7,800,000, a decrease of \$4,-000,000 in 12 years; of South Carolina \$6,-800,000. of Georgia \$7.600,000, a reduction since 1890 of \$2,400,000, and of Mississippi \$2,800,000.

tle grimy clutching fingers, and again that ously of a morning to make sure that the look of terrible greed came into his eyes. smoke was coming from Sophia's chimney When he got home he visited his own and nothing had happened to her in the night, then after a while, when nothing did corn-field, and examined his own largest happen, they got tired of it. Sophia, to pumpkin. There was no question but it all intents and purposes, managed the farm was inferior in size to Sophia's. "Fifty as well as her brother had done, and her cents," said he, again.

solitary estate did not seem to wear upon When he went into the house for supper after he and his brother had done the barn her. Sophia's dependent inclination of chores, there was not much to eat except body had never extended to her spirit. She bread and molasses and strong poor tea. After supper his father sat in the kitchen was never timid alone in the house, and she never kept the Wilder boy overnight "I husking corn with a sort of fury, as if somefor protection, as some people advised. how he would outstrip fate, and all the don't know what good that boy could do, unless I threw him at a burglar," said she. children except the two little girls and the baby helped, emulating his zeal. As for the mother, after she had put the children 'I'd enough sight rather have the broom.'

The Wilder boy was very small of his age, which was fourteen; h to bed, and washed up the supper dishes, e was the eldest of Henry Wilder's large family who lived on the back road. The back road ran and set the bread to rise, she mended with a knitting of her brows and a compression of her mouth, as if she would have rather parallel with the main one, and the Wilder house was the width of the field away from torn. But there was no retreat in her any Sophia's. Henry Wilder owned quite a more than in her husband. Both of them large farm of his own, and he had grubbed flew around their tread-mill of existence as thereon steadily all his life, but with small if it had been a race-course.

results. His family was large, and mis-That evening Sophia Bagley, sitting alone in her sitting-room sewing, was con-scious suddenly of a flash of light from the fortune seemed to pursue him. Once his barn was burned and no insurance. Twice he lost by fires all his standing wood which window. She looked up and saw a monwas just ready to cut. Once a tornado strous grinning jack-a-lantern with golden which harmed no other building in the vilcandle-light streaming from the grotesque lage hurled a great elm-tree onto the roof slits of eyes and the crooked bow of the of his house, demolishing a chimney. He had also a deal of illness in his family, and mouth. Then she turned her eyes upon her sewing again. Sophia Bagley was im once he broke his own leg. The Wilder pregnable to all such attacks of youthful wits. Even bean-shooters who bombarded boy, whose name was Henry, after his fath--but he was seldom called by it-was the village houses in the spring, to the very glad of the chance to do chores for Sophia Bagley. He had left school, and futile rage of nervous women, retreated dismayed by her utter calm. It was no had plenty of time aside from his work for sport at all teasing a woman who would his father, as the next boy was only a year not be teased. Sophia sewed away as if a younger and stronger than he, and Henry Wilder in spite of his small progress in life jack-a-lantern staring in at her window was an every-day occurrence; even a loud boyish whoop failed to move her rigid calm was a prodigious worker. The Wilder boy had ambition. He was small and puny, When she heard the retreating feet and saw underfed on salt pork and pie, his eyes were blue and steady, his month thin but firm; he looked as if he could split fate the flash of disappearing light she smiled a "They needn't think they little to herself. can pick on me, if I am an old maid," said she. Then she thought that it could not than that? "his brother called after him. can pick on me, if I am an old maid," said with his wedge of a face. He worked with possibly have been the Wilder boy. a fury which was pathetic. "I'm going to get ahead," he said to his mother, who was would never have been guilty of such a prank. Catch him wasting pumpkins that way," she reflected. Then she thought of not sympathetic.

"There she went on sewing them little

"Don't believe a cannon cracker would

"You can't," said she. "You can work all you are a mind to. Your father has her own giant pumpkin over in the east field, and she thought of the county fair, and how the Wilder boy was to drive her worked, and he used to talk just as you do. It ain't work which puts folks ahead, it's the Lord."

"Well, I'm going to work with the wind, anyhow," said the boy, who had a streak of poetry in him, though he had been a poor scholar. The teacher said that she did not feel as badly about his leaving school to go to work as she did about some boys. "He looks smart enough, and he is smart enough, too," said she; "but he brother had done so in his day. Many a thinks more about selling a few apples and earning a little money than learning anything in books.

Sophia Bagley approved of the Wilder boy. His vehement way of working pleas-ed her. When she saw him plunging foriously across the field to her barn through nail. a blinding snow storm, she nodded approshe considered, as she sewed bation to herself. When she asked him if he was tired, and he shook his head angri- tiring, completely worsted, conferred on ly, she admired him. There was the spirit | the situation with wonder. of a born fighter in herself, and she recognized it in another. When he would not bits of silk," said one. drink the hot coffee which she poured out for him on such a bitter morning that he start her,'' said the other. But Sophia, sewing beside the lamp in had stamped and swung all the way over the field to keep from freezing his hands and feet, she looked at him with actual en-

before him the coin. He felt it in his lit- if I can find out who they be, I'll cute them The Wilder boy looked sidewise at her

from behind the Jersey cow. He was very white. "Yes I will," said she. "I don't sup-

pose you know who they were." 'Some boys were up to our house with

a jack-a-lantern last night," said the Wilder boy, feebly.

"And you don't know who they were?" "No, ma'am."

"Well, I'll prosecute them if I find out," said Sophia. "I wish you'd watch out." "Yes, ma'am," said the Wilder boy, miserably. He had been brought up to rectitude, and this was his first offence. He had been led astray by the lust of wealth. Golden disks as large as full moons, and silver disks as large as fifty cent pieces had so dazzled his eyes that he had lost the narrow way. When Sophia had gone in-to the house he fairly groaned, but he had

no thought of retreat. Later in the day his brother who had

been set to gathering the Wilder pumpkins came into the house staggering be neath the large one which his arms could

carcely encompass. "Gee !" said he, "didn't know your pumpkin was so big. Bet you it will get the prize instead of Miss Bagley's. Don't believe hers can be as big as this. Funny thing, it was broke off the stem."

"That often happens," said his father. "It is a great pumpkin. I guess it will ake the prize. "Talk about anything of ours taking a

prize," said his wife. But she looked with awe at the great sphere of gold. "How much will they give if it does take the prize?" asked she. "Fifty cents," replied her husband, im-

pressively.

As for the Wilder boy, he cast one comprehensive glance at the pumpkin; then he went out to the barn. He had just finished gathering the Bagley pumpkins.

"No, I guess not," the Wilder boy called back

The county fair came off, and the pumpkin took the first prize. Sophia did not go; she was laid up with a cold. Her grapes took a prize, her pears failed that year, but she was two dollars with her sofa there in company with some superb bunches pillow.

of grapes, some remarkable speciments of pears, and—the pumpkin. "It will take the prize, sure," she said. She hrd an ambition of her own which gave a zest to life. The county fair was her Field of the the fair

"The Wilder boy took the prize for the biggest pumpkin," said the neighbor. "Well, I don't wonder. I knew it was 'most as big as mine," replied Sophia. "I wish I could get hold of those boys, that's prize had they brought home together with

a greater warmth of sympathy than over any other occurrence of life. Once Sophia all." had won a prize for a crazy-quilt. This year she was making a wonderful sofa pil-The neighbor looked uneasy. She had a

boy. It was Thanksgiving week, two days below of bits of silk no larger than her thumb "This ought to take a prize, too," fore Thanksgiving, when the neighbor came in another in again. She looked rather pale, but she out you behave yourself when you're with tiny bit. The boys outside who were re-tiring, completely worsted, conferred on was making cake, and the kitchen was you," he said to the boy. "Don't you go was making cake, and the kitchen was redolent with spices. "Look here," she

it," said she, in her peremptory way, and she looked as if ready to face a charge.

her peaceful sitting-room, felt presently disturbed in her mind. She laid down her work and reflected with bent brows. "You thusiasm. A boy who would not be cod-dled appealed to her as nothing else could do. She had coddled her brother Jonas a big pumpkin," she said, to herself. Then bad news, only you may be able to see that itens. He had fifty cents in his pocket,

mysterious terrors of the law, that was a different thing. He remembered what she had said about prosecuting the boy who had stolen her pumpkin. He waited, shifing involuntarily on his chilblained feet. His wild eyes were ever so little averted from hers.

"Well, I'll tell you what you've got to take from me," said Sophia. "You've got to take some warm red mittens I've been making, and a Thanksgiving dinner, and your living here right along with me after Thanksgiving, and—you've got to go to school, and learn that there's something in this world beside money to be sought after.

The Wilder boy stared at her. "If you don't, I'll pro-ecute you," she

said. The two continued to look at each otherr Finally the ruling passion in the boy quailed before the dominant material wisdom and love of the woman. His eyes fell.

"Well," said he, sullenly. He was very pale, and he could hear his heart beat. That evening the Wilder boy's father

walked into Sophia's sitting-room without any ceremony of knocking. "Well, he has knew him to steal before, and I shouldn't be surprised if he never wanted to steal Now, I want to know how much again. truth there is about what you want to do for him ?"

"It's all true," replied Sophia, defiant ly, as if she were accused of something shameful. "I've got money enough to do it with. That boy ought to be made something of."

"He wanted to leave school," returned the man, in a somewhat aggrieved tone. "I was willing for him to go longer, but all he seemed to think of was making money. He wanted to go to work, and earn money, but now he seems willing to go to school if you want him to."

"I've got enough to do it with," said Sophia, still defiantly; her face was quite red. When the Wilder boy's father went bom

across the field he reflected how at one time he had some thoughts of marrying Sophia, although he had never courted her. "She did mean it," he told his wife,

when he entered the kitchen. "She really seems to set by him, and she says she's got plenty to do it with." Well, if the Lord sends folks more chil

dren than he gives them means to support, I suppose they've got to let other people do responded Mrs. Wilder. "How much "I do you suppose Sophia Bagley is worth?" at's "I don't know," replied the man, sliort

ly. He sat down and began shelling corn furiously. Somehow old dreams about Sophia reasserted themselves, and he estimated mentally her worth in something besides the coin of the realm. "You look to cutting up and not treating her right,

redolent with spices. Look here, she to catching up and not creating her here, said; "I've got something to tell you, Sophia Bagley." "What?" said Sophia. She herself paled a little. "If it's bad news out with ed little soul. A sense of gratitude and a new ambition began to ennoble him. He realized himself with more respect.

predecessor.

Largest Tree in the World.

Monarch of Forest in California Measures 108 Feet in Circumference Near the Root.

Just outside the borders of the Gen. Grant National Park, in California, and United States Forest Reserve, there has been discovered the largest known tree in world. Prof. John Muir describes the tree as being "well preserved, well balanced, noble, and majestic," and gives the following dimensions, which he obtained by careful measurement: At one foot above ground the circumference is 108 feet at four feet above ground 98 feet: at six feet above iron. ground the girth is 93 feet. The tree stands in a nest of lesser giants of its own kind, is three miles from Converse Basin,

and directly back of Millwood. This newly discovered patriarch is of the species sequoia gigantea sempervirens, and belongs to a genus which flourished in North America and Europe centuries ago, but which was overwhelmed by the hardships of time, of change and elemental caepresent the genus, the sequoia gigantea, of which took up their permanent abode in

California. The massive, fluted trunk, straight and strong as a granite pillar. is covered with, rich, einnamon brown bark, almost two of 175 feet, where it is estimated to be eleven feet in diameter. The branches, cloth ed in dense foliage, radiate symmetrically from every side of the trunk, above this height, and form a thick, flat crown, while myriads of cones flutter like gay green tas-sels on the outer borders of the foliage masses. These cones are two and a half inches long, one and a half wide, each hav ing thirty or forty strong, closely packed rhomboidal scales, with four to eight seeds at the base. The most peculiar thing about these is that they are the smallest seeds produced by any of the conifers. The cones grow in clusters on the tips of the branches and in one instance 140 cones were counted on a branch only one and a half inches in diameter. If not harvested by squirrels, these cones will discharge their seeds, and remain on the trees for many years. This conifer produces more seeds than any oth

The blossoms appear toward the end of the winter, while the snow is yet deep, and look like thousands of bees on the ends of the brauches. The pistilate flowers are about three-eights of an inch in length. curious characteristic, indigenous to the species, is that if the top is cut off by lightning a new one will take its place, forming slowly, as with thoughtful deliberation, but eventually assuming the perfection of its

name when he started a little foundry of his own in 1810, and for many years he was barely able to get a subsistence out of the ownership of the establishment, and he, too, endured poverty for years before the tide turned in his favor.

In 1832 he had only nine men in his employ. He made good steel, good guns and other good articles, but there was so little demand for his work that he scarcely kept his head above water. Sometimes he could barely afford postage stamps.

He was unable to secure satisfactory recognition for his products either at home or abroad, but he took his steel and a gun or two to the London Exposition in 1851, and before it was over the British were calling him a great steelmaker and his fortune was made.

INDUSTRY EMPLOYED 50.000 MEN. The industry at the present time em-

ploys 50,000 or more men, who dwell in a city of their own that has been constructed for them by their chief. As long ago as 1895 there were in the cast-steel works at Essen over 3000 implements and machines. besides 458 steam engnes, with a total of 36,561 horse power. The length of the helting used in transmitting the power was over 40 miles. The 12 Krupp blast fur-naces on the Rhine consumed 2400 tons of iron ore and produceed 1200 tons of pig

In the statistical year 1895-96 over 1,-000,000 tons of coal and coke were consum ed, or 3650 tons a day, of which 3500 tons a day were the product of Krupp's own coal mines. The comsumption of water in the establishment at Essen is equal to that of Dresden with its 336,000 inhabitance. It consumes as much illuminating gas as the city of Breslau, which is a little larger than Dresden. Fifty miles of railroad track prices, until only two species survived to represent the genus, the sequoia gigantea, ratiroads outside, 36 locomotives and 1300 and the sequoia gigantea sempervirens, both freight cars are a part of the plant. There are 322 telephones in the establishment, with about 50 miles of wire.

Germany is the third greatest iron country in the world, and yet a twentieth of its entire output of iron ore comes from the feet thick, and is free from limbs to a height Krupp mines and is manufactured in the Krupp works,

> Hypnotized Woman's Appetite Exposes Brother's Deception.

A man under the name of Signor Venora, claiming to be a hypnotic scientist of high class, went to Emporia, Kan., recently and caused a sensation by advertising that he would bury his sister alive and let her remain buried for a week. The city refused him a license and in the courts he won. Before a large crowd Venora hypnotized his sister and buried her, to leave her buried for a week. He had put her in a grave, but there was room in the box for her to sit up. One night the policemen caught Venora dropping food down the shaft to his sister. They discovered that she was not lying down and was not hypnotized.

Turned Tables on Highwaymen

When at Jersey Shore Tuesday night, an Italian held up Engineer Frank Koons on one of the principal streets, at the point of a revolver and demanded his month's wages. Koons parleyed with him until two men, whom his assailant failed to notice, came up behind and knocked him into the gutter. In the excitement he got away.