

THE POEM OF ST. PETER AT THE GATE.

[Published by Request.] St. Peter stood guard at the golden gate With solemn mien and an air serene...

"Matter?" said Polly, "well, something is the matter though possibly you may think it of little importance. You remember Mother's Christmas celebration for some of the poorer families over at the foundry?"

room into masses of green, with flags, bright bits of lovely color, flashing at frequent intervals. Polly and Abbie were at the school by seven o'clock. They had hardly laid aside their wraps when a tray backed up to the door of the building and the driver brought in a huge box, nearly five feet square, and tied with broad white satin ribbon.

tion. Polly, who knew the Judge well, asked if she could help him. "Why, yes, Miss Polly," he answered, "take care of all this nonsensical stuff for me, and he untied the ribbon and wound it, in big loops, around Polly's shoulders. Then he slowly lifted the cover, and such a chorus of happy, little shrieks and sounds rose, as dozens and dozens of toy balloons of all colors floated upward, blue, red, yellow, white, some with short strings attached, some with long. Surely, there never was a prettier transformation scene than the room presenting, with the countless colored globes floating lazily upward or swinging lightly in mid-air.

Making Collar-Buttons. It may not seem reasonable to say that collar-buttons come under the head of staple productions, said the manufacturer, "but since they are at every man's fingers ends every day in his life they must certainly be included among 'articles in general use.' Now, here's the button we manufacture," he went on, holding up a card of his wares. "I've made ten of these buttons for every man, woman and child in the United States."

they are perspiring freely, scrubbing themselves all the while with small boughs cut from evergreen trees and bushes. They do not throw these queer towels away when they have finished with them, but leave them for the next set of bathers. Don't you think the American plan of washing one's self in a nice bathtub, with lots of soap and hot water, is a much cleaner and pleasanter one?

POLLY'S POUND PARTY.

Polly Osborn sat in a dark blue Morris chair pulled up before a crackling grate fire, and as Polly was small for her fifteen years, the big chair seemed not more than half occupied. Some master of deep concern was occupying her mind for a little while she turned mechanically, round and round.

OWED TO A HAMMER.

Will this win the pound-cake we all so desire And so leap to fame at a bound? An honest old hammer, I'm surely no shamer, I'll pound, pound, pound.

THE DANGER.

A lawyer while conducting his case cited the authority of a doctor of law yet alive. "My learned friend," interrupted the judge, "you should never go upon the authority of any save that of the dead. The living may change their minds."

A Queer Kind of Bath.

The Finns, who inhabit that part of northern Europe which is marked Finland on the map, have a way of bathing that American boys and girls would think decidedly funny and not very pleasant.

Localized Him.

A stranger wishing to play golf at North Berwick saw some one in authority upon the matter. "What name?" asked the dignified official in charge. "De Neufeldt," the stranger replied. "Mon," said the official in a tone of disgust, "we canna fash ourselves w' names like that at North Berwick. Ye'll start in the morn at ten fifteen to the name of Fairgusson."—Blackwood's Magazine.

Two Kinds of Foolhardiness.

Some of the men who laugh when a woman gets off a car backward would pull the muzzle of a loaded gun toward them when crawling through a fence.—Washington Post. Villains in the play have to be awfully bad in order to make good.—Daily (Okla.) Ardmoreite.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY IN THE CLUB.

One club entertainment greatly enjoyed on last Washington's birthday was a program representing social life in the United States from the time of the Dutch in New York down to President Roosevelt's time. One period was given each speaker and the time was limited to ten minutes.

FOR A PATRIOTIC LUNCHEON.

For table decoration use blue and buff, the colonial colors. Lay broad ribbon bands of these two colors across the white table cloth. Have a centre basket of white flowers tied with blue ribbon, and before each place a yellow rose tied with blue ribbon also. In your gift candleabra place blue candles with gilt shades. Suitable topics for toasts: "The American Woman," "First Daughters of the American Revolution in Our State," "The Stars and Stripes."

MENU FOR GEORGE WASHINGTON BANQUET.

- Blue Points, Celery, Olives, Radishes, Clear Green Tartlet, Lobster Farcie, Turkey Culettes and Asparagus, Potatoes Surprise, Roman Punch, Reed Birds or Duck, Watercress or Lettuce Salad, Cheese, Wafers, Fanny Cakes, Ices, Fruits, Bonbons, Coffee.

Apples Spread Moths.

Germany has found a peril in apples. They are the principal medium for the propagation and spread of the destructive house moth (Lycophaga domestica) according to observations recently made. The discovery was the result of a plague of moths at Gries and the villages surrounding it. The larvae were traced to the stores of apples kept in the houses and thence to the trees themselves.

The Demand for Metal Collar-Buttons.

The demand for metal collar-buttons is so great that the industry in pearl buttons has never been of much extent in this country. Little heed is given to the insignificant button that comes home from the laundry every week in your shirt-waist. And yet that unnoticed little article represents an industry of large and growing proportions. Fifteen years ago the laundries were compelled to use imported agate and pearl buttons for their customers' shirts, but these were expensive, and to meet the demand some one in Chicago introduced a tin button. Later, iron and nickel were also employed, but these innovations did not solve the problem of cheap laundry supplies, and at last, about six years ago, the bathroom opened out the notion of a wadded laundry button.

The First Thought.

"What would be your first thought if you were to strike oil or in some other way become suddenly wealthy?" "Well, I first thought would be concerned the shortest and quickest way to New York."—Chicago Record-Herald.