Democratic Matchman.

dian air.

at Washington

Bellefonte, Pa., May 17. 1907.

THE SORROW OF A SKIPPER.

"I hate to think of dyin'," says the skipper the mate: "Starvation, shipwrecks, heart disease I loathe to contemplate. I hate to think of vanities and all the crimthey lead to"--Then says the mate,

With looks sedate,

"Ye doesn't reely need to." "To conjer up the happy days what careless ha slipped by. I hates to contemplate the day I ups and left me Mary"-

Then says the mate, "Why contemplate, If it ain't necessary?"

"Suppose that this here vessel," says the skipper with a groan, "Should lose 'er bearin's, run away, and bum upon a stone: Suppose she'd shiver and go down when save

ourselves we couldn't"-The mate replies, "Oh, blow me eyes!

Suppose, ag'in, she shouldn't?'

- "The chances is ag:in up," said the skipper in dismay. "If fate don't kill us out and out, it gits us al some day. So many perish of ole age, the death-rate mus
- be fearful"-"Well," says the mate, "At any rate.
- We might as well die cheerful."

"I read in them statistic books," the nervou skipper cries,

- "That every minute by the clock some feller ups and dies.
- I wonder what disease they gits that kills in

such a hurry"-The mate he winks

And says, "I thiaks

They mostly dies of worry."

"Of certain things," the skipper sighs, "m conscience won't be rid.

And all the wicked things I done I sure shoul not have did.

The wrinkles on me inmost soul compel me of to shiver"-

"Yer soul's fust rate,"

Observes the mate; "The trouble's with yer liver."

-Wallace Irwin in "In Lighter Vein" in th May Century.

OTTAWA

The capital which now likes to call itself "the Washington of the North" was born of hostility to the Washington of the South. In the ugly old days when our grandfathers glowered at each other across the international boundary the British Government thought it needed a military route less exed to American raids than that by the St. Lawrence, which had been considerably disturbed in the war of 1812. Accordingly it offered to help the Province of Upper Canada to dig a canal from Kingston, on Lake Ontario, to the Ottawa River. The Province was not impressed with the idea of spending its money on such a project, and the Imperial Government had to do the work itself. It sent Colonel By, of the Royal Eogineers, to survey a canal, and when a little town sprang up at the end of it, the natural name for it was "Bytown." That name was good enough for over a That name was good enough for over a began to feel some stirrings of ambition; and when it became incorporated as a city in 1854 it had itself rechristened "Ottawa. At that time the question of a capital for the Province of Cauada was acute. Cauada then consisted of the present Provinces of Ontario and Onebec, which were governed by a single Legislature. This body had met at Montreal, but after the riots in which Lord Elgin, the Governor-General, was insulted and the Parliament House burned the Legislature took to the road and met alternately at Toronto and Quebec. The inconvenience of this arrangement led, in 1857, to a request to Queen Victoria to select a permanent capitol, and the next year she choose Ottawa. The rival cities grumbled, and a contest ensued, in the course of which the royal choice was more than once rejected. But in the end the natural advantages of the site and the persistency of the Government wore down the opposition, and Ostawa won a prize which, t turned out, was greater than anybody had imagined. For hardly had the new Government buildings been finished than they were called upon to accommodate, not a provincial Legislature, but the Parliament of a continental Dominion. Some glimmerings of Ottawa's destiny had not been lacking from the first. In the very year of Bytown's birth its founder had predicted that it would some day be the capital of Canada, and Sir John Franklin had made the same prophecy. Its situation was one that marked it out for such a distinction. It was as nearly as possible on the line between French and English Canada. If the two parts of the country were ever to be united, it was somewhere in that vicinity that the common capital must be laced. The balance between Upper and Lower Canada that made it necessary to put the capital of the united Province on the Ottawa River was like the balance between North and South that made it necessary to put the capital of the United States on the Potomac. As it happened, the site marked out by political necessity was one of superb natural advantages. A series of bold, wooded bluffs overlooked a mighty river which tumbled over a broken cliff in a cataract forty feet high. Below this Chaudiere Fall the Ottawa received on one side the Rideau, dropping in by an-other fall of the same height ; on the other the picturesque Gatineau. Above and below, great stretches of tranquil water open ed invitingly the gates of the forest wilder-When Ottawa was selected as the capital of the old Province of Canada a vast pile of Government buildings was begun. This was the critical moment in the town's history. Had these buildings been unworthily planned or unfortunately placed Ottawa's civic ambition might never have awakened. There was no grandiose city design like that by which Washington has been jacked up in spite of itself to the level of a great capitol. The street plan of Oitawa was and is commonplace. It was drawn without imagination to suit the immediate needs of a small provincial town. It took the local authorities a long time to realize that the place was ever going to be anything more. They have not fully assimilated the idea yet. But the Parliament Buildings have stood year after year as an example and a stimulus to civic pride, teaching Ot-tawa to appreciate her possibilities and lift-ing her eyes above the swirl of sawdust at crowning the boldest promontory that driveway, mile after mile, in a panorama of ever-varying beauty and interest. Pleas-

juts into the river, the great Gothic tower ure steamers loaded with excursionists of the Library of Parliament soars like a shared this amphibious boulevard with carmountain peak into the sparkling Cana- riages and automobiles. At last the canal Visible for miles around, it adds expanded into a lake, which the drive at once the touch of human distinction to crossed on a causeway before ending in the the natural sublimity of the scene. Like a five hundred acre Experimental Farm. European cathedral town, the city possess-ing this treasure is lifted at once above the dinary city park. It is a real farm, where commonplace. The Library of Parliament they raise crops of all kinds in sample is the dominating feature of the great mass of Government Buildings, forming three quantities, and at the same time it is so laid out as to serve the purpose of a public pleassides of a quadrangle, with its back to the ure ground. river and its front on a terraced court fac-

The "Government Drive" along the Rideau Canal is the Improvement Coming the city. There would be a fourth side, but business came too near, and a new mission's greatest exploit as yet. To build department block facing the Parliament it without neglecting the other works on Buildings, across the avenue hordering the hand, including the acquisition of some court, was made to conform with the businecessary land, called for more money than ness rather than with the official standards. the Commissioners had in a lump; so they When you stand on Parliament Hill you hit upon the ingenious idea of capitalizing have from several points of view that satistheir expectations. They issued bonds fying impression of completene-s that is so based upon their promised appropriations, rare on our rough-hewn continent. There is a finished picture; the raw edges of shabis a finished picture; the raw edges of shab-by neighborhoods do not obtrude upon it. In this respect Ottawa is incomparably spread over a number of years. They have always been good business men, you seemore fortunate than Albany. The New they have known how to make the most of York State capitol cost at least six times as their resources.

The glory of Ottawa is its wonderful much as the whole group of Government buildings at Ottawa; yet it is so elbowed variety and extent of water frontages. The and jostled by mean houses that it looks cheap in comparison. The Canadian build-ings are so spaced and isolated that they Ottawa, here as wide as the Mississippi, there as narrow as the Harlem, flows with an infinite complexity of rugged shore lines have some of the stateliness of the capitol along the whole length of the city. The Rideau encircles the greater part of the When the Parliament buildings were detown, leaping at last into the Ottawa over signed, practical men at Ottawa thought a cliff forty feet high. The Rideau Canal they were laid out on a scale of wanton exparallels at a little distance the curve of its travagance. But now the Government has river. The Gatinean enters the Ottawa on overflowed its accommodations. It has had the other side. Here at once is a system to build one new block outside of the orig- of civic adornment all laid out by nature, inal quadrangle, and it is paying so much and it merely remains to take advantage of rent for other quarters that it is preparing to build more. Across the canal is Major it. Three years ago Mr. Frederick G. Todd. to build more. Across the canal is Major the landscape architect of Montreal, pre-Hill Park, and on the other side of that it pared a plan to this end on the invitation State of Pennsylvania, with a narrow fringe in New York State adjoining, is hilly is proposed to raise a new range of Govern-ment buildings that will double the extent of the Improvement Commission. It provided for parks and boulevards along the

and impressiveness of the civic centre. whole city front of the Ottawa, except for At the foot of Parliament Hill are the a short space in the sawmill region. A cirlocks of the Rideau Canal, which might cuit was to be completed by a parkway reaily be called one of the natural features along the Rideau River, paralleling the of the place, since they were there, along with the hills and waterfalls, before there present one along the canal, and coming hack to the Ottawa by a boulevard from was any Ottawa. It is not often that a the Experimental Farm. Across the river there was to be another park at the mouth canal is one of the attractions of a city. Usually it is a disfigurement, which people of the Gatineau for the suburb of Hull. who are not tied to it by business try to and two or three great forest reserves were avoid, as they do the railroads and wharves. But the Rideau's long flight of stone locks, running up the hill from the river like a to be set apart within easy driving distance of the city. The magnitude of the plan rather staggered the Commissioners, who giant's stairway, is a decorative feature and a source of endless entertainment. did not see the use of looking so far abead. Still they are working, a little at a time, in People stand for hours on the bridges above that direction, and if they keep on, doing it, or on the masonry copings of the locks, each year the next thing at hand, they will eventually find Mr. Todd's scheme subwatching the boats lazily climb the stairs, while the skippers' wives nurse their babies on deck. There is nothing squalid about its surroundings. It lies between two stantially executed, although at a greater cost of money and effort than would be required to make the necessary reservations parks, an attraction for each, and a pernow. Already the wonderful scenery of manent refutation of the theory that busithe Ottawa River has been made public ness and ugliness must necessarily go toproperty at several points. At the lower

end of the city, opposite the month of the Gatinean, Rockliffe Park and its extension Unlike Washington, Ottawa is a comnercial town, and was a commercial town stretch for over two miles along a wooded before it was a capital. This fact has colbluff, lapped by the gently flowing river, which broadens here like an exquisite ored its entire outlook on life. Business has been first and attractiveness second. mountain lake. It would be impertinence to "improve" this wonderful scepe The great business of Ottawa is lumber. Fortunately that trade is one of the least with the trivialities of artificial decorarepulsive means by which money can be tion, and the activity of the Commissioners made. The logs shooting the chutes of the has been wisely limited to laying out drives Chaudiere at sixty miles an hour and then | and walks through the natural woods to rounding up like herded cattle into huge make the views accessible. bunches covering acres of river, thus buzz-

At the other end one of the greatest naing sawmills charging the air with the tang tural attractions possessed by any city in of fresh-cut pine, the neatly stacked piles of c'ean boards do not tend, like coal yards the world has been given over entirely to bald commercialism. The Chaudiere Falls, and slanghter-houses, to make life unbear- which for volume of water and sublimity Royal Engineers, to survey a canal, and able. They are not at all inconsistent of effect rank second only to Niagara among

A SONG IN THE NIGHT.

In silence of the middle night I wake to be with Thee; And through the shadows, as the light, Thy mercy smiles on me.

I talk with "hee upon my bed In meditations blest, And sweetly pillow there my head Upon my Saviour's breast.

I think of Him who knelt and prayed At midnight on the hill Then walked the sea His friends to aid.

And bid the storm be still. I think of Him who took the cup In dark Gethsemane,

And, gathering strength from prayer, rose up To die for such as me. I think of heaven, where never more The weary ask for night:

But ever-fresh'ning glories pour New raptures on the sight. So do I learn a parable, That is my darkest day,

When waves of sorrow 'round me swell, The storm shall pass away. Nor will I turn my head aside. Though bitter griefs be mine;

But say with Him, the Crucified, "Father, my will is Thine!" Thus shall I praise Thee while I've breath To sing Thy love to me;

-G. W. Bethune, D. D.

The petrolenm region that lies in the

and covered with forest, says Pearson's

Weekly. The older districts where the first

wells were made are now exhausted; the

any left behind

THE JERUSALEM CHAMBER.

A Celebrated Recess In the Wall of Westminster Abbey.

In the southwest wall of Westminster abbey a narrow recess shows an old oak door. Behind it is a passage leading into a small room with finely carved paneling called the Jericho parlor, which leads into the celebrated Jerusalem chamber. This chamber is of profound modern interest in that it was the scene of the 1611 and 1884 revisions of the Bible, in the latter instance the United States taking a most prominent part.

The Jerusalem chamber is also of great historic interest, being one of the few remains of the old palace of Westminster, which for centuries was distinct and separate from the abbey. Many rooms in the old palace had similar fanciful names, such as heaven, paradise and the Antioch chambers.

The Jerusalem chamber was built by Abbot Litlington in 1386 and was so named from the colored glass brought from Jerusalem which decorates it. The room is rectangular in shape, wainscoted with cedar and other woods, all of which were brought from the Holy Land. The ceiling and the upper part of the walls are frescoed, and here and there hang costly tapestries, which Henry VIII. placed in the choir of the abbey, but which have since been removed to this room. The splendid cedar mantelpiece was put up in commemoration of the marriage of Charles I., then Prince of Wales, with the Princess Henrietta Maria of France. The carved and wooden heads on either side of the mantelshelf represent the royal pair.

One of the frescoes depicts King Henry IV., who breathed his last within these walls in 1413. This event occurred twenty-five years after the room was built and was doubtless the first really important incident in its history, for celebrated, indeed sacred, as the chamber has since become, at its construction it was only intended as the withdrawing room for the guests of Abbot Litlington.

King Henry, with the uneasy conscience of a usurper and a superstitious belief in a prophecy that foretold his death at Jerusalem, decided upon a crusade to the Holy Land. The crusade, which the king deemed ample atonement for his sins, was, however, too long deferred. Preparatory to leaving on his journey to Jerusalem, while praying before the shrine of St. Edward the Confessor in the abbey, he was stricken with a mortal sickness, and, in the words of the old chronicle, "they for his comfort bore him into the abbot's place and laid him down before the fire in this chamber."

On coming to himself and learning that he was in the chamber named Hierusalem then said the king, "Laud be to thee, Father of heaven, for now I know that I shall die in this chamber, according to the prophecy made of me before said, that I should die in ready and died shortly after. The body of Addison lay in state in this room, whence it was borne at the dead of night to its last resting place in the chapel of Henry VII., the procession passing round the shrine of Edward the Confessor and the choir singing a funeral hymn. From the Jerusalem chamber also the body of Sir Isaac Newton was carried to the grave, the pall being borne by the lord chancellor and by dukes and earls.

GOLD THIMBLES.

10

Process by Which These Dainty Finger Caps Are Fashioned.

gold from which thimbles are made is bought at a United States subtreasury in the shape of snug little ingots brick shaped and two and a half inches long and one and a quarter inches thick. Each one contains of pure gold twenty-four karats fine metal of the value of \$600.

Gold of this fineness would be much too soft for thimbles, and it is alloyed down to fourteen karats, in which condition it is rolled into sheets of suitable thickness. In the first process of manufacture a sheet of this gold is run into a machine, which cuts out of it a disk in size sufficient to form a thimble, the same machine stamping this disk also into the form of a straight sided capsule with irregular edges.

Then the thimble blank goes into another machine, in which the die stamps it into its conical shape. Out of this machine it goes into an annealing furnace for tempering and from that into an acid bath for cleaning and the removal of the fire coating.

Then the thimble is put into a lathe to be turned down to its final shape and dimensions.

With repeated applications of the tool the operator brings the crown of the thimble into its perfect form and cuts down along the thimble's sides to bring the walls of the thimble to the requisite thickness, defines and finishes the smooth band that runs around the lower part of the thimble and brings into relief the rounded rim that encircles the thimble at its opening at once to give it a finishing ornamental grace there and to stiffen it. The glistening little gold shavings that he cuts off in these various operations all fall into a canvas trough.

It lacks yet the familiar indentations in its surface that serve to support the needle and to hold it in place. These the thimble maker now proceeds to make. It is done with a tool called a knurle. There are an end knurle and a side knurle. An end knurle is simply a handle having set in it a tiny thin revolving wheel of steel upon whose periphery is a continuous encircling row of little bosses or knobs corresponding in size to the little indentations to be made. The side knurle has in place of such a wheel a little steel cylinder of a length sufficient to cover that section of the thimble that is to be indented on its sides, this cylinder having knobs all over its surface as the end knurle wheel has around its edges and turning, like the wheel, on its axis, The thimble in the lathe is turning at 2,500 revolutions a minute, and it seems as if the application to its surface of any sort of tool with protuberances on it must leave there only a jangled and mixed up lot of irregular marks. But now, with the end knurle the thimble maker makes an indentation in the _enter of the top of the thimble and then proceeds rapidly and with perfect certainty with the end knurle to describe around that center

towns which a few years ago counted their inhabitants by thousands have scarcely The boring for oil was at first a very speculative business and was as deep as from 1100 to 2000 feet. A well when once tapped may flow only for a few days, in other cases for years. Some will yield but a harrel a day, others will force up as much

as 3000 barrels within the first 24 hours. Of all kinds of property the oil well is the most capricious. Its life is utterly precarious, its yield is a matter of pure speculation. As and industry it is but 40 years old, and its origin almost accident

A Colonel Drake who had a farm in Penneylvania, happened to notice a greasy, evil-smelling fluid floating on the rocks, oozing from crevices, and was led to discover that it lay beneath the soil in great quantities.

The Indians had long used it as a reme dy for rheumatism. The discovery led to the formation of a patent medicine company called the "Seneca Oil Company, which found the capital for Colonel Drake to bore the first well. No one then imagined that this natural medicine would soon become the cheap and popular light of the world and secure a fabulous fortune for its later possessors.

Soon, however, the enterprising Yankee began to exploit it as an illuminant. The oil was refined in a variety of ways; lamps were speedily invented for its special use, and then came a process for cheapening the production so as to place it within the reach of the masses.

The startling reformation that cheap oil has made in the social and family life of Hierusalem," And so he made himself hundreds of thousands can scarcely be realby those of nu that live in comfort. Poor people 50 years ago could pressed the belief that at some time in the not afford enough light of an evening to future these falls would "he restored to read by, and even in good-sized farmhoussomewhat of their former beauty, even es a few flickering candles were the only light. Now in millions of our homes the genial lamp invites to games, music, study and social recreation. Like railways and electricity, lamp oil has become a large civilizing and humanizing force. In Pennsylvania and New York States there are today nearly 3,000 oil-producing wells, and boring for new supplies is being constantly pursued.

And welcome e'en the night of death To wake and be with Thee! Petroleum.

and breakfast food, but all wrong in a river otherwise so perfect for fishing. canoeing, The Ottawa people are conand bathing. stantly complaining of the millmen's habit of throwing sawdust into the river-a practise forbidden by a Dominion law sixteen years old-bat they keep on doing it. Still there has been a marked improvement in this respect since the time when the stream was so choked that its beauty was utterly destroyed and the builders of the Interprovincial Bridge had to siuk a pier through sixty feet of solid sawdust.

The people of Ottawa were going ahead. making money, and paying little heed to the suffering beauty of their surroundings, when, ten years ago, Sir Wilfrid Laurier made a speech in which he referred to the Dominion capital as the fature "Washington of the North." The name stuck, the Ottawane liked it, and they began to look about to see how they could live up to it. All the attractions they had at that time they owed to nature and the General Government. But what the Government had done had been entirely in the line of supplying its own needs, and not with any cious purpose of beautifying Ottawa;

for Ottawa, again unlike Washington, was not under national control, but was simply a city of the Province of Outario, with its own Mayor and Council, like any other. There seemed very little probability that the local authorities would ever do anything worthy of the city, and finally the Dominion was induced to take a band. In 1899 it established a permanent Improve-ment Commission, and endowed it with a standing revenue of \$60,000 a year-not very much, but enough to make a showing when judiciously used.

The Commissioners took the greater part of the park system of the capitol and its environs, and began to develop a systematic plan of extensions. They were not experts in landscape work, and they made some mistakes, but fortunately the mistakes were not of a kind hard to remedy, and the factors of the problem pointed the way to its solution. As the funds were limited, it was necessary to make them go as far as to was necessary to make them go as far as possible, and that very necessity held the Commissioners to the true policy, which was to let the characteristic features of the place count to the fullest extent, and spend noney only in setting them off and making them more accessible. The characteristic features of the place were its waterways, and there the work began. Looking about,

like the good business men they were, to find where they could get the most for their money, the Commissioners saw a Govern-ment reservation two hundred feet wide along the Rideau Canal. The Government had no further use for it, and willingly consented to turn it over to the Improvement Board. Here was the material for a unique parkway, four miles long. The Commis oners took the old reservation in hand and laid out a winding drive along its whole length, through parteires of lawns, foliage, and flower beds. From the point of view of the landscape gardener there were some imperfections in the work, but the effect, on the whole, was one of singular charm.

Parkways are common enough, but this one was uncommon. The canal, which might have been turned by neglect into a

had luck alone.

though still utilized for their valuable water power," hat nobody has ventured to suggest any definite scheme for their reclamation. Like the Rideau Falls, which ought to be another superb embellishment of the city, they have no other present purpose of existence than to run sawmills. Of course that purpose will have to be recognized. It is probably only a Niagara that we (and from this point of view the "we"

includes both Canadians and Americans) can be induced to sacrifice a great water power for the sentimental object of saving a view. The Chaudiere Falle represent seventy thousand horsepower at low water and three hundred thousand at high water. That means too much to the commercial prosperity of Ottawa to he thrown away. If every drop of water flowing over the Falls can be used it will be used, and it is vain to think of interfering. But at present there is a great volume of water which is not used. The Falls are still a magnificent spectacle from the old bridge, crowded with trucks, which is the only point from which they can be seen to advantage, and there seems no reason why some attempt should not be made to beantify their surroundings without interfering with their commercial value. A sawmill is a factory, and it has been found possible in other places to make factories architecturally attractive, to surround them with parklike grounds, and to make their neighborhoods pleasant places of resort. There is a beantiful group of islands above the Falls at Ottawa which it is proposed to turn into water parks, connected by bridges. That

will be a charming attraction, but it will not give the citizens that view of the cataract itself to which they are entitled as long as the water is not needed for other purposes. People make long journeys to see waterfalls, and Ottawa ought to appreciate her good fortune in having a superb one within her own limits.

From every point of view the Canadian capital should be in the future an increasingly delightful place to live in. It will be a great manufacturing city without the grime of coal dust that makes life in most manufacturing cities insufferable. Within a radius of forty-five miles it has water powers that can develop the energy of nearly a million horses at low water, and over three times as much at high. That is more than will ever be allowed to be taken from Niagara. To be a clean, smokeless, electric city, with some of nature's most glorions spectacles freely displayed in a crystal atmosphere, seems to be Ottawa's fortunate destiny-By Samuel E. Moffett, in Collier's.

Much Simpler

At a county fair a man went up to a tent where some elk were on exhibition and stared wistfully up at the sign.

"I'd like to go in there," he said to the keeper, "but it would be mean to go in without my family, and I cannot afford to pay for my wife and seventeen children." The keeper stared at him in astonish ment. "Are all those your children ?" h

"Every one," said the man. "You wait a minute," said the keeper.

"I'm going to bring the elk out and let them see you all."

Lace Bark Trees.

There are in all about half a dozen lac bark trees in the world, so called because the inner bark yields a natural lace in ready made sheet form which can be made up in serviceable articles of apparel. Only four of these curious species of trees are o much practical value.

In its natural state the real lace brak is of a delicate cream white tint. It is prob-ably a kind of fibrous pith. When the outer bark is removed it can be unfolded and unwound in one seamless piece, hav ing a surface of a little more than a square ward. Washing and still bleaching give it a dazzling white appearance. The fabric is airily light. It is used in the West Indies for mantillas, cravats, collars, cuffs, window curtains-in a word, for every purpose that ordinary lace is used. In making up shawls, veils and the like, it is cus tomary to piece two sheets of lace bark to gether. Delicate and apparently weak as it is in single mesh, a bit of lace bark, if rolled into a thin string, will all but resist human strength to break it. Despite it practical use there is no essen

tial demand for lace bark. It has been used by the natives for hundreds of years and yet is comparatively little known to this day. A few specimens of lace bark articles exist in different countries of Europe. These were made hundreds of years ago, yet, although their age is considerable, they are said to be in a good state of preservation .- [Chicago News. Gazette.

The Old Plane Tree of Cos

In the island of Cos, in the Ægean Sea there stands, jealously guarded, a huge plane tree, measuring nearly eighteen yards in circumference. It is surrounded by a podium, or raised platform, breast high doubtless built to support the trunk of the tree after it had become hollow and weak from age. The lower branches are still well preserved, and have been shored up by pieces of antique columns, over the upper ends of which the branches have grown like caps in consequence of the pressure of their

own weight. Close by the tree is a solid marble seat, which is said to be the chair of Hippocrates, the father of medicine, and it is supposed that be taught the art of healing from that seat. He was born at Cos 460 B.C. This gives a clue to the age of the celebrated plane tree, which must be considerably more than 2,000 years old.-[London Times.]

-----Many a man will be surprised when he gets to heaven to find how large a place his little kindly deeds occupy in its history.

Scott's Worst Hour. It is not the foolish and ignorant who are prey to the most unreasoning fears.

Scott, who had grand moral courage and seems ordinarily not to have lacked physical courage, has left it on record that the moment of greatest terror in his life was that he spent while walking back through the fields after passing a day with Joanna Baillie at Hampsted. He met a rough looking man, a disreputable figure of the real jail bird. Scott hurried past him in alarm and was further disconcerted when he saw, by turning his head, that the man had crept through a gap to the other side of the hedge. Scott climbed through another gap, so that he was able to see the fellow groping at the bottom of the hedge. It was a stone or a cudgel that the ruffian was seeking, so that he might do murder. the novelist thought. And in that moment he experienced an agony of fear such as never before or afterward possessed him. The purpose of the man was quite innocent; he was merely picking up a bundle. Scott vaulted a stile with such thankfulness to escape that he was unconscious at the time that in grasping the wood he drove home a splinter three-quarters of an inch long between the flesh and the nail of one of his fingers .- St. James'

The Kaleidoscope.

Have you any idea what a wonderful thing a kaleidoscope really is? Did you ever catch yourself wondering how many different kinds of patterns could be formed by the little bits of colored glass which the instrument contains and which adjust themselves with such remarkable facility when the instrument is turned in the hand? A calculation has been made by a noted mathematician which we are sure will astonish readers. He shows that a kaleidoscope containing twelve bits of glass may be turned rapidly .enough to make ten changes a minute day and night for ninety-one years and fortynine days without exhausting the different combinations or the possibilities of getting a new figure on the next turn. If the number of pieces of glass be increased to twenty, a calculation shows that 462,880,899,576 years would be necessary to go through all of the changes of which it would be capable, the holder of the instrument turning

all the while so as to get ten changes a minute and working day and night those millions of years.

concentric rings of indentations, with the indentations all perfectly spaced from the center of the circi inference of the top.

You may see him do this, but you can't tell how he is able to do it. And then with the side knurle he makes the indentations in the side of the thimble, making them as well as he deftly presses the tool against it, indentations that run absolutely uniform and true and that end at their lower edge in a perfectly true encircling line.-Chicago Chronicle

City Servants Mustn't Snore.

"Excuse me," said the polite employment agent, "but do you snore?" The rosy face of the young girl fresh from the country turned rosier.

"Not that I am aware of, sir," she answered. "But what has snoring to do with my suitability for this post of chambermaid?"

"You are from the country," the man answered, "or you would understand. You see, here in New York we all live in apartments or flats and snoring is with us an objection, a grave objection, for it hinders sleep. Suppose your master turned in, worn out with a hard day's work and could not get to sleep on account of your snoring. That, if it happened night after night, would settle your hash though you were a very model of a chambermaid.' "I see," said the young girl thoughtfully. "I must look into this. "I'll let you know later whether I snore or not."

"Yes, I can't give you the place till I find out. If you do snore," the agent went on, "the vice may with patience be cured. Stop sleeping on your back; sleep only on your side. Your slumbers will then be as silent as a babe's. All city people have learned to sleep on their sides so as not to snore."-New **Orleans** Times-Democrat.

He Paid For the Boots.

According to an old French tale, a number of shoemakers argue the question. Which one of them is the most meekly submissive to his wife? To the one who is least so the host offers to give the best pair of boots in his shop. If any one claims the boots and fails to prove his claim, he must pay double price for them. The boots are claimed by a man who declares that he is not afraid of his wife. The man who offered the prize is somewhat taken aback by the man's confident manner. but he determines not to let his boots go without an attempt to save them. "The boots are stiff, I think," he said. "Take this grease with you to soften them, but put it inside your waistcoat, so that my wife may not see it."

"Oh, no," was the reply, and the grease was hastily pushed away. "No. my wife would be angry if I should grease my waistcoat."

Then the others promptly decided that he must pay double price for the boots.