

The Sweet Taffy That Came After the

with white side combs in her bair. "I see Mamie bas bleached ber hair again. Ain't it terrible?"

nie. "She asked me if I would do it if I were she, and I said 'yes.' Don't she look perfectly dreadful-and it's getting streaked already. You could tell in a minute it was bleached, the roots are so dark."

"Sure. I noticed that!" responded Katle. "And, say, did you see the rag of a dress she had on yesterday? And it's fit-gracious! Looked perfectly dreadful, didn't it?"

"Well, she wanted a pattern, and 1 gave her the one of that dark blue silk I had three years ago," said Katle.

"You did?" "Yes, I did."

"Oh!"

tinued Katie. "Did you get your optics on that?"

"Yes."

"Where did she get it?"

"Ob. down at the Moody's. I helped her pick it out." was Katle's reply. "Why. why. here comes Mamie now." she continued. "Hello, Mamle, you dear, sweet thing! How nice you look -too darling for anything!"

"Yes, indeed." added Jennie. "You do look perfectly charming. Say, let's all go and get some soda." And the three friends walked away together. - New York Times.

THE PEANUT.

It Starts Growing In the Open, but Finishes Under Ground.

Most people of the north suppose that peanuts grow, like potatoes, on the roots of the vine. Others with equal confidence state that they hang from the branches like pea pods. Both are right, and both are wrong. The peanut starts in the air and sunlight above ground in the shape of a flower growing at the end of a long tube. After the fall of blossoms this tube, or peduncle, elongates and bends downward, pushing itself inches into the ground. If for any reason it cannot do this it dies in a few hours. But if it succeeds in burying itself to its own satisfaction the ovary at the base of the peduncle slowly enlarges and forms the familiar pod, which is therefore dug out of the ground.

Scattered over the roots of the plant, however, are numerous warts or tubercles. in which, by the aid of a good microscope, can be seen myriads of albute organisms. These bacteria-like bodies, though they get their living from the plant, contribute materially to its supporting by collecting nitrogen from the air and holding it in storage, so to speak, supplying it to the plant as need requires. These wonderful little storehouses often contain, by analysis, a greater supply of this indespensable fertilizer than the surrounding soil.

On one occasion superstition and a guilty conscience caused a practical joke to have fatal consequences. The incident arose through one of the sailors. a Norwegian, boxing the ears of the ship's boy for the aforementioned all were knocked down except the crime of whistling on the weather bow. Not unnaturally the boy was annoyed to be "knocked into a cocked hat," and determined to pay the Norwegian out. Aided by two other sailors, a white shirt and some string, a very presentable "ghost" was arranged in the foc'sle on the night the Norseman was on watch. He was to be allowed only a glimpse of the "spirit" on entering the foc'sle, and it was then to vanish from view, being jerked by means of a string underneath the bunk of one of the jokers. Everything was ready, and the three conspirators lay in their bunks awaiting their victim. Unfortunately they all fell asleep, to be suddenly awakened by a loud cry from the Norwegian. He stood gazing at the "ghost," the dim light shed by the lamp falling on his ghastly face. The three were about to call out to him when he spoke. "No, no," he cried, "I did not mean to kill you. Morgan! Oh. mercy, mercy!" And he rushed madly from the foc'sle. Terrified, his shipmates followed him, but as they reached the deck they saw the Norwegian throw himself into the sea.-London

The native country of the peanut has tong been a matter of dispute, but the department of agriculture states that the weight of evidence seems to be in added to the four other plants of great importance that America has given to the world-namely, cotton, Indian corn. tobacco and the potato.

The Literary Squire. Traveling luspector (cross questionwho wrote "Hamlet?"

Timid Boy-P-p-please, sir, it wasn't

ing to his host, the squire of the vildage)-Most amusing thing happened today. I was questioning the class and asked a boy, "Who wrote 'Hamdet?' and he answered tearfully, "P-p-please, sir, it wasn't me."

Squire (after loud and prolonged taughter)-Ha, ha! That's good, and I suppose the little devil had done it all the time .- London Answers.

Knocked Into a Cocked Hat. The expression "knocked into a cocked hat" is familiar to every one, but perhaps its origin is not so generally known. Cocked hat was a variety of the game of bowls in which only three pins were used, set up at the angles of a triangle. When in bowling tenpins three at the corners the set was said whence the popular expression for depriving anything of its main body. character or purpose.

Perfect Happiness.

"Do you really believe there is such a thing in this world as 'perfect happiness?'

"Of course, but some other fellow always has it."-Philadelphia Ledger.

The Distinguishing Mark. "How do you distinguish the waiters from the guests in this cafe? Both wear full dress. "Yes, but the waiters keep sober."-

Cleveland Leader.

The Jokes on the Men. Mrs. A .- Do you ever read the jokes in the newspapers? Mrs. B .- Only the jokes on the men-the marriage notices, you know.-Boston Transcript.

The only wealth which will not decay is knowledge.-Langford.

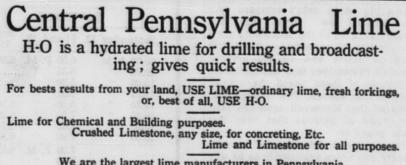
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