THE SONG OF THE WORLD.

There's a song that the hammer is singing A ringing and wholesome song. Of the day's bread won, Of the day's work done Of a mold well cast

In the fiery blast-

And never one blow gone wrong There's a song that the engines are singing. A deep and echoing song. Of the whirring wheel And the burnished steel,

From the lightest spring To the mightiest swing-And never a stroke gone wrong There's a song that the sails are singing,

Of the prow that braves The raying waves Of storms outsailed, And of ports safe hailed-

A humming and a catching song.

And never a helm gone wrong There's a song that the world is singing. A resonant, splendid song: Of its work, work, work, Of its battles won.

Of its labors done-And of Right that masters Wrong Isabel Bowman Finley, in St. Nicholas.

OUITTERS.

To Oncoast came a Good Samaritan disguised behind an unobtrusively impressive waistcoat and wearing pearl-gray spats—a trifle conscious of his power to do kindly deeds, as Samaritans often are, but still at bottom a simple, sincere fellow, and possibly Claverly's staunchest

He stayed the night, and in the morning, while they waited for Miss Claverly to give them breakfast, he offered Claverly a place in charge of traffic on the Oregon-Arequipa Overland, standing, back to him, at a window meanwhile. Except for that, he betrayed none of the ssment he felt.

But Claverly understood, and, changed as he was, he became for a moment his old lightly scornful self, now that the ultimate choice was offered him. His shoulders, that had seemed to hang so heavy, took on their old easy square-ness. His somber features lighted, and the old insolent challenge leaped up in his eyes. He looked as tall and clean

and young as he had ever been. He laughed, and the Good Samaritan had the grace to redden. Then Claverly

turned serious. 'So it's come to that?" he mused. "Jim, why should a man go away from every-thing"—he glanced about the breakfastroom, cheerful with morning sunshine and massed goldenrod and asters-"everything like this, to boss ore-road traffic in some unheard-of place?" He had never what dryly. lost a trick of looking his man or his situation square in the face. He did it

Jim Hoxsey looked just as squarely back, and under his roly-poly pinkness and manner the real man showed. There was no distinction in him, as there was in "Rather," said Claverly.

"Rather," said Claverly.

"Rather," said Claverly.

The girl glanced up at him, and turned the consideration of his.

For a moment the eyes of the two men fought. Hoxsey's fell, and Claverly smiled at him with less of mockery. "You're at him with less of mockery. "You're the same good old chap still," he said. "I'll give your offer what they call my serious consideration.

"Do," Hoxsey urged very serious himself. "It's a great opening."
"And openings," Claverly mused, his smile all bitterness now, "lead to holes.

And holes are convenient places for disposing of a certain sort of men.' Hoxsey reddened again. "Bill," he said, "you know you can always have anything I've got. But what are you

going to do? You can't go on this way."

Claverly shrugged his square shoulders, for an instant, into abject weariness. He looked like an old man. "What?" he agreed. "Whereas your solution of the annoying problem, Jim, seems ideally simple. I'll think it over."

For the third time Hoxsey reddened, and turned away. Prosaic as he was, he suddenly felt the element of tragedy that underlay the situation.

If Claverly felt it too, he gave no sign. "It's a way men have, Kiddie," he told her, straightening up with his old in-dolent recklessness. "Give Jim his coffee before I hurl him at his train. He wants to get away; don't you, Jim?"

wretched Samaritan looked more ill at ease than ever, but no less resolute. Wire me the minute you decide," he mumbled. "It's a great opening. Im-

Miss Claverly gave him a sidelong glance out of inscrutable eyes. "Are we talking," she asked, "of volcanoes

mething of that sort," said Claverly, somber again; and Hoxsey, solidly pros-perous and prosaic though he was, felt a quick construction in his throat. They looked such a pair of thoroughbreds to have a thing of that sort hanging over

"I'll take the day to think it over, Jim," said Claverly. "I'll wire you to-night."
"And I," Miss Claverly said to Hoxsey,

"will wait with you for enlightenment." Once again Hoxsey came as close to shuddering as a plump pink banker can. He had not realized, till then, how uglily the affair was complicated by the fact that Claverly had a sister like Rose

The banker went back to his bank, and Claverly out to another day of shooting which held no interest. The world was out of tune for him. The zest was outdoor life and sport. Oncoast had changed

He had come down there expecting rest, and had not found it. It was not in the autumn woods, where his shaggy terriers, wild with unaccustomed freedom, dashed at random through the crashing leaves, recklessly flushing partridges in a way to wring a sportsman's heart; nor it long ago?"
on the brook-sides, where they tore at muskrat holes, sobbing and slavering, and here," she said. And Claverly obeyed emerged reluctant, unrewarded save by

Rest was not for him on the russet marsh, stretched out unendingly from the mowing-fields and orchards to the far rim of the sea. He had sat there in his blind through sunrise after solemn sun
marsh, stretched out unendingly from had been his tower of strength from her and her scorn deepened. "And you," she said, "think of going! You didn't punch Jim Hoxsey's face this morning!" blind through sunrise after solemn sun
going to preach. But you ought to have, With one quick motion she threw him

of golden light where rosy cloud-flecks floated serenely high, and the crisp October air rustled in the sedgy borders of creek and pondhole, and bitterns in pairs and trios, homeward bound from nights of stilted fishing on the brim of tidal drains, swung by overhead, majestic in measured sweep of wing and ludicrously awkward in helpless length of trailing leg. Through it all he had sat dully or impatiently indifferent, according to his expensive word own across high. to his momentary mood, gun across high booted knees, a foot swishing listlessly through the black marsh water under

hard and narrow seat. Even when out of the northeastern distance floated the most moving of outdoor sounds, the melancholy whistle of unseen flights of yellow-leg, he had rarely raised his head or pursed his lips and tried his skill at tolling call in answer. The zest

was gone from outdoor life and sport. But he got through this day, as he had through so many others, and evening came at last.

It was an uneasy night. A storm was the outer beach droned a heavy, unceasing diapason to the minor piping of the wind in the chimney-tops.

Miss Claverly sat with her chair drawn

up before the fireplace, her slippered feet crossed to the blaze in one of the imme morial attitudes of women, a hand shield-ing her eyes and face from the glow. can do.' They were alone together in their old house above the marshes, Claverly and

Claverly, uneasy as the night was, paced room,—it was immense in the vague fire-light,—smoking and looking at the hand that half hid his sister's face from him. trust myself."

The girl laug away," she said.

It was a frail-seeming hand and wrist, enough the strength that could show in mind, her unbreakable reserve that passed outwardly for shyness, had long been the most satisfying of women, to the eye and to the imagination, as in her rarely speechful but unfailing friendliness she had been the most under-standing of companions. They responded to each other's wearily moods like strings tuned in the strong "You

unison of an octave. But that night everything was out of tune. More than Oncoast had changed

he spoke: "Kiddie, this is no good. I'll

go back to town tomorrow.' The girl, uncrossing her feet, smothered a little yawn. The fire was sleepy-hot, and she had tramped a score of miles that day. "It seems pretty good to me," she said lazily. "Something wrong with said lazily.

you?" Claverly stared at her. Then his little smile, so bitter, so incredulous, and yet so very likable, rested on his lips. "Nothing more than usual," he answered some-

The girl caught the shade of emphasis.

"I don't know why I spoke," said Claverly, "except you asked me if any-thing was wrong." The last words held a quick, savage mockery that made his voice sound high and strained.

The girl, without looking up, stretched out her hand, and after an instant's hesitation Claverly took it, and quieted too. "Now tell me," said his sister.

And a sudden impulse to talk to her, to say out to some one what a score like Hoxsey more or less vaguely guessed or knew, and dared not speak of, swept Claverly away. He had walked alone for months, and she was the only living creature of his blood. His voice turned colorless. "They fired

me from the Atlantic & Northwestern a year and a half ago," he told her. "I went to the N. & S. Six months ago they "I say," the girl broke in, entering to them in adorable sleepy rosiness, "you seem tremendously in earnest about something."

went to the N. & S. Six months ago they fired me there. I got a job with a jerk-water mountain line—they call it the Missouri-Trans-Pacific. They were fighting for air right then, and they snapped me up without asking too many questions. I used to have a reputation for doing the impossible with traffic, you know. It's gone now. And you ask me if anything is wrong?" Again his voice

pitched sharply up to mockery.

The girl patted his hand. "Just one more thing to tell me, Billy," she said at last. "Railroads aren't in the habit of -firing-men like you without a rea-

Claverly wrenched his hand away "Can't you guess why?" he asked. "It's a very old story, Kid. Hundreds of men have told it at Salvation Army meetings, with a cup of coffee and a sandwich in prospect for the telling. They call 'em 'experiences.' Want to hear my 'experiences?' Well," he flung at her, "I get iences?' drunk. I"-he gave the phrase a curious flat emphasis, as if he quoted some one else—"I get drunk on the job."

The girl seemed to flame into quivering life, though she sat unstirring in her chair. "You, Billy? You doing that!" She said no more, but that little was enough

"Whatever you say," the begged her, 'please don't preach at me.' Instantly the girl's tense body relaxed

in cool indifference. "It does seem to be up to you," she said. "What are you going to do about it?" Her self-control sent a pin-point of irritation pricking at Claverly's strained nerves. "I suppose my quickest way out," he told her, "would be to get drunk

"Mm-hmm," breathed the girl, lightly scornful. "I dare say. But afterwards?"
"Get drunk again," suggested Claverly.

The girl stiffened again, ever so slightly. "But," she asked deliberately, "after one tired of—getting drunk?" She pushed it too far. Claverly's irritation vanished as if fire had seared it from him. "Good God, Kiddie! he cried, 'don't you suppose I got deathly tired of

here," she said. And Claverly obeyed her, nestling on the floor beside her chair just as they had done, boy and girl together, a hundred times before. She had been his tower of strength from her behaviored.

clutching at a hope, "you haven't been-doing it-since you've been down here?

So it can't be a regular habit?" "It's worse," said Claverly. "It's some-thing wild inside me that goes mad for excitement and goes and gets it from the

booze, and then disappears for weeks or months."
"So," said the girl—"I don't know much about such things—but you're what the doctors call a periodical drinker?"

"Drunkard," said Claverly brutally, the word they use."

The girl did not flinch. "Never mind words," said she. "And keep still, any-way, for a minute. I want to think what

we can do about this.' There's mighty little can be done, "for a man that's down said Claverly, and out. His sister drew away from him. "Out?"

"Out," Claverly repeated indifferently.
"Billy Claverly," his sister cried, "you talk like a fool! You're not 'out' as long as you're alive. Nobody ever had a bigbrewing to the eastward, and the surf on ger chance. Look at the friends you've the outer beach droned a heavy, unceasing the got. You have—'away with you,' like Tommie. Everybody likes you,loves you. They'll work their heads off for you. And you make them trust you. Look when they put you on the A. & N., and you not thirty-five. Don't talk about being 'out,' when everybody knows what you

Claverly stopped her. "Not any longer, Kid," he said. "My reputation's gone, I Kid," he said. tell you. And my friends. I can't find any one to trust me now. Why," he restlessly up and down the shadowed said suddenly, "I don't believe I even

The girl laughed impatiently. "Talk

"I don't," Claverly repeated stubbornly. "I cant. Listen! When I went on that and the face itself was the most delicate | Trans-Pacific junk-heap I wanted to make of New England ovals. But he knew well good. God only knows how much I wanted to! It was the only time I ever them. To him, the girl, in her long, fair really tried. And—I couldn't. It was the slimness, her spritelike poise of body and same old story. No, Kiddie; I've failed same old story. No, Kiddie; I've failed over a vacant cigarette.
too many times. I tell you, I can't trust Claverly slid down into his chair,—like myself again.'

The girl drew away once more. "I'd hate to admit it, anyway, if it was me," she told him bluntly.

"I'm past all that," said Claverly "You were right," she resumed then. 'About going away, I mean. Oncoast is no place, the way you're feeling. You want work—the hardest kind. See," she He halted abruptly and tossed his cigarette-end on the logs. He watched it flare up and shrivel to a cinder before he spoke: "Kiddie, this is no good like." Over in that corner where it's hottest, there's a man just sizzing for something to happen. That's you, Billy. You watch. He'll bust up in a minute. There! And you're the same Verification. had your bumps. You've stood it all you could. To-night you're busting up. And to morrow you'll go back, and you'll get

That word was unfortunate. It woke in Claveriy the fever, the fierce need, that had been consuming him. "Another job!" he cried, and flung his cigarette away and jumped to his feet. "What do you know about it?" he demanded. "What do you know about getting a job? You're right-I want work the hardest way. It's my only chance. It's all there is in living—for me, anyway. Just work She laughed then, Claverly's own old and the drive to get through it. But getlaugh, full of the easy insolence of one ting it! Being a burden and a bore to whom life's small troubles touch but friends who hate to tell you they have lightly. "Been getting your bumps?" she nothing for you. Try it once! Try sit-asked. "I thought so when you and Jim ting in ante-rooms with office-boys who know as well as you that the boss don't want to see you. Try having men hurry you through interviews, very anxious to "I haven't a notion what you're driving at," he lied. "It is a great opening for any one. South America is the country could I guess it was something real?" melt away before you, cocktail hour at Then, quietly enough: "Want to tell me? the club, for fear you'll strike some of I suppose you do, or you wouldn't have them for work. They'd rather you struck spoken about it." them for a loan. Try dining by yourself when you don't want to. Try some of that," said Claverly, "and you'll know what being down and out means. I tried of its amusement in it. to for six weeks before I came down here. And now you tell me to go back and try

some more of it!" And then all at once she laughed, no lazily or insolently, but a warm purr of sound such as Claverly had never heard before. It caught him by the heart. In one of her rare impulses of tenderness she flung an arm round his neck and kissed him lightly on the forehead. "You're a tragic goat," she said, "and I'm another. We aren't the first that have gone through this sort of thing and won out. To-morrow's a new day. Snuggle your head down on my knee and smoke one cigarette while I read your future for you in those coals. Then I'm going to bed, and you are too." And Claverly, comforted by her steadiness, as he always

was, lighted up.

The girl just smiled up at him. "Spit it out, Bill," said she, in the kennel-paddock-flavored speech of vouth she still sometimes fell into. "It does you good." The kindness of her, and the steady cheerfulness, were too much for Claverly The revulsion came. He flung himself down beside her again, and buried his face in her skirts. "I'm sick for work," he said. "If they'd only give me one more chance! I may have learned my lesson. But—no, they're right. They couldn't trust me. When it gets a man as its got me, there's no more chance for him except—" He raised his head and looked at her squarely. He had to tell her sometime; it might as well be now.

'Except," he said, "the kind of chance im Hoxsey offered me." She looked at him questioningly. "Jim offered you a chance? "He came down just for that," said Claverly. She smiled. "That's like Jim, she said. "Where is it?"

Claverly did not smile. "Peru." she echoed, a bit startled.
"That's a long way off. But, still I musn't kick, if it's a chance. You must take anything that's—square." She gazed at him again, puzzled by his attitude.
"Jim's a good friend, so it must be all right. But why do you look so—so queer about it? I should think you'd be glad.

The bitter, incredulous smile curled Claverly's lips. "I ought to be glad," said he. "It's my last chance." Then his self-control gave way. "Kiddie," he his self-control gave way. "Kiddie," he cried, "can't you understand! It's--quite the British thing they offer me. A chance to save my face, and theirs, in the Lost Legion. 'Little black sheep who've gone astray—baa-aa-ah!' "he quoted. "But they're friendly to the last, if they are tired. South America is ever so much more-more ultra, nowadays, than mere

I am.

Australia. Then she understood him. "So," she aid, slow scorn gathering in her voice, "they want you to run away? The cads!" The very prosperous and moderately self-respecting gentlemen she spoke of might have been the spawn of earth under her feet. She looked down at her brother

rise, while all the eastward was a flood told me before. It's bad, Still," she said, from her and stood tall and straight be- voice still colorless. "I have a notion, fore him, and incredibly remote. "I hate you," she drawled. "You aren't my broth-I'd die before I'd quit. Before I'd run away I'd take the lit-tlest, mean-est

Her anger at himself was the last thing he had expected. But she spoke the challenge of blood to blood. He rose to his feet, angry as she was, and as cold. "Nevertheless," he said, "I shall go to Peru. I have sense enough to know when am down and out, and pride enough-" She did not look at him. "I'd never let them make me run away," she said. "I'd

start at the very bottom."

A smile that was half a sneer curied Claverly's lip at the inane little phrase, drudge of the barren moralists. It set there and hardened, and his eyes took on the vacantness of introspection. He was looking back to the beginning.

The beginning was a springtime morning in the city, when Claverly closed a door marked with his name and stepped across a big, cool-smelling room, as straight and nonchalant, as arrogant in carriage of chin and shoulder, as he had been under the fire of the prying eyes, friendly but still prying, outside its shelter. But inside him waves of nausea at life, and all it had done with him and he

with it, beat and surged sickeningly. He sat down at his desk, and even in his misery the little habitual smile, half bitter, half incredulous, touched his lips, It was his desk no longer. That morning, an hour ago even, it had been his.

Now he had none.

His glance rested idly on a desk-clock, a toy in gold and leather, his sister's gift to him on his last birthday. Its tiny pointers marked the half-hour. At pre-cisely twelve minutes past, he knew by some silly trick of recollection, the Chief's summons had come. All that had happened in less than eighteen minutes by his sister's foolish clock. Men often spent as long as that

wise his no longer,-and those arrogant shoulders sagged like an impotent old man's. Outside, where eyes watched, friendly but prying, to learn what dose had been administered and how he swallowed it, straight-backed indolence had been easier than any other thing. But here, alone— He rested his chin on his palms, propping his elbows on the chair-arms, and gazed at the orderly disorder where the clock, remorseless in its miniature fashion as devouring Time himself, ticked away more minutes. Never before had it ticked away so many

idle ones out of a working day. But this was not a working day for Claverly. He slipped down lower into the massive office chair, and the implications of his situation were revealed to him in one mercilessly swift flash of intelligence. Its very swiftness left the black sea of dizziness rolling in its wake again. He covered his staring eyes with a hand. But suddenly he raised his head. A sob, quickly choked back, had caught his

ear. He stumbled to his feet and swung around. He was not alone, after all. From her desk by the window, a stenographer, a slip of a girl, trim in business woman's black, rose too, more panic stricken than he had been. "Mr. Claverly," she stam-mered, "I—tried not to, truly. But—but —oh!" she cried, and sobbed again.

Instantly Claverly was his masked self, clean, tall, young, with thoroughbred ease and strength in every turn of cheek and jaw and shoulder and flank, with a challenge in his eyes and in the smile, wholly likable for all its incredulity, that just touched his lips

"Miss Helm!" he said. "Still waiting? I shall have no more work for you this morning." A moment, while the smile touched his lips more strongly, with more of its amusement in it. "Nor on any other morning, I am afraid."

The girl's eyes opened wide. She step-ped swiftly toward him, and for an instant it seemed that she meant to grasp his arm with those groping fingers of hersimploring hands they were, quite literally. "Mr. Claverly!" she cried. "It can't be as bad as that? They'd never let you leave-the road!"

Claverly's smile became frankly amused and tolerant. "Oh, no," he told her. "The road is merely—firing—me."
She did not sob again. Her lip quivered, and then, as something in her answered to the insulting disdain in him, the mothering creature became all at once a vibrantly enduring thing. Claverly, watching her as she leisurely gathered up her work to leave him, was proud of her. Women were always doing things like that. Eyes looking straight out un-troubled, chins up and never a soft muscle

tightening, they said, "Good-by, then, Mr. Claverly?" just as conventionally as she was saying it. But the moment was too crowded with real emotions for long contemplation of abstractions like the eternal futile game ness of women. She was hardly gone when he was back at the desk, slumped in the chair, staring unseeingly at pas

and future. At twelve minutes past the Chief had summoned him. He had strolled through the outer office, between the batteries of prying eyes, and opened the door mark-ed "General Manager."

As he expected, the old man was in towering passion. His eyes snapped in the caverns under his bushy brows as he stared across the untidy table. His thick neck swelled with a sudden rush of blood, and he plucked at his collar with an impatient finger. It was a characteristic trick-some day he would go with apoplexy. Then, thrusting out his chin "Well? he asked.

Claverly made no answer. None was expected yet. Holt waited through the space of two quick breaths. He plucked at the collar again. "Well?" he repeated. The monosyllable held the crass brutality of a blow delivered straight into an undefend ed face.

Claverly, standing indifferently at ease across the table, smiled ever so slightly. "Well, sir?" he said in his turn. His voice was colorless.

"What about losing those fast freight contracts?" the old man blustered, and plunged on, shaking his head impatiently lest he be answered before he had his say out: "Carson couldn't make the Intercolonial people terms on empties and demurrage. And his wire lay on your desk from 4 p. m. Monday till 10 a. m. yesterday. Why didn't he get authority?" Again he gave Claverly no room to reply. "I ain't kicking just because we lose some freight. But I do kick when we lose freight we don't have to lose. That's your job. The road pays you to see that don't happen. Now—why?" Again the question came with unveiled brutality, like the fist of a bucko mate crashing into

a seaman's face. Claverly smiled again. "I don't seem to remember much about it " said he his

though, it was the same old story, sir."
The thought might have amused him.

The veins in the old man's temples bulged. "Same old story!" he shouted. "Drunk on the job, eh! I've stood a lot from you and never said a word. But"he leaned forward, and the words came with the vicious speed of short-arm blows -"but when you have the nerve to offer

it as an excuse--"
The little smile still curled Claverly's lips, but the corners of them lifted warningly, like an Ayredale's. "Mr. Holt." he said, still in that colorless voice, "I merely answered your question. No excuses have been offered." His eyes met the old man's steadily

For an instant Holt glared. Then his angry face turned gray and stony. He picked up a pencil, only to lay it down. "I beg your pardon," he said with averted

Claverly twitched his shoulders. "Mind

if I smoke, sir?" he asked. "Smoke your darned head off if you want to!" Holt spoke with a swift re-Holt spoke with a swift return of anger. Then, quietly enough: You know as well as I do why I've stood for so much from you. You've banked on it. You're the best man we ever had to get traffic and move traffic--when you want to. But there's a limit. There's such a thing as justice to the man that does stay on the job. What religion I've got boils right down to this: God cer-

tainly hates a quitter." "I should have resigned yesterday, sir," said Claverly, "only"—he stopped to in-hale a whiff of smoke and blow it out again-"it seemed more appropriate, all round, to wait and give you a chance to

"Well," said Holt, grimly matter-offact, as if he spoke to a recalcitrant trainman instead of to his freight traffic manager, "you're fired." He punched a button on the desk-front by his knees. 'Good-by," he said.

"Good-by, sir," Claverly had answered, and even as the door closed behind him he heard Holt dictating, "In regard to

the new Equipment 5's-That rather daunted even Billy Claverly's self-assurance, it came so quickly. But he had strolled back through the long office, between banks of typewriters and adding machines, with nothing save a little tilt to his chin and a little added indifference in his smile giving notice to prying, friendly eyes that the pet of a trunk-line railroad had just been discharged in the course of a morning's

work. That had been merely the easy wear ing, for a minute longer, of the mask he had worn for years. Easy, too, even amusing, the recall of Miss Helm to the paths of discipline, the friendly nod in

esponse to her composed farewell.

But, once alone with his sister's toy as it ticked away the empty minutes, alone with the grunt of locomotives and the click and grind of car-wheels that rose to his window from the bustling terminal train-shed far beneath, bringing with them now and then whiffs of acridly sulphurous coal-smoke, incense to the railroad man in him-alone with those things, the reaction came. The roaring traffic in the yard, monotonously singsong, beat a refrain in his ears: "You're fired, Billy Claverly.-Good-by, good-by. You're fired,-Now in re-gard to-those

Equipment 5's-" Came, too, a daunting and an unexwheels, a place of pressing activities and interests and duties, lay empty about him daily for house and dress wear. The day held no furniture of work for him, there or anywhere, nor the days to come, unless he made it for himself.

Claverly, gazing dully round the room where work, close-pressed and tangible enough to cut and eat, had been his daily portion, felt the first stabbing ache of lonesomeness for it, as for the sight of some dead friend-the ache that in the months to come was to drive him through the Valley of Humiliation.

His door-latch clicked, and before he could straighten up a heavy hand rested on his shoulder and Holt's voice said: I've been thinking about you. I can't drop you this way, like a hot potato."
Even in that stormy, unpredictable old man, the reversal of attitude was so un-

expected that Claverly was taken utterly signs that have the smallest pretensions aback. But his astonishment was at once swallowed up in another emotion which half strangled him with its intensity—the pain of reviving hopefulness. He had another chance. He had not known till then what he'd give for one. In that in-stant he took more vows of faithful service than he could have paid off in a life-

"I've been thinking about you," Holt said again, while his hand still pressed Claverly's shoulder with friendly roughness. "Can you work a wire?"

"Why," said Claverly, a little wonderingly, "I used to be sort of a ham operator once for fun."

tor once, for fun."

"This wouldn't be for fun," said Holt,
"Twould hold grimness." 'Twould be for a green station-agent's thirty-five a month. There's a place open. Can you start up the line this afternoon?" Claverly could have laughed insanely

as he realized his mistake. No fatted calves were killed for prodigals here. The Chief offered him just a chance to face the music. He shook off the friendly hand. "Start

He shook off the friendly hand. "Start in at the bottom and work up again?" he asked. "It sounds like—story-books."

"All right," Holt shouted, his temper catching fire. "Start at the top and work down, if that's your way. But," he called back through the closing door, regardless of the interested outer office, "I don't take my offers back. Any time you want an agent's job, you wire me."

Chicken Broth.—Take a chicken or fowl and break the bones. Clean care-fully. Put into a saucenen two quarte of

Claverly laughed. But mingled with the laugh was the clean sting of shame. Start at the top and work down, then, was his way? The monotonously roaring traffic beat out a refrain again: "Work down-and down-down and down-to what? It died away, and the piping of the east wind in Oncoast chimney-tops, the steady tramp of surt on Oncoast beach, asked in its stead, as Claverly came back to the vague, fire-lighted room: Down-to what?

Down to Jim Hoxsey's pity, and Peru. His sister spoke again. "I'd die first," she drawled in her cold anger. "I'd die drunk if I had to, but I wouldn't run for any-body. I'd take the littlest, meanest job—"

Billy Claverly did an absurd thing. Behind him, on the writing-table, were telegraph blanks. He walked over there and sat down and scribbled two mes-

This to Hoxsey:

No, thanks, old man. No holes in mine. And this to old man Holt:

I want that thirty-five a month. God certainly

For a moment he stared at the scribbled bits of yellow paper. Then, silently, he got up and reached them to his sister. And she, still quivering with disdain of him, and all men, and all the world, put out a hand and took them .- By Rowland

Thomas, in McClure's Magazine. FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN

DAILY THOUGHT.

Smiles live long after frowns have faded .-James A. Garfield.

Most of the new fashionable silks have the satin finish.

One-piece dresses are increasing in popularity. They are suitable not only for morning wear, but for the more

dressy occasions. Taupe (mole) is an old favorite cos-

tume color now brilliantly revived. For the young girl the dainty pastel shades are preferable in evening wear to the more brilliant colors which are now with us.

In thin materials the skirts are cut a trifle wider at the base, but in tailored costumes the skirt is still conspicuously

The use of fur trimmings on evening gowns is quite marked.

Chenille embroidery is coming prominently to the front this year.

Velvet is the predominating feature in the realm of the fine tailored suits. The young girl in her teens is prover-

bially difficult to dress, but very often the simplest and most sensible solution of the difficulty is to copy mother and to adhere to the tailormade. The fine stripes that are so fashionable make very suitable schoolgirl costumes, especially in the vague black and gray stripes that are now worn. The skirt is cut simply with an apron back and front fastened down by large buttons of the material; the coat is short and single or

double breasted without trimming, but with the collar faced with gray velvet. Matching the costume, the be of gray beaver, with just one touch of

color, a cerise feather. In the Woman's Home Companion there is what is called "The Exchange." It is a department of practical household news sent in by readers from various parts of the country. Following is a suggestion sent in by a mother in Michigan: "I buy the sweaters for my children the same color, and when the sleeves have given out, as they always do long before the body of the garment, I make new sleeves of the whole part of one

sweater for the other one. A most charming afternoon dress is in black and white striped taffeta and the touch of black plush, together with the

"line" of the bodice and skirt, lend it grace and distinction. The sash train is also a noteworthy feature. To introduce a welcome touch of color add a satin rose of deep and red -to resemble the damask rose, or a cop-

per colored rose with vivid green leaves. For a brighter frock taffeta, with a cherry-colored ground and a stripe of pected mistrust of the future, immediate black or maroon, executed in the same and more remote. The world that went design. The skirt may be long or short, with eddying smoke-curls and clicking as one pleases, but it is to be recorded that the long skirt gains in favor almost

Still the rumors of full skirts, pleats, flounces and even of crinolines persist, but in the ateliers of the best dressmakers no signs of these calamities-as most of us regard them-are discernible. One of the fashionable "rainbow" gowns "created" but a day or two since by a well known couturierere showed a plain

"underdress." Undne redness of the face can be relieved for a time at least by placing the feet in hot water to draw the blood from the head. The stays should never be tight, and no highly seasoned foods or condiments indulged in.

The girdle is present in almost all dewith ball or fringe-trimmed ends is very appropriately called the *sabretasche*. Black velvet figures largely as a girdle. All kinds of fancy ribbons are used as well as the plain styles, sash width in most cases. The styles vary—sometimes it is merely a pleated girdle finished with a tailored rosette; sometimes it is a scarf effect, simply knotted with long, softlyfalling ends; sometimes it is pleated around the waist and finished with a most elaborate "flower rosette" with long, broad ends. Evening gowns have most elaborate and costly girdles made of gold cord, tiny flowers, chenille or jewels. Cordelieres, too, are still in the highest favor and in the same styles that have been shown for some time past.

Velvet Cream-Into a double boiler put one-half box of gelatine, the juice and grated rind of one lemon, and one and one-half cupfuls of sherry and the same quantity of sugar. Let stand until the gelatine is soft, then beat until it dis-

fully. Put into a saucepan two quarts of water, a small onion, two tablespoonfuls of rice and salt to taste. Skim when it boils. Cover closely and allow it to simmer for six hours if a fowl and five hours

A mole or a pimple can be concealed by a bit of court-plaster skilfully applied. Flesh-color is best, but even black will be taken simply as one of the beauty patches which women are again affecting. Another way to hide a mole is to cover it thickly with cold cream and then to sprinkle well with flesh-colored powder until it is invisible.

Hobgoblin Cups.—Serve frozen cider sherbet in the hobgoblin cups which are made of papier mache and come express-ly for this purpose. Each cup bears a different expression, and green paper pumpkin leaves also can be purchased on which to serve them. If the cider is sweet then enough lemon juice should be added to give zest to the ice. When the ice is frozen to a mush add one cupful of sweet cream to each quart of cider and