

LIFE'S JOURNEY.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox. As we speed out of youth's sunny station The track seems to shine in the light. But it suddenly shoots over the chasm— And sinks into tunnels of night.

THE PATENT LEATHER KID.

They called her that for four reasons as evident to the naked eye as she was. An inventory of her would have run as follows, starting at the top: An impudent patent leather cap; a frenzy of curls; a pitifully exquisite, pitilessly derisive, recklessly painted face; a child's throat; a slender-shouldered white torso submerged just in time (sometimes a little too late) in a bodice of patent leather, strapped over the shoulders, wrinkling about a boyish waist hardly sligher than the limber hips hidden by a flare of patent leather skirt; the mere beginning of a pair of trunks; a long hiatus of all costume; a pair of patent leather slippers.

over, signed him up to lay down, and took the long end of the gate. Jake almost wept as he pleaded: "Say! say! say! soft pedal that stuff can't ya? Don't I know what Coily's got? Ain't I noisnin' him for the champ'nship of the world? Ain't I got him a clean record of eighteen knock-outs, se'm decisions and not one draw?"

ty, and began to call for the draft, compulsory service, a something they called universal conscription. If the act passed, everybody would have to volunteer whether he wanted to or not. Even Stuke was worried.

efficiency. The many-voiced had one voice. "Put him out!" Curly glanced around inquiringly at Stuke, and Stuke afraid of the crowd, nodded and called through the ropes, "Give him all you got, boy!"

Pessimistic View of Life Not Warranted

"Not to be born is best, and next to die as soon as possible." This was the pessimistic view of life expressed by Sophocles. Most philosophers and intellectuals of ancient times agreed with him. Life was looked upon as an enigmatic affliction rather than a divine dispensation.

Mr. Pooh Waited Long, but Opportunity Came

Mr. Waldemar X. Pooh, inventor and manufacturer of the Double-Cross bucket for catching lambs, writes as follows: "I was just a clerk when my opportunity came. I had brought some papers to the president of the company—he was in conference, as usual—when the third vice president, the best-dressed man I ever saw before he took to stripes, said: 'Let us ask Pooh.' The directors took one look at me and laughed; but the third vice president hushed their mirth.

Beloved Old Gossip

For 100 years the world has enjoyed the indiscreet and delightful confidences of Samuel Pepys, a writer in the Mentor remarks. There is a marvelous array of women in the diary; women of station and artisans' wives and serving maids and titles and actresses, and the wife who was only fifteen when she married him. He loved them all, including his wife, of whose beauty he was proud—and jealous, too.

Beautiful Redbird

Another name for the redbird is the cardinal grosbeak. They are a prideful lot, these grosbeaks, and with reason. The cardinal grosbeak is first cousin to the blue grosbeak, the scarlet pine grosbeak, the orange, white and black evening grosbeaks and to others of the lardy tribe. In all the graces of bird life they stand separated from the common flock. Nature lavished its colors upon them, and the gift of music was not forgotten. James Lane Allen gave a tribute of praise to the beauty of the cardinal and beside which all other tributes are and must be futile.

"Old" and "Young" Nick

The use of the name "Old Nick" applied to Satan originated in the comparison drawn between the machinations of his satanic majesty and those of Niccolò Machiavelli, one of the greatest Florentine statesmen, born 1469. He was crafty and dissembling, a firm believer in "the end justifies the means." Samuel Butler in his "Hudibras" in writing of Machiavelli, says "Nick Machiavelli had ne'er a trick though he gave his name to our old Nick."

Old Christmas "Dance"

One beautiful feature of the "Messa de Gallo" in the great cathedral of Seville is a strange mystical dance on "interweaving the steps" by the choir boys, who thus dance before the high altar. This reverent dance, which is given but twice a year, is marked by the chanting of the choir boys, who carry tall lighted candles as they cross and recross up and down the wide choir steps. One of the occasions is the celebration of midnight mass on Christmas eve.

Put Life Work First

The hours will come, and come to every man, when task work quivers and palpitations with life; but perhaps they only come because we have been faithful, with a certain grimness, through the days of gloom. Let a man hold to his life work through mood and melancholy. Let him hold to it through headache and through heartache. For he that observeth the wind will never sow; and he that regardeth the clouds will never reap.—G. H. Morrison.

FARM NOTES.

—Dairy stables should be kept clean, allowed an abundance of light, and kept well-ventilated. —Are the brood sows getting plenty of exercise these winter days? Be sure that they also get sufficient protein and mineral matter to maintain their body weight and develop a good litter of pigs. —The flanks and udders of dairy cows should be kept clipped during the winter months. Cows are thus more easily cared for and cleaner milk will result, Pennsylvania State College dairy specialists say. —Now is the time to plan changes in your flower borders or shrub plantings. These can all be worked out on paper and the materials ordered now so that the work can be out of the way early in the spring. —A row of annual flowers in the garden may provide table decoration for the home all summer. Include in your seed orders these flowers to provide a succession and a variety of bloom through the season: Calendula, Alyssum, Ageratum, Verbena, Larkspur, Cornflower, Nasturtium, Zinnia, Gypsophila, Aster. —Have you selected the location for this year's vegetable garden? A permanent site has an advantage over the policy of moving the garden each year in that the soil may be more rapidly and permanently improved through the annual addition of quantities of animal and green manures and commercial fertilizers. —If hatching eggs are to be collected for early season incubation, it is time to place the breeding males in the pen, specialists at the Pennsylvania State College say. It is just as undesirable to use too many males as too few. The proper ratio is one male to 20 females for Leghorns and one male to 12 or 15 females in the case of American or dual purpose breeds. —In feeding orphan lambs many think that cow's milk should be diluted with water but since the analyses of ewe's milk shows it to be richer in fat than cow's milk this practice is entirely unnecessary. For the first week the orphan should have some ewe's milk, if possible. A good way to get it is to take the lamb to the ewes whose lambs are not yet old enough to take all the milk. The orphan should be fed milk often, but it should not be given a large amount at one time until it is two or three weeks old. Upon the first day of its life an ounce "two tablespoonfuls" is a liberal feeding and it is safer to feed only half that amount, but it should be fed at least every two hours. It is most convenient to feed the milk from a bottle to which is attached a medium-sized nipple of the swan-bill type. The bottle should be kept thoroughly clean and the milk should be fresh and at a natural temperature; that is 100 degrees. In order to maintain the temperature, the bottle containing the milk should be kept in a vessel partly filled with water heated to 100 degrees or slightly above. After the lamb is two or three weeks old, it is not necessary to feed it more than two or three times a day. Sometimes an ewe has two lambs and only enough milk for one. In such a case it is usually possible to bring the lambs along nicely by supplementing her supply with cow's milk. As they learn to eat grain and hay, the milk feeding can be gradually diminished and finally discontinued. —Plow corn stubble late in the fall "after November first." Plow deep and thoroughly in order to bury the stubble completely to a depth of six inches. After November first the borers are too sluggish to work their way up to the surface if buried to a depth of six inches. Most of the buried borers are killed by the unfavorable environment, and the few moths that emerge in the spring are unable to force their way up through the packed soil. Spring plowing—While fall plowing is the better practice from a corn borer control standpoint, spring plowing is possible under some conditions if it is done before the fifteenth of May. In fields lightly infested very few borers will be found in four inch stubble of ensilage corn, which is cut earlier than the field corn. Such stubble may safely be left until spring. However, an examination of the stubble for the presence of borers should be made before it is decided to let the plowing go until spring. Spring plowing should be the rule where cornstalks have been broken off at the ground level during the winter, as described later. It should be preferred over discing. Seeding—The practice of seeding on disced corn stubble is strongly condemned in the infested territory. However, under existing circumstances, if corn-stubble land must be seeded without plowing, such seeding should be limited to fields in which the cornstalks have been cut or broken off at the ground level, and all corn remnants removed. Corn on Cob—Corn should not be kept on the cob after May 15, but should be shelled and bagged. From this time on, shelled corn will not mold if kept in a dry place. Where corn is intended for seed, germination tests should be made and the seed selected and shelled before May 15. Corn cobs must be burned, for they may harbor many borers. The practice of throwing the cobs into pig pens should be discontinued in the infested area, unless the uneaten portions can be recovered in condition fit to burn. Hogging Down—Corn in infested fields should not be "hogged down." The corn is only partially consumed, and the field is left in such a condition that it is impossible to plow the remnants cleanly to a depth of six inches, or to recover them for burning. Spring Clean-up—All cornstalks, cobs, and other corn remnants, including silage, remaining about the premises should be destroyed by burning before May 15 of each year.