HOME MADE DESOLATE.

Rusband Ridicules His Faithful Wife's Longings for the Beautiful.

They sat side by side and neither had said anything for two stations. Finally the little man broke out:

"Beats all what blame crazy things a man will do when she gets an idea into her head.

"Fact. What's she been at this time?" asked the other one sympatheti-

"Why, when I got home last night she said;

" 'Oh, John, there was one of those old clothes men here to day, and I sold him some of your cast off things."

"After dinner I went up and looked over my wardrobe. I had a winter suit that I bought late in the season last year, and that was good for another winter, sure. She'd sold that. Then there was a light suit of homespun hardly worn at all-cost me \$40. The coat was in one closet and the waistcoat and trousers in another. The coat was gone. Two pairs of trousers, one only needed pressing and the other some little repairs at the bottom-they were both missing; and a dress waistcoat, white and soiled a bit-I suppose it never occurred to her that it could be cleaned-and two pairs of shoes; one needed resoling, the other didn't need anything but a shine.

"I asked her what she did with the money, and she said she had spent it. She had bought two red geranium plants and a great, homely yellow mastiff pup, with feet bigger than mine. When I came down stairs this morning she was crying. I asked her what the matter was. She said the pup had chewed the tops off both the geraniums during the night."

AN IMAGINARY ILLNESS.

The Needle Cure Proved the Physician's Diagnosis Correct.

Physicians often meet with people who are carrying around imaginary ailments and who really believe themselves as badly afflicted as they assert. Some curious cases have been noted.

A lady had been confined to her bed for many months with an illness which wholly deprived her of the use of her lower limbs. The doctor who attended her failed to discover the nature of the affection, which might ordinarily have been attributable to several causes. Examination, however, revealed nothing calculated to throw a light on the matter, and the medical practitioner, after patient and exhaustive analysis and attention, came to the conclusion that the illness was imaginary.

Although he discreetly kept this opinion to himself, proof was eventually forthcoming as to the accuracy of his view. Being lifted in the sheets out of ber bed one day, while the mattress was rearranged, the lady surprised her attendants by suddenly jumping from the couch on which she had been temperarily placed, with a loud expression of alarm. It was discovered that she had been laid upon a needle cushion inadvertently left on the sofa, and that the sharp points of several needles had pressed violently into her back. The contretemps revealed the fact that she could stand easily.

Bird Preferences in Food.

Exeperiments have shown that birds avoid the bright colored caterpillars, as a rule. And this seems almost to have nature, for a inwhich had been raised in captivity, and had had no experience in judging the edible qualities of caterpillars, was observed to regard the brilliant caterpillar of the figure-of-eight-moth with suspicion and aversion, although it eagerly devoured dull, plain caterpillars placed within its reach. When it was driven hunger to attack the other it finally refused to eat it, giving plain evidences that there was something distast eful about the prey.—Philadelphia Press,

What Came of Her Charity.

My next door neighbor is as charitable a woman as ever lived, and among ber pensioners is a colored family, beside whom Job's turkey is a bloated plutocrat. She gave the mother of the family a two dollar bill one day to pay the rent. Judge, then, of Lady Bountical's surprise when that evening a little ckaninny presented itself at the

"Please, Miss Lucy," it said, "ma says can you loan her some bread and ome celery you ain't usin'? We're gon' to have a burfday pahty, but we ain't got nothin' to go with the turkey."

In reply to the request for assistence the professor said:

"If I could help you, I couldn't help helping you. It is because I cannot help you that I cannot help refusing to

The mendicant darted around the corner, with terror in his eyes and cries of "Help!" in his mouth. - Boston Transcript.

Pleasant to the Visitor.

"Is Mrs. Harkins at home!" asked the caller.

"Physically, Madame," returned the educated butler, "she is. As an abstract question the fact cannot be denied; but in your relation to your desire to see her, I cannot say definitely until I have ascertained Mrs. Harkin's wishes in the matter. Pray be seated, until I have received advices from above."-Harper's Bazar.

Prevarieation.

Mother-You've been into that jam

Trnthful Son-No'm, I haven't, I'll declare I haven't!

And he chuckled at the thought that his mother had not accused him of putting the jam into him.

A Matter of Accent.

Sapsmith-The first thing the phrenologist said when he began to examine my cwanium was: "What a head!" Grimshaw-Are you sure he did not

"What, a head?"-Truth.

NERVOUSNESS

Is the Wail of the Nerves for Food.

People with Weak, Flabby Nerves are the Ones who Suffer. They may be Relieved by Building up their Nerves with a Nourishing Nerve Food.

An Interesting Interview with a Prominent Physician and a Case in Point Cited.

From the Journal, Kirksville, Mo.

"What a weak-kneed individual."

The person referred to did, indeed, look broken down, dispirited, and lifeless.

"What is the matter with him?"

"I scarcely knew. During the cool weather he seems to be sill right and to have some life and a little ambition; but the moment the hot weather comes he simply wilts club, and seems to have neither strength nor ready said of them. Her only reason for the line for publication about Pink Pills for Pale People. She said she wanted everybody to know what a great medicine these pills are, but as so many people are praising them now-adays, she modestly doubted whether her testimony could add anything to what others had already said of them. Her only reason for the use of Dr.

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German farmer living four miles south of Bullion, in this (Adair) county, Mo. Mr. Gehrke has a valuable farm and he has been a resident of the county for years. He is very well-known hereabouts and well respected wherever he is known. Last week a reporter of the Journal stopped at Mr. Gehrke's and may be had of all druggists or directly by mail while there became much interested in Mrs. Gehrke's account of the benefit she had not

Proclamation.

24th have been designated in a proclamation issued by Governor Hastings as Arbor Days. either of these days is left to the choice of the people in the various sections of the Commonwealth, to the end that that day may be selected which is deemed most favorable on account of climatic conditions.

covered with a dense growth of valuaof the area remains; that the timber

Most of this vast area has little or no mineral wealth, and is now an unsightly and practically abandoned territory. Fires sweep over it year after year, destroying the younger growth and burning out the fertility of the soil, so that this area is passing in to the condition of a desert, becoming poorer each successive year.

Governor Hastings says it is not restore the forests upon this desert as his. waste, which would be producing a crop of great value to the State, and by making the food you eat make would restore the fertility of the soil, would save our rivers and streams to the beneficial influences of the forests, and aid in furnishing homes and support to the doubling population in the Commonwealth in the generations to come.

"As it was once a necessity to remove trees in order to obtain ground to plant grain," adds Governor Hast-

PROTEOT THE TREES.

The Arbor Days Designated. Governor Hastings Issues the Annual

Friday, April 10th, and Friday, The selection of

The proclamation states that although Pennsylvania was once wholly ble timber, to-day scarcely one-fourth supply has fallen off to such an extent that the Commonwealth is unable to produce the timber required for its own inhabitants. Of the regions which, when timbered, were a source of wealth to their owners and to the State, not less than 2,500,000 acres are unfit for agricultural purposes.

zation, it appears that this necessity produced a tree destroying instinct which should be counteracted as speedily as possible. This is the first generation in the Commonwealth ever brought face to face with the dangers and disasters of a timberless country

"To change the current of national thought from the tree destroying to the tree protecting policy, to add to the beauty of our mountains and valleys, to ornament the grounds of our free schools and other educational institutions, to add comfort to the traveler on our public highways, to preserve the shores and banks of our rivers and smaller streams, are objects worthy of the intelligent attention of

"I have never had a day's sickness in my life," said a middle-aged man the other day.

"What a comfort it would be," sighs some poor invalid, "to be in his the invalids we see might be just as healthy as he, if they would only take proper care of themselves, eat proper food-and digest it.

It's so strange that such simple things are overlooked by those who want health.

Food makes health.

It makes strength-and strength wards off sicknessr The man who had never been sick was strong because he always digested his food, and you could become the same by only possible, but also practicable, to helping your stomach to work as well

It will make you strong and healthy

Druggists sell it. Trial bottle ro

Drug envelopes, Nos. 1, 2 and manilla, white or colored, coin envelopes, and shipping tags, with or without strings, always in stock at this

ings, and for other purposes of civili- READ THE COLUMBIAN.

WEATHERLY EXCITED.

A Beautiful Buck Deer Chased Through The Streets By a pack of Dogs.

It is not often that the town of Weatherly furnishes a sensation or seen an event out of the ordinary. The good people of that well governed borough are content to plod along in an even tenor, and care naught for their wicked neighbors, their emotions and their sensations. Once in a while the lethargy is broken by a fire or a burglar but until yesterday mountain game never played any particular part in program, and it is now the talk of the town. A big buck deer and a pack of hounds are responsible for the commotion. As they went chasing through the streets many people rushed to their doors and get a glimpse of the flying remnant of the genus cervus. It was a beautiful sight to see the animal in his mad run, head erect, holding in graceful position the forked antlers and his beautiful curved body, while ten yelping hounds followed in futile endeavor to catch him. It seems that a few stray dogs

started the deer on Broad Mountain and the latter took a course toward the valley. On the way up the ravine, several mountain settlements were passed and the number of dogs multiplied as the chase progressed. Along the ridge he led the hounds, leaping leisurely over stream and ledge, disappearing for a moment, then into view, until the junction at Lizard creek was reached. Here the horned animal took the mountain again skirting the summit while the dogs gave tongue incessantly. As he approached Weatherly he again descended, and entered the town at the eastern end. The baying of the dogs attracted attention before they reached the borough, and many people were already out wondering what the matter was. To their utter astonishment they saw the large buck coming up the street galloping gracefully. Each leap seemed to increase the distance between him and his pursuers. The barking excited other dogs who took up the chase afresh, and they added to the anxiety of the frightened deer. Before they cleared the town limits the pack of hounds increased to about twenty-five, and their viciferous howls created more excitement than the fire bells ever did. The chase continued out towards Quakake where the deer again took the moun-

tains and disappeared in its fastnesses. It was indeed a break in the monotary of life in Weatherly, and the incident will be long remembered by all who witnessed it .- Hazleton Sentinel.

The Time for Building

Up the system is at this season. The cold weather has made unusual drains upon the vital forces. The blood has become impoverished and impure, and all the functions of the body suffer in consequence. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the great builder, because it is the One True Blood Purifier and nerve

Hood's Pills become the favorite cathartic with all who use them. All druggists. 25c.

A Babe on the Waters.

The Shamokin Herald says: With its little face all aglow with pleasure, a babe floated down the creek in a raisin box at Mt. Carmel Friday morning coming no one knows where, and landed into the arms of a kindhearted farmer who refused to give his name, but took the little one to his home, which he said is near Elys-

The babe is apparently eight weeks old and is perfectly healthy. Discarded by some unhappy mother who pro-bably desired to rid herself of her offspring because its advent had been unwelcomed this little one had been placed in a box that had been carefully prepared for it, and put into the dirty waters of the creek to go where it might. But fate had been kind to the little outcast.

The farmer noticed several boys watching the box as it floated down place for a year or two." Yet half of the creek, and wondering as to its contents, started an investigation, which resulted in his lifting the babe out of its nest, where it had lain comfortably taking its morning meal from a bottle. The farmer said he had but one child, a daughter 23 years old, and as the infant was a boy he would adopt it.

He refused to give his name, but with the child carefully wrapped in an old overcoat, which he had in his wagon, started for his home in Elysburg.

"There is danger in delay."

Since 1861 I have been a great sufferer from catarrh. I tried Ely' Cream Balm and to all appearances am cured. Terrible headaches from which I had long suffered are gone. -W. J. Hitchcock, late Major U. S. Vol. and A. A. Gen., Buffalo, N.

Ely's Cream Balm has completely cured me of catarrh when everything else failed. Many acquaintances have used it with excellent results .-Alfred W. Stevens, Caldwell, Ohio.



Edward B. Harper, Founder. Frederick A. Burnham, President.

FIFTEEN YEARS COMPLETED

ANNUAL MEETING AND REPORT. The Largest and Strongest Natural Premium Life Insurance Companies in the World.

869,000,000 of New Business in 1895. 8308,660,000 of Business in Force. 84.084,075 of Death Claims paid in 1895. \$25,000,000 of Death Claims paid since Business begun.

1895 SHOWS —AN INCREASE IN GROSS ASSETS, AN INCREASE IN NET SURPLUS, AN INCREASE IN HOUSINESS IN FORCE, AN INCREASE IN BUSINESS IN FORCE, OVER 105,800 MEMBERS INTERESTED.

The Annual Meeting of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association was held in the Association's Building, corner Broadway & Duane St., New York City, on Wednesday, January 22nd, and was attended by a large and representative gathering of policy holders who listened with keen interest to the masterly Annual Report of President Burnham.

Many policy holders evidently regarded this as a favorable opportunity to meet face to face the new chief executive officer of the Association, President Frederick A. Burnham, the man whose grasp of life insurance, whose keen executive ability and strong individuality have enabled him to take up the work laid down in death by the founder of the institution, the late Edward B. Harper, and make of the administration of his office of President, not an echo or copy of that of his predecessor, but a piece of finished work, characteristic of a man of independent views, and worthy to follow the work which had carried the Association to a position never attained in the same length of time by any life insurance organization in the world. It is rare, indeed, that a great institution like this passes, without check to its prosperity, through a change in the executive chief, for it is rare indeed that a chief like the late Mr. Harper finds so able a successor as President Burnham.

The record of the year 1895 speaks for itself, and shows the following gratifying results.

The GROSS ASSETS have increased during the year from \$5,536,115.99 to \$5,661,707,82.

The NET SURPLUS over liabilities shows a NET GAIN for the year of \$306,329.43, and now amounts to \$3,582,509.32. The INCOME from all sources shows a gain for the year

of \$631,541.97, and amounts to \$5,575,281.56. DEATH CLAIMS to the amount of \$4,084,074.92 were paid during the year, an increase over the previous year of \$1.013,560.91.

The BUSINESS IN FORCE shows a gain for the year

of \$15,293,265, and now amounts to \$308,659,371. Counting three hundred working days in the year the daily average income for 1895 is \$18,584.27; the daily average payments for death claims, \$13,652.25, and the daily average gain in business in force within a fraction of \$51,000.

TUAL RESERVE FUND LIFE ASSOCIATION may apply to E. D. LUDWIG, Supt., 53 Downing Block,

