

home, when I heard my name mentioned by the agent as he directed some one to the house on the hill. It was a telegram announcing the completion of the business and informing me that it would not be necessary for me to leave me to leave.

me to leave.

On this triding incident hung my fate, for when I returned I found that the only one of the party who had not felt equal to the long drive was—Miss

She saw me coming up the hill, and

Grace.

She saw me coming up the hill, and in her amazement as I afterward ascertained, thought I had purposely deceived her mother and brother.

Oh, but her heart was beating for some one, and when she met me I knew by her sweet eyes that all the happiness of the days before my disclosure had come back to her heart.

I had her all to myself that afternoon, that glorious afternoon, the radiance of which has sent its light along the pathway of my whole life.

I dare not tell you what occurred, except to say that when the party came back I had my telegram to explain my sudden return but no word of explanation for the joy in my soul.

And now for the finale. Yet it was only a finale to the old lady's ambition, and but the beginning of my "long sweet story."

The Christmas dinner was on! I could tell you where Grace sat, and I remember distinctly every detail of it. I could tell you where Grace sat, and I remember distinctly every down indy seys

remember distinctly every flower in her corsage. I see in my mind's eye every laughing face, every feature of the table and of the room. Aye, I remember even the dainty country-maid, with her natty cook's cap, coming into the room with a steering in the room with a steering in the property. ing into the room with a steaming fowl. You must bear in mind that this was long ago, before the days of the country house luxury which now

prevails.

I recall the arrival of the dainty maid, for it was at that moment that Grace, contrary to all banquet formulas, arose, and looked her mother and brother full in the face, her eyes aglow with the spirit within, her face handsomer than ever in its framing of American pluck, and her stately form like that for a general

of American pluck, and her stately form like that of a queen.

"I want you all," she said. "to listen to an American girl's Christmas determination. Perhaps what I am going to say is not according to right. I, an American girl, promise to become the wife only of an American citizen.

think it is according to rule, but I think it is according to right. I, an American girl, promise to become the wife only of an American citizen. I promise that I will preside over an American home or over none at all."

I cannot picture the consternation of the mother. I am quite sure that the completely spoiled her Christmas dinner. The guests, who knew nothing of the mother's plans, applauded the sentiment to the echo.

P. S.—I'd rather have a hobby horse than nothing at all.

Another letter, written by a girl of seven, who is sometimes "norty," was sent off some time ago, in order that the doll's baby carrlage and the "squeak cat for the baby."

My Dear Santa Claus,
I hope you are quite well. I have got a great big stocking reddy to hang the sentiment to the echo.

As for Eugene! Why, he is a sensi-As for Eugene! Why, he is a sensible fellow, and he rather prides himself on his brother-in-law even to this day. Mrs. Kerr never fully forgave me, and even to her dying day occasionally referred in the saddest of accents to "that dear broken-hearted Lord Deerland." And Grace! Why, she's dressing for the Christmas dinner even as I

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS.

Post-office Authorities Find Them Fre-quently at Christmas Time.

quently at Christmas Time.

In every well-regulated post-office of large size there is a corps of "guess-ers" and directory searchers, who are kept busy for the express purpose of finding out where people live, when addresses are carelessly or not fully written out. Last year a letter came to the post-office, New York, with the



superscripton "To Santa Claus, 263 Goat Street." There is no Goat street in New York, so the letter was stamp-ed "misdirected," as in the reproduc-

ed "misdirected," as in the reproduction above, and sent to Washington, where, it was supposed, Goat Street might be found. The clerks thought that fuller directions might be discovered inside, so they opened the envelope, and found the following letter:— Dear Santa,—When I said my prayers last night I told God to tell you to bring me a hobby horse. I don't want a hobby horse, really. A honestly lively horse is what I want. Mamma told me not to ask for him, because I probably would make you very mad, so you wouldn't give me anything at probably would make you very mad, so you wouldn't give me anything at all, and if I got him I wouldn't have any place to keep him. A man I know will keep him, he says, if you get him for me. I thought you might like to know. Please don't be mad.—Affectionately, John.

P. S.-A Shetland pony would ugh.
S.—I'd rather have a hobby horse

Forty Square Miles of Wheat.

What is said to be the largest single wheat field in California

This enormous field of grain is located on the banks of the San Joaquin River, near the tow of Clo-

Joaquin River, near the tow of Clovis, in Madera county. The field is part in Fresno county and part in Madera county.

Clovis Cole is the man who is putting in this vast acreage, and he has undertaken one of the largest jobs that any man has yet done in California. California.

While it is true that larger acreages of wheat have been planted by certain ranchers in this State, there seems to be no record of an exact parallel to the present case. On the Miller & Lux ranch, in Kern county, 50,000 acres were planted one year, but the fields were scattered about in different places. They were really a series of fields, located wherever there were effective met. wherever there was a fertile spot. Few of the fields were 2,000 acres, and in many instances there would be half a mile of bare land between them. The acreage planted could not be called a wheat field of 50,000 acres any more than all the wheat fields in the State could be classed under one head.

The Clovis field, however, is an ideal wheat field. It is almost as flat as a floor, with a gentle slope toward the river. The outer lines of the field make it almost a perfect of the field make it almost a perfect square. Each side is a little over six miles, and if the day is clear every part of the field can be seen from any other part. It will be a beautiful sight worth seeing when all the grain is up and waves gently in the breezes of springtime. There are no roads through the Clovis wheat field. It is to be one solid stretch of grain, and every square

wheat field. It is to be one solid stretch of grain, and every square foot of land is to be utilized.

Ploughing and planting began in the big wheat field about the middle of last July and will hardly be completed before the next two months at least. But the grain will all mature at about the same time.

Then will come the herealest tested. Then will come the herculean task of harvesting it.

To get an idea of the enormous size of this great wheat let us imagine that it is close to San Francisco. If one end of it one mile wide touched on Market street, the rest of the field would stretch one mile wide almost to San Jose. This same wheat field is over four times the size of the improved portion of San Francisco. The whole city and county of San Francisco, including all the outlying district, is about the same size.

With the big improved machinery it does not look as though there was much work spent on planting and harvesting the field. But suppose one man had to handle the crop, if such were possible, how long would it take him?

Suppose the field was one mile wide and forty miles long, and the one man had a double gang plough cutting a furrow twenty-four inches wide. He would start at a corner of the field in San Francisco and plough south toward San Jose, a distance of forty miles. Then he would come back and cut another furrow to San Francisco, making eighty miles for the round trip.

This amount of work would only be a time control.

this amount of work would only be a tiny scratch four feet wide along one side of the forty-mile field, and the process would have to be repeated at least 1,3000 times, making a total distance of about 105 coe miles 105,000 miles.

Suppose that the ploughman worked at the rate of twenty miles worked at the late of-twenty miles a day. To get over the 105,000 miles would take 5,250 days. To plant would take about the same time, making a total of 10,500 days, or nearly thirty years. It would be like spending a lifetime, and the distance traveled would be equivalent to going around the world four times. And all in one world four times. And all in one California wheat field.

The accomplish the necessary

amount of work within the time at his disposal the owner of the Clovis wheat field has to employ over 200 men, over 1,000 horses and several

CATARRH CANNOT BE CURED by local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Ca-tarrn is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was pre-scribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a reg-ular perscription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredents is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials.

free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best. 1m

tons of big machinery. The men are working early and late now, and if the whole acreage is planted single wheat field in California is now being planted to the grain that makes the staff of life. It covers over 25,000 acres, or forty square niles.

This enormous field of grain is located on the banks of the San located on give thanks for the existence of the largest field in California.

A MANSION AT DANVILLE.

Purchased by the Sisters of Christian Charity.

The Thomas Beaver mansion, at Danville, has been sold, and the ex-tensive and finely appointed old homestead, which for six or seven years past stead, which for six or seven years past has stood idle, is at last to be put to practical use. The mansion is to be made a branch of the mother house of the Sisters of Christian Charity, of Wilkesbarre, while the comparatively new and handsome stable, with one or more of the buildings will be turned into an orphanage. The purchase was affected last week. The price paid, concerning which no definite inpaid, concerning which no definite information has been received, was probably \$8,000. The total cost of the building was not much less than \$100, by the sisterhood, if possible, before the new year. The orphanage, of course, will not be ready for occupancy until some time later.

Devious Definitions.

Cynic-The man who has an uneciprocated love for himself.

Luck—The only thing that enables

our neighbor to surpass you.

Employe—A man who does lots of

work and draws but little salary.
Official—A man who draws lots of salary and does but little work.

Skeptic—A man who is never sure of the time when he consults his watch. Hero-A man who risks his life to rectify mistakes of the fools who applaud him.

Honesty—An ingredient in the make up of the man who pays his debts before indulging in luxuries A--The one letter in the alphabet

that makes all men mean.
Divinity—A doctrine that is more preached than practiced.
Sense—About the only thing of which the common brand is best.

Conclusion-Something a woman will jump at as quick as she will at a

Philosopher-A wise man in his own estimation and a fool in the estimation of others.

A whale of 50 tons exerts 145 horse-power in swimming twelve miles an hour.

TUMOR EXPELLED.

Unqualified Success of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Mrs. ELIZABETH WHEELOCK, Magno lia, Iowa, in the following letter describes her recovery from a very critical condition:

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I have been

its praises. It has done wonders for me in relieving me of a tumor.

"My heal" taking your Vegetable Compound, and am now ready to sound its praises. It

was working upon me. I was very much bloated

and was a burden to myself. Was troubled with smothering spells, also palpitation of the heart and that bearing down feel-

the heart and that bearing-down reliing, and could not be on my feet much.
"I was growing worse all the time,
until I took your medicine.
"After taking three boxes of Lydia
E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound
Lozenges, the tumor passed from me.
"My health has been better ever
size, an now walk quite a distance "My floatin has been better estince, can now walk quite a distance and am troubled no more with palpitation of the heart or bloating. I recommend your medicine to all sufferers from female troubles."

It is hardly reasonable to suppose that any one can doubt the efficiency of Mrs. Pinkham's methods and medicine in the face of the tremendous volume of testimony.

HUMPHREYS' VETERINARY SPECIFICS

A. A. FEVERS, Lung Fever, Milk Fever,

B. B. SPRAINS, Lameness, Rheu

C. C. EPIZOOTIC, Distemper. D. D. WORMS, Bots, Grubs,

E. E. COUGHS, Colds, influenza

F. F. COLIC, Bellyache, Diarrhea,

Prevents MISCARRIAGE.

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Are prepared from Na ture's mild laxatives, while gentle are reliable and efficient. They

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8.33 p. m. Sundays, 1.35, 8.33 p. m.

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Leave Tamaqua 1.49 p. m.
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Leave Williamsjort weekdrys 10.00 a m, 4.30 p

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p. m.

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FET DOTH THE STAT OF BETALEHEM SHED PURE AND SWEET, SOKS, AS SURE IT LED, OUR HEARTS REVOICE TO SEE OW CHILDREN, GIRDED BY ITS RAY. COME TO THE SAVIORS KNEE WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT