THOUGHT it rather hard that Priscilla should follow me to the gar den, whither I had betaken myself for the express purpose of enjoying my own society, but scarcely was I established before she arrived, smiling and urbane, and so perfectly sure of a welcome as to be positively exasperating.

"You looked so lonesome, Miss Mary," she said, seating herself on the grass, "dat I 'lowed I'd jine you; 'tain't good for young folks ter flock by deyselves, sides I'se in trubble, an' I wants you ter 'vise me.

"Well, what can I do for you?" "You kin hep me a lot, Miss Mary; bit's Sally Ann what's in trubble; yessum, Sally ain't hed no luck sence de day she was borned; fus tunnin a kittle of bilin' water over herself when she warn't no mor'n a baby, den bein' runned by a cow crossin' thru Gineral Hethercourt's parsture, an' here lately gwine an' gitten 'kunjered' by dat no count little gal what cooks fur Mister Legroue."

"Angie?" I exclaimed.

"Yessum, an' alongst of a squint-eyed nigger what ain't wuth deshot ter kill

"If he's all that," I said, "why should Sally Ann want him?"

"Miss Mary, dere ain't no countin' on zals; I'se lived a long time an' I'se lunned a heap, but I'se never constructed myself ez ter what a gal's gwine ter do! Nathan Lewis, de nigger what's caused all de 'citement, wuz keepin' eumpny wid Sally (dey was traduced at de picnic what de Congregation of Blessed Sinners guv at de grove), an', seein' ez Sally ain't nothin' on looks an' warn't likely ter git anoder chance, me an' Hinery 'cided ter make no 'jections ter de match.

"Everything wuz gwine on smoovely when Sally Ann ain't hed no better sence den ter vite Angie ter supper one night when Nathan was dere. Well, Miss Mary, you mayn't believe hit, but she ain't no mo'n set eyes on dat nigger 'fore she gin ter 'tract him; sich gwines on I never seed!

"Sally Ann she ain't dun nuffin but ery all night, an' Hinery he sez ter her sez he: 'You got jest what you 'sarved; ain't got no more gumption den ter ax dat gal here. I reckin you'll know better nex' time.' Well, Miss Mary, Nathan ain't bin near us sence, 'ceptin' once, an' den twuz ter ax Hinery fur de loan of a quarter, an' Sally Ann she's bin gwine roun' like a sick chicken, never talkin' ter nobuddy an' not sleepin' an' actin' so contrary, dat we knows Angie's dun 'kunjured' her."

"Nonsense," said I, "I expect Sally is low spirited and you are too easily frightened."

"No, ma'am; she's bin 'kunjered;' Monday night de fedders in her piller wuz eram full of lumps." "That often happens."

"An' larst night she foun' a dade chicken hade in her bade!"

"The cat took it there, of course; people don't conjure each other nowa-

Sally Ann, dat Ise pretty nigh 'stracted. Hinery sez ter me ez he wuz leavin' dis mornin': 'Priscilla,' sez he, 'why don't you insult Miss Mary? D'ere ain't nothin' she can't do, an' ef you splains ter her de sark'imstances of de case, I straight.'

marked (not caring whether Priscilla on their place." understood me or not), "but I'm willing to do anything to help you, because Bally is an honest girl and I hate to think of her being ill."

"An' youse gwine ter help me?" "Oh, yes; if I can."

"Lor, chile! I knows you'll 'complish somethin', case when you sets your tention ter ennything you don' low jourself ter be beat."

"Well, go away now and leave me to think about it."

So Priscilla departed, and a few minutes later my cousin, Philip Dean, sauntered across the grass to me; in his arms he carried something brown and velvety and altogether levely.

"For you," he said, putting it down on my knee,"

"Oh, Phil," I cried, "a setter puppy! How good of you."

"Well, you know you wanted one."

"I did; but where did you get it?" "Nathan Lewis, a negro whom I bailed out of jail (drunk Saturday night, the usual thing), brought it to me yester-

"Nathan Lewis; and you say he is under obligations to you?"

"Yes," in great surprise. "Then he will do anything for you?" "No; that doesn't follow."

"I suppose not; but there can be no

harm in trying." "Trying what?" asked Phil. "My

brain moves slowly." "Listen," I said, and I hastily narrated the story wherein Nathan played

the part of hero and Angle that of the villain. "Well, upon my word," said he,

"fancy anyone sighing for Nathan." "You forget," I replied, "Sally Ann

ain't nothin' on looks an' never hed no luck nohow."

"Poor Sally Ann," said Phil.

"Poor, indeed," I replied. "Well, look here," said he, "I'll make a bargain with you. If you manage An-

gie, I'll see to Nathan."
"Very well, I shall depend on you." "Good! Now suppose we talk of something else. Did you get those books I sent you?"

That night I gave Priscilla a small vial of golden liquid (and how could she recognize Fred's favorite char-

treuse), and said, impressively: "Give this to Sally, Priscilla. Tell her

ter, every night, as the clock strikes 12, and see that she says, as she swallows it:

> "If I drink this precious charm, Priscilla's eyes swelled, but she re-

peated, slowly: "Ef I drinks dis preshus charm-

Sperrits ain't gwine ter do me harm."
"That's right," I said, "make her take it until she hears from me and you'll be surprised to find how fast she improves.

Fred joined me shortly after Priscilla disappeared.

"Mary," said he, "you're the biggest goose living; the idea of teaching that darky all that rubbish." "My dear boy," I replied, "one must fit the cure to the malady. Sally really thinks she is conjured, and if I used or-

dinary methods would allow her mind to influence her, and ultimately fade away; as it is, I have hopes of her recov-

ery."
"I expect you are right," he said, "you usually are!"

"Thank you so much; by the way, I see you are going to the 'Quarters;' please tell Angie I want to see her."

"If I don't forget." "See that you don't; this is very important."

That his memory proved faithful was evadenced by the arrival of Angle the next day-Angie in a gorgeous and impossible costume of white cheese cloth and a big hat freighted with roses.

When this delightful vision brightened my humble apartment, I said: "Angie, I sent for you because I've received a letter from Mrs. Doane asking if you were still on the place, as she wants to engage you as cook; she says she has not forgotten your batter cakes (for Angie had cooked for us during one of Priscilla's brief absences), and faithless friend though she might be was a jewel among servants. I saw Mr. Legroue this morning and he told me he had no objection to your going; and I felt sure you would want to go, for the city will suit you better than the country, won't it?"
"Yessum, dese folks roun' here, sho',

is common."

If Angie could have divined my uncomplimentary thoughts she would not have looked at me so smilingly, but fortunately eyes do not speak, so she was blissfully unaware of my sentiments.

"Think it over," I said, "and let me know what you decide. You'll have to go before Sunday or Mrs. Doane will give the place to some one clse." "I'll go, Miss Mary," cried Angie.

'Dere ain't nothin' ter keep me." "I didn't think so," I replied. knew you held yourself above the people on the place." (Horrid little snob, I thought.)

"Yessum, dere ain't nobuddy fitten ter 'sociate wid here." "Then I'll write to Mrs. Doane to ex-

pect you?"

"Yessum." So early Saturday morning, Angle departed for "green fields and pastures new," and that same afternoon Phil called to acquaint me with the success

of his own machinations. "I sent for Nathan," he said, "and told him I'd give him the place of hostler if he were only married. In fact, that I would hold the offer open until he could find himself a wife, provided she were of the right sort. I wanted "White folks don't, Miss Mary, but her to take charge of the dairy and niggers duz; an' Ise dat trubbled 'bout | didn't want any airified city negress around, but an honest downright ugly one-the uglier the better. 'Priscilla's Sally would do,' he said ungallantly, 'but Ise had oder 'tentions.' 'Oh. well.' said I, "it doesn't matter, but I thought you'd jump at a place where you'll get iow she'll 'vise somethin' ter set things \$12 a month, besides board and a cabin. And as to Sally Ann, I've heard Miss "Henry overrates my abilities," I re- Rasley say she was one of the best girls

> "Dat's true, Marse Phil," he said, "I min't 'sputin' what you say; but dere's dat little Angie; I 'lowed ez-"

> "Angie," I said, derisively, "she wouldn't look at you; besides she's gone to New Orleans. Mr. Legroue told me this morning he was out of a cook." "You don't sesso," said Nathan, "well, bein' ez dat's so, I reckon I'll go an'

> see Sally Ann." "You'd better hurry," I remarked. "for the first thing you know some other fellow will cut in ahead of you."

> "Oh, Phil," I cried, "how could you?" "Surely, you know," he replied, "that nothing stimulates the masculine ardor like the fear of a rival." Nathan was departing, certain of conquest; Sally Ann was therefore in a way valueless: by my untruthful, but potent speech, I have sent her stock up many de-

> "In love and war-you know the adage; but to change the subject, I am driving a new horse; won't you try him with me?"

> An hour or so later, as we were coming slowly home, we met Sally and Nathan walking down the road to the 'quarters." Phil checked his horse as we passed and called out: "Well, Na-

than, I hope you were successful?" "Yessir," he replied, grinning, "hit's all right."

"Miss Mary," said Sally Ann, coming round to my side of the cart, "I min't gwine ter furgit dat you cured me of beln' 'kunjured.' Widout you I'd hev bin pintedly dade."

"Oh, no, Sally," I protested, "you weren't so ill as all that."

"Yessum, I wuz, but I took your med'cin' reg'lar an' said dat potry reel keerful, an' Ise all right, but ef hit hadn't bin fur you I'd hev bin dade an' berried an' I ain't gwine ter fergit it neider."

"Marse Phil," called Nathan, as we were driving off, "you wuz mistooken about dat oder nigger, Sally Ann say nobuddy ain't wantin' ter marry her

"Isn't that too much," I exclaimed; "fancy her letting him know!" Phil looked pensively at his whip.

"You wouldn't advise a falsehood, I'm

"Of course not," indignantly, "but there are ways of doing these things. "Give this to Sally, Priscilla. Tell her "Yes," he agreed, "there are certain to take four drops of it, in a glass of wa- ly 'ways.' "-N. O. Times-Democrat.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES. Notable Events of the Week Briefly and Terrely Told.

The Pennsylvania railroad system of pensions went into effect.

A movement has been started to consolifate the milk companies of Chicago. The torpedo boat Goldsborough had a successful builders' trial at Portland, Gr. A scheme to combine the zinc interests of the country was reported started in Kansas City.

Commissioner General Peck announced that 7,000 firms of this country would have exhibits at the Paris exposition.

Ten villages were reported destroyed by an earthquake in the Achaikalak district of the government of Tiflis, Russia. It was said in Washington that 2,800 troops are to be withdrawn from Cuba and the number of military departments reduced to two.

Treasurer of the United States Roberts said the distribution of internal revenue receipts to the first group of banks would be completed in about eight days.

Tuesday, Jan. 2. Mme. Sara Bernhardt is ill in Paris, Western Germany is suffering from a coal famine.

Lady Alice Montagu was reported to be dying in London. Two slight shocks of earthquake were

felt in southern California. Fifty thousand dollars for the Lawton fund was announced to be in sight. The treasury estimates the stock of gold in the country at about \$1,000,000,-

000 worth in coin. The charges against Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire for violation of the civil service law were dismissed.

An explosion of gas at Knoxville, Pa., wrecked a large number of houses and stables and tore up several streets for hundreds of feet.

Monday, Jan. 1. Great suffering was caused among the poor of New York city by the intense

George B. Eyre of Chester, Pa., has been missing from his home for ten According to a Bombay dispatch, bu-

bonic plague is causing fearful ravages in that city. Miss Elida Wilbur, who has lain unconscious for neafly two years in her San Francisco home, is gradually reviv-

Judge McPherson of the United States court has decided that all social clubs which sell intoxicating liquors must pay a revenue tax.

According to the surgem in charge, the soldiers who became ill on the transport Rio de Janeiro were poisoned by spoiled "fresh" beef. The Rev. J. J. Axtell, the "fighting

sented to spar in public at an entertain-ment for charity in Detroit. John J. Hannigan, a policeman who was sentenced to two years in Sing Sing prison for shooting a boy, has been par-doned by Governor Roosevelt.

parson" of Royal Oak, Mich., has con-

Samuel Wolf of New York city went to Poughkeepsie to hear the story of his wife's death in an insane asylum. In-stead he learned that she had been discharged as cured.

Saturday, Dec. 30. Almost 3,000,000 persons are receiving famine relief in India.

Mr. Cleveland's physician denied that the ex-president's condition was danger-

The Honolulu authorities have taken

active measures to prevent the spread of the plague. One man was killed and many seriously injured in a Union Pacific railway wreck

The steamer Tallahassee reported the sinking of an unknown schooner near

Cape Hatteras. Carl Milloecker, the composer, was reported as suffering from a paralytic stroke at Vienna.

The municipal council of New York city adopted resolutions of sympathy for Filipinos and Boers.

The official canvass at Albany showed that all the constitutional amendments were carried at the recent election.

Friday, Dec. 20. News reached San Francisco of the prevalence of the plague in Honolulu. Gottfried Krueger of Newark, N. J. has just completed a \$250,000 family

The subscriptions to the Lawton home fund received in Washington reached

Mr. Harry Escombe, former premier of Natal, died suddenly on the street in Durban. Renewed reports of strained relations

between Russia and Japan reached Victoria. B. C. The New York Central stockholders at

Albany unanimously ratified the Boston and Albany lease. Mayor Hayes and the Baltimore officials denied that the city would default

on some of its bonds. The decision reached in the matter of the extension of the foreign settlement at Shanghai has been ratified.

One million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in gold was announced to sail from New York on the Campania

Saturday, Dec. 28. fire in Fort Wayne, Ind., destroyed \$200,000 worth of property. The postoffice safe at Watkins, N. Y.

was blown open and robbed. Edward C. Hodges & Co., Boston, bankers and brokers, suspended business. A disastrous flood was reported along the Nooksack river, in Washington state. The subscriptions to the Lawton home fund from all sources have reached \$31,

The new boathouse of Harvard college oarsmen, just nearing completion, wasburned. The Noranmore, which arrived at Nor-

folk, reported the loss at sea of an unknown bark with 15 persons on board. The plague was reported to be raging in New Caledonia. The governments of Australia have taken elaborate precau-

Small Stock of Wool, BOSTON, Dec. 30,-The Commercial Bulletin says of the wool market: "The stock of wool in Boston is 65,400,200 pounds domestic and 10,592,000 pounds foreign against 80,403,090 domestic and

52,227,327 pounds foreign last year. Croker Breaks a Leg. LONDON, Jan. 2.—Richard Croker's leg was broken yesterday at his country place, Mont Honse, near Wantage, in Berkshice. The Tammany chieftain was trying to mount one of his horses for an early morning ride.

CURRENT COMMENT.

We have for generations boasted that this is the land of the free and the home of the brave, an asylum for the oppressed of all nations. Now our rulers deem it desirable to expand, and we start out to slaughter a simple people and take their land for our own Isn't this a pretty picture of inconsistency for a government boasting of its Christian civilization?

Philadelphia has secured the Repub-Hean national convention, and now she is trying to have the national headquarters located there. That would be strictly in accord with the eternal fitness of things, especially if Mark Hanna is to be the chief bottle holder, as seems likely. He would take to the Philadelphia method of carrying elections as readily as a duck runs to water. He would find it cheaper perbaps, and no more demoralizing than the wholesale bribery and intimidation used to pull McKinley through in 1896. Yes, by all means let Marcus locate headquarters and hindquarters, too, if he likes, in Philadelphia, for many of the Philadelphia fellows who see a horrid political specter in Matthew would take kindly to Mark.

In spite of all the paeans sung to the goddess of prosperity "murder will out." A few days ago a Washington dispatch gave the information that Secretary Gage had that day received telegrams from bankers in all parts of the country, declaring that a financial panic was impending, and urging him to take immediate steps to prevent it. What was the good Mr. Gage to do? He knows that we have more money than we need, because he said so; but he at once decided to buy bonds to the amount of \$25,000,000, so as to get the money out of his way simply, and also agreed to send out \$50,000,000 of the government's money to be deposited in national banks. Of course the banks had no use for it, because, according to Mr. Gage and his golden crew, we have all the money we need. But it was perhaps in Mr. Gage's way, and he sent it out. When such men as Gage talk about our having more money than we need and use that as an argument to deceive the people into favoring the single gold standard it is a pity that the fate which befel Ananias and Sapphira might not have a new illustration, as the old seems to have lost its

Professional military gentlemen are the vainest lot of human peacocks on the face of the earth, showing their self importance in every movement as they strut about togged out in tinsel and feathers. Naturally they are the greatest braggarts in existence, and can make the tamest sort of an engagement a heroic and terrible contest, a brilliant attack or a most gallant charge. When defeated it is always overwhelming numbers, and the retreat is simply a withdrawal in splendid order. General Methuen in sending an account of the skirmish at Modder river described it as the "bloodiest battle of the century," and said he was confronted by at least 8,000 Boers. It turned out that the Boer force was but 500 and the British loss 73 killed and about 400 wounded. Perhaps it was blue blood that the general had in mind that made things so bloody, for a little of that in his estimation would undoubtedly go a long ways. One would think from Roosevelt's description of the skirmish at San Juan that it was like Methuen's, one of the bloodiest engagements of the world's history, yet it was but a scratch, with little loss of life, which might have been still less had somebody with less dress parade courage and more judgment been in Roosevelt's place.

Fairy Rings.

Mr. Steele has an article in Knowledge on "Fairy Rings," those green circles in pastures which were formerly believed to be caused by the midnight revelry of the fairies. They are caused by a fungus whose spawn spreads centrifagally in every direction and forms a common felt frem which the fruit rises at its extreme edge, the soil of the inner disk is exhausted, and the spawn dies there while it spreads all round in an outward direction and produces another crop, whose spawn spreads again. The rank growth of the grasses composing these rings is probably due to the fungus taking up from the soil organic nitrogen which is not available to the grasses, and in some way becoming the medium of supply of the soil nitrogen to the grasses forming the

circle. " Experience is the Best Teacher."-We must be willing to learn from the experience other people. Every testimonial in favor of Hood's Sarsaparilla is the voice of exterience to you, and it is your duty, if your blood is impure and your health failing, to take this medicine. You have every reason take this medicine. to expect that it will do for you what it has for others. It is the best medicine that money can buy.

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The fancy skater is the chap who cuts ice just at present.

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tumbler, let it stand twenty-four hours. there is a sediment, or a cloudy, milky appearance, your kidneys are sick.

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