A Prayer.

When the world no solace gives When in deep distress I groan; When my lover and my friend Leave me with my grief alone; Fainting for the rocks and springs Overshadow me, O Lord,

With the comfort of thy wing! When my heart and flesh shall fail. When I yield my mortal breath, When I gather up my feet Icy with the chill of death;

With thine all-sufficient grace; Overlean my dying bed ness of thy face

When the pang, the strife is past, When my spirit mounts on high, Catch me up in thine embrace,

In thy bosom let me lie! ed from sin, and freed from death, Hid with thee, in heaven above, Oversplender me, O God, With the glory of thy love.

A TALE OF THE CIRCUIT. vacation, and old Tom Badger's turn for

line." He had cheated the gallows so often that Bill Quipley used to say he wondered how he could look a hempfield in the face.
"Did I ever tell you," said Tom,

giving his tumbler of julep an exhaustive suck—"Did I ever tell you, boys, about Obed Scott's case?" No, he never had.
"I should like to have such another

now," he resumed. "It was just desperate enough to put one on his legal metal; and I think, with my present experience, I could win three times out of five under similar circumstances. But I was a boy them." How was it?" we asked, desirous to cut short the preface.
"The case was in a nutshell," said

Tom, coming to the point,

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and see him on his last night. He was the only inmate of the little log jail, with walls three tiers of timber thick. door upon me. It wasn't usual then, as now, to keep close watch on con-demned criminals to see that they

didn't anticipate their doom. If they hanged themselves, it was so much trouble saved.
"'How do you feel, Obed?' I inquired, taking his hand kindly.
"'Jest mid'lin', he answered. 'You see I could a stood it a heap better if Hettie hadn't come here to see me.'
"'Die like a man,' I said; there's no

help for it now.'
"I can't do it, he replied; what's more, I won't.'
"I looked at him in surprise.

"'You see this yer rope,' he co this afternoon, detarmined, ef I had to be hanged, to do the job myself; but sence I seen Hettie, I've changed my My astonishment increased.

"'A lawyer han't no right to peach on s client, hez he?' he asked. "That was a question including sev-

"That was a question including several others, among them the important one when the relationship referred to might be considered ended.

"At any rate, cf you give the alarm now, I'll kill you," he said, quietly; and before I knew, he had grasped my arm with one hand, and placed the other on many routh. my mouth. "'You must submit to be gagged,

he added, in the same firm, determined the imperilling of my life. I saw that Obed was desperate, and would stick at

nothing. I was, moreover, an infant in his hands. 'He stuffed a wad of something into my mouth, and secured it by a bandage brought round and tied at the back of

my neck.

"Then compelling me to change clothing with him, he bound me hand and foot with the cord he had prepared, and fastened me on his bed. Then bidding me good night, he tapped at the door—my usual signal to be let out.

"I do not know if I would have

Going to Spelling School,

with us! It doesn't make any differ-ence that she went back on her word, grew up to be a hatched-faced old maid, her voice like a file and her temper like catsup—she was lovely then. "Would catsup-she was lovely then. the fair and lovely Augusta accept of our company to a spelling school out at Duck Lane Thursday night?" The fair Augusta would, she said, and she did. Such a moon! Such an easy mo-tion of the sleigh! Such singing in chorus! Every girl had a front door key in her pocket, and every young man felt as if he could climb a shed forty thousand feet high to get into his own chamber window. That fair young creature-how she pretended to shiver with cold until an arm was gently and affectionately placed around her waist! Then the weather suddenly grew warmer, and she didn't shiver any more. It was a beautiful night, we observed. She said she'd noticed the same thing, and she seemed to lean over a little more, like some of the tel-graph poles on Michigan avenue. Em-boldened, we observed that, Rill Jones boldened, we observed that Bill Jones and Sarah Jones seemed very affectionate. She said it seemed so to her, but having stuck the end of a horse more and more interesting, and with that fair young creature's head on our shoulder, we'd have set out to ride to shoulder, we'd have set out to ride to Vermont and back without a stop. She was so artless and innocent; so child-like and confiding. She told us all about how her step-mother pounded her with the rolling-pin, and when we thought of a rolling-pin whacking against her fragile form, and bounding over her plabater shoulders our heir Tom, coming to the point.

"Enos Burdge was an old settler, without wife or child, who began to feel hampered as the population averaged half a man to the square mile. He decided to sell out and go West.

"He had a choice tract of land, with a comfortable cabin on it; and Obed hid him 'good night,' in my voice and walk away numolested. I think I was glad I could not; for I had never more than half believed in Sectt, the likeliest young man in the settlement, made an offer to buy it.

Obed, instead of squandering his gains foolishly, as too many youngsters do, had saved them up. One reason of his prudence, mayhap, was his engagement to Hettie Ward, the pretiest girl I ever saw."

I ding me good night, he tapped at the door—my usual signal to be let out.

"I do not know if I would have ware divented the drowsy jailer if I could, as I heard Obed hid him 'good night,' in my voice and walk away numolested. I heard Obed hid him 'good night,' in my voice and walk away numolested. I heard Obed hid him 'good night,' in the dorm of Brighton. The schoolmaster was determined that Bungtown should win, and it did when we spelled omnibus with a double "s."

He had a choice tract of land, with a comfortable cabin on it; and Obed's guilt, and despite the incomvenience to myself, I entertained a server more than half believed in Obed's guilt, and despite the incomvenience to myself, I entertained a server we spelled omnibus with a double "s."

He had a choice tract of land, with a comfortable cabin on it; and Obed's guilt, and despite the incomvenience to myself, I entertained a server we spelled omnibus with a double "s."

He said it wasn't right, and when bring floor insisted he offered to uphold Bungtown with the iron poker. However, it was an offset to be consoled and sympathized with by "our girl." She poor Chinaman could strain no positively shed tears of anger and sympathized with by "our girl." She poor Chinaman could strain no positively shed tears of anger and sympathized with by "our girl." She poor Chinaman could str "Of course, there was a hubbut prudence, maybap, was his engagement to Hettis Ward, the proteinest girl I ever saw."

The old lawyer stopped to honer her with a reminiscent swig.

"Though others," he continued, "offered more, 'in payments,' Enos accepted Obed's bid; for the latter was ready to pay cash down, and Enos said he wished to quit the country for good, and 'didn't want to leave no onsettled business behint him."

"Of course, there was a hubbut sasistants came to the the was a sufficient vindication against such by the conversation well back to step-mothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and getting married, and she said of course there was one on the door behind. By and was still clutched in the remorseless grasp of the abalone which had so termothers, rolling pins, alabaster shoulders, and she sa

That fair young creature who went having stuck the end of a blanket in her eye, she wasn't prepared to make an affidavit. Somehow, after that the conversation began to grow that the conversation began to grow that the conversation began to grow the spoiling hand and causing inexthat the conversation, and with pressible agony. This was poor as interesting, and with pressible agony. As his evil star like and confiding. She told us all realized that he was doomed. From his position, leaning over the rock, he thought of a rolling-pin whacking against her fragile form, and bounding over her alabaster shoulders, our hair stood on end with mad frenzy. She said she sometimes thought she'd get married to except further, persecution, about the hand, if need be, he could free himstood on end with mad frenzy. She said she sometimes thought she'd get married to except further, persecution, about the was doomed. From Clothing and sume Grand total. That is to some is spent in one-eighth in expenses, and the properties of the tide which some properties of the tide which some received to the provide that he was doomed. From Clothing and sume Grand total. The state of the provide that he was doomed. From Clothing and sume Grand total and the provide that her was doomed. From the provide the provide that her was doomed. From the provide the provide that he was doomed. From the provide the provide that he was doomed. From the provide that he was doomed. From the provide that he was doomed. From Clothing and sume Grand total. The state is a could not brace himself, or obtain any leverage by which, at the sacrifice of the hand, if need be, he could free himself. We can imagine the agony suffered by this poor wretch as he waited for hours the rising of the tide which the provide that the was doomed. From the provide that he was doomed to be a provide that he was doomed to be a provide that he was doomed to be a provide

married to escape further persecution, and we were about to lay our hand on our heart and offer to be hers for evermore, when the sleigh stopped at the school house. It was Brighton against Bungtown, with the schoolmaster in tion, except the ancient Persian punish-favor of Bungtown. Such words as ment of the "boat," described minute-

and 'didn't want to leave no onsettled on the contract of the contract, Enos went before a justice of the peace, and duly executed a deed to Obed Scott, which he carried away with him only reply deigned to the young man's couraged me when she thought she contract of the couraged me when she thought she couraged me when she couraged me when she thought she couraged me when she thought she couraged me when she couraged me when she thought she couraged me when she couraged me when she couraged me when she thought she couraged me when she couraged

| The content of the

Items of Interest. What is the keynote of good breeding? B natural. Mexico now raises all the cotton need-The old-Murder will out. The new

arderers will out. What State is round on both ends and high in the middle? Ohio. Hot sand baths have been introduced in London for rheumatic patients.

In France the horse chestnut is ex-tensively used for the manufacture of Miss Bates, of Indianapolis, recently eccased, has bequeathed \$160,000 to