ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERY DAY LIFE

Stranger

A STORY comes here from Tecumsch, in the Pottawatomic country, Oklahoma, that seems to be well authenticated. It is to the effect that between Tecumseh and Purcell, on the banks of the Canadian river, lives John James, a negro, with his wife and half dozen children. One day a seven-year-old son took the baby, aged eight months, out for a ride had gone in swimming and left the baby black with them, and they viciously in the wagon on the bank. Suddenly the wagon started down on the bank, ran to the stream, but could find no traces of the baby. Help was secured and the river was dragged, but though the wagon was soon pulled out no baby could be found, and after three days the searchers gave up and funeral services were held in memory of the little one. A few days after the funeral the father and brother of the drowned child succeeded in landing an immense catfish that had swallowed the hook on their set lines. What was their horror, when they came to clean the fish, to find within its stomach the remains of the missing child. The body was badly mutilated. The remains of the child were replaced in a coffin with some portions of the fish, from which they could not be well separated, and another funeral was held."

THE Grand Duke George, the Czar's second son, who, ever since his enforced return, through illness, from his Indian tour has been under medical treatment for pulmonary disease, has been living at Abbas Tuman, in the Caucasus. private letter from the place states that His Imperial Highness is undergoing a most remarkable course of treatment. The walls in his apartments are bare and unpapered, the furniture is of plain wood or cane, without upholstering or stuff covering of any kind, and his bed consists only of the thinnest of mattresses. Throughout the past winter only a very moderate fire has been kept up, while the windows of the Grand Duke's room have been continuously open. His attendants have suffered dreadfully from the cold, but his medical advisers hold that this low temperature is very beneficial to their imperial patient, as it tends to destroy the bacillus and prevent the formation of tubercles. They maintain that the progress of the disease has been arrested, and express hopes that if the treatment which they prescribe is persevered with the Grand Duke will in two years' time have completely recovered.

AT 3.30 o'clock in the morning a daughter was born to the Emperor and Empress of Germany. This little daughter is the seventh child of her royal parents, and in consequence, if the legends be true concerning the seventh DURING a recent rainstorm at Ulvers-

SOMEWHAT STRANGE. He has a big trade. A bushel of clams delivered costs 60 cents. He feeds them 40 cents' worth. He gives a four-ounce drink. There are thirty-two drinks in a gallon and sixty-four drinks are secured from a bushel of clams. Net profit on a Queer Facts and Thrilling Adven- bushel of clams, \$2.20, and he sells on tures Which Show That Truth is some days six gallons. Many try to imitate him, but no one knows how to feed the clams as he does. His pigs grow fast, moreover.

BALLEY HOOVER, a young man employed on the Curtiss ranch near Woodlands, Cal., reports a strange/experience with birds. He was driving a single horse and buggy from the Fair ranch. When about two miles from Knight's Landing he was suddenly startled out of a doze by myriads of birds which swarmed In his wagon. Soon after the boy rushed down upon him, screaming angrily and into the house naked and stated that he flying at him. The air was literally attacked the horse, which was frightened into a frantic effort to run away. The and it and the baby plunged into the young man was scared beyond his powers river and sank out of sight. The parents of description. He fought the birds off with his whip and, directing the horse as best he could, was soon beyond their pursuit. He said they were nearly all blackbirds, although there appeared to be other species among the army of his winged enemies.

> "THE amount of moisture a letter of two or three pages will carry," says a business man, "is enormous and is frequently heavy enough to turn the scale and call for more postage. A large batch of mail matter of mine was reported 'held for postage' not long ago, and on going to the postoffice I found it weighed well within the limit. It was explained, however, that the mail was damp when delivered, and that the water soaked up by the paper must be paid for, although it has since evaporated, which seems to indicate that it is economical to copy letters at least an hour or two before mailing them."

H. C. LOCKLIN of Monroe, Ga., has a monstrosity in the way of a spider. The insect is undoubtedly a spider. Its legs and lower part of the body are of a white color, but a lead-colored shell like a terrapin's, covers the small body. Upon the convex, surface of the shell which is about as large as a man's thumbnail, there is imprinted the closest possible resemblance to the human face. Although exceedingly minute, the features are perfect in proportion and appearance, and the tiny skull is realistic and frightful.

JOHN A. STAPLES, of Newburg, N. Y. who recently invented a chair spring, has sold forty-nine shares of his patent for \$20,000. The inventor retains filtyone shares of the stock and the control of the invention. Mr. Staples' idea originated in a dream. He dreamed one night of the uncomfortable chairs that he had noticed in a far away hotel and how he would rig up a chair if he set about to do so. The next day he thought of this dream and at once set about getting the idea into shape. The scheme as outlined in the dream was followed and as a result Mr. Staples rigged up a novel and comfortable chair.

child, will be lucky all the days of her life. A multitude of legends and an of Hood was taken possession of by a

A CURIOUS PRODUCT.

What Shellac Is, and the Uses to Which It is Put.

What makes your Derby stiff? Shellac. What is scaling wax? Shellac principally What is shellac? It is the product of a composite mass that is found on the young twigs and branches of the butea, croton and other trees that grow in the countries of the east. Shellac is consumed in great quantities all over the world in commerce and in arts. It is kept in the shops and warehouses in large hogsheads. It varies in color and thinness and is transparent. It comes in broken pieces of irregular sizes, some of it being very thin.

The crude mass from which shellac is obtained is produced by a small insect (Cocars lacca) resembling somewhat the cochineal. The insect is hatched, ma- Globe-Democrat. tures and dies on these twigs. A number of female insects, with a few males, fasten themselves upon the tender twig and puncture the bark. A tenacious fluid exudes and envelops them. The insects feed upon this juice, derive their nourishment from it and deposit their eggs within it. The males only have wings, and as soon as the females begin other trees. After the females that remain in this gelatinous mass have de posited their eggs and have died, the eggs hatch out the young insect. The young burrow through the dead bodies of their mothers to the surface of the mass and cover the neighboring branches. The eggs are deposited close to the bark. so that they are protected by their and Portuguese are the prevailing lan-mother's bodies and by the mass that guages engraved on the face. has exuded and enveloped the female insects. Finally the young twigs are completely covered with a thick, hard, resinous substance. When the females cells like those of a honeycomb. As a

ments of a beautiful purple dye. When these twigs have been sufficiently loaded with this resinous mass the natives of the countries in which these trees grow strip the trees of these twigs and break them into small sticks. These hot, resinous substance is kneaded by finely engraved vignette of King Humthe hands to press out the purple dyestuff. After the gelatinous mass has become sufficiently soft it is taken out to melt. By twisting the bags the mass placed for that purpose. As it is dropdropping from the cloth bags small drops [Commercial Gazette, unavoidably fall to the ground and dry in little round bodies called cottonlac. Other and larger pieces that also fall to the ground and dry are called platelac.

small pieces of the twigs covered with to slaughtering houses and killed, and The liquid in which the sticklac or the crude mass was soaked is now filled the meat sold in the same way our beef is sold. In fact, this business is becomwith the results of decomposition and other matters. It is strained and evaporated until the residue is a purple mass. The residue is thoroughly dried and cut into cakes about two inches square, which are stamped with certain marks which indicate the quality of the dye. They are then carefully packed for the market. The purple dye obtained from this source is used to a great extent. The beautiful scarlet shade in soldier's cloth is produced by the use of this purple dye. The annual consumption of this dye, according to the Boston Globe, mounts to 1,200,000, pounds. The lac insect is a native of Siam, Assam, Burmah, Bengal and Malabar. The proportion of males to females is 1 to 5,000. The best shellac is that which renegades up the Missouri to its conis most completely freed from impurities and which approaches nearest to a light chase was so exciting that we didn't orange brown color. If the coloring realize how low our larder was getting matter is not all washed out the rosin is until it was drained, and we were getting very often dark; consequently there are different varieties, such as orange, garnet "replenish it. The game had all been and liver. The juice of the trees is some. driven out of the country ahead of us by what changed by the insects, so that if the fleeing Indian's, and when we finally anyone tells you that shellae is "a rosin" he is not correctly informed. Shellac is not the simple juice of the tree, but it is cat for several days, We captured about the result of the action of the insects upon the juice of rosin. Shellac contains them so round and sleek and fat as to several peculiar rosins.

and the stars and bars stream out on the smoky background like a portentous meteor. On they come: 800 yards, 700, 600! Gads! has our battery gone silent? Five hundred, 400! charge! Every spur sinks deep, the 'rebel yell' rises from every throat and the column leaps forward like a thunderbolt, into the face of which crashes the canister from our four 6-pounders. Great ragged holes are torn through the four-deep column, but they close instantly and it comes on unchecked. Now it is our turn! We are in front of the battery, in the pathway of the avalanche. We pour a volley into it at eighty yards! A hundred brave men reel out of their saddles, a hundred horses go plunging to their knees! The

line wavers! Another volley and another! The line breaks and suddenly retreats. while we swing our caps and cheer and hug each other for joy .- [St. Louis

Foreign Paper Money.

The Bank of England note is five inches by eight in dimensions, and is printed in black ink on Irish linen waterlined paper, plain white with ragged The notes of the Banque de edges. France are nade of white water-lined to die a few females and the males go to paper, printed in blue and black, with numerous mythological and allegorical pictures, and running in denomination from the twenty-five-franc note to the 1,000 franc. Sou'b American currency, in most countries, is about the size and appearance of American bills, except that cinnamon brown and slate blue are the prevailing colors, and that Spanish

The German currency is rather artistic. The bills are printed in green and black. They run in denominations from five to 1,000 marks. Their later bills are printed die the frames of their bodies form little on silk fiber paper. The Chinese paper currency is in red, white and yellow, result of decomposition there are the ele- with gilt lettering and gorgeous little hand-drawn devices. The bills, to the ordinary financier, might pass for wash-

ing bills, but they are worth good money in the Flowery Kingdom. Italian notes are of all sizes, shapes and colors. The smaller bills-five and 10 lire notes-are pieces are called sticklac. These proken printed on white paper in pink, blue and twigs are immersed in hot water and the carmine inks, and ornamented with a

bert. The 100-rouble note of Russia is barred from top to bottom with all the colors of and dried. It is then put into corrse the rainbow, blended as when shown cloth bags and suspended close to the through a prism. In the center in bold charcoal fires. Presently the mass begins relief stands a large, finely executed vignette of the Empress Catharine I. is squeezed out, dropping onto flat sticks This is in black. The other engraving is not at all intricate or elaborate, but is ping from the bags it hardly strikes the well done in dark and light brown and sticks before it is cooled by the air. It black inks. The Australian bill is printed forms into thin cakes as it is deposited on light-colored thick paper, which on these sticks on narrow. flat boards shows none of the silk fiber marks or and dries. These cakes or sheets are geometric lines used in American currency called shellac. As the melted mass is as a protection against counterfeiting .-

The Taste of Horsettesh.

Probably all of our readers know that in Paris old and decrepit horses are taken

THE SONG OF THE PEAR-TREE (From the French.)

A pear-tree stood at the end of the village. In the spring-time it seemed ike a nosegay of flowers. The gardener's odge stood back from the road; the gardener's daughter was called Perrine. We were lovers.

11. She was sixteen. What roses in her cheeks! As many blossoms as there were on the pear-tree. It was beneath the pear-tree that I said to her:

"Perrine, my Perrine, when will you marry me?"

III. Everything smiled about her; her hair, in which the wind played gently; her igure: her bare feet in their wooden shoes; her hands which drew down the overhanging boughs to breathe in the perume of the flowers; here pure brow; her eeth, white between her red lips. Ah! loved her dearly.

"Our wedding will be in the harvest-time," she said, "if the Emperor does aot carry you off as a soldier.'

IV. When the day for the drawing of lots

arrived, I lighted my taper; the idea of leaving her was more than I could bear. The Holy Virgin be praised !. But to Jean, my foster-brother, a worse lot fell. found him weeping and saying: 'Mother, my poor mother !"

V.

"Console yourself, Jean; I am an orphan, and will go in your stead," I said oughly restored. This novel apprenticeto him impulsively.

He would not believe me. Perrine stood under the pear-tree, her seautiful than her smiles.

soble thing. See, my Pierre, I will wait for you.'

Right, left, right, left! Forward, march! So we reached Wagram. Pierre, be brave! Here is the enemy. I saw a line of fire. There were 500 cannons thundering at once, and \$moke oppressed the lungs and blood soaked the feet.

I was afraid and looked behind me, VII.

Behind me was the village and the pear-tree whose blossoms had changed into fruit. I closed my eyes and saw Perrine, who was praying for me. God be praised! Pierre, be brave! For-ward, forward! Right, left! Aim, fire! "harge bayonet!

"Ah, ah! the recruit does well. Boy, what is your name?"

"Monsieur, my name is Pierre." "Pierre, I make you a corporal!"

VIII.

Perrine, O my Perrine! Corporal! Hurrah for war! The day of battle is a To rise in the army all that is oliday. accessary is to put one foot foremost. Left, right. Was it you, Pierre ?" "Yes, your majesty." I received my epaulets. There were plenty on the shoulders of

"Monsieur, my heart is like this. I wish a post in the vanguard, where I can die as a Christian soldier."

XVI.

The post in the vanguard was given

At the end of the village there is the grave of a Colonel killed on the day of ictory-two-and-twenty.

In place of a name there are these three words:

"God be praised !"

THE CHILKAT INDIANS.

Their Strange Character and Change of Customs.

From an article on "Pioneer Packhorses in Alaska," by E. J. Glave, in the Century the following quotation is made: 'The old-time Chilkat, dressed in skins and furs obtained from the inland tribes, had his garments picturesquely fringed. and tasseled, and beaded, and woven in with stained swanquills. He wore bracelets of copper, and carried copper spears, knives, and arrows. He was a warrior, and lived but to perish in battle. In those days no ceremony was complete unless attended by human sacrifice; execution of slaves was of frequent occurrence, for superstitious belief deemed disaster and illness the doing of angry spirits, only to be appeased by the shedding of human blood. Tribal wars and hand-tohand fights followed from the slightest disagreement.

"It was the custom then for all the young men in the village to plunge each morning, winter and summer, into the chilly stream, stay in the icy waters till benumbed with cold, and then to thrash one another with stout-thonged whips till circulation and animation were thorship is said to have had the effect of creating unusual stamina, producing the ability to withstand cold and hunger. yes filled with tears. They were more and deadening feeling. The Indians say that a warrior thus trained, though mor She said to me: "You have done a tally wounded, would face his foe and cut and stab while life remained. In such duels they protected their heads with wooden helmets, shaped in design according to their nation; they also wore buckskin shirts, and bound their arms with strips of leather. Gormandizing competitions used to be a popular form of entertainment; an immense trough. called Klook-Ook-Tsik, 14 feet long, 14 inches in width, and 15 in depth, was filled with meats, bear and mountaingoat, fish berries, and oil.

The present generation of Chilkat Indians is fast relinquishing tribal customs and ceremonies, and is taking but little interest in the history of its ancestors. Dances are no longer held in which family head-dresses and costumes are worn. The great wooden banqueting-trough is now embedded in moss and in grass that grows between the floor-boards in the house where once old 'Kay Tsoo' assembled his followers by drum-beat, despatched them on the trail for war or trade, declared the guilty and the innocent, and condemned to death as be willed.

"In character these Indians are a strange composition-unemotional, morose, unsympathetic, superstitious, indifferent to death, without the slightest idea of gratitude, and having an astonishing respect for the property of others. When on a trading-journey, or out hunting, they will leave their belongings hanging on bushes along the trail; and snow shoes, sometimes a musket, blankets, a leg of smoked bear, a dried salmon, are frequently noticed along an Indian path. "An incident happened to us which demonstrates their utter want of feeling for the interests of others. While at one of our camps a party of Indians returned from a journey to the interior which they had made on snow-shoes. I noticed that their chief, Klenta Koosh, was not with them on their return, and I asked of one of the Indians, 'Kusu Klenta Koosh' ('Where is Klenta Koosh')? 'Klake sekoo, klake setteen' ('I don't know.] have not seen him'). Then he explained that he had not seen the chief for three days. While crossing the mountains is long, but hope travels fast. Down they were caught in a dense fog; the party kept together for a tine by calling constantly to one another, but finally the voice of the chief grew fainter and fainter, and then could no longer be heard. In the same breath with this explanation the Indian asked me, 'Have the salmon started to run up our river?" I ignored his question, and asked again, 'But where is Klenta Koo h?' As if disgusted at my interest in such a trivial matter, the man answered quite snappishly, 'I don't know; either he has been killed by a bear or drowned crossing one of the swollen streams."

VI.

trade.

A TRAVELER describes a strange formation in Mitchell Courty, Texas, which, 50 to 100 feet deep. There are from fifteen to twenty of them, all filled with fresh water. By the long-continued churning of the gravel they have been made jug-shaped or cistern-like, and in some instances the wall dividing two have been a favorite watering-place with per cent. of the houses are tenements, wells has been cut through. This must the buffalo. In the solid rock is cut a deep trail down to the water. And where the descent is steepest the footmarks are over six inches deep, showing that every animal passing there put its foot exactly in the spot occupied by those which had preceded it."

An extraordinary story about stamps has been recalled by the recent death, at objections. New York has been called eighty-four years, of Miss Penelope Every, of Derby, England. About 1850 a paragraph went the rounds of the press to the effect that a wealthy and eccentric individual had announced his determination to send his daughter to a nunnery unless she could collect in a given time an almost impossible number of cancelled postage stamps. Miss Every applied to a friend who had interested himself in the case, and by some misunderstanding a second paragraph was published associating Miss Every's name with the task of collecting stamps towards the razsom. Immediately Egginton Hall-the residence of her father-was inundated with English and foreign stamps to the number of 2,500,000. The invasion was so great that Miss Every was obliged to ask in the papers that no further supplies might be sent. The enthusiastically applauded. She bowed further supplies might be sent. The enthusiastically applauded. She bowed letters which accompanied many of the repeatedly, and then rushed off the stage, consignments were bound up into portly to return presently, leading the comvolumes, and they might yet be seen in poser forward. He kissed his hand when the family library.

In Oldtown is a man who is making money fast out of clams, though he is at present feeding the clams to his pigs, says the Boston Transcript. He keeps a hotel and has bonded a clam flat down | line has been constructed by a mechanic around Mount Desert. His clams arrive in Warsaw, Poland. It represents a each day. He keeps them two weeks, feeding them on celery meal and Indian the time in four countries. Trains run meal. They laugh and grow fat. Then into or depart from the station every he boils them, a bushel at a time. He fifteen minutes. Station agents, teleputs in a quart of water and takes out eight quarts. The water is strained and passengers, are seen in action, and the set aside for a day in a refrigerator. Then it is heated, seasoned with salt and heard and seen, bells ringing, whistles pepper and sold for five cents a glass. blowing, etc.

atmosphere of superstitious reverence vast army of ants. They filled the stairhave in all time and in all ages clustered | case, crowded the floors, and swarmed about the number seven. To this day in the rooms to the dome, 150 feet high. Cornwall and in certain parts of Ireland The attendants carried them out by the belief is firmly fixed in the minds of basketfuls. The other week the same the peasantry that the touch of the thing occurred, and though to some seventh child of a seventh child is a cer- their conduct seems extraordinary, it is tain cure for the king's evil or scrofula, nothing to be wondered at that creatures and one man who lived in Bristol, Eng- intelligent enough to appoint monarchs, land, was called doctor till his death elect parliaments, maintain military dissimply because he happened to be a cipline, build houses, and keep slaves, seventh son. He was a ropemaker by should "know enough to go in when it rains.

THERE is an ancient superstition that the milk of red cows is better than that in our time at least, will be a reminder given by cows of any other color. A of the days when the buffalo roamed the Frenchman travelling through Great plains of the great West. "At the junc- Britain early in the eighteenth century tica of two creeks," he writes, "is a noted that cows were oftener black than bed of friable gray sandstone mixed with red in England, and that on this account coarse gravel. Water passing over the the milk of red cows was preferred to ledge has worn away a part of it, and those of black cows. He added that the has created a fall of thirty feet. The contrary was true of France. References loose gravel carried round and round in to the virtue of the red cow occur at the eddies has gradually bored holes in various points in English literature, and the sandstone. These holes are from among the sacrifices enjoyed for purificathree to six feet wide, circular, and from ion from sin in the Hebrew scriptures is a red heifer.

> REFERENCE has been made to the crowded condition of New York city, where there is an average of nearly nine. teen persons to every dwelling. Further investigation shows that over forty-two Out of 312,766 families only 37,604 live in houses by themselves, leaving 275,162 families living under the same roof with other people. There are 8,762 dwellings which contain over ten families each. Rents are very high, apartments in a flat renting for more than a whole house in other cities, and the purchase of a house, even on the instalment plan, offers grave "the landlord's paradise."

> A TRANSVAAL paper says of Mr. Stanley's achievements: " It would be easy for Fresident Kruger to name 1,000 burghers who would have gone as far for half the price as did Mr. Stanley, There are indeed many Boers who have done as much as Mr. Stanley has done, and more, in the way of African exploration, whose names are unknown, and who themselves think nothing of their different treks. The extraordinary success of Mr. Stanley in attaining worldwide renown is an excellent proof of what advertising can do.

An affecting incident was witnessed at a concert in Vienna. A lady had just the fresh applause greeted him, and pointed to the lady, intimating that to her the credit was due. He could not see the audience, for he is blind.

SOMETHING wonderful in the clock railway station with a clock-tower giving graphers, ticket-sellers, with lines of usual bustle and tumult of a station are

Checking a Cavairy Courge.

"I shall never forget the first time I and dressed we had a feast that would was under fire," said Colonel Thomas have made Lucullus turn green with Crenshaw, to a party of veterans who envy. We lived on this pony meat where fighting their battles o'er again several days. It was cooked without in the rotunda of the Laclede, "We salt, and roasted over a spit, like a were supporting a battery and had lain barbecued beef. The meat had a pedown on a stretch of ground as level as culiar sweet taste, not at all palatable, a ballroom. The Confeds were beyond when I think of it now, and it was so rifle shot, but they opened on us with fibrous that we could pull it apart in artillery, and they did everlastingly great strings. But it kept us from plough up the ground with shot and starving, and I, therefore, can heartily Every old soldier knows that ar- recommend pony meat to people in dire shell. tillery fire at long range is not half so straits."-[American Farmer. much to be dreaded as the rattle of muskctry, which sounds on the battle-field like Chinese firecrackers in a thunderstorm, but it is a good deal more 'skeery to a novice. There we lay for half an quick trot, 800 sabres leap into the air

ing quite important in the French metropolis, and the number of slaughtering houses and places where meat is sold has increased wonderfully during the past few years. But you will wonder how the horseflesh tastes. We cannot tell you how it tastes to the native Parisian, but we give the experience of an American army officer who was compelled to eat the meat of horses.

"You never ate horseficsh, I suppose," said Lieutenant Russell, of the 7th United States Cavalry. "I have seen the time when I ate it with genuine relish, and that, too, without any salt. It was in 1877, during General Miles's Nez Perces campaign. We had followed the fluence with the Yellowstone, and the too far away from the base of supplies to caught up with the redskins, and forced them to fight, we had almost nothing to 700 ponies from the Indians, some of appear to us the finest meat in the world. Our butchers killed the youngest and

fattest of the ponies that night after the battle, and as soon as they were skinned

An Under Valued Product.

The origin of maize, or Indian corn, is unknown, but it was first cultivated by hour, never moving a finger, watching white men on the James River, Virginia, Jean, my Brother, was the bridegroom. the puffs of flame from a dozen cannon 1608. It is, says Mr. C. J. Murphy, and the shells come tearing through the air with their fiendish shriek, apparently headed directly for our faces. I tellyou, a position of that kind tries the very well known in the world's markets, but soul of your raw recruit. Give him a maize is still shunned for use in the human chance to shoot back and he is all right, dietary of the British Isles and most of but fighting is one thing and waiting to the Continent. Yet analysis proves get killed without striking a blow is that the nutritive value of maize quite another. But there was more cannot be less than five-sixths of ahead of us. After the artillery duel had that of wheat. This food is, raged for some time a regiment of Con- moreover, of remarkable healthfulness, federate cavalry debouched from the and dyspepsia was hardly known in wood with all the deliberation and pre- America fifty years ago, when maize was cision of a dress parade. They were the principal food. A surprising number Mississippians, tall, athletic fellows who of delicacies and inexpensive dishes is sat their horses like centaurs. They halted and dressed ranks while the bat-teries behind them hurled a perfect rain for boiling, baking and cooking this great staple having been tested and of shells over their heads. We could approved. The annual surplus of maize see their Colonel riding down the line in the United States is enormous. It is and pointing with his sword to our bat- used for feeding cattle and hogs, making tery, which was plunging shells in glucose, starch, beer and whiskey, and among them with frightful rapidity, but little effect. They advanced a step or two, every horseman seeming to choose food for animals, and has been used as his ground. Here they come, slowly, fuel in treeless parts of the West, while steadily, like a great gray wave, conscious of irresistible power. The bugle rings out sharp and shrill, they break into a

IX.

"Monsicur, a thousand thanks"-and on to Moscow!

On the vast snow-covered plains a road marked by the dead; here, the river; there, the enemy; on both sides, death! "Who will place the first pontoon!"

"I. Monsieur. "Always you, Captain."

He gave me his cross.

the dead.

God be praised! Perrine, my Perrine,

you will be proud of me. The campaign s ended and I have my leave. Ring, bells, for our wedding. The road there, behind that hill, there is the vil-

I recognized the belfry. The bells are ringing.

XL

Ringing, but the pear tree? The month of flowers has come, but still I do not see the flower-laden branches. I had always seen them from afar. That was because I used to come on foot. They had cut down the tree of my early love. The blossoms had come. All the bright blossoms, but its branches lay scattered on the ground.

XIL "Why are the bells ringing, Matthicu?"

"For a wedding, Monsieur Le Capitaine.

Matthieu did not know me. A wedding! He told the truth. The bride and groom ascended the steps of the church

The bride was Perrine, my Perrine, joyous and more beautiful than ever.

XIII. The people around me were saying, "They love each other." "But Pierre," I asked.

"What Pierre?" they answered. They had forgotten me.

XIV.

I knelt at the church door. I prayed for Perrine and I prayed for Jean; all that I loved on earth.

The service over, I gathered a blossom from the pear-tree-a poor little withered blossom and went on my way without looking back. God be praised. They love each other.

They will be happy.

XV. "Monsieur !"

"You are back already, Pierre?" "Yes."

"You are only two-and-twenty. You will be a General, and you will be knighted. If you wish I will give you a countess for a wife."

flower, p zkel from the failen pear tree.

Friday Not the Most Unlucky Day.

A statistician of the German Government has come to the rescue of those persons who do not share the wide-spread superstition that Friday is the most unlucky day of the week. A short time ago he determined to make a scientific investigation of this question, using for the purpose, among other things, the records of the department of compulsory insurance. The most fatal or unfortunate week-day, according to the investigator, is not Friday, but Monday. Sixteen and seventy-four hundredths per cent. of all accidents, it seems, occurred on that day; 15.51 per cent. on Tuesday, 16.31 per cent. on Wednesday, 15.47 per cent. on Thursday, 16.38 per cent. on Friday, the same per cent. on Saturday, and 2.69 per cent. on Sunday. Comment upon the small percentage of accidents on the first day of the week is unnecessary. The compiler of the table, however, attributes the large relative number of accidents on Monday "to the excessive amount of liquor consumed on Sunday."

Origin of the Liberty Cap.

When the Romans manumitted a slave his head was adorned with a small red cloth cap. As soon as this was done ho was known as a libertinus or freedman. and his name was registered among others of the city's "tribes."

In the year 263, when Saturninus invaded the capital, says the New Orleans Picayune, he hoisted a cap on the point of his spear, to indicate that all slaves who rallied around this standard should Pierre took from his breast a withered be free. This was the origin of the liberty cap, still used in art as a symbol.