

SONG OF THE STARS.

When the daylight fades in the evening shades, And the blue moon in the gray, We pitch our tents in the firmament...

STORY OF A VALISE.

Returning from New York City by the E—Kail road a few years ago, I bought of the trainboy a copy of a Cincinnati paper, in which I read a long account of the robbery of the city National Bank of L—, Ky., and the sudden disappearance of its teller, Harry W. Swope.

commission to get a yard or two of "woods like the sample enclosed." I thrust it into my pocket and started out to dinner. I had not gone far before I suddenly stopped and took out the envelope the boy had given me, opened it and read it. At first I could not understand what it all meant; then I turned it over and went through it again. It read as follows: "Dear George:—Come home at once. In opening your valise to get your soiled linen to send to the laundry I discovered it packed with bank notes. What does it mean? Is anything wrong? Come home at once."

THE ORIGIN OF ANTHRACITE. A Probable Solution of One of the Long-Standing Mysteries of Science. The main difference between anthracite and bituminous coal is that the former is devoid of volatile matter. Heretofore the theory generally accepted to account for this difference was that presented a half century ago by Prof. Rogers, while conducting the first geological survey of Pennsylvania.

NOTES AND COMMENTS. Four thousand seven hundred and ten weeks is the record for the year ending June 30, 1893, 512 more than occurred the year previous. The present annual consumption of anthracite is about 40,000,000 tons, and this consumption has for some years been increasing at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

United States by the taxation method may arouse a curious interest in the question whether it might not be better for all concerned if Nicaragua were governed in a more enlightened manner. FONG CHUNG, a full blooded Chinese, is now acting United States Consul at Amoy, China. As such he has the power to try Americans resident in Amoy for breaches of the United States law, to which alone they are subject.

A PHYSICIAN tells the Cincinnati Times-Star that the widespread fear of disease germs is largely groundless. "Everything," he says, "is full of germs or crusted with them, but every germ is not harmful. Every disease germ on the body does not produce a disease. If it did there would not be a person on the face of the earth to-morrow. People lived before disease germs were known and were as healthy as they are to-day.