NEVER MIND!

Never mind if it hails or snows-Never mind how the storm-wind blows: Just what's best for you, God—He knows: Why should you weep and sigh?

Never mind when a world of woes Beats you down, with a thousand foes: Just what's best for you, God-He knows Over you bends His sky !

Never mind when the black night throws Darkness over your life's last rose, Dead in its loveliness! God still knows: Why should you sit and weep?

Never mind! there is sweet repose With the dying day-at the twilight's close, And unto the valley-the one God knows-Angels your steps shall keep! -[Atlanta Constitution.

# THE EARLIER BIRD.

BY CHARLES D. WILLARD.

and the '49ers, of its fruits, of its him all about the letters, travelers fetched a sigh so long and my woe. deep that it instantly attracted the "Yes, by proxy."

sided for many years. A trip to Cali- of the vigilance committee.' fornia, in those days, was looked upon "You frighten me," I said; "how- tary man, "that you acknowledge as a great undertaking, and I began to ever, as my letters are all genuine, and your name to be Elliot Bonworthy? talk it over with my numerous friends bear the names of many of the most and relatives several weeks before I prominent people of Cleveland, I set out. Presently I made a remark- hardly expect to meet with difficulties able discovery. It was that every one of that sort. of these friends and relatives had some acquaintance on the Pacific "but you may expect to be rather Coast, who would rejoice at the oppor- coldly treated.' tunity to welcome me afforded by a letter of introduction.

Now, as I understand a letter of in- going to destroy half the pleasure of troduction, it is a sort of a sight-draft, my visit to the coast.' friendship being the consideration, drawn by your friend on the stranger, verton no small amusement, and he which you are empowered to collectif you can. Your success depends after I had allowed it to drop. one; the stranger's general solvency some friends. Yelverton, also, made irregular, and the risk falls entirely on sion to look for something in my letter-of-introduction scheme; it may unfortunate bearer of the letter, trunk, and I came upon the hated have worked all right in San Franwho usually takes the thing on its face bundle of letters.

to get out of accepting these letters. bundle over to the table near where But it would not work. People seemed he stood. He picked it up, felt of its to think that they were conferring thickness, and then gave a sardonic some enormous favor on me, which, laugh. with the natural modesty of youth, I was seeking to decline. The more I boy," he said, and put the letters held off the greater was their zeal in back on the table amid a pile of newsmy behalf, and in several instances, I papers and magazines. am confident, it resulted in my having letters forced upon me which would place the next day, Yelverton made otherwise have been forgotten. What me promise that I would telegraph could I do? Nobody ever heard of such him when I left Denver, so that he athing as declining a letter of intro- might meet me on my arrival at the duction-it would be equivalent to coast. I promised it unhesitatingly, saying: "I don't want to meet your for I was satisfied that his friendship friend; he may be good enough for would bring opportunities not to be you, but I have no use for him." So slighted. I accepted all that were offered and Various circumstances which I concealed my true sentiments under need not detaillengthened my stay in an expansive mass of gratitude.

the bundle of letters had grown so I quite forgot about the letters of inlarge that it positively frightened me. troduction. When I was ready to Indeed, at times I was half resolved depart, however, I thought of them to abandon the trip, solely on account with a sudden and intense pang of of the premonition of evil that swept discomfort. over me whenever I contemplated that I telegraphed to Yelverton, and proawful heap. But I had now gone too ceeded to pack my trunk. Just as I was far to back out, and, depositing the about to turn the key, it suddenly letters in one corner of my trunk, I occurred to me that I had not noticed took my departure. There was a the bundle of letters in its customary crowd at the station to see me off, and place in the corner of the till. the last thing I heard, as the train opened the trunk and investigated. started, was a general cry of :

solemnly promised each one that I were not there now. would deliver his letter.

In the quiet solitude of the first day's ride, I had nothing to do but peared. think, and the bundle of letters provided me with subject matter. They told my story. He sent for the head constituted a problem whose vexa- chambermaid. tious conditions drove me half dis-

tracted. If I failed to deliver them-or to make at least an honest effort in be- chambermaid; "but Clara had that half of each-I should break my room when he first came." promise to a number of people whose good opinion I held in high esteem. said I. It would never do for me deliberately to admit on my return, that I glances. had scorned to make acquaintance with their friends, or that I had been I asked; "no one could have any posinsensible to their kindness in giving sible objectme the letters. On the other hand, I doubted whether I could manufac- asked me if the letters were valuable. ture excuses delicate enough to go was likely to find myself in the same things that she found lying around in the newcomers, emphatically. Country: I could not tell a lie-that ters are not there, the chances are

would get me out of the scrape.

on my part, for attentions, based on a awful incubus which had been weighthe sender and the recipient. Being a removed, and I breathed again. very young man, I was somewhat sen-The Boston experience was liable to be lost?" repeated on a magnificent scale.

The second day out I became acyoung New Yorker, by the name of Yelverton, seemed to take a special fancy to me, and we put in several hours conversing together. He had visited the coast before, and although only a few years my senior, was evi-There were four men in the smoking of experience in the world. Naturally, compartment of a Pullman, in an after our acquaintance had progressed overland train heading westward. to a certain stage, I talked of the sub-They talked of California-of its gold ject uppermost in my mind, and told

mountain scenery and of the hospi- I had hoped that he would say tality of the people. When the latter something that would prove reassursubject was reached, one of the ing; on the contrary, he aggravated of Cleveland?"

"Why, my dear fellow," he said, notice of the others, and they asked "if you are going to undertake to dehim its cause. He returned no an- liver those epistles, you have my symswer, Then one of them demanded pathy. Just now the very words to know whether he had ever experi- 'letter of introduction' are, to the av- ever, that my cool answer had disconenced the famous hospitality of the erage Californian, like a red rag to a certed him, for his hand shook as he Californians, and to this question he bull. They are a hospitable people, penciled the number of the room made the following strange reply: but their good nature has been so after my name, and his voice trem-Thereupon the grossly imposed upon by the horde of bled when he called up the bell boy. others, burning with curiosity, be- imposters and mountebanks that has of about twenty-five. My home was an immediate arrest from the police, and nodded. in Cleveland, where my family had re- or even severer treatment at the hands

"Probably not," said Yelverton; "Well, blast the letters!" I ex-

My annoyance seemed to afford Yelrecurred several times to the subject

upon several things; your friend's It was a part of my plan to stop credit with the stranger, for over in Denver about a week to visit claimed. -that is, his capacity for friendship a brief stay in that place, and we oc- pocket. "It means that you are un--for another, and his opinion of you cupied adjoining apartments in the der arrest," said he, "on a charge of the letters, Yelverton's performance same hotel. Once, when he hap- obtaining money under false pretransaction seems to me loose and pened to be in my room, I had occa- tenses.

"Here are those infernal docu-At first, I tried by various evasions ments," I remarked, tossing the

"You are certainly in for it, my

Before his deporture, which took

Denver from a week to nearly a At last, when I was ready to start, month, and in the course of that time

The letters were not to be found, either "Be sure and present my letter to in the till or elsewhere. Then I refluous-like most things said at part- to show to Yelverton, and had put ings-for the reason that I had already them on the table. However, they

> I made a thorough search of the room; the letters had plainly disap-I went immediately to the clerk and

"Who takes care of Mr. Bonworthy's room?" he asked.

"I have lost a package of letters," The two exchanged significant

"Do you think they were stolen?"

"Oh, no," said the clerk. Then he

"N-no," I said: "not exactly. around. Having been trained to "Well, I'll tell you," said the truth from my boyhood, I lacked the clerk, evidently much relieved: "we imaginative power which is needed let that girl Clara go, because she name. for artistic mendacity. In fact, I had a reckless way of burning up embarrassing situation that is said to the rooms. If you have made a thorhave overcome the Father of his ough search and you are sure the let- and Bill made a hasty reference to the more."

they are destroyed." So I finally settled it in my own mind I found it difficult to repress my told you the fellow had a blonde mus- six or eight times before allowing it

Then the other horn of the dilemma doubted if the clerk and head chambegan to gore me. Here were a lot of bermaid ever succeeded in explaining middle." of them. I was expected to hunt them fusing to make a row when one was up.

"That's one of his names," said the letters practically involved a demand, room in a transport of glee. The What do you know about him.' je-ne-sais-quoi relationship between ing down my spirits was suddenly

"What a blockhead I am," I said sitive on the score of snubs, and I saw to myself; "why did it never occur to them looming up in unlimited num- me to destroy the letters and claim, bers throughout the whole situation. on my return, that they had been necessary," I said.

Chance had supplied the excuse which imagination had been unable quainted with several of my fellow- to conjure up. I continued my jourpassengers. One of them, a bright ney, light-hearted as a prisoner who ances has just secured his freedom.

Yelverton had advised me to stop over at Sacramento-one of the historic cities of the state—and visit the capitol and other points of interest. I adopted the suggestion. The train dently a man who had had a good deal got into Sacramento in the morning. and I was driven right to a hotel.

> I wrote my name on the register, and asked for a room for one day. The clerk whirled the book around, glanced at the name, and said:

> 'All right, Mr. Bon-why, are you Mr. Bonworthy? Elliot Bonworthy 'Well," I said, with some dignity,

"what did you imagine I wrote that name for-amusement?' His tone and manner surprised and annoyed me. It was evident, how-

Ten minutes later, just as I was sought him to make himself under- poured in since the building of the completing a hasty toilet, there was stood. This he did in the following railroad, that it is no longer easy for a a knock at my door, and, in answer stranger to get into their good graces. to a "come in," the clerk entered, My first visit to the Golden State The letter-of-introduction device has followed by a tall, military-looking took place a number of years ago, when been worked until it is threadbare, and man. When the door was closed, the I was an inexperienced young man the man who offers to present one risks clerk motioned his hand toward me,

> "What is it?" I asked. "Do I understand," said the mili-"Of course I do," I answered some-

what angrily. "Well, I like this nerve," said the military man to the clerk, and the clerk grinned at me.

"Say," continued the military man, 'have you any friends in this town?' claimed, angrily; "I can see they are of introduction to several-The clerk gave a loud, derisive

> laugh. "That settles it, Bill," he said to his companion; "you had better run him city on the afternoon train.'

"What does all this mean?" I ex-Bill produced a paper from his The next day the newspapers con-We know all about your

jest come along quietly, and there

won't be any trouble; otherwise-" was my name, "Elliot Bonworthy," as plain as print. I don't need to senses fairly reeled with anguish. frightened. I had heard of men being me; I had been cheated out of it, mistaken for criminals and put to the partly through my own stupid misnecessity of proving their own iden- givings and partly through the tity, but here was I arrested under shrewdness and industry of this earlier my own name, in a place where I bird. had supposed myself unknown. What Now, then, gentlemen, (concluded could I do-or say? I asked a few the passenger who had been asked to questions, and learned that the crime | tell what he knew of the hospitality of that was charged had been committed the Californians) you understand in the city of San Francisco a week what I mean by saying that I received or two before. Of course, I could my welcome on the coast by proxy .prove an alibi at the trial-but, in the Argonaut. meantime, what was to be done to keep out of jail?

I accompanied Bill "quietly," as he had suggested-to the sheriff's office, and we waited until the next train left for San Francisco.

companion. The first half of the trip says the Indiana Farmer, that the sun he did his best to convince me that I at this season is very far to the south, ought to make a full confession to as we say, and instead of rising and him of all my various crimes. He going over our heads at noontime it promised to "stand in" and get me seems to describe a circle near the off with a light sentence. When he horizon. Farther north this is more found this undertaking hopeless, he apparent, and at some seasons it does began to talk about the country, an- not disappear from sight during the swering the questions which I. a entire twenty-four hours. stranger to the scenes through which we were passing, very naturally asked. off Norway the past summer, writes: membered that shortly after my ar- At length, however, as we were cross- "Imagine yourself on a ship at an-Of course the request was super- rival at the hotel I had taken them out ing the ferry from Oakland, when I ex- chor, looking west or straight in front pressed my satisfaction at beholding of you. There is a broad expanse of the Golden Gate for the first time, he sea a little to your right hand, behind turned on me, with a sheepish grin, you will be the rugged coast, and to

me full of prunes.

When we arrived in the city we went directly to the sheriff's office. \*

"We will take you to the jail later longer. "Maggie," answered the head on," said Bill, apologetically. plained that I was a tourist from while the air all of a sudden becomes announced that the jig was up, and pectant feeling, and surrounding the

had a very good case against me.

were ushered into the room. Bill ac- with its uprising to even greater companied them.

"He is not the man," said one of

infernal regions. "No!" cried the gentleman, "I that I must present all the letters | joy ac this intelligence. It is to be tache, blue eyes, was thick set and to be printed.

"Yelverton!" I exclaimed, springing trouble, and deliver to them a letter the room and executed a fresh search sheriff. "He went here under the apiece all around, after the fashion of so as to satisfy my conscience. When name of Elliot Bonworthy and he had Imitation the Sincerest Flattery -- He a conscientious and impartial mail- I was absolutely convinced that the an armful ef letters of introductions man. But that was not all. These letters were gone, I danced about the with which he worked the town.

"He stole those letters from me at Denver," I said. "Oh, then you are the simon-pure Elliot Bonworthy?" said one of the

gentlemen. "I can prove it readily enough if

"The sheriff and Bill began to make profuse apologies, to which I paid little attention, as I was anxious to learn of Yelverton and his perform-

"He arrived here nearly a month said one of the gentlemen, ago,' 'and began immediately to make acquaintance by means of these letters girl saw you kiss me last night. -your letters, it appears. They were city. So we took the man right in, | Detroit Free Press. for he talked and acted like a perfect gentleman. Well, sir, I don't suppose any man that ever come to this city got more elegant treatment than turning to his companion, who signified his entire agreement.

"Go on," I said, with an inward

'The best private houses and the clubs were all open to him and he received every possible attention. Several men I know gave him wine have an invitation. He gave it out that he was sizing things up for a profesh. syndicate of Cleveland capitalists that thought of investing largely in mines. Well, sir, I calculate that in the three weeks that he put in in this city he had probably one of the largest times that any man ever enjoyed. And he wound the thing up by getting the names of three or four good business men on spurious drafts and then suddenly disappeared from

"That was when I telegraphed him that I was coming," I said.

"Well," observed the speaker in conclusion, "if you have any more letters of introduction bearing that present them, for you are liable to get arrested every time you try one on.

I explained that Yelverton had captured the entire pack. The complain-"No," I said; "I had some letters ing witnesses then shook hands with me and departed. I imagine their experience with Yelverton discouraged them from any rash tenders of hospitality, for they did not suggest any improvement of our acquaintance. In-You can take him down to the deed, it was a cool stand off on both sides, for I did not fancy their sarcastic flings on the subject of the let-

and my arrest. The account given of the brief but glorious career of my proxy-the spurious Mr. Elliot Boncisco, but it doesn't go here. Now, tlemen I had met at the sheriff's worthy-convinced me that the genoffice were quite right in saying he had As I read of enjoyed a "large time." I glanced at the warrant. There suppers, dinners, fetes, balls, excursions, honors, attentions, etc., my remark that I was astonished and All this good time really belonged to

# A Strange Sunset.

On the north coast of Norway little boys and girls see very queer sunsets. Bill proved to be an entertaining You will notice now in our own State,

A writer who visited the North Sea the left the long, narrow fiord between "You'd better let up. It won't do no the islands and the mainland that the good. Of course you know the place as steamer has just traversed. You watch well as I do, and it's no use trying to fill the sun as it slowly, slowly sets; the island and the coasts look a rich, dark purple, and the shadows cast by the ship's masts grow longer and

"After a bit, when the sun has set The sheriff dispatched a messenger apparently twelve feet from the horiafter some of the complaining witnes- zon, it stops and seems to remain ses, and then proceeded to interview stationary for about twenty minutes; me. I told him my name and ex- then the very sea gulls hide away, Cleveland. He nodded his head and chilly. Each one has an awed, exthat I might as well confess, for they steamer broods a silence that may be felt. Soon the sun rises very slowly Presently two well-dressed men again, and the yellow clouds change beauty, first to the palest primrose 'This is the man," said the sheriff, and then to a bluish pink. The sky, 'He acknowledges it-at least the which was just now rose color, becomes gray, then pale emerald green, and lastly blue. Rock after rock stands out, caught by the sun's bright rays; "He isn't?" exclaimed the sheriff, and the reign of day has begun once

Pascal often copied a composition

JESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Had Silenced Her--Unparliamentary -- He Had Her, Etc., Etc.

EMITATION THE SINCEREST FLATTERY. Widow-I want a stone for my husband's grave exactly like the other one in the lot

Agent-But isn't it a trifle small for man of your husband's prominence? Widow-No, sir! If Thomas thought a stone like that was good enough for his first wife, I guess it's plenty good enough for Thomas .-

HE HAD SILENCED HER.

She-Oh, George, that horrid Brooks He-That's all right. She won't to many of the finest people in the say anything. I kissed her, too .-

## UNPARLIAMENTARY.

Peripatetic Pete-Well, fellers. what shall it be? Are we to boycott that fellow. Do you?" he asked, old Podgers for pilin' his wood in an obtrusive and insultin' manner in the front yard? or shall we make him come down extra?

Ubiquitous Swell-I don't care what the rest of you do, but I wash my hands of the whole business. of order. The chap as has jest set thing." suppers. There wasn't a social event down spoke of washing his hands. I of importance to which he failed to claim that his language is unparlia-

mentary. It is a reflection on the Peripatetic Pete-The p'int is well taken. The question is what are we goin' to do about old Podgers?-[Boston Transcript.

### HE HAD HER.

The Anti-Woman's Rights Man-No, women can't push their way through the world like men The Woman's Rights Woman-

They can, sir. The A. W. R. M .- Not so rapidly. The W. R. W.-Yes, sir.

The A. W. R. M .-- You are mistaken, madame. You start a man and woman out in the world at 20 same name, I would not advise you to | years of age each, and he'll be 30 before she's 24.—[New York Press.

## A FRANK EXPLANATION.

"Johnny," said the youngster's uncle, "your teacher tells me that your class is the most orderly in the whole school.

"Yes sir. I know she says that. You see, sir-"Well, what's the matter?"

"Why, our teacher is near-sighted.

JUST SO. "Jack said he was going to propose to Miss Snow last night and wouldn't

take 'No' for an answer. How did he 'He won her.'

He did? Well, it seems he gets

### Snow for an answer, after all." SOMEWHAT SIMILAR.

Mr. Sinnickle had just been reading of the marriage of a young woman with money to a man with a foreign

'Modern matrimony,' he remarked, "makes me think of the

'In what respect?''

"It's a combination of striking title, gilt-edged binding and mighty poor piece of work, after all.' Globe Democrat. NOT DISPOSED TO BE OBSTINATE.

Employer-There is a difference, sir, of \$250 between the amount of money your books show to be on hand and the amount actually on hand. What have you to say, sir?

Employe-I-I'm willing to submit the difference to arbitration.-Chicago Tribune.

# FATE.

Rollie-I wish I didn't like candy, mamma.

Mamma—Why, Rollie? Rollie—Why, because then I suppose people would give me lots of it.-Harper's Young People.

TOMMY'S AMIABLE RECREATIONS.

Charlie Pinafore? Tommy-'Cause I played with Charlie yesterday and I don't s'pose

Record. CHANGED HIS NAME WITH HIS OFFENSE. old offender.

Justice-What is your name? Prisoner-Sam Jackson.

charge."--[Texas Siftings.

# A ROMANTIC MOMENT.

Miss Saintlouis. as "after taking."

IT TALKS.

ure of the Tower of Babel.

Kate Field's Washington.

Prof. White-When did money first come into use? Brown-The exact date isn't known, the jet system, water has to be pumped

you learn that? Brown - By inductive analysis. SOMETHING UNNECESSARY.

Cholly---The doctaw has ordered a complete rest, has positively forbidden me even to think, dontcher-

know Cynicus---Did he have the gall to harge you for that advice?---[Truth,

AN ADDITION TO THE LANGUAGE.

"Would you call Dexter a poet?" "No, sir; he is a riminal."

"A what?" "Riminal. That's a word of my own. If a man who commits crimes is a criminal, I don't see why a man who commits rhymes shouldn't be a

### riminal."-[Life. WHY HE WAS LATE.

Teacher-Why are you late to

school? Boy-The streets are so slippery I

couldn't walk. Teacher-I didn't find them so. Boy-N-o, may be not. You see, I greased my soles so I could slide .-

## Good News.

"How are you getting along with your music lessons?" asked the caller. "Very peaceably, now," replied the

resolute girl. 'What do you mean?'' "The neighbors on both sides of us

#### have moved. QUITE ENOUGH.

"I've half a mind to write a magazine poem.

'All right. Half a mind seems to Wandering Willie-I rise to a p'int be about enough for that sort of

## DEPRESSING INFLUENCES.

His Father-What are you crying about Tommy?

Tommy (weeping bitterly)-I just read in an almanick (sob) where it says it's goin' to rain (sob) on the Fourth of July!"

# ANGLOMANIA.

Chollie-Oh, she is perfectly lovely; she paid me such a compliment. Fweddie-What was it?

Chollie-She said I was so un-American. Fweddie-How delightful. - [De-

troit Free Press. ON ONE ACCOUNT.

"I'd like to marry Miss Bullion on

one account.' "What's that?" "Her bank account."-[Philadel-

### phia Record. EFFECTING A SAVING.

Byers-What was your idea in getting vaccinated on your rheumatic arm? Sellers-Economy of pain. It

ouldn't make the arm hurt worse than it did already .- [Chicago Tribune. THE LATEST.

#### Wayside Bill-Did you know I'd got a job? Lingering Luke-Wot yer doin'?

riums.-[Judge. THE PROPER THING. Hungry Higgins-Wot's right, nowadays-t'ank you, or t'anks?

Wayside Bill-Sweeping out aqua-

#### Weary Watkins-I guess tanks would hit us about right .- [Indianapolis Journal.

UNDOUBTEDLY EXAGGERATED. "Doctor told mamma the other evening that if I didn't give up wearing fashionable bonnets I'd have neu-

"And so you're going back to the good old comfortable styles?"

'Nonsense, Lena; if people only make up their minds to it neuralgia isn't such an awful thing."-Judge.

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

"Were you discharged from your last place?

Yes, sir." "What for?"

"Good behavior." "How's that!" "Well, sir, it took two years and six months off my term."-[Hallo.

# Water Propulsion.

No plan yet proposed for substi-tuting jet boat propulsion for the screw or paddle wheels seems likely to realize the efficiency needed in His Mother-What are you moping such case. The chief reason assigned around the house for, Tommy? Why for this is that the power in a boat don't you go over and play with or self-navigating ship is not applied quite as on the locomotive; that is the driving-wheels of an engine take hold of a fixed base, and thrust he's well enough, yet .- Chicago against it, or a series of such basis. all the while, but the mechanical appliances used in propelling a vessel at sea act upon an extremely One of the local Justices of the Peace | mobile mass-something that tends identified the prisoner at the bar as an to slip, and does to some extent slip away from them. It is, in fact, only because the weight or inertia of the portion immediately in con-"Three years ago, when you were tact with the oar, paddle wheel, or up before me you said your name screw, offers some resistance, that was John Smith." "Yes, but that was on a different larger the watery bulk acted upon, the more stable it will be and hence the more progress will be secured. On the other hand, an equal amount The Marquis Van Dickens (at the of power may be consumed in moving swellest ball in London)-Surely I a little water a great distance astern have seen your beautiful face before, and a large amount a small distance; in the former case, however, Miss Saintlouis-More'n likely. Pa the leverage being almost lost, while used it on all his patent medicine ads in the latter it is largely retained, as "after taking." the power so as to strike broad surfaces rather slowly instead of small ones with great velocity. A minor consideration mentioned is that in sir; but it was subsequent to the fail- into the moving vessel before it is ejected, and a certain amount of force Prof. White.-Indeed! How did must be consumed in giving to it in the interval the forward motion which Brown — By inductive analysis, every other object inside the craft of the mount in the second always understood its language. - of power available for propulsion .-[New York Witness.