

THE PLAYHOUSE.

By Nixon Waterman.

It wasn't a house at all, you see
But only a big, flat stone;
Yet they called it a house, did the sisters three.

THE STING OF THE VIPER.

BY H. S. KELLER.

"Maledictions upon that white-faced fool! The girl was interested, attracted by me ere he came. That interest which I had taken so much pains to foster might in time have ripened into love.

man, as he quivered with rage. For the sake of transient pecuniary relief he had placed himself in the man's power. The rich Peruvian held his notes, which must be met or which would be destroyed upon the marriage of Marie to Don Jose.

BRICKS OF MANY COLORS.

Extensive Use of the Modern Light-Colored Bricks—The Brick Industry.

The more extensive use for building purposes of the light-colored bricks now so familiar to the eye was begun about fifteen years ago. Some light colored bricks were made before that, and for a considerable period there had been in the East a limited use of the buff bricks of Milwaukee; but up to that time the bricks used here were almost exclusively red.

OUR FASHION COLUMN.

Ladies' Waist.

This artistic conception of waist for a street dress is developed in diagonal bayadere poplin, stylish terra cotta and black. The draped vest and stock, the graceful fronts, symmetrically curving toward the vest and over the shoul-



der forming a deep collar in the back, together with the popular Medici collar make it one of the most delightful to the eyes. A fitted lining forms the foundation on which is adjusted the seamless back, plain, but for a little fullness at the bottom of the waist.

Ladies' Eton Jacket.

Never was the popularity of the Eton more clearly demonstrated than by the various forms it takes this season. This one is made of fawn colored broad cloth, decorated with four rows of machine stitching. The vest and belt being of a rich golden brown mirror velvet. The popular and pic-



turesque medici collar with a plain stock inside it finishes the neck. The revers, wide at the shoulder folded to a point at the waist line. The portion of the fronts from the centre to the dart are seamless and plain with a circular portion added below the waist line. The sleeves are dart fitted and have a deep circular cuff flaring slightly over the hand and open at the outside seam of the sleeve. One-quarter of a yard of velvet cut on the bias is sufficient for the vest and belt.

Ladies' Shirt Waist.

This waist is designed to be trimmed with insertion put on as illustrated, one on the box plait and two at each side at equal intervals, and three in the back so arranged as to meet at the waist line giving a V effect, in the back. The insertion should be fast-



ened on the cloth, and the material afterward cut out and turned back beneath it. The shirt waist has no yoke, the back being seamless and plain, save at the waist line, in the centre back there is a little fullness arranged in gathers. The fronts are slightly full at the neck band and shoulder line and also gathered at the waist line, the gathers being arranged near the centre. A band for the attachment of a stock collar is provided for the neck. The sleeve is one-sleeved, gathered at the arm's eye and cuff. A sleeve lap finishes the opening of the cuff. The pattern provides for a standing collar.

THE KEYSTONE STATE.

Latest News Gleaned from Various Parts.

AGED JOCKEY'S CRIME.

After Killing Maud Besser, at Brookwayville, Fred Walker Attempts Suicide—Attempted to Kill His Wife—End His Life—West Chester—Faster Nearly Crushed—Other Live News.

A terrible murder and attempt at suicide occurred at Brookwayville, a little village in Jefferson County, twelve miles north of Dubois. The perpetrator of the crime was Fred Walker, a jockey, aged 64, who made his home at Brookwayville. He lies in a dying condition from the effects of poison, self-inflicted. The victim was a woman known as Maud Besser, with whom, it is said, Walker had been living for some time, until within a few weeks preceding the tragedy. The Besser woman finally refused to live longer with Walker and his efforts to make her return to him proved futile. Walker drank heavily all of Saturday and in the evening he purchased some laudanum and walked four miles from Brookwayville to the home of a family named Slivis, with whom the Besser woman was living. A rap on the door brought Slivis down and Walker asked for the woman, who appeared. Slivis retired, but was awakened a few moments later by two pistol shots, and, rushing downstairs, he met the ghastly sight of Mrs. Besser lying dead with two bullets in her body. Near her lay Walker, clutching the empty laudanum bottle. His explanation of the crime was that the woman had tried to poison him. He will die.

Fisherman's Awful Flight. A singular accident, accompanied by almost fatal results, occurred on the river near Chester. While bringing 157 shad to the Chester market in a skiff Valentine Linderman, of Marcus Hook, and a colored man was thrown into the river by the skiff capsizing. Linderman got entangled in the net and was helpless. He would have drowned but for his companion, who heroically struggled to save him. A boat put off from shore and brought in the men and skiff and net. The shad were lost. The singular part of the accident is that the skiff capsized in smooth water during a light breeze.

Rev. W. R. Patton, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Media, had a narrow escape from being crushed to death under the wheels of a trolley car. He was about to board a car on the corner of Jackson and Washington Streets when the iron plate on the street culvert was tipped up by the car wheels crossing it, tripping Mr. Patton and throwing him against the car and almost under the wheels. He was caught and held in the iron culvert until released by the motorman. His injuries consist of bruises about the head and shoulders and contusions of the lower limbs.

Horses Perish in Barn Fire. The large frame barn of George M. Derhammer, near Chestnut Hill, in Forks Township, was discovered to be on fire. Three horses perished, and several wagons, a lot of harness, grain, hay and various farm implements were burned. The loss will reach \$3,000. The origin of the fire is not definitely known. It is thought that an intoxicated man crept into the barn to sleep, and accidentally set the hay on fire while lighting his pipe.

Injured by Suicidal Leap. Wilhelm Koons, aged about 62 years, a tinsmith by trade, attempted to commit suicide by jumping out of a third-story window of the Peters House, Allentown. Koons was badly injured. One of his legs was fractured in three places and his thigh was broken. Koons had confided to an acquaintance that he had trouble. He has several married children living in Philadelphia.

Wages Advanced One-Third. Potts Brothers' Iron Company, at Pottsville, has announced a further increase of 33 cents per ton on puddling wages, to take effect May 1, which will raise the rate \$3 per ton. This increase makes an advance of 33 1/3 per cent. within one month. The Glasgow Iron Company, which is also the lessee of the Pottsville Iron Company mills will, it is understood, make the same advance at once.

Unknown Man Killed. An unknown man met a horrible death on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, near Ferrance Bridge Station, Allentown. He was walking on the tracks, and in stepping out of the way of a freight train, stepped in front of the milk train. The man's head was mutilated beyond recognition, and his body was cut up. He was well dressed. Coroner Yost held an inquest, but the remains could not be identified.

Collision Caused Death. Daniel Werley died near Greenwald's Station as the result of a collision. Teams driven by Morgan Levan and Mr. Werley collided at the Albany Bridge, and Mr. Werley was run over, bursting a blood vessel. He was 65 years old.

Up Go Their Wages. The Bessemer Association of Mahoning and Shetango Valleys have decided to grant an increase in wages to blast furnace employees of 10 per cent., to take effect May 1. The advance was made voluntarily and is the second within thirty days. Between 4,000 and 5,000 men are affected in the two valleys.

Suicide Because of Grief. George Jones, of Harrisville, aged 40 years, a butcher, committed suicide by severing his throat with a knife. A note was found on which was written these words: "I cannot longer endure the grief over the loss of my wife, and I go to join her." Mrs. Jones died about two months ago.

A Striker for Facts. Tired Treadwell—Ah, dat was too bad! You asked fer bread and dey gives you a stone. Sauntering Slim—Naw; git it fer. Git it right! I asked dem fer bread and dey gives me a hunk of coal in de neck.—Chicago News.

A Mere Compliment. "What's an empty title, pa?" "An empty title is your mother's way of calling me the head of the house."

placable hatred, often provoked simply because a man is in attendance upon another animal (for it is the rule with tuskers to detest their next neighbors), speaks more conclusively of a high intellectual guide than all stories, true or false, that have been told of their ability. Such concentration and fixedness of purpose, such careful, unrelaxed vigilance, such perfect and consistent pretense, and, when the time comes, such desperate, unhesitating energy as homicidal animals exhibit, are impossible without a very irregular development.

High Speed on French Railroads.

Of late years, a few of the French railroads, notably the Chemin de Fer du Nord, have been paying particular attention to their express train service, with the result that the last named now holds the leading place, running several of its crack trains at an average speed, including stops, of over 54.5 miles per hour.

Standing Up for Oliver Cromwell.

Whether Cromwell actually suppressed the festival of Christmas is a difficult question to decide. But he is accused of doing many things he did not do, and we may perhaps judge by analogy. He did not suppress music in all of the cathedrals, nor did he dismiss the organist of Westminster Abbey, for a new organist was appointed in 1655 by order of Council to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Portman, who had held the office since the reign of Charles I. Cromwell, moreover, was a great lover of the organ. Nor did he, at any rate for any so-called Puritanical reasons, suppress the drama. Theatres were closed on account of the civil wars, and the prohibition was only to last "while these sad causes" do continue.

The revival commenced in 1656, when Cromwell was at the height of his power—not, as some suppose, at the Restoration. Nor can the patron of Milton, the greatest of our poets, of Walker and Cooper, the greatest native-born painters of the century, and of Simon, the prince of coin engravers, be accused with justice of either indifference or hostility to the fine arts.—Notes and Queries.

Quick Work on the Bible.

Recent events have stirred the British and Foreign Bible Society to some prompt feats of translation, and portions of the New Testament in no less than four tongues are in preparation for the Philippines. The first three Gospels and the Acts in Tagalog, the language of the dominant native race there, are actually printed; St. Luke's Gospel in Ilocono is nearly finished; and the same book in Bicol is ready for issue. These renderings, it appears are largely due to the energy of the society's agent in Madrid, Rev. R. O. Walker, who secured the collaboration of some exiled Filipinos.

Good Sense Talk About Health.

There is, it is true, as great an inequality in the inheritance of health as in the bequest of wealth or brains. Some are born with a fortune of vigor and soundness so large that not a lifetime of eager squandering will leave them poor, and others enter the world paupers of need so dire that no charity from medicine can ever raise them to comfort, but most of us have just that mediocre legacy of vitality which renders us undistinguishable units in the mass. It lies in the hands of each to improve or waste that property as he chooses, for there are self-made men physically as well as financially; those who, because of ancestral wastefulness, have only a sixpence of health, and turn it into a fortune; and there are spendthrifts of health who come to as sorrowful case as spendthrifts of gold. The body is a realm where a wise and frugal ruler brings happiness as surely as a foolish one insures distress, and wisdom here, as elsewhere, lies in learning and obeying natural laws.—North American Review.

ODD VIEWS OF POLICE DUTY.

People Who Want Postage Stamps, Ice Water, Door Keys and Money. "It's easy to criticise the police department," said a sergeant in the back room of a station-house, "but the general public has no idea of the many different things we have to do and of the annoyances to which we are subjected. When I was on duty in some of the south side precincts people used to come to the station and ask for the queerest things. Hardly a day went by that some one didn't come around and ask for postage stamps, while in the summer time they used to come in droves for a drink of ice water. When he remonstrated with them, they'd say: 'Vel, don't ve pay taxes for de ice, and shouldn't ve drink it, what? As a matter of fact, the ice is paid for by the policemen themselves, but you couldn't make them understand it.' "One night about 10 o'clock, when I was on the desk, a big, stout German came in and walked up to the rail. "Sergeant, my wife is gone out mit der key and I am locked out," he said. "Well, I said, 'what can I do about it?' " "Vy, sendt a policeman und make me get in der house, dot's what. I didn't spend my time arguing with him, you can bet. " "But that was not the worst case by any means. A poor tailor living on the top floor of a tenement down that way committed suicide after a quarrel with his wife. The man was dead when the ambulance came. A few hours later the widow sent her little girl around to the house to say that she had no money, and unless some one helped her out the man would have to be buried in the potter's field. The police are often called on in similar cases, so the boys clipped in all around and raised \$10. I gave that to the child and sent her away. Soon after it was time for roll call and another sergeant came on duty. He was busy writing up the blotter when the same girl returned. "My mudder says can I get any more, she said. " "What? said the sergeant, who had been asleep and didn't know about the collection. "My mudder says can I come around next month an' git some more money,' was the reply. She didn't get any more, and that incident was somewhat of a damper on charity in that particular station for quite a while."—Chicago Tribune.

Elephant Great in Crime.

Few more impressive confidences can be imparted than one in which a Hindoo describes how he knows his elephant intends to destroy him. It is all so seemingly trivial, and yet in reality of such deadly significance. His story is so full of details that prove the man's profound understanding of what he is talking about that one remains equally amazed at the brute's power to dissemble and its intended victim's insight into the would-be murderer's character. And yet, from the psychological standpoint, an elephant never gives any other such indication of mental power as is exhibited in its revenge. That patient, watchful, im-