THE WRITING ON THE PANE

As the rain comes down and the world

grows dark. Alone at the window she lingers. Writing a name on the frosted pane With the tips of her slim little fingers. Now it's a signature out in full, With curlycues round it rolling. Now initials, and now "dear John," "Jack, beloved," the list goes on; But ever the same Is the mystic name Her fingers are idly scrolling.

Down in the corner, with absent air, Her finger now slowly traces In tiny letters and "M-r-s;" But what was coming you'll have to

guess, For a shy little heart Gives a terrified start, And a quick little palm erases. There's never a name on the window-

Where cloudy, the frost still lingers, But somebody's cheeks are nushed and red.

And chilled are somebody's fingers. -New York News.

Jasper Dane's Caller.

Processossossossosses valgi Mennenenenenenenenenenenen (By W. R. Rose)

The door creaked very slightly, but it jarred on Jasper Dane's nerves. He looked up with a frown.

"Is this Mr. Dane?" A young woman was framed in the doorway.

Jasper's frown slightly faded as he caught sight of her. She was a pretty young woman and charmingly gowned, and she wasn't more than one and twenty. Jasper avoided the woman's page of his paper. He couldn't have told what the young woman in the doorway wore, but he recognized the fact that it was a combination that

seemed to be just suited to her. "Mr. Dane, the editor?" Jasper, pencil in hand, bowed again.

The young woman advanced into the apartment.

"You are much younger than I supposed you to be," she said. Jasper's eyes opened wider.

"I am not quite sure that I ought to take that as a compliment," he said. He even smiled. Then the pressing character of his work reminded him. His features stiffened. He raised his pencil again, and looked at the girl severely.

"It's the very first time I was ever in an editor's sanctum." she said as her glance took in the dingy walls and the littered desk.

"How can I serve you, madam?" inquired Jasper. The girl looked at him and she look-

ed at the chair beside his desk. "Thank you," she said and sat do

Jasper sighed and stared at the halfwritten sheet before him. "Are you sure it is the editor you

want to see?" he asked. "The society editor is at lower end of the hall. So are the musical editor and the art department. So is the dramatic edit-

"I came to see you," said the girl. Jasper slightly flushed. "Thank you," he said. "I am on ex-

hibition at all hours. Is that all?" The girl shook her head. "Do you own the paper, too?" she

Jasper frowned. "No," he replied. "I believe it is

generally understood that Mr. Linus Lamson is the paper's owner."

"The railway president?" "Yes." "Has he any children?"

"One." "Boy?"

"No, a girl. A little girl who is studying abroad."

"How old?" "I don't know. Mr. Lamson speaks of her as his little girl." Jasper was getting fidgety. "I beg your pardon," he added, "but you have not told me

how I can serve you." "No," she said, "I haven't." A brief silence followed. "Am I to infer that you are getting

up a society directory?" Jasper in quired with a slight flavor of sarcasm. "No," said the girl, "the inference would be wrong. Nor do I want my portrait on the society page. No. I have no tickets to sell and no subscription paper to sign. I came here to see the editor of the Dispatch. He's

well worth your while." Jasper couldn't help flushing again. "Am I reckoned among the leading sights of the town?" he asked

"No," the girl gravely replied. "You come between the geyser fountain and the zoo."

Jasper laughed. "And do you come here to tell me

that?" he asked. "That for one thing,' said the girl. "I don't suppose my presence here

bothers you in the least, does it?" "Madam," said Jasper, "I am a reckless user of the truth. Your presence prevents me from attending to my duties."

"Perhaps this is your busy day?" said the girl innocently.

"My days are all more or less busy,"

said Jasper. "Then, of course, it is just as convenient for me to call today as any

other day," said the girl. Jasper looked at her with a comical expression. He was a little nearsighted, and as was his custom with callers he had scarcely given her an appreciative look when she entered. Now, at shorter range, he saw that Then he read it aloud: she was much prettier than he at first supposed. She certainly was a very Leonie, just come home from abroad.

into Jasper's eyes.

"I beg your pardon,' he said, "but may I remind you that you haven't stated your business with me?"

The girl looked into his eyes with a this splendid young woman! How clear, frank gaze. Then she slightly charming she was, and how friendly. smiled and slowly removed an elastic Had he hurt her feelings? What band that held the small package she brute he was! It would have been bore in one neatly gloved little hand. such a simple favor to publish the Jasper took quick advantage of her verses. And she never showed him averted gaze to pull down his cuffs her father's note. That was noble of and make a quick pass at his twisted her.

"I have written something," she said, over his work.

'and I want to submit it to you." Jasper felt himself weakening. Ordinarily he would have taken the manuscript and hastily scribbling the writer's address on it, would have tossed it aside with the remark that he would communicate with the writer by mail concerning it—and then he would Experiments Which Are Awaited by have resumed his work. Now he hesitated. His pencil dropped from his He straightened up a little.

"What is the nature of this article?" he asked in what he fancied to be an indifferent tone. "It isn't an article," said the girl.

'Do I look like a person who would write an article?" "It isn't always possible to judge by

> the appearance," he said. "But I fancied article writers were always old, and-and fussy, and-and cranky," said the girl.

> "There are exceptions," said Jasper. 'There must be exceptions."

"I suppose you know," said the girl 'But, it isn't an article." "You arouse my worst fears," said Jasper as the girl spread out the

manuscript. "I think I understand what you mean," she said.

"I am glad you do," said Jasper. "And I'm glad your worst fears are confirmed," she said. Jasper sighed.

"Then it is verses?" he said. "I supposed it was poetry," said the girl.

"They always do," said Jasper. The girl looked up at him with a pretty grimace.

"You are not a bit encouraging," she said. "It's the better way," said Jasper. "And yet you write verses yourself,"

said the girl. "And get them printed, "Perhaps it is because I haven't a friend honest enough to dissuade me," said Jasper. "I have had no time for

that sort of nonsense lately, however." "That's a pity," said the girl. "Don't think to soften me in that

way," said Jasper. I like those lines beginning 'She came upon me unawares," said the girl. "I know them by heart. "She came upon me unawares, I turned and she was there."

"I beg your pardon," cried Jasper. 'It is your lines that are under consideration. Pray produce them." The girl gave him a sidelong glance.

"Did she come upon you unawares, Mr Dane? Jasper caught the glance and slightly flushed. His look grew troubled

"I live in hopes," he said.

"That's enigmatical," laughed the girl. "It shows you are not sure." "I must object to your manifest intention to throw me into a sentimental mood," said Jasper. "It will not help

The girl laughed and passed the manuscript to him.

"I know you will like it," she said. "Why are you so certain?" Jasper

"Because I haven't written on both sides of the paper," said the girl, Jasper bent over the manuscript to hide his smile. Then his look changed The smile faded. He read the lines with great care. Presently he looked

The girl had been regarding him intently.

She met his eyes with an inquiring "You want me to be frank?" he said. "Of course."

"The lines are quite too sentimental. They are of the old school where sentiment reigned. Nowadays we bluntly call it gush. "But it's not all bad, is it?" queried

the girl. "By no means," replied Jasper,"The execution is good. If the fripperies and affectations were dropped it would be very passable. If you would heed my advice-they never do-I might be

tempted to ask you to try again." ed it to her.

"Thank you," said the girl. harsh," said Jasper.

"It doesn't," said the girl. honest friend should," said Jasper.

verses in your paper.' "Try again," said Jasper.

"I am glad to know you, Mr. Dane," has sung your praises until I am quite more imposing appearance. jealous. I was really anxious to meet you. Good-bye." Then she "I am sure we shall meet again."

came Jasper. "I-I hope so," he fairly stammered as he arose to his feet and watched

her flutter from the room. As he resumed his seat a card upon caught sight of his name and at once Express. recognized the angular handwriting.

Dear Dane-This is my daughter

charming girl. A troubled look came What she writes goes, of course.

LINAS LAMSON.

Dane softly whistled. So this was Lamson's little girl.

He picked up his pencil and bent And presently he softly hummed:

She came upon me unawares, I turned and she was there. -Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A RESPIRATION METER

the Scientific World With Interest.

Undoubtedly no series of scientific experiments in which the variable fact or of human action is embraced have been so accurately and perfectly carried out as the nutrition experiments. that have been conducted by the Government during the past five years. Marvelous, however, as was the respi ration calorimeter employed in the first series of these experiments it is exceeded in delicacy and adaptability by the improved calorimeter now nearing completion. As an example of its extreme sensitiveness it is asserted that while the original machine registered the heat development by so slight a motion as that of rising from a chair, the new apparatus is designed with a delicacy that will record the heat given off in a sudden cough or sneeze or change of position in bed. To the lay reader all this may seem like sheer nonsense. As a matter of fact, however, it is carefully considered scientific statement. Whether the elaborate machine which has been devised will successfully register such slight changes in temperature remains to be proven, but it seems very probable, as the device is the outcome of five years of experimentation and is but a step in advance of the successful machines of the same type already in use.

Briefly, the new respiration calorimeter is a wooden box carefully in sulated from the conduction of heat and provided with an elaborate network of pipes for keeping the air within cool and a network of electric wires for keeping it at a given temperature. Food and drink are introduced by an elaborate double door system designed to exclude the introduction of air from the outside. The amount of water used for cooling and its temperature. to the fiftieth of a degree, are recorded, the data being used in determining the heat absorbed by it in the cooling process. The heat liberated by the electric wires is readily ascertained from the measured current strength and resistance of the wire network. A telephone system permits conversation with the outside world and a double glass window enables the experiments to watch the movements of the sub-

ject. Part of the experiments calls for hard muscular labor which is furnished by a stationary bicycle geared to an electric dynamo. The machine is geared to 96, and when riding at the fastest pace the armature of the dynamo runs at 3,500 revolutions a minute. The amount of current generated by the man pedaling the bicycle is carefully measured and readily gives the amount of energy usefully expended. while the temperature of the air within the machine and of the body give

the total expenditure of energy. The scieneific world will await with great expectation the outcome of these carefully planned experiments, which will no doubt do much to clear up the difficulties in the way of practical knowledge of the uses and value of foods. The scheme is to record carefully the man's weight, his temperature, the weight of his food and analysis of same, as well as the waste and the energy expended in useful work, heating effects, etc. Anowing the intake of food and the useful output from the same it is possible to gain accurate knowledge of its assimilation, and other points of scientific and practical interest. The men who are experimented with live in the instrument for a number of days at a

Traits of Dickens.

"One peculiarity about Dickens I remember well," writes Mr. Justin Mc-He folded the manuscript and hand- Carthy in his chatty article on celebri-

ties. "He had an intense love of the open "I am sorry if my judgment seems air, and even in the depths of a London winter, if he came into the house of a friend and entered a room the "I have tried to treat you as an windows of which were closed, his first business seemed to be to throw "Thank you again," said the girl. "I all the windows open, and make the will admit that I hoped to see my apartment as breezy as it could be made in a London street.

"Curiously enough, that sort of nerv The girl arose and put out her dainty ous trepidation which I always felt in the presence of Dickens never possessed me when I came near to Trackeray, said. "I have a very dear friend who although Thackeray had by far the

"I have a melancholy recollection which can never leave me of a dinswiftly added with a charming smile, ner party to which I was invited at Thackeray's house. I had written some-The smile and the words quite over- thing in a daily newspaper on a subject of controversy, which then deeply interested Thackeray, and he had invited me to dine with him, and have a talk over the whole matter. That the floor drew his attention. The girl before the day fixed for it Thackeray had dropped it. He picked it up, was found dead in his bed."—London dinner party never came off, for just | ed in case of laceration are features

> The first fire engine used in the United States was brought from England to New York city in 1731.

THE DREAD MONGOOSE.

A SOURCE OF FEAR TO ALL SORTS OF SMALL ANIMALS.

Gifted With Great Activity and Much ord. Intelligence They are More Than a Match For Reptiles Superior to Themselves in Size

Since the publication, a few days

ago, of an article relative to the enforcement of the Lacey law, in which is forbidden the importation of certain mammals, among which is the dreaded mongoose, inquiries have been set regarding it. With the view to satis- from the car. This in itself was disfying the unenlightened on the subject, quieting. Why had he not come home it might be stated that the crafty and in a cab? What could have happened? courageous mongoose is evidently best | She hastened down the stairs to the exemplified as to its great destructibil- front door and reached it just as he ity in its importation to the island of did. Indies. tropical island decades ago, and for come in a car?" the express purpose of decimating the venomous snakes with which the place news?" said he. was overrun. So prevalent were they in every nook and corner of the island got in its fatal work. It is related dred dollars. Ruin! Abject poverty! that a native, having to go a great Sorrow's cup full! distance after nightfall, declared, on

a fortune. Lafcadio Hearn, who years ago was his movements. a writer on this paper, in his published dies," treats at some length on this were kept within their houses when night set in and the snakes then held entire possession of the roads and the driver with a gratuity and ran with highways. It is no wonder that the natives desired the absence of this envenomed viper, and, not having a St. Patrick, they sought the mongoose for their patron saint, which they now la-

ment. After the mongoose had been immultiplied and spread over the entire island, and it was but a few years before there was a perceptible decimation of the snake family. Another period of years ensuing and the serpentine crawlers had entirely disappeared, much to the delight of the for it?" blackamoor, big and little, and then the lantern and long pole were laid aside as useless. The mongoose, having fared so sumptuously on snake dred dollars! Now I can face the diet, looked around for a substitute. which it found on the domestic fowls' feasting on the very best they pro- bling over!—Charles Battell Loomis in Indianapolis News. duced. At this unlooked for develop- the Saturday Evening Post. ment the Government was quite willing to swap off the mongoose for the snake, and, in addition, give a big round bonus. No wonder our Government excludes this rapacious animal, tive than the San Jose or Texas scale.

or the Scotch thistle in Canada. African, but several are in India, and of a pair of tame squirrels that were one form extends into southern Spain. owned by a family occupying one of The best known species are the com- the lovely old estates of early Brookmon ichneumon, or Pharaoh's rat, and line in that vicinity, and which were herpestes griseus the mongoose of In- finally liberated to establish themdia. The latter is as highly valued in selves and their progeny as permanent India as its congener is in Egypt, and residents of the street. They are the is often kept tame about the house for tantalizing despair of numerous cats the service it renders in destroying that haunt the place in search of toothsnakes and other animated plagues, some morsels. The little creatures It is especially famed for its prowess are wonderfully tame and very quickly in the destruction of the deadly cobra, respond to friendly overtures in the a feat performed by force of its su- shape of nuts, which they soon learn perior boldness and activity. It is to take from one's hand. smaller than the Egyptian species, the scamper up and down the big trees, head and body of which are twenty-one whisking their bushy gray tails in inches in length, with tail eighteen saucy defiance of their feline pursuers, inches, and is gray, darker upon the who, with eager eyes and watering head and legs, and blackish upon the mouths, follow the tantalizing motions feet. The hairs are largely white of the squirrels as they frisk about ringed.

too small for their bodies, and pur- undiminished .- Boston Transcript. sue their reptile prey into their most secret hiding places. Inquisitive as is the cat they examine every new object and peer into every unexplored nook and corner. Gifted with great activity and much intelligence, they are more than a match for reptiles superior to themselves in size; but they are of independent, restless temper, fond of freedom, and not very reliable as pets. It devours eggs, snakes, rate lizards and other creatures not in favor with humanity. Its usefulness in this direction caused the ancient Egyptians to domesticate and even to pay it honors.-Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Surgeons for Railroads.

Lucien Lofton proposes that every system of railroad should be equipped with a chief surgeon, and local surgeons distributed judiciously along the line most convenient to the railroad's hospitals. Every member of the train crews should be drilled quarterly, or oftener, if necessary, in the art of rendering first aid to the wounded. The question of hemorrhage should be the cardinal feature of the entire scheme, The location of the vessels and the method by which they may be controllon which too much stress cannot be laid. The manner of bandaging, looking toward preventing infection and New York Press. preservation of the parts which may be mangled, is of vital consideration alis."Death was due to shock." True, but | themselves upon it.

hemorrhage from lack of appliances and immediate attention will cause this condition in 90 per cent. of all cases. If bleeding be prevented shock in this particular will practically become an obsolete term.-Medical Rec-

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS

It Depends Upon the Point of View What This Sum Means.

The banker's wife sat at the window wondering what could have detained her husband, usually so methodical.

At last she saw him step slowly

Jamaica, one of the group of the West | "Henry, what is the matter? Why It was introduced to this are you so late? And why did you

Oh, my darling, can you bear bad

For answer she gave him her hand, "Mary, my darling, I am ruined. that no one dared venture forth after Cabs are for the rich. The failure of dark unless provided with a lantern Sampson & Co. has pulled me down, and a long pole with which to kill or and when all my debts are paid I shall toss them out of the way. Notwith have but five hundred dollars with standing this caution, that dreaded which to face the world." It was a snake, the fur de lance, which species terrible shock and what wonder the there largely dominated, frequently little woman fainted. Only five hun-

The artist's wife sat with her face his return, that he must have encount at the window of their tiny room, wonered and passed fully 500, and that he dering what had happened to detain would not again make the journey for her husband. Artist though he was, he was generally very methodical in

While her fears strengthened a cab work of "Three Years in the West In- drove up to the house, and within itwonder of wonders!--she descried the terrible and venomous reptile, stating form of her husband. This was inthat the inhabitants in many a hamlet deed disquieting. Why had he come home in a cab? Was he ill?

He sprang out of the cab, dismissed joyful face up the steps.

His wife hastened into the hall to meet him. "What is it, dear?" she cried as he came springing up the stairs, two steps

"Come inside, dear, and I'll tell you, ported, in a very short time it largely although I feel like taking the whole world into my confidence. "Oh, what is it. Paul? Have you

at a time.

sold the water colors?" "Better than that, my dear. I have sold the oil that I did last summer! And what do you suppose I received "Oh, I don't know. Fifty dollars?"

"Pouf! I received every cent of five

hundred dollars, little girl! Five hunworld.' And the twain went dancing around and birds' eggs and other tit-bits, and the room like crazy marionettes. Five when these were not conveniently at hundred dollars! Prosperity! Pluhand the cultivated garden found them tocratic wealth! The cup of joy bub-

Squirrels Dare the Cats. Have you ever seen a squirrel dare a cat? It is the most amusing exhibiwhich would prove far more destruction of mischievous audacity. A large colony of fat, enterprising squirrels live in the big elm trees of Wal-The majority of the species are nut street, Brookline, the descendants They alluring just out of reach of the cruel In habits all the ichneumons, which, claws. Sometimes the game is carof course, include the mongoose, are ried on so daringly that it seems only very similar, quick and serpentine in by a hair's breadth that a squirrel tragmovements, they insinuate themselves, edy is averted, and yet very few occur weasel-like, under crevices which seem and their number and freedom seem

He Felt Relieved.

It was a long ride through a desolate and dangerous country, and the politician sought to relieve the monotony by philosophic musings on his recent victory and embarrassments that even success brings.

"Hold up your hands!" The stage coach gave a lurch and stopped. The ray of light that shot into the vehicle turned the spattering rain into myriads of evanescent gems.

"What do you want?" asked the politician with a firmness that showed that he had faced danger before.

"Your money." "Here it is." "Your watch and diamond ring." "They are yours." "I must say yer good-natured, any-

hw," said one of the highwaymen.

"Not at all. Are you sure that's all you desire "What in thunder did you think we wanted "

"I was afraid"-and the politician's voice trembled a little-"you wanted an office."-Philadelphia North Amer-

Discouraging.

The discouraging thing to a man of sense is that the idiots seem to have such a good time with their idiocy,-

Some men are born great, some ways. The cry of the railroad surgeon achieve greatness, and others thrust



ASTONISHING DEXTERITY. When she found that this adroit chauf-

Had a good right arm to spare for her, This maid was very much amazed, (And possibly a trifle phased) Protesting, timidly: "Oh, sir!" -New York Sun.

IN DOUBT. Bildad-"Did the size of her pile make you hesitate?" Perkins-"Yes. For a long time I didn't know how much she had."-De-

troit Free Press.

HIS PROPENSITY. "I never forget a joke that I once hear." remarked Borem. "No," rejoined Gyer, "and you don't

give any of your acquaintances a chance to."-Chicago News.

THE LABOR OF HER LIFE. The two men were talking about their domestic affairs. "Do you keep a cook at your house?"

inquired one. "Um-er, ah," hesitated the other, we try to."-Detroit Free Press.

A COSY RETREAT. "Isn't her 'den' completely furnished

yet? "Not yet. You see, there is still room to turn around in it, and she is determined to make it look cosy before she gets through."--Chicago Post.

HOW HE EXPLAINS. Stephen-So it is all over with Miss

threw you over? James-I don't know for certain, but I suspect it was because she wasn't hopelessly in love with me .-Boston Transcript.

Bolter? How did it happen that she

Mrs. Meeks-How do you know that stranger you were talking to is a married man? Did he say he was?

FELLOW FEELING.

Meeker-No, but he looked sort of sympathetic when I told him I was .-Chicago News. PLEASANT FOR CALLER.

"Mamma is dressing." "Why, she needn't have dressed just for me, dearie." "She knows that, but she said the more time she killed in dressing the less time you'd have to bore her."-

RAILROAD POLICY. "What is your policy?" inquired the inquisitive individual of a great railroad lawyer.

"Our policy," replied the railroad lawyer, "is millions for defense, but not a cent for damage."-Ohio State Journal.

SHOULD HAVE TAKEN A SECOND

LOOK. Candor-You see that lady over there? She is Mrs. C. I fell in love with her at first sight. What do you think of that?

Synnex-I think it would have been better had you taken a second look .-Boston Transcript.

A CLOSE RACE.

"You say you go to market at 6 o'clock every morning?"

"Yes," answered the very prudent man. "I buy early. Every now and then you get your meat and vegetables before news reaches the dealers that the price has been increased."-Washington Star.

HIS FIRST HIT.

"How did you win your first literary success?" she asked.

"By writing four lines of poetry which made the girl I was in love with at the time so angry that she jilted me. Her father lost his money less than three months after we were to have been married."--Chicago Record-Herald.

PRESSING.

The girl wrote feverishly, turning out four or five great historical novels per month.

As she was but fifteen, her entourage were concerned and remonstrated. "Will you take time to bud into womanhodd?" said they. "Well, I should say nit!" replied she.

gardless of market conditions."-New York Sun. CRUDE, BUT COMPLACENT.

'Why, that can be done any time, re-

"Suppose," said the man with the morbid imagination, "that the trusts make everything so expensive that the public can't afford to buy; what then?"

"Now, what's the use of talking nonsense," answered the business man. 'All the fun a trust has is taking people's money from them. When they get all the money, they'll simply have to give a lot of it out again or stop the whole amusement."-Washington Star.

Next July a law goes into effect in South Carolina which prohibits the of fering for sale anywhere in the state any pistol weighing less than three pounds and less than twenty-two inches in length. The object of the law is to put an end to the practice of carrying concealed weapons.