

THE FAITHFUL ONE.

By Frank L. Stanton.

In the storm and the strife, when lightnings of life Had blasted my deepest endeavor, She crept to my side when the last hope had died, And whispered: "I love you forever!"

A Load On The Safety Valve.

From his dinner-pail bubbling inside the fire-door, Ziba Weston, engineer of the felt-mill, poured a cup of Rio, black and steaming. He slipped it reflectively, rubbing his bald forehead with a smutty forefinger, as he gazed into the shimmer over the coals.

In vain. At last I went up to the second story, where fifteen or twenty men and boys were soldering cans Uncle Duke's bench was near a window at the farther end.

of the red-hot coals had started a fire under the building. "The old shop was dry as tinder. I could never put that fire out alone, Uncle Duke would surely be burned to death, for he was wedged so tightly that the factory would be blazing before I could cut him clear with my pocket knife. What should I do? I felt angry and bitter against Joe for deserting me just when I needed him most.

WORTH QUOTING

One of the compensations of literature, admits Puck, is that the "best sellers" are not written by the best writers.

Explains the movements of the warships, asserts the Washington Star, resolve themselves into a simple proposition! It is our own fleet and anybody's ocean.

It is related in "Law Notes" that at Jackson, Miss., a negro was testifying in the chancery court. "Are there any incumbrances on your land?" asked the learned counsel.

Because one sheep slipped and fell over a precipice, out in the Cascade mountains, relates the New York Tribune, we are told eleven thousand others followed him and were all killed. Poor beasts! They were almost human in their blind and heedless imitation of their leader!

The pottery industry in this country, like many other industrial activities, laments the New York Evening Post, seems to be behind Japan in recognizing the importance of industrial education and has made little effort to induce State Legislatures to make grants for schools to develop State pottery deposits.

Beef prices have come down, we are told, argues the Bridgeport Standard, but with that fall in price has been a drop also in the quality of the beef. Those who are getting their steaks, roasts and other cuts at from two to four cents less per pound, get an inferior quality of beef, the prices for the better grades having remained unchanged! What's the use in talking about the drop in the prices of beef then!

The New Jersey School for the Deaf has a pupil who, though without ears, is able to hear, boasts the Trenton Times. The pupil is John Hetzel, of Jersey City. Superintendent John Walker of the school is of the opinion that the lad's sense of hearing lies in his mouth. Where ears should be on the boy's head there are no holes, and the only resemblance to ears are small lobes.

If a story from Millsboro, Del., avers the New York Tribune, the day of the phonograph has just begun. According to this yarn, Ace Goodhill, a hunter of Millsboro, is having wonderful success gunning for wild geese on the Indian River with the aid of a phonograph. His method is to set the machine, loaded with "honk-honk," in the bow of the boat, and then, when the geese answer the call, to pick them off. The geese fly to the slaughter, he says. He now fears that the next Legislature will pass a law forbidding the use of phonographs.

It may be doubted if Congress will take kindly to any proposition to increase the infantry branch of the army, contends the New Orleans Picayune, but that prospect does not detract from the merits of the demand for greater recognition for the infantry. The people should be educated to understand that if the Army is to be an effective fighting machine at all it should have enough infantry to do the work for which the Army is intended. Thirty regiments of infantry, even if recruited to full strength, are not sufficient, and depleted as the ranks of all the regiments now are, the insufficiency of the force is still more apparent.

Florida Phosphate Mines. New phosphate mines have been established by local companies in Florida during the past year, and but for the difficulties of the labor situation the output would have been considerably larger. As it was, a slight increase was made for the year from these mines.

On account of the shortage of phosphate rock on the part of manufacturers on this side of the water and in Europe, the increase from Florida mines has been readily taken at prevailing prices, the demand being of such proportions as to warrant the belief in a slight increase in values during the coming year. Many mines are sold for a year ahead and the manufacturers who have not thus provided for their needs will be somewhat handicapped.—American Fertilizer.

The Turks are manifesting great delight in automobiles, but their poor roads make it difficult to use them.

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FUN FOR WINTER EVENINGS. When the snow blows and the elements are such as to make it most unpleasant for one to wander far from his own hearth-stone, the open fireplace, with its crackling and blazing logs, seems to hold a distinctive charm. It is then that the family gathers around and each one relates the pleasant and interesting things that have happened during the day, while some one toasts marshmallows and another pops corn over the blazing fire. On such occasions there are a great many ways to make the long winter evenings pass pleasantly.

MARBLE AND GRANITE MONUMENTS. A musical contest will also prove an attractive way of entertaining. Provide each player with paper and pencil, and then have some one play snatches of old familiar and up-to-date airs on the piano. The players write the names of the selections on the slips of paper, as they are played. The object being to find out who can name the most number correctly.

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Put Men to Death. A correspondent is desirous to know which is the most common form employed in the carrying out of the death sentence. The probability is that most people, if asked, would at once say the gallows, yet this is far from being the case.

Bank of England Jockey. Hardly any living or dead jockey has enjoyed so many nicknames as John Osborne, still hale and hearty, whose stanch career during a forty-six year career on the race track won for him one name—"The Bank of England Jockey."

Taking Things Easy. The stranger paused as he came upon two tramps of the weary order basking in the sunshine and waiting patiently for something to turn up.

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