The Stopping of the Clock. Surprising falls the instantaneous calm, The sudden silence in my chamber small; I, starting, lift my head in half alarm— The clock has stopped-that's all.

The clock has stopped ! Yet why have I se found

An instant feeling almost like dismay? Why note its silence sooner than its sound? For it has ticked all day.

So may a life beside my own go on, And such companionship unheeding keep; Companionship scarce recognized till gone, And lost in sudden sleep.

And so the blessings heaven daily grants Are in their very commoness forgot We little heed what answereth our wants Until it unswers not.

A strangeness falleth on familiar ways, As if some pulse were gone beyond recall-Something unthought of, linked with all our

days; Some clock has stopped—that's all. -George H. Coomer, in Youth's Companion.

# THE STORY OF A SCREEN.

The level beams of the mellow May sunset were revealing every flaw and crack in the cheap papering which covered the walls of the little garret-room where Mabel More sat busily at her sewing machine, and a single pot of blue, velvet pansies in the high, narrow window made a spot of color for poor Mrs. More's weary eyes to rest upon, as she toiled at the floss-silk embroidery which was her whole occupation. The room was small and scantily furnished, but there was within its walls one relic of evanished days-a black satin screen, mounted on a standard of gilded bamboo, and painted in deep rich oil-colors, with a scarlet flaminge floating upward against a background of reeds and grasses, while in the distance flamed a stormy sunset sky.

"Mamma did it herself, when she was a girl at boarding-school," said Mabel More, to those who sometimes asked the history of this one remaining token of luxury. "We have kept it through everything. I would not part with it for its weight in gold."

And then she would laughingly tell the tale of how half a dozen collectors of antiquities and esthetic furniture had, at different times, endeavored to purchase the old satin screen.

"One man wanted to buy it with a pair of tongs and a brass coal-scuttle,' said she: "another one offered a broken set of Thackeray's novels and a fender: and a third bargained with a tete-a-tete set of china, and a broken-nosed alabaster statue of Psyche."

For Mabel was a bright-eyed, sweetfaced girl, who had a very keen sense of the ridiculous, and lived through the hard realities of her life with the quiet fortitude of an inborn heroine.

But after all the second-hand dealers were nothing in resolution and persistence as compared with Miss Ann Azalea Harper, the daughter of the landlord from whose leaky and badly-drained premises they had removed a few weeks previously. Miss Ann Azalea had a very fair idea of bric-a-brac treasures, and she had cast her fine eyes upon this very screen.

"It's worth a deal of money," said Ann Azalea to herself. "And it was only this morning that Aunt Hepsy was wishing for just such an old-fashioned screen.

Now Aunt Hepsy was a rich old maid shrewd, crusty, elderly, and full of dis trust of all the smooth-tongued relatives whose professions of love and respect were so extreme.

A screen ?" said Aunt Hepsy. "Yes,

the young lady, ignoring the code and all its provisions. " Oh, Miss Harper !"

" But we don't want to be exorbitant," graciously went on Ann Azalea. "So,

sooner than be at the expense of a lawsuit, I'll take some trifle or other in That screen, for instance," with her pay. greedy eyes fixed on the pictured flight of the scarlet flamingo. " Ten dollars is a deal of money, and the screen is an old-style thing, but I wouldn't mind calling things even, just to ease your conscience, if-"

"I couldn't-oh, I couldn't !" cried poor Mrs. More, the tears coming into her eyes. "It was work I did as a girl My own poor mother sketched in the green rushes and grass with her own pencil, and-and if any cne is to have it, it is already promised to an old family friend, who is to pay twenty-five dollars for it."

"Very well," said Miss Harper, rising, with an ominous toss of her head. 'Then, if you really mean to swindle us-

"Miss Harper!"

"If you really mean to swindle us," everely repeated Ann Azalea, "I may as well stop at the constable's on my way back and put on the distraint at

Mrs. More clasped her thin hands in sort of nervous horror

If poor Mable, who had gone out so buoyantly to carry home her little parcel of finished work, should return and find the minions of the law in possession !

"I am a selfish creature." she told herself, "to prefer my own inclination to dear May's happiness!"

And so she told Ann Azalea, with a burst of tears, that the screen should be hers.

"I will send it to you-in the even. ing," said she, piteously.

"It you'll just wrap a bit of brown paper around it, I'll take it now," suggested Miss Harper, who believed firmly in the ancient adage of the "the bird in the hand being worth two in the bush."

And so the scarlet flamingo was carried away in the triumphant arms of Miss Ann Azalea Harper.

"After all," soliloquized she, "I got t for absolutely nothing. For pa said the old mahogany bookcase he took off them was worth a third more than all the rent they owed; any one but a fool like that whimpering little Mrs. More would have known it perfectly well. And I'm sure it'll suit Aunt Hepsy to a T !"

While poor Mrs. More, sobbing bitterly before the empty place where her beloved screen had stood, felt as if all the sweet associations of her early youth had been wrenched away.

"Mother-dear mother ! why are you crying ?" questioned Mabel, hurrying into the room. "Is your neuralgic headache worse? Oh, mother! where s the old screen? I have brought Miss Milman to see you about it. She says she will give you thirty dollars for it, if-"

"I have sold it," said Mrs. More for ten dollars. To our landlord's daughter. Or rather I have let her take it away in payment for the balance of the rent we owed them."

"She has deceived you, mother!" cried Mabel, coloring up with honest indignation. "We owed her not a single cent! Oh, dear, mother, if I had only been at home !'

Miss Milman, a stout, short, grizzleheaded lady, stood still in the center of the room, looking sharply about her. "Don't fret, Alice More," said she.

"Tears never yet did any good. You may depend upon it, this woman's deceit will yet recoil upon her own head. What is your landlord's name ?" "Harper," said Mrs. More. "Ebenezer Harper.

carry it back to her-Mrs. More, No. 7 Lilac court-with my compliments. And, Ann Azalea-" "Yes, aunt," said the dejected young

lady. burn. "You needn't trouble to come back here again. If I adopt an heiress it must be some one who is pure and good and truthful-not such a one as yon! And I'm rather disposed to think that it shall be Mabel More." And so Miss Ann Azalea Harper's grand scheme resulted in utter failure. The screen was borne ignominiously back, and Mabel More is now her aunt's adopted darling. And Papa Harper, instead of tenderly consoling his daughter, says, grufily:

"It's all your own fault !"

## Indian Holy Fairs.

In sailing down the Ganges during the month of Katik, our October, one may pass in the course of a single day half a dozen holy fairs, each with a multitude of pilgrims equal to the population of a large city. All of them are rendered picturesque by the tents and equipages of the wealthy, the variety of the animals and the bright coloring in which the natives delight-those descendants of the ancient Aryans of India, "in many respects the most wonderful race that ever lived on earth," as Professor Max Muller calls them. At night all these tents and booths are illuminated, so that the scene is hardly less animated by night than by day, and

all without tumult and disorder. Every one of these localities is hal lowed by some mythological tradition, and the firmest faith is reposed by the pilgrims in the truth of those traditions. Ingrafted for hundreds, nay, thousands of years in the minds of the people, they have grown up with them articles of faith, strengthened with their strength. "Your words are good, Sahib; your teaching is excellent," said some native head men of villages to a Christian missionary in Oudh, "but go and preach elsewhere. We do not want it. Our fathers' faith is enough for us. What should we do in your heaven? You want us to go there when we die. We had rather be with our fathers who went before us. What should we do in the heaven of the Sahibs?" This is no fanciful picture. These are the very words spoken in Hindoostanee to an enthusiastic missionary by the simple villagers. And what could he say in reply? He felt the force of them, although he did not allow them to paralyze his efforts. The religious melas are attended by thousands of devotees on the same principle that prompted the villagers' words to the missionary. They were observed by their fathers. Generation after gene" ration has attended them. Hindoo, or Moslem, or Christian the rulers may be, but the melas are still the same. and, looking back into the vista of vanished centuries, we still see the same crowds, the same devotions, the same amusements, food, clothing and attendant animals. When Britons were painted savages it was so, and now that Victoria, queen of England, is empress of India, it is so still .- Nineteenth Cen-

#### "Trancevoyance."

Some interesting scientific experidisputed phenomena of clairvoyance have recently been made by Dr. G. M. Beard, of this city. The "sensitive' was a lady, the wife of a lecturer on mesmerism. A first experiment failed, but on a second trial the lady, whose eyes were covered with cotton and tugal, Greece, Russia, Servia, Rouclosely bandaged, was able to name mania, Turkey. - Chicago Tribune. actually cards drawn at random from a pack and held by the doctor upon her

### SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

Steam engines on the average do not ase more than ten per cent. of the power represented by the coal they

The friction of two bodies, one against the other, produces heat. By rubbing together two pieces of ice in a vacuum

below zero, Sir H. Davy partially melted them. Wave lengths of the sounds emitted

by a man's voice in ordinary conversa tion are from eight to twelve feet, and that of a woman's voice two to four feet per second.

The intensity of illumination on a given surface is inversely as the square of its distance from the source of light. If the page of a book, held twelve inches from a candle, be moved six inches nearer, the light on the page is made four times stronger.

The last application of the luminous paint promises to be a very serviceable one. Mr. Browning, the well-known optician of London, has hit upon the idea of coating compass dials with the pigment, so that the belated traveler or seaman need have no fear of losing his way for want of light.

There were sanitarians in the days of our ancestors. So long as eight hundred years ago, in the time of Richard II., an ordinance was enacted forbidding the pollution of rivers, drains, etc. another in the reign of Edward II. against selling "muzzled swine-flesh," etc.; and in the reigns of Henry VI. and Henry VII. and Elizabeth, for the inspection and cleansing of sewers, against the slaughtering of cattle in towns, and against the overcrowding of

dwellings. Railroads, Steamboats and Telegraphs.

Little does the world think what tremendous capital is required to carry on its travel, traffic and commerce. The railroad net, woven all over the globe, consists of 200,000 miles. Asia, Australia and Africa can claim only the ourteenth part, the other thirteenfourteenths being nearly equally divided between Europe and America The rolling stock in use over this railroad net consists of 66,000 locomotives, 120,000 passenger cars and 1,500,000 freight cars. The capital invested in all the railroads is estimated at \$20,-000,000. The commerce on the seas is carried on by 12,000 steamers and over 100,000 sailing vessels. The tonnage of these vessels amounts to over 20,000,000 tons. Telegraphic communication is maintained by 500,000 miles of wire, of which about five-eights fall to Europe, two-eights to America and one-eighth to the submafully rine telegraph system. There are 40,000 stations, from which 110,000 dispatches are sent annually, or on an average of 30,000 daily. According to population, Switzerland does the most tele graphing, there being one dispatch sent annually for every inhabitant. This is undoubtedly due to the great annual influx of travelers and pleasure-seekers. Next comes the Netherlands and then Great Britain. Russia stands last on the list, as she sends only forty-five dispatches for every thousand inhabitants. The transmission of letters by mail amounts in round numbers to ments demonstrating the truth of the about 4,000,000. According to the populations of the several countries, the Americans write by far the most letters; next come the English; then Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, France, Sweden, Norway, Spain, Hungary, Italy, Por-

A Chinese Hell.

# PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

In the world there are so few voices and so many echoes. No conflict is so severe as his who

labors to subdue himself.

True merit is like a river-the deeper it is the less noise it makes.

Favors of every kind are doubled when they are speedily conferred.

In love there are no treaties of peace. there are only truces. A grand safeguard for doing right is to hate all that is wrong.

The happiness of the human race in this world does not consist in our being devoid of passions, but in our learning to command them.

In this world, says Chamfort, you have three sorts of friends-those who love you, those who don't care a penny for you and those who hate you.

Three things too much and three too little are pernicious to man: To speak much and know little; to spend much and have little; to presume much and be worth little.

If you lose a gold piece there is a certain number of chances that you may find it again; but if you lose your character it is easier to build a new one than to recover the old one.

An Indian philosopher being asked what were, according to his opinion, only a cab-driver instead of the master the two most beautiful things in the universe, answered: The starry heavens above our heads, and the feeling of duty in our hearts.

The highest thing in nature is man; the highest reach in man is his moral sentiment, and the highest reach in The miners come up and speak to him moral sentiment is benevolence. Benevolent disposition is the very center them a sense of command, blended with of Christian character. It ranks men as comradeship, which appears odd to perfect or imperfect.

How to Detect Adulterated Coffee. Ground coffee affords a field for adul- He came to New York in his youth, and teration, and for this purpose chicc ory gamboled around the City Hall park in carrots, caramel, date seeds, etc., are the substances most commonly used. The beans have of late years been skillfully imitated, but as coffee is mostly purchased in the ground condition, the chief point for the consumer is to be Nassau street from the old postoffice able to form some idea as to the charac- with a bundle of newspapers under his ter of the latter article, and the following are a few simple and reliable tests : Take a little of the coffee and press it between the fingers, or give it a squeeze ing up the New York Herald. Caliin the paper in which it is bought; if fornia came in enticing golden genuine, it will not form a coherent splendor out of the sluices of mass, as coffee grains are hard and do not readily adhere to each other; but if the grains stick to each other and form a sort of "cake," we may be pretty sure of adulteration in the shape of chiccory, for the grains of chiccory are softer and more open, and adhere without difficulty when squeezed. Again, if we place a few grains in a saucer and moisten them with a little cold water, chiccory will very quickly become soft like bread crumbs, while coffee will take a long time to soften. A third test: Take a wineglass or a tumblerful of water and gently drop a pinch of the ground coffee on the surface of the water without stirring or agitating; genuine coffee will float for some time, whilst chiccory or any other soft root will soon sink; and chiccory or caramel will cause a vellowish or brownish coldr to diffuse rapidly through the water, while pure coffee will give no sensible tint under such circumstances for a considerable length of time. "Coffee mixtures" or "coffee improvers" should be avoided. They seldom consist of anything but chiccory and caramel. "French coffee," so widely used at present, is generally ground coffee, the beans of which had found some good prospects and have been roasted with a certain amount tation of the punishment of the wicked of sugar, which, coating over the bean, smooth, discreet engineer became known than in ordinary coffee, but this, of to be considered, and the result was course, at the expense of the reduced that four men-Mackay, Flood, O'Brien percentage of coffee due to the presence of the caramel .- The Sanitarian

## A BONANZA KING.

John W. Mackay, One of the Wealthlest Men in the World, Who Once Worked for S3 a Dav.

"Here," said the speaker, as he stood with a friend near a windlass by which ore was hauled out of a mine on the Comstock ; "here I used to stand and turn for \$3 a day. Seth Cook was my partner, and he was paid \$3 a day. Seth Cook is now a large owner in the Standard mine and one of the rich men of the Pacific coast." The speaker was John W. Mackay, the bonanza king, one of the richest men in the world. He is a slender, tallish, well-knit man of forty-seven, with a clean, well-marked face, showing decision and frankness. His hair and mustache are brown, tinged with gray. His eye is keen and penetrating, his skin is ruddy, wholesome and vascular, tanned with Nevada sunshine and steamed in the Turkish-bath temperature of the lower level of the Comstock lode. What impresses one about the man is that there is nothing wasted in him; he is all muscle and nerve, and shows temperate and careful habits. When he walks it is with the sure, agile tread of the leopard or the lynx-like one who may spring at any moment. There is a joyous element in the man, which would be winning were its owner of millions. He speaks with a half stammer, which at first impresses one as being the slowness of a man who deliberates while he speaks. This is the bonanza king as he stands at your side. looking out over the brown Nevada hills. and call him John, and there is between metropolitan eyes.

Forty-seven years ago, or thereabouts, John W. Mackay was born in Dublin. its pastoral days, and was not unhappy when a blase theater-goer gave him a check for the Park theater. Among other sights he used to look with wonder upon a famous man striding up arm. This was James Gordon Bennett, then a curiosity even to boys, and the work which he was doing was build-Swiss Sutter's mill, and young Mackay went with all the world to Eldorado. About this time there went two others on the same errand. One was an Irishman named O'Brien-"Billy" O'Brien, as all California came to call him. Billy had a partner-a strong-headed, resolute New York lad, who came from the Broderick section of New York, and had in him all that immense capacity of doing and daring which gave Broderick national fame. Billy's partner is now known as James C. Flood, of the "Flood & O'Brien firm," whose phenomenal success was to make all the world wonder.

Mackay went his way, as everybody did in those feverish days. He lived in mining camps, he slept on the ground. he picked and scratched and washed the gravel in running streams; he had his ups and downs; he had all that was gay. all that was golden in Eldorado life, and then he came with his pick and his blanket to the Nevada mountains. In the meantime Billy O'Brien and his partner had tired of the sage-brush. Giving up mining they went to San Francisco and into business. The young Irishman made their acquaintance. He they had some money. A hard-headed. to them, by name Fair. He was a man and Fair-made that business compact known as the Bonanza firm, which is now a ruling power in our Pacific empire. In the firm Mackay owns twofifths, and as head of the Bonanza firm is known as the Bonanza king .- Washington Capitol.

I want a screen."

"I'll paint you one, dear aunt," said Ann Azalea.

"Much of a screen you could paint !" said the old lady, disdainfully.

"I improved a good deal at boarding-school," said Ann Azalea, meekly. "And I'll stretch it upon an antique bamboo rack; and really I think it will please you."

"I don't !" said Aunt Hepsy.

"May I try, dear aunt?"

"Yes," said the old lady, grudgingly; " you may try !"

And Ann Azalea, who had already in her mind appropriated poor Mrs. More's antique screen, set diligently about the work of getting possession of the same.

'You owe my pa ten dollars of rent.' said Ann Azalea, spitefully, as she sat panting for breath in the little garretroom, after having toiled up the three long and narrow flights of stairs. "You can't deny it."

"It is quite true," acknowledged meek Mrs. More, who, in her daughter's absence, was absolutely defenseless ; "but\_'

"You ought to be ashamed to owe so much money as that," said Ann Azalea.

"We have been very unfortunate of late," said Mrs. More. "But we fully intend to repay all our indebtedness as soon as my daughter-"

"Oh, that's all nonsense !" brusquely interrupted Ann Azalea. "Pa ought to have put an execution-that's what he ought to have done !"

Poor Mrs. More shuddered.

"And it ain't too late now," added

"Oh !" said Miss Milman. And then she went away.

"I think she grows more eccentric every day," said Mabel, looking after the retreating figure of the stout lady. "Rich people have a right to be eccentric if they please," sighed Mrs. More, still looking at the empty place where the screen had once stood.

. . . . . .

"Dear, Aunt Hepsy," said Ann Azalea, radiantly, "I've come to wish you many happy returns of your birthday. And here's a little present-the satin screen I promised you.'

"Eh ?" said Aunt Hepsy.

"My own work," said Ann Azalea. 'And I do so hope you'll like it."

"Humph !" commented the old lady. "I've worked day and night to get it finished," said Ann Azalea, fervently.

"Ann Azalea," said the old lady, suddenly becoming inspired with some de gree of animation, "where do you expect to go when you die?"

"Dear aunt," said Ann Azalea, " don't in the least understand you !" "Because you are telling a perfect tissue of lies, each one more outrageous than the other," said this painfully frank old lady. "The screen isn't your own work at all. The satin was painted by an old school-friend of mine, fifty odd years ago. You cheated her out of it, the day before yester-

day, by a regular piece of swindling that would have disgraced a mock auctioneer. And now you may go and in process of erection.

forehead. She also read the title-page of a volume which the doctor took from his pocket. Other experiments with coarse print were equally successful. but she was unable to read fine print. Dr. Beard calls the faculty trancevoyance, and thinks that it may be developed to such a degree that the person gifted with it can read entire pages of ordinary print held against the forehead. The lady, describing her sensations when in the trancevoyant state. says that an electric light seemed to be thrown forward from the back of the brain upon the object held upon her forehead, illumining it and enabling her to see it distinctly. A further study of this curious power of reading without eyes will no doubt be of great value to the development of the still rudimentary science of brain nerve action. Such and ex. periments as those of Dr. Beard are heavy blows at the theories of the materialists who claim that all mental action is a physical phenomenon depending on the organs of sensation. What power is it, will they tell us, that reads coarse print when the eyes are practically blinded? There must be a faculty of perception in the brain quite independent of the organs of sight, which under certain rare conditions comes into play. What is it that sees without the aid of optic nerve or retina? Here is a queson which opens a wide and interesting field for speculation .- New York Tribune.

The first cotton mill in California is

after death, according to the Buddhist has retained more of the original aroma theory, which he witnessed in the suburbs of Canton :

After a walk of about a mile we came to the temple of horrors. This is a horrible place-that is, the scenes are

hideous. The intention is to represent what a bad man would suffer after death. It is composed of ten different groups of statuary, of clay, and many of them are crumbling to pieces. The first group represents the trial of the man; he is surrounded by his family and friends, who are trying to defend him; the second, where he is condemned and given ver to the executioner; in the third he is undergoing a semi-transformation from the man to the brute; the fouth, where he is put into a mill head downward, and is being ground up; his dog is by the side of the mill licking up his blood. In the fifth scene he is being placed between two boards, and is sawed down lengthwise; sixth, he is under a large bell, which is rung until the concussion kills him; seventh, the man is placed upon a table, and two men are beating him with large wooden paddles; eighth, he is upon a rack, and the executioners are tearing his flesh with red-hot pincers; ninth, he is in a caldron of boiling lead; the tenth scene represents him on a gridiron, undergoing the process of roasting. In

all these scenes the family are present also large figures who represent the judge, executioners, little devils, and various instruments of torture.

Suicides at a Gambling Resort.

The present proprietor of the notorious gambling establishment at Monte Carlo holds a lease of this lucrative privilege which will not expire till 1916. The prince of this anomalous little state receives as ground rent 50,000 francs per annum and a tenth of the profits of the tables, besides which his little army of forty soldiers in light-blue uniform and his twenty gendarmes in cocked hats are clothed and maintained from the same source. The number of suicides last year traceable to losses at the morning for more, thinking to flatter gaming tables is officially reported as forty only, and the number of delinquencies attributable to the same cause as forty-seven. According to Mr. Polson, however, a gentleman of high official position at Nice estimates the real number of suicides at about three a week. It appears that the local journals, for obvious reasons, do not encourage the publication of these distressing details, and that it is not unusual to re-

gard a suicide by means of a revolver as a lamentable example of the incautious use of firearms .- London Telegraph.

It will save many sleepless nights to know that the Russian of it, for "knout," is "connoot," and not "nowt."

#### Chinese Patients.

The Chinese make, on the whole, very good patients. Occasionally some of them try our patience not a little. One gets a four days' supply of medicine away with him, the recipe bearing on it, "aspoonful three times daily after each meal." He comes back next you by stating that he drank the former quantity at one dose! Another has his arm carefully put up in splints, and on his next visit he brings his dressings in a separate parcel. They are great believers in internal administration, and although he have only a cut finger, it is difficult for a Chinaman to see why he should not get some medicine to "eat." They have peculiar palates, many of them, and can drink castor oil ad nausean-a stage which is not so easily reached in their case as it is in ours. Here, as elsewhere, the medical has all along been found to be a valuable auxiliary to the general mission work .--Lancel.

A scolding wife is not a "joy for ever"-she's only a temper-ary affair.