II.

If the world's a wilderness,
Go build houses in it!

Will it help your loneliness
On the winds to din it!

Raise a hut, however slight,
Weeds and brambles smoth
And to roof and meal invite
Some forlorner brother.

III.

If the world's a vale of tears,
Smile, till rainbows span it;
Breathe the love that life endears,
Clear of clouds to fan it.
Of your gladness lend a gleam
Unto souls that shiver;
Show them how dark Sorrow's stream
Blends with Hope's bright river.

STUPID, STOLID AND STUNTED.

The Depths and Lower Depths o Human Unintellectuality.

[Cor. Boston Commercial Bulletin.] Any one who has been a constant reader of Punch has no need to ravel up and down England with me to discover that the traditional, ingrained, agricultural laborer of the country is in very many cases so stupid, so ignorant, so devoid of all ambition o get out of the plow-ruts in which he and his progenitors have been traveling ike cattle for many hundred years, as to rank in the mind of the careful observer only a shade above the domestic beasts, among which his life has all been spent. I walked and talked with these Eng-

ish hinds, and can testify that I never met in my own country, outside of im-becile asylums, so stupid, so stolid and stunted a class of human beings. They have a dialect of their own, which the stranger can hardly understand; a smock-frock sort of an attire which has been in fashion for a hundred years, and a way of life, as regards work and play and general home habits, that is the same as was their fathers' and

There are, however, lower depths of human unintellectuality in England than this. Underneath this last named class is to be found a set of men and women that is the natural outgrowth downward) of the stupid hind class. These are a sort of "innocents" who wander about the country roads in a state bordering upon complete imbe-zility, and are saved from starvation by the charity of those who have pity for

these unfortunates. Downright imbeciles are cared for in England, to a large extent, in her immense imbecile asylums; and these insti-tutions have to be large and numerous to accommodate the stunted imbeciles abounding in crowded old England. I call to mind, in illustration of the character of these establishments, one of the largest of them, located in Watford, a town which I walked through in my pedestrian excursion from London to Oxford. It contains 2,000 chronic imbeciles, who are under the charge of Dr. Case, an eminent medical man, and who are maintained at a net expense of 20 cents a day.

The Open Polar Sea.

Mr. Joseph W. Cremin, writing to The New York Herald on the question of this open sea, gives some very ingenious rea-sons why the passage about the pole is not a frozen mass. He says:

1. In descending through a shaft, or in sinking or boring an artesian well, we find that the mercury rises in the ther-mometer 1 degree for about every fifty feet that we descend toward the center of the earth. That would make a difference in temperature of about 105 de-grees in one mile, and in thirteen miles the difference would be 1,365 degrees.

2. The polar diameter of the earth is twenty-six miles shorter than the equatorial, therefore the north pole is thirteen miles nearer to the intensely heated center of the earth than places at the equator. And as a difference of thirteen miles in this direction produces a difference in temperture of 1,365 degrees, it appears to be impossible to conceive how water, which is heated by connection, could freeze so near the interior fires, and on a surface of such a tem-

3. The volcanic fractures in the crust of the earth in these northern latitudes prove its thinness, and the close prox-imity of its surface to the heated in-

From what has been stated, and from "observations made at Discovery harbor and Cape Sabine, proving that warmer water came from the north than from the south," it is almost certain that Lieut. Greely's theory of the open polar sea is the correct one.

Mind-Reading.

(Goethe's Proce Writings.)
One soul may have a decided influence upon another, merely by means of its silent presence, of which I could relate many instances It has often happened to me that when I have been walking with an acquaintance and have had a living image of something in my mind, he has at once begun to speak of that very thing. I have also known a man who, without saying a word, could suddenly silence a party engaged in cheerful conversating by the mere power of his mind. Nay, he could also introduce a tone which would make everybody feel uncomfortable. We have all something of electric and magnetic force with us. * It is possible, nay even probable, that if a young girl were, without knowing it, to find herself in a dark chamber with a man who designed to murder her, she would have an uneasy sense of his unknown presence and that she would tremble with fear. to me that when I have been walking

Rutter on the Double Quick.

(Chicago Herald.)

Among the prominent and most interesting exhibits at the London health exhibition was the dairy. The cows were milked in the presence of the spectators; the milk was then put into centrifugal skimmers, and in twenty minutes' time from the time it left the cow the spectator could spread the butter on his bread.

George Eliott: Animals are such recable friends! They ask no ques-us, they pass no criticisms.

WHAT THE DREDGE BRINGS UP.

Many Strange Things Found on the Bottom of New York Bay.

[New York Times.] Sometimes it is a different thing from Sometimes it is a different thing from mud that the dredge brings up from the bottom of the bay. Usually it is mud, however—mud and gravel, bits of rock, and long strings of slime. It is clean mud, however, and the dredger thinks nothing of plunging feet foremost into it in search of anything bright that glitters for a moment in the sun as the jaws of the scoop are jerked open. as the jaws of the scoop are jerked open above the scow. Close to the docks the mud is not so clean, but the chances of finding something valuable are so much greater that the difference is not taken into practical consideration. Sometimes it is a silver dollar that glitters in the sun and finds a resting place in the scow; once in a rare while a watch, made useless by long contact with salt water, comes to excite in the dredger the blistering regret that it cannot be sold or pawned, and quite frequently knives of strange shape and rusted out of all sem-blance to edged steel join forces with bits of broken glass, to cut the feet of the dredger who treads unwarily along the bottom of the scow. Twice the harbor dredges have brought up, within the past year, a bright-bladed knife, showing along its point and edge a corroded stain, as though blood had stuck there. Once the sharp jaws of the scoop cut off both feet of a drowned man and the both feet of a drowned man, and the tide carried the body beyond the reach of grappling hooks. A human hand, with one of the fingers bruised as though a ring had been torn from it by great force, fell out of the scoop several months ago. The dredgers thought that the man from whose arm the hand had been torn had been led down to a dock while intoxicated, and robbed and thrown overboard by the members of a "gang." It is a common practice, but the dredge rarely disturbs the body. An immense drag-net stretched across

the Narrows would catch a multitude of strange and mysterious things. It would be a storehouse ten times more ghastly than a morgue. There is a tradition that years ago a murderer was onvicted by a blood-stained knife brought up in a dredge. The names and dates are lacking. Another tradition says that a dredger once brought up his own runaway daughter from the bottom of the river. A ghastly bruise on her temple told the story of her death. The dredger beat his brains out against the barred door of an insane asylum two years later. He had lived sane long enough to murder the man that ran off with his daughter, and a merciful court sent him to an asylum for the insane. A third blood-curdling tradition is to the effect that a dredger tradition is to the effect that a dredger nursed a grudge against another dredger for many years, hoping for ven-geance. At length when the enemy got between the jaws of the scoop to fasten a loose rivet, the jaws closed on him, and he was swung out over the water. Then the dredge went out slowly, and the last thing that the dredger saw of earth was the face of his murderer grinning triumphantly over the edge grinning triumphantly over the edge of the scow. These traditions have no facts to make them real, but the dredgers believe in them. An old Spanish proverb says: "For the character of the people look in the bottom of the canal." New York would not find much of a character in the bed of the East river, or in the slip adjoining the mouth of the sewers. When the water closes over the unlawful deeds done in the darkness or the night, only the drulge can bring it back to life. How many bodies weighted with lead lie in the mud beneath six fathoms of water, the mud beneath six fathoms of water, how many bodies float out to sea, no man can know. How greatly the number of discovered dead exceeds the number of unknown dead reported by the police can never be estimated.

the police can never be estimated.

Other than ghastly things, however, come up in the dredge. Down the bay, a few days ago, a big crab was found in a copper kettle, and an eel was found confined in a long-necked bottle, much too small for him. While still young he had made the bottle his home, and had grown so rapidly that he could not get out. A lizard crawled out of a rusted maket less summer in Burling slip, and musket last summer in Burling-slip, and a big "bullhead" was found in a rat A three-foot shark came up on the end of a fishing line, and two sting-rays were found dead in a crabber's dip-Hammers, hatchets, saws, adzes, pieces of ship's stoves, pots, kettles, ta-ble dishes, and various articles of ship's

A Machine for Producing Rain.
[Scientific American.]
Among the last inventions reported from Australia is a machine for produc ing rain storms. It is intended to rain storms. It is intended to force a rain supply from the clouds during a period of drouth. The apparatus is in the form of a balloon with a charge of dynamite attached underneath it. The balloon is to be sent into the clouds, and when there the dynamite is to be fixed by a wire connecting it with the fired by a wire connecting it with the earth. A trial of this novel contrivance is to be given upon the dry districts of New South Wales, and the result is looked forward to with interest by some of the residents of that colony.

K'ngsley's Amusement.

"What is your favorite amusement?" asked a friend once of Charles Kingaley. "Sleep," was the short reply. "This answer," says a writer, "absurd as it may at first seem to us, has in it a germ of sound physiological truth, especially if we substitute the word recreation for musement. Recreation, primarily neans re-creation—the creating anew.

Genealogy and Grief.

"Yes, brethren," says the clergyman who is preaching the funeral sermon, "our deceased trother was cut down in a single night—torn from the arms of his loving wife, who is thus left a disconsolate widow at the early age of 24" "Twenty-two, if you please," so be the widow, in the front pew, emerging from her handkerchief for an instant,

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

be Pegelge Legations a Prominent Carne in Washington Society.

[Ben: Perley Poore.] The diplomatic corps, few in number at the commencement of the govern ment, gradually became a prominent feature in Washington society, and as many of the ministers had liberal allow ances of "table money," they contributed in no small degree to the fashionable enjoyments of the season. During the Crimean and Italian wars it was amusing to see the efforts made by ing to see the efforts made by the representatives of the belligerent powers to avoid each other in drawing-rooms where they met. But now, l'entente cordiale prevails. The diplomatic servants of queen and czar, emperor and kaiser, pledged their re-spective sovereigns, and all united in deluding themselves with the belief that they play an important political part here. So they did, in the opinion of the marriageable damsels who are flattered with their flirtations, or in the estimawith their flirtations, or in the estima-tion of snobbish citizens who glory in writing home that they have shaken hands with a lord, had a baron to dine with them, or loaned an attache \$100. But, in reality, they are the veriest supernumeraries in the political drama now being performed on the Washington stage. Should any diffi-culty arise with the foreign powers they represent, special ministers would be represent, special ministers would be appointed to arrange it, and meanwhile the corps diplomatique "gives tone to society," and is a potential power—in its own estimation.

The various legations all exhibit their national characteristics. The British attaches represent the Belgravian of the London magazines—their hair parted just a line off the exact center, their soft eyes only one degree firmer than their sisters', while their beautiful, long side whiskers are wonderful to behold. The Spanish gentlemen one recognizes by their close-shorn black heads and smooth faces; all courtesy, inevitable pride and secretiveness; eyes that, like those of their women, betray a hundred intrigues, because they seek to conceal

The exquisite politeness of the South Americans make you wonder if you really can be dust and ashes after this perfect deference, and their manners are marked by more vivacity than those are marked by more vivacity than those of the Spanish people. Catch one of them at fault if you can. He will denominate the American women as prudes, and "incomplete," as they insignificantly say, stigmatize the country as unendurable, and the people as frightfully stiff and cold, without giving one a possible chance to retort, by the dexterous courtesy of tone which characterizes all. The Argentine and Peruvian legations are Argentine and Peruvian legations are extremely popular for the galety and the new, excitable pleasures they infuse into the steady, unimaginative American society.

can society.

To see the diplomatic corps in all its glory one must attend an opera night at the National theatre. He will find the diplomates out in full force, and all cluster together in the front chairs of the orchestra, with a few, perhaps, perched like crows in one of the stage boxes. Between the acts the corps. boxes. Between the acts the corps rise up and face the audience, and then they appear in all their awful glory. Taken separately, one would not be seriously impressed, but to be attacked in diplomatic platoon is overpowering. If one draws near he hears a chattering in French, like unto so many jays in mass

shout of derision went up, and cries of "Down in front," "Ain't we handsome?" and imitations of the croaking crows were heard; for, owing to their sombre dress, these subtle representatives of effete despotisms were called crows by the gods of the gallery. The corps took this assault calmly and with superior indifference, until a few decayed oranges and apples came, with indications of eggs in reserve, when the corps gracefully subsided. Occasionally there is a sensational scandal in which some of the younger diplomates are mixed up, and their respective governments are requested by the department of state to recall them. and imitations of the croaking crows

Under the Spell of a Locomotive.

[Cor. Toronto Globe.] A large moose deer experienced a singular fate a few miles west of Matble dishes, and various articles of ship's outfittings seem to strew the bottom of the river. Few of them are of use. Only the new ones pay the dredger for his trouble for fishing them out of the mud in the scow. Those that are of no value help fill up the channel again when the scow is dumping. Some time in the future they will be dredged up again, in order that the channel may be kept clear.

Lawa, on the Canadian Pacific railway. While No. 38 mixed was coming east at a high rate of speed the driver thought that he observed through the morning mist a dark object a short distance ahead. Every effort was made to bring the train to a standstill, but without success, for the next moment the obstruction was struck and sent flying from the track. It proved to be nothing less than a large sized moose deer, which, tawa, on the Canadian Pacific railway. the track. It proved to be nothing less than a large sized moose deer, which, becoming bewildered at the sight of the approaching train, was utterly powerless to move from the spot. Death roust have resulted instantaneously, as its side was literally smashed to a jelly. The antiered monarch weighed 750 The antiered monarch weighed 750 pounds, and is said to be one of the largest specimens of the moose killed in that locality for several years.

Away off in Chinese Geography.

(New York Mail and Express.)

"You no talkee no muchee mole 'bout English newsplapee puttee Chicago in Vermont and Niagla Fall in San Francisco," said a flat-eyed, saffronhued linen destroyer.

"What's the matter now, John!" asked the gentleman who was after his wash.

"This New Lork plapee say the Flench takee Yen-ping ou Lake Cha-oo, in the plovince of Toong-tse-ting. Yen-ping, tlee tousand miles from Cha-oo and Toong-tse-ting, is the name of a mountain, not plovince. Melican newspapee fool."

Exchanging Compliments.

(Rehoboth Sunday Herald.)

A man visiting London went to church and seated himself without hesitation in the nearest pew. Soon the owner came in, eyed the stranger critically, and then, writing "My pew" on the fly-leaf of a prayer-book, handed the book to the intruder. The stranger read the message, smiled a beautiful smile and wrote underneath: "Nice pew. What do you pay for it?"

American canned frogs are now sent to France.

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