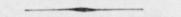
WHEN THE SKIES CLEAR OFF.

The prospects will be brighter, The burdens will be lighter, An' the souls of us be whiter When theskies clear off. With sweeter roses springin', An' sweeter birds a'singin', An' all the bells a-ringin' When the skies clear off !

The silver-it'll jingle, Till your fingers tingle, tingie; Old friends'll meet and mingle When the skies clear off. An' trouble, like a feather. Will go sailin' out the weather ; We'll sing an' dance together When the skies clear off!

There's a sign o' light a-comin'; An' you hear the wagon hummin' ; You'll be marchin' to the drummin' When the skies clear off. No matter what's the trouble-It'll break jest like a bubble, An' you'll drive in harness double When the skies clear off ! -Atlanta Constitution.



A MYSTERIOUS CLERK.

Nadvertisement of the following tenor appeared in one of the daily journals of a prosperous American city some years since:

ACCOUNTANT - The

Liberal salary and permanent position is dress.

others seemed, at first sight, accepta- fatally injured and dying man opened ble to the proprietor.

pearance that of an carnest, well-disalong in the world.

recommendation from persons resid- the body was taken to the levee. lis, and he was engaged.

have been five years younger, per- establishment went on as before. haps. He reaped the experience of What disposal the bookkeeper had

while Miss Corlis lost no fitting occasion to second her parent's views and wishes.

"Time flies with silent wings." year elapsed without making any peculiar change in the relations of the parties about whom we have written. The city where our narration dates was located upon the river, and upon its front street were situated the stores occupied by Mr. Corlis. Nearly three years had passed since Maywood had been installed there, when a steamer came down, on its way to New Orleans.

A rival boat was in sight, close behind, and it was the custom for these in front of Mr. Corlis's warehouses, to most boat rounded up at the levee, her engineer neglected to "blow off" her surplusage of steam, desiring to retain it for a dash with his competitor when he left this halting-place. The result of this neglect was the explosion of one of the large cylinders, by which accident a dozen persons on

the deck were fearfully scalded. The sound of the crash immediately drew a crowd upon the levee, and shortly afterwards the shrieking sufand rapidly growing ferers were brought on shore.

Mr. Corlis and Maywood were among the first who reached the river's edge. Body after body-maimed and scathed services of an accom-plished and competent maimed and scathed and blackenedperson are desired by mained and scathed and blackenedcharge of the books and wood and his employer were actively correspondence of a busy in their offices of kindness to flourishing business, the unfortunate, when the figure of a

offered to one with proper credentials. Ad- plainly dressed man was brought out. writhing in his last agonies, and fear-A hundred candidates for this place fully mutilated. Mr. Corlis approached | mand, I continued to live quietly and presented themselves at the establish- him as he came forward in the hands ment of Mr. Corlis, and among the of the the crew who were removing competitors there came a modestly him, and Maywood followed closely attired person, who more than the upon the steps of his employer. The

his eyes as the clerk came up, gazed The address of this applicant was fearfully at him, and shrieking the quiet and pleasant. His whole ap- broken syllable, "May-1" expired 1 Maywood started back, horrorposed man, who was desirous to get struck! For an instant he was paralyzed! That face and voice-that He brought with him and presented last glance! The clerk was bewild-

ing eastward, and exhibited a draft Maywood in the confusion fled. for a limited sum upon a responsible Subsequent search for him proved banking house in the town. His story futile. He'disappeared instanter, and was simple and straightforward, and all efforts to find him, or to learn of his manners were altogether prepos- his whereabouts or his fate, were sessing. He wrote a fair business alike in vain. After weeks of unahand, his credentials proved satisfac- vailing inquiry, the belief of his emtory to the not over-cautious Mr. Cor- ployer settled into no very satisfactory channel (though he feared that Ernest Maywood-for thus the ap- Maywood had either fallen from the plicant signed his name-proved a boat, amid the terrible confusion, or model clerk. He must have been some that he must have committed suicide,) thirty years of age when he entered and his place was filled in the countthe employ of Mr. Corlis. He might ing-house, while the business of the

forty, at least, for he was cunning in made of his surplus earnings, from accounts, and his knoweledge of the time to time, if he had any, or whethramifications of debt and credit was er he had saved any portion of his

quietly awaited another opportunity edge of books and accounts in earlier to carry out his long-cherished plan in years assumed the habiliments of the reference to his daughter's prospects; ruder sex, believing that I could thus better earn a sustenance.

"I came here, entered your service, saved a few hundred dollars-and you A remember the terrible occurrence twelve-month passes swiftly. Another which immediately preceded my disappearance?"

"The accident on the steamer?" "Yes. We were hurrying about among the wounded, as you recollect, when the figure of one of the dying sufferers approached us."

"Yes, yes, I remember."

"That man was my husband." There were tears in the eyes of the little coterie who listened to this singular tale of woe.

"I recognized him, and he half pronounced the name of Ma-ry, my bapcraft to halt en route at the landing tismal name, as I hurried about amid the frantic crowd on that fearful octake or leave passengers. As the fcre- casion. Stunned with the recognition under such circumstances, bewildered by the trying position in which I thus suddenly found myself placed, and fearful of the results of exposure, I knew not what to do, or scarcely what I did.

"He did not survive the accident, however; and, two hours afterwards, in homely female attire, I claimed his unfortunate remains. None recognized me in my plain apparel, and surely none could suspect that the veiled and humble woman who followed the corpse to its last resting place was in fact the bookkeeper of the well-known Mr. Corlis.

"I left town forthwith. Through your kindness and liberality I had been able to lay by a considerable sum of money, and I departed for the West, and, once more among total strangers, I continued the resumption of the habiliments and habits of my sex. With the means at my comrespectably, until some two years ago I met this gentleman, who offered me his hand. I am now Mrs. Ervine, and this is my husband, sir."

As may well be imagined, a happy reunion succeeded this denouement of the long-time mystery which had shrouded the sudden disappearance of Mr. Corlis's bookkeeper. And the reader may be assured that Mr. and Mrs. Ervine were not only very welcome in the rich merchant's family, to Mr. Corlis a few brief letters of ered, and motionless as a statue-and but that the newly wedded pair be-recommendation from persons resid- the body was taken to the levee. came the future fast friends of "Maywood's" former employer and his extended social circle .- New York News.

A Dog's Intelligence,

G. Rugg Thompson, the six-yearold son of Dr. Thompson, of Glens Falls, is the owner of a large St. Bernard named Nero. The animal has a light-brown coat and weighs about 150 pounds. Nero is an unusually intelligent dog. He has a great head for mathematics and can add, subtract, divide and multiply with surprising celerity. Let a certain number of persons enter a room. Then let half the number depart, and Nero will notify his master by barking how many there are left in the room. Should others enter the room after Nero has notified his master of the number present, he will quickly and accurately indicate the new number. Some of the problems worked out by this canine wonder would prove difficult for a ten-year-old boy to demonstrate. An interesting example of Nero's ability as a mathematician is shown when a series of figures running from one to nine is placed on a blackboard. As each figure is set down, either in rotation or at random, the dog will signify by a bark the number. On one occasion Nero entered a hotel with the doctor. A number of guests were standing, sitting, or moving about a room. When asked how many persons were present, Nero deliberately walked about until he found four men behind a counter. Then he sagely trotted back to his master and announced the correct number, fifteen. He informed his master how many of the number were sitting and how many standing. - Troy Times.



HONEY LOCUST FOR AX HELVES.

soft. I have made a discovery-new to me, at least-that the timber of the honey locust, Gleditschia triacantha, is as good, or nearly, as hickory for ax helves and handles of all kinds, writes E. S. Gilbert to the New York Tribune. The sap wood of the yellow locust is not much good. The honey locust, like the hickory, has strong timber clear to the bark, at least in young trees. The honey locust is easier to start from the seed than the other. The nurseries sell the yearling plants for almost nothing; it has to borer that I know of; its tough limbs are not torn off by the wind; it seldom suckers, and is perhaps the hardier of the two. A butt I cut this fall has annual layers half an inch thick, and the wood is hard and heavy.

A GREAT PIE APPLE.

We have recently mentioned the Ben Davis as a leading profitable orchard fruit, both at the West and the East. That veteran fruit grower of Missouri, Judge Samuel Miller, says of it, that, while not first rate in qual ity, the vigor, productiveness and early bearing of the tree render it safe to plant extensively. Even in England it is reported to give satisfaction. The fruit dried or evaporated is white and good; it makes excellent cider and is fine in apple butter. For pies it is a great favorite; a bakery in Chicago, which turns out 10,000 pies daily, uses the Ben Davis exclusively. Fruit of this tree grown on an upland, on trees not overloaded, is quite different from the product of overloaded trees on bottom land.-Cultivator and Country Gentleman.

A NEGLECTED BUT VALUABLE PEAR.

The Forelle pear is seldom seen, but it has so many good qualities that it merits a much more general planting. It is called by the Germans, from whom we have it, Forellen-birne, i. e., Trout pear, because it is speckled like the brook trout. The pear is below medium in size, inclining to pyriform in shape. When fully ripe, it is of yellow lemon color, with a deep red cheek on the sunny side, marked with bright crimson specks. The tree is a good grower and a regular bearer. It is fine grained, buttery and melting in quality. It ripens late in October and with care may be kept until Christmas. With our modern cold storage facilities, there would not be the slightest trouble in prolonging its season until well along in January and perhaps later .-- American Agricultur-

skins together, when they should be

Several skins may be sewed together to make large rugs. Woodchuck, skunk, cat and calfskins may be tanned by the same process as for sheep pelts. For coloring use diamond dies. Sew a loop of strong cloth onto each corner of the pelt; prepare your dye in a shallow vat or pan that has a large suface, have the dye het and the wool damp, let two persons stand opposite each other, each holding two corners of the pelt by the cloth loops, and dip the wool side into the dye bath, moving gently till all parts are colored alike. Rinse in the same manner, this prevents coloring or injuring the skins. Wool carriage mats are easily re-dyed in the same manner as the sheep pelts. When the wool is dry card it until it is smooth and fluffy .-New England Homestead.

THE COLOB OF HORSES.

W. H. Hawkes writes to the Australasian as follows on that vexed question, the color of horses:

"It is an old saying among horsey men, 'a good horse was never a bad color,' and yet popular prejudice assigns all sorts of good or evil traits of character to particular colors. I can quite understand this with those who to not know better; but that an expert, like an Indian buyer, should old to the popular fallacy is almost beyond belief, seeing that we have had innumerable instances, both in the old country and here, to the contrary. It was recently that some four or five races were won in one day upon one of our local courses by chestnuts, and I think the fact was mentioned by one of your contributors, and they are equally good either in saddle or harness. Yet there are numbers who will condemn a chestnut at once for his color only, be he ever so perfect in every other respect. The objection to a gray one can understand from a groom's point of view, seeing that they are so difficult to keep free from strains as age whitens their coats, but for no lack of good constitution or disposition.

"Some will tell you that a roan is the hardiest of all horses, and yet I venture to assert that a greater portion of aged roans does not exist. Others credit black horses with being allied to Dragoufels himself for temper and untrustworthiness. The only objection to him is that he is very rusty in his winter garb.

"' 'White legs are always a sign of weakness,' you are told by many. But I think three to one would be fair betting against the one white leg out of a set of four, the others being black. What about Odd Stockings and All Fours? Surely if white legs were a plant beech trees in large numbers sign of weakness, such horses should break down at a very early stage of culty in making them grow. The their career. Most judges prefer bays transplanting, however, is usually with black points, and it would be done while the trees are small, or difficult to beat them for general apfrom five to eight feet high, for pearance the year through, but I for larger specimens are rather difficult to one should certainly deny to them a handle, owing to their widespreading monopoly of sound constitutions, roots. We certainly do not know of tractability, intelligence. and all other any good reason for the almost general virtues. I am quite with Mr. Basil neglect of the American beech, for it Gray in his general remarks, but even is surely one of our most beautiful he errs the other way, as he credits and graceful trees, and so hardy that white legs with being indicative of it thrives even far beyond the limits some peculiar virtue-or, as he says, Small trees found in open woods and very much doubt. That skillful breakfields may be transplanted by giving ing and future wise education has most a little care to the preservation of the to do with the character and usefulroots, and then severely pruning the ness of a horse, as well as a man, irrebranches before or as soon as planted. spective of his color, can, I think, he The trees selected for street, roadsides accepted as a settled fact. Renfrew and parks are mainly the choice of was a splendid tempered horse until nurserymen who have a stock of the teased to such an extent that he bequick-growing and cheapest kinds. If came a man-eater. Many a two-legged the beech, chestnut, walnut and hick- brother has had his character spoiled ory were planted in the streets and by those who should have helped to parks of our cities their nuts, when make him better. That horses, like ripe and falling, would be a great men, have their temperaments goes temptation to the small boy and his without saying. That an eye for the sister, and this would never do in this beautiful leads fanciers to reject pieage of high moral culture in cities. bald, skewbald, and horses with wall We advise you to plant a row of beech eyes and big blazes for hacks or cartrees, and then enjoy thinking what a riage purposes is not to be wondered good time the children of the neigh- at. But that any should condemn borhood will have a few years hence many of our really beautiful chestnuts

The Nicaragua Canal.

The project of the Nicaragua Canal has been debated in the U. S. Senate very vigorously. One thing should be remembered about that climate; it is death to almost every foreigner who goes there, and laborers especially succumb. It is said that the Panespecially succumb. It is said that the Pan-ama Railroad cost a life for every tie. What an idea of pains and aches is in this sentence. It is mostly due to carelessness. Every la-borer provided with St. Jacobs Oli would be armed against these troubles. Men's mus-cles there are cramped with rheumatic pain and they ache all over. That's just the dition where this sovereign remedy can do its best work. The feariul malady is very much like the break-bone fever in certain parts of America.

In a cubic meter of limestone Orbigny ound 3,000,000,000 sea shells

Dr. Klimer's SWAMP-ROOT cures all Kidney and Bladder troubles. Pamphlet and Consultation free. Laboratory Binghamton, N. Y.

One very common species of ocean infu-soria is shaped like a bell.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO,

STATE OF ONIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, LUCAS COUNTY. S. LUCAS COUNTY. S. FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOL-LARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATAREN CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY. rworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896. A. W. GLEASON, SETAL

BEAL Motary Public, Hall's Catarrh Cureistaken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo. O. F. Sold by Druggists, 7bc.

With Emphasis

we say that Ripans Tabules, the best and standard remedy for stomach and liver troubles, will cure your headache or bilious at-tack. One tabule gives relief.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflamma-tion, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c, a bottle

Karl's Clover Root, the great blood purifier. gives freshness and clearness to the complex-ion and cures constipation, 25 cts., 50 cts., 18.

CRECK Colds and Bronchitis with Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.



Intense Itching & Burning

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cured and Cave Sound Relief.

** I was troubled for months with a breaking out on my skin. I suffered terribly at night and had to cut my finger nails short to keep me from scratching. Three physi-



cians did not help my case. I had about given up in despair when a friend advised me to try a bottle of Hood's Sarsanarilla. It seemed as if every dose helped me and after I had taken a few bottles I was entirely well and a sound man again. I proved Hood's Sarsaparilla to be a ME good blood purifier

extraordinary.

ness of character that marked his con- gone ! tinually upright and honest course of conduct.

to making him his partner in trade at Corlis or his daughter. the fitting moment, and subsequently, with him in marriage.

Maywood had once or twice been the agreeable Miss Corlis, and an evening spects. or two had been passed by him at her to offer the parent any hope that his really, I do not recollectemploye had been affected in any wise by his daughter's charms.

plodding, indefatigable, untiring round tired lady who accompanied him. of duty, always at his post, ever devo- "She says you will probably recollect ted to his master's interests, and more her." than satisfying the expectations of the in his now confidential clerk.

"Ernest," said his employer to him one morning, "I voluntarily increased daughter together. your salary, a twelvemonth since, because you merited it, though you did calmly. not mention the subject yourself. Two vice with me. The balance sheet ex- cur? A woman!" hibits a handsome profit upon the last from this date, if you agree to it, you stances, could not be otherwise. shall become a partner.

the matter dropped.

pay, was unknown to his late em-His varied qualifications were quickly ployer. Inquiries were instituted, brought into requisition, and his em- and all the means at hand likely to ployer very soon came to esteem him afford any light upon the singular and for his accuracy in mercantile mat- sudden disappearance were availed of ters, as well as for the every-day good- -but to no purpose. Maywood was

Six years, with their round of joys onduct. Mr. Corlis had a daughter, his only changes and fortunes, had passed child, in whom were centered all his away, after the accident related, when hopes. The father thought he saw in one evening there halted before the the character of his new clerk busi- door of Mr. Corlis a carriage, from ness qualities most desirable, and he which alighted a lady and gentleman. believed him to be a man of integrity who inquired if the merchant were at and worth ; and at the end of a twelve- home. They were shown into the month he secretly determined upon drawing-room, and the cards of "Mr. bringing about an intimacy between and Mrs. Ervine" were sent up. The Ernest and his daughter, with a view name was not familiar, either to Mr.

"Ervine?" said the father. "Erif possible, to uniting his daughter vine? I do not recognize the name, daughter."

Mr. Corlis soon after entered the guest of his employer at dinner, where apartment, followed by his daughter. he had been introduced to the fair and and the strangers rose to pay their re-

"Mr. Ervine," said the merchant, father's house; but nothing occurred "I am happy to meet you. But,

"No," said the stranger, "I never had the pleasure of meeting you be-Thus the months passed quietly by, fore. This in my wife, however," he Maywood continued on in the same added, presenting the modestly-at-

The lady advanced, offered her hand thriving Mr. Corlis, who was fortunate to Mr. Corlis and his daughter, and indeed in the selection he had made said : "Surely, Mr. Corlis, you have

not forgotten me?" "Maywood !" exclaimed father and

"You are right," said the lady,

"But how is this?" asked the meryears ago to-day, you commenced ser- chant. "When did this, change oc-

"Sit down, my dear sir," said the year's business, to which result you lady, calmly, "and I will at once unhave largely contributed, directly and ravel what must have seemed a most indirectly. I now propose to offer mysterious proceeding, in your estiyou an interest in the business, and mation : but which, under the circum-

"Nearly twenty years ago I married The offer was a liberal one. The in- a man of whom I knew too little, and come derivable from such a share of who proved himself utterly unworthy the profits would have quintupled of the confidence and love of her whom Maywood's earnings. On the part of he grossly deceived, before and after his employer, it was the opening wedge our union. His habits were dissolute ; for his future plan of marrying his he soon became a confirmed inebriate; daughter well, and to his mind. His our prospectively happy home shortly decision-a declination-instantly, became ascene of continuously riotous but frankly and kindly given, as-tounded the generous Mr. Corlis. dissipation; his little property, with my own, was squandered, and, before my own, was squandered, and, before three babies were placed in one bed Maywood said he was content as he five years had passed, we were home- to make the father of the twins be-

vices. He did not desire it increased. under the cruel treatment to which I antly and satisfactorily until the He had no use for money than his was subjected, I made a final appeal "lark" was explained and the busiplace now yielded him. He had no to him. In his drunken wrath he ness of restoring the infants to their wish to incur additional responsibili- forced me violently away from him, respective mothers began. Here a ties. He was happy, and if Mr. Corlis and in despair I fled from the scene serious difficulty presented itself, for was satisfied, so was he. And there of my early miseries. I adopted my the attendants were unable to say maiden name of Maywood, procured which was which. The dentification

ince of his duties, and Mr. Corlis seen- and having acquired a knowl- lished .- Chicago Herald.

The First Patient,

A few days ago the little son of a well-known physician was entertaining a playmate at his father's house. As children will, they ransacked every nook and corner of the building. Their curiosity led them to explore the recesses of a closet in which the doctor keeps his instruments and other personal effects, among which is a complete skeleton. The strange boy was frightened when he first beheld the grinning remnant of what once had been a human being and started to run away. The doctor's son, however, had seen the skeleton so often that he entertained for it only that feeling of contempt begotten by familiarity, and in a little while succeeded in so allaying the fears of his companion that the youngster began to handle the thing and rattle its dry bones. "Where did your father get it?" he finally asked. "I don't know," was the reply; "but I guess it was his first patient, for he's had it an awful long time."-Butte Miner.

Mixed Up the Babies.

Gilbertian humor has been exemplified by an incident at Southport, England. Last week births took place in two families living in the same house. In one case twins arrived and one baby in the other. As a joke the was! His salary was ample, and was a full equivalent for his humble ser- "When I could no longer bear up triplets. Everything passed off pleas-triplets. Everything passed off pleaslieve that his wife had given birth to Maywood continued in the perform- the letters of credence which you have has not yet been satisfactorily estab-

THE BEECH AS A BOADSIDE TREE.

Nurserymen propagate and transwithout experiencing any great diffiof our territory to the northward. 'they always denote quality.' This I gathering the delicious nuts.-New is an enigma.

DYEING AND COLORING SHEEP PELTS.

York Sun.

A correspondent asks how to cleanse and color sheep pelts for rugs. The following directions for tanning and cleansing are as good as any and are also the least troublesome way. Make a strong lather with soft soap and hot water, and let it stand till cold. Wash the sheepskin in it. carefully squeeze out all dirt from the wool. Wash in cold water till all the soap is out.

Dissolve one pound each of salt and alum in two gallons of hot water, put the skin into a tub and pour the liquid. over it. If not sufficient to cover, add more hot water. Let soak for twelve hours, then hang on a pole to drip. When well drained, stretch carefully on a board to dry, and stretch several times while drying. Before quite dry, sprinkle on the flesh side one ounce each of powdered alum and saltpeter, rubbing it in well. If the wool is not firm on the skin, let the skin remain a couple of days, then rub again with alum. Fold the flesh sides together and hang in the shade two or three days, turning over each day till quite dry. Scrape the flesh side well with a dull knife and rub well with the horse. pumice or rotten stone to make the

"The objection purely to color is, I think, much akin to the action of one who crosses himself when passing in the street a person with oblique vision."-Bell's London Messenger.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES. Stallions are cheap.

Developed speed is in demand. Brood mares are selling for a song. A sandy soil is the best location for a poultry yard.

A few carrots or apples are excellent for horses.

Muddy barnyards are largely responsible for scratches.

Why not cover the bits with smooth leather for winter use?

Make the stable comfortable if you would keep down expenses.

If a sheep is kept dry it will stand cold much better than heat.

There is a profitable market for handsome, useful, half-bred hackneys. If orchards are to be made profitable, they must receive as good care as crops.

Should you stop anywhere during the cold days don't forget to blanket

Be careful not to feed the colts or skin soft. When used for mats or horses dusty bay. The trouble can rugs they do quite as well if a little | easily be remedied by shaking out the hard, unless you want to sew the hay well and then dampening it.



the only nourishment the stomach would tolerate when LIFE seemed depending on its retention ;--And as a FOOD it would be difficult to

conceive of anything more palatable. Sold by DRUGGISTS. Shipping Depot, JOHN CARLE & SONS, New York.