THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

SATURDAY.

WILDWOOD'S WEALTH

Of Golden Grease That Gushes Forth From Earthly Depths in Lively Streams.

FULL HISTORY AND A MAP

Of This Richest Spot in Allegheny County's Rich Territory.

THAT WONDER OF THE OIL WORLD,

Thorn Creek, Closely Pressed by the New Pool in Production.

BIG FORTUNES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE

This morning we publish a complete map of the famous Wildwood field, showing the location and number of wells completed, dry holes, gassers and wells drilling, together with a full history of the field from the first experimental well drilled up to the present. With the possible exception of Thorn Creek, Wildwood, for the number of seres embraced in its producing territory, is the most prolific and important white sand pool ever discovered. It has not only attained a national reputation, but has been commented on by many of the leading European oil journals as the great Oilderado of America. The field is located in Allegheny county 12 miles north from Pittsburg on the Pitts-

burg and Western Railroad, The Bear Creek Refining Company drilled the first well on the field, in the spring of 1888, on the C. J. Gibson farm, located on little Pine Creek, about seven-eighths of a mile due north from the old Whitesell well No. 1, which subsequently astonished the olenginous world. This venture was a wildcat, pure and simple, and was only drilled to the "30-foot" sand, in which was found a strong flow of gas. At a later date, after Barnev Forst and Max Klein discovered a third sand on the A. Moon farm, two-thirds of a mile due west from the Bear Creek well, it was drilled down to that formation, proving barren in both oil and gas. The Forst and Klein Moon farm well was drilled at about the same time as the Gibson. They found 35 feet of inferior third sand and the well started off at five barrels a day,

but never paid to operate.
In the same year John M. Patterson, taking his cue from the records of these two wells, which indicated that the sand thickened to the east, located a well one and a half miles a little south of east from the Bear Creek's duster on the Gibson farm and drilled what is known as the Cockscomb well. He found 80 feet of third and fourth sand, which nearly run together, and a good showing of oil in both strata, but it did not prove a paying well.

Another Experimental Failure.

The knowledge obtained by drilling this well, together with the previous developments of J. M. Guffy & Co. to the southwest, near Perrysville, where they found a thick sand and some oil, led Glbson & Giles to drill a well on the William Glenn farm n 1888, three miles southwest from the Cockscomb, and on a line between it and the Guffy developments. Here they obtained 30 feet of good white sand, and many of the best operators were puzzled to know why it did not produce oil. Encouraged by the good indications of the developments, Cleveland & Kiskadden next drilled a well on the Enoch Guyton farm, one-half mile north from the wells drilled by the Bear Creek Refining Company and Forst & Klein, on the Gibson and Moon farms. They found 40 feet of pebbly sand, hard and glassy, but no oil,

W. E. Griffith, a close observer of events, and one of the most practical gentlemen in the business, then appeared upon the scene of action. Having a perfect knowledge and record of all the wells that had thus far been drilled, he was of the opinion that, owing to the formation existing east and west of a 45° line, and according to geological calcutations, there would be a large pool of oil lying south of the original Bear creek well. The strength of his faith in this theory materialized by drilling a well on the Whitesell farm, seven-eighths of a mile south from the Bear Creek Refining Company's well, on the Gibson. In this well the sand was tapped on the 24th of March, 1890, and for the first 24 hours it was one of the strongest gassers ever struck in the field. At the expiration of this time the pressure had sufficiently subsided to redrilling, when the well commenced spraying oil, and three days later it was drilled in and started off at 300 barrels a day. This gave Wildwood its first boom, and to Mr. Griffith belongs the honor of opening up

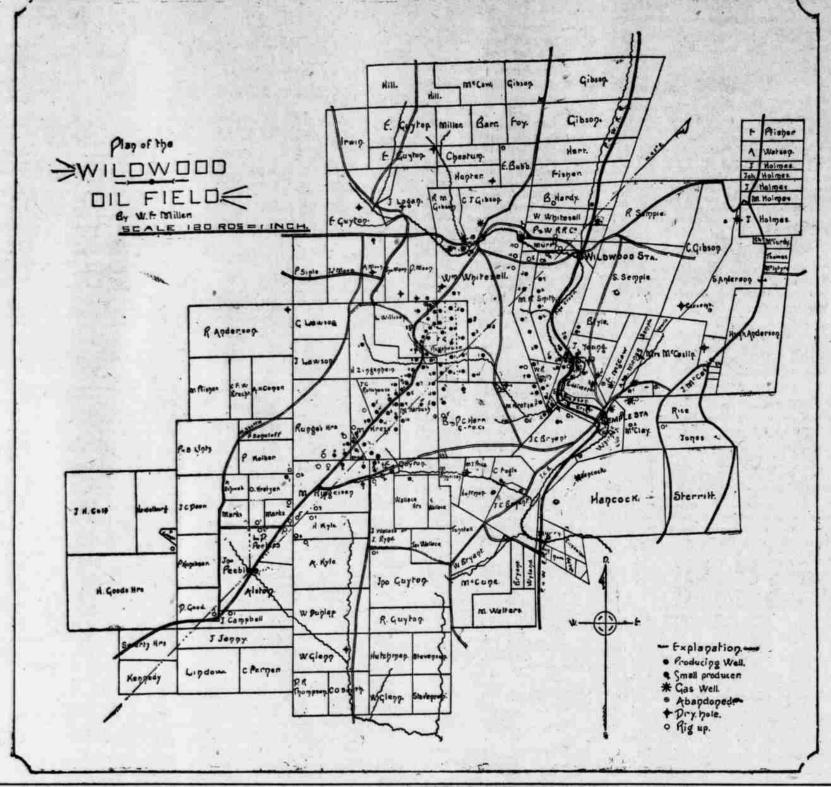
Gusher After Gusher Followed.

Soon after the advent of Whitesell No. 1. Greenlee & Forst followed with an 80 barrel well on the Rolsehouse, which held up at 600 barrels a day for some time. At this period the ball was rolling in good shape, and the southwest line of the field ing since been characterized by a regular succession of gushers. It is an open question which is the largest gas well struck in the field. It is claimed by some that J. M. Guffy & Co.'s No. 4, Rolsehouse, 30 acres, made the most oil for the first 24 nours, while others think that Barnsdall & Gillespie's No. 2, Kress is entitled to this distinction. However this may be they were both gushers of the first magnitude and made over 2,000 barrels each

the first 24 hours. Griffith & Co., Whitesell No. 2, has pro duced more oil than any one well in the field, having a credit of over 250,000 barrels. A careful computation of developed terri-tory embracing the entire production of the field shows that it encompassed an area o 760 neres. In this aggregate there is 240 acres of the Whitesell, 100 of the Smith, 137 of the Rolschouse, Harbush, 40; Kress, 40; McGeagh, 6; Ring-Young, 15; Dr. Smith, 18; Simpson, 18; Runga, 15; Guyton, 5; Zeigenheim, 25; Writeson, 14; Funk, 2; Bryant, 10; Bady-K-efer, 10. Of the 750 acres only 241 is c a sed as prolific territory, and from which the bulk of oil is produced, and is summed up in the following manner: Whitesell, 35 aures; Smith, 50; Rolsehouse, 50; Harbush, 30; Kress, 30; McGeagh, 6; Ringheisen, 10 In this field oil is not only produced from

the third sand, but is found in limited quantities in the fourth, and if the writer members right, Scott, No. 3, at Semple The depth at which the third sand is reached varies according to location. In the valley, along the Pittsburg and Western Railroad, this formation is found at from 1,725 feedto 1,750 feet, while on the hills, in the locality of Harbush, Rolsehouse 30 acres, Kress, Guyton and Ringheisen farms, his careful at 1,000. it is reached at 1,925 to 1,975 feet. The tourth sand lies 60 feet below the top of the third, and the fifth 249 feet below.

Varying Sand Formations. On the Herr farm the third and fourth sands rup together and have a depth of 110 reet while the thickness of the third sand on the Whitesell and Rolsehouse farms is about 72 feet. Developments on the southwest end of the pool have demonstrated the



fact that the sand diminishes about 18 feet to the mile, on a 45° line, rushing due southwest, and on a 22° southwest line nearly 25 feet to the mile. Good gas territory has been developed both east and west of a 45° line, the west side showing the heaviest pressure and best staying qualities.

It is pertinent to remark here that the production of the field has been over-estimated by the daily reports which is conclusively shown by the monthly statements and aggregate output. The question has been discussed among the oil fraternity as to whether Wildwood or Thorn Creek is entitled to the supremacy as the oil fraternity as to whether Wildwood or Thorn Creek is entitled to the supremacy as a white-sand producing pool. THE DIS-PATCH secut, at considerable pains and expense, has been able to obtain the records of both fields, and we present the comparison without an opinion and leave the reader to draw his own conclusions. The following statistics indicate the number of barrels of oil received each month by the pipe line and the total production for 11 months, or since the field was opened up:

Time he struck Whitesell No. 1, the initial well, he was the prond owner of 500 acres of territory. Shortly after the well came in he sold half of his interest to the Forest Oil Company for the snug sum of \$65,000. He was offered \$125,000 for his entire interest, and notwithstanding the importunities of many friends to accept it, concluded to take chances of doing better by holding on.

In this, subsequent events demonstrated, he was well posted upon the situation, and his firm faith in the future greatness of Wildwood soon materialized into a realiza-

The appended table is a correct record of the big gushers at Thorn Creek, showing when they were struck, on what farms and

Farm.

The glory of discovering the great Thorn creek pool is credited to Sam Armstrong and S. M. Boyd, who completed No. 1 Marshall June 28, 1884. There is a difference of opinion among the old producers as to the well's production. Some claim it was not better than a 25-barrel producer and at best never did more than 75 barrels a day, but Mr. Boyd informed THE DISPATCH scout that on the start it made over 200 barrels a day. The pipe line record shows 1,800 barrels run from the well for the first 12 days.

The Accident of Discovery However, it is a significant fact that had this well been located 17 rods further south, while Fisher No. 2 was drilled, it would have been a duster, and Thorn creek to-day most likely would have remained condemned and undiscovered. It is also a noteworthy and undiscovered. It is also a noteworthy fact that if Armstrong No. 2 had been drilled first, Thorn creek probably would have never been chronicled in the history of the petroleum industry, as it did not show a drop of oil when drilled through the sand. It had 1,300 feet of sait water in the hole, and a close, hard sand. But being only about 150 feet from Phillips' Bartley No. 1, then making 100 harrels an hour the owners. then making 100 barrels an hour, the owners decided to shoot it. It was drilled in on Fri-day. On Monday it was shot with 40 quarts, day. On Monday it was snot with av quarts, and the result surprised the oil world, as the first 24 hours' production was certainly the largest of any well in this country. The production for the first five hours was lost be-

duction for the arst ave hours was lost of fore connections could be made.

The highest daily production of the Thorn creek pool was 21,000 barrels, which is 2,128 barrels more than the biggest day's output at Wildwood, while the largest daily average for 30 days was 16,000 barrels, or a total of 480,000 barrels for the month. This, compared with January's production at Wildwood, is 24,830 barrels in favor of Thorn creek. Thorn creek bears the dis-Thorn creek. Thorn creek bears the distinction of producing the largest well ever struck-in America, which, as shown by the above table, came in on the 20th of October, 1884, on the Marshall farm, and was owned by Armstrong, Semple & Boyd. The pipe line report shows that there was run from this phenomenal gusher 8,500 barrels the first 24 hours, while the most conservative estimate placed the amount of oil lost at 2,000 barrels, which properly makes its production 10,400 barrels the first day. These were exciting times, and perhaps at no period of the industry was there more fortunes won and lost in the speculative trade than then.

At this time the market was entirely gov-erned by field reports, fluctuating on the

strength of a dry hole or big well with remarkable rapidity. But now things have changed, and under the more stable condition of affairs Wildwood has flever exerted

this potent influence upon the trade. Those Upon Whom Fortune Smiles. Those Upon Whom Fortune Smiles. Em Fortune has smiled upon many operators in the Wildwood field, and below we give a brief sketch of some who were especially active in drilling experimental wells and largely engaged in the development of the pool. W. E. Griffith has been the most successful operator in the field. At the time he struck Whitesell No. 1, the initial well have the proof owner of 500 scenes of

Wildwood soon materialized into a realiza-tion of fabulous wealth. Taking into consideration his sale, the large amount of oil he has produced, together with his present holdings, he has made in this field not less than \$500,000.

It is conceded that the Forest Oil Com-

pany are the largest holders, being interested in over 1,000 acres, while it also has a greater production than any other operator or firm in the field. The business sagacity of Mr. J. W. Young, Vice President and general manager of the company, will be readily recognized in his immense purchases in the field, and it is to him alone the cor-poration is indebted for its remunerative in-vestments. Gibson & Giles, two as honest

vestments. Gibson & Giles, two as honest and hard-working men as you will find in the oil regions, are counted among the lucky Wildwood producers.

For two years previous to their success here, they had been playing in hard luck, having drilled many experimental dusters. They were induced by Roth, Jennings & Calhoun to drill a well on the William Glenn farm for a half interest in 1,350 acres in which is included the Harbush Kretzer. in which is included the Harbush, Kretzer Kyhle, Bryant, and in all some 12 or 13 farms. As was their usual luck the well came in dry or nearly so. Disheartened at their continued reverses they tried to dispose of their leases and finally offered them back to the party they had leased from, for nothing, in order that they might be relieved of paying rentals. The leases went begging and they were compelled to keep them, and when W. E. Griffith opened up the field 15 months later with Whitesell No. 1, they had just two days left to pay up their rentals or forfeit the leases. Rewarded at Last.

Rewarded at Last.

Inspired with new hope they at once started two wells, one on the Kretzer and the other on the James Bryant farm, the latter when complete making 150 barrels a latter when complete making 150 barrels a day. They next cast their anchor on the Harbush farm, and on the 6th of September they had the pleasure—and satisfaction of seeing their well belch forth the golden fluid at the rate of 90 barrels an hour. They actively pushed the drill in this prelific locality, and after taking out 90,000 barrels oil sold their interests to John L. McKinney and James Arum for \$155,000. Poort & drum for \$165,000. Forst & Greenlee have also been very successful at In all they have completed 21 wells, and a while had a daily production of 4,000 bar-

rels. After taking the cream out of their hest territory, they sold it to the Midland Oil Company for \$100,000. They still retain large interests, and are among the most active operators in the field.

Other producers who have been successful and made a handsome state was been Other producers who have been successful and made a handsome stake may be mentioned as follows: Roth & Jennings, Calhoun, Barnsdall & Gillespie, J. M. and W. S. Guffy, Emmet Queen, Smith Oil Company, John M. Patterson, Coast & Evans, and W. F. Miller. Up to date there has been a total of 173 wells completed, and including the first wildcat wells drilled, 15 of this number were dry and 9 of these are

of this number were dry and 9 of these are The production of the field for the past 24 hours is 7,000 barrels, and still declining. The situation at present on the southwest line does not present any encouraging feature. As developed by the drill, one is feature. As developed by the drill, one is naturally led to the conclusion that Wildwood has seen its best days. Most of the big gushers have stopped flowing and should the advance well now drilling come in poor, it will look as if this end of the field is done for. There is, however, a possibility of some good territory being developed in the locality of the Bowman gasser and the Kennedy well on the railroad lot. The conclusion is drawn from the production and staying qualities of the the production and staying qualities of the latter well, which is making 20 barrels an hour. The Bowman gasser has been shot, and is showing for a good well. Taking these two wells as a pointer, we again remark it will be no surprise to see some fair wells and considerable activity in this quarter,

H. MCCLINTOCK:

The Admiral of the Navy Dies Very Suddenly at His Home.

CLOSE OF A BRILLIANT CARBER.

His Services for the Country in the Mexican

and Late Wars. SIMPLE HABITS OF THE NAVAL HERO

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13 .- Admiral David D. Porter, who had been in failing health this morning, at his residence in this city, of

fatty degeneration of the heart. His death was unexpected, for, although he had been an invalid for a year or more, he had been reported better of late and there was no signs of the sudden termination of his disease, which was an affection of the heart. So unexpected was the death of Admiral Porter that the members of the family who

were in the city, and even some members of the family in an adjoining room, were not present at his bedside until after he had breathed his last. At 8 o'clock this morn-



ing his nurse observed unfamiliar symptoms. and two of his sons, who were in the house, were summoned and Dr. Wales sent for. Within 15 minutes he was dead, his two sons and nurse being the only ones at his bedside. Even they did not realize the extent of the trouble until he had ceased to

Admiral Porter had been unable to attend generally to his official duties during the past two or three years, and at times his death was almost daily expected. Some months ago, however, a marked improvement in his condition was reported, and since that time there had been no warning of the and which came prevented by No. of the end, which came unexpectedly. No arrangements have yet been made for the funeral, but they will probably be placed in charge of the Navy Department. Although death came suddenly, it was not unexpected by the family.

by the family.

David Dixon Porter was born in Chester, Pa., in 1814. He was the youngest son of Commodore David Porter, who commanded the Essex in the war of 1812-14. He entered the service as a midshipman, in February, 1829, and served for some time in the Mediterranean. After passing his examination in 1835, he was employed for several years in the coast survey and river explora-tions, and became a lieutenant in 1841.

Services in the Rebellion. At the close of 1845 he was placed on special duty at the Observatory at Washington, which position he resigned in 1846, in order to take part in the Mexican war, in which he served with distinction. At the outbreak of the Civil War, in 1861, hewas pro-

ber of that year to the command of the Upper Mississippi squadron, with the rank of Acting Rear Admiral, and after super-intending the construction of that fleet, he sailed down the river and assisted in the operations for opening indirect routes to the

Vicksburg and Fort Fisher.

Vicksburg and Fort Fisher.

In the summer of 1863, during the second siege of Vicksburg, he bombarded the works and rendered material assistance to General Grant, who commanded the besieging army, until the occupation of thatstronghold, July 4. Admiral Porter was employed in several important expeditions, especially in the two combined attacks on Fort Fisher, which commands the approaches to Wilmington, N. C. The first of these attacks, at the close of 1864, miscarried. The second expedition in January, 1865, was completely successful. Admiral Porter was advanced to the rank of Vice Admiral July 25, 1866, and after the death of Admiral Porter was proposed to the second expedition of the second expedition of the second expedition in January, 1865, was completely successful. the death of Admiral Farragut he was pro-moted, in August, 1870, to the rank of Ad-miral, which carried with it the command of the entire navy of the United States, subject only to the President.

The Admiral's Simple Habits. Those who have seen the Admiral on oc-

rations when he was resplendent in gold braid and gilt buttons, would hardly have recognized him as he appeared at home. He did not wear his military air and looked no more like the brave old sait or the Administration. miral of the Navy than any business man. He was a man of very simple habits, and was rarely seen on the streets, sticking close to home. He seldom went to the Navy Department. But his duties were far from ornamental and were very often onerous, giving orders and examining reports consti-tuting the larger part of his work. His family went much into society, though the Admiral never showed a marked fondness

for it, confining his entertainments for the most part to dinners. He had a good stable and rode occasionally, showing a preference to his daughter's pony phaeton rather than to the dignified family carriage. Still, he has had time for literary work, and in the last few years he has given both a novel and a history to the publishers.

O. P. CAYLOR, the well-known baseball writer, contributes a breezy letter for to-morrow's big DISPATCH.

WORLD'S FAIR WORK STOPPED. Italian Laborers in Jackson Park Driven

Away by a Union Mob. CHICAGO, Feb. 13 .- The work of grading in Jackson Park in preparation for the

World's Fair is at a standstill. Late yesterday afternoon a lot of idle workmen, finding that they were unable to induce the Italians whe were at work to strike for an advance in wages, attacked them and drove them out of the park with kicks and enffs. This morning the crowd of idlers gathered in the park to the number of 700 or more and maintained such a threatening attitude toward the Italians that the contractors thought it best not to attempt to resume operations. Some union carpenters, engaged in building offices and stables, were

not molested.

The contractors say they will wait till they secure telephone connection with the police department, when they will resume work, and if interfered with will demand protection. A committee has been appointed by the joint committees representing all of the organizations of union labor in Chicago to confer with the management of the World's Fair with a view to securing a rec-ognition of union labor in the work to be done on the fair buildings. If their claims are not recognized they threaten to turn the antagonism of the solid labor element against the enterprise.

CHATTANOOGA PARTLY FLOODED. The River Higher Than the Danger Line,

and Driving People From Houses. CHATTANOOGA, Feb. 13.-The Tennessee river marked 35.5 feet by the Government gauge at 5 o'clock last evening, and is still rising rapidly, with an almost certainty of exceeding 40 feet. Part of the suburb of East End is under water, as also the tracks of the Union and Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus Railroad in that part of the

FLORIDA HOME LIFE. It Is a Languid, Sunshiny Existence Throughout the Year.

SCARCITY OF MEAT AND FRUITS.

Cottages That Have a Temporary Look in Their Construction.

INFLUX OF NORTHERNERS INCREASING

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.) The real Floridean, or cracker, one who was born and raised on the soil, is only to be found here and there. Florida always was, and is yet, thinly peopled, and the remnant that is left of the early settlers are so few in numbers as to be almost lost among the new population. What surprises a new-ionable suburb of Bourgoistown, he was the ionable suburb of Bourgoistown, he was the comer most on arriving, is to find everybody else is a newcomer. Everyone who is living here seems to have just come from some other place. And all are called Northerners if they have moved in only from Georgia or an adjoining State.

They have come as it were to a great sanitarium and by so doing have added years to the state of the stat

their life, as many of them will tell you. There are to-day people at the North dying who would live long lives here, if they had the courage to leave home and come and make one in this air-this sunshine. One meets preachers, lawyers, doctors, school teachers, railroad men, civil engineers and so on, following their professions or occupa-tions here, who were invalids in the North, and would be again were they obliged to re-

They Welcome the Yankee. The handful of natives welcome the Yankee, even if he is a sick one. They see in him a re-discoverer of their country and their hope of its development. Every year the travel in this direction increases. We see them penetrating into the remotest parts of the State. They do not now stop at Jacksonville, as in "ye olden time," but are in South Florida building up neat cottage homes and thrifty little towns all through her pine woods, and great hotels and winter resorts along her gulf and ocean coasts.

To build a home in this climate seems but the work of a day. Any day in the year a

To build a home in this climate seems but the work of a day. Any day in the year a building can be commenced. Very little time, if any, need be lost on account of in-clement weather. No excavating is done, no cellar wall built. Every man here is likened to the foolish one who built upon the sand, Stones for a foundation are some-thing not to be had in Florids, and to have them brought here would be reasonable. thing not to be had in Florida, and to have them brought here would be very expensive. A rock is handled as a curiosity, and given a place on the parlor mantel as an ornament. The buildings are entirely of frame, built on the cottage style, generally one story, with a liberal allowance of doors, windows and porches, and are constructed in a manner that would only be possible in a climate warm and dry the entire year. These airy homes are tasty and picturesque looking, particularly so when surrounded by pretty yards and gardens, as most of them are. In the rear of the house is the kitchen, separated by a porch. This is provided with a terra cotta flue, and, as a rule, provides the only means for a stove on the premises. If a terra cotta flue, and, as a rule, provides the only means for a stove on the premises. If a chimney is built at all to any of the cottages, you will likely find it on the outside. The other week, when a more chilling breeze than usual swept down over us from the North, it was rather amusing to see several new chimneys springing up alongside some of the houses bery

of the houses here.

A Profusion of Plants. Every housekeeper is a florist. Plants grow so easily the temptation to experiment is great. You see in the windows, on the porches, everywhere about the house, house plants, rare and delicate, are adopted and flourish in this sub-tropical home. We noticed a residence, well named the Floral Home, where the variety of growing plants numbered several hundred. Of vines alone there were 35 different kinds. All were strangers, or very few if any were native

specimens.

All this outdoor life is the principal one here. More attention is paid to the surroundings than interior decorations. The house as a rule is furnished as simply as house as a rule is furnished as simply as possible—just barely enough to meet the wants of the occupants. Heavy upholstering and drapery looks too warm and is out of place in a Florida house. For windows, white curtains, and for floor covering straw matting is used exclusively. Woolen carpets and rugs are very apt to become infested with moths, and for that reason are not often not down. put down.

The furniture is light in weight and

color, much of it being bamboo and wicker. A guide for a Northerner in fitting up a home A guide for a Northerner in haing up a nome in Florida would be to follow out the cottage style of furnishing one sees at a Northern summer resort, or seaside home. As to bedding, just the amount generally required during the autumn months in the North is sufficient here the year around. and it is quite as necessary to have blankets on the beds in summer as well as winter, for the nights are never sultry and op-pressive, but often cool and breezy.

As to the Insects.

Considerable is said about all sorts of an are numerous, it is true. It may even seem at times there is a bug or worm for everything. But by using freely various exter-minators no housekeeper need suffer any more annoyance here than in some cold

A novel way of getting water is to drive down through the sand a two-inch pipe to about the depth of 16 feet, where good water about the depth of to reet, where good water is usually reached in a clay bed. A perfor-ated cap is placed over the pipe when driven in, to prevent it from filling with and. About two hours after the well is commenced water can be pumped and it is fin-ished. Open wells are more common. These are walled up from the clay bed with boards.

Whenever the water gets low someone goes down and digs the well deeper.

Where it is possible to raise two crops of vegetables a year, and where fruit ripens in midwinter, it would seem no housekeeper could complain of scarcity of provisions; yet this is a general complaint heard in Florida. No State raises a greater variety of vegetables; no State grows fruits better, more delicate in flavor and in greater, bundance; and yet more canned goods are shipped to Florida, and more prepared especially for her trade than any other State proportionate to its size. This condi-tion can only be accounted for in this way: Owing to the warm, moist climate, none of the fruits and vegetables when in season here can be stored away for future use. Nothing can be buried in the ground or kept in cellars, even if there were any for that purpose.

Fruits Cannot Be Kent. The fruits are very perishable. Every or no attention is given to home markets. Every family is obliged to garden some on a small scale if they want to enjoy the luxury

of new and fresh vegetables.

Those who make a business of gardening ship about all they raise to Northern markets, where the demand is great and prices high. Just at present there are sent from here new beans, new potatoes, break of the Civil War, in 1861, hewas promoted to the rank of Commander, and at the beginning of 1862 the mortar fleet for the reduction of the forts below New Orleans was placed under his orders.

During the naval operations on the Mississippi he distinguished himself, especially in the reduction of the forts below New Orleans. After the capture of that city, he proceeded up the river with he first fact, and was engaged in the unsuccessful siege of Vicksburg, which he raised July 22, 1862. He was appointed in Octo.



Rev. Lyon Stedfast was one of the parsons who take their calling seriously. When he resolved to enter the church, he did not do so with the object of getting a fat living; and when he did get a living, he did not hardest worker, the most generous giver and the most frugal liver. Yet strange, perhaps, to say, he was regarded with respectful aversion by his wealthy stock-jobbing, company-promoting, shop-keeping hearers and their wives; and with suspicion and diafavor even by his own brethren of the cloth. Among the poor, indeed, he was adored as such a good friend of the poor deserved to be, but there his popularity may be said to begin and end.

There were various good grounds for the dislike toward him manifested by "the smart people" and the clergy of Bourgoistown. With the former the version was largely the result of flouted love. When

very reasonable return to demand for such

adoration! They never doubted for a mo-ment but he would grant it as willingly and

Imagine, then, the general consternation when, shortly after his induction, it was an-nounced that he had declined an invitation

to dinner—the second within a fortnight—from Mrs. Capelcourt—Mrs. Capelcourt, the wife of the great Mr. Capelcourt, the first

wile of the great Mr. Capelcourt, the first and wealthlest company promoter in England! When Mr. Stedfast could behave in such a way toward him, what were the smaller fry in Bourgoistown to expect? And then the reason he gave for refusing was worse even than the refusal itself. He actually said that the necessary work among the poor of the parish was so great as to leave him little or no time for social pleasures. That was the first time that

leave him little or no time for social pleasures. That was the first time that any of the smart people of Bourgoistown had heard of working among the poor being more important than dining among the rich. "It was not Mr. Sawter's way," as Mr. Capelcourt justly said, "to neglect the people who kept up his church for beggars who couldn't put down a farthing, and," he added, "Mr. Stedfast should soon find that such conduct didn't pay." Indeed, Mr. Capelcourt was so indignant that he would

Capeleourt was so indignant that he would have given up his pew, only his wife persuaded hun to remain on, in the hope that she might get Mr. Stedfast to ask his mother

she might get Mr. Stedlast to ask his mother to present her at court.

After a few other leading members of the congregation had experienced the same treatment as the Capelcourts it became evident that Mr. Stedfast had come to All Souls' Bourgoistown to work and not to dine. The discontent among the smart people was terrible, and a remonstrance was attempted. Through the curate, Mr. Whympar an intimation was conveyed to

Whymper, an intimation was conveyed to

the vicar that the congregation expected a

the vicar that the congregation expected a little more of his company socially, and if he refused it there possibly would be a secession. Mr. Stedfast received this awful intelligence calmly. He simply answered that he would do his duty, let the consequences be what they might. For a moment there seemed every likelihood of a revolt. Mr. Stedfast continued in his former ways and showed not the slightest any late.

ways, and showed not the slightest anxiety in the matter, and in the end the discon-tepted faction, finding that he did not care

whether they went or not, stayed—stayed to subscribe liberally to his projects, to pre-tend to take an interest in his work, and to

regard him with respect and dislike.

For several years Mr. Stedfast continued as he had begun. His labor among the poor, miserable and deprayed of his parish

was never-ending, his interest in them absorbing. Sorrow or sickness never crossed

the threshold of any of the humble houses

around but it was soon followed by the good pastor. By day and by night he carried on his mission of charity, and charity brought with her to many a desolate hearth her sis-

with her to many a desolate hearth her sisters, faith and hope.

While prodigal of his wealth to those in need, he humself lived like a hermit. The vicarage which the congregation had built for Mr. Sawter, who had 12 children, was almost palatial. Mr. Stedfast only occupied a third of it, which he furnished as plainly as a hermit's cell. He received little company. Among all his fashionable relations, not one visited himnot even his mother. From time to time he ran up to town to see them, but they never came to see him.

came to see him.

This constituted another grievance with

fully as Mr. Sawter had done.

noved their would-be acquaintances extemely.

As the dislike of the smart people of
Bourgoistown was due to the flouted love,
so the disfavor of the clergy was caused
by? perverted admiration. His brother
eleries regarded Mr. Stedfast with aversion,
because they felt that he was doing as they
should do, and would do, had it not been so
disagreeable. Prosperous, comfortable, inoffensive gentlemen, as they were, these
easy-going, over-dining parsons saw in the
asceticism and self-sacrificing labors of their
colleague a continual reproof to themselves, noved their would-be acquaintances ex



the only son of Lady Fanny Stedfast, that Mr. Earthenware had seven fice, strapping Mr. Earthenware had seven fice, strapping daughters, who were not "going off" quite to his or his wife's satisfaction. Indeed, although they had many admirers among the young men of Bourgoistown, so far they were only admired, not appropriated. Now, Mrs. Earthenware, with feminine sagacity, felt that if Mr. Stedfast only set a proper example, soon there would be such a "run" upon her daughters that even her large stock would scarcely satisfy it.

But Mr. Stedfast was not to be caught by the Earthenware family. When he saw how queen of the fashionable world, and of that wealthy magnate, the late Charles Stedfast, came among them, their enthusiasm knew no bounds. He united in his person everything they admired and venerated. Through his mother he was connected with half the noble families of England. Through his father he was a leading partner in the great banking house of Stedfast & Holden, In other words he was well born and wealthy-in the Earthenware family. When he saw how both respects incomparably beyond his vencrated predecessor, Rev. Mr. Sawter, who was poor and only a baronet's cousin. If, then, they loved Mr. Sawter, how much more should they love Mr. Stedfast? They were prepared to adore him—to go to church regularly and worship his purse and his relations. And all they asked of him for this devotion was that he should dine with them as often as possible, let them dine with him occasionally, and, if he could see his way to it, at his own good time marry one of their daughters. Surely that was a very reasonable return to demand for such

forwardness he let his mind on the matter be seen. He took advantage of a tete-tete with Mrs. Earthenware to state his views on marriage. While not holding that a clergy-man should not marry, he at the same time doubted whether marriage better fitted him for his mission. As for himself, he said, he probably should never marry, and, if he did, it would only be to a woman who was willing to sacrifice all social pleasures to work for God's poor. Mr. Earthenware was annoyed when he

heard of this conversation; it showed him the uselessness of attempting to induce Mr. Stedfast to marry one of his dancing, lawn tenuis playing daughters. The inference, however, that Mrs. Earthenware drew from it was such as even to surprise her husband.
"Let me tell you, Josias," she said, with
an air of deep conviction—"let me tell you I
have discovered Mr. Stedfast's secret. That

have discovered Mr. Stedfast's secret. That young man's melancholy and aversion to pleasant company, and resolve not to marry, are all due to one thing—he's had an entanglement before he came here, perhaps when he was at college. I wouldn't be surprised even if some day we discovered that he's married already!"

Though Mr. Earthenware enjoined absolute silence as to this matter, yet his worthy spouse could not help mentioning, or, at any rate, hinting at, her suspicions to many of her most familiar cronies, who, under the strictest pledges, repented them to their friends; who again went through the same process, until every man, woman and child

process, until every man, woman and child in Bourgoistown had heard of them. And now that people began to think of it, there were other things which seemed to confirm Mrs. Earthenware's view. For instance, Mr. Whymper admitted that from time to time Mr. Stedfast received letters in a woman's handwriting, and that, after re-ceiving them, Mr. Stedfast would often appear for several days to be very gloomy and depressed. Then, again, Mr. Stedfast would sometimes, in reply to an unsigned tele-gram, rush off unexpectedly to London and gram, rush off unexpectedly to London and remain there for several days. Then, worst of all, although he was notoriously wealthy, still at times, and especially of late, he was in want of money, so much so that once he had to borrow £1,000 from Mr. Capelcourt, and what he did with it nobody knew. Lastly, Mr. Earthenware himself one day surprised him weeping like a child, and, in reply to inquiries, he simply stated that he had private troubles that the world knew, and should know, nothing of.

With these undoubted facts to support it, Mrs. Earthenware's theory lived and thrived.

With these undoubted facts to support it,
Mrs. Eirthenware's theory lived and thrived.
Plenty of the worthier people of Bourgoistown did not credit it, but, in spite of their
disbelies and ridicule, it flourished among
the weaker minded and more malicious.
A rude shock, however, was in store for
it, and also for its author. To Mrs. Earthenware's disgust, it was announced that Mr.
Stedfast was about to marry! And who of Stedfast was about to marry! And who of all people in the world was the chosen woman but Mrs. Capelcourt's governess—a little, quiet, spirit-broken woman, a poor orphan who all her life long had experienced nothing but misery and oppression! It came as a surprise to everybody in Boargoistown, but to the "amart" people and to Mrs. and the Misses Earthenware it seemed

The amart people, however, were to be The smart people, however, were to be soon avenged, and Mrs. Earthenwear vindicated. Just a few days after the engagement was announced an incident happened which threw all Bourgoistown into a fever. This was Mr. Whymper's account of it, and he was corroborated by Mr. Stedfast's housekeeper, who was, on the whole, a reliable witness, though she was a triffe annoyed with Mr. Stedfast for daring to think of bringing Mrs. Capelcourt's governess to rule over her.

Mr. Stedfast and Mr. Whymper were holding a conference at the vicarage on

Mr. Stedfast and Mr. Whymper were holding a conference at the vicarage on parish affairs. They had been busily enegaged for several hours, and the evening—a dark and rainy one—was well advanced when a knock sounded on the half door. Mr. Whymper noticed that when Mr. Stedfast heard it he started and turned pale. A moment later the housekeeper opened the front the fashionable people. Many of them were looking forward to meeting Lady Fanny and others of his grand relatives. That he by his uncouth and ascetic way of living should frighten these noble beings away and door, and found a closely mulled woman