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POETRY. BEAUTIFUL HANDS.

Such beautiful, beautiful hands, They're neither white nor small. And you, I know, would scarcely think That they were fair at all. I've looked on hands whose form and line A sculptor's dream might be, Yet are these aged, wrinkled hands Most beautiful to me.

Such beautiful, beautiful hands-Though heart were weary and sad, These patient hands kept toiling on That children might be glad. I almost weep, as looking back To childhood's distant day. I think how these hands rested not. When mine were at their play.

But oh ! beyond this shadow land, Where all is bright and fair. I know full well those dear old hands Will palms of victory bear ; Where crystal streams, through endless time Flow over golden sands, And where the old grow young again. I'll clasp my mother's hands

THE STORY-TELLER.

ON A CONSTRUCTION TRAIN.

In the old country they would call me a navy; here, they call me a railroad hand, and a good one at that, though I say it. I left a fine job on the Erie road, last spring, to go do wn to Decatur, Illinois, where there was a chance for me to how a construction train on the me to boss a construction train on the Toledo, Wabash and Western line.

Now, as everybody knows, the Toledo, Wabash and Western runs through Harristown, which is a few miles from De-catur. Belle Carroll lived at Harris- switch at Harristown, in order to let it town, and it was because she lived there

that I left the job on the Eric road. A man called Smith was master of the line between Decatur and Danville. I broke for him as soon as I stepped off the cars, and showed him my recom-mendations. He was well enough satisfied with my papers and my appearance —you can see for yourself that I look as if I knew what work was—and he put me on right away. He even took the trouble to introduce me to the engineer, who was a young fellow called Joe put a green shade over those dreadful Handley. Now, I can't say that I didn't like Joe

Now, I can't say that I didn't like Joe just one of his queer laughs, I'd have from the start, because I really thought stopped dead short, and smashed his him as good as they make them down here-I mean railroad men, of coursebut I can say that I did not like his eyes. They hadn't a cast in them, mind ; and there wasn't by any means a bad expression in them

The whites of his eyes were like wet china, and the pupils were hazel. You'd have called them handsome eyes. What was the matter with them, then! I'll tell you. They were brighter than any eyes I ever saw before in man or woman; they were never still; and every now and then they seemed to swell and ter I passed the kitchen window. start in their sockets, as if they were drop out :

They got along well enough with me, one of the Irishmen called my attention for it was company work, you know; to the fact that we were travelling at a and besides that, I was thinking of much faster rate than ordinary. In a Belle Carroll all the time, and I couldn't have been hard on the biggest loafer condemned freight car, as old as the that ever handled a pick. But I'm forgetting Joe Handley and his practical jokes. Well, sir, he played off one on his fireman—a mere slip of a boy-that made me begin to think he and we were going at a rate far beyond regulation speed. was crazy.

They were both on the top of the em-bankment, which was very high and very steep. I was standing in the ca-bankment is a standing in the cabumped and jumped more and more ! The men got frightened, and strug-gled from their seats, with their eyes on boose, looking up at them, wondering what on earth made Joe laugh so wildly gled from their seats, with their eyes on at nothing, when all at once Joe gave me, questioningly, and then fell back the fireman a powerful shove down the feet.

down, frightened and angry.

It was the maddest thing I ever saw "That born divil means to murder done as a joke, for the chances were fifty vez all !" cried an Irishman, wiping the to one in favor of broken bones, or death weat of fear from his forehead. outright, as a man with half an eye All this time I had thought Joe was could see. Why, my heart was in my playing off one of his mad practical okes on us, and I was shaking with mouth. Fortunately, the lad, after pitching forward, got his legs straight under him somehow or other, and came

rage, "He'll never drive that engine again !"

I said, as I gained my feet. I pushed back the sliding-door, and swung myself out so that I could see the light in the tender. The wind was He got into the caboose and swore he wouldn't fire another time for Joe Handley. Joe set up a loud, queer laugh; and, upon my word, I thought his dancing, glistening eyes would shoot clean out of his head. blowing a gale, and the snow blinded me. I got a better idea of the pace at which we were going, looking out, and fear crept into my heart as I estimated

"Lord !" thought I to myself, "if I the danger. was the company, I wouldn't have such a pair of eyes behind an engine of mine!" I swung the lantern, low down, backward and forward, and shouted out at but, you see, I wanted to ask a favor of the top of my voice. Joe answered with a shrill laugh that

Joe, so I didn't tell him what I thought. The passenger train from the West ran into Decatur at half-past eleven in the morning, and we had to back to the rose above the howling wind, and I felt the caboose leap under me and come down with a sickening crash. I knew that he had let on more steam, and that the trick he was playing us was one of

"Joe," said I, as he let on the starm, "I'll want you to stay a bit for me in Harristown. I wish to make a visit. these practical jokes that Satan delights 1. It meant murder 1 We' were about seven miles from the The men have plenty of picking to do, Sangamon, which is crossed by trestlework, forty rods or more in length, over

before they'll want the flat cars." "All right," said he, readily. "I'll wait as long as you like. Is there a petwhich no train is allowed to pass faster than a man can walk. I knew perfectly well that the caticoat in it, Bill ?"

Now, I hadn't made a confident of Joe, I don't think I could have brought boose would never go over that elastic bridge at the rate of twenty miles an myself to do it for money, unless he had hour, let alone sixty, the pace at which Joe was driving us then; and I felt as sure that he meant to keep the throttle-valve open till he smashed us, as I was eyes; and even then, if he had laughed that I'd cut a poor figure before my Maker, if called away that night.

face to a pulp, so help me. "Petticoats be hanged," said I. "I've business of another sort to attend to. I left him at the switch, and set out

for Carroll's house. Belle was making biscuit in the kitch-

en, and I caught her in her oldest dress, up to the elbows in dough. You can guess how glad she was to see me, and aboose-to have my knee on the pit of his stomach, and my hands on his how she welcomed me, when I tell you throat. that there was flour all over the back of There was a panic among the men. my coat, and you could pick lumps of Some of them were swearing, and some

were praying. Two or three hung on my cost as I swung the lantern me-chanically to and fro outside, and im-Time travelled like lightning, I tell you, for I succeeded in making her name the day, and the old man gave me his red me to save them. "Men," said I, turning round, and blessing, and the old woman kissed me, setting down the lantern, "there's a ravand begged me to be good to her child; and Belle cried, and I cried for compaing madman on that engine, and he means to have our lives. There's one ny. I was very happy, till I bethought chance for us, and I'm going to try it. me of the bright eyes that were dancing If I can reach the locomotive, and up and down the track in quest of me. choke the life out of him, we may be I took my leave of the old couple, and saved yet !' Belle went to the garden gate with me, It was a desperate risk. If I hadn't to make the parting easier, she said. I was looking down into her dear eyes, seeing there all sorts of joys in store for me, when a little start of hers had an old mother, and there had been no Belle to think of, I don't believe I should have had the courage to take it. To get to the engine, I had to climb to made me look up, and there, leaning the top of the caboose, cross a corner of over the gate, was Joe Handley the roof, go down the ladder in front, I nearly jumped out of my boots. I wasn't afraid of the man, mind you, so and jump over the couplings. It was easy enough to get to the top of the car, far as a fair stand-up fight went; but I in spite of its violent motion, of the never caught the gleam of his eyes on fierce wind and blinding snow, because mine without feeling cold in my spine. there were rungs for the purpose; but "What a liar you are, Bill," said he, crossing the roof was another matwith one of his queer laughs. " There ter. is a pettico in it, after all." I threw myself on my stomach, and I couldn't speak. If I had opened my rawled forward, sliding this way and mouth, I should have struck him. "So, that's the favored one, Miss that with the fearful swaying. If ever I prayed in my life, I did then, you bet, for I had nothing to take hold of but Belle ?" said he, pointing at me with his thumb. the Lord's mercy, till I made a desper-ate clutch at the brake, and caught it, Belle was greatly put out. She was red and pale by turns, and pressed close just as the caboose gave a jump that threw me bodily off the roof. Then I against me for protection. "I told you that I was engaged, Mr. Handley," she said. "And I'm sure I swung myself over, and went down the ladder. never gave you any encouragement." Leaping on the tender was another "Well, there's more fish in the sea, ickening risk; but it was a matter of he returned, and went back to the enlife and death, and I dared not hesitate gine, roaring with laughter. Belle told me that she had met him at so I jumped blindly forward, and caught the knob of the cab-door by the merest a ball in Decatur, and he had beset her ever since. She prayed me not to quar-rel with him; and I pacified her the best chance. Joe had his back turned toward me He was watching the indicator, and whistling like mad. I hoped to spring on him unawares; but he heard me way I could with promises. "Joe," said I, as we ran down to the cutting, "I never thought of your being open the door, and turned with a wild my rival." "Faith," said he, "I never put you howl, that rings in my ears yet. I got and Belle Carroll together in one blow at him that covered his face

There was a trial, and he was sent to the asylum at Jackson. The company and the Decatur papers complimented me highly. I sent the papers to my old mother, and if you'll believe me, she spells out the compli-ments every night of her life after supper, and cries over them with pride. But the compliments I was most proud of mysel', were those I got from Belle's lips. She's my wife now. That's my story, sir.-Chimney Corner.

Tales of Toads.

Geo. M. Mead states his experience with toads in the Ohio Farmer. Unless their skin is broken they are perfectly harmless. They will eat any bug but the potato bug. In Pittsfield, Mass., I had an uncle,

one of the finest gardeners in the town, and he, to the no little amusement of friends, used to pick up those venomous toads in his hands, whenever he could find nice fat ones, carry them home, and, impressed with the sense of a new sound; put them in his garden to catch the bugs and worms. He said to me one day: very loud does so differ from the pre-"They will become quite tame if you pet them a little." I thought that a little singular, but concluded to try it. When I went home I found one in the when the overseer of a weaving-room shed close to the kitchen and commenced. At first I caught a bug or fly and stood as far off as I could and dropped it down in front of my pet. I did not have long to wait, for the bug had hardly dropped before he disappeared. Each day I in the room. went to see and feed him, and went up The ear lear

handle him, and if I chanced to move him from his nice little corner he would

Dr. Harris said twenty years ago that in a series of the greatest leaps a toad under the piazza, and always sunned Maker, if called away that night. I thought of my gray old mother, knitting stockings for me by the fire-side in Toledo; I thought of Belle, so beautiful, and good, and happy; and I thought how nice it would be to have Joe down under me on the floor of the with no difficulty or hesitation in the taking or the swallowing, though from the wriggling and contortions it appeared their corners did not set well within.

100 of these were fed to the waiting ual. As with the eye, we are so accus-

Education of the Ear. Standing in the weaving-room of any great Chilean earthquake occurred, in of our large cotton-mills, a stranger is often surprised to see the attention of 1868. The wave-breaking phenomena, as regards Australasia, occurred only at an operative at some distance attracted New Zealand, and even there it was to the overseer. The deafening rattle confined to one or two places noted for of the machinery precludes the possibil-ity of communication by speech. The loudest shout would add so little to the their susceptibility to earthquake dis-turbance. At Sidney, one thousand two hundred miles distant, the sea merely general din as to be wholly inappreciaebbed and flowed in rather quick sucble at a distance. Some mysterious sig-nal, however, has passed. No gesture cession, and for very short periods. At Newcastle (N. S. W.), eighty miles north of Sydney, the waters of the River Hunhas been made, no message has been sent; yet suddenly a lad in some part ter were so strangely disturbed by elec-tricity as to cause the iron steamboats to swing broadside on to the tide, be-sides which, as at Sydney, the tide rose of the room starts and turns with ex-pectant look for some further sign from his superior. The overseer is asked for and fell. At Adelaide and King George's

his superior. The overseer is asked for an explanation, and the inquirer learns the following lessons in acoustics: Only by making a sound radically different from any of the hummings, batterings, and clashings which com-bined up to us the configured account bined make up the confused and scarcely varying din of the room, can the ear be forces his breath with a sharp hiss, this hiss may be heard yards away, distinctly over the din of the machinery, this being a method employed in some factories to attract the attention of any one

The ear learns to follow and unravel the intricacies of sound in common speech; no easy matter, as it is found by those closer, until he got so tame that he the intricacies of sound in common speech; would at any time take a bug or a fly no easy matter, as it is found by those out of my fingers. I then began to who attempt to learn a new language. The sound of machines is often the best guide by which to judge of the accuracy go back there and seem to wait for me to come and see him. of their performance. An experienced clock-maker will tell at once whether

the works of a clock are properly levelhe supposed the odor of the squash bug (corcus Tristis) would protect it from the toad; and to test the matter he offered mer upon a plastered wall, determines cone to a grave-looking Bufo under a casily where are the underlying tim-cabbaga. He seized it eagerly, but spit it out instantly, reared up on his hind striking a tree with his ax, whether the legs and put his front feet on the top of his head for an instant, as if in psin, and then disappeared across the garden tecting various sounds by which they trace their game. The rat-tat-tat of the ever made. Perhaps the bug bit the biter. Not satisfied with this, Dr. H. hunted up another toad, which lived telegraph operator. But we forbear to multiply instances in which the ear is himself in one place in the grass, and offered him a squash bug, which he took and swallowed, winking in a very satis-fied manner. Twenty other fine bugs followed the first, in a few moments, it is impossible to say. At present,

The stock of bugs being then exhausted, a colony of smooth, black larve was found on a white birch, each about three-quarters of an inch long, and over In conclusion, we will remark that few are conscious how far the car aids in

Facts and Figures. The writer was in Australia when the

Earthquake Waves.

lands, off the Peruvian coast.

Some jocular California robi era let off a clergyman recently, on his 1 comise to pray for them his money's wort 1.

The only prisoner in jail at ; onth Bend, Ind., is indignant at the cir au-stance. He says he wasn't condemned to solitary confinement.

During an illness of the aditor of the Albuquerque (New Moxico) Review, his wife, Leonora McGuinness, set the type, did the press work, got out every issue of the paper in good shape, and had a baby.

Somebody has uncarthed a Chinese MS., written some 300 years before the Christian era, which is said to show that the Celestials were at least 1,800 years Sound the tide also ebbed and flowed in like manner, whilst Melbourne was to-tally unaffected by oceanic disturbance. ahead of Christopher Columbus in discovering America.

An affectionate Chicago mother had The wave broke on the shores of Japan with a height and force second only to her boy arrested the other day for stealwhat occurred at Callao. The same ing twenty-five cents from the toe of phenomena, but on a very small scale, also occurred in a few islands in the her stocking, and the culprit was sen-tenced to three years' seclusion in the State Reform School. South Pacific and at the Chincha Is-

Tilton, N. H., has a small Enoch Ar-den case. Mr. Murphy, returned to town after six months' absence, and It will be noticed that the localities where the wave broke on the shores are notoriously subject to earthquake disfinding his wife married to another turbance, Japan being only second on the list after Chile, and New Zealand next. Now, these remarkable excep-tions would point to a susceptible subman, attempted to take forcible posses-sion of his child. After a short strug-gle, husband number one was arrested and locked up.

terranean connection with the present There lives a man in the village of Rochester, N. H., who is out every great focus of earthquake disturbance on the Peruvian seaboard. If this view be adopted, it is only reasonable to asmorning, rain or shine, before other people are up, searching diligently on the sume that a subterranean disturbance took place at Japan, New Zealand, and sidewalks, in the gutter and through the streets, for money or any valuable that was dropped the previous evening. The result of his diligence is not reother islands to which the Chilean earth-throes penetrated, and there caused that mysterious prior recession ported. of the sea from the shores in each local-

A servant girl at Pittsfield, Mass., it ity where the great seawaves subsequentis related, was so much impressed the ly broke. Now, it appears to the writer that the philosophic nut to crack is, what agency caused the prior recession other night by dreaming that some one was robbing the clothes line, that she got up and looked out of the window, of the sea which took place at all the when she saw a man carrying off some places where the great waves broke on clothes. She was so overcome by the singularity of the affair that she let him To suppose that the great earth-throe go and did not tell the story till the on the South American coast possesed next day. the power to project a wave across the

What is the value of a man's life? vast Pacific Ocean to a maximum distance of ten thousand five hundred tance of ten thousand five hundred Juries disagree on the subject, and for miles, and that such a wave travelled at our part we should say that it depended the rate of from two hundred and nineon the character of the man. A court and jury at Troy have granted \$6,000 damages against the Boston & Albany Railroad Company for killing a man. ty-five to three hundred and ninety-four miles per hour, is only preposterous, in a second degree, to suppose that a wave could exist on the ocean, or that a wave We should regard it as a large price for has progressive motion until it reaches some men, but everybody has some one

a shore, when it becomes a wave of to rate him at a high figure. translation. It is directly against hy-drostatic laws to assert that a single sermon lately, stated that the A Buffalo pastor in the course of his sermon lately, stated that the fact had come to his knowledge of a child but three years old being received into the orphan asylum in that city, who was wave can exist on the ocean, much less can it progress forward. If this were possible it would be within the power of the engines of a ship to afterward found to be suffering from drive her as fast as a locomotive on rails; whereas we find that nearly all the nothing less than delirium tremens. The mother of the child was a most intemship's motive power is absorbed in cleavperate woman, and had actually fed her

Otherwise, you couldn't find a flaw in him, for he was curly-headed, freshcomplexioned, good-looking, and cleanlimbed.

As I was a stranger in the place, Joe volunteered to help me get a gang together.

We went to all the cheap boardinghouses and low saloons, where railroad men most do congregate, and in two or three hours I had engaged twenty-four Dutch and Irish hands, all good men, in respect of work, to all appearance; and I had resolved, in my own mind, to keep out of Joe Handley's company as much as possible from that night. Not on account of his dancing, shining eyes, mind; but because he drank like a fish, seemed desperately fond of cards, and. squandered his money as if there were piles of it in every gutter.

Before I knew Belle Carroll, I shouldn't have found fault with him on account of his prodigality, for I had been as foolish with my time and money as ever he was, perhaps ; but, you see, since Belle Carroll's eyes had cast a beam of light across my soul, so that I could see what I was, I had tried to become what I ought to be.

I left off drinking, only taking a nip when wet through, or when aching with cold; I set a guard on my lips, for fear bad language might slip through; and I was like a miser with my month's wages, for I had sober thoughts of a home of my own, and little ones to make it heaven.

I had to pay in my turn that night, though, and drink in my turn, too, when I couldn't throw the whiskey down on the floor without being seen; for it was necessary to keep well with my en-gineer; and if he had discovered any ackdown in my good-fellowship, he was just the sort of man to pick a quarrel there and then.

There was a good deal of ditching to be done about Edwardsville, and grading about Hillsbro', and track-raising all over, west, and as far down as St. Louis.

This gave me no chance to see Belle Carroll, and I was getting low-spirited to such an extent that I would have jumped the job for a cent, when, running into Decatur one December night, I got orders from Smith to finish off a deep cutting, a mile and a half below Harristown.

I crossed the Sangamon River the next morning in high spirits, I tell you. The flat cars were on the switch at Harristown, so I left Joe to hook on the caboose and engine, while I walked down with the men to the cutting, looking this way and that behind me for Belle; but no Belle did I see.

There was plenty of work there for weeks, I saw at a glance, and I was mighty glad of it. The face of the embankment had to come off for half mile, and a good deal of earth had to come out of the base on each side for a mile or more.

I set the men to work, and walked up and down the track, to keep myself warm, until Joe brought the flat cars

> ery fond of practical jokes of the men bore him a grudge re. I believe there wasn't a the twenty-four, indeed, that

my with blood, and then we closed. thoughts before to-day." "You bear no malice ?" I asked, offer You say that I am a strong man. ing him my hand, for Belle's sake.

am strong-stronger than any man I ever compared arms with-but I needed "What would I bear malice for ?" he all my strength in that tussle. He was no chicken himself, and he had madness returned. "'If she be not fair for me what care I for whom she be?' to help him.

But he pretended not to see my hand, My only chance was to stun or kill so I drew it back, and was angry with him, and I had only a few seconds to do myself for offering it. I was nervous all that afternoon for

it in. The worst of it was, I had no weapon. He carried an unopened claspthe first time in my life, I believe. I don't know that I had any positiveknife in his hand. I wrenched this from him, and struck him on the temple with what do you call it?-presentiment of the butt end of it. The blow partially evil; but I was uncomfortable, and al-together unlike myself. Joe staid in the tender all day, and stunned him, and I followed it with a dozen more, that laid him senseless in whistled. He was the best whistler I the corner.

You can make up your mind that it ever heard, and the men used to stop wasn't long before I choked off the picking, to listen to him. The day wore away painfully. We got a good load on the flat cars, and throttle-valve, and reversed the steam. As soon as that was done, I got a good kick at Joe's head, to make sure of him

dumped the dirt two miles further down, on a road that crossed the track. and then I shouted to the men, to let them know that we were saved. By that time, it was nearly dark, and I gave the word for Decatur.

minished, but sensibly slower it became, At Harristown we stopped, to get the engine before the caboose, and take on a dozen twenty-four-foot rails. The at last; and the men recovering their courage, swarmed out, and put the men threw up the last rail just as the first flakes of a terrific snow-storm fell brakes on, just as we came to the trestlework.

They wanted to kill Joe; but I was around us. Then they jumped into the caboose, where there was a good fire. oded as soon as the danger was over, and I wouldn't let them. We bound him, and carried him over to I waved my lantern above my head to Joe, and off we started.

I was talking with the fireman, who Smith's office, as soon as we got to Decawas still sulky, and determined to de-mand his discharge, when a remark of mouth, and talked the wildest stuff.

toad. Touching one of them with the end of a straw, it would coil around it, we become unconscious of any effort in the and then when shaken before him he its use, or of the true importance of the would seize and swallow it, at first sense of hearing compared to the other eagerly, but with diminished zest as the senses.

number increased, until it became neces sary to rub the worm against his lips for some time before he could decide about it. He would then take it and sit with

his lips ajar for a short time, gathering strength and resolution, and then swal condemned to die, happily hit upon an ow by a desperate effort. There is no expedient which gave him hope for life. elling what the number or result would He sent for the jailor, and told him that have been, as the dinner-bell rang as the he had a secret of great importance 101st disappeared, and by the close of the meal he had retired to his hole, nor which he desired to impart to the king and when that had been done he would did he appear for four days in his sunbe prepared to die. On receiving this ning place. It is to be hoped that he slept well, but there might have been nightmares.

Instinct of Fishes.

I have seen (writes Mr. Kidd, the en nent naturalist) some singular instan-

ces, mentioned in various works, of the ameness of birds and beasts, and I well know, from oft-repeated experiments, what may be done in this way. My object, on the present occasion, is to direct your attention to sundry experiments I have been making with fish. Of minnows I had, two years ago, no fewer than thirteen, ranging about in a large glass globe, and I taught them not only

to know me, but to recognize the sound of my voice, whilst I whistled to them some lively air. On such occasions they would all rise to the top of the water, salute me by touching my lips as I bent closely over the bowl, and actually leap up and play with the extremity of my

They would, moreover, fondle nose! over me, by rubbing their silvery sides against one of my fingers, which I pur-posely dipped into their watery habtation-in this particular imitating the fondness of a cat, when she pleasingly purrs, erects her tail, and draws close to our person, to evince her perfect state of happiness. The usual fate, however, peculiar to all pets awaited mine; one by one, as the heat of the weather increased in intensity, they gave up the ghost, and my glass globe was consigned to the silent shelf. A few months

since, my eye chanced to rest on the same globe, and there was awakened in me the fondest remembrance of my former tiny friends. You may gues the consequence. I have procured more, confining myself, however, to three only; and I have actually accomplished with these what I did with the others, or very nearly so; for they every day become more and more af-fectionate and attached. How their ex-

quisitely delicate structure, and still more delicate constitution, will bear up against the coming dog-days I canno say. I fear the worst. I keep them in cold well-water, fresh twice a day; and they suffer themselves most willingly . be taken in the naked hand, whilst It seemed an age before the speed dibeing transferred from the globe to a

basin, during the change of water. Surely the law of kindness is all power-ful. Would that it were more power-Would that it were more universally tried.

As a result of the woman's rights agitation it has been found necessary in the District of Columbia to appeal to the courts to decide whether or no a white man became an Indian by the act of parade ground in the centre of the marrying a squaw.

bow, and it is due to those retarding particles clinging with tenacious grip to the vessel, and which to the last grip to counter and stern until torn

away. I am really at a loss to conceive how any scientific man should have propa-gated it as a fact, that any of the forces of nature are capable of creating waves on the ocean unless the initial force be

Let us suppose ourselves on board ship in a hurricane of twelve. If the a series of solemn incantations. This when that ceased, the power of transdone, the condemned man produced a

> idea that ocean waves possess progressive motion, which is a mistake. Let us suppose that they have the power of progression. What would be the consource when a hurricane was blowing on to a shore? The waters of each wave would be impelled on to the beach in quick succession, so as to bond back the waters of rivers and creeks, lowlands would be flooded, and its attendant ruin to the inhabitants would follow.

> > Taking Medicine.

honest? I must give it to the governor There is an inherent predisposition to take something which is regarded as medicine by a majority of people in all civilized countries. If they are not dosed to their satisfaction by physicians, patent preparations, nostrums, and above all, pills, have such irresistable charms, they indulge in the luxury of prescribing for themselves. majesty, I think it is better for society that all five of us should be hanged, Medicine taking, therefore, from its

universality in this country, is a disease. since it is found that not an honest man That fact is made use of to supply the enormous demand, by extensive manu-facturers, of all imaginable composi-Vast fortunes are thus accumutions. lated in keeping pace with the general cravings for physic. The more severely drastic, the better it is liked. If it tears

the bowels with extreme violence, it is an evidence of its utility to the mass of medicine takers. The best physician is one so skillful in his profession as to decide when it is

administer to their aristocratic wants. not necessary to take medicine. A dis In this feminine municipality, female tinguished medical gentleman of Bosblacksmiths, jewalers, merchants, and manufacturers abound, and the jack-of-all-trades is a woman. The walls are to the fact that he has never taken any the fact that he has never taken any drugs. He is sustained in the opinion. licemen patrol the strests, and once a week female military, both horse and foot, perform their evolutions on a large

ing the particles of water apart to admit oring from the whiskey be We doubt the wisdom of any man

leaving property to any person on condition somebody else dies. It is apt to encourage death and give rise to unseemly bargains. At Cohoes a man died some twenty years ago, leaving a widow and infant daughter. A large share of property was bequeathed to the child, but in case of her death before the age of twenty it was to go to her cousin. She grew up delicate in health, and as approached the fatal limit the she mother and the cousin bargained over her chances of life. Finally the cousin sold his chance of the inheritance for \$4,000, and because the girl died before she was twenty he sued the mother to recover the entire property, alleging that he was deceived as to the state of the girl's health. The courts say that won't do; he must stand by his bargain.

A Nevada paper, speaking of the rarity of the atmosphere at Virginia City, says that ballet dancers are frequently unable to go through their parts, and encores are impossible. Persons arriving from places near the lovel of the sea, who are at home rapid walkers, soon find themselves brought up with a round turn, and either spit blood or bleed at the nose. Little brisk walking is over seen in the city. People do not seem so active as they really are, for the reason that they have been compelled to adopt a gait which if not lazy is at least rather leisurely. Hot weather is felt much more severely and is much more debilitating than at the sea level. When the thermometer makes eighty degrees in this elevated region, the air of much less value than it is at the sea level under the same heat. Pigeons that fly very strongly in California are almost like unfledged birds when brought here. Lots of pigeons brought from California for pigeon-shooting matches are often almost worthless, as being sprung upon the trap they will flutter and come to the ground before going two rods.

The merry account of a midnight murder is from the Springfield Republican : It was the solemn hour of midnight. The moon hung low in the west and naught was heard but the far-off tramp of a solitary policeman, when the dwellers on one of our most fashionable streets were suddenly awakened by fearful cries, as of some one in distress. A window was quickly thrown open and a voice from inside was heard ut-tering a vow of vengeance. The only answer was an unearthly and a defiant yell from a Thomas cat which stood with arched back and gigantic tail on the ridge-pole of the opposite house. The owner of the voice felt that the time for action had come, and drawing a bead across the barrel of a Smith & Wesson, he pulled the trigger. There

were cries of murder from nervous women in that locality for the space of about ten minutes, but the window was closed and all that remained; of the used to carry their grain on horse-back ... to mill. The bullet did its deadly work ; the song at midnight was hushed ; and the residents in that fashionable street even looked upon the cold-blooded as-

All are not thieves that dogs bark sassin as a public benefactor.

town.

can be found among us." In spite of the lamentable exposure the king laughed; and so pleased was he at the thief's cun-

ning expedient, that he granted him a pardon.

F. S., and the remaining eight thousand

all-trades is a woman. The walls are guarded by female sentinels, female poemen patrol the streets, and once a

The City of Veiled Women in Siam umbers nine thousand inhabitants, all of whom are of the feminine gender. One thousand of these belong to the F.

of our citadel." "No, no," cried the governor, drawing back; " remember that I have the serving out of pay and provisions to the soldiers. Let the high priest plant." And the high priest said You forget; I have the collecting of tithes and disbursement of sacrifices." At length the thief exclaimed : "Your

piece of gold, and declared that if it should be planted it would produce a tree, every branch of which would bear gold. "But," he added, "this must be gold. put into the ground by a hand that has never been stained by a dishonest act. My hand is not clean, therefore I pass it

The experiment might easily be tried, and his najesty might not lose the opportunity; so, accompanied by his prime minister. his courtiers, and chief priest, he went with the thief to a place selected near the city wall, where the latter performed

piece of intelligence the king ordered the culprit to be conducted to his pres ence, and demanded of him to know his secret. The thief replied that he knew the secret of causing trees to grow which should bear fruit of pure gold.

Story for the Times. There is a fable among the Hindoos that a thief, having been detected and

the shore?

constant.

wind (the initial force) abates to ten, the sea soon falls in altitude, and so on down the scale to naught, a dead, glassy calm. Thus an earthquake may, by a sudden uphcaval, cause (not one, but many) waves; yet, owing to the cessa-tion of the initial force, such waves would not be observed by vessels at a distance of ten miles, much less ter thousand ! It is true that waves will be transmitted by hydrostatic undulation to great distances, and so fast as to out run the storm that gave them birth but they owe their power of transmis-sion to the sustained initial force, as

mission would also cease. The diurnal flow of the great tidal wave is sustained by the continued action of the moon and sun, but when those planets cease to exert that power, the tidal waters seek their normal level in the ocean. There are people who have a fixed

to your majesty." The king took the piece of gold, but hesitated. Finally he said : "I remember in my younger days that I often filched money from my father's treasury, which was not mine. I have repented of the sin, but yet I hardly dare say my hand is clean. I pass it, therefore, to my prime minister.' The latter, after a very brief consideration, answered : " It were a pity to break a charm by a possible blunder. I receive taxes from the people. How can I be sure that I have remained perfectly