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NO. 45.

### Remember the Poor.

Now winter has come, with its cold, chilling breath And the verdure has dropt from the trees, All nature seemed touched by the finger of death.

And the streams are beginning to freeze; When wanton young lads o'er the river can slide.

And Flora attends us no more-When in plenty you sit by a good fireside, Then you ought to remember the poor.

When the cold feathered spow shall in beauty

descend And whiten the prospect around, When the keen cutting winds from the north

shall attend, Hard chilling and freezing the ground-When the bills and the dales are all covered

with white. And the rivers concealed to the shore; When the bright twinkling star shall proclaim a cold night.

Then you ought to remember the poor. When the poor harmless have may be traced to the wood

By her footsteps indented in snow; When the lips and the fingers are starting with blood. When the marksmen a cock shooting go

When the poor robin redbreast approaches her And the icicles bang at the door,

When your bowl smokes with semething reviving and hot. Then you ought to remember the poor.

When a thaw shall ensue and the waters increase. And the rivers all insolent grow, When the fishes from prison obtain a release,

When in danger the travelers go; When the meadows are hid by the proud swelling flood. And the bridges are useful no more,

When in boalth you enjoy everything that is good, Sure you ought to remember the poor.

Soon the day will be here when our Savior was born ;

All tongues shall unite as one voice, All nations shall join to salute the blest morn All the ends of the earth shall rejoice, Grim death is deprived of his all-killing sting And the grave is triumphant no more ; Saints, angels and men hallelujah shall sing, And the rich shall remember the poor.

## DEB.

The solemn bell was ringing the mill ple's faces smiled at her! "What's the matter?" asked the when there came a knock at the door, and behind it the young lady of whom I was not often that visitors came to Brick alley, and it was still less often that

Brick alley had a visitor that knocked. This was a young lady for whom Deb's mother did fine washing. Deb's mother wiped her hands and placed a chair, and the young lady sat down. She was a straight lady, with strong feet, and long brown feathers in her hat, and soft brown gloves upon her hands. She had come, she said, with that Cluny set, she found she should need for a party this very night; indeed, she was in so much ste for it that she had hunted Deb's mother up-which was a matter of some difficulty\_as she never had the least idea where she lived before, and how crooked the stairs were! But the lace was very yellow, as she saw, and would she be sure to have it done at nine o'clock tonight? aud-

And then, turning her head suddenly, the straight young lady saw poor crooked Deb in her high chair, with wonder in her eyes.

"I wonder if I frightened her, thought Deb; but she only wondered, and did not speak.

"Is this your"—
"Yes," said Deb's mother, eldest. Fifteen. I'll try my " the best. ma'am; but I don't know as I ought to She spoke in a business-like tone, and turned the Cluny lace-a dainty collar and a pair of soft cuffsabout in her hands in a business-like way. A breath of some kind of scented wood struck in a little gust against Deb's face. She wondered how people could weave sweet smells into a piece of lace, and if the young lady knew; or if she knew how much pleasanter it was than the onions that Mrs. McMahoney cooked for dinner every day in the week but Sunday, upon the first floor. But it gave her quite enough to do to wonder

without speaking. "Fifteen!" repeated the young lady, standing up very straight, and looking very sorry. like—that?" "How long has she been-

"Born so," said Deb's mother; has jest set in that chair ever since she's been big enough to sit at all. Would you try gum on these, miss?"

"But you never told me you had crippled child!" The young lady said this quickly.

"You have washed for me three years and you never told me you had a crip pled child !"

"You never asked me, miss," said Deb's mother. The young lady made no reply.

came and sat down on the edge of Deb's bed, close beside Deb's chair. She seemed to have forgotten her Cluny lace. She took Deb's hand up between her two soft, brown gloves, and her long, brown feathers drooped and touched Deb's cheek. Deb hardly breathed, the feathers and the gloves, and the sweet smells of scented wood, and the young lady's sorry eyes-such very sorry eyes -were so close to the high chair.

"Fifteen years!" repeated the young ledy, very low, "in that chair—poor little girl! But you could ride," said

she, suddenly.
"I don't know, ma'am," said Deb "I never saw anybody ride but the grocer and the baker. I ain't like the grocer and the baker."

"You could be lifted, I mean," said the young lady, eagerly. "There is somebody who lifts you?"
"Mother sets me, generally," said Deb. "Once, when she was very bad

with a lame ankle, Jim McMahoney set e. He's first floor, Jim McMahoney."
"I shall be back here," said the young

just an hour I shall come in an easy sleigh, with warm robes. If you will have your daughter ready to take a ride with me, I shall be very much obliged

to you.' The young lady finished her sentence as if she did not know what to say, and so said the truest thing she could think of, which is what we are all in danger of

doing at times. "Well, I'm sure!" said Deb's mother.
"Dabitra, tell the lady"—
But Dabitra could not tell the lady,

for she was already out of the door, and

for she was already out of the door, and down stairs, and away into the street. And, indeed, Deb could not have told the lady—has never told the lady—can never tell the lady.

If all the summer skies, and the gold of summer sunlight, and the shine of summer stars fell down into your hands at once, for you to paint scrap-books with, should you know what to say? with, should you know what to say?

Into the poor little scrap-book of Deb's life the colors of heaven dropped and blirded her on that bewildering,

beautiful, blessed ride.
In just an hour the sleigh was there, with the easiest cushions, and the warmest robes, and bells-the merriest bells and the straight young lady. And Jim McMahoney was there; and he carried her down stairs to "set" her. And her mother was there, and wrapped her all up in an old red shawl, for Deb had

no "things" like other little girls. The young lady remembered that, and she had brought the prettiest little white hood that Deb had ever seen, and Deb's face looked like a bruised day lily bed between the shining wool, but Deb could not see that; and Mrs. McMahoney was there, paring onions at the door, to wish her good luck; and all the little McMahoneys were there, and all the children who did wonder; and the grocer turned in at the alley corner, and the baker stopped as he turned out, and everybody stood and smiled to see her start. The white horse pawed the snow, and held up his head—Deb had never seen such a horse—and the young lady had gathered the reins into her brown gloves, and the sleigh bells cried for joy -how they cried-and away they went,

and Deb was out of the alley in a minute, and the people in the alley hur-rahed, and hurrahed, and hurrahed to see her go. That bewildering, beautiful, blessed ride! How warm the little white hood was! How the cushions sank beneath her, and the fur robes opened like feathers to the touch of her poor thin hands! How the bells sang to her, and the snow drifts blinked at her, and the icicles and the slated roofs, and sky, and the peo-

young lady; for Deb drew the great wolf's robe over her face and head, and

heard. Deb was startled by the knock, and frightened by the young lady. It "But I only want to cry a little," said Deb's little smothered voice. "I must ery a little first."

When she cried a little she held up her head, and the shine of her pretty white hood grew faint beside the shine of her eyes and her cheeks. The bewil dering, beautiful, blessed ride!

Streets, and a crowd, and church spires were in it—yes, and a wedding and a funeral, too; all things that Del had seen in her high chair in the daytime with her eyes shut, she saw in th sleigh on that ride with her eyes opened wide.

She was very still. The young lady did not talk to her, and she did not talk to the young lady. The horse held up his head. It seemed to Deb to be fly ing. She thought that he must be like the awful beautiful horse in Revelation. She felt asif he could take her to heaver just as well as not, if the young lady's brown gloves should only pull the rein that way.

They rode and rode. In and out of the merry streets, through and through the singing bells, about and about the great church spires-all over, and over, and over the laughing town. They rode to the river, and the young lady stopped the white horse so that Deb could look across, and up and down at the shining stream and the shining

"There is so much of it." said Deb softly, thinking of the crack of it that she had seen between two houses for fifteen years. For the crack seemed to be very much like fifteen years in a high chair, and the long, broad-shouldered, silvered river seemed to her very much like this world about which she had wondered.

They rode to the mills, and Deb trembled to look up to their frowning walls, and to meet their hundred eyes; but some of the girls who wore the little pink bows, and who knew her, came nodding to look down out of them, and she left off trembling to laugh; then, in a minute she trembled again, for, all at once, without any warning, the great bell pealed the time just over her head, and swallowed her up in sound. She turned pale with delighted terror, and then she flushed with terrified delight. Did it pray, or cry, or laugh? Deb need sit in a high chair at a window again, but ride and ride with the young

forever. They turned away without speaking, and rode and rode. Daylight dimmed and dusk dropped, and see! all the town blazed with lights. They rode and rode to see the lights. Deb could not speak,

lady. It seemed to her like forever and

there were so many lights. And still she could not speak when they rode into Brick alley, and Jim Mc-Mahoney and her mother, and the children who did not wonder, came out to meet her and take her back to her high

She was too happy to speak. She need never wonder any more. She could remember.

But the young lady did not want her to speak. She touched her white horse, and was gone in a minute; and when the bell rang them to sleep that night—for the young lady forgot to ask for her Cluny, and was too tired to go to the party-I am sure I cannot tell which was the happier, she or Deb.

"Every man fancies he can do three lady, still speaking very quickly, but things—farm a small property, drive a speaking to Deb's mother now. "In gig, and write an article for a review."

### The Nervous System.

A striking instance of the danger of disregarding a nervous dread is related in the memoir of Charles Mayne Young. A young gentleman had been appointed attache to the British legation at St. Petersburg. On his arrival at that capital, he was congratulated by the ambassador on being in time to witness the celebration of a grand fete, and invited to accept in the great church a seat among those reserved for the ambassadorial party. Though, in such cases, an invitation is equivalent to a command. the attache begged to be excused. Being pressed for his reasons, he gave them with much reluctance.

"There will be martial music," he said, "and I have an insuperable objection to the sound of a drum. It gives me tortures that I cannot describe. respiration becomes so obstructed that it seems to me that I must die."

The ambassador laughed, saying that he should esteem himelf culpable if he allowed his attache to yield to a weakness so silly, and commanded him to be

present at the fete. On the day appointed all were in their places, when suddenly was heard the clang of martial music and the beat of the great drum. The ambassador, with ironical smile, turned to see the effect upon the "young hypochondriac." The poor fellow was upon the floor, quite dead. On a post-mortem examination, it appeared that the shock to his finelystrung nervous organization had caused a rupture of one of the valves of the

If then, as we see, the adult, with very reason for subduing nervous antipathies, apparently so unreasonable and ridiculous, finds it impossible to do so, how can a little child be expected to control or explain them ?- Scribner for

### Weights and Measures.

The following weights and measures are recognized by the United States. A bushel of wheat weighs 60 pounds shelled corn, 56; corn in the ear, 70; rye, 56; oats, 32; barley 48; white beans, 60; Irish potatoes, 60; sweet potatoes, 55; castor beans, 46; clover seed, 60; timothy seed, 45; flax seed, 56; hemp seed, 40; millet seed, 50; peas, 60; blue grass seed, 14; buckwheat, 52; dried peaches, 33; dried apples, 24; onions, 57; salt, 65; stone coal, 80; malt, 38; bran, 20; plaster ing hair, 8; turnip, 55; unslaked lime, 30; corn meal, 48; fine salt, 55; Hungarian grass seed, 54; ground peas, 20; a bushel of African peanuts weighs 32; Tennessee, 28; Virginia, 22. A box 24 by 16 inches, 22 deep, contains 1 barrel. A box 16 by 161 inches, 8 deep, contains 1 bushel. A box 8 by 81 inches, 8 deep, contains 1 peck. A box 4 by 4 inches.
41 deep, contains one-half peck. A box 4 by 4 inches, 4-10 deep, contains 1

The standard bushel of the United States contains 2,150.4 cubic inches, Any box or measure, the contents of which are equal to 2,150.4 cubic inches, will hold a bushel of grain. In measur ing fruit, vegetables, coal, and other substances, one-fifth must be added. In other words, a peck measure five times even full makes one bushel. The usual practice is to heap the measure.

An Electrical Likeness. We learn that within the last two weeks, says the Charlotte (Va.) Chroniele, a singular discovery has been made at the house of Jesse Garth, for many years deceased. It is said that a dis tinet and accurate likeness of Mrs. Garth, who has been dead for twenty years, can be seen on a pane of glass in the upper sash of one of the windows, presenting very much the appearance of a photograph negative. The discovery is said to have been made by a woman who was washing clothes in the yard, who imagined some one was watching her through the window, and went in side to see who it was. We gather these facts from Dr. Charles Brown, who has himself seen the singular picture. Dr. Brown remembers that about twenty years ago Mr. Garth told him that his wife, while standing at the window, was stunned by a sudden flash of lightning, and the doctor's theory is that the outlines of her features were photographed on the window pane at that time. youngest daughter of Mr. Garth, and others who were well acquainted with Mrs. Garth, have seen the picture, and pronounce it a striking likeness. said to be more distinct about nine o'clock in the morning and three in the afternoon than at any other time of the

Western Surgery. The Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise gives the following story of Western surgery A fellow got a fearful blow on the with a stone spittoon at a South C street saloon. The blow left his head all out of shape. There was a dent in one vide of it about four inches deep. As he lay there on the floor of the saloon, the man was a horrible-looking object. Some of did not know. It seemed to her that if those present said the fellow's head could the white horse would carry her into never be got into shape again. A wisethe great heart of that bell, she never looking, little old gentleman in spectacles came to the front, however, and said he would fix it. Procuring an ordinary hand-bellows he inserted the nozzle into the ear of the injured man. After a few puffs with the little machine the fellow's head was brought out as smooth and plump as a freshly-blown bladder, and he got up and walked off as fine-looking a man she was before he incurred the injury.

The Latest Acrobat Dodge. In Paris a trapeze performer allows himself to be fired out of a mortar a distance of some forty-five feet before he catches the swinging bar. The mortar is actually charged with gunpowder, which is lighted in the ordinary way and makes a loud report. The effect of the powder is to loosen a spring, which sends the man spinning through space. At first there was some difficulty in adjusting the spring to the required nicety, and when the performer came to try it he was shot about six feet too far, sustaining a dislocated shoulder and a broken rib. He persevered, and has now succeeded in having himself ejected at the required rate. "L'Homme Obus," as he calls himself, is just now one of the sights of Paris.

# RATES OF INTEREST.

The Rates Allowed in the Several States in the Union, and in Canada.

The Philadelphia Ledger has compiled the following statement of the rates of interest allowed by the laws of the sev-eral States and Territories of the United States, and of Upper and Lower Canada:

Alabama.—Eight per cent, On usurious contracts the principal only can be recovered. Arkaness.—Six per cent, but parties may contract for any rate not exceeding ton. Usury forfeits both principal and interest. California.—Ten per cent, after a debt becomes due, but parties may agree upon any rate of interest whatever, simple or compound. Colorado Territory.—Ten per cent, on money loaned.

onned.

Connectiont.—Seven per cent. Usury forfeits interest taken in excess of legal rate.
Dakota.—Seven per cent. Parties may contract for a rate not exceeding twelve. Usury
forfoits all the interest taken.
Delaware.—Six per cent. Penalty for usury
forfoits a sum equal to the money lent.
District of Columbia.—Six per cent. Parties
may stipulate in writing for ten. Usury forfeits all the interest.
Fiorida.—Eight per cent. Usury laws repealed. Money may be loaned at any rate.
Georgia.—Seven per cent. Parties may contract for twelve. A higher rate than twelve
forfeits interest and excess.

fract for twoive. A ingher rate than twelve forfeits interest and excess.

Idaho Territory.—Ten per cent. Parties may agree in writing for any rate not exceeding two per cent. per month. Penalty for greater rate is three times the amount paid, fine of \$300, or six months' imprisonment, or

hine of \$300, or six months imprisonment, or both.

Illinois.—Six per cent., but parties may agree in writing for ten. Penalty for usury forfeits the entire interest.

Indiana.—Six per cent. Parties may agree in writing for any rate not exceeding ten. Beyond that rate is illegal as to excess only.

Iowa.—Six per cent. Parties may agree in writing for ten. A higher rate works a forfeiture of ten per cent.

Kansas.—Seven per cent. Parties may agree for twelve. Usury forfeits the excess.

Kentucky.—Six per cent., but contracts may be made in writing for ten. Usury forfeits the whole interest charged.

Louisiana.—Five per cent.; eight per cent. may be stipulated for if embodied in the face of the obligation, but no higher than eight per cent.

Maine.—Six per cent. Parties may agree in writing to any rate.

Maryland.—Six per cent. Usurious contracts cannot be enforced for the excess above

tracts cannot be enforced for the excess above
the legal rates.

Michigan.—Seven per cent. Parties may
contract for any rate not exceeding ten.

Minnesota.—Seven per cent. Parties may
contract to pay as high as twelve in writing,
but contract for higher rate is void to the

but contract for higher rate is void to the excess.

Miselssippi.—Six per ent. Parties may contract in writing for ten. Where more than ten is taken, the excess cannot be recovered.

Missouri.—Six per cent. Contract in writing may be made for ten. The penalty for usury is forfeiture of the interest at ten per cent. Montana.-Parties may stipulate for any

rate of interest.
Nebraska.—Ten per cent., or any rate on ex-Nobraska.—Ten per cent., or any rate on express contract not greater than twelve. Usury prohibits the recovery of any interest on the principal.

Newada.—Ten per cent. Contracts in writing may be made for the payment of any other rate.

New Hampshire.—Six per cent. A higher

rate forfeits three times the excess to the per son aggrieved suing therefor, New Jersey.—Seven per cent. Usury forfeits all interest and costs.

feits all interest and costs.

New Mexico Territory.—Six per cent. but partice may agree upon any rate.

New York.—Seven per cent. Usury is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$1,000 or six months' imprisonment, or both, and forfeits the principal, even in the hands of third particle. parties North Carolina.—Six per cent.; eight may be stipulated for when money is borrowed. Penalty for usury is double the amount lent,

and indictment for misdemeanor.

Ohio.—Six per cent. Contract in writing may be made for eight. No penalty attached for violation of law. If contract is for a higher rate than eight, it is void as to interest, and recovery is limited to principal and six per

Oregon.-Ten per cent. Parties may agree on twelve.
Pennsylvania.—Six per cent. Usurious in crest caunot be collected. If paid it may be ecovered by suit therefor within six months. Rhode Island.—Six per cent. Any rate may

be agreed upon.
South Carolins.—Seven per cent. Usury
laws are abolished, and parties may contract
without limit. Contracts must be in writing. Tennessee.—Six per cent. Parties may con-ract in writing for any rate not exceeding ter

per cent.
Texas.—Eight per cent. All neury laws abolished by the Constitution.

Utah Territory.—Ten per cent. No usury laws. Any rate may be agreed on. Vermont,-Six per cent. Usury forfeits only

Virginia.—Six per cent. Lenders forfeit all Virginia.—Six per cent. Lenders forfest all interest in case of usury.

Washington Territory.—Ten per cent. Any rate agreed upon in writing is valid.

West Virginia.—Six per cent. Excess of interest cannot be recovered if usury is pleaded.

Wisconsin.—Seven per cent. Parties may, contract in writing for ten. No interest can

be computed on interest. Usury forfeits all he interest paid. Wyoming Territory.—Twelve per cent., but

my rate may be agreed upon in writing.
Upper Canada.—Six per cent., but parties nay agree upon any rate. Lower Canada. Six per cent., but any rate

nay be stipulated for. The Currency act of Congress limits national banks to a rate of six per cent. In the District of Columbia, Congress allows a raté of ten per cent. aws are all more liberal than the act of Congress, and there, it is thought by many, injustice is done the national Besides, the people of each banks. State, the Ledger has always contended, should be at liberty to pay for money what they please, and should have the sole right to fix the rate. Congress should legislate only for the district.

# Frightened at his Shadow.

This is an Indian story, told by the Evansville Journal : A night or two ago one of our prominent merchants went home late with his mind distracted by columns of figures and a little absent minded. The house is on the corner, and a gaslight throws its enlivening rays straight through the front window. He opened the front door, and after locking it opened the parlor door to walk through. The blinds had been allowed to remain up, and as he walked in the room his shadow fell full and plainly on the opposite wall. He stopped short at the sight, and in a moment thoughts of burglars sailed through his mind, and he felt for his pistol pocket, but there was no weap n at home. Then he began to back quietly out of the door, with the hope that if he got quietly out without giving the alarm he would not be shot by the burglar, whom he saw feel for his pistol simultaneously with him-self. Then he backed to the front door and opened it rapidly, losing sight of the intruder. As he was backing out of the front door, however, the shadow fell on the front door also, and it looked so familiar that he stopped and reflected —and then went in and got to bed.

## COL. GOWEN'S CLAIM.

Dealings with High Officials in St. Peters-

Col. John E. Gowen, the American engineer, who is treating with the British admiralty for the contract of raising the iron-clad Vanguard, sunk in the British channel, in 1862, completed the great work of raising the Russian fleet in the harbor of Sebastopol, and presented his bill for payment. The demand was 355,000 roubles, which is equal to about that number of dollars in greenbacks. The Grand Duke Constantine, from whom Col. Gowen received the commission, approved the claim and ordered it It was handed to Governor General Glazinapp, who recommended that bonds be issued for the amount. Minister of Marine Krabbe, however, thought it too small a sum to be paid in bonds, and proposed to pay the money in ten years in annual installments. The colonel would not agree to this, "Well, the Grand Duke has ordered

that you be paid," said the minister, "and we'll have to find you the money but my budget is made up and I don't see exactly how it is to be managed. You'd better go abroad and travel for a month, and when you come back your money will be ready for you.

A month later the colonel again presented himself to the minister. "Well, sir, you've done a pretty thing, haven't you—raised mischief in my department?" was the colonel's greet-ing from Krabbe. "You and your 16,-

000 roubles. I was your friend, but understand henceforth I'm your enemy, and shall oppose you even getting one dollar of your claim." The 16,000 roubles matter referred to was a claim of which some officer of the marine department had tried to defraud him, and, before leaving St. Petersburg,

acting upon the advice of assistant minister of marine Gregg, he had laid the facts of the case before the minister of justice, who made them a subject of complaint to Krabbe, and hence the latter's anger.

"If you don't pay me," said the colonel, "I'll have to see his imperial highness, the Grand Duke Constantine, about it." "You may if you like; but you'll never get a dollar if I can help it," was

the reply.

Col. Gowen wrote the Grand Duke,

saying that he had not been paid, and requesting an audience. What followed is best told in his own words: "An aide-de-camp called upon me with the message from the Grand Duke that I should be paid before I left St. Petersburg, and requesting me to call at his palace before nine o'clock the next morning. On arriving at the relect I looks at that old an and then folds his was shown into the Grand Duke's apart—little tent and slips through the gate ment, where, to my surprise and annoy-auce, I found him conversing with the Then the little girl minister of marine, my declared enemy. The Grand Duke arose, shook hands

of any other foreigner who has ever come to this country, and I am very sorry that you should come here a second time to be paid. Why, I have never been paid one

cent," I replied. "The minister tells me he has paid you," said he, turning to Krabbe.
"He has been paid. I paid him my self," said Krabbe, throwing a signifi

cant glance at me. "No, sir-you know that I have not received one penny," I exclaimed.
"I cannot allow this altercation in my

presence," said the Grand Duke.

"But, I assure you"— I continued when he interrupted me, saying: "Col. Gowen, whom do you suppose would believe-you, a stranger, whom have known only a few years, or a minister of the empire ?"

"It is not necessary to believe either of us," I said. "If I have been paid if he could. surely there is some record of it in the department. Have the books examined

Col. Gowen has not been paid, having received no other rewards for his valuable service than the thanks of the crown and the decoration of the order of St. Stanislaus. He has made frequent applications to Secretary Fish for an official letter in his behalf to our minister at St. Petersburg requesting him to lay the facts before the imperial government, but Mr. Fish has refused to interfere. The colonel brought strong influence to bear upon him, and, at one time, had some hope of success, but the Fish-Catacazy trouble followed, and he has now abandoned all hope of help from the incumbent Administration. The injustice of this treatment is well known in European diplomatic circles. Prince Gortchakoff, whom he met in Baden, told him that he knew him to be one of the worst-used men in the world but could not help him, and Lord Palmerston once, speaking of the claim, said to him: "If you were a British

# Wise Sayings.

You cannot whip the fear out of It is a safe plan to watch the man close who auspects everybody.

subject, colonel, I promise you, you

would not have to wait long for your

money."-Sun.

Men's judgments often make a blunder, but their conscience never does. To supply a man's necessities takes but little, but to feed his desires takes an empire. I never knew a lazy man vet but what

thought he was the hardest working man in all his neighborhood. Most men profit by experience they do by their daily bread; after it is earned and eaten, they forget all

about it. When a man gets so old he has no taste for the follies of life, then he begins to reprimand them severely in It is very hard to define economy: al

we seem to know about it is, that one man will make a dollar buy twice as much as another man can. The man who expects to get through this world by following other people's advice, will travel over as much ground,

to as little purpose, as a lost dog does.

A Golden Girl. There is a servant girl living with a family in Detroit, says the Free Press, who wouldn't be permitted to change places if \$10 per week would be any in-ducement for her to stay. She makes it her special duty to meet all agents and beggars at the door, and to dispose of them without the least annoyance to the family. She has a rule to meet each case, and her rules are perfection. The door bell never fools her. She can tell a caller's ring from a beggar's ring as certainly as the bell is touched. When she opens the door and finds a man with a red goatee, having a clothes-wringer in his hand, she doesn't wait for him to ing. hem and haw and say that his clothes-

wringer beats all the other wringers ever made. She gets the start by saying : "You seem like a decent, respectable nan, and as a friend I warn you that the owner of the house saw you come up the steps and he ran into the back yard to unchain his Russian blood-

hound,' The man with the red goatee slings that wringer over his right shoulder and

ag up and down his back. The next one may be a young lady, who boldly inquires for the lady of the house, and has a new kind of face-pow-

der to sell, "You can go in," whispers the girl, and I will stand at the door so as to rush in when you call. If the mistress asks you to taste anything, beware of poison. She may not have her revolver with her this morning, and I guess it will be safe for you to go in.'

"Why-why?" stammers the young lady. "Go right in; she may not be dan-

"Never mind. I'll call again. I'm in a hurry."

And that settles that case.

The next is one of those chaps who

go about with tears in their eyes, willing to work if work can be had; but never finding any work their health will permit them to do.
"Madam," he says, as she opens the door, "for Heaven's sake let me work

at something long enough to earn a

slice of bread?" She motions for him to go around to the side door and is there to let him in. She hands him an ax weighing seven pounds, with a straight handle, points to three or four big knots which have become almost petrified, and very softly

"You look hungry, and as soon as you split those up I'll give you the best meal

you've had in a month. She goes in and hespits on his hands, the orphan asylum rings the bell:

is met with a smile and the hired girl with me, and said: "Col. Gowen, I says: have had a higher opinion of you than 'You poor little thing! I pity the orphans and I'd like to give you some money. If you will get the mayor to come here and say it is all right I will

give you three cents." The little girl thoughtfully pursues her way and another cases comes, is met and disposed of, and the mistress of that house is never disturbed or annoved.

# Old Mr. Curiosity.

Old Mr. Curiosity, crossing the ocean, annoyed everybody, the good-natured and patient Scotch officers of the steamer in particular, by asking superfluous questions in the greatest profusion whenever occasion offered. One day he went down into the engine room. He had been there before, and the engineers knew him "not wisely, but too well. The courteous second was on duty, and he resolved to put an end to this visiting if he could. "What's that for—what connection has it with the boiler?" asked Mr. Curiosity, pointing to a rod somewhere up aloft. "That," said the engineer, "is the duylex concave which -they will tell the story."
"No, sir," he said, rising, "this audience is at an end," and I was bowed directs the upright tendency of the screw against an outward pressure upon the valves, and in that way introduces horse power upon the cylinder and averts an unnecessary waste of coal."
"Ah, yes," said Mr. Curiosity, looking at the engineer in an amazed and bewildered sort of way, "and this little wheel here-what's that, sir!" "Oh, that," replied the engineer, scarcely able to restrain his laughter, "is the wheel which starts the shower of oil for the machinery, which shower is regulated by the speed of the steamer, and is liable to occur at any moment, and "-but Mr. Curiosity never waited to hear the rest, and, in his haste to get up the iron ladder he fell, frescoed his knee pan and blackened his eye. But he never came down below again, and was silent the balance of the voyage, doubtless meditating upon the "duplex concave" and the other mysteries of steamship machinery.

Political Conventions, etc., for 1876. January 5-New Hampshire Republican State convention, Concord.

January 5-Texas Democratic State

convention, Galveston. January 12-Texas Republican State convention, Houston. January 13-Republican National committee, Washington, to select time and

place for holding the National conven-

February 22-Indiana Republican State convention, Indianapolis. March 15-Indiana Democratic State convention, Indianapolis,

May 6-National convention of Prohibitionists, to nominate a Presidential ticket, etc., Cleveland. May 17-National Independent convention, to nominate a Presidential ticket, Indianapolis.

### More Dogs Than Men. A curious fact about Tennessee is that

it contains more dogs than men. Returns from the dog-tax-assessment in about one-third of the State show 47,-547 men and 70,780 dogs. This being taken as a basis, it is estimated that there are not less than 225,000 dogs in the churches, where the men rarely sit the thousands that escape the taxation. Some one reckons that these dogs cost for their keeping over four millions of sanctity, but of tobacco. It is certainly dollars annually, to say nothing of some better to have shorter sermons and most 45,000 sheep which they kill every year.

They call tight boots corn-cribs nowa-

Everybody is anxious to lend the man something who does not want to borrow anything.

"All is wanity," remarked a tin ware peddler the other day. "What's life to me, anyhow, but holler and tin-sell?"

A bill for compulsory education recently received only one vote in the House of Delegates of West Virginia. An economical Japanese family can live

tain the cents is what causes the suffer-Canes or umbrellas containing swords or other weapons cannot be sold hereaf-

Circumstances alter cases. There are times when things are not themselves any more than men are. A tooth is not

The average yearly cost of each prisoner in England and Wales is about canters out of that neighborhood with his teeth on edge and cold chills playing tag up and down his back. \$160. The daily average number of prisoners last year was 17,816, and the profit on their labor was \$257,490.

"Does cooking injure the health of stock?" inquired an agricultural ex-change. We are inclined to think it does. There are numerous instances

A Boston clergyman advanced the idea in a sermon that striped stockings are destructive to female modesty. "But a little while ago," said he, "young ladies refused to go up stairs in advance of gentlemen. Now they seem anxious to do so!"

of pearls and \$200,000 worth of shells, while this year's operations will hardly

a mounted highwayman. A farmer in Cambria county, Pa., having the deed of his farm in his vest pocket, hung the garment on the fence, while at work in his field, and a cov

extensively cultivated in the East In converted into a kind of wadding, which is used for upholstering, instead of hair. A sort of flannel is

on the envelope: "Registered with his friends wrote: "I'll awear that I saw Jim put two dollars in this." The man who fools with that letter will get

into trouble.

Little Willie, having hunted in all the corners for his shoes, at last appears to give them up, and climbing on a chair, betakes himself to a big book on a side table. Mother says to him: "What is darling doing with the book?" "It ith the dictionary; papa lookth in the dic-

world, old fellow. I keep a gardener for my garden ; you keep a garden for your gardener! There was lately shown at the rooms of the Society of Art, in London, a piece of milk, "solidified by the Hooker pro-

It is well known that in olden times the church services were very much longer than they are at present, especially the sermon. In many old pulpits in England is still to be seen a stand for the hour glass, by which the length of the sermon was measured, and it was not uncommon for this to be turned once, at least, so that the preaching continued two hours.

We are ready to ask how the people of those days could sit still in their highbacked, uncomfortable pews, and in winter, freezing churches, to listen to such long harangues. The solution of the mystery is probably this—they did not sit still. Some, doubtless, went to sleep, and were quite content to take their rest; but others went out of the church occasionally for a smoke and a chat.

At Bibury, in England, the esquire of the parish regularly withdrew after the text, smoked his pipe, and returned to the blessing. In Iceland the same cus-State listed for taxation, not to mention | through the service, though altogether

### Items of Interest.

on six cents a day at home; but to ob-

ter in Paris without a permit from the chief of police.

a tooth when it is a-king.

of beeves and porkers having been cooked, and they've never entirely got over it.

The pearl fisheries of the Gulf of California threaten to be entirely ruined unless the government shuts down on the wholesale use of submarine armor. Last year they yielded about \$100,000 worth

pay expenses. Arthur Wilson, fourteen years old and permeate with admiration of Claude Duval, broke into a London store and stole \$60. A few days afterward he was arrested in Paris. He had bought arms, ammunition and a horse, and was taking riding lessons to qualify him for life as

coming along, ate part of the vest and the deed. The question in that vicinity now is: "Is that cow a freeholder as the title of the land —— any vested in her? Leaves of the pineapple, now being

also manufactured from them from which substantial waistcoats and shirts can be made. A Detroiter, who didn't exactly know how to get a letter registered, sent some money away the other day, and he wrote two dollar bill inside." Fearing that this might not be strong enough, one of

We like fine writing when it is prop erly applied; so we appreciate the fol lowing burst of eloquence: "As the ostrich uses both legs and wings when the Arabian courser bounds in her rear -as the winged lightnings leap from the heavens when the thunderbolts are loosed-so does a little boy run when a a big dog is after him.

tionary for things, and I am looking in it to see if I can find my shoes." Green-"How is it, Brown, you al ways have such splended fruit from your garden? I exhibit and carry off cups and prizes (at least my gardener does, for I only see it in print), but I have never seen such fruit as this on my table." Brown—"Simplestthing in the

cess," and weighing one hundred pounds, and which has been exposed to the action of the air for four years and three months." The Agricultural Gazette of that city says that "its quality was still so excellent that in a few minutes it was resolved, by churning, into good fresh butter,"

# Dodging the Sermon.