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I WONDER. If I this night, at set of sun, Should find my race was nearly run, Would I have earned the glad "Well done!" I wonder. Would I look back at dear ones here? Would I go onward without fear? Would there be time for any tear? I wonder. Would it then be so strangely sweet, Where loved ones wait their own to greet, That life would pass with winged feet? I wonder. Would all the countless trials sore Perplex me never, never more? Would heartaches, failures, all be o'er? I wonder.

TWO DOZEN BUTTONS.

Betty sighed. Now, why she should have sighed at this particular moment no one on earth could tell. And it was all the more exasperating because John had just generously put into her little shapely hand a brand new ten-dollar bill. And here began the trouble. "What's the matter?" he said, his face falling at the faint sound and his mouth clapping together in what those who knew him but little called an obstinate pucker. "New what is it?" Betty, who had just begun to change the sigh into a merry little laugh rippling all over the corners of the red lips stopped suddenly, tossed her head, and with a small jerk no way conciliatory sent out the words: "You needn't insinuate, John, that I am always troublesome."

"So 'tis," said John. "Gracious! has it come around so soon?" "And you, dear boy," said Betty, shaking out before his eye a pretty, brown affair, all edged with silk of the bluest shade, that presently assumed the proportions of a dressing gown; "this is to be your present. But you must be dreadfully surprised, John, when you get it, for, oh, I didn't want you to know it!" John made an answer he thought best. When he spoke again he said, perplexed, while a small pucker of bewilderment settled between his eyes: "But I don't see, Betty, what this thing," laying one finger on the gown, "had to do with the sigh."

"The tree puzzle" that follows is one of the most ingenious trifles of the kind now current: 1. What's the social tree, 2. And the dancing tree, 3. And the tree that is nearest the sea? 4. The dandiest tree, 5. And the kissable tree, 6. And the tree where ships may be? 7. What's the tall-tale tree, 8. And the traitor's tree, 9. And the tree that's the warmest clad? 10. The languishing tree, 11. The chronologist's tree, 12. And the tree that makes one sad! 13. What's the emulous tree, 14. The industrious tree, 15. And the tree that never will stand still? 16. The unalikest tree, 17. The Egyptian plague tree, 18. And the tree neither up nor down hill? 19. The contemptible tree, 20. The most yielding tree, 21. And the tree that bears a curse! 22. The reddish brown tree, 23. The reddish blue tree, 24. And the tree like an Irish nurse! 25. What is the tree, 26. That makes each townsman feel? 27. And what round itself doth entwine? 28. What's the housewife's tree, 29. And the fisherman's tree, 30. What by cockneys is turned into wine? 31. What's the tree that got up, 32. And the tree that was lazy, 33. And the tree that guides ships to go forth? 34. The tree that's immortal, 35. The tree that's not, 36. And the tree whose wood faces the north? 37. The tree in a bottle, 38. The tree that's in a fog, 39. And what each must become ere he's old? 40. The tree of the people, 41. The traveler's tree, 42. And the sad tree when schoolmasters hold? 43. What's the tree that has passed through the fiery heat, 44. That half-given to doctors when ill? 45. The tree that we offer to friends when we meet, 46. And the tree we may use as a quill? 47. What's the tree that in death will beight you, 48. And the tree that your wants will supply? 49. And the tree that to travel invites you, 50. And the tree that forbids you to die!

REMEDIES FOR INSOMNIA. ADVICE FOR SUFFERERS FROM SLEEPLESSNESS. Hair Pillows to be Preferred to Feather. Various Methods of Cooling the Brain. When I was a student, says a writer in the New York Sun, I suffered much from sleeplessness, and after trying many remedies, I hit upon this one: I discarded my feather pillow for one of hair. The effect was wonderful. I slept soundly the whole of the first night, and have never since, except when feverish, been so wakeful as I usually was before. Although feathers are excellent for preventing the dispersion of the heat of the body, so much fault has been found with feather beds that they have quite generally gone out of use, and it is strange that feather pillows have not been sent after them. Feathers in pillows are open to the same objections as feathers in beds, and even their chief virtue, that of keeping up a high temperature, is a defect in a pillow; certainly when one-half of the head is kept at blood heat by being buried in feathers and the other half is exposed to the air, both halves cannot be at the most favorable temperature. A hair pillow does not get warmed up to an uncomfortable degree, because it rapidly conducts away the heat imparted to it by the head. Since hair pillows are not yet in common use, it might be supposed that a person accustomed to the use of one would either have to take it with him every time he was to be away from home for a few nights, or suffer considerable inconvenience. But fortunately hair busters are more common, and if the pillow is thrown aside the bolster will raise the head probably as high as is good for the sleeper. If a hair bolster is lacking, the end of the mattress may be raised high enough to make a comfortable head rest by putting the pillow under it. According to most, but not all, medical writers, wakefulness and mental activity depend on the circulation of a large quantity of blood through the brain, and the flow of blood must be lessened before sleep can come on. I have obtained special benefit from drawing the blood to the muscles by means of a brisk walk or a quarter to half an hour's vigorous performance of light gymnastics just before going to bed. The majority of cases of sleeplessness occur among persons who use their muscles but little, and for very many taking more exercise is the best remedy. Sleep can sometimes be brought on by simply warming the body, especially the feet; the drowsiness caused by sitting in a warm room is an instance. The blood may be drawn to the skin by a cold shower or sponge bath, followed by rubbing with a coarse towel. Getting out of bed for a few minutes when the air is cool will often bring relief. I have him awake half the night and then, after being up long enough to mix and drink a lemonade, have fallen asleep at once on going back to bed. Perhaps the lemonade should have part of the credit. On hot summer nights a cold bath will reduce the bodily temperature so as to admit of sleep. If the skin is not wiped quite dry, the evaporating moisture will increase the cooling effect. A light lunch just before going to bed relieves the brain by drawing the blood to the stomach, and, the inclination to doze after a meal is explainable in this way. Diminishing the cerebral circulation by compression of the carotid arteries is advised by some physicians. Lying on the back with a doubled pillow placed against the back of the neck so as to tip the head forward will effect this, and Dr. J. L. Corning has invented an instrument in the form of a collar for the same purpose. In view of what has been said about circulation of the blood, coldness of the feet is a natural accompaniment of sleeplessness, and one means of cure may be made to serve both ends. Bathing the feet in hot water is such a means, but after a few hours a reaction is liable to set in, which will send the blood from the feet to the head and cause the sleeper to awake. It is better to take advantage of the reaction which follows a cold foot-bath with vigorous rubbing of the feet, both in the water and with the towel. The stimulus thus given to the circulation in the feet will be more permanent. I have found walking just before bedtime beneficial, and when I do not wish to go outdoors I raise myself sharply on my toes to the full stretch fifty or more times. A paragraph has recently been in circulation to the effect that a continuous low noise favors sleep; the sound of water dropping on a brass pan has been prescribed by a physician with good effect. The explanation seems to be that a simple monotonous impression quiets the brain by occupying it to the exclusion of more varied and interesting, and therefore stimulating, impressions. On the same principle are the devices of counting forward or backward, imagining sheep jumping one by one through a gap, etc.; but they are open to the objection of causing one portion of the brain to be exerted in order to control the rest of it. If the hygienic measures which have been described fail to induce sleep, probably some form of disease stands in the way, and a physician should be employed to discover and remove it. Somniferous drugs should be regarded as a last resort, for, unless skillfully used, they produce a stupor rather than a refreshing sleep. Do not take a narcotic or nostrum at random because somebody says it is good to make you sleep; one narcotic is injurious where another is beneficial, and the chances are that you will choose one which will do you more harm than good. Until pink floors are padded rinks will not get popular with fat men.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL. A Georgia inventor has invented a fireproof cotton bagging, the use of which will very much reduce the insurance rates on cotton. It is called "antiphlogan," and is said to be cheaper than the jute or gunny-bagging now used. To test the purity of water there has been found no better or simpler way than to fill a clean pint bottle three-fourths full of the water to be tested, and dissolve in the water half a teaspoonful of the purest sugar—loaf or granulated will answer—cork the bottle, and place it in a warm place for two days. If in twenty-four to forty-eight hours the water becomes cloudy or milky it is unfit for domestic use. It has been proved beyond all doubt that waters which circulate or stand in leaden pipes or vessels not only take up particles of lead through mechanical action due to friction, but attacks the metal because of the affinity of several of their constituents, the result being generally lead carbonate. Minute quantities of lead introduced into the system must rank among the factors of anemia and defective nutrition in large towns. The electric light is being used to light bakers' ovens. A great difficulty has always existed among bakers to get a light into their dark ovens, so that the progress of baking might be observed. Two incandescent lamps, driven by a Victoria-Brush machine, are placed inside an oven where the temperature ranges from 400 to 500 degrees Fahrenheit. The oven door contains a sheet of plate glass, through which the whole of the oven is distinctly visible. The baker now never need burn his bread or pastry. Considering its extent, America is better supplied by the clouds than Europe and Africa. In the tropics of the old world the annual rainfall is about seventy-seven inches, while in tropical South America it is 135 inches. In the eastern United States it is forty to fifty inches; but west of the one hundredth meridian to Sierra Nevada it is mostly twelve to sixteen inches. The annual average of Great Britain is thirty-five inches; that of France twenty to twenty-one inches; but about the Alps it is mostly thirty-five to fifty inches. Farther from the coast, in central Germany and Russia, it is only fifteen to twenty inches. The moistest climate known is in India, at Cherrapongee, where over a small area the yearly fall of rain is more than 610 inches, or about fifty-one feet. The process of swallowing food in serpents is painfully slow and somewhat peculiar. For how is an animal without limbs or molars to swallow its prey, which is often much larger than its own body? Thus the boa-constrictor seizes the head of its victim with its sharp, curving teeth, and crushes the body with its overlapping coils, then slightly uncoiling and covering the carcass with its slimy mucus, it thrusts the head into its mouth by main force, the mouth stretching marvelously, the skull being loosely put together. One jaw is then unfixed and the teeth withdrawn, by being pushed forward, when they are again fastened farther back on the animal. The other jaw is then protruded, and then re-extended, and thus, by successive movements, the prey is slowly and spirally drawn into the gullet. Fighting in the Desert. The manoeuvres of the British in the desert preparing for the enemy, are thus described by Cameron: "Continually does the column halt, dismount and prepare to meet the enemy, and on these occasions there is always a race between the mounted infantry and guard regiments as to who shall be first in square. The formation finally adopted is this: Squares. Camels kneeling and tied by the legs. Square. "Thus an enemy charging cannot get in among the camels without being enveloped by one or other face of the squares." Proud to Call Himself United States Farmer. Senator Williams, of Kentucky, is proud to call himself a farmer, and he thinks there is no higher, honorable calling. He is a staunch friend of the agriculturists, and during his term has done vigorous battle for every measure that has come before the Senate for their benefit or relief. He says: "After all, give me the country raised boy. The boy who runs barefooted and stabs the nails off his toes and gets stone bruises on his heels grows up in the simple, unaffected ways of life which make him the better man."—Washington Star. In married life there should be sympathy—companionship. The husband and wife should be true friends and comrades, without a thought of getting the better of each other. They should join hands at the altar with the idea of being made one. There can be no true love where the thought of mystery enters the mind. You may find ecstatic joy in the dream of hope, but it takes money to go to market.—Chicago Ledger.

DISAPPOINTMENT. My tree of life in springtime promised well, The buds of faith and hope were full and fair; The blossoms with rich fragrance filled the air, Making my pathway sweeter where they fell. The fruit appeared; I watched its growth with care; Dark clouds of doubt and fear hung o'er my tree; "Your fruit's in danger," oft was said to me; That it might live to ripen was my prayer. In autumn time, my fruitage gathered in, Perfect it seemed, and to myself I said, "How poor the fruit when faith and hope are dead!" Mine has escaped the withering blight of sin." At length the fruit I tasted, and I found, Forgetting works, I now must bear the pain; That I had watched and waited long in vain; What looked so fair was bitter and unsound. If I could live again my past life o'er, It should be one of earnest work and love; And He who plants the tree then from above Would bless the fruit; I should need nothing more. —H. C. Hayden. HUMOR OF THE DAY. The sack is an appropriate coat for a rejected lover.—Hatchet. No matter whether bonnets have little birds on them or not, the amount of bill is always the same. "Papa's pants will soon fit brother," is the first line of a new song, and yet it is said there is no literary or musical genius in this country.—Bohemian. "Pickled walnuts are introduced at dinner now," says an exchange. Whenever you are introduced to a pickled walnut its not etiquette to shake hands, I believe.—Brooklyn Times. Among the Equinoxians you can buy a seal-skin sack for two iron hoops and a ten-penny nail; but then it takes a seal-skin sack to buy a ten-penny nail and two iron hoops.—New York News. A young man gazed at his mother-in-law's two trunks in the hall, and sadly remarked: "She has brought her clothes to a visit, would that she had brought her visit to a close."—Drake's Magazine. "Use your fork, Johnnie! Have you forgotten so soon what I told you about using your fingers?" "Well, mamma, fingers were made before forks." "Yes, they were; but not your fingers, my son." We believe in giving every man a chance in this world, but a man in the act of sucking an egg which an old hen set on four weeks last summer, should be speedily told of his rashness.—Three States. "Some one asks: 'Is it dangerous to eat — going to sleep?' We think not. We have heard frequently of persons doing that. But if you are afraid to risk it perhaps you had better eat after you go to sleep."—Pittsburg Democrat. "Are you going to the party this evening, Maude?" "No, I guess not; I'm afraid that horrid Smith girl will be there." "Oh, no, she won't; she said she wasn't going." "Why not?" "Because she was afraid you would be there."—Boston Post. Josh Billings was asked: "How fast does sound travel?" His idea is that it depends a good deal upon the noise you are talking about. "The sound of a dinner horn, for instance, travels half a mile in a second; while an invitation tew get up in the morning I have known to be three-quarters of an hour going up two pair of stairs, and then not hev strength enuff left to be heard." Women have a happy faculty of uttering pleasant things of each other. "Why, dear," said one to a friend, "do you know that young Smith and Laura Jones have quarreled, and now a great gulf separates them?" "Yes," replied the other. "They are in the same position as her ears. A great gulf separates them, too." The worst that it is that Laura's mouth is not so large after all.—Boston Gazette. "A pound of jumps!" and I looked in surprise At little black Rose with her shining eyes. "A pound of jumps!"—my mother said. A pound of jumps, and she nodded her head. "But my dear, we've flour, and sugar in jumps, And peanuts, but never a pound of jumps." "With walnuts and chestnuts and corn that pops?" "Oh, oh! I forgot! It's a pound of hops!" —Wide Awake. The Bone Industry. The bone industry of the country is an important one. The four feet of an ordinary ox will make a pint of neatfoot oil. Not a bone of any animal is thrown away. Many cattle shin bones are shipped to Europe for the making of knife handles, where they bring \$40 per ton. The thigh bones are the most valuable, being worth \$80 per ton for cutting into tooth brush handles. The foreleg bones are worth \$30 per ton, and are made into collar buttons, parafin handles and jewelry, though sheep's legs are the staple for parafin handles. The water in which the bones are boiled is reduced to glue, the dust which comes from sawing the bones is fed to cattle and poultry, and all bones that cannot be used as noted, or for bone black, used in refining the sugar we eat, are turned into fertilizers and made to help enrich the soil. As regards waste, it is the story of the pig. Nothing is lost except the squeal.—Philadelphia Press.