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The Old Home.

I remember an old gay farmhouse, All mossy, and stained with time; With a film of age upon it, While yet it stood in its prime.

A broad, low-browed old homestead,

Where clambering wild woodbine Hung out its flames in the autumn, Like wreaths on a boly shrine. Great drooping elms swayed o'er it;

And blossoming lilacs tall, Thrust their purple plumes in the With the bees they held in thrall.

All under its roof so mossy, And around its heart so warm, It gathered its happy children, In a merry, busy swarm.

ith the beat of rain on its shingles, It lulled them all to rest, then spring brought the muttering showurging up from out the west,

As hen soothes her sleepy chickens, So we heard the soft, sweet wind-song, (7 the old roof overhead. An now when I fall a-dreaming, When it rains, and the wind is strong, I her again the deep murmers

A d beat of the old roof's song. And the years fall away and leave me, A sleepy child once more; Slow tocking on grand wild surges,

New drifting among the tree-tops, Now floating o'er rivers deep.
Till I sink in that rushing, sweeping sea,
Down to the land of sleep.

MADCAP MADGE.

Cora Castleton laid down the pearltacked brush with an impatient, discuraged sigh, that involutarily repeated itself as she looked down in ten minutes after Madge and her pony cushion of the lounge. A low, joyous laugh came trilling

from Madge's lips, as Cora paused in such stately dignity. a full quarter-hour long. But, true as remembered the glimpse of a dainty-I live, my dear, dignified sister, I can't buttoned boot, and the firm, yet appartell you what it is I have done so dread-

the pretty, pink-flushed face, and when half-delightful, half-painful reverie. she spoke, the accents of her voice were | It was Phil's voice -loud, cheery. in perfect accord with her expression of "Child, child! when and lazy, as I am." countenance.

tionalities of society?"

beyond power of expression,'

stock-

face, was refreshing to see.

Castleton.

anything right?"

The gentle pleading in her voice-Cora, and she laid her cool, white hands in the same spirit of adoration, picked on the girl's warm cheeks. "Darling, you are the dearest sister looped up on one side with long feather

that ever lived, with the one single ex- grasses and ferns. He handled it very ception-you will be so unconventional, gingerly, turning it over and over; uldishly regardless of appearances. then smiled, "I tis for all the world like It is for your own good I speak, my a sombrero I wore once-minus the

'Why don't you recommend Mr.

Particular Dignity as a candidate for

proving Madcap Madge.

is Phil's friend and our guest, and one enjoyed the effect he had produced, of the most learned, polished men and stood looking, half amused, half Madge wreathed her pretty arms over

her head, and laughed defiantly. when he heard a voice on the stairs, and a clear, sweet girlish voice that Didn't I hear him tell Phil only yester-cay when they were lying on the grass "In a minute, Cora. I'll be there in day, when they were lying on the grass under the apple tree, that if there was a minute. I'm only going to my room one thing above another he admired in a minute." others, it was a graceful dignity and The cold sweat started to Arlington's

up on a bough, you see---' rising from her chair. Madge, you are He snatched at the hat, but the elastic hopelessly incorrigible. But may I, as was fast in his curly hair, and refused a particular, very great favor, beg to leave, even at the price of a lock have been the wonder and admiration from their time to the present, possessas I shall come, as Mr. Arlington is ac-customed to see his friends, in suitable second before Madge entered the door, dress, and with dignity and grace be made a frantic dash for the back. The three greatest of the many successof manner. This once, Madge, if never stair door, whose situation just occurred ful violin-makers among the numbers

all by himself, in his own room, second floor front, over the library, where Miss Castleton had domiciled him so very homelike and cosily that he was in no hurry to break camp. He was in no hurry to break camp.

having a first-rate time down in the country.

Miss Cora was a model hostess and The wardrobe. The hat, Arlington housekeeper—the very memory of her dinners, and anticipations of breakfasts uratively, of course. Then there was Phil—the very best sort of chum, who

let him alone. And also Madge, whom he or no one else ever dreamed of call-Pretty, boyish, graceful, independent Madge, with saucy eyes, that he knew would melt some day, and saucy lips, that would murmur allegiance when the master came. He would dash off on her wicked black pony, at break-neck spee I, and he would say aloud, very carelessly-

"What an odd girl your sister is,

Miss Castleton," and inwardly invoke all good spirits of earth and air to bring her home with her head still on her him. And yet, away down in his heart was a little pang of pain that she had the grave, the reticent, the "Particular But her saucy eyes, her roguish and all. nouth, her matchless grace, her such a delicious veil of innate delicacy pidness." and modesty, had conquered, all uncon-sciously, this Richard Arlington. And it was this very fact, and the stubbornness of the case, that he was looking Madge's saucy, piquant face, that was had dashed off for their morning scour unturned defiantly from the crimson of the country. He was recalling how perfectly beautiful she had looked in her riding habit—dark blue cloth and smoked pearl buttons. He remembered every curve of her faultless "Well, you have read me a lecture figure, so girlish, so graceful. He ently careless grasp of her gauntleted hand on the white reins. Then a sum-Miss Castleton looked despairingly at mons from below stairs dispelled the

"Dick-come, you're not extra busy will you learn the lesson I have been He tossed his cigar into the receiver, trying to teach you for a year or more? and went down the broad, delightfully Madge, child, will you ever cease being a careless, boisterous girl, with where he found Phil "busy" in pernot the slightest regard for the conven- forming the same duty he had just finonalities of society?" ished, laughingly scolded him for his put it on, why I touched your slippers, "Oh, that is the crime I have com- letter and went slowly up again. It mitted, is it? The sermon you have was a business letter that he was read- because, Madge, everything of yours is been preaching, you dear old nuisance ing, that he finished just as he arrived so dear to me. You are the woman I you, has for its unanuounced text the opposite the door, and opened and love and hope to win for my wife. harum-scarum ramble I took this morn- entered. There was a cheque in the Madge, am I presumptuous?" ing Oh, Cora-and the girl's black letter and an unsigned receipt to be re- The hat was on the floor now, and the eyes flashed joyously—'if you only knew turned by post, and without raising his bow perfectly splendid it is over at the eyes, he made straight tor his desk her lord and master, despite the funny Falls. When I took off my shoes and between the front windows to find-not contretemps a moment earlier. Then, a desk, but a marble-top bureau, that a moment later, she lifted her eyes, An exclamation of horror from Cora | bore unmistakable signs of Madge's | from which all the sauciness was gone "Your shoes and stockings off—actually off? Madge, you shock me had worn at breakfast, and a broad"If I am worthy; because you have actually off? Madge, you shock me had worn at breakfast, and a broadbrimmed straw hat he had seen her taught me there is such a thing as love, The perfect innocence on Madge's wear many a time. For a second his and that there is no such lover as yourbreath fairly stopped, and a flush came over his handsome face, to think It was over to get the ferns, and there was no of the mistake he had committed—to womanhood—from childish mischief blundering into Madge's room instead to womanhood—from childish mischief to tender gravity, for love had graced her life and cast behind her feet her deepening flush on her face—"I wanted blamelessness of his mistake, it or to wade, and I did. I don't care what curred to him how neat, how thoranybody thinks. I'm old enough to do oughly womanly everything was, from strange freak of Cupid, who transthe snow-white counterpane and ruffled Another discouraged sigh from Miss and binded slips, to the dainty little woman for the lover with whom he astleton.

*Yes, you are old enough to do dif
Madge had left them. It seemed odd—

location which will will be a such undignified tricks. But everybody is satisfied. And what more ferently. Do you know you are nearly Madge to condescend to wear slippers, can be added, except that Madge seventeen, Madge? Do you ever think and it gave him a thrill of actual massts, defaulty, that she never in the you look tike a young lady, which fact delight to discover this trait of temer- world would have "had" Dick it makes your romping girlishness the ity in her; and grave, proud, loving he had not proved most conclusively more out of place?"

Dick actually stooped down and that he could enjoy a good joke with all "Of course I remember; but see here, caressed them with a strange fluttering Cora, am I so awful? Do I really do of his heart. Somehow, the very quiet, such wicked things? Don't I ever do the very peacefulness of the scene charmed him. He dreaded to go away, and yet-what business had he there? the wistfulness that suddenly banished He looked around, taking in every the defiance from her eyes, touched detail with loving eyes, and then, up the jaunty straw hat, that was

Madge's momentary penitence fied. older and ug'lier? I've two minds to similar instrument was the crwth of Wales, which is known to have been Le test." He glanced towards the door that led to the hall, and heard no one coming. Anglo-Saxons gave the name of fythel, my favor, Cora? I'm sure he is the very | He glanced towards the back entrance handsomest young fellow that ever that led into the back stairs that came to Laurel Lawn with brother entered the library, and it was deserted "Madge!" and Gora spoke more deci- hat on his curly hair in a very becom- above and below, had very deep bend; dedly than was her habit, even when re- ing, rakish manner that quite recon- in the sides, used from three to six ciled him to the ten alded years of his "Madge Castleton, you shall not life. There was nothing vain or made until the fifteenth or sixteenth or sixt ashamed, thinking such odd, strange thoughts that he was fairly petrified when he heard a voice on the stairs,

suitable appreciation of the eternal his passes of things? Oh, my Cora. If Madge on the stairs, and he, the incarnation all that was dignified, in her pound only seen how I had to hold my breath to keep from laughing. I was preath to keep from laughing. I was now, with her hat on, and no way of the matter of the Brescian makers was Giovanni Paorom, with her hat on, and no way of the matter of the Brescian makers was Giovanni Paorom, with her hat on, and no way of the matter of the music or the action on the stage of the music or the action on the desired number. The hundred pointer is on the desired number. The h p on a bough, you see——', escape. The pattering boot-heels came and whose instruments still hold a place among the best ever made. But soon "Well," retorted Madge, half reluctantly; "to please you, Cora. Not for Mr. Particu—Mr. Arlington, though, understand."

A fine-looking fellow he was, certainly—Mr. Arlington, whom Miss Cora Castleton was so anxious to secure for a brother-in-law. A many-looking fellow, with the appearance of assurance, bravery, dignity and quiet, reserved strengthfulness that is unutterably delightful to women's critical observation.

Just now he was enjoying a smoke all by himself, in his own room, second floor front, over the library, where Miss Castleton had domiciled him

Mith stand straight up without that, endangering Madge's obstinate hat, endangering Madge's obstinate hat, their day they were simply hard-working artisans who sold for a few florins in struments which now command hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Experience has shown that the minutest details of form and proportion, and the world in general, and Madge in makers of vital importance and the world in general, and Madge in particular, would never be the wiser for this unlucky freak. But alas, for the all by himself, in his own room, second floor front, over the library, where Miss Castleton had domiciled him

never wanted to die so badly in all bis dinners, and anticipations of breakfasts and lunches made his mouth water, figuratively, of course. Then there was tunate hat on his head, all askew. In Phil—the very best sort of chum, who both knew now to entertain him and bandle still tighter, swearing no human power should move it a hair's breadth. Madge would suppose the door locked, or the spring of the knob broken, and perhaps go down for help, or leave the search for another time. Her light, quick step crossed the room, and then her hand touched the knob, that was as admired her—as far as she would allow firm as a rock. She gave it a twist, but him, which wasn't very far. Then she of no avail. "That's singular," Arlington heard her say.

"I wonder what can have possessed that door-knob? Something is wrong. I must have my hat. I'll ask Phil, or Mr. Partic. Dig. to see -he's always so

She was stopped most abrupty by the shoulders. It had amused him not a little when Phil had laughingly told him the sobriquet Madge had tacked to Arlington! he hadn't sneezed before all the summer, and now-to sneeze after the most frightful efforts to prevent it. no higher estimation of him. And then came an equally severe pang of sarcastic bitterness, to think he—he, life, because the delicious ridiculous-Dignity," should be such a fool as to ness of the entire affair had actually care what Madcap Madge called him. delighted him. He bowed lowly, hat

"Madge, you see how it is, do take glorious disregard of conventional off this hat, won't you?—and tell me things, and the whole covered with you are not awfully enraged at my stu-

But, to his surprise, the hot blood rushed to her cheeks, and tears trembled in her eyes. "Oh, Mr. Arlington!" That was all, but it wasn't shame, or

contempt, or disgust, but a sympathy, or pity, that was all the sweeter from ing so unexpected. "You see, I thought I was in my own room, until I was fairly in. And then -then I -well, I had a hat something

like that once, and-Madge's eyes began to twinkle. "You had such an overwhelming ap-oreciation of the eternal fitness of things,' that you tried it on, and then I surprised you, and you trapped your-self, and sneezed. It's no wonder you did sneeze, Mr. Arlington," she added, gravely, "because all my furs and my

Arlington laughed, but still there was deep earnestness in his eyes. "Will you help me off with this masquerade, Madge? There, I want to tell you one reason why I ventured to

they're just packed in pepper.'

It was the transition from girlhood

They laugh often about it-the formed the wild girl into the dignified can be added, except that Madge his "particular dignity," and the "keen appreciation of the eternal fitness of things," especially the eternal "fitness" of the unfortunate hat,

Early History of the Sweetest of All Musical Instruments.

this for your own good I speak, my a sombrero I wore once—minds the ravanastron, which, a Buddhist down and think of lovers, and marthat that then; I wonder if I've grown that hat then; I wonder if I've grown the grown that hat then the grown that hat then the grown that hat the grown that the grown that hat the grown the grown that hat the grown that h in use long before the sixth century, among the Britons, and to which the whence our word fiddle. The immediate precursor of the violin was the viol, which is known to have ben in strings, and was played with a bow. century. The earliest maker of the authenticated was Gaspard di Salo, of Lombardy, who worked between 1560 and 1612. To one other maker living or thirty other names, for he plays and before this time, Gaspard Duiffoprugear, some existing instruments are attribu-ted, but it is very doubtful whether this maker constructed any thing else than for it is operated by a pedal which with maker constructed any thing else than for it is operated by a permitted forward to a number one less than the viols and lutes. The Italian school of viols and lutes. The Italian school of carried by a permitted by a violin-making had its origin in Brescia. and as far as is now known, was found-

SWINDLING "UNCLE SAM.". Canceled Stamps cleaned and used struck with a little hammer give out a

in large Quantities. "The most troublesome offenders against government laws are the experts who use canceled postage stamps,' said a post office official the other day.

stamps with lightning-like rapidity can back, plugs the cork tight in again readily see how impossible it is for him ready for another bottle, which action to detect bad stamps unless they are can be kept up faster than the thirstiest particularly bad. The men engaged in | crowd could cut the wire. the business of using canceled stamps black marks are almost, if not entirely, early through without detection.

sealskin sacque are in that closet, and stamps are used upon packages which | tin, and otherwise loose, are tied with a string, and the string is ngeniously placed over the cut stamps,

Take any package of a dozen letters and you will see how easy it is to find stamps for this business." As he spoke the official drew from his pocket a business. dle of half a dozen letters. Upon the A Springfield, Massachusetts, bookwas canceled com- accor The second made with the stamps upon the first The machine is cased in and third letters.

far as to have coloring processes for the lower left hand-hand corner. and packages. The most popular pointer's names quickly understood. scheme is to go into the cheap jewelry lays in a stock of the cheapest kind of in regular order, but also in two rows districts. A gold watch with chain right, and as the finger draws on it and charm for \$4.50 is a bait that spring allows it to slip back toward the catches a great many green speculators, lower end of the box. The pulling of and as they are instructed to send re- each key on the board sends the uni mittances by registered letter, the pointer along on its journey around the operator receives a number of five and dial as many points as there are units The violin in its carlier forms is of great and uncertain antiquity. Its origin is traced to a stringed instrument used in India from the earliest ages, large traced to a stringed instrument used in India from the earliest ages, large traced to a stringed instrument used in India from the earliest ages, large traced to a stringed instrument used in India from the earliest ages, large traced to a stringed instrument used in India from the earliest ages, large traced to a stringed instrument used in India from the earliest ages, large traced to a stringed instrument in part with canceled stamps. He pointer moves to 18. Pull the 1, 2 and 3 keys now, and the pointer goes consecutive. elry, and does a thriving business in il- cutively with a hop, skip and jump to legal stamps at the same time.

Trick Instruments, and How They

The requirements of modern operetta, musical extravaganza and such pieces head can hope to be. It isn't troubled as are advertised to be "nonsensically with malaria, nor is it ever larger in musical whimsicality" have brought the morning than it was the night bein that quarter. Then he put Madge's use in the tenth century. This was flas hat on his curly hair in a very becombetter name for some of the curious in- umns, pulling each respective key as he ventions shown to a reporter recently in the orchestra room of a theatre by day is sufficient in which to learn the Simon Davis, the drummer of the or- key-board, and the motion of the hands

chestra. or thirty other names, for he plays and trip up or down the column. Carrying operates that many instruments besides is performed by setting the pointer at the drums. There is something of a the number to be carried. To set the trick even about the base drum playing, unit pointer all that is necessary is to same time, leaving the operator's hands free to use any other instrument which the pointer is on the desired number

plays is commonly called the bells, or orchestra bells; in Germany called the "plockenspiel." It consists of a number of short bars of steel resting on for the machine unerring acurracy have been the wonder and admiration from their time to the present, possessting a tone and quality that subsequen makers have tried in vain to equal.

The three greatest of the many success. by the bars, which are toned by size. of manner. This once, Madge, if never again, let Mr. Arlington see you can drop your boyishness as readily as you can refrain from parting your hair on one side."

stair door, whose situation just occurred to him, and found himself in a dark wardrobe instead of the passageway. But it was a respite, a merciful one, notwithstanding the fact that he notwithstanding the fact that he couldn't stand straight up without the place and provided to him, and found himself in a dark who for generations kept up the reputation of Cremonese work, were Nicholas Amati, Joseph Guarneri del Gesu and Antonius Stradivarius. Very little is known of these great makers, for in the place of pieces of wood strung together by two cords and resting on ropes of straw.

sound like an anvil. It tells a story of the times that there has been so much music written of late relating to champagne drinking that instruments have been devised and patented to imitate the "pop" of a champagne cork. Mr. They have a system of washing out Davis has two such instruments. One the cancellation marks that is so suc- is a simple wooden cylinder, piston cessful as to make detection almost im- working in one end and a captive cork ossible. In the offices of large cities in the other. It is as simple as a boy's

a little plush-lined case and might be

carried in an overcoat pocket, but when

like New York and Chicago, where so many letters are handled daily, and where rapidity is the most desirable feature, it is impossible for the men who cancel stamps to examine each to imitate the sound around a race one carefully. Then, too, a great deal course bar just after the field has won of the work is done by gas light, and this is a point which tends to aid the cylinder, the pistoa running through the conspirator against the government's cork and having a bolt on that end to prevent the cork from flying off and hit-"Any one who has seen a Post Office ting the ringer in the eye. The piston, employee in the New York office grab pushed in rapidly, causes a deceptive bundle of letters and cancel the "pop" and being as rapidly pushed

the business of using canceled stamps are extremely clever. They have an heard under very different circumstanacid in which they wash the stamps, ces on the stage. It may be a chorus The acid acts upon the cancellation describing a rollicking sleighride, a marks, and not upon the colors of the Lady Gay Spanker, who emphasizes a stamp. In this way a stamp that has story with a flourish of a whip, or the once been used is relieved almost entirely of its black marks. If any black whatever the occasion, the man sitting remains after the washing process the perator takes a sharp knife, which he "crack." Mr. Davis does this with a has made for the purpose, and deftly little instrument that looks like a big scratches the stamp until the remaining razor strop split down to the handle, and there hinged. It is worked with removed. This can be done readily one hand, for very frequently, at the when the marks are upon the bald head same time, sleigh bells must be heard, or the face of the historic parsonage whose and the other hand is employed in shak-

vignette adorns the stamp, as this por-tion is white: and upon a white space ing a belt of silver bells right merrily.

The castinets used in the orchestra tion is white; and upon a white space the stamp can be scratched until it is are not played, as by the dancers, in the palms of the hands, but are fastened "Another clever trick that is em-ployed is the cutting of stamps. Often dar, and all Spain could not produce a in the hurry of Post Office work the castinet player who could get more ratcancellation mark does not cover the stamp, but falls only upon one corner, does the drummer with this prosaic cethe rest going upon the envelope. The dar fan waved with one hand while the operator takes a stamp that has a black other rattles and raps a tambourine, mark, say upon the left hand lower When, in a sensational play or burlesque, corner. He carefully cuts a square or orchestra number, the sound of a loiece out of that corner, making it comotive should be heard, the drummer large enough to cut away all of the can-celed portion. He then secures a stamp ments and selects three. The first repon which the cancellation mark has resents the whizz and whirr and puff, fallen in some other corner. He care- and snort and rattle. It consists of an fully cuts out the same sized square from the lower left hand corner of this are rolled in under the arch, making stamp, and joining it with the first two supports for it to stand upon. This stamp he has a whole stamp upon which there are no cancellation marks. These wires, fastened at one end by a clasp of

A NOVEL BIT OF BRAIN WORK.

first letter the cancellation mark was only upon the lower right corner of the designed to aid brother bookkeepers and upon the upper left hand corner. So a invention since 1873, and had the thing combination could have been easily patented something like a year ago. wooden box about eight inches square "Many of these operators," continued and three deep, and lifting the cover, the official, "grow expert in the work, the interior is seen to hold an enamelled They have elever tools and the right white surface, on which are two dials, kind of mucilage, and some go even so and which shows the brass keyboard in ouching up a Garfield black eye or a large dial of the two is on the left of the Washington soiled cheek. What do machine, and is divided into 100 sective do with the worked-over stamps? tions. The rim of the smaller dial is They do not sell them, as many sup- likewise cut into twenty sections. The pose, and that fact renders detection hand which moves about the first dial more difficult. When a man becomes is called the unit pointer. That which successful in working over canceled moves about the smaller one is called stamps he endeavors to get into some the hundred pointer. A little finger business which will require the sending play on the brass keyboard makes the and receipt of many registered letters object of the dials and the reason of the The nine keys on the board are nur and fancy trick business. The operator | bered from one to nine and are placed jewelry and advertises thoroughly 2, 4, 6 and 8 being above, and the odd through the country, especially in rural numbers below. The key is a brass up-

24. When the unit pointer, keeping up its agile athletics, has reached starting point again there is a quick little motion on the right hand dial. The pointer then has "dotted and gone The machine's internal clockwork is more accurate than a human

quickly becomes almost involuntary. Mr. Davis, although called the drum- The expert can run the figures in his hold down key 1, and turn the point

On the banks of the Congo, when belle wants to be particularly fashionable, she clothes herself solely and exclusively in brass ornaments. The fa-vorite articles of jewelry in this line are: Copper bracelets and copper ankle-rings, heavy copper chain girdles, and around the neck a semi-circular chunk of brass as thick as a horse collar, and weighing from twenty to thirty-eight pounds,

Measure twice, cut but once. THE Sultan of Morocco has one thousand wives. It is well there is one man in the world who has made sure of having his buttons sewed on.

-Concord, Mass., has a mysterious

CHAT WITH A BRAKEMAN. The Dangers, Incidents and Fascina

tion of the Road. "Brakeman? Yes. What of it?" "Just wanted to know how the old

thing works."
"Works? Well, it works all right

readily?"

better word. I will try to tell you how liens, mortgages, and a thousand-andthey do it. The whistle blows for brakes one of the miserles and incumbrances and all hands scramble for them. The known to legal phraseology and pracgreens, always having the snap, start tice which are the bane of life. contemplating the prospect in abject terror.

"Forcible expletives from the rear impel the progress of the recruit, and as he contemplates the yawning chasm between the first two cars he ever jumped horror is written on his face and reluctance halts his step.

"Yes, it's common. They ail look at the fearful leap, grit their teeth. make a wild jump that lands them about the middle of the next car, and thereafter attack duty with the confidence born of such experience." "Where are you recruiting the brake-

men from?" "Almost without exception from country towns. The kids, in defiance of law and marshalls, disport themselves about the trains while passing or shifting till the habit becomes a passion and maturity makes its gratification

"Accidents? Well, they are largely due to either carelessness or drunken-ness or over-confilence—chiefly the latter. An occasional funeral is promoted by the snapping of a brake chain; again, without warning, a train parts at a critical moment, but on the whole brakemen make no specially foremost

figure in railroad fatalities.
"Yes, in one way, we're tough, but
we work hard for small wages, and when we relax we do it hilarlously." "Suppose you have many close calls?"

"Well, the fact is, we're on the ragged edge about every minute of running time. Of course, we take no thought of such things, but no doubt our lives or limbs are imperiled unwitting dozens of times on every trip."
"How does it so often happen that
old-timers are either killed or maimed?"

"Just because the older the hand the more reckless he becomes. Habit makes the dangerous duties of the railroader as routine and commonplace as those of a carpenter.
"That fellow with his hand envelop-

ed in a dry goods store is an example. He has been twenty years on the road, and ten of them a conductor. Of course with ordinary care, he could couple cars which she draws upon, and how much tants in running up long lines | tempt for danger, as for other things, and in that way he lost half his right

"Once a railroad man always one? Yes, that's about the extent of it. There is a fascination about the life and its all is said and done. By running an varied experience which is rarely shaken account with the butcher, the baker off and scarcely ever sought to be voluntarily. Official advancement is several dealers an opportunity to charge about the only thing that ever finally divorces a twister from the wheel, and that sort of thing happens with a rarity like the discovery of a new planet.'

Caught in His Own Trap.

"Men will sham any complaint nowadays to avoid their work," said our worth, and will usually bring, some worthy skipper, as he sat at the head of the breakfast table on our first day out, "I had a fellow once who pretended to have lamed himself when we were about half way out to Calcutta; and he did it so well that nobody ever suspected him a bit, till one night there was a false alarm of fire, and the way that lame man flew up the ladder would

have astonished an acrobat."
"Well," said I, "you remember that story of the Irishman who went about Dublin with 'Pity the poor blind' on a board round his neck, and made quite a good trade of it, till at last one of the people who used to give to him met him in a by-street, stepping along like a prize pedestrian. "You old humbug," cried he, 'you

see as well as I do.'
"'Sure, thin,' says Paddy, looking ried, 'they've hung the wrong board on me to-day by mistake. It's deaf and dumb I am'"

-A man aged sixty-five years, who claims never to have had a tooth, has been brought forward in New London dumb I am.

"Well, I once saw something almost as good as that myself," said my right-hand neighbor, Professor T_____, when I was on a visit to my friend, Dr. L_____, in the east of France.

There was a great conscription going on just then for the Crimean war, and ous thought and determination enough L—had to test the recruits as they came in, to see whether they were fit for early they are the following the form of the folly and they are the following the form of the following t for service.

"Now among these fellows there was one fine, sturdy Auvergnat, just the stuff for a soldier, if he hadn't unluckily been stone-deaf. So he said, at least, didn't.

"That'll do, my man," said I .-to him at last in a low voice. 'You are too deaf to be of any use to us. You can go.' "Instantly the recruit, forgetting him-

self in his glee at having got off so easily, sprang toward the door like a "'Not so fast, my fine fellow,' shouted the recruiting officer; "if you can hear that, you're not too deaf for the

graphic connection between Marseilles through a chamber of cast-iron, which sity for that work. About every 110 71 inches, yards the pipes are connected by castiron boxes, which also enable the wires

own trap,""

The beautiful red plumage of a South African species of birds has been chemically examined and found to be due to copper. When the birds are kept from food containing copper they entirely lose the tint produced by that min The Only Safe Rule for Young Housekeepeers.

One of the most serious and insidious obstacles in the way of thrift, of ease of mind and of true household comfort, is the "running account," Doubtless the credit system originated in a benevolent intention to do good, and, in its wider application, it is necwith an old time crew, but get one of these aggrivatin' greenhorns in, and essary to carry on the great commernobody knows the result until its cal, social and financial undertakings of the world, but it is a great enemy to "Don't the new comers catch on home economy. It is the foundation "Readily?" On. Warriy would be a of indebtedness, duns, notes of hand,

from the caboose. I think I see one of them warily feeling his way up the ladder to the roof of the first car and it, declared: "If I had a thousand it is the latest the la sons the first human principle I would teach them should be to forswear their potations and addict themselves to sack." But Jack was the prince of scapegraces, and only remembered onehalf of the meum et tuum division of property. His debts never bothered him, except he had difficulty in making them. If the writer had a thousand sons and daughters the first human principle she would teach them would be never to establish a running account. No one can live within his or her income who spends money in advance of earning it. Persons who live in this way, in fact, never have any income; they have an outgo that eats

up income before it gets inside the The "running account," however, is more dangerous for the housewife, because she is not usually either the wage-earner or the paymaster in the household. She gets what she wants on a cielit, because there is no particular trouble in getting it and without the appreciation of the trouble of paylpg for it which grows out of the ne ces ity for scraping the dollars together in whatever way the husband comes by his money, whether it be in swinging a blacksmith's hammer, in throwing a weaver's shuttle, in measuring tape and molasies, or in guiding the handles of his plow. She does the multifarious and never-ending work of her household, keeps the table well spread, the house tidy, the beds aired, and the bread well-baked and nutrittous, and it is not at all to be wondered at that she thinks it is enough. The mistake is in the beginning in having things that are not paid for. The housekeeper who spends only what noney she has to spend is not only relieved of the worry of debt-for what worries the husband will worry the good wife- but she is made a conscious power in the pay and provender department of her establishment. Instead of being a drag upon her husband's energies, she is made to understand for herseif the limitations of the fund

may be paid out and how much laid up for emergencies. ning in debt should remember that they can not in the long run get an inch the start of the world in that way. They can only live up to their earnings after and candlestick-maker, they give these them high prices for their purchases, The storekeeper who sells his wares on credit is always obliged to make good the accounts of his bad customers by taking larger profits from those who and heaven 306 times, get credit and pay. Besides, it is a rule, which acute business men thoroughly understand, that money is

by being frequently turned over. 1sit into favor on the Continent. not fair to suppose that the shopkeeper looks to his credit customer to make good the deficit in his bank account is below that of melting ice. brought about by the system of "running accounts?" On the contrary, the buyer who buys for cash can choose where she will buy, which is a great advantage, and she can buy for lower prices. The cash price is always the lowest, and the cash customer is always the preferred customer. It too often happens that no check is

kept upon the running account. Set- time in the California courts, thing day is always a day of surprise for the debtor, and big store bills are a discomfort. People who pay "some the improvidence of their getting into ment in some circles of Salt Lake City, an improvidence of use. Those who

affairs or small ones like the rule of "Pay as you go." It is the foundation not only of good finance but of good temper and good fortune as well. And especially the housewife who is wise danger of "running accounts,"

Killing a Giraffe.

The noble animal stood at bay pawing and stamping the ground, his long all the tests that they applied to him couldn't make him give any sign of hearing a bit. I fully believed his case neck swaving to and fro; several more to be genuine; but I could see by the Dismounting, I ran to get a hearer twinkle in Dr. L-'s eye that he view. There was despair in his large drooping brown eyes, and a look which seemed to say, "What harm have I ever done you?" It seemed a shame that no one gave him a coup de grace, and put him out of his agony. Turning to one of the men I said, "Shoot him in the head, and put an end to his pain." But he answered me by grasping my arm and pulling me to one side, shouting, "Look out, or he will be on you." Looking up I saw the crazy creature swinging his head about, his long neck to have greatly fallen off this season, a putting me in mind of an anaconda, as it fairly whirled through the air, formarmy. You're a mighty cunning rogue, but this time we've caught you in your ing wide circles as he made desperate plunges to keep his body under his neck; can traveler, the greatest compliment pitching forward, he fell on his head you can pay a member of the Masat A very heavy force is employed in the and shoulders, and rolled over with a tribe is to spit on him, or her, as the construction of the underground tele- thud that shook the ground. He was a case may be, "zwart bont" (black-spotted, the variand Paris. A cast-iron pipe contains the cable, and it is laid nearly six feet the white-spotted ones are longer and beneath the surface of the earth. At finer made, and have never been brought intervals of 550 yards the cable passes to Europe, and are never so heavy). He measured from the root of the tail to is so constructed that it can be readily the shoulder 6 feet 1 inch, and from the inspected whenever there is any necesshoulder to the tip of the nose 10 feet shoulder to the tip of the nose 10 feet

If a man empties his purse into his to be inspected and repaired. The cost head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge aiways pays the best interest.

Some English chemists and sanitary ing firemen not to respond to alarms of reformers have started a movement to fire from the Chinese quarters. make bread from the entire grain of wheat, and not from the inner portion only. The movement has the support of the first physiologists of the day.

A celebrated writer says: "We never see a tear in the eye but we are remigded of a warm heart."

NEWS IN BRIEF.

-A revolution in Denmark is pre-

-There are 125 licensed distifleries

dicted

-Japanese fans in Osaka, Japan, cost \$5 per 1,000.

-The assessed valuation of Minneapolis is \$80,000,000. -A new Petroleum Exchange was

started in Pittsburg.

-German horse dealers are purchasing largely in England, -Trained seals in Paris lie on their

backs and smoke a pipe. -Homer, a place in Georgia, hasn't

had a death in three years. -Dakota will open a state school of mines near the Black Hills.

-A genuine vampire was captured in Los Angeles, Cal. -Senator Edmunds' private law practice is worth \$75,000 a year.

-A paper chimney fifty feet high has been erected at Breslau, France. -It has rained every Friday in New York since the first of December.

-Goat Island at Niagara Falls is estimated to be worth \$1,000,000. -The Chief Signal officer has decided to establish a station in Alaska. -A seal weighing nearly 100 pounds

has been captured at Longport, N. J. -The cultivation of the bamboo has proved quite successful in California. -Alphonse Daudet says that Mark Twain's humor does not amuse him. -Smallpox was first described A D.

300 by Rhazes, an Arabian physician. Mules are more popular than horses for elegant equipages in Rio de Janeiro, -Sixteen colleges in this country are said to be on the lookout for presidents. -The population of Canada is not nuch greater than that of New York. -Pear trees in Florida are being ruined by spiders, which eat the buds.

-In Wheatland, Cal., the Chinese nave five guards on duty every night. -The Peruvian Government is doing its best to suppress gambling in Lima. -The city of Denver has substituted electricity for gas in street light-

-As many as 600 standard English works have been translated into Chi-

-There are still some Seminole Indians living in the evergiade region of Florida

-Sign in a New York resort: "No excuse if found with another man's -Princess Dolgorouki, the widow of the late Czar, was once a Spanish ac-

-Vermont has ten living ex governors, of whom four are each over 80 years old, -The Sultan is a musician, and has composed a piece of music for the im-

perial band. -A Carlisle dog committed suicide by pushing his head under a gate and choking to death. -During the past winter no less

than one hundred children have burned to death in Georgia, -The tidal wave of October 12th has damaged the Savannah rice planta-

-Tne word "hell" appears eightysix times in Shakespeare's writings, -There are about 600 people on the Pacific coast who have cases in the

Alabama court of Claims, -The system of compressed paper rails and railway car wheels is coming -According to Professor Langley

the inherent temperature of the moon The exact meaning of "horse p: wer" is the raising of 33,000 pounds one foot

high in one minute of time. -New Jersey is famous for its twins. There is hardly a New Jersey town thae is without several pair. -A man has just been convicted of

morder in the first degree for the fourth -An extensive mine of rubidium, a rare metal worth \$5,000 per pound, has perpetual source of family broils and been discovered near Rock Creek, Wy. -"Mum-pie socials" are reported to other day" nine times out of ten carry be the present special form of entertain-

-Several car loads of apples grown

in California were shipped to China and Australian markets a week or so -A peculiar fever, whose nature is not understood, and which is fatal in

character, is alarming portions of New Mexico. -The highest percentage ever reached in a civil service examination in this country was by a woman, who scored 97.

-A Cincinnati saloon-keeper sells a cup of coffee and lunch for ten cents.

horses and will now race in his own name. Lord Randolph Churchill will also become a turiman. -It is said that there was never a

time in the publishing business when proffers of manuscript from women were so numerous as now. -The classic Tiber is once more to become a commercial highway, a line of steamers having been built to run

between Rome and Genoa. -The supply of fleas in Paris is said

-According to the London Times

the principal occupation of United States Ministers at the Court of St. James is to edify, stimulate and amuse the English people. -A ripe strawberry was picked in a Vermont pasture last week, and the

superstitious people in the neighbor-hood think that something awful is about to happen. -Posters have been appearing lately in some of the Pacific coast towns where difficulties with the Chinese exist warn-