From the ragged harvest lands
And the poevish woodland ways
Nature waves her wasted hands
In a last adicu, and stands
Moaning for her golden days.

Over frosted plain and hill Broods the white repose of death; And the river's heart is chill, And the river's voice is still, As in .ear it holds its breath,

Down the dwindling path that leads Into ages dark and dim Slow the gray Old Year recedes And a phantom host of deeds And desires follow him.

To his threadhere clothes they cling, Pleading with him to return Back across the days, and bring Half the joys that made them sing, Half the hopes that made them burn.

Lore stands in the path and pleads
For an hour of old delight;
Mocked Ambition cries his needs,
But the Old Year never heeds. Passing onward toward the night

Speak one word, departing year, From thy silent lips and coid— Tell me, may the heart not hear Voices grown supremely dear Calling as in days of old?

From the Past may we not gain
One sweet token of your youth,
One fair blossom from the plain
Where joy blosmed, in shine or rain,
And hope wore the guise of truth?

—R. C. R., in Chicago Record.

## A HEAVY RANSOM

and the monotonous way in down the room, Honorable Robert Spenceley was evidently under the influence of a nervous mental depression when his particular chum, Tom Langton, favored him with a morning call.

"Hallon! What's up, Bob? By Jove you are looking seedy."

Honorable Robert stopped in his purposeless walk, languidly extended his arm. lightly touched the tips of his friend's fingers, and heaved a deep and bitter sigh "Are you ill, chapple, or has the peer-

less, patrician Penelope-"Sit down, Tom. The fact is, I've

been a fool." "And how did you discover it?"

"Well, as you know, I've been mixed set. Jolly fellows, but inclined to go the pace a bit too fast. Hang me, if - can say 'No' to anything they protwo nights I have lost upward of three cards at the Junior Aborigines-at least, that's the amount they hold my I O U's for.'

"What confoundedly bad tuck you must have had."

"I posted down to the family nest yesterday, laid the whole affair before the governor, and vowed that I would never touch a card again if he would help me out of this scrape." "And he has refused?"

"Point blank. He reminded me that on several occasions he had paid off my legitimate debts-small in compar ison to this one-but he considered playing cards for high stakes so outrageously foolish that he could not and would not help me. I told him they were debts of honor, but he said live hysterics, their conscious intervals It was a most dishonorable way either of making or getting rid of money.

"In concluson he told me that as it was most desirable that I should break off from this connection, he proposed to reduce my allowance to five hundred pounds a year, during which time I am to travel and see as much of the world as I can on a paitry ten pounds a week"

"And what did you say?"

"What could I say? I have no choice In the matter. I have made up my mind that I will not go to the money lender's, and so I must get these fellows to wait until I can redeem my paper."

"Look here, old chap. I'll come with you for a time, and we'll go in for a walking tour."

"Tom, you're a brick. Let us start this week."

Three months had elapsed since Robert Spenceley's departure, during which period frequent communications -each bearing expressions of regret for the past and promises for the future-kept Lord Methwick fully acquainted with his son's doing. The absent one seemed to be thoroughly enjoying himself, judging from his

graphic descriptions of the scenery

and incidents of the walking tour

Then the letters censed altogether. Several times larely the doubt had arisen in Lord Methwick's mind as to whether he had not been too severe. remembering that his son had hitherto borne an irreproachable character. evincing a deep dislike to all the worse forms of dissipation, and there was at the Junior Aborigines was not the result of inherent or newly-nequired viciousness, but rather brought about by a false position, in which, surrounded by his companions of wealth and repute, he had been led away by the excitement and his inability to say

Now that no news came from him. his father's resolution rapidly gave way under the disquicting influence of foreboding and the continuous entreaties of his mother, until at last his recall was decided up so soon as the next intimation of his address should arrive. The next letter did from among the trees the whilem prisdisclose his whereabouts, and this was the-thunderbolt:

"Most Illustrious Signor: The son of your excellency is doing us the honor to condescend our humble hospitality to partake and has to us your address given so that we may impart his wellbeing. He now his departure desires, but we would that your illustrious excellency to us sending the sum of pounds four thousand Englishe that

we may be solaced for his loss." Then followed an address to which a communication was to be sent, and the missive concluded:

"Any information to the gendarmer will be on the son of your excellency. "(Signed) GIUSEPPE."

Giuseppe! The most noted and bloodthirsty brigand of modern times. about whose cruelties and tortures so many harrowing tales were told by travelers, and upon whose head a heavy price had been set long ago.

Lady Methwick piteously besought her husband to send the money at

"They will kill my darling boy, and you-you will have sent him to his

Her daughters, Henerables Agatha, ways and two?"

O judge by his haggard looks | Ondine and Clovis, added their agonized entreaties; indeed, so carried which he was pacing up and away were they by their feelings that they actually offered to go without new hats and dresses for the next twelve months, in order to contribute to the ransom money. But his lordship, did not believe in giving way at once. Doubtless a lesser sum would be accepted, and while negotiations were in progress and there was a chance of the ransom being ultimately paid, he dld not think his son would be in any danger. So he sent an offer of two thousand pounds sterling. The reply to this was a curt refusal, and a post-

handwriting was: "Father, send soon; feel sure they will not take less." But still Lord Methwick would not give in without effort to reduce the amount, and he up a bit with Lord Templeton and his increased his offer to two thousand five hundred pounds sterling.

script added in Robert Spenceley's

The day came when Gluseppe's re ply was due, but it did not arrive, and pose, and the upshot of it all is that in pent-up anxiety caused his lordship two sleepless nights and two misera thousand pauseds sterling playing ble, irritable days. On the third morning, amongst the contents of the post bag was a small parcel, the handwriting of the address of which was immediately recognized. With trembling fingers Lord Methwick tore open the package, and there lay disclosed the bold brigand's staggering reply-a cardboard box containing a man's ear packed in sawdust, and inside the lid these words were scrawled: "No less than four thousand. Part

of his excellency is sent free that he may hear you decide which was final." In after years that day always remained impressed with startling vividness on his lordship's memory. What with his wife's continual fainting fits, his three daughters in consecubeing employed in upbraiding him in such severe terms that one would have thought that the poor man had him self cut his son's car off; his own mental anguish as he remembered that the future head of his house would never be able to hear both sides; the horrid possibility of getting the wanderer back for nothing-a piece at a time, and the fear that at that moment fur ther toriures might be in course of in fiction-he often marveled, not only that he survived it, but that reason did not altogether forsake her totter ing throne

And the climax was reached when in the softening shades of twilight. Lady Methwick and her three daughprocession to a distant part of the grounds, where, beside a rippling stream and beneath a spreading tree. the gardener had already dug a grave There, with fresh bursts of tears and passionate sobs, the box of sawdust with its precious freight was solemnly buried, and a cairn built over and about its resting place.

The outgoing evening mail carried two letters, one to the brigands, agreeing to their terms, the other to a friend of the family, who happened to be a consul in the neighborhood, enclosing a draft for four thousand pounds, and begging him to put himself in instant communication with Gluseppe and obtain the captive's re-

lonse. The consul did as he was desired, and in compliance with instructions from the robber ban I, who were evino doubt that this unfortunate affair | dently taking every precaution against being trapped, proceeded alone one evening, entrying a parcel of four thousand sovereigns to an indicated spot on the ourskirts of a forest. Here he was met by a sunburnt, black bearded giant, picturesquely attired in his native dress, who carried a rifle, while a couple of revolvers and a poin and adorned his sash. Motioning to the consul to follow him, he proceeded but a few paces into the forest, then halted, and blew a long, low, peculiar whistle on his fingers.

Appreaching footsteps were imme diately heard, and there emerged oner alone. As he ranged up to the side of his deliverer, the gold was handed over, carefully counted, and then, with a low bow the robber turned on his beel and at once disappeared. without having uttered a word, and the consul and his purchase were free

to depart. Methwick Hall was ablaze with light on the evening of the helr's return to his ancestral home. The female perion of the family had spent the day in atternately laughing and crying for joy, and were now in a state of intense excitement, anxiously awaiting the return of the carriage from the station. Presently the sound of wheels were heard drawing up to the door, and mother and sister rushing out, fell upon Robert, hugged him and kissed aim and half dragged, half carried munity that collects there at frequent him into the house, but it was not until after they had been for some time assembled in the library that there flashed across their minds the rememmade the discovery.

"Why, Robert, you have two ears!" "I'wo ears, mother! Have I not al-

"But we buried one of them." Honorable Robert was evidently in he dark, and when they explained he declared (truthfully) that he knew nothing about it. As a word painter he proved a decided failure, consider ing the adventures which they expected him to recount. He had nothing to relate, simple monotony waiting for the ransom, and no matter how they plied him with questions, he could tell them nothing of the doings of the gang, for he said he never saw fornia-I think from San Franciscoany of them except the one who had ! him in charge.

A few days after his return, pleading the necessity of a visit to a West End tailor, he traveled to London, after receiving strict injunctions and giving a promise to shun his old haunts and companions. Arrived in town be at once proceeded to Tom Langton's chambers, and his first words to his

"I say, Tom, what about that car, and why wasn't I told of it?"

"Well, I thought you might object, and as it was desirable to bring things to a climax, I got it from the dissecting room at the hospital through a student."

"It took me quite by surprise when they accused me of having two ears, and told me they had buried one of them. But how about the money?" "I have told the fellows that you

have negotiated a loan and empowered me to pay your debts. Here are the I O U's that I have bought up, and the struction. total amount is nearly three thousand pounds. The remaining one thousand pounds-"You will please keep for yourself,

as arranged, for the double purpose of paying you for your trouble and buying your perpetual silence." "Thanks, old chap. I will be slient

as the grave, but, I say, I had a difficulty in keeping silence when we had Her Majesty's consul in the forest. I and spirits which must express itself, never wanted to laugh so much before."-Waverley Magazine.

## Japanese Immigration.

Immigration to this country from Japan has brought a higher class with the laborers, and one whose coming is a compliment to our educational sys-Education is relatively hard to get in Japan, where wages are so low that a student cannot afford to support himself and go to school, too. But the public schools in San Francisco and the two great universities at Berkeley and Palo Alto are free to them, and ambitious young men of the upper classes have been glad to come to California, where they could work as servants in private households and hotels while preparing to take their degrees. To such an extent does this practice prevail that two years ago it was estimated that there were 5000 Japanese seeking education in California alone

Only about 1225 were on the whole Pacific coast in 1890. In the next two years 2634 arrived at San Francisco, and many more came by way of Victoria and the northern ports. The arrivals in San Francisco were 1380 in 1893, 1931 in 1894, 1150 in 1895, 561 in 1897, 826 in 1898, 1667 in 1899, and 2664 for the fiscal year just ended .- Ainslee's Magazine.

The Story of a Musical Prodicy. Elbridge T. Gerry's fixed conviction that the use of children as public entertainers is ruinous to their moral and physical being has resulted in much benefit for talented youngsters and in a deluge of abuse for their protectors. Several years ago he called in the aid of the law to prevent the performances of a child planist. The child was admitted by all qualified to udge to be marvelously talented, and as the young prodigy seemed to be well cared for, the outery against the society was loud and long. But Mr. Serry never flinched, and the law up held him. Shortly afterward the child was taken to Europe, and the episode faded from the public mind. Ten years later the same planist reappeared, now in the vigor of youth. His musical gifts had been developed under the guidance of the most accomplished foreign instructors. The public won-

dered and admired, but few knew that

Death of Nathan Rothschild. The Earl of Rosebery's new book on Napoleon suggests these reflections, as the noble author married into this wonderful family, thereby achieving one of his three ambitions-first, to win the Derby; second, to be Prime Minister of Great Britain, and, third, to marry the richest woman in Eng-Nathan Rothschild died in and. Frankfort because too stingy to send for his London doctor. A cheap medical adviser of Frankfort was called in. Early on the following morning a a pigeon was shot on the downs near Brighton, which proved to be one of the well-known carriers of the house of Rothschild. Under its wing was a small bit of paper bearing the words, 'Il set mort." There could be no doubt who the "H" was. Next day there was panic on the Stock Exchange, and a great drop in securities, greater even than that which occurred on the death of Sir Thomas Baring. - New York Press.

Where Towns Look Allke. The inland country towns of Australia bear a strict family resemblance to one another. There is a single main street with a few small ones leading out of it, and the houses are all of one story and roofed with iron. The three or four public buildings, however, are generally of a substantial and sometimes of an ambitious design, and the inhabitants are very proud of them. A park and a newspaper complete the public institutions. Each township forms the centre of a scattered comintervals for a horse race, a cricket match or similar gathering. A ride of thirty or forty miles is thought nothing of in a country where you brance of that horror that lay buried | 13my see a beggar on horseback. As beside the stream. His mother first | Jon proceed inland the population is sparser and the towns are fewer, until you reach the "Out Back," which is the limit of civilization.-Newcastle (Eng.) Chronicle.

TURNING CITY HOODLUMS INTO SELF-RESPECTING CITIZENS.

Their Success in Boston-Wherever Established They Have Been of Great Service in the Moral and Physical Culture For the Youngsters. Some years ago there was imported

into the Eastern States from Callexpression which in its way an marked an epoch-the expression "hoodlum," writes the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Record. finer clay than his good brother-the It awakened curiosity, and when it was found to describe a certain type of youth better known for his power of annoying his neighbors than for his provide for him accordingly if we have good citizenship, it awakened the interest of thoughtful men and women. The genus was found to exist and the interest of good citizenship and of thrive in other places. Investigation brought out the astounding fact that juvenile crime seemed to be increasing, but analysis proved that what was called crime on the part of the boy en is to establish such playgrounds was often in reality the crime of ignorance, neglect, or worse on the part | pete in their attractions with the many of the men and city which stigmatized temptations of the street. The child him as a criminal, arrested him and is father to the man, and the street placed him in the hands of the police instead of putting him under surveillance of one who could show him how to entertain himself in ways less de structive to the neighbor's comfort or property and to his own moral de CHANCE FOR MUSCULAR ACTION.

It has been conclusively proven that these so-called criminal acts are almost entirely the result of undirected energy. To say misdirected would put too much responsibility on the boy. It becomes destructive, and only needs guidance to become a source of good instead of evil. Nature endows every normal youth with a fund of energy often demands expression in muscular action, and if it finds no outlet something is sure to happen. Nature also endows the youth with vivid imagination which must be fed or it seeks its own feeding ground, and having little discrimination chooses poison often instead of food.

PLAYGROUND CORRECTS EVIL. The public playground has been found to serve as the best means to correct these evils and to turn the "hoodlum" into a self-respecting and respected citizen, because it furnishes a healthy and legitimate outlet for dle, and his embroidery is exceedingly the normal energies. Even in a city co there is little or no place to play. especially for the thousands coming from working homes. Though there may be no tenements, a man occupies no more rooms than will house his family, and there is, no place for quiet play for the boys and girls, and certainly no space for those games which require energetic motion. The open spaces are small and not adapted to sports of any kind. Golden Gate Park is too far away for the majority.

CRIME AND ATHLETICS. The youngsters, therefore, have no recourse but the street. Older communities have discovered that the lack of proper playgrounds is a source of great expense and waste to the community, expense which runs the cost of the police system, including all penal and reformatory institutions, into millions, and waste of the energy and power which should go to making staunch citizens instead of criminals. Hon. Abram S. Hewitt said about the small park question in its relation to New York: "Improvements of property bave left children no other opportunity for play than those that can be found in the It is impossible to use these for games without incurring the interference of the police. A sense of hostility between the children and the guardians of the public order is thus engendered leading to the education of citizens who becomes enemies of law and order. With a common accord the precinct captains attribute juvenile rowdyism and turbulence to the lack of a better playground than the streets.' It would seem, therefore, that crime in our large cities has largely resolved itself into a question of athletics.

the musician owed the training in his NEW YORK'S SMALL PARES. art to the generosity of the man who For this reason New York City has had restrained him from concert playbeen creating small parks for more ing ten years before.-Ainslee's Magathan a decade. Millions of dollars have already been expended and many more will be spent in the next decade to undo what lack of foresight and proached the hem of the fair lady's commercial greed has made necessary. Wherever small parks are created, the verdict of the police is unanimous that they have changed the character of the neighborhood. The hoodlum instead of taking his necessary exercise in annoying passers-by or destroying property, takes it by games of vari ous kinds or in using the gymnasium apparatus put up for him. The results which have followed in the wake of the creation of Mulberry Bend Park, in New York City, and the Hudson Bank Gymnasium furnish sufficient evidence to prove the wisdom of the plan. There the outdoor Recreation League has put up a complete open air gymnasium and girls and boys, men and women after a hard day's work come here to take the exercise and recreation they have no means nor knowledge even to furnish themselves, but which the rich take good care to provide for their own, as witness the bicycle, ball games, golf clubs and gymnasia, tennis and other tournaments.

SPACE FOR THE YOUNGSTERS. Boston has one model-the Charles bank Gymnasium-and has purchased up as rapidly as possible. Philadelbusiness it is to further the establishment of such grounds. Chicago has a recently appointed commission of aldermen and citizens which is selectty cities are actively at work on the nearly four feet. girls allke. Nor is it sufficient to mereshould have a supervisor who can specimen of his species before. use of the apparatus and the playing Chronicle.

PUBLIC PLAY GROUNDS of active games much the more inter- QUEER USES FOR CANNON BALLS. esting.

MUST PROVIDE FOR THE BOY. San Francisco, with a climate which nakes possible to encourage outdoor life during the greater portion of the year, has both a greater responsibility to supply adequate outdoor spaces which are the property of its citizens and a greater privilege in that its investment must be of greater value since it can be used almost twice as long as that in the less-favored Eastern cities.

Too little provision is made for the so-called bad boy, who may be of much cart horse is less restless than his highbred brother and far less npt to take the bit in his teeth and run. We must wit or wisdom.

It would, therefore, appear that in economy in morals and even-what seems to be of greater importance to some-of economy in money, that one of the most necessary steps to be takand outdoor gymnasiums as may comis no place of rest nor refuge for one or the other in his leisure moments.

CURIOUS FACTS.

St. Joseph, Mo., raises a municipal banana crop each year. In the park conservatory grows a banana tree that faithfully produces an annual bunch of bananas.

In each beebive are a number of nursing bees, who do not go out to gather honey, but look after the eggs and young, and a certain number are always told off to ventilate the hive. These stand close to the entrance and fan strongly with their wings.

Carl Niessen, the British consul at Cologne, discovered an old Roman graveyard in his own garden, and has been having it excavated. As Cologno was one of the most important of the Roman military frontier posts, a valuable collection of classical antiquities worth many thousands of dollars has been found. He is now said to have one of the finest private collections in Europe.

The Grand Duke of Hesse has a curious taste for a man. His royal highness is most skilful with his nee beautiful. He takes the greatest in with so many gardens as San Francis- terest in his work and is particularly clever in the arrangement of colors He has a very artistic nature, as he is devoted to music, dancing and acting; but he does not care much about more active pursuits, though he both shoots and rides.

Believers in presentiments are agi tated by the extraordinary example afforded by one of the fatal accidents on the occasion of the return of the City Imperial Volunteers, of London, Mail eart Driver Wilkinson on the morning of the procession was awakened by his wife, as he was screaming. H said he had just dreamed that he had run his cart over a woman and killed her. That forenoon he drove the cart through the crowd at Ludgate Circus Several people clambered upon it, the springs broke and the cart toppled over on the crowd, crushing a woman named Eleanor Ball, to death. He related his dream at the inquest.

A Tale of Chivalry.

The Knight on his prancing steed, rode up to the Castle gate, and striking his halberd upon his brazen shield the clanging sound rang out upon the morning air and echoed through the The ever watchful Senechal upon the

outer wall heard the summons of the visiting Knight and responded. "Ho, there," salled the Knight in

stentorian tones, "Ho." "What wouldst, Sir Knight?" inquired the Scnechal; removing his hel-

"Let the portcullis fall," said the Knight. "I would enter the Castle and see the fair lady who is its mistress.

"Wait but a little," replied the Senes chal, "and I will come again."

The Knight bowed, and the Seneschal, descending into the Castle, went into the grand hall where the fair lady sat upon a raised dais beneath a cauopy of crimson and gold and purple. The Seneschal, bowing thrice, ap-

garment. "What means your presence here, variet?" inquired the lady.

"A Knight is at the gate of the Casfair Indy," said the Seneschal. "What would he?" "To see the mistress of the castle."

"Is it the Knight of Campucy?" "No. fair lady." "Then it must be the Knight of Aberdeen," she said, haif to herself, and

dushing softly. "No, thir lady, it is not," said the

eneschal. "Not he, variet?" she exclaimed angrily. "Then who is it?"

"I know not, fair lady," answered the trembling Seneschal, "but, judging from his language, I should say it was the Man with the Ho."-Wash ington Star.

Caught a Baby Whale. A baby whale, two and a half feet in

length, was washed ashore in the breakers a few miles south of the Cliff House, Sunday afternoon, and was immediately picked up by C. Baker, S. Roberts and George Whistler, who were walking on the beach. The ten tracts of land which it is fitting little whale was lively and in sound condition, apparently, except for phia has an association whose special slight bruise on the side of his head, and in half an hour the young men had him in a receptacle filled with salt water. The little fellow was brought to the city, and thrives so well that ing and purchasing sites for small yesterday, to the amazement of his parks and playgrounds. Thirty or forproblem and making provision for blue species and blows vigorously most small children and large boys and of the time he is thrashing around in his tank. Scafaring men who looked ly create open spaces. They must be upon the little whale yesterilay said adequately fitted with apparatus and they had never seen so diminutive a teach its use, encourage skill and make that he was nevertheless a whale. His the turbulent element feel its owner- tail is shapely and is already avoided ship in the property. Thus it will soon by the young men who have taken come to use it properly and to desist upon themselves to raise the embryo sunflower. A good crop of suuflowers, from turbulence since it will find the leviathan to adult size.-San Francisco

Condemned as War Wenpons, But All Right in Stone Quarries.

"Cannon balls for blasting!" This sign hung in a conspicuous place before the door of a store in Atlantic avenue led a reporter inside and started a bit of questioning upon

the subject, says the Boston Globe. The proprietor said: "Last fall when the United States Government sold all of the old cannon balls and solid shat which for so many years were piled in pyramids along the main street of the navy yard at Charlestown we purchased a lot of them with little thought of converting them into anything besides pig iron. But a few weeks after we had stored them here I overheard a quarry owner complaining of the slowness and uncertainty of the old system of steel wedging used in getting out huge blocks of granite, and after a bit of thought I suggested the use of cannon balls in the place of the steel wedges. We sent about twenty of various sizes and weights out to his quarry, and after the first trial he hurrled a team in here with a note that read:

"Tried the cannon balls; they are it. Send fifty more; have thrown the steel wedges away."

"The experience of this man led us to send the cannon balls and solid shot to other quarry operators, and within the last month the orders have been coming in so thickly we can scarcely fill them from the stock on hand. "The method used in getting out

great cubes or monoliths from the granite and marble quarries has been to drive steel wedges along the line of the lower portion of the split made by a blast until the great chunk of stone topples over on its face. "It required a deal of time and a

number of men with big iron sledges and steel wedges to separate these cubes from the quarry wall from which they had been started by the blast. "The method now pursued with the

cannon balls is to start the block of stone away by a slight blast, and then between the quarry face and the block several of the smaller solld shot, usual ly the four-inch sort, are dropped down into the aperture. Two men with crowbars give the block a little shake, and the instant the block moves in the slightest manner forward, the shot takes up their 'purchase' on the space made, when the large cannon balls some measuring fourteen or fifteen inches and weighing 200 or 300 pounds. are dropped into the top of the gap. Now the slightest outward far by levers on the big stone sends these heavy cannon balls dropping downward of their own weight, until, with an easy forward movement, the cube goes over on its face.

"These shot do away with any driv ing; of necessity their great weight in proportion to their size forces then downward, and their form prevents any chance of backward setting of the

"These cannon balls are also used as rollers, as they take up and go over the inequalities of the quarry surface and can be rolled in any direction without resetting, thus doing away with the old style wooden rollers. "They are also used to smother

heavy clearing-out blasts. Heavy rope mats are thrown over the surface where the blast has been set and these cannon balls are thrown on the mats.'

John Sherman's First Speculation John Sherman lost his first position in a surveyor's party when he had reached the age of fifteen. Then it was that he indulged in his first speculation-one of the few that to him were unsuccessful.

Salt was cheap in the head water of the Muskingum River, and it commanded fancy prices in Cincinnati, It seemed to young Sherman that it would be a good scheme to put his fittle capital into salt, place the barrels in a small, flat-bottomed boat, and let it float down to Cincinnati, making a good thing out of the salt, as well as getting back what the boat would cost him. This is the description of the speculation that is given by a native of Sherman's birthplace;

"Well, he got along all right the day he started. Long after dusk he tied up for the night, but there came up such an awful cold snap that night that the river friz up so's John couldn't make a start till mornin'.

"That wasn't the worst of it, nuther The cold spell kep up, the ice got thicker an' thicker, an' the long an' short of it was that John had to lie there till spring an' build a roof over his cargo to save it from bein' spolled by the winter rains. Come spring, he got along to Cincinnati, but by that time the city was full of salt, an' he had to sell out at a loss, an' lose all his time besides."-Philadelphia Pruse

The Pay of Ministers. At a meeting of the Universalist

ministers in Boston one of the brethren opened his heart on the subject of ministers' salaries. He felt deeply that they were too low, and thought ministers were paid only about half as much as lawyers and dectors of equal ability. He thought, for one thing, that a minister should be paid for offi ciating at funerals, where the family is in a position to give fees and are not attendants at his church. That point, at least, seems to be well taken. No reason suggests itself why, under circumstances as stated, a funreal fee should not be willingly paid and accepted with resignation. The ques tion of funeral fees often comes up, because cases in which they seem due are not uncommon, but they are rarely paid, and are omitted in most instances because the bereaved family does not feel at liberty to offer one.-E. S. Martin, in Harper's Weekly.

Sunflowers in Russia. Sunflowers are one of the most valued agricultural products in Russia, sunflower seed oll being about as im portant there as cottonseed oil is with us, and millions of gallons of it are produced annually. A novel feature of the industry is that the seeds ar also salted and regarded as a very sirable edible. At street crossings in all the provinces of Russia there are stands where peddlers with big baskets sell the salted product of the big as they stand in the field is estimated to be worth about \$25 per acre,

CARPE DIEM.

The swine are squealing

The swine are squeating in the penI wonder why?
O can they read the minds of mea,
And do they know
A fatal day is nigh
When they must go?
Ah, do they squeal
Because they feel
Sick and sore at heart and sad?
Or is it something they have had
To cat, or is it greed of more
That makes them pierce the an
Ah, well! Their griefs will soon be a
And, free from care,
They'll swing from hooks
Or lie in links,
Unmindful of the passer's looks
And what he thinks.

And what he thinks.

The turkey gobbles in the yard

As blithely as he can;
He scrapes his wings upon the group

And tries as hard

As possible to show to man,
What time he struts around.

That happiness is in his heart

And that he doesn't fret

With what we call a vague inrest, Or mope around or let Forebodings creep into his breast And so
He proudly plays his part,
Although
Next week he may hang in the may
May grace rome latcher's stall
Sans gobbie and sans feathers as
fact, sans all!

III. Ah, foolish swine! to squeal and for The closing hours away.
While appetite and bristles set
Remain. Remain, And while all day

The farmer who presides as fate Leans on the gate Far down the lane! Ah wiser turkey, gobble on,
Thy gizzard still is thine,
And at the dawn
Tis still for thee

To see The red sun shine Thou hast a wing on either side And still thy wattles wattle when They give thee greatest prid Become a prey to care Since, after all, Not thou Nor I

Shall know one day before or when Or where Or why The axe may fall! -S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Times He

PITH AND POINT. Reuben-"Can you tell me son to buy that is sure to go up?"

anbonds - "Yep. Thermome Baltimore American. Mr. Buggins-"What's the keeping that old umbreils arou no good." Mrs. Buggins-"All I'll lend it to somebody."

"This engine won't work," fireman to the chief of the F partment. "No wonder," was ply. "It was made to play."-T Financial reciprocity

Is built upon this plan: Δ man first makes the money The money makes the man. -Philadelphi Scribbles-"Why so melane thirteenth rejected by one Scribbles-"Pshaw! That's I had one poem rejected by

editors. "Please, boss," whined the cant, "can yer help a poor felle work?" "No, sir," returned destrian, "I only believe in people into work.

"My husband always cats of gant lunches down town" you know?" "The minute home in the evening he begin to diet the family."-Chicago

The telephone damed Remarks, in low to That a ring on the fits Worth two on the Muggins-"Do you really

as much as you pretend t gins-"Hate him! Why him with the hatred that feels for a man who lets h grow." "At last my lines are cal

ant places," remarked that was an observing man, an ticed that the editor had say self with a new waste beand span, with pink ribb twined through it. An Incident at Pekin

A curious incident notice happened. The Russian band playing full lungs the "Mar the republican march of Fmb forbidden air in the motare boring country of Italy. As the French were men sented, the Italians came in

behind them, just as the "Ma that was in full swing wa played. The Russian Gepan ered at once the faux pax and vain to signal the bandmus They were going at it that when the General's aided despatched across the line sicians. Just in time. scurry fashion the repul censed abruptly, and the of Italy was struck, much surance and relief of the seemed perplexed to me air foreign and ungra ears. - A. Henry Savage Harper's Weekly.

The Pleasures of Old A No sane man would like life over again. It is astor the ordinary affairs of #6 adapt themselves to your One's pleasures are quiete as enjoyable. To live in your children, to watch the the development of their B great source of pleasure has music, reading gard May I also add that I wok of an old friend some years said the two things most like pleasure in declining life well whist and to play the violen Man of Sixty," in the Spe

Incandescent Light b The pien which Profes land makes for a tipless missible. There is no for a tip or nipple upon is not an ornament; it is all o to light, and is usually is the most important and is of the lamp. The paper! of consideration, if only is ention to the important rid of tips. Moreover will the lamps there would also ings based solely on the me whether the lamps are less.-Electrical World and