

By HARRISON SMITH

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The Interstate limited had rumbled along for the last hour and a half across brown, level plains, whose hopeless homogeneity of landscape was only aglow from the ride, was doubly occasionally relieved by clumps of de- charming jected and no less hopeless cottonwoods. Presently the whistle tooted ernoon when he had stood on the plathoarsely. There was a grinding of set form of the Yellow Flat station. brakes, and the train slowed down and came to a stop before a bare little sta- told himself, "and I was marooned-in of her life, but there was a strongly tion, a derelict seemingly in this level paradise. waste.

Tancred rose rather unwillingly from to the girl. his comfortable chair and, preceded by the obsequious porter bearing his heavy suit case, stepped from the limited on to the uneven board platform of Yellow Flat station. He looked he went on calmly. about him, and his heart sank. The porter beside him seemed to him the far apart." His voice had a note of her newest gown and drink tea with a representative of a civilization that sadness. would depart when the limited pulled

out. So Tancred gave the porter a half looking away. dollar and stood watching the receding train with a feeling that he had been said. marooned.

There was one consolation, however. He could finish up the business which ing eyes. had brought him hither in a day or

two and quit this desolation. A week served. of this flat nothingness he felt would drive him mad. He sought the station agent and inquired of him the best course, why I go?" way to reach Tapley's ranch. The agent hailed a nondescript individual from him again. Presently he caught addressed as Jock, who was loafing on the sound of a sob. the benches, and asked him what he

could do for this gentleman, who wanted to get to Tapley's. "Old man Tapley at the 4X?" said Jock. "Sure! Drop you there on my way to the Crescent." He led the way And because of this, brown, bare Y

buckboard. "Hop in," he said hospit-Jock clucked to his team, and they jolted over the brown plains behind a pair of plebald ponies whose chief accomplishment seemed to lie in whisking their tails over the lines and running like mad. Jock was not loqua-



clous, and Tancred was in no mood to talk. Frankly he wished the thing was



resolved to terminate the pangs of con-Copyright, 1904, by K. M. Whitehead science which were beginning to trouble him seriously. They had ridden that morning to a group of wells on

the northern border of the ranch. The air was crisp and clear, and Miss Parsons, with eyes sparkling and cheeks Tancred's mind reverted to that aft-

"I felt as if I were marooned," he combative element in her nature that He squared his shoulders and turned made it impossible for her to accept

"I'm going back tomorrow." he said. with quiet force.

"Tomorrow?" The consternation in her voice set his heart thumping, but many gallons she had drunk in the ten years of her social career. At twenty it had seemed highly elating to put on "Yes: tomorrow. You and I are very

"Are we very far apart?" she said, member that the addition of a bunch

of violets to her costume had at one "Three hundred thousand dollars," he time given a decided pleasure. But at thirty she forgot to pin on the "I-I don't think I understand you," violets, even when there was a huge she said, regarding him with wonder-

"Cousin Peter is responsible," he ob

"Oh" she gashed "Was it all that" "Yes," he said. "You understand, of She was silent. Her face was turned

"Miss Parsons-Gertrude!" he cried, and-such are resolutions-he put his

arm about her. "I'll-I'll give it away," she said, sob-And because of this, brown, bare Yelto a vehicle outside, half wagon, half low Flat became the garden of Eden -to Tanered, at least.

A ROMAN FIASCO.

the preparations for one of these co-

lossal shows, on which he is said to

The Colossal Show That Was Plaxned by Symmachus. Symmachus, last of the great nobles of Rome, who, blinded by tradition, thought to revive the glories of his beloved city by reviving its shame, graphically describes the anxieties of

have spent what would be about £80,-000 of our money. He began a year In advance. Horses, bears, lions, RE OPENED THE BOX WITH AN EXPRESSION Scotch dogs, crocodiles, chariot driv-OF CURIOSITY. ers, hunters, actors and the best gladbunch in front of her on the dresser

fators were recruited from all parts. But when the time drew near nothing unless her maid suggested that it would improve madam's toilet. was ready. Only a few of the animals She sighed in recognition of the fact had come, and these were half dead that real life doesn't work out like novof hunger and fatigue. The bears had els. not arrived and there was no news of

The book was a new one and in its view the lions. At the eleventh hour the second edition, and her lack of interest crocodiles reached Rome, but they rein it proved conclusively to Miss Se fused to eat and had to be killed all vler's mind that her trouble was real at once in order that they might not and deep rooted.

die of hunger. It was even worse Some of her energy finally communi with the gladiators who were intendcated itself to the other hand. She ed to provide, as in all these beast threw the book on the table near and shows, the crowning entertainment. commenced an energetic rocking that Twenty-nine of the Saxon captives, kept pace with her thoughts. whom Symmachus had chosen on ac

Esther aiways rushed, so her immedi-

ate family were never much startled

"Auntie"-she tried to make her re

quest and explain her plan all at once-

'may I write and ask Tom Carter to

take me to the party tomorrow night?

The girls are all going to ask, and I

with a decided amount of astonish-

"Now, auntie, you know we are not

all going to ask him, but any one we

would like to take. It's a leap year

"I see," returned Miss Sevier slowly,

"He's really nice and the very nicest,"

"I would like awfully to write it on a

sheet of your best paper," she coaxed.

"What's the cause of Mr. Carter's

wanted to know if I might."

ment in her eyes.

party, you know

by her sudden entrances and exits.

"Money is the root of all evil, and count of the well known valor of their I've always had too much of it. I race, strangled one another in prison wonder which is the worse, a deficit or rather than fight to the death for the an excess. I believe that as a child it amusement of their conquerors. And was a pleasanter feeling to want more Symmachus, with all his real elevation candy than to have eaten too much. of mind, was moved to nothing but "The worst feature of this money is disgust by their sublime choice!

that it has always attracted a crowd Rome in her greatest days had gloried of flatterers and worthless friends and in these shows. How could a man has caused so many that I really cared be a patriot who set his face against for to let their pride come between me and them. I have known John Carrington for five years and would cata-

ever heard of."

the object of Esther's admiration Her Leap Year Across the face of the heart she printed in faint scrawling letters. "To you it is a rose," then rang for her maid to get out her street dress and tell James to have the carriage at the door in By TROY ALLISON twenty minutes

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When John Carrington reached home after r trying day in his downtown law office he found that his landlady had put a long florist's box on the window ledge, where it would keep cool. She sat at the front bedroom window He opened the box with an expression impatiently tapping the arm of her of curiosity that the masculine countewicker rocker with one hand and using nance often wears when its owner is a finger of the other to keep place in sure there is no one to see it. There the book that hung the length of a listwas one long stemmed American Beauless arm on the other side of the chair. ty. and Carrington's sensitive face The attitude of the two hands was turned crimson when he saw that its a fine index to her disposition. She stem was thrust through a hastily cut was listless and bored by the monotony paper heart.

That night Miss Sevier's listless mood seemed to have passed away, and she showed an unusual amount of init with the placidity shown by the othterest every time the doorbell rang. er women she knew. She was tired of teas. She had When she had almost decided that it

was too late to expect a caller Carringamused herself calculating just how ton walked into the room. He had let himself in without ringing and stood before her, still in his overcoat, his bat in his hand. On the lapel of his coat was the half blown American Beauty. crowd of people. She could even re-"Frances. I have never had the cheek

necessary to ask if you could care for so unsuccessful a lawyer as I have stamps.' proved." he said slowly, "but I would like better than anything on earth to know that you sent me this rose."

She drew a paper from the folds of her dress and showed him the sheet from which the heart had been cut. A second later she rubbed her slender patrician nose against the rough shoulder of his overcoat. "I think it would be pleasanter if you

would hang this rough coat on the hall rack for an hour or so, John. I wish I had told you three years ago that I never had much regard for law."

Fleet Footed Zebras.

Sir Cornwallis Harris' description of the common zebra is as follows: "Seek ing the wildest and most sequestered spots, haughty troops are exceedingly difficult to approach, as well on account of their extreme agility and fleetness of foot as from the abrupt and inccessible nature of their highland first description of it is to be found abode. Under the special charge of a in a fragment of a Greek treatise and sentinel, so posted on some adjacent was known to engineers of the Alexerag as to command a view of every andrian school. avenue of approach, the checkered herd whom 'painted skins adorn' is to be find that on Jan. 1, 1598, a book was

viewed perambulating some rocky ledge published in Nuremberg which proon which the rifle ball alone can reach fessed to give a "succinct, detailed and were found in eight out of forty-two

"No sooner has the note of alarm tems of measurement by means of Journal. been sounded by the vidette than, prick- ouch an instrument. This "divider, ing their long ears, the whole flock huras the author calls it, had a wheel ry forward to ascertain the nature of which carried in its axle an indicator the approaching danger, and, having worked by the circular movement; at gazed a moment at the advancing each turn a needle made a stroke, hunter, whisking their brindle tails which was transmitted to the dial. aloft, helter skelter they thunder down eraggy precipices and over yawning ra- equal parts, had a long hand and a vines where no less agile foot could short, like modern clocks, the latter dare to follow them."-Saturday Re-

TOMB OF CONFUCIUS.

One of the Chief Spots of Interest In

The city of Chufuhsien, the Mecca of the believers in Confucianism, is in the province of Shangtung, one of the most populous districts of the orient. Here Confucius was born, and here his

sacred bones lie buried. The tomb, which is located in one of the largest cemeteries in the province, about three miles out from the city above mentioned, is one of the most imposing in the whole empire.

The grave itself is samounted by an height, the whole surrounded by a cluster of gnaried oaks and stately cypress trees. Before the mound is a tablet about six feet broad and twenty

WHEN STAMPS WERE NEW.

COTTON SPINNING.

The Scheme by Which a Workman

Kept His Bobbins Clean

"Why, you see, Mester Peel, it's sort

"That's so," said Peel, smiling in

"Well, what shall I give you for your

"Well, Dick, what is it to be?"

Uric Acid.

Rheumatism is due to an excess of

uric acid in the blood. The percentage

of this poison in various articles of

Bacilli at Masked Balls.

the lending of masks by costumers.

"Ivery one of 'em. mester!"

daily quarts of beer.

Trouble In Getting People to Stick Them on the Envelope, When postage stamps first came in-

The father of the famous Sir Robert o use," said a veteran postal clerk, 'the public didn't know how to handle Peel was a cotton spinner in a com them. You remember how, when tea paratively small way until he suddenand coffee first appeared among us, the ly went straight ahead of all his com people fried the tea leaves and the cof- petitors. The earliest cotton spinning fee berries and served them with sait machinery gave serious trouble and pepper? Well, the people treated through filaments of cotton adhering to the bob-ins, thus involving frequent their stamps as absurdly in 1854. "Some folks would put the stamps in- stoppages to clear the machinery. The side their letters, out of sight. Here wages of the operatives were affected

is the official notice that we issued to by these delays, but it was noticed that stop that practice." one man in the works always drew full The clerk took from the drawer an pay. His loom never stopped. "The onlooker tells me your bobbins aged bulletin that said:

"The stamps upon all letters and packages must be affixed on the out-him one day. side thereof and above the address "Aye, they be," said the man, whose thereon." He put back this bulletin and drew "How do you manage it, Dick?" forth another one.

"People would pin the stamps on o' secret! If I towd yo', yo'd be as their letters instead of gumming them," wise as 1 am." he said, "and when they did gum them they would not do it right; hence this response to Dick's knowing chuckle. second bulletin," and he read: "I'd give you something to know.

"'Persons posting letters should af. Could you make all the looms work as fix the requisite number of stamps pre- smoothly as yours?" vlous to depositing them in the letter eceivers, as when posted in a damp state the stamps are liable to rub off secret, Dick?" and thereby cause the letters to be The man smiled and rubbed his chin. treated as unpaid. Do not pin on the

"Come, I'll tell thee," was the re-"Still," said the clerk, "the public ply. "Gi me a quart of ale ivery day didn't understand. Think of it--it -as I'm in the mills and I'll tell thee ply. "Gi' me a quart of ale ivery day didn't understand the simple matter of all about it." sticking a postage stamp on a letter. So we got out a third bulletin." "Agreed," said the master "Well, then," returned Dick, beckon-

The third bulletin, in big, impatient ing Mr. Peel to come closer and let him letters, said: whisper in his ear, "chalk your bob-"The simplest and most effectual bins." method of causing stamps to adhere That was the entire secret. Mafirmly is first to moisten well the out- chinery was soon invented for chalk-

side of the stamps and afterward the ing the bobbins, and Dick Ferguson gummed side slightly, taking care not was given a pension equal to many to remove the gum." The clerk said that a philatelist had offered him \$12 apiece for these three queer bulletins .- Galveston Tribune.

THE ODOMETER. Was Known to Engineers of the

diet is: Fish, 8.15; mutton, 6.75; veal, Alexandrian School. 8.14; pork, 8.48; beefsteak, 14.45; liver, The odometer, an instrument for 19.26; coffee, 4.53; tea, 3.22. Milk and vegetables contain more, except the pomeasuring distance traversed in a carriage, is no modern invention. The tato, which has a trace of uric acid.

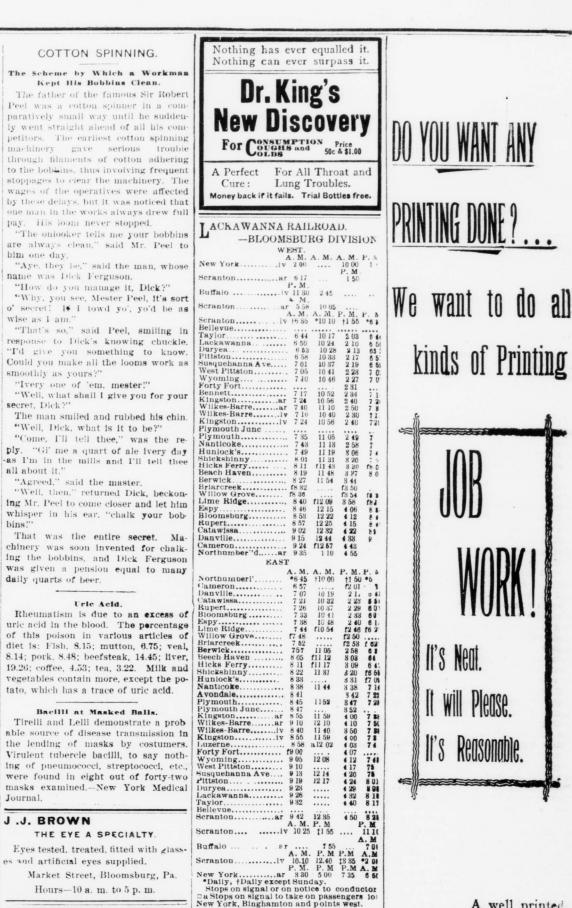
Passing to more modern days, we

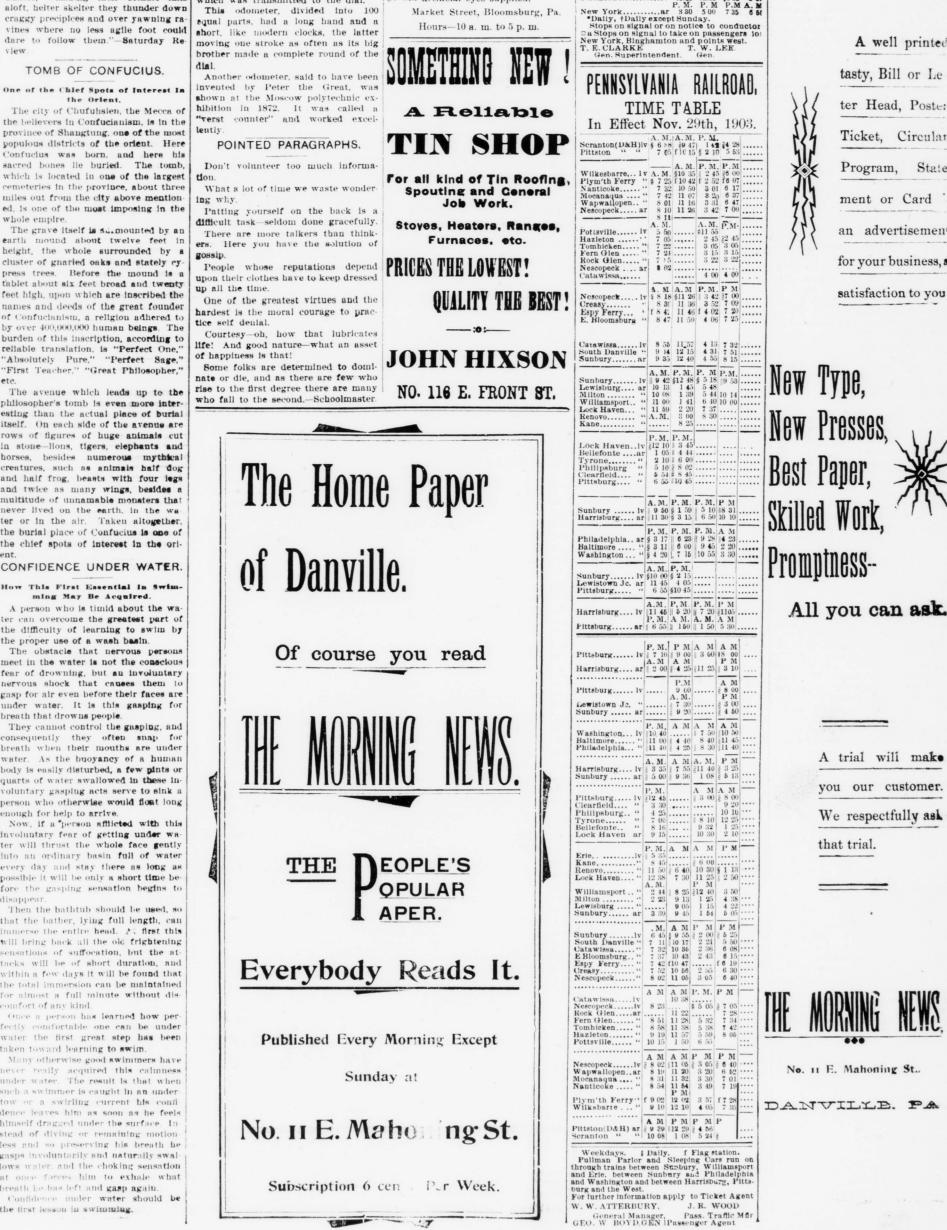
Virulent tubercle bacilli, to say nothing of pneumococci, streptococci, etc., positive explanation" of various sysmasks examined.-New York Medical

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tasty, Bill or Le ter Head, Poste: Ticket, Circular Program, State ment or Card . an advertisemen^{*} for your business, a

over and that he was starting back east

girl this niece of Tapley's was like. Probably she was old and more or less of a barbarian or perhaps she was the sort who would say, "Oh, ain't that lovely!" when he told her his late client, the Hon. Peter Chisholm, had left her a fortune that had been the envy of many scheming women in the cycle of the unmarried Peter's acquaintance. Jock here beside him could probably enlighten him as to Miss Parsons, but it was scarcely worth while. She was some quite impossible person no doubt. He handed Jock a cigar and put the gaged in financial duping. whole thing from his mind.

It was gray twilight when they drove up to the ranch house at the 4X. Tancred alighted and was warmly welcomed by Tapley.

stay just as long as you can stand it there is no social device to be mentionwith us, and a little longer if you have any charity for isolated old chaps like for courteously consuming time. myself," he added hospitably. "A man in touch with things in the east is a tion at a farmhouse he cannot decently godsend, sir. Supper will be ready linger-not in Normandy-after his shortly, and meanwhile Gertrude shall question is answered. If he makes a give you some tea. Pardon me a mo- petty purchase in a store his situament, and I'll hunt her up."

comfort, skin rugs covered the polished lady were somewhat mitigated. At that moment Tapley returned.

"Mr. Tancred," he said, "permit me Magazine. to present the lady whose business brought you here, my niece, Miss Par-

Tancred bowed and murmured his looked at her more than once, but find- a duelist's role in a new play. took away his breath.

bad taste of your ride with some tea?' from it. The men were too well scared she asked solicitously

ed himself near the dainty tea table They reminded me, in fact, of a story where she was busying herself. "Twenty-two," he told himself men-

tally, "and the finest eyes in America." In that half hour at the tea table harmlessly, were urged by their sec-Tancred fell in love, and, having fallen onds to shake hands. They were about in love, the object of his coming here to do so when a bystander, who had ntruded itself like a black cloud in the looked on at their duel despite their retair sky of his happiness. This girl quests that he depart, exclaimed in a was an heiress. It was this he had disgusted tone:

come to tell her. And Tancred, albeit a sturdy young lawyer, was by no means wealthy. He suddenly resolved to let the fortune remain in the background for a week at least. He would be unreservedly happy for that time, and then-"Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," he told himself. "Cousin Peter couldn't have left me

much," said Miss Parsons. "No," said Tancred, carrying out his resolution. "I'll go over the papers earefully, and in a week's time I think I can tell you the exact amount."

A week went by-two weeks-a month. Still the exact amount of Cousin Peter's legacy was not vouchsafed to Miss Parsons. She seemed to have found a richer legacy in her rides

times since then has patriotism been held to require the extinction of moral He fell to wondering what sort of a sense?-Contemporary Review.

NORMAN DISTRUST. One Simple Way by Which a Travel-

er May Disarm It. The greatest obstacle to agreeable pedestrianism in Normandy is the proverbial Norman distrust. The Norman's distrust of the stranger takes star of a second edition.

Miss Sevier's restless glance took in the form of a comical sort of terror of the novel. being financially duped, cheated or swindled, not to say robbed-probably "That fool in the novel had a tenor because he is himself perpetually enby a lack of self appreciation.

If the tramper does not succeed in disarming by one means or another Norman distrust his tramping life in Normandy will be made a burden to him. Norman distrust can be disarm-

"I don't care a snap of my fingers what business it is that has brought you," he said to Tancred. "You're to leve he will ever master enough cour-

If the tramper asks a simple quesage to tell me so unless I donate all my money to a hospital or do the proposing myself." Miss Sevier's young niece came rushing

The room they had entered evidently since he is morally obliged to retire as served as a library. Books lined the soon as the transaction is completed. walls, tempting chairs offered their On the other hand, he has only to order a drink-in this country of cider floor. It was quiet and in excellent and applejack every store and nearly taste. Tancred's misgivings about the every farmhouse sells liquor-to be entitled to sit at a table for as long as he wills it and to talk .-- Booklovers'

Hands Were Shaking Already.

An American actor once attended a greetings somewhat incoherently, for duel in Paris for the sole purpose of surprise had tied his tongue. Had he studying the demeanor of the duelists. met her on Broadway he would have He was preparing at the time to act ing such a girl at Yellow Flat fairly Discussing this combat afterward, he said:

"and you simply want me to under-stand that one Mr. Thomas Carter is "Won't you let me take away the "I confess that I learned very little the very nicest boy among your acto teach me anything that would have Tancred asquiesced heartily and seat- been of service in a serious stage duel. quaintances, eh?"

that Edwin Booth used to tell. "This story concerns two principals to the roots of her fair hair. "May I, who, after they had exchanged shots auntie, please?" "If all the other girls are of the same opinion, perhaps you would be wise to get your note written at once," teased her aunt. The girl gave her an impulsive kiss and then looked at her with a twinkle

"'It's hardly necessary for them to in her eye shake hands. Their hands have been shaking this half bour." A Legal Antiquity.

The feeling upon the subject of oaths disappeared, having taken some of the among the earlier colonists of Mary- best paper and the sealing wax to land is shown by the following extract match, Miss Sevier went back to the from a petition of assemblymen of the province, addressed to the lord proat the house across the street. prietary in 1649 and "signed by all the members present:

"We do further humbly request your interest. lordship that hereafter such things as your lordship may desire of us may be done with as little swearing as conveniently may be, experience teaching us that a great occasion is given to much perjury when swearing becometh common.

feet high, upon which are inscribed the logue his possessions-one estate in Vir names and deeds of the great founder ginia, yielding an uncertain income; of Confucianism, a religion adhered to one fine tenor voice and enough proud by over 400,000,000 human beings. The reficence to supply all the F. F. V.'s burden of this inscription, according to reliable translation, is "Perfect One,' When she mentioned Carrington's "Absolutely Pure," "Perfect Sage,"

name, the hero of the discarded novel "First Teacher," "Great Philosopher, gracefully acknowledged the better etc. man and accepted her lack of interest The avenue which leads up to the in him with a humility uncommon to a

philosopher's tomb is even more interesting than the actual place of burial itself. On each side of the avenue are rows of figures of huge animals cut in stone-lions, tigers, elephants and voice, too, but he wasn't handicapped horses, besides numerous mythical creatures, such as animals half dog "If I had asked him to sing 'For you and half frog, beasts with four legs it is a rose; for me-it is my heart.' and twice as many wings, besides a at least 300 times in the last three multitude of unnamable monsters that years, if I had played his accompany years, if I had played his accompani ment and put in it all the feeling a ter or in the air. Taken altogether,

"I know he loves me, but I don't be-How This First Essential In Swim ming May Be Acquired.

A person who is timid about the wa ter can overcome the greatest part of the difficulty of learning to swim by

There was a tap at the door, and the proper use of a wash basin. The obstacle that nervous persons meet in the water is not the conscious fear of drowning, but an involuntary nervous shock that causes them to gasp for air even before their faces are under water. It is this gasping for breath that drowns people.

They cannot control the gasping, and consequently they often snap for breath when their mouths are under water. As the buoyancy of a human body is easily disturbed, a few pints or sudden popularity," her aunt asked, quarts of water swallowed in these involuntary gasping acts serve to sink a person who otherwise would float long enough for help to arrive.

Now, if a person afflicted with this involuntary fear of getting under wa-ter will thrust the whole face gently into an ordinary basin full of water every day and stay there as long as possible it will be only a short time before the gasping sensation begins to

Then the bathtub should be used, so that the bather, lying full length, can Esther answered, a red flush spreading immerse the entire head. 2: first this will bring back all the old frightening sensations of suffocation, but the attacks will be of short duration, and within a few days it will be found that the total immersion can be maintained for almost a full minute without dis comfort of any kind.

Once a person has learned how perfectly comfortable one can be under water the first great step has been taken toward learning to swim.

After her sixteen-year-old niece had Many otherwise good swimmers have disappeared, having taken some of the never really acquired this calmness under water. The result is that when such a swimmer is caught in an under window and stood gazing abstractedly tow or a swirling current his confidence leaves him as soon as he feels The house had been there for years. himself dragged under the surface. In but she seemed to study it with intense stead of diving or remaining motion less and so preserving his breath he "I know he loves me," she murmured, gasps involuntarily and naturally swal-

and she may or may not have referred lows water, and the choking sensation to the grocery boy that was just then at once forces him to exhale what ringing the bell of the house opposite. breath he has left and gasp again. She went to her writing desk and cut a very creditable looking heart out of the first lesson in swimming. Confidence under water should be a plece of the best paper that had been