Miss Finser's Disappointment

In the little country village of Farnam we had about thirty-five voters, and singularly enough they were all

At every election for years our votes had been unanimously cast for the same party; we were all doing pretty well, and few of us ever gave a thought to making any change in politica, so there never was any excitement on voting day.

But, about a year ago, Bill Suton's maiden aunt came to live with him, as she put it. "To spend the rest of her days with her dear nephew and keep an eye on him."

She was supposed to have a little money, (how much Bill was anxious to find out), had been through some ladies' college years ago, and had lectured several times before different women's clubs, her favorite subjects being, "How to Manage a Husband," "How to Bring up Children" and "The Care of a Household."

It did not take her long to get acquainted with every woman in the village; it wouldn't take her long to get acquainted with every woman in ten villages. She was a thin, lively, meddlesome, spectacled, but clever, old lady who honestly thought she improved everything she butted into.

She formed a Married Woman's Improvement Society, and made all our wives members, Miss Clara Finser, the old lady herself, being president, secretary, lecturer and chief adviser. At first we men looked upon the

thing as a joke, and when we met at the vilage store would have quite a laugh over it, but we were careful in our comments as none of us was anxious to get next to Miss Finser and her lively tongue.

But we soon began to feel the effects of the M. W. Improvement Societ, in our homes.

"John," said my wife to me one day, "don't you think we should go out with the team at least three afternoons a week? We are working too hard, and I don't feel so well as I used to some weeks ago."

"Whose idea is that, Miss Finser's? I asked. "Yes, and I quite agree with her."

she replied. "Then we will think it over."

That evening some of the neighbors met at the store; each of them aired some grievance that was put down to the work of the M. W. I. Society.

Peter Barrows' wife was insisting on visiting the nearest city two days a week and taking singing lessons; Miss Finser said her voice was worth it. Another man's wife wanted his property arranged so that any check or deed he signed would be of no use without her signature also; another wanted mandolin lessons; another a seventy-five-dollar set of false teeth; the work she was doing around the house and farm demanded the best, she said, and so on.

We talked these things over and decided not to notice these demands of the women and at the same time notified Bull Suton that if this condition of things did not cease soon, there would be trouble for both him and his aunt.

fere with her, and we all knew why. He had found out that the old lady's bank account was pretty good, and thought he was in line for it, but above all he was afraid of her tongue; she would sail into him on the least excuse until he was glad to go out in the fields and work for a rest; she would continue to talk when he came back to meals, he got it for breakfast, dinner and supper.

He was taking more hard cider than was good for him since his aunt | that you did all you could." arrived; he said it was impairing his hearing.

The State election was coming round and one question that we were to vote on this year was woman suffrage. The Women's Society, acting under the advice of their energetic president, eased up in their small individual demands and began to work in a body for an affirmative vote.

Miss Finser was almost as good at chasing the voters as she was at talking; every voter in the village she buttonholed, every voter's wife got instructions not to let up, but remind their husbands every day what was expected from them, and every voter, I believe, promised several times to vote the right way. I know I promised to vote correctly on the question-correctly as I saw it.

While the men did not arrange any concerted action, and did not even talk very much among themselves about it, it could easily be seen, however, that there was an undercurrent of feeling that boded ill for Miss Finser's pet object.

In an address to the voters, in the store, the night before election, Miss Finser said, among other things: "While it may be doubtful about getting a majority throughout the State for woman suffrage, we want this little village of Farnum to be unanimous for it, thereby showing the people that, though we may be one of the smallest villages in the State, in progressive ideas we won't take second place to the largest city in it, and I think from my conversations with you men, and my opinion of you, it will be unanimous."

We applauded loudly, and she went

home satisfied.

Next day each voter dropped in at the voting booth, which was fitted up in the back room of the village store, at such time that he could make it convenient, registered his some of them with an everes-

five wink, and then received the thanks of Miss Finser, who remained at the door during the time the booth was opened.

All the men gathered together in the store that evening about 8 o'clock to hear the result, though there was no interest taken in any contest but that of woman suffrage.

After a short wait, the clerk of the polling booth, who was the storekeeper himself, began to read the results. When he came to the question, Shall women be allowed to vote?" every one listened intently: "Yes, 1;

For a few moments there were astonishment and surprise at the onesided vote, then a grin appeared on a few of the faces present; that grin was contagious all right; it spread, and spread rapidly, winding up in a minute or two in a loud roar of hearty laughter, while the storekeeper hurriedly fastened the door before any of the would-be female voters should hear the racket

When the laughter had subsided a little, some one hollered out, "Who's the one?" At least 20 voices answered "I am?" and then there was another roar of laughter.

None of us seemed very anxious to find out who the one was; if we were positive about that we would be positive about the 34.

While everyone was joking, smoking and drinking, a sharp rap was heard at the door; some one near unbarred it, and, heavens above! who should walk in, close the door and stand with her back to it, but Miss Finser herself

We all shrunk as her piercing glance seemed to go clean through

"What's the result?" Her sharp voice cleared the smoke out of the Nobody seemed anxious to tell. She turned to the storekeeper.

'What is the result?" "One for; 34 against."

Then turning to the company she eyed us all over with supreme contempt. I was wishing I was home. She spoke; no one else could.

"The poor women of this village have my dear sympathy; only one man in it. Those thirty-four are the most contemptible and small creatures have ever heard tell of or met."

With a disdainful look she went out and Bill Suton got up from behind the 'margarine counter.

"I wish all you fellows could come home with me to-night and share what I am going to get," he said, but never mind, I'm that one, noble voter, all right."

"We all went home, and I guess all acted somewhat similar to the way I did when we got there.

"Well," said my wife, "did we win?" "Maria, I'm disgusted; the men in this village are a contemptible and small set of creatures; after all the work that was done to win, the vote was 34 to 1 against cou."

She stared at me in great surprise, "John, were you that one?"

Gathering all the dignity and looking as stern as I could with the aid of the hard cider that was in me I looked her right in the eyes, saying: "Maria, during all the time you have known me did you ever know me to deceive you?"

"Well, no. John."

"Then don't ask me that question again; it hurt my feelings, and you should know how I voted.'

The next evening was the M. W. L. Bill said he did not want to inter- Society's weekly meeting night, and I, for one, would like to have had the privilege of being present. All the voters were curious to know what would nappen.

We were wearing the same mysterious smile when we met, that is worn by third degree members of secret societies. My wife got ready to go to the meeting, saying to me as she went out:

"I don't care much about the voting part, John, but I am well satisfied

After she had gone I had another fit of laughing like the one we had in the store when we first heard the result. Before I had fairly recovered, Pete Barrows put his head in at

the doorway, saying: "I thought I'd look in, as I was passing by and let you see the only man in the village.'

We roared. He closed the door

and went. In about one hour my wife returned and it needed only one glance at her to see that something had happened. Taking off her hat and coat she threw them to one side and sat

down, all flushed and excited. "I will never have any connection with any women's society again. I will make my society right here, at

"What was the matter, Maria?" I asked, really and truly interested. "What is the matter?" she repeated; "they are a conceited crowd, Miss Finser included. She is going to leave Farnum to-morrow for good, and I

am not sorry. "Neither am I," was my thought. "But what happened?" I asked.

"The majority of them are quarreling yet. "There is only one honest man in the village and they are all married

It seems from what Maria told me after she had recovered her composure, that there was a full attendance of the members at the meeting, which opened, as usual, with prayer. Then President Fniser opened in great shape on the men of the vil-

"We have in this village the most narrow-minded and untruthful set of shop entitles you to one telephone men I have ever met or heard of. I spoke to each and every voter before election and each and every voter assured me that he would vote for us. Some of them were so, anxious to

more than a few words to them they said:

"'All right, Miss Finser, we know what you want, you can depend on us,' and see the fesult! A cowardly lot, and pity you poor women who are married to them. The one man who voted for us must be, and is, a gentleman, whoever he is.

None of the members objected to this tirade, for the simple reason that each one thought she was married to the lone voter, but little Joe Bliss' big wife, the next speaker, spoiled the whole thing. She was beginning to pride herself upon being a fluent talker; she practiced considerable on Joe. She said:

"I quite agree with our president in her remarks on the mean and cowardly action of the men; at the same time. I sympathize with my sisters here, married to such a crew, but I think if they had paid as much attention to their husbands on the voting question as I paid to mine, my Joe's would not have been the only vote we received."

Whew, that started the trouble. Everybody was on her feet.
"Miss President," "Miss President,"

'Miss Finser." All wanted recognition. Mrs. Barrows got the floor. "Did I understand Mrs. Bliss to

say that it was her husband who cast the single vote?" "That is just what I said, and

meant, dear," answered Mrs. Bliss. "Well, you will kindly allow me to say, and mean, too, that that vote belongs to Peter Barrows and no other.'

"I think Miss Finser correctly described your husband and the rest of the crowd," said Mrs. Bliss, sweetly. This sent Mrs. Barrows after the poor president.

"Were you alluding to my husband when you were speaking of cowardice and untruthfulness?"

"I was alluding to all who promised me to vote for woman suffrage and then failed to do so," replied Miss Finser.

"Well, I want you to know that what Peter Barrows promises he alwavs fulfills." By this time all the members were

in groups. All knew who gave that vote; it was very easy to get into the argument; each one was against every other one in the room.

In vain the president called for order; she was told to shut up or she would be put out. She gazed up at the crowd of angry, arguing women for a few minutes, then quietly put on her hat and coat and walked in a stately manner toward the door.

When she got there she turned round: there was a moment's quiet, and she spoke.

"I see that I have wasted my time in this village. I will leave here tomorrow, but before I go, I will say this, I think the women in this room are better off without any franchise."

The meeting did not close with prayer; it was forgotten, and all left for home shortly after the president, keeping up the argument as long as there were any two together .- ST. PEEL.

The Disappearing Horse.

We sometimes speak of the disappearing horse as if he were a white rhinoceros or a purple cow, or even a dodo-a memory of the Never-Never Land. "Nothing but motor cars now," you can hear the people say. And yet it would puzzle a statistician to tell how many vehicles are horse drawn and how many motor-propelled

on the average public road. A paper in the Engineering News

gives the court. Seven typical highways in Rhode Island are chosen. On all but two of the seven roads there is a large excess of motor vehicles over horsedrawn vehicles. Over the 7 roads in 8 hours, 1,262 motor vehicles and 695 horse-drawn vehicles passed. The touring cars of four to seven seats each were 848 in number. "Nearly all the horse-drawn vehicles were of light weight, and most of them had rubber

The paper concludes by pointing out "the improbability of being able to effectually control the speed of motor cars, especially in isolated districts, except by an extensive organization of state police."-Collier's.

Blowing Up a Whale.

"Then began the work of bringing the whale to the surface and blowing it up so that it would float. Taking a hitch about a convenient post, the rope was slacked and run through a pulley block at the misthead to re lieve the strain of raising the great body. The winch was set in motion, and for fifteen minutes nothing was heard save the monotonous grind as fathom after lathom of line was wound in. When the body was brought alongside the lobes of the flukes were cut off and lifted to the deck. Then a long coil of small rubber hose, one end of which was attached to a pump and the other to a hollow-spear-pointed tube of steel with perforations along its entire length, was brought into play. The spear was jabbed well down into the whale's side, the air pump was started, and the body was slowly filled with air. When inflated sufficiently to keep it affoat the tube was with drawn, the incision was plugged with oakum and the chains cast off. buoy with a flag was then attached to the carcass, and the whole set adrift to be picked up at the end of the day's hunting."

Convenience in Germany. A purchase in a German tobacco call.

Power of Environment. It is a true proverb that if you live with a lame man you will learn to tell me so, that before I could say halt .- Plutarch.

#00000000000000000000000000000 SATURDAY NIGHT TALKS

By REV. F. E. DAVISON Rutland, Vt.

CALL OF DUTY.

International Bible Lesson for Sept. 12, '09-(Acts 21: 1-17).



One of the most remarkable exhibitions of grace ever shown by man, was the incident in the life of the Apostle Paul which we have for our to-day. lesson The characteristics of the man shown in striking colors as we follow him through this re-

markable experience. The time has come in Paul's judgment when he must revisit Jerusalem. Duty pointed unmistakably in that direction, and he was convinced in his own mind beyond the shadow of a doubt that he ought to visit the holy city. There was no alternative. It was Jerusalem only. At the same time he was satisfied that if he went, it would be to bonds and imprisonment. The Holy Ghost witnessed in every city that the result of his visit would be personal discomfort, and

physical sufferings. Duty Heroic.

But what effect did it all have upon the apostle? Not the slightest. He "What mean ye to weep and said. break my heart? I know, as well as you what trouble awaits me, but I am ready, not only to be bound, but to die at Jerusalem!" And the gritty little hero marched on into the lion's jaws. With him the question was not comfort, ease, life even; it was duty He knew that "man is immortal till his work is done," and he did not propose to shirk responsibility even though bonds and imprisonment were included in it. Prudence is a good thing; there are times when it should be regarded. But when some great exigency arises which calls for action, the true soul will walk the path of duty though it be with bleeding feet, and though he walk alone.

Tennyson and Carlyle were once walking through the gallery of great sculptors in London, and Tennyson turning to Carlyle said, "What do you think of that, Thomas?" "An, mon, it's a sad sight." "Why?" "There is nae mon among them that has a jaw." That was the grim old Scotch method of diagnosing character. It was only another way of saying that the men lacked grit, backbone, "sand," gumption, words which stand for righteousness, loyalty and truth in the world's category.

Duty, not Stubbornness.

Paul's determination was altogether a different thing from stubbornness. His pluck must not be confounded with pigheadedness. He had none of the qualities of the mule in his disthe folly of biting off his nose to spite his face. He never deliberately jumped out of the frying pan into the fire. If those disciples could have shown him any good reason, except mere personal discomfort for avoiding Jerusalem, he would readily have taken their advice. The very first thing he did after arriving at the city was to yield to the advice of his friends in a matter where there was no principle involved, although the result

was most disastrous to himself. Soldiers declare that the most trying time in battle is before the battle begins. The awful hush that settles down upon the men while they wait for the signal, that is what blanches the cheek, and makes the knees trem-When the fight is on, when the ble. blood has risen to fever heat, when the air is affame with bursting shell. and the slope is slippery with brothers' blood, and vengeance is bursting the heart, then it is easy to fight and glorious to die. But to march up to the muzzles of shotted cannon, waiting to vomit their iron hail into your very face requires the stuff that heroes are made of.

Duty Rewarded.

Such was Paul's grit. He knew that every step of the way toward the city was taking him nearer the headsman's block. He did not understand the reason, any more than you do, why certain things in your life must be, but he knew that the Leader and Commander of the forces of the universe had the plan of campaign perfectly arranged, and he was certain that He could make no mistake When the six hundred English soldiers at Balaklava charged into the mouth of hell, they knew when they started that some one had blundered. Not so Paul. He had received his orders from headquarters. Those orders said, Jerusalem, and at Jerusalem he would have reported, though he had been compelled to fight his way through legions of devils.

Look out how you interfere with a man who has the call of God upon him. To stop him, to delay him, to divert him, may be as calamitous, as to turn a switch in the wrong direction before a flying express train. If you cannot go with him, uncover as the hero passes on. It may be, when the coronation day of eternity comes, you may be permitted to behold the sight when the King puts the crown of glory upon his servant's head.

Throws Park Nurse Girls Into Panic, But is Ingeniously Trapped with

Duck Eggs in a Box. Bayonne, N. J .- A hungry boa constrictor, fifteen feet long and as thick as the leg of a longshoreman, caused a panic in City Park here. It threw habitual drunkards into a frenzy of fright, chased nurse girls and their little charges out of the park and caused six women who were caring for children in the playground to faint when the nurses spread the alarm that the big serpent was at large.

The boa constrictor even tried to get its coils about a large deer which was captured in Newark Bay a year ago. It was only by leaping a wovenwire fence, six feet high, and taking refuge in a shed that the animal es caped. The snake next turned its attention to Philip Leddy and John Mullin. They were paddling in the bay near the lower end of the park. They waded out until only their heads could be seen and yelled so loudly for help that the snake did not try to go out to them.

The cries of the boys resulted in the capture of the boa. William Lauterwich, a caretaker in the park, ran down toward the bay to ascertain what the trouble was. When he saw the snake coiled on the beach he turned and ran away. In a few minutes Lauterwich returned. He carried a large box with a lid on it. Inside, on straw, were ten duck eggs. Knowing the fondness of snakes for eggs he had prepared a trap for the fifteen-footer.

Putting the box down, the caretaker raised the lid, fastened one end of a long cord to it and then hurried with the other end of the cord to a nearby tool house. Soon the boa worked its way up to the box on a tour of investigation. It raised its head, looked in the box, saw the eggs and crawled inside to eat them at its Lauterwich immediately leisure. pulled the cord and thus closed the lid. Then he ran out and sat on the box until policemen arrived in a patrol wagon. In the box the snake was taken to Police Headquarters. The lid was nailed down, holes were bored in the box to give the snake a supply of air, and then the snake and the box were locked up in a cell. The police are endeavoring to discover the owner of the snake. It is thought it belongs to a showman.

"THE BOY AERONAUT"

New York City.-Frank W. Goodale, the original boy skypilot-using the term in its newest sense-arose out of the quiet of Palisade Park in Jersey to take a flier around the uptown "little old New York." He crossed the river, sailed around Harlem for a spell, but finding it too slow up there decided to cut a few rings around Forty-second street and Broadway, and he did. He was certainly going some for a while around the famous old district, which has seen a good



Frank W. Goodale, Who Salled Down Broadway, New York, in an Airship the Other Day.

many highfliers, but Frank made even the oldest rounder look up and take notice. Frank had a good reason for being up the air, though; his reason was an airship, hardly bigger than a toy compared with some others, but big enough to carry its young builder in circles a thousand feet above Long Acre Square and get him back to his Jersey anchorage in twenty minutes. Frank says himself that he is "only a kid," but his success in aeronautics has made the old wise men in the science come out of their sheds and pay attention.

LIVED AND DIED TOGETHER.

Inseparable from Childhood, Brothers Wished to Go That Way.

Benton Harbor, Mich.-Ernest Peo and John Peo, brothers, whose lives had been linked together from early childhood, are dead after having spent half a century or more in Berrien County.

Ernest recently became ill and a few days ago died. His brother John was so affected that before Ernest was buried he too had passed away and a double funeral was held. The brothers had been inseparable since coming to Michigan and had often expressed the wish they might live and die together.

Colt 17 Inches High.

St. Louis, Mo.-The smallest equine in St. Louis is Babe, which arrived at the stable of A. E. Geitz, 4706 Easton avenue, in a package brought by the equine stork. Babe weighed thirteen pounds when he was born and was one inch less than a foot and a half high, although he had grown some since he was born. The little pony is about the size of a bulldog. He is of a house gray color and perfectly

LARGE SNAKE AMONG BABIES ROLL of HONOR

Attention is called to the STRENGTH

Wayne County

The FINANCIER of New York City has published a ROLL OF HONOR of the 11,470 State Banks and Trust Companies of United States. In this list the WAYNE COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

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Time Table in Effect June 20th, 1909. SCRANTON DIVISION

| Sun'd'y | Except Sun'd'y | Stations | Except, | Sund'y o | |
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A MA M PMPH Additional trains leave Carpondale for Me field Yard at 6.50 a. m. daily, and 6.38 p m dail except Sunday. Additional trains leave Ma field Yard for Carbondale 6.88 a m daily and 8 J. C. ANDERSON. J. B. WELAR

66 Beaver St. New York.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TRAINS Delaware & Hudson R. R. Trains leave at 6:55 a. m., and 12:25 and 4:30 p. m.

Sundays at 11:05 a. D. m. Trains arrive at 9:55 a. m., 3:15 and 7:31 p. m. Sundays at 10:15 a. m. and 6:50

p. m. Erie R. R. Trains leave at 8:27 a. m. and

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