Because it was quiet, still

Has the numethat it had when I went way,
And stands on the same old hill;
But the coes that were dear in the little old
town.

With its one wide street running up and down,

Have ceased to sit on the porches where
The roses were trained to climb;
They have ceased to sew and to whittle

As they did in the dear old time.

The little old church with its wooden sheds Still stands as it stood of yore; But the ones who knell and who bowed their heads

Are worshiping there no more! And the little old school where I carved my On the homemade desk stands just the

But the boys who are batting the buil to-day
And the little maids, fair and free.
Are not the children who used to play
, On the common there with me!

The little house, so dear, so dear,
Stands just where it used to stand;
But not for many and many a year
Has the latch obsyed her hand—
The hand in which my hand was laid
When my first few faltering steps were
made—

And in the little old parlor there, O'erlocking the little lawn, Another sits in her casy chair And hears the clock tick on.

O the little old town that I left one day, Because it was quiet, still Has the name that it had when I went

away, And stands on the same old jbill; But the friends that I've traveled "back home" to see Are gons or else are but strangers to

And over the doors of the little old

And the drawn that I never knew.

And the drawn that was dear of the "home" here
Can never, alas, come true!

—#. E. Kiser.

THE FORKS OF THE ROAD.

An Episode in the Business Life of a Young Man.



im for the fingerboard when you come to the forks of the road. Find Then choose your way.

A wise man said that to his son, and he remenbered it one troubled day long afterwards.

Phil Everett was to have been a doctor, like all the Everett men, but if he happens along. after the accident that made his father a helpless cripple, he gave that up and went into the great house of Byrd & Hull, there to learn business and make a living for the family, for it was found that there was little money to the fore.

He faced a new life there; he did not even know the language of the strange world that he had set out to conquer. But no matter, Mark Appleton made friends with him at once, and wisdom and Mark Appleton traveled together. Mark knew it all; he had the whole system of business straight and clear in his mind. he was so bright and friendly and altogether captivating! Such a friend must be the safest of all guides-if he were not the most peritous.

In his Instruction began at once. enthusiam for work, Phil did something that another was expected to do. Mark disapproved of that.

"Do the work you're paid for doing, and let the rest alone, Philip. Oh, yes, I know, you weren't think ing about the pay; but that's the only thing to think about. You don't want to earn money for some other fellow; that isn't business."

Phil's ardor for doing the best he could was a little chilled. Another day he modestly let an older man have an excellent assignment that he might have had himself. He was laughed at by the rest, and Mark lectured him

"Here's the first principle of busi-ness, my friend: Get close up to the Never lose a chance to get to the front!"

That was the substance of Mark Appleton's business creed; and day by day Phil heard the details of it. 'Somebody has to march behind see that your're not the one!"

"It's just as fair for you to push th rest back, as it would be for the rest to push you back."
"If you take the prize, the rest are

no worse off than you'd be if some other fellow took it."

"You'll be shouldered out of your

place if you don't shoulder somebody else out. Never mind about the other fellows. The place ahead of you is yours, if you can get it." "You can't stop for questions.

Success -That's what you want. 'And after you get that, there won't be any questions asked."

Phil listened, fascinated; soon he called the talk inspiring; next he found it convincing. The talk he used to hear from that other comrade, his father, was very different, but then-well, these were new times, and then—well, these were new times, and old nations were out of date. So the loving son of an honored father took "Wha-a-a-t!" he stammered then. connsel with the teacher of new notions, and said nothing about them at

At last one day, after the new re cruit had followed Mark Appleton's flag pretty far into the swamp, he to the forks of the road.

This was the day for the Frew as signment, the best one of the year The Frew contract was hard to get, and to be chosen to go after it was in itself a promotion. The one so trusted was understood to be well started on his business career. Generally the assignment came in rotation, but that rule was subject to exceptions. This time it was expected go to John Warner; Phil was glad of that, for he liked John, and there

were hard times in the Warner house. Phil was working alone, when an order came for him to go into the private office of Mr. Black, the manager of the department. He went, wondering. Mr. Black began on him with his usual abruptuess.

'You haven't been here very long, Everett, but you've had pleuty of instruction since you came; and"-he miled here, a queer little smile-you appear to be a rather willing

Your father and I have always been friends, and I have always been friends, and I am willing to givI your father's son the best chance o can put in his way." He stopped again, sud* looked of into space, with Pall began to turn bot and cold. "It is a little irregular, but the Free

O succeed, hunt assignment is yours, if you want it."
for the finger- The Frew assignment! His if he
board when you wanted it. He stammered out something, but the manager interrupted with a gesture of dismissal fore he could even say how thankful

he was. "That's all right, but take a little time to think it over; it may have more than one side to it, you know. Come back in fifteen minutes, Of course you would like to consult your father about it"-Phil winced slightly at that-"but there isn't time, You might ask Appleton's advice, though,

Phil went out, dizzy with exulta-tion. The keen triumph of unthoughtof success set his blood to dancing. Here was his chance to "get close up to the band," and that was the first principle of business, Mark said. Why should be take fifteen minutes

to think over it? Then the thought of John Warner gave his triumph a chill. Was it fair to shoulder faithful John out of his rightful place in this way? All Mark's glib savings went babbling through his brain to answer that, but somehow they seemed less inspiring than at first. "Consult your father!" than at first. Well, what would his father say about it?

That question was a flashlight, and all at once he saw the forks of the road before him. The way he took now he would travel in, for better or for worse. Down he went among the muddy weeds of the swamp, and groped for the fallen finger-board. He found it, and he read it; then he must choose

"It isn't fair, and I won't do it!" He had made his choice; be would not go back from it; but—"It's pretty hard to give up such a chance as that Would be harder for the fellow the chance belongs to, though!" He sighed, then smiled. "I know well enough what father would say-'If von are not quite sure it's right, von may be pretty sure it's wrong'-I've heard him say it many a time." He started for Mr. Black's office again. "He'll laugh at me for being silly, but I can't help that."

"Hello, Philip!" There was Mark Appleton, with more advice, no doubt. "Know what I'm here for? Mark asked complacently.

"To apply for the Drew assignment. If you can't reach

want, ask for it." "You won't get it. It isu't your turn, you know."

"It's anybody's turn that can it, my friend. If I can get it by ask ing, so much the better for me Warner's too green to ask for it, so much the worse for him."

"Is that fair? It would go Warner without asking, if nobody interfered. And you know as well as I do how much he needs it."

"You're pretty green yet, little one. The survival of the fittest, you know. That's business." "Is it? Then I'm all right, for I've

got that assignment. Mr. Black gave it to me not fifteen minutes ago.' Mark gasped, turned pale, then red,

"You-you don't say you've been mean enough to take it! What right have you to it? The last one taken on, and you go cutting in ahead of all the men that have been here for years! Talk about mean things! I didn't

think you'd play such a trick on me, anyhow, after all I've done for you!"
"Oh, I don't know." Phil had a malicious pleasure in the miserable logic of the situation. "'The prize there for whoever can take it, know. 'Never mind about the other fellows. The place ahead of you is yours if you can get it.' 'After you get success there won't be any questions asked.' 'If you can't get close

up to the band-"Oh, shut up! You've played a mean trick on a triend, and that's all there is of it. I trusted you, and you went back on me.'

"You? What right had you to it? But there; it is a mean thing to take another fellow's salary—I mean chance -just because you can; it would be just as honest to take his pocketbook. I was just going in to tell Mr. Black that I wouldn't have the job. Come

Wondering whether anybody could be such a fool as Phil Everett made himself out to be, but determined to make the most of his foolishness, Mark followed him into the private

to keep it."
"Tust as you please," Mr. Black said indifferently. "But what's the matter? Why won't you keep it?" He glanced suspiciously at Mark. "Well, I can't make out that it be

longs to me. I can make it sound all right, but somehow I can't make it feel right. This time Mr. Black smiled, the

same queer smile. Mark opened his mouth to speak, but Phil gave him no chance

You gave the chance to me, Mr Black, and I give it back to" -- he pausod the fraction of a second. It was Mark that smiled this time; Mr. Black was scowling-"to John War It really belongs to him.

Mr. Black unconsciously drew a long breath. "Warner shall have it," he said, in his usual business tone. Then he surprised Phil by suddenly shaking

hands with him. "You've come through it well," he said cordially. 'Hasn't he, Appleton?" But Appleton had not waited to an-

swer any questions. "It will do your father a lot of good when he knows about it," said Mr. Black, still holding the young fellow's hand

"Father? Oh, he won't know any-thing about it," Phil said in a half wistful, half shamed tone.

"Won't he?" Mr. Black laughed out. "Well, perhaps. He was willing that I should make the test, but he told me just how it would turn out, He was sure that his boy would come to no real harm—yet. Now go back to your work, and after this—well, such a father as yours is just about the best adviser a young fellow can bave."

LYDDITE IS A FEARSOME THING. The Destructive Explosive Which Great Britain is Using in Africa.

General Joubert has protested to General White against the use of lyddite, on the ground that its use is a barbarism, intolerable in "civilized" warfare.

Lyddite is made by treating carbolic with nitric acid. It is therefore pierie acid. But pieric acid is so enormously explosive in its impulses as to be incapable of use or even of safe handling. In the manufacture of lyddite long ago, are in favor. pierie acid is subjected to a secret process which renders it as safe to handle as ordinary gunpowder with-out in the least impairing its terrific explosive force.

Lyddite is the most destructive explosive that can be handled with safety by its user. Ounce for ounce it is from five to seven times more destructive than nitro-glycerine and from forty to fifty-six times more powerful than the best gunpowder.

It is safe to handle, and no other ordinary guns without danger of explosion from concussion.

A shell full of lyddite thrown into a regiment produces the same effect as dynamite exploded in a stream full of fish-plus blood and mangling and the sounds of creatures in anguish.-New York World.

Ten Dollars for a "Strad!"

English connoisseurs of violins are just now discussing the reality of a 'Strad" which, it is alleged, has been rescued from the shop in the Midlands of a pawnbroker who did not know its value. According to the story, says anything conspicuous in the jewelry the London Daily Telegraph, an itine. rant musician was unable to pay his bill at an inn in Wolverhampton and left his violin instead.

The landlord took it to a pawnbroker and raised a little money on it, and gave the owner the ticket, so that fort in this fashion of their cousins he might redeem it when his services across the water. These wrist straps were financially more appreciated than up to then they apparently had been. That consummation never arrived, and as Boniface could play a little he purchased the unredeemed fiddle from the temporary holder for \$10 and played on it for his own amusement. Everybody was struck with its peculiarly rich tone, and at last, acting on advice, he submitted it to experts, who declared it to be a real "Strad." Inside was found the inscription, "Antonius Stradivarius, 1716." This remarkable fiddle will no doubt form the subject of many more discussions.

Had the Ticket in Ills Mouth. The spectacle of the absent-minded man frantically going through his The edge of this flounce is trimmed pockets in a vain search for his trans- with a deep full ruching of chiffon fer ticket while that valuable sky-blue with very narrow rows of blue velvet document drooped gracefully beneath edging it on both sides. Chenille is his mustache was hugely enjoyed by also largely used in this way, and inthe passengers of an uptown ear the variably with good effect. Artificial other evening. Even the stolid conductor caught the joke and betrayed seem to be very much in vogue. A an amount of patience which should few smart French dresses are to be have aroused suspicion on the part of seen with floral shoulder straps and the victim. Finally, when the trans- occasionally long garlands of blossoms fer threatened to be entirely de- dangling from the left shoulder or else molished, the conductor mildly indicated its locality to the embarrassment this the excessive use of flowers is not of its owner and the delight of his fel- at all apparent. The handsomest low travelers. Presently the absentminded man reached his corner, and as he got to the rear he stuck his fit for their special adornment. parting shot at the conductor: "Ta ta, old boy. That's all right. The transfer was a week old, and I was just chewing off the date."-New York Commmercial Advertiser.

Automobile Artillery.

It passes comprehension that we should at this age be using horses to draw cannon when there was steam artillery over 130 years ago. The the second year, touching it up with obstreperous, balky, stampeding mule a little white during the last six is used by Great Britain in the Transvaal war. Instead of sending hospital ships, Lady Randolph Churchill would end the war sooner by provid-Mark followed him into the private office.

"Mr. Black." Phil looked straight into the manager's eyes and spoke out bravely. "Pre thought it over about make them.—New York Press.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN

Now Silks For Winter West.

Some of the new heavy silks for the winter are extremely soit and pliable and have a lustrous satin fluish,

Gloves, kerchiefs, veils, fans, have each given poetic inspiration, but the poet who is to sing of boas lingers shyly in the background still, unless he has caught sight of the latest novelty-a thing of beauty while it lasts-for delicate as thistlethe marabout boa. It takes the form of a short stole, while on both ends hangs eight marabout tails, four on the bottom and a pair in two rows above the four. Pale tints of blue and rose-pink finish the ends of these cloud-white tails, giving an added

For Afternoon Calls. A smart street costume of serge-like cloth is trimmed with scrolls of stitched strappings in silk, and a vest and skirt panel of silk cut in points at either side, each point being fastened with a black velvet button, Another rather original frock is of pale gray corded cloth of silky texture arranged with groups of tiny tucks on the skirt and bodice. The bodice fastens on the left side with a bordering band of sable, the tawny tone of the fur being eleverly reproduced in a sort of fichu drapery of chiffon, which is drawn into a waist belt of faintly gray satin and fastened with a bunch of crimson roses.

Revival of an Old Fashion.

"Old things are becoming new," said a woman of fashion, "and many little arts of dress esteemed fifty years ago are again in use. A sloping shoulder is once more a standard of beauty. To keep the sleeve entirely flat, and yet not have it too severe, a band of three tacks is made at the top to fit around the armbole. Naturally, with the plain, sloping shoul der, there is a revival of fichus and scarfs. These are made of fine organdie or batiste, and many are beautifully embroidered. For elderly women the soft surah silk ties with rich, brocaded ends, so fashionable

Frau Kruger's Rhenmatism. Mrs. Kruger, the wife of the President, is a woman of very few words, In this she resembles the majority of her countrywomen, silence being one of the most marked characteristics of the Boer "frau." Though a devoted mother, she takes absolutely no interest in her husband's schemes or affairs of State. She has an extraordinary aversion to medical men, though she is ever in search of a remedy high explosive is. It gives off no for her chronic complaint—rheumatism sickening fumes. It can be fired from —any one who succeeds in recommending even a temporary cure earns an inordinate amount of coffee, a custom that among some of her country people commences at dawn and ends only with daylight,

Bracelets For Watches.

With the departure of the chatelaine and the advent of the chain there has been a demand for some unobtrusive and convenient means of carrying one's timepiece when wearing a shirt waist or the equally severe tailor gown, when good taste forbids

For some time English women have worn leather strap bracelets for holding watches, indispensable when traveling or engaged in outdoor sports, and Americans will take great comare to be had at the various a lops in dark or light leather, and are an inex-That consummation never ar- pensive and valuable addition to one's outing costume.

Bress Trimmings in Vogue. Velvet seems to be indeed a most

favorite trimming this winter, and the most delightful applique designs are laid on delicate backgrounds with a happy result. An evening gown, for instance, of pale blue, the material that rich soft brilliantine silk which has all the quality and sheen of satin without any of its stiffness, has a kneedeep flounce of white point d'esprit, heavily overlaid with a delicate sort of conventionalized vinework of a rather deeper shade of blue velvet. twisted around the arm. But beyond dresses, indeed, depend largely upon beautiful embroideries and exquisite

Mourning Dress For Different Periods. Dressing in mourning is divided into periods or seasons, for each of which a certain style of dress is appropriate. Some widows have lately worn colors within a year of their hus-bands' death, but these are extreme cases, not adopted by more conservative women, who wear crape for six months or a year, and plain black for months.

For a child the parent wears black for a year, crape for six months, if it is donned, as sometimes it is not for small children. Grown children are often mourned for in a black garb for two years, and for a sister or brother the same rule holds good. It may be for two years, but must be for one:

and while the length of time for the wearing of black is marked, the use of crape is left to the option of the wearer, except in the case of a widow. If a daughter-in-law or a sister-in-law puts on black it must be on the same lines as though the wearer were the deceased's own daughter or real sister. For an aunt, cousin, or any relation further removed than the immediate family, custom does not de-mand the assumption of the mourning garb, but if worn, plain black is correct for six months, and black and

white for the remainder of the year. Black dresses are immensely popu lar, but the average woman prefers to touch them up with a color to make them becoming.—Ladies' Home Jour-

Cossip. The Queen of Belgium has a fad for the collection of lace.

Arcade, N. Y., has a woman who owns a milk route and delivers her goods to enstoners.

A college in which Mrs. Annie Be-

sant is warmly interested is being built by the Hindus at Benares. The new press law of Japan pro

hibits women from becoming publishers or editors, as the "discbarge of such work by women is neither proper nor desirable. At the recent installation of the new rector of the University of Berlin, Germany, it was announced that in

1898 437 women studied in the university, where formerly none were admitted Mine Harada, who is believed to be the first Japanese woman to take the

step, recently received citizenship papers in the United States Circuit they will do very quickly, Court in New York City. She is thirty-six years old.

Mrs. Maude Ballington Booth ad dressed eleven hundred prisoners in the State penitentiary, at Joliet, Ill., recently. About eight hundred of the convicts are now members of the Booth Prison League,

Sophie Torma, the Hungarian arche ologist, has been given the degree of doctor of philosophy by the University of Klausenburg. She is the second woman in Hungary to receive this degree, the first having been Carmen Sylva, the Queen of Roumania. Dr. Forma is about sixty years of age.

Miss Lutie A. Lytle enjoys the proud distinction of being one of the wo colored women in the United States who have been admitted to the bar, Miss Lytle is twenty-three years old, of medium height, and very light in color. She has a pleasant voice,

Fencing and calcathenics have always been a regular part of the daily physical exercise of the daughters of the Princess of Wales. The rapid, gliding walk, the erect carriage with out stiffness and the well-poised head of the Princess of Wales are attributed her most profound regard. She drinks to her thorough practice of calesthenies.

The dress of woman nurses in the United States Army, it has been decided, shall consist of a waist, with adjustable cuffs, and an apron of white linen, worn with a skirt and necktic of the army blue galates. A jacket of the galates style is also provided, to be worn when desired. Caps are not to be used.

Miss Rebecca Lash, of Chelsen, Mass., celebrated her ninety-sixth birthday the other day. Her grand-father was an intimate friend of Paul Revere, whom she remembers distinct-Her particular playmate in early girlhood was Harriet Revere, a daughter of the colonel and granddaughter

Fashion Hints.

Muffs to match must be worn with all furs and fur trimmings.

Gray furs, and black and white, will have a great selling for dressy wear. Coin belts are coming in again. They are usually fastened with a small clasp, leaving several of the com links pendant.

Hats of tan or gray broadcloth are high in vogue. These are not draped hats, like the usual cloth toque, but have straight stiff brims. Costumes for evening, as well as

treet wear, are including an amount of the soft furs in their design, notably chinchilla, castor and ermine. Kid hats in brilliant colors-white, an or scarlet-are other idols of the

tailor-made girl; they have brims of white stitched kid and are faced with black velvet. The most stylish white silk blouses are made perfectly plain, of corded silk, the cords at regular intervals, or in clusters of three running Bayadere

fashion around the body and sleeves. An odd and lovely fan is made of black net, spangled with green and purple, to represent a peacock's feathers, with the bird's body in the center. So ingenious is the spaugling, and so perfect the likeness that the fan is striking in effect, besides being a real

Although not always strikingly becoming, handsome black toilets never lack charm or distinction if well made. A combined trimming of jet ornaments and black velvet ribbon will often transform the uncomplimentary effect of a dull black cashmere or drap d'ete gown, especially if a bit of rich lace or a touch of color be added near the

The fancy increases for smooth very close-fitting skirts without a particle of fulness; but the flat, seamless, outlining habit style is doomed, and in place of this severe, uncompromising fashion are brought out models with box-plaited backs, with the drapery slightly lifted, with medium-length pieces of the skirt fabric set into the sides at the back en jabot, or with bands trimmed with braid and but-tons and usually lined with silk of a contrasting color.

FARM TOPICS

Have the Horse's Shore Level.

The proper leveling of the foot to re-ceive the shoe deserves special attention, for it is at this stage of shoein that the horse is often most cruelly punished for an indefinite time. If the foot is properly leveled no bad effect need ordinarily result from shoeing the neglect of this, however, often contorts not only the foot, but the limb, even as high as the knee, resulting is painful and oftentimes incurable disorders. It is a comparatively easy matter to preserve the foot in good or-der, but it is not an easy task to remedy a defective foot or limb as s result of bad shoeing,

Breaking Up Bee Colonies.

The American Bee Journal says . that when a colony, being without a queen, has laying workers in it and builds only drone comb, it is better to break it up than to try to introduce a queen to it, as the laying workers are apt to be present in large numbers, and such a colony is apt to be unwill-ing to accept a queen. If the combs are divided among other colonies, the laying workers, being old, will soon die off, and the other colonies will be the stronger for the combs given them.

When the eggs of the laying workers have developed into drone larva it advises slicing off the caps from the drone comb and the head of the larva with them, then sprinkling the un-scaled larva with fine salt and allowing the bees to clean the comb, which

Special Poultry Foods.

When crowding young stock I have successfully used cracker waste or bakers' crumbs mixed with other food and moistened with milk, to advantage. I have found it necessary several times, in crowding exhibition stock up to the standard weights, to are black molasses, sorghum or brown sugar. When such materials are used in cases of this kind, the other food must be carefully regulated or the birds will "go stale," as fanciers term it. However, this food would not

prove advantageous from a practical standpoint. I use oil meal each fall for our molting hens, and have found it s great feather easting stimulant and

have come to look on it as a necessity during the molting period. It is fed in proportion of one spoonful to each three times a week .- R. M. Lewis, in New England Homestead.

There ought to be a society for the prevention of cruelty and abusive use of farming tools and machinery. When we see mowing machines and respers sheltered in winter under apple trees, plows and harrows in lence corners, and other tools just where the owner left them when he used them last, we feel indignant. We know that it helps to make trade good for the manufacturer, and gives employment to many men who must supply new tools in place of those rusted and broken, but we know that before the new ones are bought many a borse will work barder on these machines than he would have needed to if they had been properly cared for, and men and boys must work harder as well and do less effective work. Some tools we know are not sheltered because the owner has not roof enough to cover all that he owns, but in more cases it is but the result of carelessness. This is one of the leaks on the farm that prevents the stream of pros-perity from filling the farmer's pockets and building up his bank account. Try to have them all housed before winter, and before spring comes have them overhauled and cleaned, iron work oiled, wood painted and every part in working order to begin with

next season. - American Cultivator. A Bands Smokehouse.

This smokehouse can be made of wood, but brick is best, as the building will then be fireproof. A chimney is built on the inside, reaching to within about two feet of the roof,



THE SMOKEHOUSE, SHOWING CHIMSEY

which carries smoke to the mest without any danger of fire coming in contact with it, even should some of the meat fall to the ground, as is some-times the case. The fire is fed through a small door in the end of the building. With doors made of light boiler iron, and a good lock attached, the building is burglar-proof. No flies or other insects will touch it. There are few buildings on the farm more needed than a good smokehouse, and one built in conformity to the sketch will prove very satisfactory to the farmer.

-New England Homestead. The News Sought Rim Out.

A young laborer who is employed in the Hampstead district yesterday in his dinner hour purchased something to eat, which was handed to him in a scrap of newspaper. When he had finished his meal he scanned the reading matter of the wrapper, and then learned that his brother, a private in the Manchester Regiment. private in the Manchester Regiment, had been killed in action.—London

A man who knows says that the past season at Saratoga was the big-gest one in sixteen years.