ON A DYING INSECT.

t rudely summoned from a scene that for some days hath shed delight thy small sonsee—what has been thy profit from this sunny world, are into darkness and oblivion hurled?

A few short flights on shimmering wings, A few warm ecstasies in air,
A golden glow, a glimpse of things Not understood, and everywhere
A great, glad life that soars and singsr Was it not well? Who asketh more To carry to the all-forgetting shore? —John Hall Ingham, in Lippincott's.

The young minister flushed a little

"I think," said the little postmistress

"that it's your duty to interfere, Mr.

"It isn't always easy to see one's

"And while you are waiting for clear

er vision the worst may happen," said

"I hope not," he said, and turned

The little postmistress gave a sniff

as he passed through the door, a little

sniff that was expressive of profound

ancient cottage. The milkman and the

baker and the grocer saw him on their

rounds. But they saw nothing of the

"How is the little fellow?" the grocer

"He's all right," the old man gruffly

"I haven't seen him out." the groce

"No," said the old man, and closed

At the expiration of three weeks

Selectman Briscom sought out the

"Parson," he said, "I'm here at the

equest of several of our most reputa-

ble citizens. They think something

"What do you propose?" inquired th

"We thought maybe you could sug-

The young minister was slient for

"We must be careful," he said.

"It looks mighty queer."

"We have no proof that anything is

should be done about Old Man Moxham

volunteered to ask one day.

The minister's face grew grave.

The young minister smilled.

the little postmistress.

culine humanity.

The Vigilance Committee.

By W. R. Rose.

I was a moonlight night and] and I'm just sure that old miser's the roadway shone white home's no place for him."

"Somebody ought to look after the and clear between the straggling fences. A numpoor little vagabond," said the banker's

Browning."

away.

replied.

persisted.

the door behind him.

young minister.

and thatboy."

young man.

moment.

wrong."

gest something."

"Of course."

ber of men, a dozen, perwife. "What have we got humane so cietles for?" haps, were coming up the The boy was rarely seen in the vil-lage. He was delicate in appearance hill from the village in the valley with its twinkling lights. They were plodding along in a little group and busily and seemed timid. He kept close to the old man and resisted all attempts talking as they advanced. Presently they paused at a gateway and crowded to draw him away.

a little closer. The house within the ward was old and weather beaten. It was a story and a half building. There was a porch along the front with two rindows beneath it, one for each side of the door. Through the window at the left shone a faint and flickering body with authority ought to investilight. gate-and right away, too, or it may be too late."

The group of men at the gate lingered irresolutely for a few moments, talking and seemed about to speak. Then he abruptly checked the impulse and in eager whispers. Then a tall young man with a smooth and kindly face broke from the party and led the way picked up his letters. up the graveled walk to the front door. When he reached the little porch he paused and held up his hand. Then he went to the window through which the faint light flickered and went in. duty clearly, Mrs. Twitters," he said.

That Abner Moxham was a hard man nobody in Winterfield doubted. He was unsociable. He was close in his dealings; he lived quite alone in the old cottage on the south hill. He was tall and lean and yellow, and his sixty years had touched his hair with white, and filled his lean cheeks with wrinkles He cared nothing for the matters that interested the villagers. He took no interest in politics nor in public improvements, and very little in religion.

Occasionally he would stray into the white church whose steeple was the tallest in the village, and sit quite by himself through the service. Then he would hurry away without a word to his fellow worshipers. The young pastor had called on him once, but it was not believed that he had repeated the

wisit. In fact, he never stated clearly what occurred while he was there. It was said that Abner was the possessor of a small library of books that were

calculated to destroy all faith in orthodox views, and that he pored over them a great deal of his time. Where the old man's income came from no villager knew. That it was limited everybody felt sure. His way of living was so simple, his clothes were thread bare, and the purchases he made in the willage were not of a character to suggest the possession of even a mo derate income. He came and went and bothered no man, yet was a thorn in the

flesh of the gossipy hamlet. And then his standing as an object of neighborly interest was suddenly and greatly increased by the rumor that he had brought a boy home to⁴ live with Abner had a habit of disappearing for a week or more at a time. He might have been supposed to be in his cottage during these absences If it hadn't been for the fact that he was seen to take the train. But where

be went Winterfield didn't know. The young minister hesitated. It was reported once by Ezra Kim "Out where I spent a year or two ball, whose business took him to the great city every month, that he ran across Abner there one morning, but

such an angle that the committee could women the BRAVER white hands, and the closed eyes. The boy was asleep. But even as they stared at this plo

ture the child stirred uneasily. "Daddy," he cried, "daddy!" It was a cry of terror.

"Yes, yes, dear boy, I am here," said the old man gently as he patted the white check. The big eyes opened wider and rested on the old man's face. The pale lips parted in a sigh. "I had a bad dream, daddy," he mur-

dream

"They will never beat you again, dear boy.'

Then he sighed again. This time it was a sigh of contentment.

heaven to be sick, isn't it?" The old man stroked the white hands

"There's a little pain again in my shoulder, daddy," said the boy. "If

you'll rub it just a little it will go away and then I can sleep." The old man reached across and gently stroked the alling arm and the tired evelids slowly closed.

old man looked up. The committee were grouped about the door, each man with his hat in his hand and they were all very still.

man softly. "He has had a fever, the result of his malarial surroundings and with an aching tooth himself. The of ill treatment. But he is much better, and will, please God, live to be a strong and healthy child. I have nursed him through this illness, because I felt competent to do it-I am a graduate of | however much pain she endures. a medical school-and because in his timid and nervous condition the sight of a strange face would have greatly retarded his recovery." He paused and gently shifted the child's head into a more comfortable position, and then one of the little hands crept into

appointed committee who have called upon you in a neighborly way with the command us to the utmost limit of our

said, "and I thank you all, gentlemen. There was a moment's pause

ninister.

"Good night and my thanks," said the old man.

It was the young pastor who broke

needed in the royal exchequer. The hIII. loss of an aching tooth at the hands isjudged this old man." of a smiling dentist is an awful ordeal. he said. "I believe I am free to say so. It was a dreadful domestic calamity that brought him to this state. It humbled his pride, it crushed his amstlbition. He crept away here to hide his wounded soul. And yet he has not entirely forgotten his fellow creatures. A great institution for the care of child waifs flourishes in the city through his liberality. And I hold in my hands a goodly sum for the benefit of our village poor, a thank offering for the recovery of his daughter's child. Yes, that is her child. And under Providence I fervently hope to see it the means of dra ring him back among his fellow men." He paused and half turned. "Oh, my brethren," he said, "never let charity lose its place in your hearts." They trudged on in silence until the parsonage was reached. They paused at the gate. "Gentlemen," said the selectman, as he glanced around, "I move that the Winterfield vigilance committee do now al djourn sine die." Then each man went his way .-- Cleveand Plain-Dealer. W.a. A German Autodrome. Automobiling has become so popular win n Germany that a racing track will be constructed for the lovers of the sport. It will be called an autodrome, and eighty acres of land have been acquired for the purpose in the neigh-Talt. barhood of Friednau, near Berlin. The autodrome is to be sole-shaped and with two curves, north and south, and wing two "bays" opposite the long side. It will be macadamized, and is to have a length of 2000 yards and a breadth of between thirty and fifty yards. Thus the motor track will be adapt-ed for cycle road racing. But the cycle races will mostly take place on the special racing track, 500 yards long, adining the autodr To the north of the autodrome a huge but restaurant will be constructed, together with stands and a royal pavilion. In another part of the ground there is to be a velodrome, serving the twofold purposes of an exhibition hall and, in bad weather, a racing place. A feature of the enterprise is a chauffeur erbool

the coming separation, however, they were of short duration, for on the following night it held a "wake" over the dead friendship that had existed between the two, and sent the reporter to the dentist's office the next morning Before the Dentist Men Howl: before breakfast with the determina Not So Their Sisters.

**

ance in the dentist's chair.

tion that no more compromises would be submitted to on his part. The dentist was in, and in a splendid humor It was early yet, and the writer con-

cluded that he would wait until some N no one way does woman show other patient came in, "just to see how it was done." "Misery loves comto a greater degree her superior physical endurance of pain over man than in the dentist's chair. how it was done." pany," it is said, and he thought that If he could see a jaw or two broken (for some one else) before his turn Where is the man, however physically brave in other particulars, who will not came, he could stand the ordeal betpanse and hestitate before visiting the lentist's with an aching tooth? He ter.

will postpone the visit and compromise He had not long to wait. A man came in with his jaw bound up in a cotton handkerchief. His left cheek with an offending tooth, meanwhile making a general nuisance of himself with his moanings and lugubrious looked as if he had undertaken to swalbowlings, slashed with profaulty, below a baseball, and that it had lodged in the side of his mouth. As well as fore his final and compulsory appearhe could, considering the impediments to speech, he said he had the jumping The fragile and delicate mite of a sister, or the aged and feeble mother toothache, and wanted the nerve killed. The dentist looked at the tooth and will, without fuss or hesitation, delibinformed him the nerve was already erately put on her street wraps, and calmly remarking, "I will be back presdead, and that the original trouble, irritation of the living membrane of the ently," proceed to her favorite dentist pulp walls, had resulted in Inflammaand have the tooth extracted. tion, suppuration and a collection of Another difference between the sexes observable in this matter of tecth expus. etc.

The next victim was an unshaven traction and toothaches is the penchant man who, with a steady nerve, took his of the male to inform friends and acquaintances of his own sex of the vaposition in the chair, but jumped two feet high a moment later and roared riations of his ailment, all of whom courageously advise him to "have the like a Comanche Indian when the docthing pulled out," and not one of whom tor "lifted" a large molar with roots an inch long from his law. but would hesitate and compromise

He gave place to a man from the ountry, accompanied by his wife. "She's got a bad tooth; the nerve is all bare, and it's ulcerated and gives her a sight of neuralgia," he said. The dentist smiled at the impossible combinations and said, "Take a scat, please." "His woman" proceeded to unwind two bed quilts from around been overlooked as a matter of record her head and neck, which act exposed a face that looked as though it had forced upon his observant faculties been interviewed by a swarm of hornets. "Her man" wanted her to take by the visitation of a toothache so something-"laffing gas or sich"-but jects and studies were abandoned durshe said "No;" she had the heart disease. She thought she could stand it ing the intermittent periods of the visiif it didn't break her jaw.

The next was a man who had been There has been no form of agony drinking to ease the pain of an aching ever invented that could compete in tooth, and wanted it out (hic) quick. hideousness with a toothache that un-He took gas, and had it out in a jiffy. derstands its business and throws all While under the influence of the gas its energies into the work before it. he said he dreamed that he was going There is only one form of pain that equals the toothache in intensity, and around and round on a roller coaster. Presently, while near the last grand descent, he looked up, and a large that is the old style of vanking the molars out, and even that was temgrappling hook suspended from a tree, porary in duration, while the ache itdropped into his mouth, lifted him bodself represented an infinity of sufferily from his seat and left him dangling ing, for each moment of the jumping. in midair.

bounding pain is equal to a month of The dentist evidently expected the reporter to take the chair and looked In the old days, when tooth pulling nquiringly. He looked confused, howwas a good deal like murder in the ever, when asked for an unbiased opinfirst degree, and when the tools used in the homicide were about as big and ion on the Venezuelan affair for publication. Apologizing for the mistaken awkward as a blacksmith's tongs, it expectation that his professional seris no wonder the people bore the evils they already had rather than fly to vices were sought by the reporter, the doctor entered into an exhaustive statethose they knew not of, but which they ment of the allies' side of the case, had a faint idea consisted of a broken at the conclusion of which the reporter jaw and a mouthful of blood and withdrew with profuse thanks, bordersplintered enamel; but in these days of ing on affectation, for the lucid inforannesthetics and "painless" dentistry mation on this burning public question, It seems strange that a person will en-The aching molar had become so dure the tortures of the damned for thoroughly scared by the few object weeks when relief can be secured so lessons recited that it became reconciled to remain and continue its daily It is a fact, however, that tooth pullgrind of soft edibles. The "intering is not much more popular or fashlew" on Venezuela effected a temionable now than it was when the porary if not permanent settlement .--Kings of England, who were the first Washington Post, dentists, by the way, used to yank

Footgear For Rough Usage. The War Department has adopted a hiking shoe, a most formidable type of accear, admirably adapted to roug

usage in the Philippines. It has been

Capital

Surplus

which was found in an old copper mine on an island off the Chilean

coast several years ago and was ex-hibited at the Buffalo Exposition, Dur-

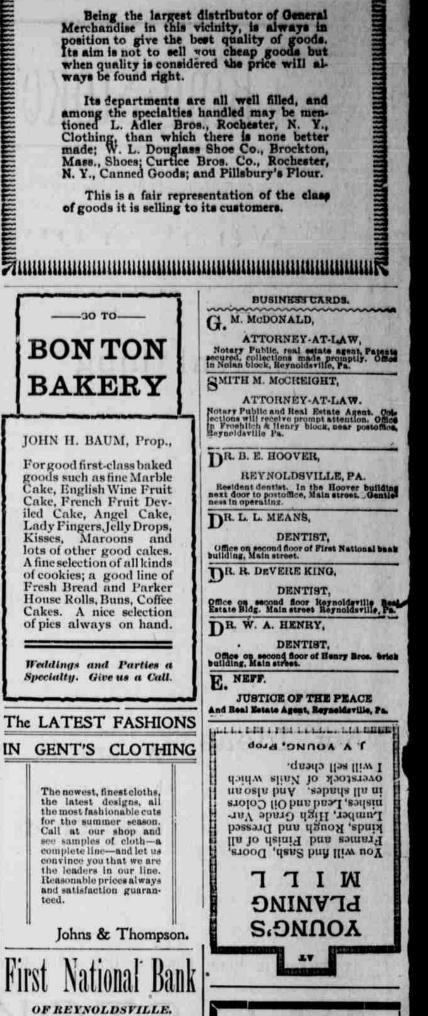
ing that exposition the bureau tried several times to get possession of this

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mured. "Yes, dear boy. But it was only

> "I dreamed they were beating me ngain, daddy."

The child was silent for a moment.

"Daddy," he softly said, "it's like

contempt for the dilatory ways of mashad stepped forward. Then came a time when the boy was "Mr. Moxham," he said, in his deep, not seen for several weeks and public low tones, "these gentlemen are a selfanxiety grew intense. Nor did the old man appear. He was there in the

desire of proffering such aid as you may require. They have been worried and even alarmed by your non-appearance in the village and are here because they felt it was high time that they asserted their humanity. We are not a demonstrative people in Winterfield. We act slowly, but when we do act we are thoroughly in earnest. And I speak for each member of this committee, sh, and for all the village, too. when I say that if there is aught we can do to help you in any way you can

resources." He paused and the old man slowly odded

"I thank you, Mr. Browning," he But at present there is nothing I need. Should any occasion arise, I will be glad to call upon you." And his head dropped again over the child.

"Good night, sir," said the tall young

There was a little murmur of good nights behind him.

And the Winterfield vigilance committee passed out.

the silence as they strode down the

out the teeth of the Jews who would not come down with the cash so sorely

after I left college," he said, "they would have made this the subject for vigilance committee's attentions.

enderly. "He's thoroughly cowed," said the lit 'e postmistress to the young minister as she held that worthy with her glittering eye. "Looks to me like a child that's been half starved and beaten and had all the spirit taken out of it. Some

Presently the stroking ceased and the

"The child has been ill," said the old lady, as a rule, conceals from he friends and from her sex the fact of her affliction, and neither moan or complaint is uttered in their presence, It is more than probable that woman ly superiority of courage in the toothache and extracting line would have by the writer but that the contrast was

the brown and rugged one and stayed active and energetic that all other subthere. He looked up again, but before ie could speak the tall young pastor

tation.

ordinary time.

speedily.

hat the old man didn't look at him	When a social duty of this sort w
"And what's queerer," said Ezra, "is	under consideration a rope was usua at hand where it could be found wh
hat he was talking to two swells at a	wanted."
arriage door as I came up, and the	"Of course," said the selectman has
ady gave him her hand and the man ook off his hat to him. Then they	ly, "we don't intend to go that far."
ook off his hat to him. Then they	The young man smiled.
trove away."	"But the vigilance committee id
But Winterfield pooh-poohed this pic-	sults you?"
ure and assured Ezra that he must be	"The idea of a committee to visit
lreaming.	old man sults me."
When the boy arrived it was early	"Good," said the young man. "Th
wening and he was so muffled up that	can be no harm in that."
is face could not be seen. He was a	"And you'll join us?" "Yes."
ittle fellow of perhaps eight, and Ab-	
mrious stationmaster could get a good	"To-morrow night?" "Yes."
ook at him. It was a full mile from	and the second se
he station to the old cottage on the	"We'll meet at the church at
all, and in the dusk of the evening	"Very well."
Im Perkins had met the tall old man	The selectman paused.
rudging up the hill with the lad on his	"And will you lead us?"
back.	"If you desire it," said the you
When Winterfield heard of this addi-	minister.
ion to the Moxham household it	And so it happened that the first v
trowned ominously and shook its sa-	lance committee that Winterfield 1
racious head. It was no place for a	ever known plodded determinedly,
boy. It couldn't be a home for any-	though at a leisurely pace, up the lo
body. The boy was to be pitied. In	hill in the bright moonlight, and fina
fact, the village must keep a sharp	entered the old man's yard and hal
ookout for his welfare.	before the ancient cottage. And it v
It was a day or two later that the	the tall young minister who advan
child and old Abner appeared at the	and peered through the lighted w
postoffice, and the postmistress got a good look at the little fellow.	(10) Y (10) Y (10)
She stared at him out of her little	There was a brief pause. Then the tall young minister turn
window.	to the others.
"That' a delicate appearin' child you	"Come," he said in a whisper.
have there,' 'she said.	He rapped lightly on the door. W
"Yes," Abner replied, as he reached	ing but a moment he opened it
for his letters. If it hadn't been for his	passed in, with the others follow
mail the old man's visits to the village	him.
would have been greatly decreased in	The door opened immediately into
number. He received more letters	big living room of the cottage, a c
than any man in Winterfield, a fact	fortable apartment with a great i
that thoroughly convinced the villagers	place with a log burning on the h
that he must be engaged in some ne-	andirons, a log that sent out the flich
farious pursuit where letter writing was a part of the swindle.	ing light that had illuminated the a
The little postmistress yielded up the	The old man was there, seated 1
letters reluctantly.	low chair by the fireplace. He loo
"Needs a lot o' good care," she said	up as the committee entered,
with her beady black eyes on the boy.	showed no surprise.
"Yes," Abner agreed, as he turned	He only nodded and then held up
AWAY.	hand with a slight warning gesture
aw," the little postmistress explained	the old man's side. His head with
"Most unwholesome child I ever aw," the little postmistress explained to Mrs. Baxtar, the wife of the village	long light bair was pillowed aga
hanker. "He looks scared and abused,	the old man's shoulder. He see
	Cosmercian Laborates all and
Cartan a top & and the share have been	

largely because the imiganition of the sufferer has made it so. He suffers the operation many times in anticipation before the forceps grapple with the offending molar. Newspaper men, however humiliating the confession, are not any freer from this superstition than common mortals, as it is proven by an experience during the past week. The re porter had a tooth that had been with him so long a time that a sort of friendly intimacy had sprung up between the two. The tooth, however, had recently got tired of its job, and kicked so vigorously to get out into the wide world and seek its fortune that he finally concluded to let it go. before he came to this conclusion, he temporarized with it for some time in the hope that it would change its mind and conclude to remain, but to no purpose.

Its demands for release became so Importunate that its objection to remaining sent thrills of pain clear through the reportorial anatomy which ended in his surrender. He became a close student of the dentists' cards in the newspapers in his endeavor to find one who could perform the operation "without pain,"and finally made a selection of a dentist on the avenue. The selection was made on Monday. He met the dentist on the street and discussed the weather and other topics of interest with him, and finally in-quired if he would be in his office next day, and was told that he would. Tuesday he passed the stairway leading to the office, but didn't think the dentist was in. He didn't know just

what led him to think this, but he was inspired with the thought somehow and passed on. On Wednesday morning the tooth raised a big rumpus at the long delay, and so he made a bee line for the doctor's office. At the foot of the stairs

the tooth seemed sorry for the impa-tience it had exhibited, and taking the tooth's behavior as a sign that it was not so anxious for the separation as it pretended, concluded he would give it one more chance to be friends, a.d

so went on up the street about his busi-If the tooth had any regrets about

found that the shoes now issued to troops stationed in the islands are not durable. The hard service to which they are subjected in the rough secious of the country, especially during the wet season, leaves very little of them. . The new shoe is of the style commonly used by hunters, the "uppers" coming well up on the leg. Each side of the tongue of the shoe is fastened to the upper so as to exclude water, and the leather is of rough crain, thick and of the so-called tan variety. The sole is very heavy and the heel and sole are fitted with hob nails. an idea adopted from the English army shoe. The new American army sho is much lighter in weight and more comfortable to the wearer than the British shoe, which carries the quality of durability to the point of being an infliction to the soldier who must wear it on the march .- Army and Navy Register.

How Ermine Are Captured,

Perfect fur, of the delicate ermine at least, would be marred by the ordinary snare, so the trapper devises as cunning a death for the ermine as the ermine devises when it darts up through the snow with its spear teeth clutched in the throat of a poor rab bit. Smearing his huting knife with grease, he lays it across the track. The little ermine comes trotting in dots and dashes and gallops and dives to the knife. That greasy smell of meat it knows, but that frost-silvered bit of steel is something new. The knife is frosted like ice. Ice, the ermine has licked, so he licks the knife. But alas for the resemblance between ice and steel! Ice turns to water under the warm tongue; steel turns to fire that blisters and holds the foolish little stoat by his inquisitive tongue, a hope-

mummy, but without success, the owners asking too high a price. Reless prisoner until the trapper comes owners asking too high a price. Re-cently, however, negotiations were renewed, with the result that the bu-reau obtained the tools, implements and vessels found with the mummy at a very fair price, and they are now seeking to obtain the remains also, with reasonable hopes of success. And, lest marauding wolverine or lynx should come first and gobble up priceless ermine, the trapper comes soon. And that is the end for the ermine .---Agnes C. Laut, in Leslie's Monthly.

The Fun of It All. The fun of being a fool over a wom-an is the enjoyment you get out of the fun she gets out of it.—New York Paraffin oil is about to be tried as be motive power for herring fishing outs on the Moray Firth.



Northamer & Kellock. Woodward Building, Main Street

