

THE FELLOW WHO FIGHTS ALONE.

The fellow who fights the fight alone, With never a word of cheer, With never a friend his help to lend, With never a comrade near.

Ah, bitter enough the combat is, With every help at hand, With friends at need to his Godspeed, With spirits that understand.

THE RING AND THE LADY.

It was certainly rather rough on the Rev. Reginald Bisgood that by an act of the purest good nature he should have been led into so awkward a complication.

you were seen to go into the house of that bad woman yesterday, and to remain with her for an hour and 16 minutes?" "Eh? What on earth do you mean?"

Mr. Jenkins, the patron of the living, although given up to social life in London, had always shown a laudable disposition to fall in with the wishes of the parishioners.

The vicar listened with offensive incredulity. "A very pretty and ingenious story, Mr. Bisgood. I really don't know which to commend the more—your ingenuity in concocting it, or your effrontery in telling it."

"I—ahem! Does—does—Mrs.—Mrs. Robinson live here?" he stammered, mentioning the first name that came into his head, as the best way out of the embarrassing situation.

"Do you mean to say you don't believe me?" demanded the curate, beginning to grow hated.

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"Robinson is a common enough name. And, likely, or not, it is precisely what happened," answered the curate.

"I don't know how it is," continued Mrs. Robinson, candidly, "but I'm afraid I can't be exactly persona grata in Totham. Everybody seems to fight shy of me. I'm not aware of having done anything to offend the worthy denizens of this highly respectable place.

"You are not improving your position by insolence, Mr. Bisgood. Had you been penitent and contrite, I might have given you another chance. But the sooner you leave Totham, the better."

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think Mr. Priggleswade, is it not will you walk in, please?" The vicar started. He turned pale. In the pretty woman who stood confronting him he recognized that depraved person, Mrs. Robinson.

"I—I—came to see Mrs. de Bracey," he stammered. "And I am Mrs. de Bracey," she smiled. "You are surprised eh?—because you have known me in another name. Well, the fact is this: When I purchased the advowson of Totham with the knowledge that the late rector contemplated resigning at an early date, the idea struck me that I would go down and live there awhile, in an assumed name, so that I might have a good opportunity of studying the local clergy, to see whether any were deserving to be appointed to the benefice, when it fell vacant."

"The lady went on: 'My rather Bohemian way of life appears to have shocked all the good people of Totham immensely; and I won't deny that when I saw that I took a malicious pleasure in even going out of my way to shock them further. Still, I hardly think that they—least of all you clergy, who are supposed to be especially endowed with the virtue of Christian charity—would have jumped to the conclusion that I was a bad character.' 'Oh, I never thought that—' began the vicar, in obsequious deprecation. 'No!' she ejaculated, with a slight lift of her shapely shoulders. 'Then I wonder why you dismissed that nice curate of yours for the iniquity of merely calling to see me.' 'Oh, that was a mistake—an unfortunate mistake—' 'A very unfortunate mistake, Mr. Priggleswade, as you are now to learn. Had you behaved differently, and as a minister of the gospel ought, I should probably have presented you to the benefice. But, as it is, I have decided to present your late curate, the Rev. Reginald Bisgood.'—London Truth.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

A five hundred mile canal, projected to drain the great swamps of Florida, would reclaim 6,500,000 acres of land.

By ignoring fractional parts of a penny in paying dividends on government stocks the British government saves annually \$7500.

The pearl mentioned by Tavernier as belonging to the emperor of Persia, was purchased of an Arab in 1633, and is valued at \$550,000.

Swedish railway waiting rooms are provided with couches, and porters come around and wake slumberers 10 minutes before the train is to start.

Hat shops are opened on all the Hamburg-American liners. The stock will include all the best English, French, German and American makes.

Three good washes are received by an Abyssinian during his career—at his birth, on his marriage morn and at his death. At all other times he shuns soap and water.

Maurice Maeterlink, the Belgian author, has bought Wandrinne abbey, the old monastery on the banks of the Seine and, although it is 1300 years old, will try to restore it to a habitable condition.

In the Neuchatel (Switzerland) courts the speeches of lawyers will in future be limited to 10 minutes, five minutes being allowed for cross-examinations. An official time keeper will see that the regulation is observed.

The smallest railroad in England is the Garstang and Knott End (Lancashire) railway, which in the last six months earned a net revenue of \$2430. The half-yearly meeting of proprietors was attended by one person, the secretary.

John Marshall's house in Richmond, Va., in which he lived for 40 years, has been bought by the city and is in danger of destruction. An effort to preserve it as a memorial of the great interpreter of the constitution has been suggested.

Mail Carrier Unable to Read or Write. Reno has a mail carrier who can neither read nor write, not because the Government desires this sort of clerk in the service, but because the postmaster cannot secure applicants for the position from the ranks of those who are making more money in other lines.

Painless Cancer. There is a prevailing opinion that cancer is always painful from the beginning, whereas it is really painless in the majority of cases. It is desirable to ascertain how far the public ought to be instructed in the early signs of cancer, with a view to the adoption of earlier diagnosis, and consequently earlier operation.—Hospital.

Famine Tightens Its Grip.

Cannibalism in Its Most Awful Form is Reported From China.

When appeals for help for the famine-stricken Chinese were first issued to the American public it was stated that as the months went on destitution would grow more pronounced, starvation would claim more victims, horrors would be piled on horror's head. It was further stated that no alleviation from the natural sources of supply—the farm lands—could be expected until late in June, mayhap not until the coming autumn.



DESTITUTE CHINAMEN WORKING UNDER A MISSIONARY.

actively and maintaining whole districts until harvest. Here, in most succinct portrayal, is a word picture of horrors at which the imagination revolts, and side by side a companion illustration that has a right to make glad the hearts of Americans. Of all the foreign relief contributed for the Chinese sufferers America has given fully two-thirds, and the cablegram says that this relief is effective to the maintenance of "whole districts"—to the saving of hundreds of thousands of lives.

As the famine advances and while need grows greater, avenues for effective relief grow wider and more numerous. It rests with Americans whether these avenues shall be used to the full and to the everlasting glory of our national generosity.

By hard work, the hearty co-operation of milling men, railway men, officers of the army and officials at Washington and by prompt advancing of the necessary funds, the cargo of the army transport Buford is now en route from Minneapolis, or from milling points in Washington and Oregon, will be assembled on the Government docks in San Francisco and loaded into the hold of the vessel in time for her to set sail as ordered.

The Buford is detained by the Government to the American Red Cross to carry a cargo of flour to the starving Chinese. The Buford will go first to the Sandwich Islands and thence direct to Chinkiang, China, the port nearest the famine district and the



DISPENSING RICE AT SOUCHON, AS SEEN FROM CITY WALL.

sent of the Missionary Committee charged with the distribution. The flour is of the American sort—nutritive, healthful, desirable—and will cost \$110,000. The added cost of the donated transportation would bring the total value to \$150,000, and this value can conservatively be estimated at \$250,000 when the flour is delivered at Chinkiang. The entire amount of the cost, \$110,000, has

been advanced by the Christian Herald, and contributions sent to that paper will be appropriated to defraying this expense.

Shaking Him Up.

A young married lady one morning gave her husband a sealed letter, which he was to read when he got to the office. He did so, and the letter ran as follows: "I am obliged to tell you something that may give you pain, but there is no help for it. You shall know everything, whatever be the consequences. For the last week I have felt that it must come to this, but I have waited until the last extremity, and can remain silent no longer. Do not overwhelm me with bitter reproach, for you will have to put up with your share of the trouble as well as myself."

Cold perspiration stood in thick drops on the brow of the husband, who was prepared for the worst. Tremblingly he read on: "Our coal is all gone. Please order a ton to be sent this afternoon. I thought you might forget it for the tenth time, and therefore wrote you this letter."

But he didn't forget that time!—Tit-Bits.

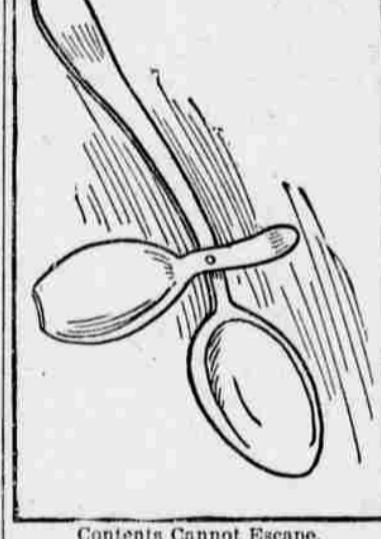
Medicine Spoon For Children.

The administering of medicine, especially liquid medicine, to children is a delicate operation, generally requiring the services of two persons. In most cases more of the medicine finds its way to the floor than down



Contents Cannot Escape.

over the edges of the spoon. Pivoted to the latter, adjacent to the bowl, is a cover which corresponds in shape to the bowl of the spoon. The cover is cut away at one end, leaving a small opening, while the other end



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FINANCE AND TRADE REVIEW

DUN'S WEEKLY SUMMARY

Lateness of Spring Retards All Lines of Trade Except Iron and Steel.

Seasonable merchandise goes into distribution slowly, which causes accumulation of spring and summer dry goods and millinery in the hands of dealers and retards collections, at the same time making operations of fall and winter much more conservative. At some points the last week of May brought pronounced improvement in commercial activity, but the holiday retarded recovery. Progress is slow. Manufacturing plants are producing at full capacity in most industries, orders covering outputs far into the future. More New England cotton mills employes have received advanced wages, making the change affect about 85,000 hands. Another evidence of progress in cotton spinning was the increase in quarterly dividends at Fall River to 2.21 per cent, against 1.32 per cent last year and 2.14 per cent in 1902, the most prosperous of recent years.

Current transactions in the iron and steel industry are of comparatively little significance, owing to the enormous tonnage of business under contract that will maintain activity far into the future, some sales covering the output of mills for the entire year 1908. Yet new orders are constantly appearing, including much foreign business. Deliveries are made as near as possible to specification. The output of pig iron probably beyond all precedent. Movement of ore is so heavy that congestion results at lower lake ports and the inadequate supply of cars causes much accumulation on the docks, especially at Cleveland.

Rail and structural orders are the most urgent in demand for products of steel. Yet there is some evidence of curtailed plans because of unfavorable crop reports of the difficulty experienced in raising funds for new construction.

MARKETS.

Table with columns for market type (e.g., PITTSBURGH, BALTIMORE, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK) and commodity prices (e.g., Wheat, Corn, Oats, Flour, Eggs).

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The following are the quotations for credit balances in the different fields: Pennsylvania, \$1 78; Tiana, \$1 78; Second Sand, \$1 68; North Lima, \$1 68; South Lima, \$1 68; Indiana, \$1 68; Somerset, \$1 68; Hagland, \$1 68; Canada, \$1 35.