### FIFTY YEARS ON.

"When you have turned a hundred and I am fifty-five."
So spoke without a warning the plumpest girl alive...
"I wender, oh, I wonder how both of us will be.
With Helen fifty-seven and baby fifty-ture."
"Your hair will not be brown, dear; you'll wear a decent cap; "Maybe you'll have a grandchild acrowing buzzing hive. Your boys and girls will tense you when you are fifty-five.

The sum was done precisely; each item

was correct; The grisly shade of Cocker had nothing to

object; 'And yet I could not praise her, or sanction which tassed about the lifties in this col-lected way.

"And sometimes, too, I tancy, when all the world is snow," You'll smile as you remember the days of

But still the maiden pressed me, and so 1 made reply: "I'll tell you what I think, dear, about your by and by: B. C. Lehman, in Punch.

# How Linus Got the Place 0000 By ELIZABETH ò **\$\$\$\$\$\$\$**

ford News, while his mother fried ret. the griddle-cake for supper. He had to hold it up high, because his twoyear-old sister Ruthie was leaning against his knee and kept clutching at it

"Oh, mother!" Linus suddenly exclaimed, "listen to this: 'Wanted,' a boy of fifteen or sisteen to work in store Saturdays, and before and after school on other days. Applicants will be seen on Saturday next, between 8 and 9 a. m., at the store, J. B. Gregg.' "

That is just what you have been wishing for, isn't it?" said his mother.

"If I can only get it!" Linus an-swered, "Just think! he'll surely pay as much as a dollar a week, and drinks, and after a while his mother maybe a dollar and a half. Why, I could do an awful lot with that. "It would be a great help, certain-

ly," his mother said. 'Let me see-day after to-morrow. I must be on band at eight, sharp, Guess I'll aim for a quarter of. wonder who else will be there."

He found out at school, the next morning, who intended to go. There were Jimmie Bruce, and Fred Gillespie, and Eben Sterne, and Casper Jordan, who were quite anxious for the situation, and nearly a dozen others who were not as eager, but still were going to apply for it. They were all talking together in a group about how they would spend the money if they should get the chance to earn it.

"Mullo, Linus!" cried Jimmie. "Are you going to get that place at

Gregg's grocery store?" "Ho!" said Casper. "It isn't likely he's even heard of it, 'way out there at the jumping off place."

"Yes, I have. Before you heard of it here in town, maybe." Linus retorted.

'Going to try for it?"

"Shouldn't wonder if I did."

'Ho! there's no danger of your getting it," said Casper, looking him over. "They don't want fellows that wear patches on their cloths, in stores nowadays."

"They want a fellow to live in the same county, too, I guess," laughed Eben.

"Really, now, Linus, you don't stand any chance at all," said Fred seriously. "It's no use your trying. Why, it's between two and three miles to where you live; you wouldn't

Linux was looking over the Bick- | brought the snowshoes from the gar-

They both decided that something might be done, and they spent an hour working over them. Then Linus went out into the storm and experimented, and after a little practice he found that he could get over the snow quite easily on the mended snowshoes. "Now I'm all right," he said. and went to bed with a light heart.

At 3 o'clock in the morning Linus was awakened by his mother calling him. Her teeth chattered and her voice was faint, and Linus knew at once that she was having a chill. He sprang out of bed and slipped into his clothes, then fetched comforters, and built a fire to heat water for the hot-water bottle and for hot began to feel better, though she was very weak.

"I'm afraid you will have to give up going to the village," she said sorrowfully. "I could get along nicely if I were alone, but I am not able to take care of Ruthie.

Linus thought hard for a minute. 'It wouldn't hurt Ruthle to be out in the storm a little while, would it?" he asked.

"I don't know as it would," his mother answered. "She is used to being out in all weathers, and is perfectly healthy."

"Then I've got a plan. I'll just carry her on my back as far as Mrs. Fuller's, and leave her there. It's only about a quarter of a mile, and the Fullers have often offered to take her.

"I must get the place at Mr. Gregg's if it's a possible thing," he "If mother is going to have thought. these sick spells every little while, we shall need the money-we shall need it awfully."

So Linus brought in several big armfuls of wood, and made his mother some toast, and put the things she was likely to want where she could get them easily. Then he awoke Ruthic, dressed and fed her, and wrapped her up well.

At the last moment he could not find his mittens. "I left them on the stand; I know I did," he said. "Ruthie, have you had 'em?" Ruthie nodded.

'What did you do with them?" "Don't know what Ruthie did with em," she answered soberly.

you came all the way from there this morning?' 'Yes, sir."

"And bare-handed! Don't your hands ache

Linus' hands did ache so that it seemed as if he should cry if he tried wear a decent cap; Maybe you'll have a grandshild a crowing to speak, and he mooded. on your lap; And through the winter evenings the easiest of chairs Will give you greater comfort than romp-ing on the stairs.

Mr. Gregg hurried into the back room and returned almost instantly with a basin of cold water.

"There! put your hands in that," said. "Your curs look a little he said. frosted, too!" and he dashed out of the door for a handful of snow, which he rubbed on Linus' ears with great energy. Then he went and opened the draught in the stove, and put on more coal.

Linus had always had the idea that Mr. Gregg was a cold, unsympathetic man who cared for nothing but money; now he suddenly changed his mind.

After awhile the pain began to go away, and Linus felt as if he could talk again. Mr. Gregg asked him a good many questions, and finally got out of him all the story of his coming.

"But you can't take a trip like this every day." said Mr. Gregg. "There won't be likely to be any more days as bad as this," Linus answered.

"Well, perhaps not. But it's a long way to come, in the best of weather. Then he asked how much rent Linus' mother had to say

Linus told him, adding that it was low because very few people were willing to live in such a lonely place. Mr. Gregg looked thoughtful for several minutes.

'Now look here!" he said at last. 'I, too, have a house that is hard to let, and those I do let it to generally manage to cheat me out of a good part of the rent. It's in the ell of this store, so you can know it's a healthy location. I'll let your mother have it for the same that she's paying now. And I'll allow you two dollars and a half a week, though I wasn't intending to pay quite so much. How is that?"

"But-do you mean I'm going to have the situation?" stammered Lin-115.

"Going to have it? Why, of course you are. Haven't you worked hard enough for it?"

"But there were a lot of the boys going to apply for it. You haven't seen them yet?"

Mr. Gregg gave a peculiar amile. 'I'm not likely to see them to-day, I reckon. The storm will keep them

at home. And you anyway." have hired you anyway." "I'll come," said Linus, and he "I'll come," the door. "You said Monday."

"Hold on!" commanded Mr. "I think I've got a pair of Gregg. snowshoes somewhere. I make it a point to keep a little of 'most everything in my store."

After a short search he found them, and then he brought a pair of mittens. "You can use the shoes till the track is broken out; it won't burt 'em," he said.

At school it proved a great wonder how "that boy on the turnpike got in at Gregg's." But Mr. Gregg knows. "A boy with pluck like that," he told his wife that night, 'is the kind that will be handy in a pinch. I don't seem to have much room at the store for some boys, but I reckon there'll be room enough for Linus."-Boys' World.

Comforting.

A lady who had recently moved to the suburbs was very fond of her first



MY RED SHOES. When I put on my black shoes I'm just a common girl. And like to play with Jimmle, With my hair all out of curl.

But, when I wear my red shoes, I feel so very grand— As if I were a lady With a knight to kiss my hand.

I feel like saying "pardon" Instead of just "excuse," And curtsing 'stead of howing, When I wear my new red shoes.

1 think of trains and pages, And "many a gallant band"— Of course it's very foolish, But perhaps you understand! —Louise McCloy Horn, in Little Folks.

HOW BIRDS OF PREY HUNT.

The eye of the bird of prey is probably the most perfect organ of sight that exists, says a writer in the World

To-day. Most marvelous of all is the sight which enables the owl to strike the

mouse in the darkness or to pursue and capture the bat which we can scarcely see even in the early twilight. The talons of some of the larger birds of prey are extremely strong.

The feet of the osprey make a splendid fish trap, one from which no fish can escape when once caught. The great, curved talons of the

eagle are most effective, and are certainly stronger than those of all othor birds. When they once close on an object, the clutch is so tight that it can scarcely be loosened unless the bird's leg be severed. The strong claws are not only used in catching food, but are used also in carrying nesting material.

If, instead of killing its prey, r species of bird is accustomed to feed on carrion, this change is clearly reflected in the weaker muscles of the feet, and in the shorter and duller claws.

Many people have thought that buzzards have an unusual sense of smell that guides them over miles of territory in search of food, but many the principal factor in guiding the bird of prey.

Audubon made careful experiments with a black vulture. The dry, stuffed skin of a deer which he placed out in the field soon attracted a vulture. Although there was no smell of flesh, and nothing eatable about it, the bird lit and began tugging at the dry skin. Later, when the same bird circled over the field it espled a small snake, not thicker than a man's finger, and pounced upon it.

In another case the decayed carcass of a hog was covered with brush so that it was invisible. It remained undiscovered by the vultures that frequently passed over the place by accident, although the stench was very strong.

The sparrow hawk is perhaps the best known of our birds of prey, as it ranges through the entire country. Contrary to what the name might signify, this bird lives almost exclusively on insects, except where such food is difficult to obtain.

Upon the treeless plains and hills throughout the West it is a common sight to see these little falcons beating along over the waste, frequently swerving upward in flight and coming to a dead stop, as they hang sus-



As a family, the owls are among the most beneficial of all birds, from the economic standpoint of the agriculturist. With few exceptions, the owls are nocturnal. Their eyes and ears are remarkably developed and are keenest in the early hours of the night and morning.

Many harmful rodents are most active in their search for food during the night, and the owls are the natural check for this multitude. The hawk hunts by day and the owl by night, and the work of one supplements that of the other.

## THE MESMERIZED RING.

Attach a massive gold ring to a slik thread about twelve inches long and fasten the other end around the joint nearest the nail of your right forefinger. Allow the ring to hang about half an inch above the surface of the table, on which you rest your elbow to steady your hand. Hold your finger horizontally, with the thumb thrown back as far as possible from the rest of the hand. 11 there be nothing on the table the ring will soon become stationary,

Pince some silver coin, three half dol-



ring and it will begin to oscillate to and from you. Bring your thumb in contact with your forefinger and the oscillations will become transverse to their former swing. This may also be affected by letting a girl take hold of your disengaged hand. When the years ago it was proved that sight is transverse motion is fairly established let a boy take hold of the girl's disengaged hand and the ring will change back to its former course. In stead of silver you can suspend the ring over your left forefinger with similar results .--- Washington Star.

### WATER-LOVING CAT.

A tabby tomcat which I have reared from a kitten and which is now nearly three years old possesses more amicable characteristics and paradoxical peculiarities than I have ever known a cat to have before, and I loved cats all my life. He bathes like a seal, having taught himself in a sponge bath when about three months old, and thoroughly enjoys a romp with my big Labrador dog afterward to get dry.

He is a perfect demon for fledg-ling birds, walking all over the front function of its mucous lining, or cause the adhesive and complete of the ivy-clad house and hooking closure of the cavity or posch --them from their nests, very often pouching fourteen a day. Yet he lies in the dining-room where a goldfinch, a siskin and a linnet fly backward and forward continuously, often brushing close past his head, and of them he never takes the slightest notice.

As I write he is mothering a be lated chick which was extracted from its shell by ourselves this morning, MAXMALALA MAKA Farm Topics

FOR THE FARM REPAIR SHOP. Strips of wet rawhide are very convenient to repair broken woodwork, tools or chairs .- American Cultivator.

## NAME HELPS SALES.

Give the farm a name and stencil it upon all the packages sent out. Such a plan is a good business policy and will help sell the produce.-Boston Cultivator.

CHICKEN EATING HOGS. To effectually break hogs of the habit of eating chickens, thoroughly saturate, or rather sprinkle a dead chicken with cayenne pepper or chill pepper and let them eat it. If this does not help it, nothing will help, unless you cut off their tails just behind their ears .- Paul Kautz

### CARROTS FOR STOCK.

The value of carrots will be made manifest to any person who has never used them in winter if they will procure a few bushels and feed them to horses and cows. These animals will leave all other foods for the carrots. They need not be cooked, but should be sliced, with a little sait sprinkled over them .- Agricultural Epitomist.

TO KEEP FLIES OFF.

And and

Take a cup of clean lard and mix enough pine tar with it to be a good black; then take a small bruch and give your horses a good rubbing with the brush, using the tar and brush. The files will not bother the animal while the odor of tar remains on the legs or other exposed parts of the and mal. This is reliable .- M. A. Morehead.

GRADES OF BUTTER.

on the market, and it may be safely

stated that hundreds of farmers'

wives do not know how to make good

butter. Each one has some method-

ical manner of performing the work,

learning nothing and increasing the

cost of labor, only to put on the mar-

ket an article to be sold at a low

price because buyers will not take it

as long as they can get something

MILKING.

from whatever cause, either eareless-

ness or imperfect milking from the

fault of the milker, or from the dif-

ficult task by reason of the anatom-

leal construction of the udder, are

converted into worthless animals.

The milk that remains in the udder

from imperfect milking is that which

is held by the small pouches or milk

vesicles high up in the bag, and will

form a curd that will excite inflam-

mation and destroy the secreting

FLOOD GATE.

always washing away make out of

1x4 inch stuff any length that i

To make a flood-gate which is not

Cows that are imperfectly miked,

better.

W. R. Gilbert,

X

There are many grades of butter

"Ruthle can't think." And that et here till 'twas time for school to begin."

"I think I'll try just the same, if you don't mind," said Linus dryly. "2 lot of good 'twill do," said

Casper; and all the boys laughed.

'Hullo!" exclaimed Fred, looking at his jacket sleeve and then up into the sky. "It's beginning to snow. There'll be coasting before you know You won't come out to-morrow morning, Linus; you'll be snowed

Linus really felt a good deal dis-"ouraged, for it did seem as if his chances were pretty slender, compared with those of the village boys. But he wasn't going to give up; no! and his lips were set in a straight line of determination, as he went into school.

The snow came down faster and faster, and at noon the teacher decided to have but one session and let school out at half-past one. Even as arly as that, the snow was so deep that it took Linus much longer than usual to reach home.

"If the storm continues, how will vou get to Mr. Gregg's in the morn-ing?" his mother asked.

"That's what I've been trying to think," said Linus. "There won't be any track this side of the village; 1'll have to start by 6 o'clock sure.

"Do you s'pose I could sponge my facket, and press some of the wrinkles out of my trousers?" he asked "I'l like to wear after a little pause. my best ones, but I'd have to wear these if I worked in the store, and I don't want Mr. Gregg to think that I am going to dress better than I am."

"I'll see what I can do with them, by and by," said his mother.

"No, you're too tired: I'll do it myself," Linus said. And after supper he set about it energetically. When he had finished, and blacked his shoes, he went out to take an observation of the weather

'It's going to be the hardest walk ever took," he said soberly, when he came in. "Guess I'll have to start by 4 or 5."

"If only that old pair of snowshoes were in good condition!" said his

was all he could get out of her. "I'll have to go without mittens

"Try to think."

then," he said. "Guess my hands will be frozen before I get there." He swept off the doorstep and stood

Ruthle on it, and when he had put on the snowshoes he stooped cown and she clasped him around the neck. Then he straightened up and clasped his hands behind him to keep her from slipping off.

He had to go very carefully, for if he should fall there was no knowing how long it would take him to get on his feet again.

He reached Mrs. Fuller's without accidents, explained hastly, left Ruthle, and then went on. The temperature had fallen, and an icy wind was blowing the snow about. Linus

pulled his cap down as far as it would go over his ears, and thrust

his hands as deeply as possible into his jacket pockets. "It won't last forever," he thought grimly, as he pushed on against the wind.

One of the snowshoes began to trouble him, and just before he reached the village it gave out entirely. He took off the other one, and slung the pair around his neck. after tying them together. He sank into the snow, now, and it was so deep that every step was difficult.

He had gone but a few rods this way, with his head bent down, when he heard some one hallo. It was the village expressman, and he knew Linus. He had a bob and two horses. "I'm going within a half mile of your place, if I can get there-and I guess I can," he shouted. "You'd better ride back with me. You'll have a hard time going home, if you

try to walk."

"No going back for me till my errand is done," Linus shouted in an-"Your track will help a lot." swer. "You'll be sorry," warned the expressman, as he started his horses.

Linus plowed his slow way through the almost unbroken snow of the village streets, and the town clock was striking sight as he stepped inside

Mr. Greeg, who was there alone, tooked up in surprise. Where did you snow down from?'

"Why, I hadn't thought of thome," Linus said. "Perhaps I could fix them somehow." And he went and

brood of chickens. Going out one afternoon, she left the household in charge of her eight-year-old boy. The voungster forgot the obloke during the storm, and was dismayed, after h nassed, to find that half of them had been drowned. Though fearing the wrath to come, he thought best to make a clean breath of the calamity, rather than leave it to be discovered.

"Mamma," he said, contritely, 'Mamma, six of the oblokens are dead."

"Dead!" cried his mether. "Six! How did they die?"

The boy saw his chance. "I think-I think they died happy," he said .- Harper's Weekly.

False Bellefs Cause Mischief.

If a color-blind engine driver mistakes a red signal for a white one at an open drawbridge, the resulting calamity is as terrible to the trainload of passengers as if he had deliberately defied a token of danger which he read correctly. If one violates the civil law unconsciously, he is not exempt from legal penalities because of his false sense of security. If there is a flaw in the title of a man's homestead, the home dweller can be driven from the house mercilessly. No matter what he paid for it; no matter how much he is attached to it; no matter how necessary it is to the comfort or to the safety of himself or his family. His color-blindness in reading the title does not make the false title a true one .- Trumbull.

Punishment to Fit the Crime.

When Congressman Smail, of North Carolina, was a young lawyor, he was arguing a case before a country magistrate. "Why," said Mr. Small, "the man at the bar, Jones, would just as soon kill me right here before your face as not."

The old man slowly took out his spectacles, put them on, and peered over to get a good look at the desperate Jones. Then he pointed his finger at him and said: "You, Bill Jones, if you kill John H. Small here before me I'll fine you one dollar and

in th air with beats looking for prey. In localities where grasshoppers are abundant, these hawks will congregate and gorge themselves continually.

During the winter, about the San Francisco Bay region where the English sparrows are plentiful, the sparrow hawk sometimes comes into the towns and captures a sparrow from a fock. The red-tailed hawk is often called chicken hawk, but he does not deserve the name. Many of the hawks oarry undeserved reputations.

In regions and in seasons, when animal and insect food is scarce, this hawk will catch chickens and game birds, but it lives mostly on mice and shraws as well as frogs, snakes, Hzards and insects of various kinds. In a prairie and hilly country, almost its entire food is squirrels, gophers, meadow mice and rabbits.

The osprey is one of our noblest birds of prey. He hunts about over the rivers and lakes, living almost entirely on fish.

A fish, as seen by one looking down into the water from above, is very deceptive owing to the refracted light. When the fish seems to be a foot under the surface he is often three or four feet. But the osprey, hovering over on poised wing, drops like a plummet, often completely disappearing below the surface, and in spite of the rapidity with which a fish can move this bird is generally successful in capturing it.

In the mountainous regions of the West one may occasionally see the golden eagle hunting for his prey. During the summer of 1904 we made these big birds and found that a very large proportion of the eagle's food supply consisted of ground squirrels with an occasional rabbit and quail. On one trip we found the bodies of four ground squirrels lying on the rim of the nest.

The hills in many places were perforated with the burrows of the ground squirrels, and the eagles seemed to have regular watch towers on the high rocks from which they

swooped down upon their quarry. If it were not for the birds of prey about these hilly districts, the places would soon be overrun with harmful redents.

the hen having left the nest with twelve others. It is snuggling between the cat's hind legs and peep ing out between them most comical ly. I must add that this cat has

never been beaten, or trained in any way except by a quiet word .- F. J Bullen, in London Speciator.

HUNDREDS STOP TO STARE.

Playing "tag" on the narrow cornice running around the seventeenth story of the St. Paul Building, at Broadway and Ann street, two office boys had the time of their lives, apparently oblivious of the crowds that stood in the street below and gazed up at them with fear and wonder. Side stepping along the ledge, turning sharp corners and in and out of windows the dare-devil youngsters scurried until there was danger of serious block in Broadway, and some body telephoned to the superintendent of the building that the sidewalk could not be used by pedestrians because they were likely to be struck

by falling boys. Then the game ended, and the population of that part of town heaved a sigh of relief and went its way .-New York Herald.

### A NOVEL INDUSTRY.

Two boys from Sabetha, Lloyd Mosser and Lloyd Beegley, have just closed out at Abilene a quilting factory, with which they have started

their way to college. They began last fall, and made exhibits at the fairs. They aroused much interest among the women of the community. several visits to the aerie of one of and quilted over five hundred quilts. Some of the quilts were very interesting, one having been made during the war and never put together. It was a visit of much interest for the women who came to Abilene when they called on the "quilter boys," as the two young men were generally

The walls of their rooms named. were covered with guilts and the varied figures were novel and unique. -Kansas City Journal.

The wife of Wu Ting Fang, former minister from China to the United States, has just paid the cost of building a large and fine hospitzi in Hongkong.



handlest and four foot high brace it well and drive posts in the bottom of the creek and chain them at the bottom to these posts then drive two or three to lean them up against and when the drift strikes it, it will knock is dows and go over it; then when the water goes down all you have to do is ge and lift it back up .- H. J. Melland, Eim Springs, Ark.

### PROVIDE GREEN FOOD.

If your birds must be yarded at this time of year, see that plenty of green food is supplied. It aids is keeping fowls in a thrifty condition and consequently more and better oggs are secured. Also, an abundance of greens goes a long way toward cutting down the grain feed bill.

Weeds are always plentiful at this season of the year; pull some up and throw them into the poultry yard. They are not quite so excellent as vegetables, but they will serve the purpose in the absence of anything better and when thus used equalize to some extent the loss their growth in the garden cost you.

### TURKEY TALK.

Turkey hens make better mothers for poults than do chicken heas because chicken mothers do not usually teach the youngsters to roam and forage as they should.

Economizing by giving the hea more eggs than she can properly cover is a most excellent kind of false economy. It don't pay.

Keep a close look out for vermin on both old hen and young. Poults cannot thrive and develop properly when afflieted with these posts,

Keep young turkeys warm and dry the first few weeks. Wet and damp-ness are very fatal to young turks. "Fussing" pays with young poults. Be careful to protect them from storms and sudden showers, also from wet or dewladen grass.