A Rainy Day.

"O naughty rain, please go away,"
A little girl was heard to say
One very dull and rainy day,
"Please, won't you go away?"

"But, little girl," a voice replied,
"Dry weather's what we can't abide;
We'd always like this rain supplied
It's lovely out to-day!

"We really do dislike the sun,
As frogs and ducks have always done;
And therefore, being two to one,
We'll ask the rain to stay!"

The little girl, surprised, looked out
And saw the ducks and froggies rout,
And in the puddles splash about,
And watched them at their play!

The rain continued all the day:
The frogs and ducks stayed out to play.
A little girl was heard to say:
"I'm so glad it rained to-day!"
—Constance M. Lowe, in Little Folks.

Elephants at Work.

The intelligence and usefulness of elephants is surprising. In India they are employed on the public works, and their enormous strength enables them with apparent ease to draw stones of great magnitude, and, what is more, to place them where needed. They are used in the construction of bridges, and will work in the water all day. They will push a stone as carefully as a gang of men. It is interesting to see these huge animals move about until they get a secure place to stand, and then exert their amazing strength in moving a stone just as the mason waves his hand. They will wield a broom with as much dexterity as a housewife, and make excellent street-sweepers. In the large timber yards of India these useful animals are very extensively used. It is only necessary to watch one for a little while to be satisfied of the wonderful strength as well as sagacity of these animals. They are employed in drawing and fitting the huge logs used in shipbuilding. They will draw large logs over very rough roads from the forests. They will take up a log weighing two tons on their tusks, and hold it in its place with their probiscis, and carry it apparently with more ease than fifty coolies would. When one of these sagacious animals has brought you a log from a pile, you may send him for the next log by merely pointing at it, and he will toil patiently all day, and make piles of logs as nicely as a gang of men could do. They are always very careful not to injure their tusks, especially not to break them near their heads. One man, who had a large lumber and timber yard, said it took over a year to teach his elephant the lumber business, but, he added, he never forgot. These trained elephants will sell in India for from 500 to 2000 rupees each, depending upon the sagacity of the animal.

A Finny Bell-Wether.

There is one fish owned by the State of Colorado which will, in all probability, never dangle at the end of a line to make sport for some angler. Instead it will subsist peacefully on ground liver and be petted and cared for at the Brighton fish hatchery, of which E. L. Hagar is superintendent. For this fish is the guiding spirit among all the small fry, and leads them not only in the paths of righteousness, but into the pools where Mr. Hagar desires that they should stay.

The fish at the hatcheries are kept in several small pools in order that they may be separated according to their kind and cared for properly. Occasionally it was desired to clean these pools or make some alteration in them. This used to cause a great deal of trouble for the superintendent. It was almost impossible to get all the fish out of the pools without killing many of them. They were so small that they could easily slip through the meshes of an ordinary net, and many of them were crushed in the net. Unless the pool was cleaned very often the fish would die.

During Mr. Hagar's superintendency he has made an especial pet of one of the largest trout in the hatcheries. Whenever he fed the fish this trout was always among the first to come to him, and finally grew so daring that it would snap at pieces of liver which he held in his hand. Whenever he appeared on the walks surrounding the pool this trout would always come to him, and as he walked around the pool it would follow him. The other fish in the pool learned that the big trout always got most of the good things to eat, and consequently there finally grew a good-sized procession whenever the big trout assumed the role of leader.

Finally Mr. Hagar had an inspiration. One day when he wanted to clean the pool, which was the big trout's home, he opened the inlet leading into another pool and got his procession started by holding out a handful of ground liver toward the big trout, which thereupon was willing to follow him anywhere. In this way Mr. Hagar conducted all the fish into the other pool without the slightest difficulty, and without losing any of them. Since then whenever he has wished to clean any of the pools he has first secured the big trout, and then, with it for a leader, he has had no difficulty in getting the rest of the finny population out of the way.—Denver Republican.

The Cause of Biliousness.

Every man is bilious when he is a pessimist, and every woman is a pessimist when she is bilious.—New York Press.

WOES OF BRITISH BANK CLERKS.

Sumptuary Laws Trying on Those With Slim Purses.

Bank clerks generally look so sleek and comfortable and are almost invariably so well groomed that their grievances rarely receive a patient hearing.

One who was recently dismissed for the terrible crime of smoking a pipe in a city cafe during one of the hours sacred to what is called by city courtesy lunch, writes, giving a list of restrictions, which, according to the London Express, he declares are absurd.

No clerk is allowed to smoke a pipe in the streets during banking hours or at lunch.

The average clerk's salary is not so very high, but nevertheless he must wear a silk hat and cane to the office, dressed as one with double the salary. Wearing a cap to business is not to be thought of, as it is an unpardonable offense in the eyes of the bank officials.

The salary of the average bank clerk ranges from about thirty-eight shillings a week, but in many banks the salary is much lower, and the chances of promotion small.

A clerk's money is greatly diminished by his having to subscribe to numerous funds, such as a "sports" fund, to keep the cricket or football grounds in order, which he himself is never able to see.

Saturday is no holiday for him, as he does not leave the office on those days until about 4 or 5 o'clock.

It must not be supposed that the day's work of a bank clerk ends with the closing of the bank to customers; in fact, it only begins at that time.

Amateur Critic Discomfited.

Lord Roberts is well known to be one of the most modest and retiring of men, but the following story is not so well known. The event happened shortly before he left for South Africa. At a dinner party a loud-voiced man began giving his opinion on many things. After a while he came to military matters, and especially addressed his remarks to a guest who was somewhat below the average stature, and who appeared to be interested, but did not say much. At last he diverged onto Lord Roberts's march from Cabul to Kandahar.

"If I had been Roberts," he said, "there were one or two points in which I would have acted differently."

"Indeed," said the other man, "I have never thought much of that march myself. I should be glad if you would tell me what you think was wrong."

At this moment the host tried to interfere, but the loud man would not be stopped, and proceeded to show where Roberts was wrong.

"Very interesting man that man I was talking to," he said to his host as they were going out. "Who is he?"

"Oh, that was Lord Roberts himself."

Seldom has a man looked so crestfallen as did that loud man at that moment.—Dundee Journal.

Armored Automobiles.

Two new armored trains for employment over country where there are no rails or permanent ways have just been placed upon the establishment at Aldershot. Each consists of a locomotive or traction engine, and four trucks, all of which are painted the now familiar, but ever unlovely, khaki. The locomotives, which are exceedingly powerful construction, are completely cased with steel, the vital parts being especially protected. An ingenious arrangement of prisms and mirrors, somewhat after the manner of the camera obscura, enables the driver inside the cab of the engine to see without being seen, or in any way exposing himself. The trucks are built with high, sloping steel sides, which are pierced and slotted at intervals to enable the occupants to fire through them. They are also provided with slides at either end to permit of guns and wagons being run into the trucks. The steel sides of the carriages are so constructed that when necessary they may fall inward and lit flat on the platform of the truck, which can then be used for ordinary transport purposes.—London News.

Ingenious Devices For Soldiers.

Not a few geniuses are constantly employed by the foreign armies in inventing devices for ameliorating the condition of the common soldier, and in our own country numerous patents have been issued to designers of improved tents, clothes, kits, etc. Experiments are making with concentrated foods, and presently we shall see men carrying in a very small compass provisions for a month. The most wonderful headgear worn in South Africa was a field service cap capable of being folded into seven or eight different shapes, each suited to a particular condition of weather. A tent and blanket cloak, adapted for mufti wear, is now in demand. Eyelets are placed in the corners, so that two can be fastened together, forming a tent sufficiently large to cover four men. This cloak can be folded into six different shapes, each forming a distinct garment quite as comfortable as anything ever worn in the field.—New York Press.

Quick Witted.

It was a cold, damp morning in December, and as Jones took his morning paper from the hands of an equally cold and damp newsboy he said, "Are you not afraid you will catch cold on such a wet morning, my son?" Quick as a flash the little lad replied, "Selling newspapers keeps up the circulation, sir." That boy ought to grow up to be a humorist.

EYESIGHT OF SAVAGES.

NO DOUBT THAT IT IS SUPERIOR TO THAT OF CIVILIZED MEN.

But Whether the Superiority Is Innate or the Result of Training Under a Wider Horizon Is Another Thing—Differences Are Not All on One Side.

That men who can see well will learn to shoot better than men who do not see well is a fact so patent that we do not wonder Sir Redvers Buller's remark about the superior eyesight of the Boers attracted public attention. He thinks, it is said, that the Boer has the "eyesight of a savage," and sees two miles further than the Englishman, and of course that fact, if it is proved, furnishes sufficient explanation of many British mishaps in the South African campaign, and accounts for losses of life which might otherwise be attributed to a reckless disregard of necessary precautions. But we do not quite understand the deduction so generally drawn from Sir Redvers' statement that savage eyesight is naturally better than the eyesight of civilized men. Why should it be better? There is no difference of structure in the eyeball, and the difference in health is rather in favor of the civilized man. The latter no doubt very often loses something of the keenness of his sight from much reading and the use of artificial light, but Tommy Atkins is no philosopher, reads little more than the savage, and burns no midnight oil.

The truth is the Boer, like the savage, habitually trains his eye, as the sailor does, to look into the far distance, and acquires from that training, and the habit of close attention to all signs of movement on the part of his quarry, a power of quick perception which seems to those without it almost miraculous. He sees game or an enemy minutes before Tommy can, just as the sailor sees a sail or a smoke minutes before a landsman can, but there is no difference of original or natural powers. Tommy could be trained, if we took sufficient trouble to train him and allowed sufficient time, just as well as the Boer, and very often is trained when he is a gamekeeper, or in any other way dependent upon the acuteness of his sight. Let any one who doubts this just take a walk with an ornithologist, and remark what the latter sees, and at what distance, when compared with himself.

The matter is of some interest, not only because the private soldier has to be taught to shoot as well as any enemy, but because it bears upon the very large question whether civilization necessarily diminishes the physical powers of the average human being. If it does, that is a great drawback to civilization, because it precludes the hope of man ever developing a kind of aristocracy with the powers of both body and mind increased to a point far beyond present experience. That is the dream, the rather lofty dream as it seems to us, of the dons who foster athletics as well as reading in their pupils; but if the reading spoils physical as much as it develops mental power, that is a dream impossible of realization. But does study necessarily have the effect of spoiling sinews? That it does so is a very natural idea, because the savage seems so much more agile, and is, besides, trained by his mode of life, which the civilized man is not; but we do not know that there is any solid evidence for the notion.

The "big, black, bounding beggar," as Rudyard Kipling called him, can outrun the citizen, or outwalk him in a long march, or throw him in a wrestle for life, but the trained runner will outstrip the savage, the gamekeeper will walk with him till he drops from fatigue, and the Cumberland wrestler will like nothing better than to throw him over his head. The whole difference is that the savage is always, from the habits of his life, in a condition which the citizen only reaches after weeks of careful training have restored him to the full exercise of his natural powers. Just give a savage who has never been accustomed to carry weight, say a red Indian of the North American forest, the weight to carry under which the British soldier habitually marches, and see which of them will give out first, though the savage has even then the advantage of having walked every day to his full power all his life. If it were not so, man as an animal would differ from all other animals, for it is notorious that no wild horse can keep pace with a racer and no wild dog can escape a hound. The Kanaka, it is true, of the South Seas, can usually swim much farther than any civilized man, but then what civilized man passes half his life in swimming in water just warm enough to give his lungs fair play?

There is, we admit, one faculty in which the savage appears hopelessly to distance his rival. He retains, or appears to retain, the superior sense of smell, which belongs to so many animals, or perhaps, in different degrees, to all, detecting, for example, the odor of water or of land from a great distance; but then smell is the one sense which the civilized man, it may be from an instinct of self-defence, never cultivates at all, but permits to die unused. It is of course possible that in a clear, dry air like that of South Africa the eye acquires a certain keenness which is wanting to the eye used for generations to a humid atmosphere; but that, if it occurs, is not due to any defect imposed by the conditions of civilization. It is more like the extra thickness of skull which enables the negro to resist the direct rays of an African sun without discomposure or brain disease.

The truth is, we believe, that civilized man when cultivated up to a certain point acquires a latent spite against civilization, as essentially based upon a system of rather wearisome restrictions. He longs for more freedom, or, as he calls it, simplicity of life, and, being half inclined to revert to savagery, wishes to credit the savage with all the attractiveness he can. So strong was this feeling in the last century that the "state of nature," which is really the state of the brutes, was represented through an entire literature as worthy of admiration. Serious thinkers, in France especially, actually believed in the "noble" savage, and even in some instances ventured to paint him as the "geltiest" of human beings. He is, as a matter of fact, neither gentle nor noble. Allowing, of course, for a very few individual exceptions, he is more capricious, revengeful, listful, and cruel than the lowest of the civilized tribes, with the addition of a callousness like that of Fiji King Thakombau, who used to launch his new war boats by running them to the water over the bodies of his slaves, whom the weight of the boats disembowelled as they passed. He is usually treacherous, partly, it may be, from incapacity for continuous thought, and always greedy, while he is almost without exception more inclined to drunkenness than the least abstinent of the civilized races.—London Spectator.

A RACE FOR A MINE.

A Midwinter Dash to Locate the La Fleur Mine.

"An exciting race for a mine took place in February, 1896. For many years it had been known that the Colville Indian reservation was rich in minerals, and prospectors had slipped in, eluding the vigilance of the Indian police, to explore the mountains in northern Washington. But long before white men had entered the Indians knew that the top of a low mountain near the nation's border line was covered with bright blue stones, so gaudy that many were carried off and placed in the wigwams. The prospectors knew that these gay stones betokened the existence of copper veins, and many a hungry eye was cast at that rock-strewn patch of ground before the government lifted the ban that kept out paleface intruders.

"But congress passed a law opening part of the reservation to mineral location.

"Waiting for the president to sign the formal proclamation, two parties quietly entered the forbidden territory and camped alongside the promising vein. At Marcus, the nearest telegraph station, two young men waited with tense nerves for the first tick that would tell that the president had signed the proclamation. It was a cold, gray winter day, and the snow was piled high. Late in the afternoon the word came, and there was a simultaneous dash for the horses that were waiting outside. Then the race began. Plunging through drifts, tumbling down declines, toiling desperately up steep hills and bounding at full speed over the level stretches, these two horses bore their riders. Sometimes one was ahead and sometimes the other. The sun disappeared and the hurrying pair blundered along through the deepening twilight, and then in the light of the stars reflected by the glistening snow. Spurs were plunged so deep that flecks of blood stained the snow. Almost side by side they scrambled up the mountain. The yells of the riders were heard in the distance by the rival watchers, who did not wait a further hint, but drove the stakes that were to locate the La Fleur mine.

"Then followed wordy disputes, fist fights and the flourishing of Winchesters, but before the mine was christened with blood, one party concluded to withdraw and fight its battle in the courts."—Eugene B. Palmer, in Alnslee's Magazine.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

In bread-making on an expensive scale less than a third of the time is now taken. One thousand pounds of dough for biscuits is rolled, cut and prepared for baking in three hours and 54 minutes, as against 54 hours by hand.

There is in Paris a hotel which has 4000 employes. The smallest kettle in its kitchen contains 100 quarts and the largest 500. Each of 50 roasting pans is big enough for 300 cutlets. Every dish for baking potatoes holds 225 pounds. When omelets are on the bill of fare 7890 eggs are used at once. For cooking alone 60 cooks and 100 assistants are always at the ranges.

At a gathering of old folks in the town of Claremont, Mass., the other day, the chairman called upon all present who were over 70 years of age to arise, and 72 responded. He then asked all those who were over 80 to stand up, and there were 12 who had passed that limit. A similar call for all over the age of 90 brought four members of the gathering to their feet.

Three weights not long ago found on the site of the ancient Forum at Rome supply an accurate record of the Roman standard for two centuries before our era. The weights, which are of dark green marble with bronze handles, represent respectively 20, 30 and 100 Roman pounds, and show that the ancient Latin pound was exactly 325 grammes, or a little less than three-quarters of a pound avoirdupois.

Anticipating the repeal of the State wolf bounty law, a number of stockmen in the Bad river section of South Dakota have contributed a handsome sum from their pockets and will keep up the warfare. The State has expended $50,000 for wolf scalps and the present Legislature is not expected to keep up the appropriation.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it, like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. ¼ the price of coffee. 15 and 25c. per package. Sold by all grocers.

The revenue of the Dominion of Canada for last year was $11,029,994, of which $28,376,147 came from customs and $9,868,075 from excise, the remainder being collected from public works and railways, postoffices, etc. The expenditure was $44,075,270, and the surplus of $8,054,710 is the largest on record since confederation.

[Coughing Leads to Consumption.

Keep's Balsam will stop this cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50 cent bottles. Go at once, delays are dangerous.

Thirty-five prominent American sculptors will contribute to the embellishment of the grounds and buildings of the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo. They are at work on 125 original groups of statuary.

The average depth of the ocean is a little less than three miles, or 15,000 feet.

There Is a Class of People

Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains, that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over ¼ as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15 cts. and 25 cts. per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

Lake Nicaragua is the largest fresh water lake between Lake Michigan and Lake Titicaca, in Peru.

In the police court in Cincinnati it has been decided that insanity caused by liquor is no excuse for crime.

The Herb Cure For Headaches.

Unlike the majority of remedies for the cure of headaches, the Garfield Headache Powders contain nothing that can injure or derange the system; they are made from herbs.

Spanish sheep are white, except those of LaMancha, which are black.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh That Contain Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possible derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure to get the genuine. It is taken internally, and is made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by Druggists, price, 75c. per bottle. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Experiments are being made in India with the locust fungus in the hope of exterminating that pest.

Best For the Bowels.

No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. CASCARETS help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, produce easy natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. CASCARETS Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C.C.C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations.

During the past year there was an increase of nearly $30,000 in the value of monkey skins exported from the Gold Coast. It is estimated that at least 1,000,000 monkeys were killed in that district alone.

Lane's Family Medicine

Moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Acts gently on the liver and kidneys. Cures sick headache. Price 25 and 50 cents.

A proposition is being urged in Tennessee to increase the salary of the governor to $5,000 a year. It is now $4,000. It is thought also that the State should supply an executive mansion for his use.

Science Discards Brute Force

in medicine. Horsie's Croup Cure contains ONLY the spirit of drugs and defies Croup, Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Diphtheria. 50 cts.

There are irrigating ditches at Las Cruces, New Mexico, that have been in continuous service for three centuries.

When you have a headache, take a Garfield Headache Powder; it will cure the pain and relieve the accompanying nervousness and depression; it is the simplest and best remedy; it is made from herbs; it cannot harm.

It is claimed that Canada furnishes over 40 per cent. of the nickel of the world.

Throw physic to the dogs—if you don't want the dogs; but if you want good digestion chew Beeman's Pepsin Gum.

American machinery will be employed in the mines at Mysore, India.

THE NERVES OF WOMEN

"I am so nervous and wretched." "I feel as if I should fly." How familiar these expressions are! Little things annoy you and make you irritable. You can't sleep, you are unfit for ordinary duties, and are subject to dizziness.

That bearing-down sensation helps to make you feel miserable.

You have backache and pains low down in the side, pain in top of head, later on at the base of the brain.

Such a condition points unerringly to serious uterine trouble.

If you had written to Mrs. Pinkham when you first experienced impaired vitality, you would have been spared these hours of awful suffering.

Happiness will be gone out of your life forever, my sister, unless you act promptly. Procure **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound** at once. It is absolutely sure to help you. Then write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., if there is anything about your case you do not understand.

You need not be afraid to tell her the things you could not explain to the doctor—your letter is seen only by women and is absolutely confidential. Mrs. Pinkham's vast experience with such troubles enables her to tell you just what is best for you, and she will charge you nothing for her advice.

Mrs. Valentine Tells of Happy Results Accomplished by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—It is with pleasure that I add my testimony to your list, hoping it may induce others to avail themselves of the benefit of your valuable remedy. Before taking **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound**, I felt very bad, was terribly nervous and tired, had sick headaches, no appetite, gnawing pain in stomach, pain in my back and right side, and so weak I could scarcely stand. I was not able to do anything. Had sharp pains all through my body. Before I had taken half a bottle of your medicine, I found myself improving. I continued its use until I had taken four bottles, and felt so well that I did not need to take any more. I am like a new person, and your medicine shall always have my praise."—MRS. W. P. VALENTINE, 566 Ferry Avenue, Camden, N. J.

$5000 REWARD Owing to the fact that some skeptical people have from time to time questioned the genuineness of the testimonial letters we are constantly publishing, we have deposited with the National City Bank, of Lynn, Mass., $5,000, which will be paid to any person who can show that the above testimonial is not genuine, or was published before obtaining the writer's special permission.—LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO.