England has perpetrated a pun or our war, and let it not be lost: "What are the United States' reasons for go-ing to war? Maine and hu-mane." And this is paralyzing dear old Lon-

It is probably not generally known that the word "dad," used by many children in place of the word "father," is the purest Welsh. The open-ing words of the Lord's Prayer in Welsh are "Ein Dad."

The United States has begun to teach the world a few wholes ject lessons, and the scurvy-cursed old monarchies of Europe are slowly waking up to the fact that we mean business, observes the New York Telegram. We don't want to have any trouble with any of them, but we are not going to run away from it if it happens to come our way.

An English medical journal has noted some curious medical adver tisements. The special merit of certain mineral spring is that "it stirs the dermal functions," while it is also "an excellent reconstitutive of animal economy," and has moreover a beneficial effect on "the oculary apparel!" The inventor of a certain "fresh-air respirator for the use of indoor patients," observes didactically: "Only compare the chub-cheeked country lad (living in fresh open air, who in spite of scanty food is abounding in health) with the pale checked child of towns, better fed, and secured indoors against the brazing open air, and you will imme diately perceive the different effects product by fresh air on both beings.'

The American Agriculturist re marks: Positive progress has been made in the comparatively recent pas in the reduction of interest charges The refunding of farm mortgages, par ticularly in the West, where rate have been exorbitant, goes speedily on, and we confidently hope the time will come when our agricultural classes with the Lest security on earth, will be able to secure money at rates rela-tively as low as their brothers in manufacturing and industrial circles Banks and capitalists with money to loan make the point that while rea estate securities are unquestionably safe, they are slow compared with other classes. Granting whatever truth there may be in this assertion, the difference in interest rates has been altogether too great. With the wealthy railroads refunding their obligations at 3¹/₂ per cent., and with commercial loans in the Middle and Eastern States made at four to six percent, there is no rhyme or reason in demanding ten to twelve per cent., or even worse, on farm property as is done in the West. Were it possible to secure money on farm property at rates relatively as low as on other classes of securities, what relief it would bring to agriculture! Hoy many thousands of acres of unprofitable, or perhaps idle, lands might be turned to account, affording remunerative employment to a vast army ready and willing to put into us

hand and brain!

Pineapple growing is becoming im portant among Florida's agricultura interests, according to a correspon dent of the Atlanta Journal. Com mon varieties have been profitably grown for years on the lower coast and keys, and the notable feature now is the growing importance of the cul. ture of the fine varieties. The large profit, reported to be \$1000 an acre as a return for intelligent management, has created a boom akin to that in orange-growing a few years ago, and although the propagation of pine apple plants is rapid; the supply does not keep pace with the demand, and wers find it more profitable some gr to sell the young plants than to awai their fruiting. It costs about \$2000 to secure the land, prepare it, pay for plants, and plant an acre, but many people with less than that amount capital have gone into the business i a smaller way. There is little likeli hood, however, the correspondent writes, that the business will be over done. Local capital is wanting, and not more than one acre in 500, possibly 1000, is suitable for pines. Like the orange, the pine is occasionall caught by a frost. As a protectio onall the pinery is enclosed with a tight plank fence eight feet high. Then upright posts are set over the entire rows eight by fifteen feet. The posts are seven to seven and half feet above the ground. On these are strong posts two by six inches, and across these are nailed slats on by three, leaving three-inch spaces be tween. This forms a half shade of arbor, which is a material protection against all except the severest frosts in winter time and the strong sunshine

Priction. (C) R WE SHALL FORGET.

After it all is past, Sorrow and mirth, We shall find pence at last, Oid mother earth, In thy broad bosom blest, Pence shall be met; There is Nirvana's rest— We shall forget!

Naught of the wasted years Breaks through the gloom Savor of bitter tears Finds not the tomb. Death binds about the head Languid and wet, Sleepy duil popples red-We shall forget!

We shall torget! With this one solnce left, Fate is disarmed, flate of her sting bereft Malice is charmed. What can it matter if Hope's star has set? When we are stark and stiff, We shall forget! -J. R. Taylor, in Commercial Appeal.

THE WIND'STWOGIFTS

A Wonder-Story From the Folk-Lore of Russia.

BY EDWARD COURTNEY.

N a certain vil-lago in Russia, a young bo y lived with his stepm other, who, as the old stories go, treat-ed him with ever anything went wrong

great cruelty. If ever anything went wrong, no matter whether to was to blame or not, the old woman would beat him with a stick till she became fatigued with her exertions. The two were very poor, and one day the mother begged some wheat of one of her neighbors, and sent the boy with it to the mill to have it ground. The miller knew of their poverty, and he ground the wheat without charging the boy anything, who set out gladly for home, carry-ing the snowy pile in a pan on his head.

head. But he had not gone far when, of a sudden, up came a wind from the south, and blew all the flour in snowy

south, and blew all the flour in snowy flakes over the meadows. The boy stood aghast, looking at it. How the particles danced in the breeze, now blowing high and like a mist obsearing the sun, again falling over flowers and grasses like a delicate boar for the sun state of the

hoar-frost howers and grasses his a denote hoar-frost. The boy saw all this, but did not admire it, for he knew the penalty he must pay on his return. As there was no help for it, he turned away with a sigh, and soon reached home. "Where is the flour?" the mother eried.

"Where is the flour?" the mother cried. The boy showed the empty pan, and proceeded to tell her what had hap-pened. In a rage, the cruel woman picked up her stick and thrashed the child. Then taking him to the door she put him out, saying: "Go to the wind and tell him to re-turn your flour or pay you for it. And until he does, you need not re-turn here!"

nd until ne does, you in herei" In herei" The poor child turned in terror to he great wide world. Where should us go? What could he do? It was had enough to be beaten, but even hat was better than having no home. So he thought as he went crying on his way. that

his way. He wandered for a long time till he The trees He wandered for a long time till he reached a great forest. The trees grew so closely and so high that it seemed always to be twilight there. Not a sound of singing bird or busy insect disturbed the quiet, but over all seemed a hush, as when the winds are lulled to rest before the breaking of the tempest. The child under-stood these signs, but he said to him-self: f: "Better die here in the storm than

"Better die here in the storm than wander homeless in the world," and so he entered the dark avenues of trees. But when he had walked half a dozen steps he became conscious of a presence here. Nor was he mis-taken, for it was an enchanted spot, and soon he met a queer-looking old woman.

"Well, my son, what do you here, "Well, my son, what do you here wild animals fear to tread? Know you not that this is my land? What will In fear and trembling the child told

"Ha! ha! Is it so?" cried the old one. "We shall see, we shall see! Know that I am the mother of the winds. Come with me and all will be

Know that I am the mother of the winds. Come with me and all will be well." She took the boy by the hand and led him deeper and deeper into the darkness; and as the growth became denser and the darkness more palpa-ble, the quiet became more intense. "You see how still it is?" she said, after a long silence. "That is be-cause my sons are away. There are four of them. The North Wind, the East Wind, the South Wind and the West Wind; when they come home, "You see how still it is?" she said, after a long silence. "That is be-cause my sons are away. There are four of them. The North Wind, the East Wind, the South Wind and the ah, then the forest is not still. But which of my sons stole your flour "Alas, kind madam, it was the

'Never fear, never fear; all will be seize him.

They now reached a little hut, deep ing, the woman said: "Quick, jump on the stove and cover yourself!"

"Why?" cried the child in terror, "Quick, obey me!" the woman said: "I hear my son the North Wind com-ing and he will freeze you." So the boy obeyed her; and none So the boy obeyed her; and none too soon, for with a terrific whistling noise, in rushed the eldest son, and a great cold came with him. For a long time the boy remained concealed and heard each of the som and last the South Wind came, the old dame said:

last the South Wind came, the old dame said: "My son, look what have you have worked! Do you not know that you should not harm the poor and needy?" The little boy was then brought forth, and again he told his tale. How the North Wind laughed with boisterous glee, for to him that was now the Aorth Wind haughed with boisterous glee, for to him that was rare sport; and the East Wind shouted with his brother, for both of these are cold and unfeeling. But the West Wind murmured a rebuke to them for their ill manners to the guest, and the South Wind came gently forward, saving:

South Wind came genery terms aging: "It is too bad that I harmed you so, and I am sorry. Buthere I repay you. Take this basket, and whatso-ever you desire, it will give it to you; either flour or bread, or money. Ask it what you will." With many words the poor boy thanked the South Wind for his gift, and ran home with it as fast as he could go.

could go. "Here, mother," he cried, "see what the wind has given for the flour

And telling her the property of the And tening ner the property of the basket, he set it down. Immediately she called for a dinner to be placed before them, and so sumptuous a re-past immediately was in the basket that the woman embraced the boy for ion oy. So all went well for a long time.

So all went well for a long time. They had whatsoever they wished for, and the boy no longer was subject to the violent outbreaks of temper on the part of the stepmother. One day, however, a duke rode by with a large train of followers. "Go out and ask the duke to dine with us, and be sure not to come back alone!"

alone!" The boy went to obey, and when he delivered his message the duke laughed. But, turning to his men, he said: "Go you with the lad, and I hope

said: "Go yon with the lad, and I hope yon may dine well?" Then with a laugh he rode on. The men did not wish to accompany the peasant boy, for the hut looked so poor that they expected a light fare. What was their surprise, then, to see a feast spread fit for a king, and so plentiful that a host might have eaten and still much have remained untouched. Then they seated them-selves with a hearty goodwill. But they watched closely the two poor people. Soon after they perceived how everything was supplied from the basket, and the leader determined to possess it for themselves. Ho dispatched one of his followers to procure a basket like the magic one, and when the boy and his moth-er were away, they exchanged the two. Soon afterwards they departed and told the duke thesen played upon her, threw all the remainder of the banquet away. For she thought what was so easily obtained was not worth caring for. Next day, therefore, when she went

caring for. Next day, therefore, when she went to the basket as usual, she obtained no response to her request. Enraged again, she turned to the boy and said: "Go back to the wind, and tell him I want my flour back, or else payment for it."

And when the boy protested, shook the stick and belabored him with took the stick and belabored him with it. So he went again to the home of the winds and repeated his story. "Fear not!" the South Wind said. "Take this back, and when the witch dares to strike you again say: "Five, come out of the cask and puzish her."

ber," So the boy returned home with the second git of the wind. "Here, mother, is a cask in place of the basket." "What do I want with a cask?" and in a terrible rage she came towards the boy with a stick in her hand. But he darted behind the cask and wind/out.

way?" "Alas, kind madam, it was the South Wind."

of!" "Back into the cask every five!" And so ended this famous fight. The boy got his basket, and, carry-ing it and the cask, soon reached his home. And thence forth neither he nor the stepmother wanted for any-thing, nor did she ever lose her tem-per again, for she knew the five were there to punish her.—St. Louis Star. CHALK.

Where It Comes From, How It is Pre-pared and What It is Used For.

CHALK. Where it comess From, How It is Pre-manufacture it is used for the second region of the most important for an analysis is a second by a second and a interval so rought to this coun-try for manufacturing purposes. It enters largely into the manufacture of rubber, olicloth, wall-paper and paint, and after being refined, purified and and after being refined, purified and inde into a powder of various degrees of finencess is sold on the market for hundreds of purposes for which no other material would be as useful. It is one of the few articles used in the trades which come almost exclusively from Europe. Some chalk beds have been discovered in the United States, but the expense of transporting it is specessful competitor with the foreign article. It is found in the bank of the Thames River, at Dieppe and near Copenhagen, and is shipped to this country in its crude condition. There is no duty on chalk, and it usually on the aspeare of the Duried States, but the expense of the market. It is fare the index of the borne product a specessful competitor with the foreign article. It is found in the bank of the Thames River, at Dieppe and near Copenhagen, and is shipped to this country in its crude condition. There is no duty on chalk, and it usually on duty on chalk, and pre-try have in hyper grinding machines where it is ground in water and then fast and exposure to the ari. By means of burmills and belting the how and packed in barcel about its esubstance is reduced to a powder and packed in barcels and show the substance is net materials, or and packed in barcels and show the substance is net merials, or and packed in barcels and show the substance is net merials, form, ose to dealers in art materials, of the maunfacturers of rubers of the form as and gilded ware, thousand of the maunfacturers of rubers of the

The Elephant as He Really Is.

The Elephant as He Realy Is. Few more impressive confidences can be imparted than one in which a Hindu describes how he knows his elephant intends to destroy him. It is all so seemingly trivial, and yet in reality of such deadly significance. His story is so full of details that prove the man's profound understanding of what he is talking about, that one re-mains equally amazed at the brute's power to dissimulate and its intended victim's insight into this would-be mur-derer's character. And yet, from the psychological standpoint, an elephant never gives any other such indication of mental power as is exhibited in its revenge. That patient, watchful, imp placable hatred, often provoked simply because a man is in attendance upon another animal (for it is the rule with tuskers to detext their next neighbors) speaks more conclusively of a high speaks more conclusively of a h intellectual grade than all the stor a high

speaks more conclusively of a high intellectual grade than all the stories, 'true or false, that have been told of their ability. Such concentration and fixedness of purpose, such careful, un-relaxed vigilance, such perfect and con-sistent pretense, and, when the time comes, such desperate, unhesitating emergy as homicidal animals exhibit are impossible without a very consid-grable, although in this instance very irregular, development. No one can deny that if this creat-ure is great at all its greatness shows itself in its crimes; these have caused it to be worshiped in the East, where men venerate nothing but merciless, irresponsible force, and where an ex-hibition of these qualities and traits described, faily accounts for the for-mula, "My Lord the Elephant."— Outing.



Women Doing Their Part. No more patriotic and useful work could be undertaken than the scheme to maintain a hospital ship for Cuban waters, conceived by the New York Chapter of the Colonial Dames. The plan has already obtaired the sanction of the Government and will be carried to at sources and courage of women have been more than once exemplified since the war began. —New York Herald. A New Field of Labor, Gossip.

A New Field of Labor, Mrs. Emily Lee Sherwood, a jour-nalist, of Washington, D. C., has ad-ded a new field of labor to her literary work. She is searcher and maker of copies of the rich and rare material stored in the archives of the Library of Congress for the benefit of authors, compilers and encyclopedists. His-torical or biographical data relating to family history, particularly the Rev-olutionary period, is especially sought after now.

For My Lady's Desk.

After now. For Ny Lady's Dest. The latest addendum to my lady's peals to every feminine heart, is a dainty little volume about the size of an ordinary note pad. It is bound in fexible cloth covers of mottled gray, with gilt tracings and appropriate de-signs. The volume contains 152 pages, each one headed by a quotation approport to the subject of the page. There is a schedule blocked out for each month, with spaces for entries. Each month has also several pages for keeping track of "letters and notes," written and received; "books and reading," with their subdivisions of history, biography, poetry, novels, science, travels, periodicals and news-pages, and dates of beginning and minshing. Other pages are labelled "social engagements," with minor divisions, for lunchens, dinners, in-terchange of visits; "intollectual re-creationar," lectures, clubs and musi-creationar, be visit, "intollectual re-reading of ecurtesies rendered and received. With one of these de-hightful little reminders on the desk at the end of the year, my lady will be able to give an accurate account of re-sults accomplished along social and literary lines.

Discomfort and Style.

Discomfort and Style. Tight, tighter, tightest, grow the sleeves this spring, and low, lower, lowest goes that bolice seam on the shoulders, upon which depends so much of the comfort and convenience of the wearer. Never, for years, have women's clothes been in many ways more uncomfortable. The discomfort shows itself chiefly as applied to lift-ing the arms. In one of the fashion-ably cut and fitted gowns it is next to impossible to raise one's hands a foot from the straight and narrow way in which Noah's Ark men and women set as such a striking example. Putting on the hat or rearranging the hair af-ter the corsage is fastened is an utter impossibility. Dressmaters as well as dress wear-rers are in despair about the thing, as, if it is hard to clever the server.

Dressmakers as well as dress wear-ers are in despair about the thing, as, if it is hard to elevate the arms under such conditions, still harder it is to clevate the standard of styles that each modiste holds to be so inexorable and so to be striven after. What adds to the rancor of the situation is the free-dom of movement women have en-joyed by reason of their short shoul-der seams and big sleeves, with ca-pacious armholes, says the Philadel-phia Times. In Paris the Gordian knot of disconfort is being cut by laving the sleeves fitted to the arms with the hands clasped above the head.—San Francisco Chroniclo.

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AGRICULTURAL TOPICS Preventing Smut in Oat. The 1897 experiments in preventing source conducted by the New York ex-periment station at Geneva, showed that sprinkling the seed with a one per cent, solution of either lysol or formalin entirely prevented the smut. When the seed was sprinkled with a solution of potassium sulphide a very small percentage of smut appeared. In some tests in soaking the seel it was found that 3-10 of one per cent, solution of lysol prevented smut when the seed was soaked one hour, and 2-10 of one per cent. solution of forma-lin one hour prevented any smut. None of the traitments injured the seed in the least.—American Agricul-turist.

turist.

ACRICULTURAL TOPICS

and extending from the belt to the
hem. This style is very effective, but
the skirt should then be made narrow,
and the width given by the flounces.
Not every girl can wear a flounced
skirt. It takes off so much from the
height. When it can be worn, it is
most becoming.—Harper's Bazar.
Gossip.
There are more than one hundred
and fifty women's clubs in Texas at
present.
Lady Henry Somerset has become
nebriates.
Lady Uxbridge at her marriage rocently received presents worth \$500.
000 from the bridgeroom alone.
Conntess Alice Kearney has been
reappointed President of the Gramin has been horoder with the degrees of door
Queen Elizabeth of Romannia has
been honced with the degrees of door
or arts by the University of Budapest.
Mrs. Celia Wallace, of Chicago, who
offered to adopt Evaugelina Cisneros.

pest. Mrs. Celia Wallace, of Chicago, who offered to adopt Exangelina Cisneros, has purchased the famous Upham diamond for \$21,500. Permanent We prefer pern for yarious reaso

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