The **Miccustom** News.

JOHN M. AKERS, EDITOR.

"INDEPENDENT BUT NOT NEUTRAL."

50 CENTS A YEAR

SIGNAL FIRES.

NO. 18.

VOL. XVIII.

The Canadian troops have shown Tommy Atkins how to fight. ! The stage in this country has de-

generated noticeably and deplorably in the past ten years. Bi a larj majoriti, the Maschusets Hous has votd for a bil to rekwir the

us ov reformd spelling in public doku-The average value of the mule in the United States is now \$9 a head more than the average value of the

horse. Hurrah for the mule! It is now declared that Lawrence didn't say "Don't give up the ship." It may be safely assumed, however, that he thought it; so we'll keep the words and let it go at that,

More than \$30,000,000 worth of timber has recently been destroyed by forest fires in the State of Washing. ton. That State has wood to burn, but she won't have unless she is more careful.

An imaginative writer of fiction has composed a story entitled "My Prison," being an account of the torments of a man condemned to perpetual wealth. Pretty much the entire human family is seeking the same "corment."

The Galveston Daily News notes that editors no longer fight to the death, literally and figuratively, for their favorite candidates and remarks: "It is gratifying to observe that the old habit of fury and folly has been abandoned by a large majority of the editors and publishers of the present 7ay."

This country has not only more railroads than any other but more than all other countries combined, more than half of the total railway mileage of the world. It has also the greatest, richest and best managed railroads on earth; those that handle the largest traffic and make the most

The most prosperous year in the history of American railroads was 1899. Daring that year the roads lengthened themselves by 2963 miles. or 2.07 per cent. Their gross carnings increased over those of the preceding year by no less than \$122,624,. 103, or 10.55 per cent. Their net earnings increased by \$19,183,346, or 13 per cent. All this is in face of the fact that both grain and cotton, shipments fell off enormously. The gain in gross and net earnings therefore represents only a part of the stupendous increase in the shipment and conother words, the advance in all the people's standards of living, their "Well, who is it?" he asked, as the prosperity and their happiness. It is truly a wonderful showing.

The New York Mail and Express, commenting on the statement of Cecil Rhodes that the British flag is the greatest commercial asset in the world, says: "No flag that was wholly or chiefly a commercial asset ever embodied one idea really useful to civilization, Trade has its part in civilization, but after all, it is the part of servant. The world has moved on he asked, puffing a big cloud of smoke because of ideas and not because of larger. None of the great peoples fect of its vivid hues shining through that one after another have carried westward the flag of empire but had a nobter inspiration than the hope of gain. There is at least one thing greater than any commercial aget, however honorable, and that is the free spirit of man. Nor will this cease to be so until the countinghouse means more to mahan the home.

or two ваше е adjuste For both should n

QUEENSTOWN, MARYLAND, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1900. ALL'S WELL.

Well—it is well that all be taken To which man's weakness clings, If the stripped heart, by sorrow sha Speed forth to lottier things.

Well that the flame of youth should perish.
The flower of health be shorn,
if from the grave of that we cherish
A worthier self is born!

What though our toll, our cares and striving, Earth's perfect outcome miss? New heights there are of nobler living-New worlds that outwelgh this? a should
Grief, joy and love beyond our sceing
One glorious truth foretell:
Ish That, in the soul's fall Sun of Being,
All things at last are well,
Dora Read Goodale, in the Youth's Companion.

HINSDALE



she said at last, surveyed as she stood, her her deliberately as she stood, her slender shape ontlined against the curtains. They were butlap curtains, which she had painted a dull brick red ("Pompelian red," she called it) and which she had ornamented with a Greek border in yellow floss and hung in the doorway herself in spite of his

They were pretty bad, those curtains, but whatever their limitations from an esthetic point of view they certainly made an effective back-ground for the white robed fi tre, and his eye lingered approvingly on the picture a moment before he said

"What have you been doing?"
"Why, the idea!" she exclaimed indignantly, flashing a protesting glance at him from under her long lashes. "I notice that you generally take it for granted I'm going to be horrid

when you've been particularly horrid yourself," he observed blandly. She did not reply to this daring remark, but, crossing the room to the mautel, carefully selected an especially ugly bull-dog pipe from the selection it contained. This she filled "Yes with practiced fingers from a battered sented. tobacco jar that stood near, and then, crossing to the easel, offered it to the man with the most bewitching little nir of coaxing humility.

"My dear young woman," he cried, waving the offering away sternly, "do I look like a man who would accept a bribe? Do my features bear the imprint of vulnerable virtue, that you should thus seek to gain my favorable more in his line than a little human

aromatic vapor aroso to his nostrile

girl seated herself on a hassock and fixed her eyes on him appealingly.

"It's—it's—Hinsdale," she replied,

dolefully. "Hinsdale. Why, I thought we disposed of Hinsdale three weeks ago, and since then—let me see—there was Smith and Devereux and—how many others?"

"Oh, never mind the others," she eried, petulantly. "It's Hindsdale now. We did dispese of him-or at now. least I thought we did-and I'm sure that letter I wrote-

the clouds of grayish rapor with at artist's delightful appreciation of

color. "Oh, well-the letter you wrote. theu," she said. "Though I'm sure you didn't do it all. You only helped "Oh, yes," he answered indolently.

"But Hinsdale-he's broken out again?"

"Yes, worse than ever," and she sighed dismally, "and I want you to help me write him another letter—one that will fix it so that he'il understand that will fix it so that

there's no hope—no possibility—I mean—of my ever being anything more to him——" Here she flown. -" Here she flounered and broke down. 'Can't do it to-day," he said, de "I've got to get this picture of morrow—order, you know—II be a scratch if I manage to

means painting all night as you must," she cried. just got to send it to

easel and pulled a writing table toward

him.
"Well, if you can't come to morrow write help you write "Well, if you can't come to morrow, I suppose I'll have to help you write your letter to day," he said, but there was an unnatural sound in his voice, and Jean looked up hastily through her teres." her tears. John's face was grimly set, however,

plaintively.

He laid down his

"Let me see—it was Hinsdale, I brush and, turning think you said," he went on, still with that grating sound in his voice. "Yes," she said, miscrably, again having recourse to the crumpled sash, "And I think we told him in our last that we'd be a sister to him," he

proceeded, nibbling at the end of his "Something of that sort." And she flushed warmly clear up to the curly waves of dark hair on her temples. "Evidently the 'sister' racket won't go down with Hinsdale," he said re-flectively, "You might offer to be his maiden aunt, you know—"

"There! I knew you'd be horrid! she exclaimed indignantly.
"It's a delicate job," he went on re flectively. "Are you quite sure you mean to refuse him this time?"

"Of course, I am," she burst out indignantly. "You don't suppose I could care for a boy like him, to you?"
"He has a nice eye for color," proceeded John, drawing faces on the margin of the paper—faces that had big, soft eyes and pouting lips, strangely like the girl on the hassock, "and his drawings are wonderfully strong, He's a gifted fellow, is Hinsdale—the best pupil I have."
"Yes, he's gifted enough," she as

"I've often wondered why he faucied you," said John.
"Oh, indeed!" she exclaimed, flush

ing once more.
"Yes. He's a dreamer, you know "Yes. He's a dreamer, you know —an idealist—and it seems to me some augelic creature a little too pure and good for human nature's daily

owner, the girl applied it to the tobacco in the pipe bowl.

In spite of himself he closed his
teeth on the stem and drow a long
breath, and as the first sloud of himself. Now what do you want to say to

"Ob," she cried, struggling with her anger. "You are so disagreeable, I hate you, but I've got to have some-

refuse him-for good and all?"
"Certainly I do. I want him to understand definitely that there is abso lutely no hope of my ever caring for him in-in the way he means," and once more she broke down, binshing,

but definut. "There's only one way to make a man understand that," said John meditatively.

"Auythbig, so long as he under stands and leaves off being -being stands and leaves off being being silly," she cried, impatiently.

John made no reply to this, but after a moment's deep thought commenced to write rapidly.

Pive minutes passed, during which John's pen scratched industriously over the namer and Lean sat, bold no

over the paper and Jean sat bolt up right on her hassock, staring at the picture on the canvas. It was a pale watery sunset that shed green gleams of light on a wide lonely landscape, in the centre of which a woman stood alone, gazing with desolate, hopeless eyes at the retreating figure of a man on horseback. It was painted with inimitable skill and a strange, with power Ethat made John Steele th most famous of the younger school of painters. What an artist he was and what a friend he had been to And now she must go away and per-haps never see him again, except in the class with the others. All these

hours of merry comradeship were ove never to come again, all the work and play together. A great so cause up in her throat, but just the John threw down his pen, and she choked the sob and, rising, reached out her hand for the fetter. But he did not give it to her, as she

"It is a difficult thing to do," h said. "To make a man understand that, no matter how much he care for you, you can never care for him."
"Yes, I suppose it is," she assented. But you have done it, I'm

sure."
"Indeed, I may say there's only one way to convince a fellow of such an unpleasant fact," he went on. But you employed it?" she asked

Yes. You may think it an ex easure, though. I'll read it And he read aloud: Ir. Hinsdale: I thought ago, you asked me to be ich a thing was quite isked, coolly.
"I think," she flashed out, "that you're the most conceited beast I ever "My dear girl," he protested, "I

ittle embarrassment as he would have

shown in facing a new pupil.
"Well, what do you think of it?" he

told you that extreme measures were necessary. It's the only way to get eid of him and I'm willing to sacrifice

myself in a good cause.

With great dignity Jean turned to leave the room, but somehow he was at the door before her with his arms outstretched. "You're not going to leave me, lit-tle Jean," he cried. "I can never get along without you any more, for oh, I love you—love you—love you!" A second she stood hesitating—

then, with a little sigh she went t him and burst out crying comfortably on his shoulder. "Jean!" came a voice suddenly from behind the burlap curtain. It sounded like the clinking of ice in a pitcher.

"Aunt Maria!" gasped Jean in hor "Oh, come in, Miss Chester," said John, drawing aside the Pompeiau red draperies. "We were just going to find you and ask you to come to our wedding to-morrow at 12.

wedging to-morrow at 12.
"Jean—what does this mean? Why
didn't you tell me this before?" exclaimed Aunt Maria, aghast.
"I thought I ought to consult John
betore I told you," said naughty
Jean.—Chicago Times-Herald.

MANY KINDS OF OLIVES. They Are Imported in Casks Chief.

Most of the olives eaten in this country come from a territory about a hundred miles in diameter, around the city of Saville, in Spain. They are imported in casks of 160 gallons cach, the importations, varying with the crop, ranging from 3000 to 6000 casks a year, and averaging about 1000 casks.

Olives are sorted in Spain accordng to sizes, and each big cask is filled with olives of approximately the same size. There are twelve trade sizes. Formerly the sizes were described by names; now they are more commonly known in the trade by numerical designations, the names indicating the number of olives to the kilogramme. Thus seventy-fives means olives that will count from seventy to eighty to the kilogramme. The clives are imported in brine

Formerly many clives were imported already put up in bottles, but almost niready put up in bottles, but almost all the olives sold in this country are now packed here. The work is done chiefly by women and girls. There are ingenious machines for pitting olives that are put up pitted, but no machine has yet been invented for putting the olives into the hottles with the symmetrical with the symmetrical arrangement in which they are now so commonly seen. This work, the building of the wall of olives around the inside of the botof officer at may be seen through the glaze, is all done by hand, the filler placing each olive in the bottle separately with tongs made for the pursue of t none, every olive hat the effect of the whole is attract ive and pleasing. This is slow work for beginners, but experts come to fill bottles very rapidly, and perfectly as well, and with such deftness of touch on the tongs as not to bruise or mar be olives in the handling. The inte ior space having been packed to its

capacity, the bottle is filled with a specially prepared brine, to be then corked, capped and labelled, the bottles being then packed in cases. Olives are put up in a great variety of packages; a single packer in New York uses bottles in a hundred differ-ent sizes and styles. Olives are put up in better shape in this country than anywhere else. The glass used making the American bottles i better, to start with, and the bottles are more perfect in form, the olives are more handsomely packed in the bottles, and the bottles are better la-belled; the whole package, in fact, is petter and more sightly in appear-

Olives are packed nowadays in this country in other cities than New York; but the chief importations come to this port, and more olives are packed here than at any other point. From over the country, and a carload of ol-ives, either in bulk or in glass, are not uncommon shipments.—New York

The Destruction of Spruce.

In 1870, according to George T. Stawford, a forestry expert, there tood in the mountain districts of New Hampshire about 1,600,000 acres primeval spruce forest, carrying bout 16,000 feet, board measure, to the acre, or 16,000,000,000 feet in all. The demand for spruce for paper pulp, added to the amount required for lumber, has reduced this area to 270,000 neres. The consumption of spruce for pulp is increasing at the rate of fifteen per cent. a year. The mills of New York and New England make 720,000 tons of paper-pulp each year, requiring more than 700,000,000,000 square feet, board measure, and stripping 160,000 acres of forest land.

This rapid destruction of the available entires. able supply of spruce has impressed ipon mill-owners the necessity of taking vigorous measures to secure new growth. The wasteful and wicked policy has prevailed of cutting the orest clean, not leaving even a sap-

con be exhausted. - New York thing. and I deeply receed, because World. offer can only both of us The Busy Bee a Frand. rateful for realize,

but it has been learned

ours a day and is a most thoroughgoing loafer for the rest of the time A Carriage Covered With Violets. The London Standard's Nice corspondent telegraphs that at the ttle of Flowers, the first prize was arded to Prince Lubomirsky, whose bringe, in which he and the Princess

TALES OF PLUCK AND ADVENTURE. .

Terrible Crawl For Safety. HIS very modest what must have been an extremely hazardous undertaking, with most severe suffering attending it—the horror of the dark night and the prowling

mountain lions adding to the aw-

snow shoes and red spruce enough to make another. The hickory cost thirty cents per foot. Just think of it! We wanted one good pair of such shoes at least, so that we may have no more accidents such as I had on my way home from our last hunt. But I haven't told you about that. I remained down at the Halfway House a day longer than the rest of the party day longer than the rest of the party, as I hated to give up without getting

as I hated to give up without getting a deer. Next morning I left the Half-way House at about 9.30, walked twelve miles uphill to Summitville, arriving there at 2.10 p. m.

laboriously through the deep snow in the dark, try passing over a half mile of bare ground on your hands and

After leaving the timeer I began firing off the riffe. About every 200 yards I would fire two shots to see whether I could wake any one up in the steward, william Griffin. I set the steward, william Griffin. I set the steward, william for the the camp, but not a sound could I all hands to watch and listen for the the camp, but not a sound could I hear except the echo of my own rife shot. Then I would grit my teeth and start on again. Nor did I get an answer until I was within 100 yards of our cabin. Then I turned the old gun loose, just to see if any one was still alive within. When almost home Mr. Fetterman came down and helped me up the hill, and the Lord knews I needed his help. I learned then that Andrew was visiting at the Chambers cabin, and that Mr. Fetterman was the only person at lowe and the could hear the direction in which the boat had gone. The sounds were eabin, and that Mr. Fetterman was the only person at home, and as he did not know what to make of the shooting, he became somewhat timid about investigating the cause. I didn't suffer much with the cold, as the exercise of crawling through the snow kept me warm, with the exercise.

Striking Incident of the War. "To see a squad of nine naked men cross a stream on a small raft and drive out an intrenched force of ten imes their number in broad daylight, where their number must soon become known, is something not soon to be forgotten. History does not relate a braver or more striking incident of

the war."
This description of a small detail of American troops charging upon an en-emy four times their number and capturing trenches, while the Americans turing trenches, while the Americans were clad in an undress uniform not provided for in the army regulations, is taken from a report just received. With all his might be pushed back the

Philippines.
The report is made by Captain J. P.
Batchellor, of the Twenty-fourth Infantry, on the results of an expedition from San Nicholas to Aparri, in Luzon, Captain Batchellor had orders to cross the mountains of southern Ben-

ling standing. A new system, en-forced on some of the tracts, will save for reproducing the forest all Grande de Kagayan. The troops trees of fourteen inches or less. Unless something is done to prevent the military phrase which means that the destruction the supply of spruce-will soldiers were to forage for every-

omes scouts, and Lieutenants Me-The popular impressions concerning the beginning the beginning the beginning been praised for its industry and the same and a pack, train made up the same and a pack, train made up the same and a pack, train made up the same are same as a same as a same are same as a same as column. The command marched ninety miles in six days. There was that in these respects the bee is a fraud. As a matter of fact, "the little busy bee" works but about three constitutions of the six days. There was a fight with the clusive Filipine on nearly every one of the six days. Conwater. cerning the march Captain Batchellor

says:

"By the sixth day the men were mostly barefooted, their shoes having been cut to pieces. There was a hot fight at Fuere San Luis, and then came the such all and certainly remarkable atta."

In the insurance of the comparison of of n the insan Naguilan,

government to San Luis Diver, | Exemple control of the San Luis Diver, | wide mountain creek.
"Lieutenant McMasters usked permission to swim the river with some

men of Company H.
"The men stripped and crossed the river, some swimming singly and others with horses. All arms were lost, however, in the struggle in the water. Corporal John H. Johnson was drowned, sinking without asking for help, for fear he would delay his comrades.

"Lieutenant McMasters sat down on the bank," continues Captain Batchellor, "and ordered three men to go back for arms. Sergeaut Wilcox and two men, with bamboo poles, shelter tents and canteen straps, fixed up a

The insurgents were firing at them meanwhile, the bullets zipping around them. When the raft was completed Lieuteness Williams fulness of the situations—gives one an idea of the courage required in prospecting for gold in Colorado, and the danger encountered by the hunter in pecting for gold in Colorado, and the danger encountered by the hunter in the lonely mountain places of the Southwest. It was sent to friends in St. Louis by Mr. Clyde Hitchcock from the mining camp in Colorado, where he is wintering with friends. The story is told in his own language:

"While at Del Norte we procured enough hickory timber for one pair of snow shoes and red spruce enough to make another. The hickory cost

A tale of adventure and rescue that is like a leaf from the most exciting pages of the nautical novelists is told

by those on boards the British ship Glennessliu, which recently arrived arriving there at 2.10 p. m.

"I took two hours' rest and then started for the camp on my snow shoes, made of pine. As it gets dark here now a little after 5 p. m. I hadn't covered more than half the distance before it was pitch dark. After crossing South Fork there is a steep hill to climb up through the timber. While going up that hill one of my snow shoes broke squarely in two. I realized right away that I was in half shape, as I was tired out when I

show shoes broke squarely in two. I realized right away that I was in bad shape, as I was tired out when I didn't regret having the gun, however, for the mountain lions have been seen in that vicinity recently. I first tried getting along on one shoe, but that wouldn't work, for every time I took a step with the foot minns a shoe I would plange into the snow up to my hips.

"I then cut the other shoe off, swung my gun on my back, took my snow-shoe pole to rest my hands and knees or motion, but in it lay the only lope of motion, but in it lay the only lope of and my shoel. I was so nearly fagged out when I started that I was compelled to rest every rolor for so. If you haven't an idea what a fearful task I had on my hands and knees crawling laboriously through the deep snow in the dark, try passing over a half mile his was drowned. Bat I was not going in the dark, try passing over a half mile his was drowned. Bat I was not going in the dark, try passing over a half mile his was drowned. Bat I was not going in the dark, try passing over a half mile his was drowned. Bat I was not going in the derey in book. I was drowned. Bat I was not going in the dark, try passing over a half mile. wim a stroke, and all surmised that he was drowned. But I was not going to leave without an attempt to save him if he was still affeat. So I were "After leaving the timber I began he had fallen over, as near as I could. ship and sailed back to the place where

the boat had gone. The sounds were

the exercise of crawling through the snow kept me warm, with the exception of my feet and hands. My German socks and overshoes were frozen into solid pieces, but I wore a thin pair of socks inside of them, and they saved my feet. My hands I could manage better. We depend now on snowshoes made of hickory, and spruce and pine no more."

Although the son of a resident of Wycombe Marsh is only two vears and two months old, he appears well on the road to make himself a name. At the age of seventeen months he stoddled upstairs, took the top off a small lamp, and drank the contents. His greed for "low flash" did no harm, and shortly after he was as lively as ever. shortly after he was as lively as ever. His next exploit ended in his falling into the river at Wycombe Marsh. Again he escaped from the jaws of death. A short time afterward he walked once more into the same stream -another rescue, and more auxious oments for the parents. This week the little fellow has experienced anthe little fellow has experienced another remarkable escape. His mother sent him into the garret with the other children while she performed her household duties. All went well for some time, till George's keen eye eaught sight of the window catch, and is taken from a report just received at the War Department from the Philippines. With all his might be pushed back the window, and, being unable to balance binaself, he fell to the ground, a distance of twenty-five feet! The young-ster, however, is as hard as nails. To everyone's astonishment, he was soon seen running about as lively as ever, the result of his latest exploit only producing a small scar on his leg.-London Daily News.

Rescued by a Woman,

soldiers were to forage for every-thing.

Captain Batchellor had with him Licutenant Castner, commanding the Lomes scouts, and Licutenants Westingsone Westingson gating case at Washington, had crossed Swan Lake on the ice in the morning, driving a double team. Returning in the evening, he again tried to cross the lake, when without warning the

Mrs. David Carpenter, who heard Swaney's cries for help, appeared just as one of the horses had pulled the Deputy Sheriff under the water. Swancy clung to the horse's leg and Mrs. Carpo te lay flat upon and after and after

PUZZLE DEPARTMENT The solutions to these puzzles will apear in a succeeding issue

__ 21 __ \$1.-Decapitation. 1. Behead to stop and leave to al 2. A kind of lever and leave a meas

wratb. 4. A season and leave to bury.
5. A freak of fancy and leave a pro

82 .- Word Half Square. 1. A month. 2. Distress. 3. Bor der. 4. A preposition. 5. A con sonant. 83.-Charade My first is failure to agree,
'Tis some true of you and me;
My second's an luseet very small,
Well known to one and all;
Both harsh and Jarring is my "whole,"
An element in almost every soul.

Across—1. An article of wearing apparel. 2. Directed toward. 3. A pin on which anything turns. 4. General course. 5. To drive back. Down—1. A vowel. 2. A relative. 3. To tear open. 4. To leave out. 5. At no time. 6. Finished. 7. A toy. 8. A musical note. 9. A consonant.

ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLES. 77. - Word Square -LACE

CLIO 78 .- Letter Enigma-Michigan. 79. - Diamond-R O B MOTOR

80. - Geographical Enigmas - Cod Fear, Sable, Lookout, Flattery, Race.

WOMAN RINGS THE CHIMES.

Beitha Thomass Plays on Those Grace Church, New York. Grace Church, New York, which you may have seen in "The Old Homestead," and other plays, and which appears in many novels, has the finest and heaviest chimes of any church in the country. They were presented by different members of the concregation, and heaviest chimes are the concregation, and heaviest the concregation, and heaviest the concregation, and heaviest. the congregation, and have been rung twice a day—at 10 o'clock in the morning and at 4 o'clock in the afternoon—for many years, to the gratification of millions of people. On Sundays they are rung six times and on tays they are ring six times and on Easter they scarcely cease. At weddings and funerals they furnish appriate music, and those living within the sound of the bells know what is

going on in Grace Church by the mes-These great chimes have been played by a woman since 1892-Miss Bertha Thomass—the assistant organist of the church, who is also the sailor could not Her father played the chimes before her, and she learned the art from him. She was the first woman who ever attempted it, but one of her students, Miss Elmore, now plays the chimes at Grace Chapel

Opening from the vestibule on Broadway, under the great tower, is a narrow little room formerly used as a closet. Here is a keyboard, like that of an organ, but with only ten keys.
Each of these keys is connected by
wires, running through a rubber tube,
with one of the bells in the steeple, and by pressing it the tongue of the bell will strike the metal with as much force as could be used in the ordinary belitop. Miss Thomass plays very slowly. She presses her fingers upon the keys with more force than would be necessary upon a piano or an or-gan, and it is at least a second before the sound of a bell returns. Any tune can be played upon the bells that can be played upon an organ, but those that are composed of whole notes or notes of even length sound better. Miss Thomass says that her favorite is "Abide With Me." - Chi-

cago Record. Automobiles Must Not Smell. Laws regulating the operation of automobiles on public highways have recently been adopted in France. These provide that the machines must be so constructed as not to allow any matter to escape which might cause explosions or unpleasant smells. They must be built so as not to frighten horses, so that nothing will obstruct the view of the driver, so that they may be lit up after dark, and the handles regulating the machinery must be so arranged that the driver must be so arranged that the direct can work them witout taking his eyes off the route he is following. Every vehicle must be provided with two distinct systems of brake, each capa-ble of sbutting off automatically the force of the motor and bringing it un-der instant control. One at least of these systems must act directly on the wheels or axles in such a manner as to bring them immediately to a stand All carriages exceeding 250 pounds in weight must be able to reverse their machinery and run back-ward. Foreign vehicles must be passed by the French authorities before they are allowed torun in France. -Manufacturer.

Facts About Hair. Black hair was most esteemed by the ancient Hebrews, while the Greeks and Romans gave the preference to the golden tints, a certain shade of the red being much in vogue among the ladies, who sought every means of imparting the desired color to their dark locks. It is said that those with dark hair work the best, while those with fair hair do the most thinking.

People with very fair, almost color less hair, accompanied by white lashes and eyebrows, are generally of a weak constitution, rather stupid, fond of music, cut no great figure in the world, and, being of a and inoffensive disposition dom missed when they lear Black-haired perso

rary, are str

watch for springtime, not along the hi Where far-off places are blue above the

snow; I find her tokens where the woods are sti And where the willows grow. Beneath them yet the snow is lying deep.
Tracked by wee woodland footsteps swi and shy:
The long white pends are stient in their

while still the days go by. What message, flashed from mountains far and white, To them of days the nearing sun shall bring?
What hope has stirred their hearts, and bid them light
The signal-lies of spring?

For through the branches where the snow-birds flit Flames out the world's sweet hope in scarlet glow. Spring is at hand, and I am sure of it; The willows told me so. —Mabel Earle, in Youth's Companion.

HUMOR OF THE DAY. Bill—"What does Gill do for his dyspepsia?" Jill—"Talks about it."
—Yonkers Statesman.

Hoax—"Inlways weigh myselfafter enting." Joax—"I occasionally get away with a good meal myself."
"Now, Freddy, water, you know, will always run down hill." "Oh, no, pa; not when it's froze."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Cousin Arabella has bad to up playing Wagner all "Why?" "Every time she Angora cat had a fit."

"Diamonds are getting higher and higher." "Yes, dearie, but we can fix that all right." "How?" "We won't buy any."—Indianapolis Jour-

"Still heart-broken on account of Lucie?" "Yes, you don't know what it costs me to give her ap." "But certainly not so much as to keep her!"

-Heitero Welt. "Bobby, you cat your ice cream twice as fast as the rest of us."
"Well, mamma, then you ought troft tree Press.

Visitor (looking at portraits)-"What a lot of ancestors you've got!"
Porkenchopps—"That's dead right! I iidn't want so many, but Sarah she insisted."—Brooklyn Life.

There's no use in talking," the orator said, And his audience cheered with delight;

But too previous they, For he went on to say For a large part of the night. "Laura is foolishly in love with that man." "Is he so handsome?" "No; but she says he can poke a fire with more discornment than any man she ever saw in her life."—Indian-

apolis Journal. Hoax—"Kluncy is very fond of horses, isn't he?" Joax—"If he is, it's something new." Hoax—"Well, I saw him out riding the other day, and he had both arms around the horse's neck."—Philindelphia Record. She had a beautiful complexion, and she showed her girl friend some "Oh, do you also do china painting?" exclaimed the friend, as only a woman can.—Philadelphia North American.

Miss Gusher-"Oh, Mr. Softhedd, why don't you get married?" Mr. Softhedd (on his knees) - "Why-aw -really, ye know—I—aw cawn't find any girl that would have me, you know." Miss Gusher—"Of course— how stupid of me!"—Judge.

Father-"That man should be an example to you, my son. He entered a store as office-boy and worked hima store as omee-boy and worked him-self up until in a few years he owned the business." Son—"He could never do that in these days, pa, when they have cash-registers."—Judge. Mamma-"If you cat any more of that pudding, Tommy, you will see

he bogie man to-night." Tommy

(after a moment's thought)—"Well. give me some more. I might as well settle my mind about the truth of the story once for all."-Tit-Bits. Hotel Manager-"I see you have given our finest suite of rooms to man named Bilkins. Are you suro he can pay the charges?" Clerk—"Yes; he's rich enough." Manager—"How do you know?" Clerk—"Ho is old and ugly, and his wife is young and

pretty."-Cincinnati Enquirer. Much interest has been caused lateby the appearance of a horse chestnut tree in the Thiergarten. The numerous branches around the lower part of the trunk have a pure white foliage such as is seen on trees growing in dark places, where no chlorophyll can develop on account of want of light. The same whiteness of the caves is also noticeable in a few of the neighboring branches through the crown to the top. People are often puzzled as to the cause of the peculiarity, and many strange explanations are sometimes given. The singular appearance of the tree has been no iced regularly for some years. This particular tree, it seems, had been attacked by a swarm of caterpillars and ther creatures of the same species, and the foliage had already stroyed; but still masses of caterpillars continued to crawl up and down the trunk, and finally clung there in clumps. To preserve the beautiful tree, after other means had been tried in vain, a solution of seid was used, and the ground all round was watered with it, as well as the trunk and the branches, which were especially drenched. This treatment proved successful. The tree gradually recovored, and now stands in its full strength and freshness, but has ever since shown the already described whiteness in its leaves, which presents by no means unpleasant contrast to he otherwise dark green foliage .ondon Standard

The Dutch are a thrifty people. Many of their leaders are millionaires. President Kruger's wealth is estimated

at \$25,000,000. Consequently in the market of Europe the word of the African Boer is as good as his bond.
Anything that he buys he can pay for for in mone