A LITTLE SONG,

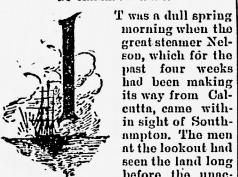
Let the winter blow its best: Hero the hearth is warm; Safe at home with love we rest, Sheltered from the storm. Love that makes the darkness white, Lifts the lilies to the light-Winter, winter wild, Good night!

Good night! Let the storm winds beat the birds From each lonely nest: Safe at home, we hear love's words, Folded to his breast. Love that bends the rainbow bright, Parts the clouds till heaven's in sight Stormy, stormy winds, Good night!

Good night! -F. L. Stanton, in Chicago Times-Herald.

A BLACK DIAMOND.

BY MARIANNE RENT.



gers had gathered on deck, each eager stock of papers to beguile my journey. to catch the first glimpse of land.

in one direction, I told myself that, myself. I flung my rug and papers perhaps, none of them would be quite upon the sent and walked down the so glad to reach their journey's end as platform in search of the guard. Slip-I. One is apt to reason in this fash- ping something into the hand of that ion, for to each his own concerns intelligent individual, I desired him seem of so much more consequence to see that I was left undisturbed. He Still, my egotistical reflection was, in taken my seat, locked the carriage a measure true, for to me the landing door, and I settled myself comfortant Southampton meant more than that bly in a corner, feeling a sense of secua safe passage from India had been ac- rity that I had not experienced for had been reached on which every tried the door before the train left the thought and hope had been centred station, but without being able to with it for a moment. I know I was for months past. It meant that a mis- effect an entrance, and I steamed out with it for a moment. I know I was to the laboratory, but, rapping at the sion upon which my future career de- of Southampton in solitary state. through. It meant to me, in fact, the me to read by. I turned over my seemed hardly able to form the words. pended had been triumphantly carried difference between success and fail- papers and selected my favorite, and The doctor watched me critically for

Brassington, the well-known firm of reading with redoubled relish. London jewelers, would have been un- | For some quarter of an hour I was able to fulfil a Royal commission for buried in an article, but at the end of me out to India to complete the puring to an Eastern Rajah was the highest Brassington, the chief of the firm.

"Mr. Fenton, we have decided to intrust you with the responsible task of fetching it from India."

My fellow clerks, if a trifle envious of my preferment, were loud in their Dick" was in luck's way—that his fortune was made! Indeed, I was somebauble, which was a magnificent stone, rect, I felt that by keeping still I room, and seeing I was awake gave me the size of a large hazel nut. Under | might reach the place where the train my coat and waistcoat I wore a strong leather belt, in which was a small pouch, or pocket, and in this I was to continue my reading. I sat with a my side. There must have been some carry the diamond home. I had resolved that the belt should never leave before me. I don't know what length scarcely swallowed it than I fell asleep

my precious charge to my employers. the sale of the stone was soon noised felt in every nerve. On the floor, close length brought me back to consciousabout, and the natives there are a to my foot, was a hand, and the hand ness, and, looking up, I saw that dark, crafty, cunning set, jewelery having was black!

interviewed this man, I had only to therefore I resolved that if die I must, came to myself I cried out wildly, paschoose a convenient train and make I would die game.

blance to a native servant of the Ra- ful man, with far more physical But, then, I asked, in bewilderment, field on his farm Friday in a very argic disposition, they continue to fah from whom I had bought the dia- strength than I possessed, and from how it had happened; for I had been peculiar manner. He was plowing build their houses of stone and more mond. The man had an evil looking the first I saw that my case was hope- so certain that the diamond was on the dead weeds and dry stubble under tar, at great expense of money and face, and I had a strong suspicion that less; nevertheless, the struggle was a me. After the doctor has assured me | the ground when his plowshare struck | physical exertion, when timber in he had designs for robbing me of the fierce one. as I made my way from his master's a few seconds, yet I had time to ask my side, and had then felt, distinctly, caused it to emit sparks of fire that as did other pioneers, at a minimum palace to Calcutta. However, on re- myself, more than once, what the end the small, hard substance that was ignited the dry rubbish which sur me at Southampton could hardly be once, without any warning, the train "That was a substitute," he said; over the field and threatened to de the same. For while the first had lost dashed headlong into some great ob. and then he explaised that, seeing I stray his fences. He finally subduct no opportunity of following me with stacle in its path. There was a was in such a weak, excited state, he the flames. - Cincinnati Enquirer.

upon the harbor.

I made my way at once to Mr. French, the first jeweler in Southampfound that I should be unable to leave dazed and stupefied. for London until the evening express.

some refreshments, and went back to looked down at me, expressing pity color."-The Strand Mazazine. the jeweler's early in the afternoon, for my condition. There was a blank, where I found Mr. French expecting and when I next came to myself I was me. He was a melancholy little man, lying in a bed in a small place which one of those odd creatures who, dissat- had evidently been hastily arranged as isfied with life themselves, try to make a hospital for the wounded. others see things from their gloomy point of view. He admired the dia- had gone through, and sank back on strange death of Sheriff Winters, who mond, as in duty bound, but when I my pillows with a sigh of relief. sprung the trap, has been kept out of was expressing my pleasure at having Close to the bed a gentleman was the papers. After Masters's body was brought it over in safety, he said, with standing, who I supposed was a doc- cut down, the county physician pro-

past four weeks things to happen on the road!"

Mr. Freuch watched me critically in sight of South- I had not done so since I went on ampton. The men | board the steamer. He assured me at the lookout had that this was a great mistake. He was seen the land long so positive about it, that I was inbefore the unac- duced to go out with him and purcustomed eye could discern it even chasella revolver before going to the through a glass. But, as the morning train. I parted from my new friend mists cleared away suddenly, a long with a sense of relief, and tried to belt of coast appeared, and very soon | shake off the gloomy fears with which | the harbor and its surroundings were he had infected me. I went to plainly visible. Many of the passen- the railway book-stall and laid in a

I chose my seat in the train-a As I stood among the little group small, second-class compartment—and and watched the eager faces all turned | then decided to secure the carriage to than those that engross his neighbor, came back with me and, when I had complished. It meant that the goal some time. Many an impatient hand

During my five-and-thirty years of at my leisure. As I did so, it seemed life I had gone through many varied to me that the revolver in my pocket experiences, but none that had caused stuck out at an unpleasant angle. I me so much anxiety of mind as this drew the weapon from my pocket and voyage home from Calcutta. My fel- placed it on the seat beside me. It low passengers on board the steamer was not a wise thing to do, as a sudlittle knew the responsibility with den lurch of the train might have sent which I was weighted-that if I had it flying off, when the mischief would found a watery grave £30,000 would have been done. However, this was have gone to the bottom with me, and | what I did, and then I resumed my

either side of me, I felt in my pockets position I was in as bravely as I could.

was in hiding could have no possible designs on me. It was but a chance that I had selected the assistance, but I reflected that there carriage where some unfortunate creacongretulations, declaring that "old ture was already concealed; some one, they would be certain to think me deperhaps, who was being pursued and lirious. Then, again, it was evident in want of a weapon of self defence, what of that way of thinking myself, and who, therefore, had been unable for I reflected that if I carried out my to resist the temptation offered by my little courage I had left, and resolved mission successfully I should never revolver. That must be it! My hopes to remain perfectly still, keeping my again he ranked with the other clerks, began to revive as I reasoned out this head turned away so that those crafty, but should, in all probability, be given theory. I did not touch the alarm cruel eyes should not see me. I don't a junior partnership in the flourish- bell, not knowing in what quarter of know how much time passed, I only ing firm of Brassington & Co. With the carriage my mysterious companion know that as I lay there my heart beat these sanguine and ambitious thoughts | might be, thinking he would doubt- | like a sledge hammer, and the bed in my head, I went out to the East, less spring upon me to prevent my clothes rose and fell with each laborwhere I executed my instructions to making the signal. If my notion of ing breath I drew. the letter and secured the costly the felon wishing to escape were cor- At last a nurse stole softly into the

stopped for the first time in safety. I need not say that I was unable to She smiled assent, and took a chair by paper held in my hand, staring fixedly narcotic in the mixture, for I had me day or night until I had delivered of time passed when, suddenly, I felt again, and then I suppose the nurse something touch my foot. Without | departed to look after some patient in After the diamond came into my moving my body in the least, I bent an adjoining room. possession I had an anxious time of it my head and looked down, and what I before embarking at Calcutta. For saw sent a thrill through me, that was ling the bed clothes about me that at

an attraction for them such as a mag- | Then for a certainty I knew that I had time to utter a sound a heavy net has for a needle. However, I was in the deadliest peril; that I was hand was laid upon my mouth, and the managed to clude all would-be plun- alone and unarmed at the mercy of leather belt, which had evidently just derers, and went on board the steamer | the malignant wretch who had fol- been cut through, was dragged from feeling that, if only the elements were lowed me from the far East with the me, and the next instant the Indian propitions, I had nothing more to fixed determination of securing the was stealing towards the window. fear. On the whole, the voyage home diamond. I felt that he was trying to Then I shouted as loudly as I could was a fair one, and once in sight of slip a cord about my feet and so ren- for help, but even as I did so, the Southampton I felt elated, as one who der me more helpless. It was a black man was through the window hideous dream, a grim nightmare from and had disappeared in the darkness. On landing, I had to make my way which each moment I expected to I had tried to struggle up to go in to a jeweler in the town, who was an awake. But I seemed doomed. No pursuit, but my maimed limbs reagent of our firm, and to whom Mr. | chance of escape was possible. Death | fused to bear me, and I fell fainting Brassington had promised a sight of stared me in the face. Still, whatever the diamond en route. After I had my failings may be, I am no coward, hurried into the room. As soon as I

the best of my way to London, where I gathered all my strength together I hoped to arrive before our business and, with a sudden movement, caught was lost. establishment closed for the night, that dusky hand and dragged the Inand so rid myself of all further re- dian from his hiding-place. My at- smile. tack was so unexpected that he had As I passed from the steamer with not time to get at the revolver, which the other passengers, I noticed a tall, he had evidently thrust into his breast black man, who, strangely enough, I while he was busy with the cord. I palm of his hand and held it towards never remembered to have encoun- saw my advantage in this, and clung me. tered during the voyage. He was to his right hand with desperate It was the Rajah's diamond! For dressed in a shabby suit of European energy. But the brute was on me the first few moments rapture and reclothes, but he had a striking resem- like a panther. He was a big, power- lief left room for no other thoughts.

stone, for he had dogged my footsteps In reality. I suppose, it lasted but once to press my wounded arm against upon the flinty surface of the stone which they could construct log houses, flection, I felt that the Rajah's servant | would be, little imagining the strange | worth so much. and the man who disembarked with termination that was at hand. All at | The dector laughed.

his cunning, watchful eyes, the latter terrible crash, and then the carriage had not thought it prudent to leave passed me without a gleam of recogni- we were in collapsed—crushed and the diamond with me. At the same tion, and was soon lost in the crowd splintered as a nut between the time, seeing I should fret myself into

crackers. ton, and was annoyed to find that he not what had been his fate. As for ting something in its place to make was from home. I was only instructed myself, I was buried in the debris of me quiet. to show the diamond to him, so that I the carriage. My right side (both arm was forced to await his return, and leg) was terribly crushed. The this prevented me from catching the pain was too acute to allow of my quite ment could not find one of the right carly train I had fixed upon, and I losing consciousness, although I was size, so made use, instead, of a bit of

I wandered about Southampton, had upon me was lifted, and kindly faces has gone off with a diamond of hisown

sinister smile:

tor, and at a little distance was a narse in a white cap. I took in all these sheriff ordered four deputies to carry fore you are out of the wood! You details in a dreamy way, when sud- the body to his private laboratory, have some miles farther to carry your dealy, with a rush that sent my heart where the Sheriff used to pursue his son, which for the treasure, and there is time for many into my mouth, came the recollection medical experiments alone. He was of the diamond. What had become bound to dissect the powerful, wellof it? My right arm, which must have developed body of Masters, so he shut its way from Cal- for a few moments, and then inquired been very badly broken and was now himself up with the corpse and went cutta, came with- if I carried fire arms. I replied that in splints, was quite useless. I could to work. not move it in the least. With my left hand, which was also bruised and strained, I was able to feel that the ments. Several times he went to the leather belt was still about me, but the pocket, in which the stone was, was neighborhood was deserted. He soon inder my wounded arm. In the con- discovered that the drop on the scafdition I was in, it was impossible for fold had not broken Masters's neck,

> might. The doctor must have heard my restless movements, for he came and opportunity afforded. He laid down opportunity afforded. He laid down looked down at me inquiringly. He his instruments and began to try and had a shrewd, kindly face, which I felt restore life. The evening shadows I could trust, and I explained my drifted into night. It was a noisy trouble to him. I spoke in a low tone, town, and the shouts and laughters of and as briefly as possible. It was a strange story—although I made no Several times the crowds passing the mention of the Indian-and my listener | Sheriff's room thought they heard the might have thought it the ravings of sounds of scuilling, and more than delirium, but on slipping his hand once a muffled shout was heard. But under me, as I directed, he felt the the pleasure-seekers on the streets pocket in the belt and assured me that passed along without giving a thought the stone was there.

"But you are hardly in a fit state to guard your treasure," he said; "shall Winters failed to appear at his office. sume your journey?"

very excited when I said it, for I felt There was still sufficient daylight for my temples throbbing, and my tongue leant back on the cushions to enjoy it a moment, and then, as he laid his hand upon my pulse, said soothingly: strewn about the room, smashed to "Never mind, do not distress yourself. Perhaps, after all, it is better as it is. For who knows of the stone's

> and try to get well." He poured something into a glass and gave it to me, and very soon I forgot all my troubles in a long dream-

less sleep. It was in the cold darkness of early dawn that I awoke once more and gazed about me. I felt far more mya wedding present for a Princess. For | time I taid the paper down and glanced | self than I had done | before I | slept, more than ten years I had been in about me. Then I became aware of and able to take an interest in the the employment of the Messrs. Brass an extraordinary fact: the revolver things about me. I noticed, now, All of this happened in the jail of Rio ington, and although they had always had disappeared. At first I was in- that there were three beds in the Grande County."-Kansas City Times. treated me with confidence, sending credulous. I looked on the seats on room. The one on my left was empty; doubtless the poor creature it had He Wasn't Atraid, but His Legs Were. to see if I could have replaced it there, | contained had died and been removed but it was not to be seen. And as I while I slept. The room was only mark of distinction they had ever paid sat dazed and bewildered, the horrible lighted by one feeble night light, so me. I can recall the thrill of delight | conviction forced itself upon me that | that at first it was not easy for me to that passed through me when the elder I was not alone, that some one was distinguish the different objects. But concealed beneath the seat and had after a while, as my eyes became accalled me into his room, and after been locked in with me. It was a customed to the dimness, I turned to speaking of the negotiations that had hideous thought. I sat motioniess, get a better view of the bed on my been going on concerning the diamond, making no sign, trying to face the right, and see who my companion in affliction might be. And there on the I told myself at last, that whoever white pillow I saw the black head of my treacherous enemy!

My first impulse was to cry out for would only be the nurses about, and that the black man had not recognized me. So I summoned up the

some medicine. I whispered an entreaty that she would not leave me.

It was feeling stealthy hands movevil face bending over me. Before I

across the bed as the nurse and doctor sionately, that I had been robbed, that

The doctor looked at me with a

"Don't make too sure of that," he oid And taking something from his

of its safety, I had managed more than a big rock. The stroke of the stee

a fever at parting with it, he had com-The first lurch the train gave had promised matters by taking the diaseparated me from my enemy. I knew mond from me while I slept, and pat-

coal, which was exactly what I wanted. After a while the wood that weighed So you see your friend from the East

S range Death of a Sheriff.

"Everybody remembers when the great Texas murderer, Dick Masters, was hanged," said E. M. Cary, of I selt weak and shattered by all I Waco, at the Centropolis, "but the "The Sheriff moved about briskly,

making a great clatter with his instruwindows and peered out, but the me to get at it, turn and twist as I and the Sheriff thought that was fortunate, as he always had experimented revelers could be heard everywhere. to this.

I take charge of it until you can re- Nobody had seen him since he locked himself in the laboratory with Mas-I thanked him warmly, but declared ters's body. Finally the Mayor of the bring any door or shouts would answer. Then they broke open the fasted the fatter she got. door. The sight before them nearly turned their hair gray. The room was a total wreck. The furniture was pieces, and everything bore evidence of a terrible struggle. Sheriff Winters lay on the floor, dead, and the existence? So put your fears aside marks about his throat showed that he had been strangled. A few feet away lay the dead body of the murderer, Masters. The faces and the garments of both men bore evidence of a hard fight. The only conclusion that could be arrived at was that Masters had revived, and, on regaining consciousness and strength, he had attacked the Sheriff and succeeded in killing him before he died himself.

> "When I was holding up trains in Nevada," began City Attorney Creswell, "to collect the railroad's taxesbeing District Attorney of the county through which it ran-I had to assist me as brave a man as I ever knew. He would think nothing of walking right up to the muzzle of a gun and

peeping down the barrel. "A passenger train came in and we seized it. I ordered the engineer and fireman out of the cab and put my the train, crowded around and poked fun at us. Suddenly the engineer shouted to my man in the cab that the very fluent and redundent in expreswater was about out of the boiler and it would blow up in a minute or two.

and seeing no water in the glass looked about him in an uneasy way for a moment and then commenced climbing out of the cab. He started to walk away at a slow, dignified stride, but some way absorbed into his system his steps kept getting quicker till at some deadly poison. The last named last he broke into a run. The crowd explanation proved to be the true one. jeered him, but he only ran the faster | It seems that two weeks previously, till he was out of danger. " Look here, Jim, 'said I, I thought

you were afraid of nothing.' "Well, I don't feel a blamed bit skeery on my account,' he replied, very deliberately, but somehow or other I couldn't hold my legs down. They were just determined to do some fast work, an' I couldn't stop 'em.' "-San Francisco Post.

Candor From Childish Lips. A minister's little daughter was attending her first church service. She had never seen her father in the pulpit before, and on his entrance there her presence of mind forsook her, and she piped out in a voice expressive of joyful recognition:

"Why, there's my pa up there in that box!" Avenging propriety swept down upon the little maiden, and for a season there was a great calm. But the service was grievously long to such a wee worshiper, and she became very restless, walking up and down the pew and sighing audibly.

"It won't be long, dear," mamms

whispered. Whereupon ensued another brief I was ruined, that my position in life period of quiet; but it was not to last. Tired baby nature had reached its utmost limit of endurance, and by a little voice, clear and plausible and continues ago pushed their way through Mexico to California, and call "Three X's" and the last chapter I would call through Mexico to California, and call the parabolar's clear to the continue of th coaxing:

"Isn't you nearly done, papa?" New York Mercury.

The Plow Started a Fire. George Vogel, of York Township, Indiana, started a fire in a stubble rounded it. This mangurated a fire that, propelled by the wind, spread

CURIOUS FACTS.

ELLICOTT CITY, MD., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1895.

It is computed that a well-known struck 1,030,500 notes.

One of the curiosities exhibited at a fair in Maine was a horse with a perfectly-formed caribou's foot. It is said that the largest bar of gold

ever cast was sent to the Bank of California in 1882. It weighed 511! pounds.

A perfectly white squirrel, with pink eyes, was caught by a hunter near South Windham, Conn., a few A lynx weighing forty pounds was

shot in a main street, near the centre of the city of San Diego, Cal., a few Some husbandmen in ancient Egypt paid a land tax of \$3.20 per acre an-

nually. The average tax for the whole country is \$4.56 per acre. The skin of the black fox of Kamchatka is the most expensive fur known. Single skins have been known

to sell for more than \$1000. Only one marble statue of the human figure with eyelashes is known. It is the sleeping Ariadne, one of the gems of the Vatican, and was found in

A man who had been an inmate of the Allegan County (Michigan) poorhouse for forty-seven years died there last week at the age of seventy-three

At Christiania King Harald Hardrande, the last of the Vikings, who was killed at Stamford Bridge fighting against the English Harold, is to have

a statue. The deepest place ever measured in Lake Michigan showed a depth of 870 feet, or about one-sixth of a mile. The mean depth is 325 feet, or one-six-

teenth of a mile. A grandson of Mrs. Siddons, the tragic muse, fell dead in the London streets the other day. He was an artist, and so poor that he peddled his

oil paintings on the sidewalks. The Marquis of Zetland, fishing in the Stanley water on the Tay recently, killed a salmon weighing fifty-five pounds. This is the largest salmon heard of for many years in Scotland. Mrs. Cavana, who died recently at

Iowa Falls, has been fasting most of the time for the past year to reduce her flesh, going for weeks without any food but the more s The old bell which in early days

stood on Belfry Hill, north of the town of Council Grove, Kan., and was rung to warn the settlers of the approach of Indians, is now used by a citizen as a flower pot in his garden Japanese houses in the larger cities are of one general shape, two stories

high, and put together by a curious method of mortising, at which these people are adepts, not one nail being used throughout the construction of the building. It is announced that the historic

Fairbanks house in Dedham, Mass., has been offered for sale and is in danger of being destroyed. This is one of the oldest houses in the country. It was built shortly after the settlement of Dedham in 1636.

Polsone I by a Flower.

A singular case was that of the actor, Mr. Joseph Wheelock, who some four or five years ago was said to have been bewitched by a flower. While traveling in the West in pursuit of his profession he suddenly developed peculiar symptoms. He could not sleep, except by taking occasional naps at irregular intervals. Toward midnight. at the close of the performance, though assistant in, with instructions to hold usually a calm, phlegmatic man, he it. The whole town was out to see the | would become unusually talkative, dehold-up, and, with the passengers from | monstrative and full of enthusiasm. He was usually a man of few words, but on these occasions he would grow

He would relate to his friends mar-"He glanced at the water gauge velously eloquent descriptions of scenes and incidents. In diagnosing his case some physicians said that the covering of the actor's brain was inflamed, others said that he had in while the company was passing through Washington, D. C., the Superintendent of the National Botanical Gardens invited Mr. Wheelock to be present at the unfolding of a nightblooming cereus.

The actor accepted the invitation. At the conclusion of the phenomenon the superintendent invited Mr. Wheelock to take the flower. Taking a penknife from his pocket, the actor cut the flower from its stem. In doing so he inflicted a slight cut upon his right thumb, and in this way he became inoculated with the juice of the flower, which is very powerful and is distilled for use as a homeopathic medicine. The actor had also preserved the flower in alcohol, keeping it near his bed, thus inhaling the slight vapor and emphasizing the influence of the deadly drug. Homeopashists say that there are one or two cases where men have purposely placed themselves under the stimulus of this poison for its effect upon their brain, and while under its influence have dictated weird poetry and extravagant romance.—The Independent.

They Loved the Forests.

Spaniards dislike to fell trees or cut live timber of any sort, and this fact perhaps accounts for the giant trees peets of a drunkard's grave, 39 ways to per-of California. The Spaniards two of California. The Spaniards two enve the clearing of paths through the dense forests, not a twig did their axes chop down.

Nor do the Spaniards transplanted With stubborn pertinaciousness, strangely at variance with their lethabundance surrounds them, out of

of cost and labor. The Spaniard does not even fell

pianist in twelve hours' practice The Eminent Washington Divine's Sunday Sermon.

> TEXT: "I have determined there to winter."—Titus iii., 12.

Paul was not independent of the seasons. He sent for his overcoat to Troas on a memorable occasion. And now in the text he is making arrangements for the approaching cold weather and makes an appointment with Titus to meet him at Necopolis, saying, "I have determined there to winter." Well, this is the 8th day of December and the second Sabbath of winter. We have had a few shrill, sharp blasts already, forerunners of whole regiments of storms and tempests. No one here needs to be told that we are in the opening gates of the winter. This season is not only a test of one's physical endur-ance, but in our great cities is a test of moral character. A vast number of people have by one winter of dissipation been dehave by one winter of dissipation been destroyed, and forever. Seated in our homes on some stormy night, the winds howling outside, we imagine the shipping helplessly driven on the coast, but any winter night, if our cars were good enough, we could hear the crash of a thousand moral shipwrecks. There are many people who come to the cities on the 1st of September who will be blasted by the 1st of March. At this season of the year temptations are especially rampant. Now that the tions are especially rampant. Now that the long winter evenings have come, there are many who will employ them in high pur-suits, in intelligent socialities, in Christian work, in the strengthening and ennobling of moral character, and this winter to many of you will be the brightest and the best of all your lives, and in anticipation I congratu-late you. But to others it may not have such effect, and I charge you, my beloved,

look out where you spend your winter

In the first place, I have to remark at this

season of the year evil allurements are especially busy. There is not very much temptation for a man to plunge in on a hot night amid blazing gaslights, and to breathe the fetid air of an assemblage, but in the cold nights satan gathers a great harvest. At such times the casinos are in full blast. At such time, the grogshops in one night make more than in four or five nights in ummer. At such times the playbills of low places of entertainment seem especially attractive, and the acting is especially impressive, and the applause especially bewitching. Many a man who has kept right all the rest of the year will be capsized now and though last autumn he came from the country and there was luster in the eve and there were roses in the cheek and elasticity in the step, by the time the spring hour has come you will pass him in the street and say to your friend: "What's the matter with that man? How differently he looks from what he looked last September." Sla'n of one winter's dissipation. At this time of the year there are many entertainments. If we rightly employ them, and they are of the right kind, they enlarge our socialities, allow us to make important acquaintance, build us up in our morals, and help us in a thousand ter than good neighborhood. But there are hose entertainments from which others will come besoiled in character. There are those who by the springtime will be broken down in health, and though at the opening of the season their prospects were bright, at the close of the season they will be in the hands of the doctors or sleeping in the cemetery. The certificate of death will be made out, and the physician, to save the feelings of the family, will call the disease by a Latin name. But the doctor knows, and everybody else knows, they died of too many levess. Away with all these wine drinking convivialities. How dare you, the father of a family, tempt the appetites of the young people? ment, to save the feelings of the minister or ome other weak temperance man, you leave the decanter in a side room, and only a few people are invited there to partake, but it is easy enough to know when you come out, by the glare of your eve and the stench of your breath, that you have been serving the devil. after late suppers it is necessary to take some sort of stimulant to aid digestion. My plain

opinion is that if you have no more self control than to stuff yoursolf until your digestive organs refuse their office you had better not call yourself a man, but class yourself among the beasts that perish. At this season of the year the Young Men's Christian Associations of the land send out circulars asking the pastors to speak a word on this subject. and so I sound in your ear the words of the Lord God Atmighty, "Woe unto him that putteth the bottle to his neighbor's lips." Rejoice that you have come to the glad winter months that remind you of the times when in your childhood you were shone on by the face of father, mother, brothers, sisters, some of them, alas! no more to meet you with a "Happy New Year" or a "Merry Christmas." But again and again have we een on New Year's Day the sons of some of the best families drunk, and young men have excused themselves by the fact that the wine cup has been offered by the lades, and again and again it has been found out that a lady's hand has kindled the young man's thirst for strong drink, and long after all the attractions of the holiday have passed that same woman ercuches in her rags, and her desolation, and her woe under the uplifted hand of the drunken monster to whom she had passed the faseinating cup on New Year's Day. If we want to go to ruin, let us go alone and not take others with us. Can we not sacrifice our feelings if need be? When the good ship London went down, the captain was told that he might escape in one of the lifeboats. "No," he replied, "I'll go down with the passengers." All the world applicated his passengers." All the world applitude i ms heroism. And can we not sacrifice our tastes and our appetites for the rescue of others? Surely it is not a very great sacrifice. Oh, mix not with the innocent beverage of the holiday the poison of adders! Mix not with the white sugar of the cup the snow of this awful leprosy! Mar not the clatter of the entlery of the festal occasion with the clank of a madman's chain.

Pass down the street and look into the pawnbroker's window. Elegant watch, elegant furs, elegant flute, elegant shoes, elegant scarf, elegant books, elegant mementos. You sometimes see people with pleased countenances looking into such a window. When I look into a pawnbroker's window it scems to me as if I had looked into the window of hell! To whom did that watch belong? To a drunkard. To whom did those furs belong? To a drunkard's wife. To whom did those shoes belong? To a drunkard's child. I take the three brazen balls at the doorway of a pawnbroker's shop and I clank them together, sounding the knell of the drunkard's soul. A pawnbroker's shop is only one of the eddies in the great torrent of municipal drunkenness. "Ob," some one, "I don't patronize such things. I have destroyed no young man by such influences. I only take ale, and it will take a great amount of ate to intoxicate." Yes, but I tell you there is not a drunkard in America that did not begin with ale. Three X's-I do not know what they mean. Three X's on the brewer's dray, three X's on the door of the ginshop, three X's on the side of the bottle. Three X's, I asked a man. He could not tell. I asked another what was the meaning of the three X's. He could not tell me. Then I made up my mind that the three X's was an allegory, and that they meant 39 heartbreaks, 39 agonies, 39 broken up households, 30 pros-

young men are busy in offices, in factories, in banking houses, in stores, in shops, and when evening comes they want the fresh air. and they want sight-seeing, and they must have it, they will have it, and they ought to have it. Most of the men here assembled will have three or four evenings of loisure on the winter nights. After tea the man puts on his but and coat and he goes out. Que form The Spaniard does not even fell trees for firewood, but picks up dead limbs as they fall to the ground, or pulls them from the trees with his lariat.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

In Spaniard does not even fell of allurement says, "Come in here." Satan says: "It is best for you to go in. You ought not to be so green. By this time you ought to have seen everything." And the temptations shall be mighty in dull times such as we have had, but which, I believe, was on his lips the dew of a pure sister's

are gone, for I hear all over the land the REV. DR. TALMAGE. prophecy of great prosperity, and the rail-road men and the merchants, they all tell me of the days of prosperity they think are com-

Subject: "The Opening Winter."

of the days of prosperity they think are coming, and in many departments they have already come, and they are going to come in all departments, but those dull times through which we have passed have destroyed a great many men. The question of a livelihood is with a vast multitude the great question. There are young men who expected before this to set the those holds have they have been disup their household, but they have been disappointed in the gains they have made. They cannot support themselves, how can they support others? And, to the curse of modern society, the theory is abroad that a man must not marry until he has achieved a fortune, when the twain ought to start at the foot of the hill an I together climb to the top. That is the old fashlone I way, and that will be the new fashioned way if society is ever redeemed. But during the hard times,

the dulltimes, so many men were discourged so many men had nothing to do—they could get nothing to do—a pirate bore down on the ship when the sails were down and the they want more time to think. The trouble is, too many people have had too much time to think, and if our merchants had not had their minds diverted many of them would long before this have been within the four walls of an insane asylum. These long win-ter evenings, be careful where you spend them. This winter will decide the temporal and eternal destiny of hundreds of men in this audience. Then the winter has especial temptations nthe fact that many homes are peculiarly unattractive at this season. In the summer

months the young man can sit out on the steps, or he can have a bouquet in the vase on the mantel, or, the evenings being so short, soon after gaslight he wants to retire anyhow. But there are many parents who do not understand how to make the long winter evenings attractive to their children. It is amazing to me that so many old people do not understand young people. To hear some of these parents talk you would think they had never themselves been young and had been born with spectacles on. Oh, it is dolorous for young neonle to sit in the house dolorous for young people to sit in the house from 7 to 11 o'clock at night and to hear par-ents groan about their ailments and the nothingness of this world. The nothingness of this world! How dare you talk such blasphemy? It took God six days to make this world, and He has allowed it 6000 years to hang upon His holy heart, and this world has shone on you and blessed you and ca-ressed you for these fifty or seventy years, and yet you dare talk about the nothingness of this world! Why, it is a magnificen world. I do not believe in the whole universe there is a world equal to it, except it be heaven. You cannot expect your children to stay in the house these long winter evenings to hear you denounce this sta ed planet.

lighted, sun warmed, shower baptised, flower strewn, angel watched, God inhabited planet.

Oh, make your home bright! Bring in the violin or the picture. It does not require a great salary, or a big house, or chased silver, or gorgeous upholstery to make a happy home. All that is wanted is a father's heart, a mother's heart is a mother's heart in a mother water. a mother's heart, in sympathy with young folks. I have known a man with \$700 salary, and he had no other income, but he had a home so happy and bright that, though tunes and the daughters have gone out into he is something to be avoided. splendid spheres and become princesses of so ciety, they can neverthink of that early home without tears of emotion. It was to them the vestibule of heaven, and all their mansions now and all their nalaces now cannot make them forget that early place. Make your homes happy. You go around your house growling about your rhounatism and into the world and plunge into dissipation. They will have their own rheumatisms after awhile. Do not forestall their misfortunes. You were young once, and you had your bright an I joyous times. Now let the young folks have a good time. I stool in front of a house, and I said to the owner of the house, "This is a splendid tree." He said in a whining tone, "Yes, but it will fade." I walked around in his garden and said, "This is a glorious garden you have." "Yes." he said, "but it will perish." Then he said to my little child, whom I was leading along, "Come and kiss me." The child protested and turned away. He said, "Oh, the perversity of human nature" Who would want to of human nature". Who would want to kiss him? I was not surprised to find out that his only son had become a vagabond You may groan people out of decency, but you can never groan them into it, and I declare in the presence of these men and women of common sense that it is a most important thing for you to make your homes bright if you want your sons and daughters to turn out well.

Alas, that old people so much misunder-stand young folks! There was a great Sunanniversary, and there were thousands of children present-indeed all the Sunday-schools of the town were in the building, and it was very uproarious and full of disturbance, and the presiding officer on the occasion came forward and in a very loud tone shouted, "Silence!" and the more noise the presiding officer made, the more noise the children made. Some one e'se rose on the platform and came forward and with and the uproar rose to greater height, and it did seem as if there would be almost a riot and the police have to be called in when old Dr. Beaman, his hair white as the driven snow, said, "Let me try my hand." So he came forward with a slow step to the front of the platform, and when the children saw the venerable man and the white hair, they

thought they would hush up that instant and hear what the old man had to say. He said: "Boys, I want to make a bargain with you. If you will be still now, while I speak, when you get to be as old as I am I will be as still as a mouse." There was not another whisper that afternoon. He was as much a boy as any of them. Oh, in these approaching holidays, let us turn years ago and be boys again and girls again and make all our homes happy. God will hold you responsible for the influence you now exert, and it will be very bright and very pleasant if some winter night when we are sleeping under the blankets of snow, our children shall ride along in the merry party and hushing a moment into solemnity, look off and say, "There sleep the best father and mother that ever made a happy new year." Arm yourself against these temptations of December, January and February. Temptation will come to you in the form of an angel of light. I know that the poets represent satan as horned and hoofed. If I were a poet and I were going to picture satan, I would represent him as a human being, with manners polished to the last perfection, hair falling

in graceful ringlets, eye a little bloodshot, but floating in bewitching langor, hand soft and diamonded, foot exquisitely shaped, voice mellow as a flute, breath as though nothing had ever touched the lips but balm of a thousand flowers, conversation facile, carefully toned and Frenchy. But I would have the heart incased with the scales of a monsterand have it stuffed with all pride and beastliness of desire and hypocricy and death, and then I would have it touche I with the rod of disenchantment until the eyes became the cold orbs of the adder, and to the lip should come the foam of raging intoxication, and to the foot the spring of the pauther, and to the soft hand the change that would make it the clammy hand of the wasted skeleton, and then I would suddenly have the heart break out in unquenchabl flames, and the affected lisp of the tongue become the hiss of the worm that never dies. But until disenchanted, ringleted and diamonded and flute voiced and conversation facile, carefully toned and Frenchy.

Oh, what a beautiful thing it is to see a call "The Pawnbroker's Shop." Oh, beware young man standing up amid these temptations of city life incorrupt while hundreds are falling! I will tell your history. You temptation, because of the long evenings all will move in respectable circles all your lowing such full swing for evil indulgences. lowing such full swing for evil indulgences. days, and some day a friend of your father You can scarcely expect a young man to go will meet you and say: "Good morning! to the new world ever destroy timber.
With stubborn pertinaciousness, strangely at variance with their lethard argic disposition, they continue to both the will not do it. The most of our lethard arguments of the state of the ndvice, come to me. As long as I remember your father I'll remember you. Good morning." That will be the history of hundreds of these young men. How do I know it? I know it by the way you start. But here's a young man who takes the opposite route. Voices of sin charm him away. He reads bad books, mingles in bad society. The glow has gone from his cheek, and the sparkle from his eye, and the purity

kiss, now as they see him pass cry, "What an awful wreek!" Cheek bruised in grog-shop fight. Eye bleared with dissipation. Lip swellen with induigences. By careful what you say to him; for a trifle he would

take your life. Lower down, lower down until, outcast of God and man, he lies in the asylum, a blotch of loathsomeness and pair. One moment he calls for God and then he calls for rum. He prays, he curses, he laughs as a flend laughs, then bites his nails into the quick, then puts his hands through the hair hanging around his head like the mane of a wild beast, then shivers until the cot shakes, with unutterable terror, then with his fists fights back the devits, or clutches for serpents that seem to wind around him their awful folds, then asks for water, which is instantly consumed on his cracked lips. Some morning the sur-geon going his rounds will find him dead. Do not try to comb out or brush back the matted locks. Straighten out the limbs, wrap him in a sheet, put him in a box, and let two men carry him down to the wagon at the door. With a piece of chalk write on top of the box the name of the destroyer and destroyed. Who is it? It is you, oh. man.
if, yielding to the temptations of a dissipated
life, you go out and perish. There is a way
that seemeth bright and fair and beautiful to a man, but the end thereof is death. Emplay these long nights of December, January and February in high pursuits, in intelligent socialities, in innocent amusements, in Christian work. Do not waste this winter, for soon you will have seen your last snow shower and have gone up into the com-panionship of Him whose raiment is white as snow, whiter than any fuller on earth could whiten it. For all Christian hearts the winter nights of earth will and in the the winter nights of earth will end in the June morning of heaven. The river of life from under the throne never freezes over. The foliage of life's fair tree is never frost-bitten. The festivities, the hilarities, the family greetings of earthly Christmas times will give way to larger reunion and brighter lights and sweeter garlands and mightier joy in the great holiday of heaven.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

In Germany 434 towns are now connected by long distance telephones, which have 110,000 subscribers.

Typhus fever is very rare in Italy, there being an average of only five cases a year in all the hospitals com-

When water freezes it expands with force which Trautwine estimates at not less than 30,000 pounds to the

Only fair-haired men entered Tananarivo, Madagascar, wi h General Duchesne; the dark men all succumbed to the climate. A New York physician has effected

cure of paralysis of the muscles by grafting new muscles on in place of the paralyzed ones. The crocodile will sometimes go

without food for a year. Upon wak-

"Squaw Men."

"Nearly every person who has resided in the vicinity of an Indian reservation for any length of time knows the meaning of the words 'squaw man,' but I doubt if Eistern people generally can define it or if they are familiar with the lite of this interesting character," said E. P. Latiln, of Cheyenne.

"A squaw man, in the first place, is a male white who has legally married a full-blooded Indian squaw, and has cared for her as white men are expected to provide for their white wives. There are many squaw men in Wyoming towns who have large families. As a rule they are wealthy, and their children are growing up under all the advantages of education and religion that modern civilization offers. These men made money easily . in early days at stock raising and

trading with the Indians. They went among the tribes and first secured their friendship, following up this advantage by marrying an Indian maiden. The tribes always regard a squaw man most highly, and if he is shrewd enough to hold their confidence his fortune is made. There are now residing in Cheyenne two squaw men-E. F. Kelly and Joseph D. Whitcomb-whose wives and children are members of the best society. Both men are wealthy and their families reside in two of the finest homes in Cheyenne. They made all their money in stock raising and Indian trading. Their wives are fullblooded Cherokees and their children are fine-looking boys and girls. They are well educated, two of Mr. Kelly's boys and a daughter of Mr. Whitcomb having just returned to Eastern col-

leges to take their last course. "I know many other squaw men in Wyoming who have lived happily and raised splendid families since their marriage to Indian maidens. As a rule the children favor their mothers in features and complexion, while the white blood lends a more delicate cast to their features, taking away the coarse, unintelligent countenance of the Indians. They have almost perfect physiques, and while they are high tempered and passionately fond of out of door sports, they are never indiscreet, unmannerly nor rude."-New York Sun.

The Honey Bird.

The honey bird, of which we saw several during our travels in Somali Land, is worthy of mention as a natural curiosity. It is a little gray common looking bird about the size of a thrush. It first forces itself upon the notice of the traveler by flying across his path, uttering a shrill, unlovely cry. It will then sit on a neighboring tree, still calling and waiting for him to follow. By short, rapid flights the bird will lead its guests on and on, till after a while the traveler notices that the bird has stopped its onward course, and is hanging about among a certain half-dozen trees. These being visited one after another and carefully examined, the search will be rewarded by finding a nest of bees in one of them. The probability is that there will be honey in it, but I have known the bird to be mistaken. It for the bird. Although this action of the honey bird is an established fact of natural history, it is none the less unaccountable, and it would be interesting to know whether he ever tries to entice quadrupeds also to assist him in obtaining his much loved hovey. -Ninetcenth Century.

Needles Statistics.

It is said that there are over 70,000. 000 needles made each week withir the limits of the town of Redditch England.

Jess-They say heaven lies about up in our infancy. Jack-Possibly; anyway, the world does when we grow up -New York Herald.