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Paradoxical as it may seem, it is a fact that the more Mumm a man gets the more loquacious he grows.

He-"And, darling, what does your father think of my suit? She (sobbing) -"He thinks it is a misfit."

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From a letter written by Mrs. Ada E. Hurd, of Groton, S. D., we quote: "Was taken down with a bad cold, which settled on my Lungs, cough set in and finally terminated in Consumption. Four doctors gave me up, saying I could live but a short time. I gave myself up to my Saviour, determined if I could not stay with my friends on earth, I would meet my absent ones above. My husband was advised to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. I gave it a trial, took in all, eight bottles; it has cured me, and thank God I am now a well and hearty woman." Trial bottles free at W. M. Cohen's drugstore, regular size 50c. and \$1.00.

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Freddy Fangle--- What are letters of eredit, papa?" Fangle-"1. O. U."

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"What joint is it that no one ever cares to partake of?" "The 'cold shoul-

"What is that which the more you take the more you leave behind?" "Footsteps."

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"Pretty heavy for a light bill," sighed the humorist as his landlady added \$3

Jagson says it is proper to wish the anxious candidates many happy returns on election day.

"Why is E the most favored letter in the alphabet?" "Because it is the first in Everything."

The bookmaker illustrates the injustice of life. He is constantly getting the best of his bettors.

What is the difference between a tea service and a butteroup?" "One is a whole tea set, the other's but a cup (buttercup.")

"we find the man who stele the mare not of goods, at the

"Trust men and they will be true to you," says Emerson; but any ordinary grocer could have given Emerson points

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Co Syea. & Bank Sts. Petersburg,

Oh, you pretty robin, keeping watch beside a Where the happy sunshine rushes o'er the

gorse bloom bright and gay.
Where the blackbirds and the thrushes are
their loud love stories telling—
Do you know, I fancy, robin, you as sweetly
sing as they.

Do you see that verdant meadow where the but

tercops are growing.

Where the golden-hearted dasies twinkle 'mid the tender grass?'
Do you mark the lights aint shadows that the fleecy clouds are throwing.

As across the sky of azure they fantastically

Just above it there's a cottage, sheltered by the budding beeches.

Where the cherry bloom is scattered on the serried crocus lines

My the playful south wind's antics, where the glistening ivy reaches To the red-tiled roof and chimneys where the green wisteria twines.

Pretty robin, there's a maiden tall, and fair, and rather stately.

With a velce as soft as yours is, dwelling in that very cot.

And her tresses catch the sunbeams, though she speaks and moves sedately.

And her eyes are just the color of a blue forget-me not.

Whisper, robin—can you tell me is she wan-d'ring by the river, Where the catkins clothe the willows and the

watercrosses grew? Tell me, robin, pretty robin, and I'll be your debter ever, For her father does not love me, and so, mind

you, whisper low.

—M Rock, in Chambers' Journal.

The Kind Deed That Crowned Broken Life.

A BEGGAR WOMAN.

A strong breeze, sharp with the cold suggestion of coming winter, swept up from the bay and tossed the creaking boughs of the old button woods that stood along the roadside until they labored in the wind like ships at sea The last of the fog was just disappearing and curled fiercely up from the woods and waters, rolling away in great, sodden masses. In the north a long line of snow clouds were sluggishly moving forward. There was some thing peculiar-almost sinister-in their slow, heavy formation, and the weatherwise fisherman off shore watched them uneasily and began to draw in tackle and make preparations to seek harbor.

On the land the farmers shook their heads and hastened to get the last of the pumpkins and apples under cover. Of their own accord the cattle left off grazing and sought the barnyards. Now and then stragglers from some frightened flock of wild geese flew toward the south in anxious search of their mates.

Near the end of one street of the little fishing hamlet was a weather beaten, wood colored homestead of one story and a loft, surrounded by a fence almost as old as the house itself; but as one passed through the gateway and up the grass-grown walk into the smoke painted kitchen the poverty of the outside surroundings was forgotten in contemplation of the profesion inside.

At least this seemed to be the ease with the little old woman who hobbied painfully up the path to the half open kitchen door. There she stopped irreso lutely, but the savory smell of cooking was irresistible, and the pressed slowly forward into the low decrway. The kitchen was fragrant with the odors of the Saturday's baking; from the stove at the far end of the long room came a cheerful sputtering and hissing and over it a women bent in impatient suspense. Her back was toward the door, and she did not notice the great hungry eyes that were fastened on the loaves of bread and the pies and cakes and cookies that loaded the pine table. Such profusion made the wistful eyes gleam and the withered form tremble with engerness. But she did not venture to cross the threshold.

On the floor two children were playing. They had watched the woman's approach with childish curiosity. The voungest rose to his feet and toddled toward her. After gazing at her a few moments with his big, wondering eyes he held up the cookie he had been nlbbling. She besitated, then took it and ate it greedily.

The boy laughed and went to get another, but at this moment Mrs. Barten looked up. Her face was flushed with heat and veration. She was about to speak sharply to the children when she caught sight of the bent figure in the loorway, and her wrath was turned. Of all things she hated beggars the most. During the summer months many of them drifted up from the neighboring seaports and proved a constant source of loss and vexation to the fishermen and farmers. Mrs. Barten had suffered with the rest, and as she turned from the store her lips were drawn sharply over her strong white teeth. She did not see the wistful eyes and patient smile. What she saw was cowering beggar, with some outlandish kind of head covering and a ragged shawl closely drawn about the slight "Well?" she said, in a sharp, inter-

The old woman shivered as though something had struck her, but her face

remulaed perfectly blank. "A furriper!"

Mes. Barten sprang forward and drew the children from so dangerous a presence. To her a foreigner seemed all that was dangerous and depraved. A sudden sputter recalled her to the stove, and by the time she was again at leisure a trace of her natural kindly isposition had come to the surface. Taking a generous handful of cookies and one of the loaves of bread, she returned to the door But the old woman had already passed the rickety gate and was hobbling slowly down the street. Mrs. Barten looked after her regret-

"I wish I'd a-give her suthin'," she muttered as she replaced the food on the table. "but land's sake alive," she continued, briskly, after a moment's thought, "why sh'd I feel sorry? Like as not the old tramp was jest spying round arter suthin to steal. Most likely she'll have a dozen snacks gin her before night. Here you, Rob 'n' Liza, come back to the house this min- I'll take it.

ute, and don't you dare go trapezin' out ag'in!" And with mind at rest and conscience satisfied, Mrs. Barten returned to her compounds of fragrant

Slowly the afternoon were away; the pies and cakes and cookies disappeared from the table and were replaced by pans of crisp doughnuts and heavy spherical loaves of brown brend, with raised lines encircling them; with platters of juicy meats, browned to the critical point of perfection, and flanked with dishes of yellow pumpkin and white turnip and scarlet cranberry. As the table became crowded these in turn were taken to the storeroom to wait the coming of the "great day." And still the tired and flushed mistress of the kitchen went on with her mixing and tasting and baking.

The low, sullen line of clouds became more menacing and crept on until they had masked the entire sky. The wind grew strong and was soon filled with fine particles of swirling snow, but Mrs. Barten heeded not; time was too

"It's growing dark," she grumbled, as she slid more pans into the oven; 'days are pesky short this time o' year.' It was only when a fierce gust of wind hurled a cloud of snow against

the window that she looked up.
"For the land's sake!" she exclaimed. "It's snowing 'n' I'll lay a dollar them dratted children's out in it." Hurrying to the door she called shril-

ly: "Bob! Liza! March your boots in here quicker'n lightning!"
Receiving no reply she muttered

"Upstairs rumagin, most likely. Seems with all my work they might quit their didoes for awhile."

But when a sharp call up the stairs failed to elicit response she began to look anxious. Throwing a shawl over her head she went out into the yard. The snow was now whirling past in blinding sheets, and the keen wind cut one like a knife. Already white drifts were forming in the fence corners and sheltered places. Objects a dozen yards

away were becoming indistinct.

A thorough search of the yard failed to show any trace of the children and she returned to the house to decide on her next move. She could not determine the direction the childish feet had taken and once out of sight of the house she knew there was little probability of their finding their way back by them selves. There was no danger of their being lost unless they wandered away from the village, but 'Liza had scarcely recovered from the measles and Mrs. Barten had all the mother's horror of wet feet and colds.

A smell of burning bread drew her attention to the stove. When she returned to the door she saw a bent figure coming up the path. A moment later and the old woman stood before her, but now the ragged shawl was closely wrapped around one child, while another clung to her skirts, sobbling bitterly. The stranger's face was full of a wistful tenderness, but Mrs. Barten did not see it. Assured of the children's safety, her feelings underwent a quick change. Her child in the arms of a dreaded "furriner." In a moment she had hurried the little ones to the fire and was removing their outer garments. What contamination and disease might not lark in the ragged shawl and draggled skirts!

She was aroused from her reflections by the entrance of her husband. More wet feet chair he said a drew a chair to the stove.

"Aller's wet feet when there's any thing to wet 'em in," she returned. Then, after a moment, she added: "You go tell the old woman she can come in to the fire. Beggars and young uns are enough to make folks lose their

"I passed an old woman outside the "he said, as he took his pipe from the shelf and began to fill it. "If it's her you mean, she's half down the street before this."

"Then I'm shet o' thet trial," she said, in a relieved tone. "Some of the neighbors will be sure 'n' take her in.

All night long and the next day and night the snow whirled and drifted about the village. Then the sun came out and the men and boys took their teams and shovels and began to dig communications between the houses. As the paths became clear one neighbor after another sallied forth to gossip over the events of the storm.

At length some one mentioned the old beggar woman, and then it was learned that no one knew of her whereabouts; nearly all had seen her, and most of them confessed that they had sent her away with a "flea in her bon-One man thought she went toward

the Freeman house. This was a deserted building just out of the village. Without hesitation the men took their shovels and began to dig vigorously in that direction. And Mrs. Barten worked with the foremost.

"Lucky there's a good fireplace and plenty of fuel in the old house," said one. "The old lady can keep warm, but I guess she'll be mighty bungry."

When they reached the house there was no sign of its being occuoied. "She ain't here," said the man who had spoken before, as he threw open

But he was mistaken; they found her She was dead .- Kaneas City inside.

# He Was a Stranger.

"Alas," exclaimed the returned native as he wiped his eyes with his poeket handkerchief. "Alas, alas! I see no one I know! They are all strange faces here, are they not?"

"Naw," said the resident, "they're the same faces we see every day! Yours is the only strange one here!"- Hoston News.

-Poems as Pointers to the Public .-Struggling Bard-"Can you use this half-column poem?" Editor-"Certainly not. Don't want any poems, and epecially if they are long." "But this is headed 'Boil It D. w ...

advises correspondents to be brief." Editor-"Say, make a column of it and NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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