VOLUME I.

DUNN, HARNETT CO., N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1891.

NUMBER 20.

The Central Times.

Published Every Thursday

E. F. Young and G. K. Grantham.

Six Months, .

Three Months, 1 ... ADVERTISING RATES:

One Column, One Year, . . \$75.00

Ter Contract advertisements taken at propartionately low rates. Local notices, 10 cents a line.

gor Entered at the Pastoffice in Dunn, N. C. weard-chan mater.

Official Directorn.

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COUNTY OFFICERS.

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(W. F. MARSH, Ed. SMITH.

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Torn Clerk-M. in WADE. J.A. TAYLOR, M. F. GAINEY BALLANCE, E. LEE, E F. YOUNG.

ALLIANCE.

The County Alliance meets on the 2nd Freday in January, April, July and October J. S. Holf, Pres't. WM, SEXTON, Sec'y.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

DUNN CIRCUIT. Methodist Episcopol-Rev. J. D. Pequam. Paston. Charges-Dann, 2nd Sunday night and ith Sunday and n gat. Sunday School every Wednesday night. Black's Chapel, 1st Sunday morning. Avera's School House, 2nd Sunday morning. El-vation, 3rd Sunday me ming. Behson, 3rd Sunday afternoon. Was energ Poplist C. week, Unthage, N. C. LANGE WATSON, PASIOR. Services. 2 of Sunday morning and night, Sunday S had every Sunday morning at 94 o'clock, Prayermeeting every Thursday night.

Produttrius - KEY, G. A. HOUGH, PASTOR, Services every 1st Suaday morning and night. S. Mary School every Sunday morning at 91 Disciples - Rev. J. R. TINGLE, PASTOR --

Sa viewerery and Sunday morning and night. Sunday School 250 o'c'ock every Sunday, care, Prajer meeting every Thursday night. Pres Will Baylor REV. R. A. JOHNSON. Parison. Services every 3rd Sunday. Sunthey School every San lay macning.

LODGE DIRECTORY.

LUCKNOW LODGE NO. 115, L. O. O. F .-Begular meeting every Tuesday night. F. P. Jones, N. G., L. W. Taylor, V. G., G. K.

PARTURN LODGE No. 147 A. F. and A. M. an armeeting, 3rd Saturday morning and sing fight before 1st Sunday, I. W. Trille, W. W., F. P. Jones, S. W., J. L., Prollips J. W. R. A. Johnson, Tre-sarer, S. W. Parker, e. etary; W. A. Johnson and 11 rites Lee, Stewart; R. J. Norris, Tyler.

More Than Ready.

"The successful canvasser," once said a lusiness man, "is the one who can persuade you to buy what you don't want." Yew persons of refined feeling would care to undertake the business under those circumstances, but even they could scarcely help being amused

A "summer boarder" was one day sit- made. vender of patent medicines appeared,

and began to advertise his wares. "Good for toothache, rheumatism, gout, ague," he said rapidly, displaying a bottle. "Got rheumatism now, haven't ye? I could tell that the minute I set

"Never had a twinge in m. life," said the victim.

"Subject to Leadache?"

"Teeth trouble at?" "Never."

So the conversation went' on, from nestrums to liquids for cleansing purslowly packed up his wares and sadly back, to fasten themselves upon the prepared to depart. As he was about brightest spot in the past. to go, a neighbor approached, bringing

story by you in each!" The agent threw open his bag with a lightning-like gesture. He reized a

bottle from its contents, and proffered it imploringly. "Why didn't you tell me you was a writer?" cried he. "Twenty-five cents

a bottle! Best thing on earth for writer's cramp?" He had conquered; the nostrum was

bought, though only to be tossed over the orchard wall.

A Veteran Canary. York Post: I have just lost a canary which I bought in the spring of 1887. The dealer said the bird was I year old at the time I purchased him, and connearly, if not quite 15 years I am a child now, for that matter; a "Call me 'Aunt Meredith,' child." age. . He was blind for the last two in a few days of his death, though for body. a year he has slept at the bottom of his mother, her only sister, and Uncle corded the years. cage and not on his perch, though he George, her oldest brother.

TWO VOICES.

A HOMILY. The humblest and frailest grassy blade That ever the passing breezes swaved Is of Beauty's palace a green arcade.

Akin to the uttermost stars that burn. A story the wisest may never learn, Is the tiny pebble thy footsteps spurn. In each human heart potential dwell, Hid from the world and itself as well, Heights of heaven, abysms of hell.

The core of the earth is flery young! No matter what may be said or sung . With a weary brain and a wailing tongue.

Soul self pent in a narrow plot, Longing each morn for some fair lot, Some bounteous grace which thou hast not, Duil thou must be not to understand,

And blind thou art not to see at hand Thy dreams by reality far outspanned; For wonder lies at thy very door, And magic thy fireside sits before, And marvels through every window pour. Woven the wings of the swift hours be

Of splendor and terror and mystery;

One thing is needful—the eyes to see!

AUNT MEREDITH

-Cornhill Magazine,

"That was the saddest mistake I ever of his house. made."

From my lounge in the corner of Aunt Meredith's room I watch her with halfclosed eyes as she draws her low chair der; just one year." before the fire, and takes her knitting from the work-basket at her side. She is always busy, it seems to me, and when work constant with her.

First, there is Uncle Clay, Aunt Mere- left alone?" dith's brother, full of hobbies that re- She turned pale when Uncle George quire her constant attention.

before he mounts it, I can save him a the mere interest upon her debt. Like showed me the smile upon her pale face good deal of trouble," she says, when a many other debts, whether of money, of as Robert bent his head to kiss her faded new hobby is presented; and often she gratitude, or of affection, hers had come cheek.

for himself under Aunt Meredith's Her lips trembled when she attempted "Poor Clarence!" as he draws the coverspecial guidance. There is Frank, to speak; she put out her hand as if another nephew, generous and impulsive, seeking some support, and rested it -a regular tinder-box in temper, -with heavily upon the back of a chair. May, his sister, always ready, in her love for teasing, to put the match to the

ing Richard, of whom Aunt Meredith is watched the struggle my aunt was mak- there; as if I did not know what it is never quite sure until she has herself ing. tucked him in bed and sung him to

Then here am I; a cripple, dependent upon Aunt Meredith for every ray of sun shine that has crept into my poor manned existence since the day I opened | had given place to the woman. my eyes to the life which, but for her, might indeed have proved a curse to me. through the open window and crowned

mistake which affected the current of so

The firelight plays upon her needles as rises higher, and forms, as she sits out- I have at least paid my debt in part." lined against it, a sort of halo about her

Robert is doing some extra book-keeping, and will not be in until ten o'clock. May and Frank are busy with their lessons in the sitting room. Uncle Clay rode over to Richland to-day, and did for I heard Aunt Meredith singing "Rock | mould. of Ages" in the boys' room more than ! half an hour before she went down to give Uncle Clay his supper.

by some instances of persistence in of the household to come in, I am lying was among the first to be stricken. here thinking over that mistake she

ting on the farm-house steps, when a Indeed, I often think of it. We crip- you!" With the blessing still on his lips, ples have so little else to do except to he left us. study books and people, and all these tedious years I have studied her until I think I know her great soul by heart. In that last blessing. And I know all about that "sad mis-

does not really look upon it as a blunder. lins. If she ever allows herself to think of half an hour's steady effort, the agent and tired, and her thoughts go crowding through all the stricken town.

the morning's mail, and, and called out, and best of us. But I heard Aunt Mere- seen the clay heaped upon the grave of ruped. Isn't it amazing when you come "I've got two magazines, and there's a "there can be no blunders in God's her. John-honest, patient John Eastplan;" and if she can stand up so man-was dving. grandly amid the ruins of youth's prom- Poor Aunt Merry! The blows fell'so ises and testify to the perfection of the fast that she had scarcely time to consideternal plan, few indeed have the right er the magnitude of one before a heavier to sit in judgment on it.

my cheeks as I watch the figure in the John Eastman's eyes, hope left Aunt firelight. I can remember the day when Merry's heart, to follow into and fix itthis white haired woman, knitting stock- self upon that unknown land into which ings in the chimney corner, was the mer- his soul had drifted. riest girl in our village.

said. "And the best one," John East- Merry. God bless you!" A correspondent writes to the New man declared, when he asked her to be his wife. "And the happiest one," I after that-never but once. It was the heard her tell herself when John was day they buried John Eastman; and she gone, and with him her pledge.

nearly, if not quite, 15 years. I have child in body, a man in years; but I reheard that the life of a canary rarely exceeds eight or ten years, and therefore member it all as plainly as if it had of crippled bodies and hearts that give ceeds eight or ten years, and therefore believe that my bird lived to an unusual been yesterday. I think we crippled back echoless answers. Thirty and five; ones have keener memories than those I have notched them upon my crutches; years, but continued to sing until with- who share the mind's work with the

climbed daily to the perch until within The brother and sister tenderly disa week. This morning he refused his charged their duty toward her, and Aunt food for the first time, and, after a few Meredith, always conscientious, felt that sips of water, nestled down on the floor an immense debt was accumulating of his cage, coiled up as if to slee, ruf- against her; so that, when my dying found her sitting alone on the west piaz- played his grimmest joke on the poor old

cepted the charge of the little cripple cloud-lakes. committed to her care.

She was young then-just twentyand was soon to have been John Eastman's wife. When she had accepted the | yellow jasmine bells. new charge she sent for her lover to tell

postponed. He protested, but Aunt Merry was pared to accept the new-charge."

She would not say "burden," but it was a burden to lay upon her young who, having never known a home of her own, was about to step into that sweet peace which is found nowhere but about the family fireside.

But she did not hesitate. "I am only paying interest on the debt I owe his mother, John; I can never hope to pay the principal," she urged.

pointment, and said, "It shall be as you | trials and its pleasures. wish, Merry; but it will be a very long year to me." Before the year ended Uncle George's wife died, and her two children, Robert

and Annie, were added to Aunt Merry's to ask her to come over and take charge

"No, George," she said, "I cannot." "Just a little while, Merry," he begged,

"until we can get things in working or-"But there is John!" she insisted. "I owe something to John."

I think of it, we six are enough to make Uncle George. "What if Eunice and stay out so very late;" and the books I had not cared for you when you were were given up.

reminded her of her obligation. After candle; and again the halo seemed to "If I can only prove its worthlessness all, more would be expected of her than form around the silver braids, and to face her at the moment when she was And there is Robert, just starting out the least prepared for it.

> I can never forget that scene. Boy as choose. A little silver call-bell is in I was, I realized that it was the sacrifice

of a life. I lifted my poor twisted body And there is Richard-happy, rollick- upon my pillows, and from my corner Uncle George stood leaning against the low mantel, looked heavy-eyed and

While I watched, the sunlight crept of peace.

halo, just as the firelight touches the voung man about to enter the world-She thinks I am asleep, or else she silver ones to-night. Then Aunt Merry pure of heart and strong of purpose; of would not have spoken of that fatal lifted her head and said softly, "I will the graves of the two men who blessed come, George."

But at the end of the year she said, There is so much to do, John; let us She is thinking of the past, I know, give the children one more year. We and that "mistake," while she sits there can spare so much to them. Just one!

I promise not to ask another, John." With a heavy heart he answered

The Angel of Death hung his black ban-While she sits waiting for the last one ner on almost every door. Uncle George | giass side of the aquarium in vain efforts "God bless you, Merry," he said; "don't forget the children; God bless

But the next day little Annie laid her take," although she does not dream that hot check against Aunt Merry's, and it is known to me. If I were to tell her cried out that the fever was burning her air breathing toads, whereas the frog that I learned from her own hips to call throat. For eight days the little life lays eggs that produce fish like tadpoles, it a "mistake," I am sure that she would swung in the balance; but on the ninth subsequently transformed into the final think the affliction that has dwarfed and she crept into Aunt Merry's arms and shape. The tadpole breathes through tortured my body for almost forty years | whispered, "Good auntie!" just once | gills like a fish, has a tail and no legs has attacked my mind as well, for she before death set a seal upon the childish and is a vegetable feeder. The meta-

The black banner floated again from poses, and still nothing was sold. After it as such, it is only when she is troubled our door, and met an answering signal

Death played upon many heart-strings;

sunk it out of sight.

I feel the warm tears trickling down | This was the last; when the light left "Don't reproach yourself," he had

"And the handsomest one," people said, at the last; "you did your duty, We never called her "Aunt Merry"

turned to me with a look of hopeless sor-I was a child then, but I remember it. row upon her pale, sweet face, and said, The years have crowded fast, in spite

ten upon two, the last one fifteen. For

the twisted body is well-nigh spent, and

borne hers grandly, without help. her last breath said, "As I have dealt | vines, watching the sombre cloud-banks | Mercury.

with you, Merry," there was but one piling across the sunset, or forming into thing for Aunt Meredith to do. Sha ac- a purple bridge to span the crimson THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

She did not hear my crutch upon the soft sward, and her voice was scarcely more than the hum of the bees in the

"No man, having put his hand to the him that the the marriage must be plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Every step of my life, the clouded and firm. "Just one year, John," she in the cloudless, has been blessed and sisted. "Then we shall be better pre- brightend by her. She has paid her debt, interest and principal, and is now herself the lender; for when Uncle Clay's wife died ten years ago, four others were shoulders-a cruel sacrifice to ask of one admitted to her household-Uncle Clay himself, Frank, May and Richard.

Frank and May have both been in to say good-night since I have been lying here, thinking about Aunt Meredith's mistake. May hugged her with both arms, and said, softly: "The blessedest, best auntie;" while Frank stood a mo-ment behind her chair and softly stroked John Eastman smothered his disap- the silver braids and recounted the day's

"I shall be a man soon, and take care of you, Aunt Meredith," was his good-

night. Aunt Meredith nodded and smiled, and went to open the door for Robert, pausing as she passed my lounge to draw She hesitated when Uncle George came | the covers more closely about my shoulders, while I lay here as if asleep.

Then for half an hour she and Ro bert sat there before the fire, while Robert told her everything.

First, he had thought he might take still another set of books to keep. By staying an hour later every night he could accomplish it. But Aunt Mere-"And to no one else, Metry?" asked dith said: "No, dear. It is not right to

> Robert rose and lighted Aunt Meredith's Now she is gone, and it is Robert who

bends over my pillow and whispers, ever so lightly over my chest. And now, he, too, is asleep; but his bed is so near that I can touch him if I

reach on the other side. "You may want water, dear," Aunt Meredith said, when she put the bell Aunt Meredith fears. It is the black banner on the door-knob.

But I am not thinking of that to-night. weary. Aunt Merry stood before him, I am thinking of Aunt Meredith; and with her hand upon the tall chair. The thinking of her life, so full of promise young face was growing grave-the girl and so barren of fulfilment, and of my life so devoid of promise, and yet so full I am thinking, too, of the lives of the So there are six of us, all under her the brown braids of hair with a kind of children asleep in their beds; of the

Aunt Meredith with their last breath; of his wig); now I can cool my head."-So John Eastman was asked to wait a the dying pillows made easy by her prom. Brooklyn Life. second time. "Just one year yet, John," ises; of the little child who only left the she patiently plies them. The blaze Aunt Merry begged. "Let me feel that shelter of her arms to slip away to God's. When I remember these, I bless Aunt

Mercdith's mistake. - Youth's Companion.

A Well Developed Skull. "The frog has a huge skull, with a very small brain cavity and an enormous for the third time, "It shall be as you mouth for the purpose of swallowing fish, small ducks or any other prey of I think Aunt Merry began to feel then | size, whole. Dan Beard, the artist, tells that an unseen power was shaping her a story of a pet frog he had in an aquanot return until late. Richard is asleep, life in a strange, uncomprehended rium that attempted to get away with a baby alligator newly imported from Strange indeed! Before the year Florida. On coming home he found ended a scourge passed over the city. Mr. Frog, who had taken down the small saurian head first, jumping against the to drive down the tail of the victim, which was too long to find room inside for its accommodation. The frog, like the toad, has its tongue fastened in front and loose behind, so that it can Then she was glad that she had stayed | capture insects by whipping it over and with him; the sacrifice was fully repaid outwardly. Unlike the toad, however, it has its teeth in its upper jaw. The toad is a higher animal than the frog, because it gives birth directly to little morphosis it undergoes is one of the most marvelous things in nature. If it were not so common it would astonish the world. Think of a vegetable eating fish with tail and gills turning into an but none, I think, were so entirely swept | air breathing land animal, developing Such moments come to the bravest as was Aunt Merry's. She had scarcely teeth and becoming a carniverous quaddith tell Uncle Clay only last night that little Annie before a messenger came for to consider it? A wonderful beast is the frog, truly .- Washington Star.

The Decimal Scale. The disadvantage of the decimal scale is that the number ten can be only divided without leaving a fraction. A duodecimal scale of numeration would have been much better, and, in fact, is much more in accordance with our present system of weight, measure and coinage. Had the Chaldeans or Arabs, who instituted the decimal scale of numbers from their ten digits, only taken it from the giants among them, who, like the giant of Gath, had twelve digits as well as toes, the result would have been much more satisfactory to all calculating individuals among succeeding generations, as well as those of our civil service .-Temple Bar.

Grim Joke on a Clown. ___

Sam Welser, who achieved fame and fortune as a clown in Dan Rice's circus, found himself three years ago alone in the past few months his song was less frequent than formerly. For more than had been reared and cared for by my for the notches where my knife has remined to leave his money to his wife, he mined to leave his money to his wife, he I have borne my burden tolerably, wooed and wedded a pretty lass of fifwith Aunt Meredith's help. She has teen. The other day he buried his child wife at Pittsburg, and the heartbroken Without help, did I say? Then I old man has only his seventy-five years, spoke too quickly; for one evening I his sorrow and his money left. Death fled up his feathers as usual, and gently mother placed my hand in hers, and with za, among the honeysuckles and jasmine clown in sparing his life.—New York

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

A Tartar Idyl-Anomalous-Discriminating-Quits-Its Horrors Veiled -He Couldn't Stand It, Etc., Etc.

Now Razoola Khan Was as fine a man As ever you want to sea, He lived in state As a potentate In distant Tartary.
But his daughter Loo
Was a maiden who, Being neither young nor fair,

Was a regular drug on the nuptial mart— For to marry her none would dare. But the potentate. Growing desperate, With the sandless Tartar swalls, Resolved to try And a spouse supply For this cream of Tartar belles. In vain were bribes Among the tribes, And so he caught a Tartar,

With a saw-like voice and a temper tart,

Or a marriage with his darter. The Tartar grim Shook in every limb, But manfully made reply: 'If you offer life With such a wife I rather prefer to die!" Says the Khan: "My lad, If thing are so bad, I think I'll change the group, Tis you had better live, by far; To Tartar Loo we'll say ta-ta,

And put her in the soup!"

And offered to him, without waste of breat's, The choice of boiling in oil to death.

-Harvard Lampoon. AS WROUGHT BY HIM. Jinks (soothingly)-"Your wife was a bud when you married her, Mr. Breezey." Breezey (sadly)-"Yes, but she's in Then the clock struck half-past ten. full blow now, I can tell you!"-New New York Weekly.

> TOO SLOW FOR THAT: "Just look at that messenger boy sitting there fast asleep!" "H'm, well, he's asleep, but I doubt

if he could be fast asleep."-Saturday

Evening Herald. ANOMALOUS. Student-"What is the most peculiar thing about your profession?" Doctor-"When I have to charge ten

dollars a day for treating a man whose

life isn't worth two cents."-Life.

DISCRIMINATING. Paying-teller--"You will have to be identified-have some one introduce you to me-before I can cash this check." Young Lady (haughtily)-"But I do not care to know you, sir."-Munsey's

Bride-"Can you forgive me and love me still, when I confess that my teeth pre-artificial?" Groom-"Thank heaven(snatching off

ITS HORRORS VEILED. Amateur Artist-"I should like to pre-

sent the last picture I painted to some charitable institution; now, which would you recommend?" Cruel Lady Friend-"The blind asylum."-Life.

NOT ALWAYS THE CASE. Debrag-"Yes, when I charged him with steading my \$200 stop watch he hadn't a word to say. That's a case where silence is golden." Jupkins-"Well, no; I should say it was guilt."-Detroit Free Press.

A STRONGER TIE. Lady(to small boy) - "How did it happen that your little playmate gave you the largest piece of cake? Are you

Small Boy-"No, mum; he's in love with my little sister."-Brooklyn Life. A WOMAN SCORNED. "I am angry at that Mr. Muffy. He

met me on the stairs just now with both

my hands full of dishes, so I couldn't help myself." "And he kissed you, I suppose?"

"No, he didn't."-Detroit Free Press. A STAGE FRIGHT. Sock-"Did you ever have the sensation of stage fright. Buskin-"Yes, once."

Buskin-"Once when I was on the

Deadwood coach, and it was held up." Boston Courier. A GREATER THAN GEORGE. "Do you think Blinks is a clever

Sock-"When was that?"

cels Ceorge Washington himself." "What do you mean?" "Why, Washington couldn't tell a lie." -Munsey's Weekly.

"Yes. In one point, at least, he ex-

HE COULDN'T STAND IT. Mrs. Denslow-"John Denslow, take your head right out of that vase! What do vou mean?" Johnny (in a smothered tone)-"Miss

Pattigrew jest said I wuz th' livin' image

of Grandpa Woolback, an' I'm 'shamed

THE WEAKEST SPOT.

to be seen."-Judge.

"These is one thing about the gwip," said Chappie, who was just recovering from it; "it always attacks the weakest "So I understand," said Miss Sharne; "you had it all in the head, I believe." St. Louis Star-Sayings. CONSIDERATE. Spiggit (who stutters)-"Y-y-you

are a f-f-f-fraud, sir." Gargovle-"Confound you swallow your words."

that m-m-make?" Gargoyle-"I'm afraid you'd choke on the hyphens."-Judge.

HE HAD HEARD THE LECTURE. "Then, when you have finished your ecture," said the professor of elocution and deportment to young Dulle, "bow

gracefully and leave the platform on tip-

"Why on tiptoe?" queried Dulle. "So as not to wake the audience," rcplied the professor .- New York Sun.

SATISFACTION. Henley-"Smith and Jones each called the other a liar. Have they given each other satisfaction yet?"

Digby-"Yes." Henley-"With fists or pistols?"
Digby-"No; they left it to a committee of two of Jones's friends and two of Smith's to say who was the liar, and the committee was evenly divided."-

A CHECK OF ANOTHER SORT. Chinner-"I hear that Miss Roxy's papa gave her a check for ten thousand dollars when she was married last week." Codling-"Speaking of weddingchecks, I received one myself last

Chipner-"Indeed?" Codling-"Yes: I asked Miss Scadds to marry me, and she said no."-Judge.

FEMININE INVENTIVE GENIUS. Miss Van Nilla-"The Scientific News says ice-cream freezers were invented by woman." Mr. Promenod-"I don't believe it."

you think women incapable of inventing anything?" Mr. Promenod-"N-o. Women doubtless invented ice-cream saloons."-

"THE LAY OF THE LAST MINSTREL." Primus-"Briggs has been courting an heiress, who, by the way, was old enough to be his mother, but she married his rival." Secundus-"Yes, I know; and yet

wrote and set to music." Primus-"Very generous. Was it sung at the wedding?" Secundus-"No. The tune was 'Old Hundred. "-Life.

AN IMPOSSIBILITY. "Do you know Cheeque, - the fellow who used to travel for Biasfolds & Grosgrain? They say he is embarrassed." "What, my old friend Cheeque the drummer embarrassed! Oh, no; there

must be some mistake." "Oh, well, failed then. He has failed, if you like that better." "Ah! now you are talking. Cheeque may have failed, but embarrassed! oh, no; that's out of the question."-Boston Transcript.

In a town up North an ex-Judge is cashier of a bank. One day recently he refused to cash a check offered by a stranger. "The check is all right," he said, but the evidence you offer in identify-

THE VALUE OF MONEY.

der it is drawn is hardly sufficient." "I've known you to hang a man on less evidence, Judge" was the stranger's "Quite likely," responded the ex-

ing yourself as the person to whose or-

of cold cash we have to be careful."-Globe-Democrat. AN OBJECT LESSON. Stranger-"Good morning! Is this

the notary's office?" Clerk-"No; on the opposite side of the road." Stranger-"Thanks; good morning!" Exit, leaving the door open.] Clerk (shouting after him)-"Won't

you please shut the door? Or do you suppose it fastens itself?" Stranger (re-enters)-"Allow me to show you a sample of my new patent automatic double-spring door-fastener. It will close any door noiselessly, and is perfectly self-acting, and will last a lifetime."-Humoristische Blaetter.

MRS. R. WANTED TO TALK HERSELF. Mrs. Jones-"Have you seen Mrs. Smith lately?"

Johnny's had the measles!' Mrs. Jones-"You don't mean it!" Mrs. Robinson-"Oh, there's no abiding her at all. She ran on for an hour or more about Johnny-how he was first taken down and what he said when he was out of his head, and all that sort of thing. It was dreadful. I wanted to tell her about Mary Jane's mump there on purpose, in fact; but 't was no use; I couldn't get in a word edgeways. Well, well, how people change! She used to be interested in Mary Jane's mumps-or pretended to be. But, law! the way she's lifted up now is perfectly sickening. We'll never hear the end of Johnny's measles if we live till all is

Mrs. Jones-"Well, I'd never have believed it of Mrs. Smith.' Mrs. Robinson-"No more would I. And that's the aggravatingness of it."-Boston Transcript.

"Mother Goose." "Mother Goose" was a real character.

and not an imaginary personage, as has been supposed. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Foster, and she was born in 1665. She married Isaac Goose in 1693, and a few years after became a memberof Old South Church, Boston, and died in 1757, aged ninety-two years. The first edition of her songs, which were originally sung to her grandchildren, was published in Boston in 1716 by her son-in-law, Thomas Fleet. The house in which a great part of her life was spent was a low, one-story building, with dordence! If you didn't stutter I'd make | mer windows and a red tiled roof, looking something like an old English coun-Spiggit _ "What d-d-difference does try cottage .- Detroit Free Press.

> There are 13,000 different kinds of postage stamps in the world.

WHAT MODERN DIVERS DO.

IMPROVED APPARATUS GREATLY INCREASES THEIR SKILL.

The Diver is an Important Person and His Labor a Factor in the

World's Progress. The remarkable headway which has been made of recent years in the way of inventions for, and the manufacture of, the apparatus used by divers, has greatly facilitated the labor and lessened the dangers connected with what will always be a dangerous calling. This improvement in the apparatus they use has enabled the divers of to-day to perform a variety of work greatly in excess of that which they could have undertaken a few years ago, and divers have now to understand pier construction, wreck raising, submarine mining, the repairing and cleansing of vessels, and

the construction of tunnels and collier-A depth of more than 150 feet is but very seldom descended to, and that depth is considered the limit for divers' work. The 204-foot mark below the surface was reached by a diver named James Hooper, and is said to be a best on record. He descended to it seven times and remained at that very exceptional depth for forty-two minutes on one of the seven descents. This feat was performed while examining a ship called the Cape Horn, which had gone down with a valuable cargo of copper on the

east coast of South-America. Miss Van Nilla-"Humph! Perhaps When divers first begin to practise their profession they almost always descend to the bottom or to the vessel or whatever it is they are going to work on, by means of a rope ladder heavily weighted at the foot, but when they have gained in experience they prefer a simple rope, also weighted, down which they slide. Just below the surface they pause for a short time in order to make Sure that everything about their dress is all right, and then continue on their downward way very slowly, so as to Briggs sent them an epithalamium he grow accustomed to the increasing pressure. It is the habit of the most experienced men to stop at intervals, and if they feel any unpleasant symptons to descend for a yarder so before going down

a greater distance. If there is great oppression or a loud singing in the ears, the diver must not persevere in his attempt to go down, but return to the boat or dock. Oddly enough, it is even more necessary to ascend slowly from a considerable depth than it is to ascend in that manner. By stopping every now and then, the ill effects of the sudden change from resisting a great pressure to being in the open air are avoided. It takes a very strong and experienced man to undertake any work at a depth of 125 feet, and in coming up from that depth a man should. take at least five minutes.

his ladder or rope he attaches a light line to it and secures the other end to his wrist, so as to be able to get back to the ladder whenever he wishes to. In case this line should become unattrehed and he cannot find the ladder he should at once give the signal to be pulled up. There is one type of diving dress that is a recent invention, and which is not

connected with the surface with the

usual vital airpipe and the all-important

signal cord. It is called the self-feeding

When a diver has reached the foot of

dress, and has a small supply of oxygen Judge, "but when it comes to letting go in the reservoir. The first time it was used was by a fearless English diver named Lambert. whose record for daring and successful work beneath the surface is a remarkable one. The great tunnel under the mouth of the river Severn, in England, became flooded in part, and he descended the shaft and worked his way for a quarter of a mile in the absolute darkness through what was called a baby tunnel which was nearly filled with a rushing torrent that carried with it much heavy debris. His object was to close a heavy iron door, and he had to carry an iron crowbar with him. After a hard struggle he reached the door and found that two rails had to be pried up in order that the door could be closed. After two hours' work he got one out of the way and then, dreading the exhaustion of his supply of oxygen, he retreated to the mouth of the shaft and was drawn to the surface, with a very small quantity re-Mrs. Robinson-"Yes. But you can't maining. The next day, after renewing think how she's changed since her the supply, he went into the tunnel again and succeeded in closing the door, and thus enabled the engineers to

pump the flooded portion dry. Lambert has been a diver for a quarter of a century, and has visited every part of the world during his professional career. Once he recovered \$350,000 worth of gold Spanish dollars and ingots which had been lost in a mail steamship called the Alphonso XII., which sank off Point Gaudo, Grand Canary Island, in 160 feet of water. The treasure, \$500,000 in all, was in a small room below three decks, and Lambert first had to blow a portion of the vessel up in order to get at it. This feat he considers his most praiseworthy, and he wears one of the gold pieces he saved on his watch

Divers have also saved \$250,000 in gold and silver from a steamship sunk off the Chinese coast, near Shanghai. Just as they had secured it a fleet of pirate junks came along, and the divers' vessels had a very narrow escape from being captured.

In the pearl and sponge fisheries in various parts of the world the diving dress has almost superseded the old methods of having naked native divers, and the output has consequently been very largely increased. As yet the coral fishers in the Medi-

terranean and the amber fishers in the Baltic have nearly all 'proved too conservative to adopt the modern methods; but in one case, where a London dealer in diving apparatus and dresses sent a man down to search for coral, the diver came back with a large supply of choice specimens, and the owner of the fishery has used the dress ever since .- New York Sun.

Italy has raised the duty on petroleum.