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of that day letting it off in a bunch. brim with the precious red fire. To the members of the "Our Boys" At last the great day arrived, and In this race it is needless to say the there was no necessity to formulate the parents of the boys belonging to members of the "Our Boys" were inplans or advance ideas as to how this the club were astonished at the use to dulging to their hearts' content. They red fire was to be obtained. They which the money given for firecrack- all swore allegiance to one company,

fire by heart. Every flagman on a train leaving pedoes they made the mouths of many engine. East or West has among his collection of the outside boys water as they passed At the end of the street the cause of of lamps, torpedoes, poker and shovel among them munching peaches or the light was discovered, and again the a couple of sticks of this material, apricots, or contentedly chewed away tongues of the citizens were set wagwhich are used on foggy or stormy on some delicious sweetmeat. nights to warn the train following of And then the novelty of the situa- young men voted the day's celebration their near approach to the train ahead. tion struck some of the younger boys a great success. Even the solitary pa-

of course, contain a large quantity of them as to their patriotism. But the spirators to task the following day for the red powder. All the railroad men members of the "Our Boys" said noth- the fright they had given the townsleaving from Columbia on the eastern ing, looked wise and waited for the people, could not but commend the or western trips were known, and cover of nightfall. very few of the through men, running At 8 o'clock everybody in the little effectiveness.

other, were not known. was a ball club, but had been in exist- cratic and wealthy citizens. ence for several seasons as a social or-

the luxuries of such.

boy, knew something about organiz- carry without exciting suspicion and great height for several years thereing for effective work, and he it was took up positions assigned to them by after. that proposed and appointed commit- the chief conspirator.

The town was to be given a surprise tees to corral every train that passed and the Fourth of July a celebration through the town.

Boys born and raised in a railroad that would open the eyes of the oldest town soon become expert car jumpers, resident. The scheme worked to a charm. and it must indeed be a fast train that At 9 o'clock exactly the through exthey cannot successfully mount. A press was due and from the telegraph rendezvous was selected back of the railroad round house, in the cellar of operator it was learned that it was on a deserted house, in which was to be time. The town was located along-

"Johnny," cried Jinks, angrily, as TCor Falling Sickness side the track and a grade of considstored all the material secured. The boys worked like beavers and erable length ran through the center the sky-rocket went off, "who sent that as only boys can work when a Fourth of the former and was the cause of of July celebration is in the prospec- most of trains reaching a high rate of rocket up? Didn't I tell you not to

flagration.

were sons of railroaders, and knew red ers and other explosives was put. In- the Vigilant, and were head and front stead of buying firecrakers and tor- of the rush with the hose reel of that

ging, and the younger generation of These sticks burn five minutes, and, and sarcastic remarks were flung at per of the town, while taking the con-

plan for its originality and startling

from one end of the division to the town was on the streets promenading Among the boys of the town the and viewing the few roman candles and story leaked out, and soon the details The "Our Boys" Club originally skyrockets set off by the more aristo- of the celebration were known to all. To say that the "Our Boys" Club took

## They Are Engaged.

"George," said the maiden, fondly, 'did von hear Willie's firecracker ust now?"

"Yes, Miss Mantalini, I did." "Didn't it pop gracefully?" It was enough.

The Match to Blame.

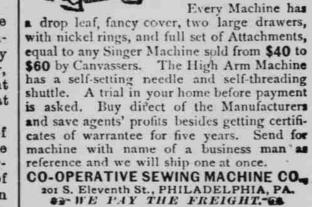
"It was the match touched it."

"I didn't touch it," said Johnny.

A Sign of Mental Activity.

said a doctor yesterday, "but nothing

"Talking to one's self is generally



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By that time the barrel of red fire a boom but faintly expresses it. Every ganization, minus a club house and had been transferred to a field just boy in town put forward his name as back of the town and a long fuse con- an applicant for membership, but Jim Slade, being a member of a nected therewith. Each boy appro- "exclusivenesss was desired," and the State militia company as drummer priated as many torpedoes as he could tone of the club remained at its first

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tive, and at the end of the first week speed. The express was always a heavy one twenty-seven sticks had been secured and on the schedule was not called and some seventy-five railroad torpedoes. The latter article is also an im- upon to stop at Columbia. The boys portant part of a railroader's outfit, knew this, and on the instant that a and, crossing the vision of one of the freight preceding the express had collectors, several were secured, and pulled out of the way they set to considered a sign of a weak brain, thereafter they were added as a sort work.

Only five minutes intervened, but could be a greater mistake. It is a

of auxiliary. As the day drew near the boys re- they were experts at putting down tor- sign of an extremely active brain. It newed their efforts and the red fire pedoes, and in three minutes' time may be a strong or a weak intellect, and torpedoes came in in such quan- every torpedo collected had been but the activity must be there to tities that one or two of the more placed on two parallel ruls. Then the cause this peculiarity. If you will timid boys suggested a halt. But, sharp whistle of the express was heard observe you will be astonished how timid boys suggested a halt. But, sharp whistle of the express was heard bloodhound, they in the distance, and on it came with a many people you will meet on the **TESTINE**, from the testes, for diseases street who are thinking aloud. The of the testes. (Atrophy of the organs, stersmelt the sport from afar and decided | rush and a roar. The boys scattered and with bated talking is done unconsciously. Often

to give the little town a celebration breath awaited developments. that should go down in its history as a red-letter day of the most vivid hue. They came the next instant.

With reports like the explosion of aver that they never were guilty of To add zest to the collection the musketry, and if anything louder, the such a thing. Some of the brightest railroad officials began to notice the great inroads on their supply of com- torpedoes went off in quick succes- men I have ever known do their rack their brain for new stories as to their rapid disappearance.

their rapid disappearance. On account of the vigilance of the railroad officials the boys' base of operations was transferred from the vards of the road, to the outskirts of yards of the road to the outskirts of distance, and they were laid for the who talks to himself must be one of the town. Trains going east were length of two equares. two extremes, a wise man or a fool," easy to mount, but those going west People came running down the -Pittaburg Dispatch.

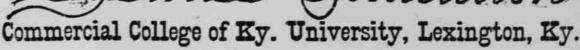
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