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PERIOR ADVANTAGES IN VO

or catalogue and fuller information,

THEY'VE CUT THE WOOD AWAY.

They've cut the wood away, The cool green wood, Wherein I used to play In happy mood.

The woodman's ax has clofa Each noble tree, And now, alsa! is left No shade for me.

The brooks that flow in May Are dry before The first hot summer day, and flow no more. The fields are brown and bare, And parched with heat; No more doth hover there The pine scents sweet.

No more the wood flowers bloom Where once they bloomed, Amid the emerald gloom Of ferns entombed.

Fled, now, the woodland sights, The scented air! Fled, all the sweet delights That once were there!

And fied the gracious mood
That came to me,
When to that quiet wood
I used to fice! —Bosto

HE CONQUERED HER.

"Ten to one you'll fall in love with er," said Fred Edgerly, energetiher," said Fred cally. I don't take the wager. I don't "I won't take the wager."

"I won't take the wager. I don't want to rob you, Edgerly."

"You think you are proof against any amount of attractions after bearing assault and battery from West Point belles for five years and upwards," Edgerly answered, laughingly, as he glanced at the handsome bronzed face of his friend, as they drove over the high road leading from Carmen station to Hurlton Top, where the two men were expected to join Mrs. Hurlton's gay party. "But you have not seen Miss Viner yet; when you do prepare to surrender unconditionally."

"You seem to forget that I am not an impressionable school boy," Lieut. Fleetwell answered, with a scornful smile curling his lip under his heavy mustache, "I have seen hundreds of women handsomer and more charming than Miss Viner, I dare say, and I have escaped heart whole, fortunately," he added with a sarcastic curl of the lip, which escaped his friend's notice.

"Fortunately! and why fortunately!"

"Fortunately! and why fortunately! "Fortunately! and why fortunately! Surely when a man is good looking, wealthy and in the army he ought to marry and give hostages to fortune."

"Perhaps he ought, if he can," said Lieut, Fleetwell, carelessly.

"If he can! That can't apply to you, Fleetwell. There is hardly a woman in five hundred who would refuse you."

"Is there not? Why?"
"Because you are rich and handsome, in the army, and—and eligible."

"Excellent reasons for a woman to marry me," said Lieut. Fleetwell, a trifle bitterly, "and equally excellent ones to keep me from matrimony," he added, as they turned in at the park gates and drove up the avenue to the old Huriton mansion. It was a fine day, toward the latter part of September, bright and cheerful and sunshiny, and the grand, stately old brown stone building was looking its best in the haze of golden sunlight.

It was upward of five years since Lieut. Fleetwell had seen his cousin's stately old mansion, and his handsome dark eyes brightened as they dwelt upon it, and brightened yet more when they fell upon a lady in a picturesque tea gown who came out on the wide stone steps with her eager hands outstretched and her dark eyes aglow with pleasure.

"My dear Jerome, how glad I am," she said, as Lieut. Fleetwell took the little hands in his, and bending, kissed them with a graceful, Old World courtesy which was pleasant to see. "Frank is fishing, of course, but he will be back early. What an age it is since we met."

"It is a long time indeed," Jerome

will be back early. What an age it is since we met."

"It is a long time indeed," Jerome answered in his low, rich voice, "but looking at you, Florence, I am inclined to think it is five months, and not five years, that have clapsed since I went to West Point."

"Wait till you see my hows" she

and not five years, that have clapsed since I went to West Point."

"Wait till you see my boys," she said, laughing, as she turned to greet the young collegian with pleasant, cordial courtesy—and the two gentlemen followed her into the hall, a stately apartment in kreping with the exterior of the mansion. "Most of my lady guests have driven over to Bamby's Head," Mrs. Hurlton said, as she led the way across the marble pavement towards one of the many doors which opened into the hall; "Miss Viner and I are alone. Mr. Edgerly, I have good news for you; Miss Dusan is coming to-morrow."

As she spoke she pushed open a door leading into a pretty, dainty, rather æsthetic looking room, where to a was waiting, and which at first seemed to be unoccupied, but as the door opened a lady who was standing by the open window turned alowly round, and came toward them, holding out her hand to Mr. Edgerly, with a smile, which did not blind him to the sudden gleam of intense eager admiration which flashed into Lieut. Fleetwell's eyes as they rested upon har face.

She was very beautiful—there could

har face.

She was very beautiful—there could hardly be two opinions upon that point. She was small, though queen like; and her dress of some soft cream colored material, which fell around her in soft folds, showed the beauty of a figure which was nothing less than perfect.

"Heart Flactwell — Miss Viner."

than perfect.

"Lieut. Fleetwell — Miss Viner," said Mrs. Huriton, quietly, and Miss Viner bowed slightly, while the faint-est tinge of pink rose in her fair face as she met Lieut. Fleetwood's eager, dark, admiring eyes.

dark, admiring eyes.

Huriton Top was one of the very pleasuntest houses in the country to stay at, for the hostess exercised the greatest discretion and judgment in the choice of her guests, and spared no pains to make their visit an enjoyable one. Mrs. Huriton was, like

maker at heart.

It very soon became apparent to some of her lady visitors that their pretty hostess had designs against the peace of mind of her husband's cousin—and Fred Edgerly smiled to himself as he saw how hopelessly and irretrievably in love his friend had fallen with Miss Viner before many days had elapsed.

September drifted into October. On a smooth lake some little distance from the house an idle boat with fidle cars was floating down with the current. The moonlight played at will on the placid breast of the lake.

Such the picture had one been a

on the placid breast of the lake.

Such the picture had one been a mere spectator to the mimic scene—but to the two actors surroundings were lost sight of—they thought only of themselves.

Mocking the silver moon when they glanced upward, they see could across the lake and through the trees the twinkling lights of Hulton Top and hear the merry voices and gay laughter of the group on the bank from which they had just escaped. Arch smiles had passed between its members as they saw Dorothy Viner and Jerome Fleetwell stroll off arm in arm to where the little boat was moored.

moored.

The women had almost ceased to be jealous of Dorothy, or to ask where lay her charm. When she exercised her fascinations men bowed before her—first from necessity, then from choice.

But, though her victims were countless, she was 24 and Dorothy Viner still. However, this time she had encountered (her little sister said) a foeman worthy of her steel. What she was among men, Jerome Fleetwood was among women. Therefore, seeing these two brought under the same roof, and thrown into daily intercourse, rumor was rife, and speculation awaited results with bated breath. Meanwhile the little boat floated calmily on the surface of the lake.

"Miss Viner!—Dorothy!"

ly on the surface of the lake.

"Miss Viner!—Dorothy!"

It was the first word that either had uttered in full ten minutes. She looked quickly up at the speaker. The white knit scarf thrown carelessly upon her dark hair, out from which peered the beautiful pale face, lent her some of the moon's mystic charm; but meeting the earnest gaze of the dark, magnetic eyes bent upon her, hers fell for an instant. Then, as though ashamed of the momentary weakness, again shot a questioning look into Lieut. Fleetwell's face,

"Miss Viner," he repeated, calmly, "did you know we were in danger?"

"did you know we were in danger?"
"In danger?"
The dreamy look faded from her face, the color deserted her cheeks and, shivering heavily, she glanced up at the blue vault where sailed so majestically the Goddess of Night—down into the dark depth of the waters,

only to see the silvery moon's brilliancy reflected there, around, about her. All was peaceful.

"No," he said, in answer to her look, "not from any of these. The moon, the wind, the water—all are our friends to night. We are in danger from each other."

Oh, howship prayed the moon might

fail to make apparent the instant rushing of blood to her check! She felt it glow like a warm crimson rose even while she raised her little head almost defantly as though to hurl a challenge at his audacity. Men had made love to her in many forms, but always as suppliants. This man dared to suppose her in equal danger with himself!

"You deal in riddles, Lieut. Fleet-well," she returned, coldly. "I am accustomed to plain speech."

accustomed to plain speech."

"Rather say that plain speech is to you an unknown tongue, and that I aim the first man who has dared to speak frankly. Would you have me speak plainer still? You shall have your wish. A week longer under the same roof with you, a week more of exposure to your fascinations and my ship would go to wreck and ruin on the bar; unless"—he leaned nearer, and his voice grew softer, more full of tender feeling, and his hand fell on hers very lightly, but with caressing grace—"unless, Dorothy, you ing grace—"unless Dorothy, you would let it float your pennon and guide it into the safe harbor of your love."

She had been wooed many time

She had been wooed many times, and in many climes, by many men, but nothing had ever moved her as this wooing, on this moonlight night in October. Yet this soldier—this man—dared to tell her that in another week this all might come to pass.

Others had sworn to go from her presence to put an end to the existence she had rendered miserable, or had vowed that henceforth woman's smile would be gall and wormwood, or pleaded that she had shorn their manhood of its strength and rendered their life a burden.

This one did none of these things.

their life a burden.

This one did none of these things.
While his strength yet was his he saw and met the danger.

"A week hence," she said to herself bitterly, "and the flame might singe him. Now his wings are all unscorched. He does not say: 'I love you!' In time I might love you!' Was he then to win so easy a victory? Never!"

"Let us go home, "she interrupted in a constrained voice. "It is growing chilly."

"Dorothy, is this my answer!"

"Your answer," with an assumption of surprise. "I was not aware of any question."

"You shall not have even this ex

"You shall not have even this excuse. Will you be my wife?"

His voice was hoarse and stern, and his grasp tightened on her hand.

"You hurt me, Lieut. Fleetwell," she complained petulantly, making an effort to withdraw her tingers.

Instantly he released her.

"I see that I hurt you," he returned courteously, and took up the oars. "Pardom me," he continued, "I will not do it ever again."

A few bold strokes and the boat's keel grated on the shore. Ten minutes later and the two reappeared at Mrs. Huriton's beautifully appointed salon. On the parters beyond shone the red light from a man's cigar. It was still there, still gleasing when she had gone up to her own room, She crossed to the window to

many another happy wire, a match-maker at heart. pull down the shade, but stood a min-maker at heart.

"After to-night he will forget me," she murmured, sadly. "And I-I shall remember him—forever!"

shall remember him—forever!"

Then, as though a sudden truth had burst upon her, she threw down the shade, to throw herself, with a quick, impetuous motion, prone upon her couch, and weep the first heart tears she had ever shed.

"It is all over—Miss Viner has refused him." This was the general verdict, when, twenty-four hours later, Jerome Fleetwell bid his friends adieu, and withdrew to town on plea of sudden business.

The news soon reached Downthy.

den business.

The news soon reached Dorothy.

"I have not refused him," she said aloud; "not even that satisfaction is mine," she said to herself—"nor ever will be! It was only 'the might have

will be! It was only 'the might have been.'"

He was not a man, she knew full well, to plunge desperately into firtation, or associate his uame at once with another woman's, or to retire later or rise earlier or in any way disturb the even tenor of his way. The difference between them was only this—his heart was healing, perhaps already healed, but he would bear its scar to the grave; hers was a festering sore, which hurt the more she had let the physician who might work its cure pass her by.

The summer wanes to a close. Autumn had touched the mountain and hillside into a glorious beauty of brown and red. Then came winter's lagging footsteps, mercifully bearing the exquisite white shroud of snow to cover up all signs of devastation and decay.

The season in the gay world was at its height. Occasionally murmurs among the debutautes for its honors arose at the fact that, though Miss Viner's fifth winter, her former success paled in its most effulgent light. She and Lieut. Fleetwell constantly met. She almost wished he might avoid her, but at their first chance encounter he had approached with outstretched hand.

er he had approached with outstretched hand.

ed hand.

"How charming you are looking, Miss Viner," he had said. And all in vain she had watched for a tremor in his tone, or a shadow of embarrassment in his manner.

"Only a week between him and shipwreck," she thought, bitterly.

"Oh, he has sailed so far from the fatal rock that doubtless he would now laugh at its supposed danger—and I—I was weak enough to think he stood upon the precipice's brink!"

The new year had come, and one evening Dorothy stood alone in her father's drawing room, looking out at the fast gathering darkness, when through its somber shade she saw a figure pass and mount the stops. "A visitor," she utttered, wearily; then through its somber shade she saw a fig-ure pass and mount the steps. "A visitor," she utttered, wearily; then waited the inevitable announcement she knew must follow. But spite of her every effort, she started when the servant, throwing open the door, call-ed out "Lieut. Fleetwell!" Oh, how glad she was that the rooms were not yet lighted as she went forward to re-ceive him!

"May I welcome you in darkness?"

"May I welcome you in darkness?"

"As you will," he answered. "I have but a few moments to stay. I am come to bid you good-by and to ask you to bid me bon voyage."

"Bon voyage. You, are going abroad?"

abroad?"

"Yes. I sail on Thursday. I hesitated about calling, but my desire to see you led me to believe you would pardon my audacity in supposing my going a question of enough moment to make it worthy a special call."

"My friends are always welcome. I did not suppose it necessary you should have they are set of the suppose it necessary."

"My friends are always welcome. I did not sappose it necessary you should hear that repeated now."

"Nor is it. It was only a morbid fancy on my part which induces me to question it. I shall come back, I trust, with my mind clearer. At least I shall be some years older. When I I shall be some years older. When I return I presume I shall look for Miss Dorothy Viner in vain, until I find

Dorothy Viner in vain, until I find her in some matron, equally charming. I cannot imagine her quite staid and portly."

So he could speak thus lightly of her becoming the wife of another man? And he was going away; she might never again hear his voice nor see his face. It was too cruel! He and fats were too strong for her. The tears gathered in her black eyes, but the darkness hid them.

He rattled on—she had no need to speak. Then he rose to go.

"Good-by, Miss Viner!"—he took her hand in both his—"Good-by! God bless you!"

her hand is both his—"Good-by! God bless you!"

Was it her fancy that just at the last his voice trembled!

He crossed the room; he had gained the door. Another instant he would be gone; another instant it might be too late.

"the rough!" she mid softly.

too late.

"Jerome!" she said softly.

Two strides, it seemed, brought him back to her side.

"You called me, for what? To make my going harder?"

"Oh, is it hard! In-mercy tell me, for my own heart is breaking?"

"Your heart is breaking?" Dorothy, Dorothy! what does this mean?" But the sound of her sobs was his only answer.

the sound of her sobs was his only answer.

"Dorothy," he continued, "can it be that I have judged you wrongly! Look up, my darling! Is it your wish that I should stay!"

Then she found her voice. "I thought you did not love me enough," she murmured. "But stay, or if you must go take me with you."

"I will," he answered her simply as he folded her in his arms.

A month later a great steamer moved slowly out to sea, and as they stood on the deck, hand clasped in hand, with the salt breeze blowing keenly in their faces, it bore them away into the placid beauty of the coming night, toward the Old World and the new life.—Walter I. Blakey in New York Graphic.

ANIMAL LOVERS OF MUSIC.

Man is not alone in his appreciation of the charms of music. Animals which come under its influence often show their liking for it, though among them, as among lords of creation, there are evidently some to whom the sweetest strains give no pleasurable sensations. A visit to a circus is almost sure to show that the noblest of all the inferior animals is not insensible to the power of music, and is able to discriminate between its rarities. Horses there may be seen trotting and galloping, advancing and retiring in accordance with the strains of the orchestra, and even dancing to tunes. It is no uncommon thing to Man is not alone in his appre tunes. It is no uncommon thing to come across a horse which will strike up a kettledrum with its fore feet, keeping in perfect time with the music that is being played. Mr. Stephen, in his "Book of the Farm,"

phen, in his "Book of the Farm,"

"There was a work horse of my
own which, even at its corn, would
desist eating and listen attentively,
with pricked and moving ears and
steady eyes, the instant he heard the
note low G sounded, and would continue so to listen as long as it was sustained, and another was similarly affected by a particularly high note.
The recognition of the sound of a
bugle by a trooper and the excitement occasioned in the hunter when
the pack gives tongue, are familiar inthe pack gives tongue, are familiar in-stances of the power of horses to discriminate between different sounds. They never mistake one sound for an-

other."

In the latter part of the Seventeenth century Lord Holland, who was noted for his eccentricities, used to give his horse a weekly concert from a covered gallery erected in their stable for that purpose. He contended that listening to good lively music had the doubly beneficial effects of improving their coats and tempers; and his view of the matter is borne out by a witness of one of these strange concerts, who records that the animals "seemed to be greatly delighted thereat."

Numerous experiments have shown Numerous experiments have shown it to be a fact that elephants are great lovers of music. It seems to have been pretty well established that simple melodies afford those intelligent beast far more gratification than elaborate harmonies. Naturalists, from Buffon downward, have noted the elephant's restablished to the elephant's restablished partiality for melodious sounds, and the matter was thoroughly tested once at the Jardin des Plantes at Paris. at the Jardin des Plantes at Paris. Several prominent musicians interested themselves in the experiment and tried their fortunes in exciting the interest of the huge pachyderms. Kreutzer succeeded in apparently gaining their warm approbation for some simple tunes which he played upon the violin but when he went on to the violin, but when he went on to give his audience variations they went at no pains to conceal the lack of in-terest that they felt in the perform ance. An elaborate piece of music, is which several instruments took part. was just as badly received; but when Duvernoy began to play upon the bilities were thoroughly aroused, and they made efforts to get as near the per former as possible, showing their en joyment of his skill in most unmis-takable fashion.

More than one traveler in the eas has noted among his impressions of that part of the world the surprise he felt on witnessing the cheering effect which music has upon camels. Dur-ing long and tedious marches the con-ductors of caravans often comfort ductors of caravans often comfort these patient creatures by playing to them, and the sound of music has such a good influence upon them that, however weary they may be of their heavy loads, they step out with renewed vigor, seeming literally refreshed by the melody. It has been noticed that while lions appear to enjoy the high notes of a pianoforte, they are greatly disturbed by the low ones. A lion will lie gently waving its tail to and fro as long as the performer keeps his hands among the treble notes, giving every indication of pleasure at the sounds emitted from the instrument, but directly a bass chord is sounded its attitude changes completely. It springs up from the chord is sounded its attitude changes completely. It springs up from the repose which it has maintained during the playing of the higher notes, lashes its tail furiously and, dashing about its cage, gives utterance to the deepest yells. It is supposed that the low notes sound to this animal like the roar of some rival with whom it wishes to fight.

of some rival with whom it wishes to fight.

The Arabs have a poetic saying that the song of the shepherd fattens the sheep more than the richest pasture of the plains, and no doubt the proverh has a foundation in fact. In the east shepherds may often be observed singing and piping to the flocks under their charge with a view to making them contented and docile. The Rev. J. G. Wood, whose death has left so wide a gap in the ranks of observers of the animal world, tells of a lamb which delighted in music and showed a great deal of discrimination regarding it. Cheery tunes, such as those to which quadrilles and polkas are danced, were this little animal's favorites. Anything of a solemn or mournful tendency it plainly disliked. We are told that "it had the deepest detestation for the national anthem, and would set up such a continuous bas-bas as soon as its ears were struck with the unwelcome sound that the musician was fain to close the performance, being silenced by mirth if not pity."—London Illustrated News.

"Master Smart," cried the teacher,
"I want you to put your mind on your lesson," "I would gladly do so," replied the boy, for it was he, "but at present I am absent minded." The teacher stood by his side a moment, and then brought the ruler down on the place where the Iad's brain's ought to be with a resounding whack. "You mean," said the great instructor, "that you are rapped in thought." And without coming to a vote the committee rose, and shortly after the house adjourned.—Burdeite in Brooklyu Eagle.

The exhibits of machinery and of the industrial arts are in some respects the most interesting and suggestive to Americans of all the departments of the Paris exhibition. The correspondent of The Scientific American commends the excellence of the workmanship of the French and Belgian machinists, while he thinks that in point of design, and especially in light machinery, the Americans are superior to them. Though the exhibitors are very willing to have their machinery examined, and patiently and courteously explain their methods of working, some of them, not wholly unnaturally, show great annoyance if any sketch is made of their machines.

A few days age I was just beginning to make a sketch of an odd piece of designing, when the machinist, putting the engine together, caught sight of my pencil and note book, and the celerity with which he got up and came over to me put me on my guard, so that I just prevented him from snatching my book out of my hands.

"It is strictly forbidden (Cest absolument defends) to make sketches," said he, "and I won't have it."

This, however, was not true, there being no official prohibition of making drawings for scientific journals.

Putting my sketch book away, I bared my cuff, and made a pretense to sketch on it. He was completely nonplused, and began to look about for an officer. Then I turned to him and asked: "Is it also absolutely prohibited to carry away the design in your head?"

Whereupon I turned my back to the engine, took out my note book, The exhibits of machinery and of

whereupon I turned my back to the engine, took out my note book, tore out the embryo sketch and handed it to him. He tore it into shreds with great satisfaction, while I, with my back still to the engine, made a side elevation, and a plan of the connecting rod end, for that was all it was, and showed it to him.

He looked at it, called his assistant to see it shoulders.

to see it, shrugged his shoulders, sprend out his hands, and said, "Mais qu'est ce que on peut faire avec un vo leur comme ca?" (But what can be

done with such e thic??

The most laughable part of the whole business is that these men, or many of them, seem to think that Americans want to copy their designs, whereas in a great many cases the things sketched are absurdities from an American point of view.—Youth's Companion.

Salating with the Hat.

Raising the lint as a mode of salutation is generally acknowledged to be a mark of polite attention.

"Being the easiest part of the European dress to be taken off," says Leigh Hunt, "hats are doffed among us out of reverence. For the same reason, the orientals take off the slippers instead of the turban. Among the Turks, doffing the hat is regarded with extreme dislavor, as it is denoting a servile, if not indecent, humiliation."

Taking the hat off or not taking it off has made more trouble than many the first to bring the matter into a

the first to bring the matter into a legal controversy at the Launceston assizes in 1656, when the well known George Fox and Chief Justice Glynn were the contestants.

"When we were brought into court," says Fox, "we stood a pretty while with our hats on and all was quiet; and I was moved to say, 'Peace be amongst you.'"

The prisoners, refusing to remove their hats, were taken from the court room. When they were again brought

room. When they were again brought before the judge, Fox was asked if hats were mentioned at all in the Bible.

"Yes,"said the Quaker, "in the third
Daniel, where thou mayest read that
the three children were cast into the
fiery furnace by Nebuchadnezzar's
command with their coats, their hose

and their hats on." As a token of respect uncovering the head is an old courtesy. If we can believe the writer of Will Bagnell's ballad, even the ladies of that time were accustomed to doff the crowning glory of the cranium on some occasions.

sions.

The grandees of Spain claim the right to wear their hats in the presence of the sovereign to indicate their higher position compared with the rest of the nation, and the privilege of remaining covered in the presence of royalty has been occasionally granted in England on account of some particular service. A few of the currous ticular service. A few of the curious documents granting such a concession, and signed by the king's hand, have been preserved.—Boston Globe.

"Slojd," a term which is becoming common in educational discussions, is not nearly so formidable as it looks. It is Swedish, is pronounced "sloyd," and signifies a system of wood carving imported from the Swedish schools that stands midway between the kindergarten and manual training. The distinction between slojd and wood carving, so far as the advocates of the former have made it clear, is that, while wood carving is taught chiefly so that the pupil may acquire a livelihood, the object of slojd is to develop the pupil's faculties, and the use or beauty of what he makes is a minor consideration. Slojd, too, employs several of the larger carpenter's tools, like the saw, plane, bit and chies!

chisel.

The Swedish idea of slojd is that it shall teach the dignity of labor, and that no toys or ornamental objects shall be made by the pupils. This asceticism is not favored by the American promoters of the study.—New York Tribune.

The Actor—Kin I play the legit! Well, you just give me a chance, and if I con't paralyze you it won't be my

JOSH BILLINGS' AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

That quaint humorist. Josh Billings, penned the following letter in Carleton's book store in this city more than a score of years 'go, and forwarded it to his liter." Friend, Mr. Bowen, of Fort Plains.

"DEAR CHARLES: If you can git me a few kalls to lektur out your way it will be clever in you. Sorry that I have no pictorial biography of my face to send you; the fact to that I am so cussed humbly that I can't be took. I have sent to England for one of the Book Billings. Those publishers are worse than resurrectionists—they stear a man while living. I ought to have had at least \$500 from the London publishers, but never had a cent. My lektur on milk has been akimmed for lyceum taste. There ain't anything in it that need make anyboldy faint away, and I believe there is some nervous truth in it.

"As regards the catastrophys in my lines and the face of the face of the send of the face of the send of the sen

faint away, and I believe there is some nervous truth in it.

"As regards the catastrophys in my biography thus far, I can only state that I was born in Massachusetts, between two mountains, in the year 1820. At the age of 15, the first business I attacked was the wool business—driving sheep. I had never been away before, and everybody scomed to know more than I did. I saved myself, but lost the flock of sheep pretty thoroughly. At 16, I brought up on the west bank of the Mississippi, even in them days quite a stream. The past thirty years have been divided, multiplied and substracted in and among the various schemes of a vagrant temperament supplanted in a strong natural constitution, such as husbandry in the wilderness, where there was more wild bees to hunt than oats to cut; merchandizing at the forks of a mud turnpike with a stock of brogan boots, Lowell calico, and whisky by the quart; running a high pressure steambout on the Ohio river—a lively life, where man can see human nature with the bark on, and learn how to swear with great precision. Also speculated in West India stores and potash, the two first crops of a new-country; an auctioneer, and for eight potash, the two first crops of a new country; an auctioneer, and for eight years a land hunter on Indian trails, and made tough by riding a hog skill saddle and cating acorn fed pork an

corn dodgers.

"My life had been a success the far, for I am still alive, but pecuaiar ly, who ever made money by playin the eccentrick wanderer from one rue." the eccentrick wanderer from one rude vocation to another but little better than a common trapper and honey and venison hunter? I have had much comfort out of all this, and would not take the best farm in the state of New York for the sights I have seen. My literary ruid has been short but sweet. I have had as much fun out of it as any man who ever lived, and when I reflect that it is but little more than five years since I first put comic on paper. I can certainly put comic on paper, I can certain feel that if I have not made on coin, I have the quiet satisfaction knowing that I have never written line in malice against the truth orvirtue of the world. I might have
gained more wisdom by sleeping in a
cloister, but would have missed the
larks' wild song in the morning and
the sober hoot of the midnight owl inthe wilderness. I was never sick all
day in my life; never saw a man in a
tight spot but what I was willing to
loosen the screws; have lived among
the high and the low, and never put
in my pecket a knife or a pistel. Excuse this if it looks like egotism. I only
mean to brag on the joy the world has
furnished me. Yours tenderly,
"Josh Billikgs."

"New York, Jan. 20, 1867."
—New York Su

She was an intelligent, cultured, motherly looking lady, a good church member and a teacher of a Sunday school class, but she looked in walk simulated amazement at the street car conductor when he passed her back fourteen cents in change for the quarter which she had tendered.

"Yes'm; one fare and two half fares," explained he.

"Two half fares?" she murmurad, questioningly. "Walt Till I Get You Home,"

questioningly.
"Yes; that boy's more than 8 yes old."
"I'm 7 years old," volunteered the youngster in question, as if he thought his testimony would straighten out.

matters.
His mother blushed perceptible, but, woman like, she would have the less word:

"Oh, yes, you have, ma," qouth terrible infant, very nexious not establish his claim of being a big! His mother settled back in her a her face the battle ground of emot But the how spoke again.

But the boy spoke again:
"Quit nudgin' me."

His mother whispered something that hoy's ear that settled him.—Bufalo Courier.

Monse and Sparrow.

A curious scene was witnessed ist. Palace yard, Westminster, England. A sparrow was picking up the corn which had fallen from the horse nosebacs, when a mouse appeared and proceeded to dispute with the sparrow his right to the dainty morsels. A fight ensued, which hated for some, minutes, and then the sparrow best a retreat. The sparrow had evidently been injured in the tursle, and for a time was unable to fly. At last the sparrow flew up, and a catman firstlyed the incident by killing the mouse with a whip.—Exchange.