# THE BLUE RIDGE BLADE.

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#### ASSIST EACH OTHER.

Lend a hand to one another In the daily toil of life; When we meet a weaker brother. Let us help him in the strife. There is none so rich but may, In his turn, be forced to borrow And the poor man's turn to-day May become our own to-morrow

Lend a hand to one another : And when rumor's tongue has thrown Dark suspicions on your brother, Be not prompt to cast a stone: There is none so good but may Run adrift in shame and sorrow And the best of them to-day May become the worst to-morrow

Lend a lend to me snother In this race for honor's drown Should it fall upon your brother, Let not envy tear it down. Lend a hand to all I sav. In their sunships and their sorrow And the prize we've lost to-day May become our own to-morrow.

#### Seventy-five Miles an Hour.

I had spent a night in a stage, a day in a saddle, a night in a sleeping-car, half a day doing business, half a day in bed, and was, after supper, enjoying a cigar and a news-paper, in the reading room of the Redwood House, Fayette, Ind. The newspaper was uninteresting, or else I was rather sleepyand I guess it was a little of both-so that I soon neglected it, to watch the fantastic curling of the smoke from my fine-flavored cigar. I didn't feel much like talking, and felt still less like reading; but I did feel as if I would like exceedingly well to hear a good story.

I had barely come to this conclusion, and commenced wishing for some one of my ac- to increase our speed by some means, if we greyhound-a cross between the greyhound quaintances to amuse me till the time was carried out our plans of reaching C- by

friends to keep him company.

man, with a clear, gray eye, light hair, with a clear, gray eye, light hair, and smiling mouth. In track was as good as the last. As we dart soon on to an old man, who led us at a ratiof their nests they cut away until they get deed, he had so much the appearance of ed around what commonly seemed to be a tling pace. At first it was very treacherous an upward winding entrance. Even in old ly reprimanding him for having transgressed and fall with a roar on its edge as it stands

with a genial, "How d'ye do, stranger?" I returned his salutation, and asked him some common-place questions about how he had enjoyed the ride we had together.

Ae said something in reply about the running being too fast for the poor track; and from this the conversation ran upon tast traveling in general, for some time. At ever heard of, besides. Of course I was light, in five minutes. anxious to know where, how, and when he interesting, my friend relieved my anxiety minutes. by relating the following story:

companies were going under in all direc- to Roberts about it, when I looked around, looked upon as one of the most substantial after me. in the nation; nobody seemed to have any rather deeper water than was agreeable all where the difficulty lay. around. Among other things, the master At first Roberts did'nt appear to notice Well, there was but one of the engines

and that is saying as much as can be said my charge immediately, with the understanding that she was mine.

the shop, and I was to take a special train we were now more than half over the up to Y-..... The train was to carry up | road; we had lost nearly ten minutes time, the president, and several officers of the and had left only twenty-seven minutes to rose, to meet some officers of another road, do thirty-four tuiles. important business with them.

ty miles an hour going out. The engine now making steam finely down a slight handled herself most beautifully. were just holding up at Y-, when Aldrich, the treasurer, who had come out on stretch, she had two hundred pounds becarried off to the hotel insensible,

and stood ready to start back to C--- at a moment's notice.

"Aldrich's presence was of so much importance, that the business could not be transacted without him; so all those I had brought out, except the president and Aldrich, went back to C--- on the 3 o'clock seven minutes. express train. This was the last regular train which was to pass over the road until the next Monday.

in charge of my fireman, and went over to machinery. an eating-house, to see if I could not spent | Six minutes carried us over that ten the time more pleasantly than on my en- miles; and we darted by the last station gine. The hours dragged themselves away that had lain between us and C-.... Now slowly. I was playing a game of dominous we had fourteen miles to go, and my time with the station-agent, when in came Ro- showed eleven o'clock and fifty-three berts, the president, in a state of great ex- minutes.

put me down in C at 12 o'clock!

down in C- by 12 o'clock, I am a selves they had really seen anything. It as numerous as those of the Egyptians. arrested and brought before him for trial, that killed Horace Greeley.

ruined man, and this road is a ruined road Aldrich is dead; but he told me, before he flied, that he had embezzled from time to time, five hundred thousand of our money; and his clerk is to start with it, on the 12 o'clock boat, from C- for Canada. If we don't have that money on Monday

morning, to make some payments with, the road goes into o.her hands; and if you put me down in C- at the right time, so that I save the money, you shall have five she swayed fearfully, and sometimes made thousand dollars. Understand it, Harry? such prodigious jolts that required Five thousand dollars!' Of course, I understood it. I saw now the reason why the wages had been cut

down; I understood it all, and my blood boiled. I felt that I would save the road if I lived, and told Roberts so. "See that you do it, Harry!" he replied, as he climbed up on the steps of the coach

which was coupied to my agine. "I sprang up into the foot-board, got up the switch-tender to help my fireman, opened the trottle, and just as she commenced moving, looked at my watch, it was just 11 o'clock, so that I had one hour to make seventy-five miles.

"From Y- to C- there were few. curves on the road, but there were several heavy grades. I was perfectly acquainted with every rod of it, so that I knew exactly what I had to encounter, and when I saw how the engine moved, I felt very litt e

"The road for the first few miles was an along with scarcely a preceptible jar. I amount of wood and water, etc., that we danced by the first station almost before I was aware of it, having been five minutes out and having five miles accomplished.

"I knew very well that we would have up for the train which was to take me to midnight, and looked anxiously around, to Indianapolis, when I recognized, in the see what I could do to accomplish that purperson who sat next to me, a fellow-trave- pose. She was blowing off steam fiercely ler in the sleeping-car of the night before. at one hundred pounds; so I turned down He, too, had laid aside his paper, and the valve to two hundred, for I know we was apparently, like me, watching the should need it all to make some of the smoke of his cigar, and wishing for absent heavy grades which lay between us and it is difficult under these circumstances to

He was a very agreeable-looking little with a clear gray eve light hair. With the exception of a few curves, the with a clear gray eve light hair. With the exception of a few curves, the keeping to one in particular. We were is exceedingly strong, and in the formation of their nexts they cut away until they get the man that I would like to hear tell a rather long curve, at the station, but which work riding through the thick bush, and it stone walls there is the same formation. was, at our high speed, short enough, smiled upon me, when he recognized me looked at my watch; and we had done it in

"Gaining," I shouted back to Roberts. who was yet standing on the platform of the knees; for it is impossible on all occa- warped the wires aside, first with its bill the coach. "Look out for the heavy grades, he re

plied and went inside the car. "The next six miles rose gradually from a level the first, to ten and a half feet grade the last, which lay between us and the next station, My fix man kept her full: ever done. Whereupon my friend informed and now she began to get hot. The furme, with a pleasant but knowing smile, nace door was red, and the steam raised that he had traveled considerably faster continually; so that she kept her speed, than that, and, in fact, faster than he had and passed the station, like a streak of

"Now came nine miles like the last; had done it; and, after the modest assur- over which she kept pace with her time and rance that he feared his tale would not be passed the station in seven and a half mals began to tire. Some of our party had

Here, for ten miles, we had a twenty-foot "I am a railroad engineer. Away long grade to encounter; but the worst of it all pack had got badly staked. Presently we frame of his cage; the sound being so great and clothes himself in the golden sheathing in '57, during the great panic, I was run- was, at this place we would be obliged to came to cultivated land, and here the kanning on the F. & C. R. R. The railroad stop for wood. I was just going to speak garoo endeavored to intercept us by placing closed doors. He had a special fancy for made by the many thousand worms, as they tions. Every day we heard of new fail- and saw him fi ling the tender from the ures; and quite often in a quarter where we coach with wood which had been placed east expected it. Our road was generally there before starting, while he was gone

1 believe we would have made this ten fears that it would fail to survive the ge- miles with the same speed as before; but, neral mash-up. But yet I did not fully through the crelessness of the fireman, the share in the general confidence. Wages fountain-valve, on the left-hand side of the were cut down; arreareges collected; and a lengine, got opeued, and the water rose in great many other little matters seemed to the boiler so fast as to run the steam down indicate to me that the road had got into to one hundred pounds, before I discovered they were fold hands, and well knew the open space where the water-cup was placed, sicken and perish by millions. No domes-

mechanic had told me in the spring that the decrease of speed, and kept at work at the company had ordered four first quality the wood as if for dear life. But present-Taunton engines for the fall passenger bu- sy, he looked up; and, seeing that the siness. The road was put up in the very speed had decreased, he shouted: "Harry, best condition, and other preparations were we are stopping l" and then coming over to made to cut down the time, and put the where I was, he said, "Why, here we have trains through quicker than ever known be- been ten minutes on the last ten miles, and fore, when the new engines should come. I believe we will come to a dead stand if something is not done. The speed is continually slacking! What is the matter?"
I explained the cause. He was appa

but she was, in my opinion, altogether the rently satisfied with my explanation, and, best eyer turned out of the Tauton Works; after having tied down the safety valve, he climbed over the tender, exhorting to put in praise of any engine. She was put in her through, for God's sake, or we are all beggars together!"

Just then we passed the next station, "Is was Saturday when she came out of having taken nine minutes for eight miles.

which crossed ours there, and arrange some I had shut the water off from both my pumps, a little distance back, when I dis-I had no trouble at all making my for- covered what was the matter, and she was We grade. From less than one hundred, with which we started over that ten miles the platform to put the brake on, slipped fore we finished it; and, as the gauge indiand fell. As we were yet under good head- cated no higher than that, and the valve way, he was very much injured, and was was tied down, I could not tell how much over two hundred pounds she carried, but "According to the president's directions, she certainly carried none less the rest of I switched off my train, turned my engine, the journey. And well might she carry passing over that ten miles in eight minutes, there lay ten miles of five-feet upgrade, and fourteen miles of twenty-feet-tothe-mile depression between us and Cadd it was now eleven o'clock and forty

> Now the engine was hot in earnest. The furnace door, smoke arch and chimney, all were red; while she seemed to fly onward

"If I live," said I to myself, "I will "Harry," said he to me, "I want you to make it." And we plunged down that twenty-foot grade with all steam on. Per-As it was nearly 11 o'clock then, and the sons who saw the train on that wild run, distance was seventy-five miles, I thought said that is was so soon after they heard the he was joking at first; but when we got first sound of her approach, when the great Father of Light. Like other aboriannounced that he found "no law approunded of the door, he caught me by the strange object, which looked as if it was a gines of this continent, the Peruvians were ble to this case, etc." arms, and hnrried me along so fast that I flame of fire, darted by, and then the nomadic tribes, and gained a subsistance On one occasion a native Californian who "Harry," said he, "if you don't set me tance, they could hardly convince them- the extreme, their objects of worship were saddle horse belonging to another, was with chronic sleeplessness, the disease of France, incurred at the time of the be devoted to indigent and worthy stu-

seemed more like the creature of a wild dream then a sober reality.

And now let me tell you that no engine ever beat the time we made on those fourteen miles. Those great wheels, seven feet in diameter, spun around so swift that you couldn't begin to count the revolutions. The engine barely seemed to touch the track as she flew along; and although the track was as true as it was possible for it to be, such prodigious jolts that required considerable skill for one to keep his feet. No engine could hold together if crowded to a greater speed.

"Well, just as I came to a standstill in the depot at C--- the big clock boomed out twelve, and the steamboat was getting her steam on. Roberts got on board in time and nothing to spare." \* \* \* \*

"And saved the money, did he?" I asked, when I saw that my friend had fin "Yes, he found it hid away in some old

boxes as Aldrich had directed him. "If you are the passenger for Gsaid a waiter, "the 'bus' is ready." So I thanked my friend for his story and bade him "good-bye."

#### Killing a Kangaroo.

our friend's station for breakfast, after which airline and so smooth that my engine flew | we were to join a large party that had assembled at the place selected for the hunt. was so busy posting myself up as to the It was a lovely morning, with a fine, brisk wind blowing, just sufficient to dry up all the moisture from the atmosphere. We arrived upon the ground in good time, and found those whom we were to join already "You are losing time!" yelled a voice from the coach. I looked around, and there stood Roberts with his watch in his unlike what we had been accustomed to in the more civilized neighborhood of Melbourne. They were a kind of large, bony and Scotch deerhound; and it was explained that instead of following their quarry by scent, they hunted entirely by sight. The district which had been selected was not very prolific in kangaroo, as it is deemed better to select localities where a few are sure to be found, but not in large flocks, as separate them, and the dogs are apt to seultaneously for the eyes, the knees, and the bird to test the power of its bill, while conneck. The saddles used in the bush have fined in a cage. In a common wire cage it

sions, especially when riding after cattle hidden, fallen trees, which has been overgrown with ferns and grasses. The horse, however, which we been bood in and is ful; and if the rider has a tight hand, and said, was very great at first, but it gradually slackened as we proceeded, and the aniby the owner of two of the best dogs in the dispatch him. This was no easy matter, with his arms and hands, showing the skill endeavor to charge his opponent in front: but, fortunately for the enemy, who other-

# Peturian Temples of the Sun.

Of the early history of the Peruvians we have but little knowledge, owing to that parbarian policy exercised by the followers of Cortez and Pizarro, in destroying everything belanging to the tribes which they conquered. Like the Mexicans, the Peruvians had advanced in art, science and learning, under the administration of successive wise rulers, and their State archives forest alone. contained written histories of their country. such an enormous head of steam; for, after from the dawn of civilization among them, to the period of the conquest. But the superstitious Spainards committed these works to the flames, because of their heathen origin, and we are obliged to de- the military regime of Governor Mason. pend almost exclusively on the truth of tra- He was prominent among the earliest piodition for the knowledge we possess of the neers, having served in the war of the Conhistory of this people during the Inca dynasty. The most magnificent of all the sioned Alcalde by Mason, for he knew Peruvian temples was that of the sun at nothing more of jurisprudence than the next "Early in the evening I left the machine as if the very Evil One himself operated her Cuzzo. The mode of worship in this tem- farmer. He accepted the position, however, ple was similar to that of Heliopolis in for the same reason that it was given him, Egypt, where this great luminary was to wit, he was the leading American of his adored. His golden image occupied a large neighborhood. portion of one side of the interior of the His decisions were not only remarkable temple, and before this the warshippers for impartiality, but their originality surprostrated themselves with rich offerings in passed that of the decisions of Sancho Pantheir hands, which were received by the at- za when Governor of the Island. tendant priests. Two or three virgins, se- His library consisted of the "swearing lected from the first families in their king- book" and one volume bound in calf-supdom, were in constant attendance, whose posed to be a law book-which he made a duty it was to make oblations of wine to pretence of consulting on all occasions prior the delty, and chant hymns of praise to the to rendering judgment, but he invariably sound of its traveling died away in the dis- by hunting and fishing. Superstitious in had maliciously shaved the tail of a fine

Trees and their sames.

Not a few strange superstitions and be-liefs are embalmed in well-known names. The Celandine, from Chelidon, the swallow exudes a yellow juice, which applied by the old birds to the eyes of the young swallows who re born blind or have lost their sight, at once restores it. The Hawkweed has the same virtue in the case of hawks. The Fumatory, fime-terre, was produced without seed by smoke or vapor arising from the ground. The Devil's-bit is a common Scabious, with a premorse or shortened root, which was used so successfully for all manner of diseases that the Devil spitefully bit it off, and forever checked its growth. The Judas tree with its thorns and pink blossoms, was the tree on which Judas hanged himself. The Mandrake gathered around it was a hos, of wild credulities. It was the Arrepa Makaragora, plant nearly allied to the deadly Nightshade, but with a large forked tuber, resembling the human form. Hence it was held to remove sterility, a belief shared by Rachel in the book of Genesis, and was sold for high prices in the middle ages, with this idea. In fact, the demand being greater than the supply, the dealer used to cut the large roots of the White Bryany into the figure of a man and insert grains of wheat or millet in the head and face, which soon

s, routed and grew, producing the semblance f hair and beard. These monstrosities fetched in Italy as much as thirty gold ducats, and were sold largely, as Sir T. Brows tells us, in England. It was hought that the plant would grow only inder a murderer's gibbet, being nursed by he fat which fell from his decaying body; hence it formed an ingredient in the lovephiltries and other hell-broths of witches, and, as it was believed that the root when torn from the earth emitted a shriek, which brought death to those who heard it, all manner of terrible devices were invented to obtain it. The readers of Thalaba will remember the fine scene in which the witch Khawla procures the plant to form part of the waxen figure of the Destroyer. It is not uncommon in Crete and Southern Italy. Its fruit is narcotic; and its name is probably derived from mandra, an enclosed, overgrown place, such as forms its usuat

## Carpenter Birds.

was necessary to keep a sharp lookout sim- An experiment was once made with this against the repetition of a similar offence and then with its body, until it got out, through the bush, to prevent the face and But upon being tried in a cage of waxed eyes coming in contact with the branches, thread instead of wire, and finding it unand also to guard against the number of manageable, it attacked the wood-work, and thrusting in its bill, used it as a wedge. Half the force, had it been at liberty, would have proved aufficient to have bewn out a accustomed to the bush, is itself very care- nest hole in the trunk of partially decayed tree. Another of these little carpenters is sits steadily and easily, yet closely to his the nuthatch. This bird is also a mason. steed, he is almost sure to be carried safely The peculiar form, wedge-like and abrupt through all difficulties. The pace, as I have ending of its bill, makes it very easy to be understood how this bird may do its work. A nuthatch having been confined in a cage of oak and wire, supplied with food and already had enough of it, and a horse ridden water, eating and drinking at pleasure, would spend the intervals in battering the as to be heard in an adjoining room, with of the many-threaded cocoon. The noise a pretty stiff 'log fence' between him and the corner pillars of his cage; on these he browse on the fresh-picked leaves, has been his pursuers. But he might have saved spent his most elaborate taps, and though not inaptly compared to that caused by himself the trouble, 'poor old man,' had he he had occupied the cage but a day, the grazing sheep, while scores of spindles are known what a small batch of horsemen and wood was pierced and worn like a piece of ever busy in reeling off the yellow film that dogs behind him could do in the way of old worm-eaten timber. He probably had is the future grist for the silk-mills, of overcoming these obstacles; and when he an idea that if the main beams could be Lyona, Genoa, and Lombardy. Unfortuperceived that even this last effort was of taken down, the rest would fall and free nately, for some quarter of a century past, no avail, and that he was still pursued, he him. Once he succeeded in opening the the silkworm farms of France and Italy evidently began to lose heart, and soon came | door, and when it was tied in a double knot | have been scourged by a malady, akin to to a standstill. The dogs cautiously ap- with a strang cord, the constant application the oidium in vines and to potato disease, proached him now-cautiously, I say, for of his beak quickly unloosened it. At the under the influence of which the worms terrible use 'the old man' could make of his finding it too small to insert his body, he tic animal fattens so rapidly as the silkworm. toes when driven to desperation in this would dig and hammer with his pickaxe of Give him his choice, and he will prefer the way; and most of the dogs bore testimony a beak to enlarge the circle. This hammer-lettuce to even the white mulberry, as he of his powers by the large scars which were ing was peculiarly laborious, for he did not likes the white leaves better than the red, visible on their sides, f.r a kangaroo can perch, but taking hold of the side of the and the red leaves better than our common rip a dog, or anything which attacks him, cage with his immense feet, swung, as it English black. Lettuce leaves, however, in the most wholesale manner, by the use were, on a pivot at every stroke. All imply a white and weaker silk, and a defiof the sharp claws attached to his legs. night long, at the interval of every ten ciency of healthy silks and the invaluable The dogs were now called off, and one of minutes, he kept up his hard work, but be- eggs. The leaf of the white mulberry, the party dismounted, getting behind the fore morning dawned, he lay lifeless on the which does not suit our wil and climate, is animal, while another faced him, with a floor of the cage, actually dying from over- the true food of the true sinkworm. In heavily loaded hunting whip, in order to work. Many animals with similar habits warm countries it is not indispensable that of carpentry would not have so used them, he should spend his little life in a house. as the kangaroo would ward off the blow but would have been distracted and puzzled out of their confinement. Woodpeckers of of an experienced fencer. He would often every species are carpenters in the sense in which we have used the term; that is, they not only bore into trees in pursuit of food, wise would not fail to feel the animal's fury, in the shape of insects, but chisel out holes birds; while it is difficult to collect the cothere was another behind, who would at for their nests. This abode is neither lined coons, and a single thunder-shower or dustthis moment seize him by the tail, and, by with featlers, grass or straw, but the eggs storm means ruin to the stock, a well-directed blow from his loaded whip are deposited in the hale without anything on the animal's head, put an end to the to keep them warm. It would seem as shough, being endowed by Providence with such an instiuct, they must take as great pleasure in the employment of these faculties as we do in the most agreeable occupations. - But of all the birds which earn their subsistence by spoil, none lead a life so laborious and so painful as the woodpecker. In order to seek for its food, it is obliged to

### song, but sings its wild, and note in the The Alcalde of Santa Cruz,

cessity never suffers any interval of labor.

Cruz, Monterey county, California, under quest, but was astonished when commis-

The evidence was conclusive, and the Judge, after examining the volume bound in calf, announced, "I find no law exactly applicable to this case, but my judgment is that the defendant shall be taken to the barber and have his head shaved. Officer, attend to your duty." The offender was accordingly taken to the barber and his head was shaven amid the shouts and ridicule of a

crowd of spectators. On another occasion a native Californian, in a fit of jealousy, had murdered his wife in the most brutal manner by tying her to a bedstead and plunging a knife into various parts of her body thirty or forty times, almost cutting her to pieces. The fiend was caught while the body was still warm, and was about to be summarily hung by the people—every man in the place except the Judge ready to us ist-when the Judge iderfered after this wise:

"Boys, you must not do it that way. The man must die, but I won't have you disgrace Santa Cruz and yourselves by hanging man without a trial. Bring him to the Court room. I'll empanel a jury and try him in the regular way, and if the jury find him guilty justice shall be done without violence to the majesty of the law."

The mob obeyed, and was resolved into posse comitatus, according to the notion of those who composed it, and the prisoner was arraigned before Court. A jury was selected, but no counsel was appointed, for there was no lawyer in the place. The Judge conducted the proceedings, and, when the evidence was closed, the case was presented to the jury, who rendered a verdic of guilty of murder in the first degree. The Judge, after examining the volume in calf,

"I find no law exactly applicable to this case, but my judgment is that the prisoner. having been found guilty of murder in the first degree, shall have one hour to prepare himself, and then he shall be shot."

No persons were appointed to do the shooting, but after the expiration of an hour the condemned was tied to a tree, the crowd retired a convenient distance, the word was given, every man who felt inclined 'blazed away," and there were more bullet holes in his body than knife wounds in the body of his murdered victim. Thus Santa

tion, immediately wrote an account of the proceedings and dispatched it by a courier to Governor Mason. When the courier returned he brought with him a letter severe-

A second courier was dispatched with another letter to the Governor, informing large knee-pads, to prevent any injury to could not be confined many minutes, as it him that if he supposed that the writer (Blackburn) had been serving as Alcalde for the honor or profit of the office he was much mistaken; that he (Blackburn) had accepted the place to preserve good order and to administer justice in his neighborhood, and if the Governor did not like his way of doing he might take the commission and go to the devil with it.

The magnificent silk-farms of North Italy show the domesticated silkworm at his best. In these great nurseries the worm is watched over with unremitting care, from the moment when, a ciny black thread, he waddling whiteness, he leaves off eating, A mulberry tree will harbor a vast population of the crawling alchemists that turn a grove needs careful netting to protect the

of all the great cities, London, on the whole, contains the most to interest and in-struct Americans. It has doubled in population in the memory of men still young. Most readers remember when Macauley' history appeared. In his first volume the author contrasted the grandeur of the modboasted that the number of inhabitants had increased from little more than five thousand it never shares in the cheerful sports of other birds; it will not join in their merry to at least one million nine hundred thousand. In the brief time that has passed since Macauley wrote, the one million nine hundred thousand has become four million.

A few contrasts taken from the best estimates will give some suggestions of the immense magnitude of the city. It is aptly described as a province covered with houses. New York is equal in population to the aggregate of Maine and New Hampshire. London equals Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts and California all together. To ollowing cities; New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, St. Louis, Chicago, Boston, Baltimore, Cincinnati, New Orleans, Buffalo, San Franciaco, Washington, and Louisville. The transient people in New York are about thirty thousand; in London one hundred and sixty thousand. In New York a baby is born every fifteen minutes and a death occurs every seventeen minutes. In London a birth occurs every six minutes and a death York set in one street would extend seven-

-Vice President Wheeler is troubled

#### Sea Wonders.

The ideas about coral which people have

who have never seen it in its living state are generally erroneous. They know it as a beautifully white ornament under a glass shade, or in delicate pink branches in their jewelry, and they imagine living coral is like these. Their ideas are helped along by the common misnomer of trees and branches, as applied to coral. I have never seen it in the South Sea Islands, but throughout the Eastern seas the most common variety takes a laminated form, not unlike the large fungi to be met with any summer's day in an English wood growing out of the older trees. Flat, circular tables of dingy brown, growing one over another, with spaces under each. These attain a great size, extending for yards without a break, so that the bottom of the sea is per-tectly level. This kind is thurn songlit after by lime burners. Another species grows in detached bosses, like thick stemmed plants which the gardener has trimmed around the top. These clumps grow out of the sand, and stand up in dull brown against the white flooring. A third pattern is spiked like stag's horns tangled together, and is of a dingier brown than the first; its spikes collect the drifting weeds, and its appearance is consequently untidy. There are scores of varieties of corals and madrepores, but the three mentioned are those which principally make up the mass which is ever growing under the still waters inside the reef. At Maheburg the reef is distant seven miles from the shore, and the whole of this great lagoon is in process of filling up by coral. There are one or two holes. left capriciously, and a channel which the river has cut to the reef which it pierces in what is locally "a pass." Everywhere else the bottom is only a few feet under water, and is always slowly rising. The various corals, the patches of silver sand, the deep winding channel, lend each a tint to the water-sapphire blue, where it is deepest, sea-green with emeral flecks, or cerulean blue shot with opaline tints, in the shallows. The reef is a solid wall, shelving toward shore, absolutely perpendicular toward the ocean, and varies in width from twenty to one hundred yards. Against the outer face Cruz was saved from the disgrace of a man being hung by a mob.

The Judge, having witnessed the executo keep them back. On they come, separating their ink-blue masses from the tumble of the ocean, rearing aloft their crests, like living things anxious to try their strength, the law so outrageously and warning him up to meet them. You can stand within a and watch them tumble, with the water no further than your knees, as the surge of their onward rush carries across the reef To stand so and watch them coming on appears, to one not used to the sight, to court destruction: the wave is so vast, its crest rising higher as it advances shuts out the sea beyond, nothing can be seen but a wall of water rolling on; its strength is so apparent, so irresistible, and the pause it appears to take as the top curls over seems to check your breath. The locks and lumpe of dead coral with which storms have strewed the reef are high and dry; the pools of limpid water in the holes sink down and drain,

#### sunk beneath the foam and bubbling water. The Fortress of Lourdes

away, their surface glassy, and their depths

full of color and strange-shaped living

things, then the roller breaks and sends a

surge of water hissing by, and the reef has

Parallel with the Val d'Ossau runs s valley-that of Argelez, commonly called the Paradise of the Pryenees. It is of surpassing loveliness, truly bright in due season with varied crops, the maize predominating; gay with grass pasture lands of a vivid dazzling green; owning luxuriant woods; the roadway festooned with vines, rich with wild cherry trees, in spring time a mass of snowy blossoms; the whole valley watered with innumerable rills. It is cursed nevertheless, with the same fell disease which afflicts the most beautiful valleys of Switzerland; cretinism is extremely prevalent, and the goitre makes man hideous where Nature seems sublime. As if to bar admission to this enchanting region, the old fortress town of Lourdes is perched at the mouth of the defile; defiant still. but not of supreme importance now, as in ancient times. After the fatal battle of Tours, when 300,000 Moslems fell, bright, which, on investigation proved the Saracens flying before Charles Mar- to be a ring which has since been idenvegetable fibre into sheeny silk. But such | tel, "the Hammer," rallied beneath the | tifled as the one worn by Mrs. Chandler wails of Lourdes. It was again and at the time of her death. again a bone of contention, most of all when the English owned it, in the 584 000 cans, or 28,032,000 pounds of this reign of Edward III. The Duke of delicious and nutritious fish. Speci-Anjou vainly besieged it, and having mens weighing 60 to 75 pounds were failed at the citadel, burnt down the caught by the Oregon fisherman. A town in his rage. More insidious meth- peculiarity of the Oregon salmon is ods succeeded open attack, and at the their contempt for all the angler's lures. Duke's instance, Gaston Phœbus of There is no salmon angling on the Ore-Foix, having summoned Peter Ernault by trolling at the mouths of the rivers, its governor, to visit him at Orthez, but they never take the angler's fly. piled him with persuasion, threats, and -Queen Victoria was by no means bribes in turn, but falling in all, sud- undisturbed by business during her bore the bark and hard fibres of trees. Ne- ern city with the London of Charles II. and denly stabbed him in five places. "Ha, holiday at Raveno. Between the 25th monseigneur!" cried the poor knight, of March and the 21st of April, Her wous ne faites as gentilesse your "vous ne faites pas gentilesse, vous less than 364 telegraphic despatches, or m'aves et vous m'occlez." He died at the rate of 28 a day. The average thus for his duty; but treachery pros- length of these despatches was from pered not, for his brother, whom he 100 to 300 words, but on the 21st of had left in command, continued to hold April there was one of no fewer than Lourdes. More recently, this castle Zululand. was the prison of Lord Elgin, whom, in 1804, Napoleon seized and incarcar- America numbers 5,581 churches. 2,183 ated for no reason but to affront Eng- chapels and statious. 242 asylums, and land and stir up war. Its memorable 183 hospitals, and 5,750 priests, and a history is its strong point, for Lourdes Ca holic population of 6,204,030. Ten is now a dirty, uninteresting town; Atlantic seaboard cities contain 2,815,-

equal the city of London, here we should only of late years it has gained a cerhave to bring together the people of the tain lustre from the alleged miracu-try. These cities are New York, Boslous apparition of the Virgin to a tou, Baltimore, Philadelphia, St. Louls, lowed by the bursting forth of a healing spring from the rock. Now crowds of devetees annually make pilgrimage New Haven, Conn., left property valued thither; the halt and the maimed come at \$195 626.81, of which \$71.230 was in to be cured, and leave behind their real estate and \$124,396.81 in personal crutches and other offerings in the pret- estate. Als public bequests are as folevery eight. The drinking places in New ty white church which has been built

> 1,500,000,000f (\$300,000,000) to the Bank Northfield, Minn., the income only to war with Germany.

## BRIEFS:

-Bonner has paid about \$350,000 for

-Boston is bragging of 100,000 bulbs of all varieties mostly tulips, in blossom in its public garden.

-Texas is the third sheep State in the Union. California ranks highest. next Ohio and then Texas.

-The German Empire has 21 univerities, with 1250 professors, and more

than 17,000 students. -The bronze statue of Voltaire, by Jacques Maillet, was uncovered on the Piace de la Mairie, of the Eleventh

Arondissement in Paris, on the 30th of May. -A life-size statue of Mr. Gladstone has been placed in the Manchester, (England) Town Hall. The attitude is said to be perfectly characteristic and

the likeness excellent. -Statistics printed in the American ship -how that since 1838 one hundred and forty-three vessels have been lost at sea and with them two hundred and

wo lives. -A hird's nest, containing four blue eggs, was found at Bridgeport, Conn., ast week, on a car of marble which ame from Massachusetts. It was built

n a corner of a platform car, and made he journey without injury. -An ounce of bread wasted daily in each household in England and Wales neans about 25.000,000 quartern loaves, he produce of 30,000 acres of wheat in year; while an onnce a week of meat

wasted amounts to 300,000 sheep. -There are said to have been 568 applications for the post of public executioner of Paris, made vacant by the leath of M. Roch, Amongst the appli. cants were 87 doctors of medicine and 21 cabmen,

-America munches about one milion bushels of peanuts a year. They ome from Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina, the coming erop from these States being estimated at 1,290,-000 bushels. -Senator and Mrs. Bruce have de-

ermined to give their infant son the biptismal name of Roscoe Coukling, The child will be taken to Cleveland, Ohio, for baptism immediately following the adjournment of Congress. -A shark 12 feet long became eu-

angled in the propeller of the steamship Gulf Stream, when off Charleston harbor, recently, and, though killed, caused great difficulty in the working extricated and taken to Charleston. -During the last year France contri-

outed to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul 2,730,000 francs, the United States, .153,000; Belgium, 766,000; Holland, 615,000; the British Isles, 591,000, of which the largest portion was contributed and disbursed in Ireland; and all other countries, 2,395,000 francs.

-The fires in the State of Massachusetts during the year 1878 numbered \$7,703,226, the loss \$3,683,265, and the amount paid \$2,525,182. A summary of the causes shows 397 incendiary, 249 explosive, 133 defective chimneys, 75 accidental, 41 lightning, &c. -"Improvement" has marked for de-

truction the house No. 134 Aldersgate street, London, in which William Shakespeare resided. What makes this the more to be regretted is the fact that this building is a very complete example of the ordin ry domestic street erchitecture of the Elizabethan period. -Newport, R. I., has established a sanitary protective association, which furnishes its members, for a fee of \$6 per year, the services of an inspecting chemist and engineer to examine their premises, drinking water, etc., and ook after the sanitary condition of

ly opened in London under very encouraging auspices. Working girls between the ages of 13 and 18, who have no parents or friends in London with whom they can reside, are boarded at 4 shillings 6 pence per week. This first nome contains 37 rooms, and others are in contemplation.

-Five years ago the wife and child of a Mr. Chandler were drowned by the Mill river flood in Massachusetts. She digging in a bank discovered something

neries of the Pacific coast last year was

600 words, relating to the campaign of

-The Roman Catholic Church of maiden of the place-a revelation foi- New Orleans, Cincinnati, Chicago, Albany, and Brooklyn, in the order named of population.

-The late Dr. Charles L. Ives, of lows: \$10,000 to Yale College, the income only to be devoted to the support of indigent and worthy students in any department of the university; \$5000 to -The French Government recently the New Haven Orphan Asylum, and paid the last instalment of its debt of \$10,000 to the Carleton College, of