THE BLUE RIDGE BLADE.

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THE MIRROR OF LIFE.

Let us look in the glass for a moment, Let us brush off the mist from the face-The mirror of life that is broken When Death in our ear knells the token To crumble in space.

We must fall whether praying or pining, Whether fearing or mocking the blow, Brush the mist from the mirror, then trem

The grave is no place for dissembling-There vaunting lies low.

The eyes, as they gaze to earth's glory. Peer into that mirror of pain Where the slain of our years lies all gory, Bent over by grim shadows hoary Recording each stain.

Not a blot nor a biemish escapes them The sins of the lone and the crowd, The crime where we pandered or paltered, The dark things that lips never faltered There ory out aloud.

They are there, and no tempests can them: They glow with accusing and shame,

Tho' the years be all dead, they are living, 'Mid the silence they cry for forgiving With direful acciaim.

On the wreck-plank of life is there pardon When joy is worn hollow in sin? When the heart sees no l ght in the sparkle, Nor gloom where the drowsy waves darkie O'er foeman and kin?

Then brush the world's mist from the mirror While life in our bosom is sweet, And turn, with a love of the purest. O'er pathways the fairest and surest, The trace of our feet.

Aunt Maggie's Story.

Yes; what your grandfather came to tell me, lassie, was that Paul Cardell was dead. He was just 85. He'd lost sight and hearing both, they say, and was glad to go. It's not so bad with me; but I wouldn't mind going too. It stirred my memory to hear of Paul's death. I've loved a many in my life, but never any one as I did him. Ah maid. He was just lovely.

We met often, and for a while I thought he liked me pretty well. But soon I began to think I was mistaken. It makes a girl may guess. All my things to make in a tremble to think that she may show a man hurry. I couldn't sit down to sew. I was who does not love her that she likes him over well. All that she can do is to wait. Ah! lassie, many a time the waiting is a weary thing, and the right one doesn't come, and the wrong one does, and even the wrong one seems better than none at all. I don't blame women for things that seem wrong often; they haven't much chance to do right. It seems to me that Paul was my right one; but he didn't court me, and I could not court him. And James Reeder, being a man, could do as he chose, and did. He loved me, and I loved Paul Cardell. God help us all. I think if we women had no hearts the world would be a

merrier place, lassie. I put James Reeder off a while, and just kept my eye on Paul. I did not love him, and I did love Paul. Why couldn't I love the man that loved me?

Then said I to myself, "Be a sensible woman. It's better to marry a man who is fond of you, if he doesn't seem perfection, than to waste your youth and your strength and your hope pining for one you are nothing to." It's prettier in a poem to do the last, but I wasn't so very young or so very beautiful that the whole world wanted me. I guessed what life would be when I was a lonely old maid, handed about like a bad penny from Cousin Jack's to Uncle Ben's, and from Sister Hannah's to Sister Jane's. Not much wanted anywhere. Better try to make a man who loved me happy, and "love so learn to love him. They say comes with the children"-some who have

I thought it all over before I went to bed one night, and I made up my mind that James Reeder should have a "yes" when he asked for it. Then I cried-oh! how I "Oh, must I give you up, cried, lassie. Paul?" said I; "and oh, must I give you up?" and I knew I'd never had him to give up or to keep.

The girls envied me my handsome, dashing beau. But often, walking with him, or riding with him, I'd pass Paul Cardell in his shabby coat, and say to myself, "Oh, to be a man-just to be a man, and go a courting whom I choose, instead of taking what comes, as though matrimony were like the 'grab bag' at a church fair.' 'didn't want money, nor such beauty as James Reeder had so much of. I wanted -well, lassic, I wanted Paul, and no one what I said. Suddenly he took both my else; though why he was perfection to me, hands. heaven only knows, I do not, and never

carry me off when he pleased, and never afraid you liked James best. No wonder. tried to step between us.

At last Kitty Walsingham married, and they gave her a great wedding party. They were rich, and flid it in fine style. They thereabout. And it was an all-day party. The wedding first, then preakfast and dinner, and a dance and supper, of course. 1 was a bridesmaid, and Paul stood up with me. After that, you know, it was his place to be my beau all day. I thought of and went. that and more. 'A word from him and I'd give James Reeder the mitten. A word-

When I walked into church on his arm I kept thinking how it would seem to be the bride. I looked prettier than she--I know I did. I was dark, and white became me. I had roses in my hair and pearls in my ears. I did look pretty, lassie. You're not | pected to live; and afterward I knew my eighty-all gone-all gone! What do we for cutting short the words that would have live to be eighty for? Lord forgive meand Paul.

Do you love any man, lassie? Just think, then, how that man looks to you. think he has sharper eyes than any one else, and finds out charms no other can. Oh, my beautiful Paul. And brother Dick told boiling, lassie. My beautiful Paul plain!

Sometimes he looked at me that morning as if he liked me. He told me how my dress became me. Any man may do that, but it made me happy. I had not been so happy for months.

After we came home from church there was the breakfast-and he beside me all the while-and then we all went into the garden. We sat under a great tree apart from the rest, and all of a sudden he looked me straight in the eyes. "Miss Maggie," he said, "do you think - ?" But before I knew what he wanted to know if the path and stopped beside me. It was James Reeder.

"Here you are," said he, "Paul Cardell, Mrs. Walsingham wants you to drive Grandma Thompson over home. She isn't over well, and wants to go. I'll take care of Miss Maggie meanwhile."

Paul got up. He gave me a look couldn't understand, and after he had gone a dozen steps he came back and offered me "Good-bye, Miss Maggie," he said, and I heard his breath come short and fast; "Good-bye," and away he went. And I and James Reeder were left alone. It happened exactly as I knew it would. been together half an hour, and I said

Oh; now don't, lassie. It's all against the women in this world. It always will be. Let the strong-minded bodies do what they may. You can't alter the hearts we are born with, We are bought and sold a good deal as Turkish girls are, after all. There is a kind of cold, pretty doll that is happy enough, but women who have hearts suffer-suffer at eighteen and eighty. Don't I know. I've been both.

And now I said to myself: "I will content. I've made my own choice." I knew I hadn't all the while. "I am to marry the richest man I know, and one they all call handsome. Madly in love with me too. What more do I want?" It wouldn't do. I hid the fox in my

osom, but it gnawed me all the while. "The sooner it is over the better." I said : and as if that was the way to have it over, I'm not ashamed of it, lassie, if I am an old I let James coax me to set the day very soon-six weeks from that of our engage-

> There was a busy time abour house, you like one wild. In a sort of fever all the ing upon them a few reminders that said. So I was, lassie, but not with James Reeder. So one day mother said to me: 'You are the only idle one, Maggie, run over to Mrs Walsingham's and borrow the pattern of Kitty's traveling basque. It will

just fit you, and I want yours to be like it."

I went, of course, and got the pattern of Mrs. Walsingham. She was a merry soul, and she would tease me. No one knew why I blushed so. It wasn't for the reason they thought. We stood talking, and she a teasing, until all of a sudden she said: 'And James isn't jealous any more, I

"Oh, he was wild the day our Kitty was married," said she, "wild with jealousy of Paul Cardell. He told me all about it. They are paired off together,' said he, 'and with a girl it is the first who asks her. Paul is as much in love as I, and you have lost her to me.' So Granny and I set our wits to work to help him. And we sent for Paul, as you know, and gave Jem his Now say 'thank you,' Maggie, as

But I couldn't. I took the pattern, and ran away. I ran until I came to the bridge, and then I stopped, looking down into the water. "No, no," I kept saying to myself, "no, no; he never cared anything about me. I gave him chance enough to speak, and he did not." And while I said it I heard a step upon the bridge. I looked around-it was Paul Cardell. I couldn't move. I stood still and he came up to me. I had not seen him before since Kitty's wedding party, when he came to say "good-bye." He held out his hand. "How do you do,

Miss Maggie?" said he. I didn't speak-I only bowed.

"You are to be married very soon, hear," he said.

"They say so," I answered. "I hope you may be very happy," he "James Reeder is a splendid fellow, and as rich as he is handsome." And he caught his breath in a little sigh. bless you, Maggie.'

He had never called me Maggie before. He had never looked as he did then. I tried to thank him, but I didn't know

"I'd like you to know it. I was very fond of you, Maggie. I-I loved you, my dear. If James hadn't called me when he much to tell. There were picnic parties did that day, I should have told you so, where I met Paul, but where he let James and had my 'No,' from you. I always felt It's better for you-altogether better. Only, quite as a past thing, I'm glad you know how I loved you. Better than my life, Maggie. I'm not going to pine to death, had a fine house and fine furniture, and or make an idiot of myself. I shall marry. silver and china, such as no one else had Lucy Swallow has promised to be my wife. She would not care for such love as I have pretty, and she shall be happy. God bless

> you, and good-bye. He took my hand and put it to his lips

> Only for what he had said to Lucy Swallow, I'd have called him back. But if they were to be married, better let matters stand as they were. I held myself up by the bridge rail until he was out of sight; then I dropped, like one dead.

I did not marry on the day set for me, for I was ill of a fever then and not extold him plainly that I never could love

But Paul and Lucy Swallow married, You can't see his faults, or they grow to be and she lived thirty years with him-thirty beauties. Don't they say Love is blind? I long years! What a happy woman to live thirty years with Paul Cardell !

I never married-never, as you know. And James Reeder never did, either. me last night how very plain he was; and When he was sixty he told brother Dick whether he would have been killed to a there I sat with my blood boiling-yes, there never had been but one woman in the certainty if he had been carried over the world for him, and that was Maggie. Poor cataract. graceful, sweet-faced Paul Jem! He cried when I told him he mus plain! And I rocked and fidgeted. And go. And he was very handsome, so they

Maggie. I hope you ain't a getting the rheumatism?" And was I not old fool enough to tell him I was angry, and why? You didn't look away to laugh, lassie?

Maggie. I hope you ain't a getting the rheumatism?" And was I not old fool enough to tell him I was angry, and why? You didn't look away to laugh, lassie?

Mould have cooked an egg in four min-lock and the first half of 1879, no fewer than 614.

Mould have cooked an egg in four min-lock and the performent in England. Men are ordained to the house of his fellow craftsman.

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In 1870 they numbered craftsman.

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There are 6,503,600 Jews in the double of his house of his fellow craftsman.

The fellow craftsman.

An

Nay, was it to cry? No need of that breath, and the tone of his voice by heart. either. Cry for the young that have it all He was very happy with Lucy Swallow, to live through. I am eighty. ter than marrying any one else, after all. A wasted life and a wasted heart, but nothng worse. Good night, lassie.

Tame Ostriches.

These strange birds staiked at the head of the procession of domestic animals and appeared to be on most excellent terms with all of them. Occasionally one would deviate to the right the "stylish," or professional timeor left of the track to peck a mouthful thought, some one came all in a hurry up of grass, but as soon as the drover would leave the road and shout at it, it would immediately fall into its proper place and march forward with the utmost demure gravity, as if to be guilty of an infringement of rules was the last thing it would think of. Ostriches always have an intensely stupid look, but they are not nearly such fools as the uninitiated would take them for; and although the most timid creatures on the earth when in a state of nature, in captivity or when domesticated, they are bold and dangerous, more especially He asked me to be his wife before we had the males. Horse or rider indiscriminately they will attack, walking up to the object of their indignation with a quiet, measured stride, never evincing for a moment the slightest evidence of hostility-in fact, looking such fools that no one would imagine them capable of inimical ideas-when, with a quick movement, done with great strength and velocity, they raise their foot and strike forward, the edges of the toes being so sharp that they will cut your clothes the whole length of the stroke. As they are too valuable to be knocked on the head, perhaps you turn to run from them, but their speed is such that an attemp, thus to elude them is useless. The only plan then to be pursued is to throw your self down and lie still on your face or back. They cannot kick you in these positions, but they will jump on you and trample all over you. While this operation is going on you may give vent to your feelings and satisfy your self-esteem by bestow-

two can play the same game.

Flowers as Food. mention the artichoke, the undeveloped | body. while the head moves but little. tine, and its undeveloped flower heads place for comfort ble repose. When parts of India the flowers of a sapotaceous tree form a really important artinumerous and succulent, and are eaten raw. They are also sun dried and sold

in the bazars. A single tree affords from 200 ts 400 pounds of the flowers. The flowers of another species are employed in a similar manner by the natives of Mysore and Malabar; they are either dried and roasted and then eaten, or bruised and boiled to a jelly and made into small balls to be traded for along for six weeks. I was running other food. The unopened flower buds of the caper bush, a creeping plant Buffalo then, and I've seen the therof Southern Europe, when pickled in vinegar | constitute the condiment known as capers. It was known to the ancient Greeks, and the renowned Phryne, at the first period of her resi dence in Athens, was a dealer in capers. Long pepper, which in chemical compositions and qualities resembles black poses, consists of the immature spikes leaf fans on one trip that year. On of flowers gathered and dried in the sun.

A Miraculous Escape at Niagara Faiis.

A gentleman and his wife arrived at Niagara Falls, on the 16th of July. They were on their way from New London, Conn., to their home in Minnesota, and deviated a little from their direct route in order to visit the great falls. Arriving so late they concluded that they would not go to a smouldered till they fell to pieces on hotel, and waited in the Erie depot until deck and left us under bare poles! Yes, tical outcome of the second great com- that decayed many centuries ago. town to see the sights. They strayed first as your hand. That was just at down to the bank of the river just below Witmer's mill. Here the gentleman attempted to bathe his face, when he suddentied his horses to a tree and rushed after the woman, who was running toward the Cataract House. Dinan says that he could just distinguish the form of the man in the rapids, and he told the terrified woman that not now to give; and she's very good, and it was of no use to attempt the rescue, that rig lines over the lee side, so that all he would certainly go over the falls. The ment can hardly be imagined when he saw ed off greatly since 1836." the dripping stranger sitting on the steps in the embrace of his weeping wife. After moment. He could not swim, but he so pretty, vain as you are. It's all gone at heart too well. I could not forgive James shore. As good luck would have it the use shovels before we got through. He made Paul and me happy for life, and I head of the pier enclosing the raceway back gentleman, and his mother never of the Cataract House, and was carried into the quiet water, where he managed to secure a hold on the masonry, and climbed from death was little less than miraculous. board.' He hardly realized at first the magnitude of the danger he had escaped. He had not seen the falls, and he asked Mr. Dinan

Hanging a Hammock.

Swinging in a hammock is the very luxury of repose. It is restful, just to think of it; and to pass by a clump of shade trees, or a vine curtained veranda, and watch the lazy swing of one of these aerial couches without envy is an example of virtue that is not often vouchsafed to one with generous capacity for resting. The general idea is

that hammocks are only for the wealthy, killers. It is a great mistake. Every well-to-do-farmer-every owner of cozy village home-eary member of a stay-at-home club who commands a spot big enough to swing one-should have a hammock. A very good one may be bought for \$1.50 to \$4, or as much higher as you choose to go. It should be hung where there is a good afternoon shade, and, if intended in part for children's use, so low that small children can get into it by the aid of a box or low stool, and over soft ground, so that the numerous tumbles that are probable will be harmless. If no other place is available, it may be hung between the pillars of a shady veranda, a place well enough for the older people who use it, but undesirable for children, on account of the lack of a soft turt, as well as for the noise which accompanies its use by the youngsters. When children only are to use the hammock the manner of hanging is not important, but if provided for the use of grown persons it should then be so suspended that the head will always be considerably higher than the feet, and much of the comfort of one who uses it depends upon a proper observance of the fact. If you have no more suitable place, suspend it from the columns of a veranda. The hook which supports the head end should be six and a quarter feet from the floor, and that for the foot end three and three quarters feet, and these preportions should be observed wherever it may be hung, to secure the most desirable curve for the ease of the occupant. Another point to be observed;

the head end should be fastened to the the young "pleb" from Newport. I just enough to properly attach it, while ance as he entered our tent the next at the foot is a rope four and one-half | morning, his gun cut and scarred in The number of flowers that are used feet long. This gives the greatest free- various places, his clothes wet and as food is small; among these we may dom for swinging the lower part of the dripping and covered with mud. flower heads of which furnish a much This is a point which cannot be ob- myself eagerly inquired for the cause in the accomplishment of this alliance. prized dish. A thistle similar to the served in a hammock for children, who of his plight, and were informed that artichoke, occurs abundantly in Pales | think more of it as a swing than as a there were three men or devils—he did are brought to the markets of Jerusalem | trees serve for supports, ample provis- | proached his post in the midst of the under the name of cardi, and are much | ion should be made to prevent injury | storm, covered with "white sheets," of an ancient fortification about four-

sought after as a vegetable. In many to the bark, by means of stout canvas or and endeavored to pass without giving teen miles from Tyrone, near Moshanheavy bagging between the ropes to the countersign. One of them, armed non Creek, Centre County, Pa. The enwhich it is suspended and the bark. with a musket and a fixed bayonet, at- tire site covers about two acres of cle of food. The blossoms are very if the hanging be so arranged that the tempted to force his way; "but," said ground, a portion of the outer walls, hammock can be taken in during long he, I stood my ground, and would have however, being entirely demolished. storms it will last much longer. "Gin in Mine." "Well, it's purty hot," answered

> twenty degrees hotter than this right the Mary Jane between Chicago and

mometer stand at 130 degrees in the middle of Lake Huron." "That was awful," sighed one of the "Well, it was fairish, but we didn't | tional history.

call it hot till we got into the St. Clair river, and the mercury ran up to 150 degrees when hanging against the wapepper, and is used for the same pur- ter-butt. The boys used up 728 paim one of our trips down we were becalm-

> ed for three days on Lake Huron. We got it there and no mistake."

"Purty hot, eh?" "Well, I'm an old man, and I don't care to go to lying at this day, but I'll tell you a few solemn facts. Every sail on that schooner smoked and after 4 o'clock, when they started down sir, we hadn't a rag aloft as big sunrise in the morning, and within an hour we had to wet down decks to pre- siderable change in the domestic econoly became dizzy and fell helplessly into the vent them from burning. I went my. boiling rapids. The screams of his wife down stairs to consult the thermometer attracted the attention of William Dinan, and it lay on the floor, all melted into who was watering his horses near by. Dinan a chunk of glass and tin! Then I be-

frightened." "What could you do?"

"Well, not much. We had begun to could take to the water, when the topwoman ran through the gate leading to the sail yard came down and killed the been his always. little park between the Cataract House and cook. The links in the chain had meltbank to the raceway below. Dinan fol- ed right out! I never knew a case like lowed a moment later, and his astonish- It since, but then the weather has cool- the other's time, and does not require

"And about the cook?" "Nothing about him, When we falling into the water the gentleman said picked the body up to heave it overthat he hardly realized where he was for a board it had spread out into a mass struggled as best he could to reach the about four feet square, and we had to drowning man was hurled against the bulk- was a good young man and a perfect elling his remains over the rail. We debasing the coin of friendship to mere out upon terra firma. The man's escape finally rigged our lines and got over-

-The failures of farmers are becom- The lake was red hot. The water keeper or shoemaker has to go uninvit- to relate, in a short time was dead.

back. The flesh was actually cooked to a depth of two inches, and for over two

years the dogs used to scent cooked meat when I walked out, and follow me by dozens. Five surgeons fainted away in a heap at the sight of my left shoulder, and the only man I could get to dress my back was a butcher under sentence of death."

"It must have been terrible. How did you come out of the calm?"

"Well, while I was squirming in the vater a white squall struck the schooner and dowd she went. It was all over in a minute, and air and water were hotter than ever. I struck out for the Canada shore, over a hundred miles away, knowing that it was sink or swim, but in half an hour I was safe."

"Picked up?" "Well, no," replied the captain, as e scratched his leg, "I struck an Iceberg and climbed up into a cave near the top! I tell you it was a grateful change to me, and that's one reason 1 cannot see a hunk of ice and a lemon without feeling grateful to the man who invented both-with a very little gin in mine, if you please."

First Guard Duty. The first tour of guard duty at West Point was performed by the late Major General T. W. Sherman, on one of the most terrible nights I ever witnessed. A storm of wind and rain arose soon after nightfall and raged during the greater part of the night with unabated fury, while frequent flashes of lightning disclosed the old forts and other picturesque surroundings of the point only to render it more appalling. Add to this frequent peals of thunder echoing among the surrounding peaks as if the world was coming to an end, and you can form some idea of the scene that comes up so vividly to my memory after the lapse of nearly half a century. In the midst of this terrible war of the elements it occurred to three of our cadets-one of them, perhaps, the corporal of the guard-that this would be a favorable time to test the metal of I shall never torget Sherman's appear Whithorn (also from Newport) and not know nor care which-had aplake captain in one of the ferry dock saloons, "but it isn't nothing to the summer of 1836. We had it at least

True hospitality is a thing that yond the circle of generous impulses. longs to that class of rocks known fabricated, presented by the Whigs to Entertainment with the truly hospita- among geologists as Mahoning sand- Henry Clay, in 1844, is offered for sale ble man means more than the feeding stone. This formation, when found in at Boston, by the great man's grandlaws, as all things good must have laws posit no human being existed on the ted, an increase of 11,105 cases as com-

sacred one, emphasized by every moral the old masonry, and these are but the French still wines were imported, an code known to the world and a prac- successors of other generations of trees mandment.

There should never be a guest in the house whose presence requires any con-

business or mutuál interests may demand in entertaining a stranger, he gan to realize how hot it was, and I got should never be taken into the family circle unless he is known to be wholly worthy a place in that sanctum sanctorum of social life; but when once a man is admitted to the home fireside he should be treated as if the place had

> The fact of an invitation gives neither host or guest right to be master of even a temporary sacrifice of one's entire individuality or pursuits. A man should never be so much him-

> self as when he entertains a friend. To stay at a friend's house beyond the period for which one is invited is to perpetrate a social robbery.

To abide uninvited in a friend's home blamed me in the least for scoop-shov- his coat without his permission. It is pay his hotel bills.

She's All Right.

M. C. Shakespeare, a farmer, residing in the northwestern part of Texas, and possibly a distant relative of the renowned bard of that name, called on -The soil on which timber is grown the Rev. J. H. Richey, at two o'clock,

and said: "Parson, do you know all the ladies n Waco?"

"No," replied Mr. Richey, "I don' know half of them." "Do you know a widow lady named

Mrs. Ward, who is employed in the family of Dr. McGregor?" "I have not," said Mr. Richey,

onor of her acquaintaine, but why do vou ask?" "Well," said Mr. Shakespeare, "I don't know her either; never saw her in my life, but thinking as maybe you knew all about her I thought I'd come

marrying her." "I should think," remarked Mr Richey, "that you would refer the matter to the young lady herself."

and ask you. I'm thinking about

"I will, so I will," said Mr. Shakespeare, "but not until I have first seen Dr. McGregor," and, so saying, he turned and walked away.

About three-quarters of an hour later in the day Mr. Shakespeare again stood in the presence of Mr. Richey.

"I've seen Dr. McGregor," said he "and he says he has known the lady for sixteen years, and she's all right.' Then exacting from Mr. Richey a promise that he would wait in the office "a little while," Mr. S. walked off, saying he would "call on the lady."

And he did. "It's all right, parson," said he, on walking into Mr. Richey's office, less than an hour afterward. "I've seen the lady, and she says it's all right. Quick as I can get a pair of licenses I want you to go up and tie don expends about \$130,000 a year in

At twenty minutes past four o'clock M. C. Shakespeare was married to Mrs. Nancy Ward, Rev. J. H. Richey officiating, and the newly wedded pair left exile. at once for their rural home. Mr. well able to make his wife comfortable. Mrs. Shakespeare is a good houskeeper and is otherwise well qualified to make a good wife. Two hours and twenty minutes, dating from the moment the would-be bridegroom's first inquiries were made, is the precise time occupied

There remains to this day the ruins run him through, but for his superior What seems now to have been the inteskill in using the weapon." As soon as rior of the vast masonry consists of a the young trio found that young Sher- | series of parapets, and faces of the emman meant business, they disappeared brasures running at various angles. under the cover of the darkness, leav- The front of the parapets, and faces of ing him master of the situation, and I the embrasures, are still covered with doubt not, have kept their deteat to some kind of durable plaster or cement. this day a profound secret. The inci- This cement facing is of a red color, dent, however, is too good to be lost, about half an inch thick, and hard, aland I now put it on record because I most as flint. Where it is broken the am probably the only living man, Whit- rock has crumbled away to the depth land, recently held at New Bedford, rehorn having died early, that knows of several inches, and the top of the anything about it; and also because it rocks is also worn away by time and schools, containing \$55 scholars. gave unmistakable promise of the the action of the elements, leaving the brilliant career now a part of our na- edges of the cement project like flanges 3 th, 1879, there were thirty failures in set perpendicular to the plane of the Boston, with liabilities of \$2.594,000. rock. The age of this old fortress is beyond all possibility of computation. The composition of the cement is not touches the heart and never goes be- known, but the building material teof the body; it means an interchange place, caps the Clearfield and Centre of soul gifts. Still It should have its County region. At the time of its degovern them.

face of the earth, nor until long periods
The obligation to be hospitable is a thereafter. Large trees now stand on 736,020 gallons and 45,708 cases of

A Big Alligator Story.

Mr. W. W. Ocain, living in the

neighborhood of Huntsville, six miles northeast of Lake City, Fla., has been troubled for years by the depredations of a large alligator. His track cently, by washing a pair of overalis, as he made his way through the fields which he had worn while putting Paris has been often seen, and the frequent green on his potatoes. The woman had disappearance of hogs occasioned this the poison penetrated. gentieman to make offers for his teeth. With the hope of destroying this pest, of Local Preachers, organized in 1849, he put out bait and poison several has paid to the "sick, the aged, and for weeks ago. The bait was taken but death," among its own members. over still the alligator took in additional \$275,000. There is a proposal to estabshotes. A large hook was obtained and baited, but bait and hook were taken, this country. the latter by gnawing the rope which held it. Things were becoming des- Board of Richmond, Va., that all lady perate, and the recent dry weather fa- teachers in the public school of that vored Mr. Ocain Recently the city who shall marry during their alligator was trailed to his hole, and t rms of service shall thereaf er be infinding it muddy, it was concluded eligible to the position of teacher, and that he had just sought retreat. A ne- Superintendent of Schools. gro was sent in, but was immediately seized by the leg, and with difficulty is as much a dismeanor as borrowing was rescued badly bitten. However, library books to the number of 21,000. the party succeeded in killing the alli- In the United States there are nearly gator, which measured ten and a half 2,000 agricultural societies, with 58,000 dross when a man attempts to make it feet. He was skinned and opened, and volumes in their libraries, and with acin him was found the hook, a large pig, cess to 360 different agricultural publi-The fact of two men having the same and several other things. Having been on the intelligence and future prospects "Ah! young man, how little you re. occupation and interests in life gives to fed so well it was thought a good time of the tillers of the soil. porters know of the great lakes spread neither a social right to the other's bed to try alligator steak, but this was preout before you on the maps! Cooler! and board. A traveling minister has no vented by the suggestion that the meat is Railroad Ferry Company, in Jersey Why, the minute we struck the water more right to go uninvited to a fellow- might be poisoned. A dog, however, City, have organized a fire department. we began squirming like so many eels. preacher's house than a traveling shop- was permitted to eat his fill, and, strange The department is divided into twelve

BRIEFS.

-Nashville boasts of \$300,000 worth of improvements in six months. -The dividends paid in Boston in August aggregated \$2,533,06s.

increases or deteriorates its value. -In Cambria county, Pa., butter sells at eight cents per pound. -Senator Wade Hampton's leg still gives him a great deal of trouble.

-London has a police force of 10.474 men, costing \$6,250,000 to maintain it. -A new directory of Minneapolis, Minnesota, indicates that the population of the city is about 52,000.

-The pensions granted last year, from the English Civil List, amounted to \$1200. -Mr. Tennyson has been requested o write the inaugural ode for the Aus-

ralian International Exhibition. -The cotton mills of Columbus, Ga., consume annually 18,256 bales of the

-In a Bombay cotton factory a man receives \$8 a month, a woman \$4, and a child \$2.50. -Since the Crimean war England

nas reduced her national debt from £900,000,000 to £712,000,000. -Nearly 300 miles of railroad have

een built in California so far this -Split timber is more durable and stronger than that which is hewn,

rom the continuity of the fibres. -Red ink is a solution of alum, colored with Brazil wood, or an ammonical solution of cochineal. -The Pullman palace cars have been introduced on the Italian routes run-

ning from Brindisi and Bologna. -The crop of pineapples this season s estimated at double that of former

-Ground has been broken for the monument to General Wayne, to be

erected at Erle, Pa. -The Ragged School Union of Lonefforts to elevate the lowest and poor-

est classes. -Meissonier will soon finish a porrait of the late Louis Napoleon, begun in 1870, but delayed by the war and the

-Mrs, Mary Howitt has received Shakespeare has a good farm and is from the English Government a pension of \$500, in consideration of her lit--The Pennsylvania Railroad Comp-

any have ordered the building of eight hundred freight cars and twenty passenger cars at the Altoona shops. -The President begins work shortly after 9 o'clock in the morning. His

son, Webb, sits on his left hand and his stenographer behind his chair. -In a thundersterm in Appenzil, Switzerland, a tew days ago, a farmer and ten of his cows, one of which he was milking, were killed by lightning.

er day at Silver Lake has been presented by him to the widow of a man who -Chief Justice Chase's grave at Oak

-The \$500 won by Courtney the oth-

Hi.l, near Washington, is marked simply by a block of gray granite, bearing only the record of his hirth and death following his name. -The apple crop in Kent county,

Md., promises to be much larger than usual, and it is expected that fifteen distilleries, producing 8.000 gallons of apple brandy, will be put in operation. -At a general Conference of the African Methodist churches of New Eng-

ports showed a membership of 1,317. I'ne denomination has twelve Sunday-+Fo: the six months ending June

were 175 failures, with Habilities of \$6,--The famous solid silver vase, twoand-a-half feet high, and elaborately

while for the same time last year there

-During the first six months of 1879, 52,394 cases of champagne were imporincrease of 264,560 gallons.

-Dean Stanley has granted a site for memorial of the late Prince Louis Napoleon in Westminster Abbey. It is in a recess in Henry VII's Chapel, near the spot where Cromwell's remains lay till they were disturbed at the Restor--A woman working for a farmer

-The English Wesleyan Association

lish fraternal intercourse with the Methodist Local Preachers' Association in -It has been determined by the School

their places shall be supplied by the -New England has over 230 farmers clubs, with 72,000 active members, and cations, all exerting a direct influence

stations, connected by signals with the managers room in the depot. The or-