I stood within an old, deserted room While dropped the sun behind the

And as I gazed, a million fragments Is thy past life. The dust motes in its more Fell noiselessly through scarce re- Are but the ghosts of fruitless yester

I stood within an old, deserted room
Long given over to the spider's play,
And watched the busy insect at his loom
While deserted the many control of the confines of this chamber
That in the confines of this chamber

W. F. Kirk, in Milwaukee Sentinel.

"Pussum" is reliable in other ways

did not destroy frail objects in the wild

gambols of kittenhood, I have won-

were like-those weeks that must have

which he was anxious to forget. It is

ones" to wheel him about in their lit-

tle carriages, and seemed to take com-

fort in this apparent frivolity, of which

he is still fond. It is his only diver-

thieves, ready to leap on the dinner

is only when we are all seated, and

general feasting is in progress, that

will calmly climb up, and leisurely se-

ly with renewed determination. After

But though a hero of perseverance,

at least not craventy so. When once

to enable ham to turn around. He does

catch him now and then. On the morn-

One night I heard a violent alter-

er hard summer for "Pussum." His

favorite corners were disordered; his

timony.

don. I have

essfully a random

"PUSSUM."

An Amusing Story of a Stray Cat Who Walked Up a Screen-Door and Into the Hearts of the Family Within,

BY ALBERT BIGELOW PAINE.

He came to us in his early life, during the first summer of our suburban Even from the beginning he was in cat, but a bedrabbled and bleary-eyed shred of gray that sat guarding our milk bottles one morning when I opened the back door. Indeed, I have

seldom seen a more foriorn specimen than was our stately "Fussum" at this the moment of our introduction.

Perhaps he was a predigal that had really known childhood's happy hour, traveled far, wasting his substance in but only a brief period of bitternes riotous living. At least he was very foot-sore, and had no substance left true he would allow the that seemed of any value to respectable people. A vagabond and a tramp, nding on charity and odd jobs to help him on his way, he was doubtless guarding our milk supply with the sion. He was old and reflective even cope of some slight reward. We didn't in his youth, and the ways of other need his protection, but from the cats are not his ways. Most young depths of my heart and one of the botcats, and many old ones, are common tles a modest salvage was granted. I put some milk in a pan, and he drank table, and grab something the moment it greedily, without thanks. I did not your back is turned. "Pusaum" is distinctly uncommon in these matters. He invite him in. We had no cat as yet, but we had one planned, and it was not of this design. I hoped that when | tion of himself like that, or to conceal filled he would fare onward to lay prohis designs. He even may be left in the dining-room alone with safety. It

I forgot him presently, and was rather surprised when somewhat later I with the aid of a convenient chair he that there was a kitten clinging to the lect such portions of the food as please screen door, and crying to come him. If restrained at those times he I went out to investigate, and regards us with reproach, and continand found him half way up the screen. ues his selection. If repulsed, he re-Not being able to get through the wire, tires with dignity, and returns present-

is unnecessary to come in," I all, he is the same kitten who once "You can thank me from where climbed the screen door, and rallied to you stand, or sit, or whatever you call victory from the tomato-vines. it. I appreciate your desire, now that the pangs of hunger are allayed, to "Possum" is not distinguished as a make due acknowledgment; but time warrior. He has faith in discretion is precious, and you should be on your and is willing to rely on his speed way. There are other milk-bottles to rather than upon his skill and prowes full of them. in conflict. Not that he is a coward-

we have pervant within. We are faced in the second, I have barely writed. We could not enterseen him de constally a random tain you properly, even if we could dog, or the ten-pound tom "tiger" door, and hence! Rapidly!"

had acquired vigor, and a voice strong running is to get far enough ahead

"Perhaps," I said, "he wishes more

fight, too, for he sometimes bears earmarks of battle. I suppose they begged him to descend. This was im- ing after Thanksgiving he had a lump possible-he had not planned for re- on his forehead, and still more recenttreat. His tendency was to climb high- ly he returned in a mixed condition of er. I was not eager to touch him, but mud and water and humiliation after there seemed no atternative. I de- a night's absence. He lamented distached him from the wire, and placed mally while I had him in the tub, prohim before the pan. Again he ate. bably explaining how the cyclone had Again, filled with the milk of human overtaken him before he could make kindness, he climbed up to vociferate harbor, and giving other valuable teshis thanks and his intentions of abid-

I tried to shake him off-it was no cation just outside my window, and use. I unhooked him repeatedly, and when no longer able to restrain my cureplaced him in remote corners of the riosity. I rose and looked into the property. He could beat me back to moonlight. A half-grown tree stands the screen door, even allowing me as by our sidewalk. It was late autumn much as ten yards start. We repeat- and the leaves had disappeared. They ed this race, until finally, I beat him. had been replaced with something He was fully five steps behind when I larger. I did not at first realize what got my hand on the knob, and he was the black bunches were that decorated coming with headway. I was rather the several limbs and forks of the litwarm now, and slightly annoyed by the tree. Then one of the bunches his overweening desire to become our moved; then all of them howled. Then With my hand still on the I observed that it was a tree of cats knob, I awaited him grimly. I did not On the topmost bough there swung and kick him. I would scorn to kick a balanced a feline form that evident cat, especially such a cat. I simply ly had been driven to a last retreat. him in our experiment garden. He turned with coal. Leaning out, I flung described an arc, and disappeared a hurtling handful, that resulted in a among the tomato vines. Flinging sudden and wild explosion of cats, wide the door, I rushed in, unwilling leaving a single form still balancing to investigate the result of my vio- on the topmost bough. Something lence. A sound from behind caused about its outline caused me to disconstart and turn. He was half- tinue the anthracite treatment. Then

way up the screen, and going higher. the coast being quite clear, there was I opened the portal gently. "Come a cautious descent, a stealthy slipping in, little stranger," I said. And thus along the path below, and into the was the prodigal became a part of white moonlight beneath my window there stepped with solemn tread our As the days passed, the stranger own great, gray, reliable "Pussum." grew strong and beautiful. Not being re Maltese, I named him at first sum" with romance, for he was so Maltine;" but this title somehow stately and reserved in his treatment ed frivolous, and savored of advertising, whereas "Pussum" came him considering with vague interest trippingly from the tongue, and exmore affectionately the deep occupied the callar of the vacant house next door, we did not regard the mat-ter as more than a casual acquaintently awakened in us all. Whatever auceshin Anyhow, being interested in building a new addition to our house, and in our gardening, we were too busy to take more than a passing interest in

Less than this has driven more than one bachelor to domesticity, and per-haps, after all, we were to blame. agerness for mice. For as much as alf a day, sometimes, he would watch a empty trap, doubtless recalling joys ly upholstered chair, which we were trying to keep handsome and free from hairs. Repeated eviction and dire threats were of no avail. "Pus the spot where the trap was known to slept in the chair whenever it stood up-do its most efficient work. There is right, and protested when it was made

were as wounds in our hearts. When finally captured and banished rise he should die. It was simply a question whether I would tie our little target-practice, or take him down celar and quietly remove his head with

my new saw. On the whole, I preferred the saw, but the "precious ones" became violent at mention of either They were for overlooking the whole matter, and declared that nothing should harm a hair of their "darling cat." Still I was unforgiving, and the next forenoon-which was sunny and Sunday-when I saw him blinking at me from the steps, while filled some vases from the marigold patch. I was indifferent and cool in my manner toward him. Presently something was rubbing against my leg,

and purring. I was surprised at thisit was not "Possum's" way. Neither was it "Pussum," for when I looked hitherto wild, black-and-white from the vacant cellar next door.

mean? What do you want?" The blackand-white cat looked up pleadingly, and continued to rub and

"Well." I said. "what does

"No. go away." I growled: "we do not want you. We've got one cat too

many now." The blackand-white cat looked up. 'That's just what I want to about," she purred. "Our poor 'Pus-

"Oh, our poor 'Pussum!' Um-well, never mind our poor 'Pussum.' He's in disgrace. He's torn my beautiful new chair with his claws!"

"Yes" assented the black-and-white cat, thoughtfully, "I know. But do you always like to be pushed out of your favorite seat? And don't you sometimes have accidents, too?

"What has that to do with it? 'Pus supi' is a cat.. We gave him a good nome—he should appreciate it. was a stray cat, and we took him in. "I-I am a stray, too," murmured he black-and-white cat.

"Well, what of it? What has that to to with 'Pussum?' "I know how much he must appre clate his nice home." the black-andwhite cat purred, softly. "I know he loes, too, for he has told me about it and of how good you are to him. I hope you will forgive him."

"Oh, well," I said, "I suppose Go away now, and don't bother

The black-and-white cat nestled "One thing more," she said. 'Do you know that I-I'm 'Pussum's' comfort, his companion in grief and sorrow, and that I have no friends

What was the use? After that the black-and-white cat took up residence in "Pussum's" cellar, and ate of of 'Pussum's" pap

Tielr family came along in time to brighten the dull winter days. There were three of them, and the resemblance was quite strong on both sides lo your way. Get off of our screen across the way. His difficulty seems to be in getting into the attitude and di-He refused to hence. With food he rection of war. Perhaps his object in "Pussua." his interest was one of curiosity ather than of paternal solicidistant part of the cellar, perhaps so that he might enjoy a night's rest. When I blought him to the box of excelsior, and dropped him down among his family, he seemed disturbed, and and-white cat, who put her face to hi and purred and murmured and careased him, only caused him to draw away mingled embarrassment and in difference.-Weman's Home Compan-

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

Newfoundland has a greater proporion of widows and orphans than any

A tunnel 1800 feet below sea level nd twenty-five miles long, has been planned between Vacqueros Bay, Spain

In future the police of Zurich, Switerland, are to receive regular lessons in "civility and deportment," so as to bear themselves on all occasions with

There is no sods in sods water very pint of soda water contain two and one balf pints of carbon di oxide, a gas. Therefore when you eally drink three and one-half pints

In olden times rings were worn onarchs and rulers alone, but as civ lization advanced and women were more chivalrously regarded the ring ras given her as a token of the high dignity bestowed upon her in the mar riage ceremony.

In England a special license is re quired for the privilege of keeping anservant, and a Londoner recently arrested for failing to comply with the law brought forward a novel deence, however, was not accepted by

An Englishman who has made his ortune in America says: "You do not eem to appreciate the method of the English courts over here in America The Unitedtes is alive with ticket f-leave men from the Mother country, and most of them are doing well. And there is another class that come here and often succeed. I refer to the worthless chaps who become nuis-ances in their own home places. They are haled to court, and being found penniless are thus advised by the udge: You cannot pay a fine. You cannot pay costs. The jails are over flowing. The court will give you tan lays to leave England and start anew in a country where you are un-known.' Where do those fellows land? In America, of course."—New York

ately, with the result that there were RAYMOND, MASTER THIEF

CAREER OF THE CROOK WHO ROBBED KIMBERLEY DIA-MOND FIELDS.

Careful Workman, He Took Month to Complete Plane-Sent to America for Help-Finally Sent to Prison for Long Term

The robbery by masked men of \$15, 000 from Robinson's bank at Krugers-dorp, in the Transvaal, has been the cene of many very daring and gigantic robbertes The organizer of the celebrated dia-

mond mail robbery, when between \$815,000 and \$825,000 worth of stones were stolen, was the most famous criminal, Harry Raymond, who was know as the Napoleon of the criminal In 1879, when the Kimberley dia-

mond fields were revealing their richness in the matter of remarkably fine stones. Raymond paid a visit to South Africa, and made the journey from Cape Town to Kimberley by coach. He noticed that one day every month there was a large consignment of dia-

registered mail, and he determined to cossess himself of one consignment. The consignment ranged in value from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000, and the parcels were made up and placed in the ordinary mail bags and sent to

Cape Town by the mail coach. Before deciding upon his modus operandi Raymond took several journeys on the coach, and finally a casual re criminal's mind at work and his plan was concocted in less than five min

When within 100 miles of Kimberley the coach crossed a small stream, and as the horses splashed through the able to go through the water so easily in a month or so." "Why?" asked Raymond.

"Because," replied the driver, "when the rainy season sets in we have to take a big wooden ferry to take us over. The atream swells so thre it is 50 feet wide." "What would happen if you did not

get over?" asked Raymond, in a casua sort of way. "Why, we should lose the steamer. and the bags would have to be put in

the Capetown postoffice until the next steamer sailed," was the reply of the driver The next five minutes the plan was completed whereby the diamonds would be transferred from their lawful

owners to the possession of Raymond. Raymond then went to England, and determined to spend a few themen pounds perfecting his plens. He sent to America for five "crooks," and de explained the method of intended to adopt. He promised if they helped him to give them 1000 pounds

each for their work, and to pay all their expenses. One man took a farm a short disance from the river, while another was sent to Capetown with Instructions to cultivate the postoffice offi-

cials and get wax impressions of the Another man went to Capetown and set up a livery stable; the fourth man far from the postoffice.

Twelve months was spent in arrangeady Raymond waited quietly until there was a very big consignment of diamonds from Kimberley, and then

Upon the arrival of the mail coach at the river the driver to his horror. discovered that the wooden ferry had by some means got adrift and had seen awept a couple of miles away. This necessitated an extensive de-

ble chance of catching the steamer was cat, which was, of course, the reason for the young farmer cutting adrift the ferry. When the coach arrived at Cape

town the steamer had sailed, and the bags were, therefore, placed in the

At 2 P M the next morning the kers made from the wax impressions opened the doors of the postoffice and the safes, whereupon 12 of the bage were transferred into the cart which the livery stable proprietor had al-

They were taken to the private house and buried in the garden, where they

Raymond kept his word with the crooks, and they were paid 1000 pounds sach, and they went back to America The "Napoleon" opened an office in apetown as a diamond merchant, but when the coast was clear he came to England and established himself as diamond merchant in Hatton garden Here he sold the stones, netting iomething approaching 163,000 pounds.
It was Raymond who stole the Duchas of Devonshire picture from Messrs Agnew, and he conveyed it to America

Lord Lonsdale, who entertained the German Emperor on it. Raymond paid 600 pounds a year fo a flat opposite the Royal academy, which cost 5.00 pounds to furnish. He drove a pair of the finest horses in England, which were bought under the

yacht was afterward purchased

tammer for 1000 guineas.

He was caught trying to rob the His wife, a very handsome woman

The habit of mixing grit, shell o harcoal in with the mash food is wrong, indeed, to either clog up the crop or overload the gissard with here necessities, the supplying of which the fowls know very much more about than we do.

The grit box should hang against

the wall and always have four com tments; one for grit, one for shell, one for charcoal, and the other to be used for sand or gravel. It is not necessary to feed powders

or condiments of any kind to health; poultry that is properly housed, cared for and fed. When they need anything in the way of a condiment, a mixture of equal parts of cayenne pep per, ground ginger, cloves and al the mash for each dozen fowls twice a week is sufficient.-Commercial Poul-

Treating Petatoes.

Some farmers have the idea firmly fixed in their minds that stable manure ought not to be used in growing pota toes, the claim being that it causes the scab which is so destructive. This is not correct, for if thhe fungus is in the matter what sort of fertilizer is used in growing the crop. The only way at all certain of avoiding scab in the potato crop is to treat the seed tubers used, and this should always be done regardless of where the seed come You may contemplate using seed that you feel certain is free from the germ of the scab, but it will be

safer to treat the seed. to each one-half pint of it add fifteen gallons of water. Then soak the seed tubers in the mixture for two or ever three hours. Do this before planting and you will be reasonably sure of having the crop free from scab.

Alfalfa in Orchards A number of correspondents who are interested in alfalfa have asked if it would not be a valuable crop for th orchard. The experience of the writer has been limited in this direction, but so far as it goes, it is in accord with that of others who have tried it and is decidedly against the use of alfalfs in the orchard. Two things about alfalfa should be remembered. First, it roots deeply and hence its roots would sikely to rob the soil of fertility

needed by the trees. Second, as the roots would not suore any food for the tree until plowed under, the deep plowing would of necessity injure the tree roots. Try alfalfa by all means, but try it in the open field, preparing the seed bed early and roughly and sowing eight quarts of seed an acre. Sometimes a nurse crop is grown with it-usually timothyand when this is done the seeding of timothy should be light, not more than one and one-half or two quarts to the acre. The growth may be light the first year, but it will improve.—Indian-

How to Get Better Fruit. At the present time much talk pre vails among horticulturists in regard to improvement by selection, says American Cultivator. It is not improbable that in the near future they will be offering pedigree scions for sale. While selection is all right and important, enap judgements are to be

A few years ago a nieghbor of mine found on a farm on the border of a medow a tree bearing extra fine Porter apples. The next spring he took scions from that tree and asked me to graft them upon a Porter tree standng on his own grounds. I expressed to him a doubt as to their being any better when grown on his tree than that tree was growing. But he claimed was dead sure of it, in fact. I grafted his tree, and while doing it I cut scions from the tree and grafted them into a branch in the top of the tree, and when I had finished the job I told him what I had done, and told him to bear, he could tell me which grafts came from that tree, I would pay him back the money that he had paid me grafts fruited, and he was unable to distinguish one from another by any difference in size or quality of fruit. This case of selection did not meet ex-

The Farmer Boy and Girl. In these two centres the hope of the farm, of agriculture, of civilization; for civilization, the crystalization of morality and virtue into higher man-hood and womanhood, must be a prod-uct of the farm. That rural society, therefore, which does not take the boy and girl into account, is but cultivat-ing the shallow surface of the present, and must not expect a crop of can there be a farmer in all t land that can look with indifferen upon the growing boys and girls of the farm! What a destiny is theirs!

And can there a boy and girl on the farm who is unable to see the great possibilities that lie just aheadd in their pathway? Grandfather's lot may have been a hard one, but he hewed down a forest and wrote an honored name on many a broad acre rescued from the wilderness. Father's lot-may have had much of drudgery, and his back may be bent beneath a load of disadvantages.

the smiling flowers, the soul which has A SERMON FOR SUNDAY been refreshed and filled with the un-folding glories of nature, as seen on the farm, caunot long for the hersh sounds, the 'cruc' sights and the

Growing Asparagus. A grower of asparagus writes: First of all, I have to say that if I had a plece of warm, sandy, well-drained oam available for the purpose, I would think the best time to start an as paragus patch is now, at once, without more delay than necessary to secure a lot of good plants. Usually I would prefer to grow my own plants, and grow them in good, rich loam, and roperly pushed and thinned, in order o get good, large, one-year-old plants, which I think are far better than the average run of two-year-old plants

By looking around one may be able o get good plants in the fall, and I ould not wait until spring, although that is also a good time to set plants. The early buyer catches the big plants isually, which is one reason more why it is better to start the patch in the

I make the greand very rich: in fact. it cannot be made too rich. I give each plant plenty of room, not than a dozen square feet. I plant them deep, so that a shallow running plow will not injure the crown.

To renew an old plantation, plow it over shallow applying manure or any good commercial vegetable or potato nanure containing a good percentage of potash. Any of our standard varie ties may be used.

Palmetto seems more liable than others to resist the rust attacks. Columbian Mammoth White is good.

If you wish to raise your own plants next year, sow the seed thinly in drills, the drills being a foot or fourteen inches apart, by hand or with the garden drill. Do this early in the spring, while the ground is quite moist. The seeds are large and hard and require good deal of moisture to germinate. In a dry time the seed may be

oaked for a few hours in hot water. It will then sprout much more promptly. Clipping a corner of the hard shell off each seed will serve to hasten the process of germination.-N. Y. Farmer.

Keep Good Cows. It is just as essential to keep good ows as any other animal. No man can afford to keep poor cows, and especially the poor man. If a rich man it is not quite so bad, but a poor man must know better, or he cannot expect much profit. In order to make headway the poor men must keep animals and use feed that will make the largest profit. You cannot afford to keep a single con that does not make

cost of delivering to market. This test, even if conducted for a short time, will show you facts and not what you guess about it. Some people refuse to spend money for the best feed for their cows. This is poor economy because it is simply an investment which will bring good returns. In selecting choice dairy cows, if the richest milk is wan ad, keep the Jerseys; if both butter and milk are wanted keep the Ayrshire, but if large quantity of milk is wanted for the manufacture of cheese, then the Holsteins must have first place. But, however in either case always select the best Suppose you pay \$30 for a poor cow and come out even at the end of the year. Suppose you pay \$60 for a first she can show you a profit of \$30. If you keep cows for profit just figure this over carefully. It requires just as good business qualities to be a successful dairyman as it does to be succeasful in any other business. If you don't think so you had better quit the

An excellent wash for swelled head quinine dissolved in water.

Irregular feeding is apt to cause a ierangement of the digestive organs. The poultryman who is continually changing breeds never succeeds in the

Do not adopt every bill of fare you hear of. If yours is producing good If you feed green cut bone, see that

mals that have died of disease. The Brown Leghorns lay the small-

est egg and the Light Brahma the largest of the popular breeds of to-day. Begin in a small way, grow gradually, stick to it—that is the foundation upon which successful poultry plants It costs no more to feed and care for a pure bred flock than it does for a mongrel lot, and the profits are greater

with the former. Rats are the destructive agents as ociated with most poultry houses Never build floors in your poultry uses under which rats can make

N INTERESTING DISCOURSE BY THE - REV. L. H. CASWELL.

Subject: "A Little Inquiry Into Tribula-lation" — A Pathetic Figure is the Shilly-shally Youth Cuddled in Luxury and Shrinking From Life's Combat

BRGORLYN, N. Y.—For his Sunday sermon, in the Tabernacle M. E. Church, Graenpoint, the pastor, the Rev. Lincoln Hollister Caswell, took as his subject "A Little Inquiry Into Tribulation." The text was from Romans v: 3: "But we gory in tribulations." Mr. Caswell said: giory in tribulations." Mr. Caswell said:
Unto each the ever recurring questions
ome. Whence the mission of adversity?
Why the existence of trouble? Do pain
and pleasure proceed from kindred laws?
How is it that while our earth in its orbit
keeps symphony with the host of heaven,
it yet bears the undertone of anguish in

Snall we answer by impeaching Infinite justice, by declaring the tryranny of pain, by asserting the bondage of suffering? Not so: But rather ioc..re for the mission of trouble and learn the utility of adversity. It is clear to the student of ethics that there is an unknown quantity in the of trouble and learn the utility of adversity. It is clear to the student of ethics that there is an unknown quastity in the formula of suffering. In this question x equals life—life of service or of idleness; of force or of weakness; or grand or of mean proportions. Adversity either makes or ruins a man, his individual character alone determining whether he shall be crushed or exalted. Opposing forces stimulate to heroic action. A man may choose to dwell in luxury, but he must do so at the expense of the stronger forces of character. It is hard to endure pain, it is far harder to resist ease, but by resisting and by enduring are wrought out those princely qualities which are attributes of the ideal man. And so we are placed amid forces, rude and contrary, that we may gain the glory of breaking and bridling them. If nature and environment should befriend and never oppose, gratify and never grieve, satisfy and never smite, life would become immeasurably less noble. It is not uncommon to think that sufof suffering, but there can never be a ministry of evil. Is hatred the cause of love; revenge of forgiveness; selfishness of generosity; vice of virtue? Humility is not the daughter of pride, nor is error the propagator of truth. It is not true for a man to hold, that because he has sinned he is capable of reaching a higher holiness. Give not evil the credit of befriending humanity. Sin alienates, debases, ruins. Behold how suffering rises above evil! Evil is infamous; suffering may be glorious. Evil merits antipathy; suffering often deserves praise. Evil swears fealty to the infernal; suffering never, but repeatedly

Evil merits antipathy; suffering often deserves praise. Evil swears fealty to the
infernal; suffering never, but repeatedly
vows allegiance to the Infinite. To punish
evil is suffering's smallest province. It
exists for a higher purpose than retribution—for a stimulating, educating, atoming
purpose so that "afflictions are but the
shadows of God's wings."

Upon material things a literature is
written. Read it! It tells of strife, struggle, contention. The law of dissolution cooperates with the law of growth. The
rock dies that the vegetable may live; the
plant withers that the animal may grow;
the body decays that the spirit may expand eternally. Counter forces make the pand eternelly. Counter forces make the life of the universe. The moter came because of resistance; the shimmering conpecause of resistance; the animmering con-stellations that glow upon the brow of night are but fire balls from the furnace of the sun; light itself, respleadent and vi-talizing, comes from combustion, antag-onism and chemical conflict. Adversity inters into the very nature of things.

What mean the expressions, "natural selection," "struggle for existence," "sur-vival of the fistest?" They indicate that all life is an extended conflict, where each order preys upon the next below and grap-ples with the next shove for mastery.

The life of nations is no exception to ples with the next above for mastery.

The life of nations is no exception to
this law. Civilization may boast of her
attainments, but revolt and revolution are
the arbiters for her progress. She may exult in the "evolution of government," but
turmoil, violence, bloodshed cry out, "We
are factors in thy prosperity."

turmoil, violence, bloodshed cry out, "We are factors in thy prosperity."

What people were more oppressed than the ancient Hebrews? Rameses enslaved them in Egypt, hardship harassed them in the wilderness; the Land of Promise pledged but little more than shock on ahock of battle. That was the nation—buffeted, defeated, tried—that became the safe depository of truth, and gave to the world as its consummate flower Diety Incarnate.

What has been the discipline by which What has been the discipline by which our own nation has attained its present strength? It had indeed a wonderful parentage. The brave little Netherlander whom the Council of Blood, the Inquisition and the Holy See could not down; the glorious Huguenot fresh from hearing the blood cries of St. Bartholomew; the sturdy, paslm-singing Puritan who wrung Magna Charta from John who served the country of the property sturdy, paalm-singing Puritan who wrung Magna Charta from John who served Hampden to resist the king, who animated Cromwell and his Ironaides at Marston Moor and Naseby, who taught Vane how to die, who struggled amid overwhelming forces for religious liberty; these, whom the American is proud to own as worthy ancestors, are all sons of hardship and endurance, conquerors in the nobler fields of battle. Thus out of milleniums of struggle with the myriad-headed hydra of persecution arises the America of to-day. The nation's birth was marked by pain. Speak, ye noble slain of Bunker Hill! Ye patriots clashing arms with an alien foe! Shouly ye pallid lips of the blood strived anot of Valley Forge! And tell us that freedom is gained by devotion to death; that liberty ride triumphant over a road macadamized by the bones of its devotees; tell us that the advancing stages of national life are heralded by conflict and hastened by the presence of a martyr host!

priests of science, refiners of society, re-formers of faith.

formers of faith.

What is it that places this premium on grief? Why are the great doers also the great suffers? What is it that vitalisas pain, glorifies sorrow, and makes dead men's bones walk the earth clothed with tremendous influence? Let Moses answere tremendous influence? Let Moses answer from the mount of immeasurable gloss. "I rejected a regal palace and the treasures of Egypt, chossing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God that I might be a statesman for the oppressed, liberate a nation of slaves, endure to be vexed, tried and discouraged through forty weary years that at last I might stand illumined in the transfiguration of the Son of God." Let David answer with his wall of anguish: "O. my son Absalom! my son, my son Absalom: would could have died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!" It was in the depth of his mourring that he sung those poems which have comforted the aching heart for ages. Let Joseph and Daniel answer as from a prison and a den tney ascend the steps to royalty and fame. Let Savonarolo answer loving the red hot iron of marryrdom more than the red hat of a cardinal. Let Bruno answer, let Gallileo, let Newton, Let Luther answer, and Wickliff and John Huss, and Wesley, and Francis Ashury. It is a noble company. But there are some whom reverses have ruined, whom afflictions have spoiled, who refuse to be sublimated by suffering or ennobled by calamity. I see yonder a Napoleon, of surpassing genius, the world's autocrat. He builds a throne of steel only to see itrust and crumble e'er he dies. From his pinnacle of power he falls and lies protrate in defeat. His failure is ignominious because his spirit is junoble. Upon the because his spirit is ignoble. Upon the barren rock of St. Helena he wanders, a lion at bay, a soul cowed, a phoenix life in hopeless despair. By his side and towering above him rises Washington. He comes to the government when there is nothing to govern. He becames commander of the American Army when it is small and defeated. Without navy, without money, without munitions, with traitors and Tories abundant, with generals conand derested. Without have without money, without munitions, with traitors and Tories abundant, with generals conniving for position and grossly slandering his character, he meets and defeats the most thoroughly equipped and appointed government of the world; and

ing in his chariot of regal magnificence; dying by inches a loathsome death, a victim of the very luxury and extravagance in which he delights. Rolling over the Appian way on toward the city, he passes the Roman guard leading a prisoner to execution. Unto the prisoner the Emperor gives but a contemptuous glance. That is all—and yet not all. That captive commands the gaze of mankind. The name of Nero is a synonym for vice and shain, clessness, while the name of Paul wields a mightier influence with each succeeding century. Paul still lives! Die he cannot lit is true that for this purpose Nero led ing in his chariot of regal magnificence; century. Paul still lives! Die he cannot! It is true that for this nurpose Nero led him forth from prison. But s.e! Does he tremble? Does he thrink from his last-enemy? Does this spiritual hero who fought with beasts, strugeled with wives, was searred by the lash, incarcerated, snitten, stoned and left for dead, does he who, when each stroke of the "tribulum" fell upon him, shouted, "None of these things move," does he now flinch?

The heads is there. The heads is ready.

The block is there. The blade is ready.
The headsman speaks, "Prepare!" Where is the tremor in the aged form? With radiant brow and stately mien immortal he stands. With eve flashing in hope, with diant brow and stately mice immortal he stands. With eve flashing in hope, with voice strong and confident, hear him declare, "I am now ready to be offered; the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith." Nero's axe cleaves his head and Paul, the hero, is crowned with the abundant life.

How has the ministry of the Christ been

keep a single cost that does not make you a profit. Be practical and ness-like and apply the only sure to.

Keep a book in which to enter on one side all milk, cream and butter, whether consumed by the family or sold. They are worth in your family exactly what you would have to pay for them. If you had no cows. On the other side enter the feed consumed, whether purchased or raised on your whether purchased or raised on your whether purchased or raised on your the whole of the side side of the side of the

woe from brisacd and slaggering attacts to lowly and raises toil to nobility, declaring that pain shall no longer be accursed, but that life shall be triumphant in adversity. Is this our life? Not vacillating, meagre, indolent, but sturdy, unflinching, enduring, overcoming, decisive—a triumphant life? This only is life with deathless possibilities, and he only who lives for the future catches the secret of the present and its trials. Look we beyond diurnal revolutions gauging the sweep of the planet in its course around the sun. Trials and tests, slanders and betrayals, desertion and opposition are for to-day; character for eternity. If man in the future expects to rest upon his knowledge of truth he must find some trial to test it now. If character is to count forever, some sharp

There is no more pathetic figure in the world of to-day than the shilly-shally youth cuddling in the lap of wealth and shrinking from life's combat. We are not wooden dumming but more than the wooden dumming the wooden dum shrinking from life's combat. We wooden dummies, but must be granite, against whom the leaping and mountainous surges shall beat recoil in impotent fury. The need hour is strong manhood. Persever the characteristic that wins. Exp to glide through easy seas, with silken sails tense in the breeze of favor. You