A SUCCESSFUL LIAR.

Wilson was out of health and out of spirits, and a physician advised him to go away. When he asked where, the physician waved his hand, meaning anywhere. So Wilson went into the crchard region of the southwest country, riding an easy going horse that he might loll along the way and breathe he must return to the great wilderness the scent of the apple bloom.

Inquiry brought him to a restful place among the hills, a small, homelike tavern, an ancient house, moss covered on the north side. Here he sat down to rest-and it was restful-the soft air, the mysterious woods, and a great spring of white water that burst with passion from under a rock.

This was all charming enough, but to one of Wilson's sensitiveness the people were annoying. The fewness of strangers rendered the natives inquisitive, and immediately upon the arrival of a visitor they at once set about to discover his business and the source of his income. Had this been done with bluntness it would not have been so annoying to Wilson. He detested insinuation.

Shortly after his arrival he was sitting in the "best room," in the presence of several local men, who hemmed and hawed at him, and glanced at one another. Presently a tall, gaunt fellow, with beard streaked with sunlight and shadow, looked up and said:

"Don't reckon it's much use to ask if you are a stranger in these here parts?"

"Not much," replied Wilson.

"Mout have come from a putty good distance?"

"Yes."

"Well, about how fur?"

"See that hill off yonder?"

"Yes; it's plain enough." "Well, I came from further than

A silence fell, and the men smoked their tobacco and spat into the great freplace, and after a time another one, holding the importance of a reserve force, spoke up: "I take it that you

aint a farmer?' "Whatever you feel like taking help and she sighed softly. yourself," said Wilson, and the reserve force cleared his throat. But he knew

ready to retire. "Of course," he said, "It is no man to have some sort of business. Don't you think so?"

"Either that or he ought to be a

pretty skillful thief," said Wilson. "Yes; that's what we think. And you have some sort of business, eh?"

"Yes; a very flourishing business." "May I ask what it is?" "Certainly, I am-am traveling for a

factory that makes cork legs and arms." They smoked on, and glanced at one

another, and Wilson, looking round, caw a girl standing near the door. He had caught sight of her once before, as she swept like a vision from the dairy across the yard. She did not shrink as he looked at her now; her brown eyes met his, and he felt that his starying nerves were feasting as he gazed upon her.

"I reckon you have come here to take orders," said the reserve force. "Yes, that's my business."

The men filed out, leaving Wilson with the girl, who still stood near the door; and when they were gone she came forward timidly, but with a sweep, and stood at his elbow.

"My father lives over on the hill," she said, and then haited to gaze into his eyes. He owns this place, but lets mother and me run it, because he can't get about very well, and don't want to be in anybody's way. He lost a leg in the army, and I want you to have non ene made and brought up here."

She was so earnest that Wilson had act the heart to tell her that he was a Mar, that he had never seen a cork leg. so he replied: "Yes, I will go over and see him-with you."

They went over, and talked with the old fellow, and while they were there up stumped the owner of an orchard whose fruit brought a good income and said that he wanted a leg; and bethre long a man named Hicks ordered a right arm for himself and a left arm for his brother. A regiment from this community had led one of the most desperate charges upon Bulle **furing** the South African war, and had returned-those who returned at allin a crippled condition.

Wilson had now gone too far to rewest. The girl got into a cart with him, and drove him into another neighborhood, where he took orders for six legs and four arms; and then Gove down the valley and took more

And he found an interest in the work. Sometimes his conscience would reproach him, but the sweetness of the girl's face and the brightness of her eyes made him forget his perfidy; and so the time grew, like the mellowing of an apple, and at last he found that called a city. He bid her good-bye, at night, the moon in her eyes, and he kissed her, and, without a word, hastened away, with a sweet sadness in his heart.

The weeks passed, and he sat in an office-a miserable employment, obtained for him by influential friendsand his hands were at work; but his neind was in Devon, and cown in his heart he saw a girl with the moon in her eyes. But he could not return to the hills-he had deceived those simple people. Was there no way to put himself right?

He sprang out of his chair. Why couldn't he execute those orders? There must be a cork-leg factory somewhere in the city. He would investigate. He found a place—quite a large establishment-and told the manager what he had done. He had the orders

A liberal commission was allowed him, and a fitter was sent with him to try on the arms and legs. The girl's father stepped proudly down to the little inn, and a fellow who had just tried on an arm swore, in his delight, that he could throw stones.

And again Wilson and the girl stood in the moonlight, and her lips, murmuring sweetness, were turned upward. He thought of the weary hours in his office and the dullness of life without her. she inspired him with rest; she was the spirit of the wooded

"And will you be gone so long this time?" she innocently asked. And with all her innocence and frankness she sometimes touched him gently with embarrassment.

"Not if I knew I could sell any more of my goods about here," he replied;

"Uncle Matt has begun work at a sawmill in Newton Abbott," she said, the duties of his position, and was not and he murmured "yes" to relieve the growing embarrassment, wondering what Uncle Matt had to do with his -or, leastwise, we think so-for a early return. She sighed again and continued:

"Uncle Matt isn't a careful man, and a sawmill is a dangerous place to work, and after a while-a short while -knowing him as well as I do, he might need an arm. Don't you think you might come up and see.

That was enough, and the smiling moon veiled her face for a moment with a floating fleece.

. This all took place more than several years ago. Wilson is now one of the principal owners of the establishment, and he told me the other day that he was just about to leave home for a time, to establish a cork leg factory in South Africa.-O. R., in Illustrated Bits.



Easy Work.

hat will help you any. But why don't in 1900. ou learn a trade?

Begger-Say, boss, dis is de best rade I know of.

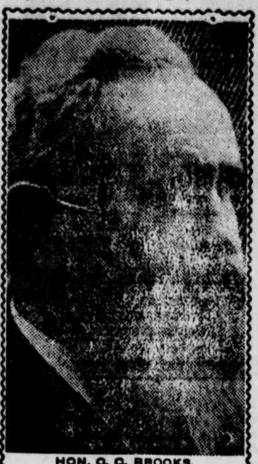
Senator Tillman probably earns fore money every year on the lecture latform than any other American who alks to the public for pay. From an uthoritative source the statement omes that the South Carolinian's net proceeds thus far this year from the acture tour are \$25,000. Senator Tillan is paid from \$250 to \$500 a lecture d he is constantly in demand.

It is easy to go to the top if you can et in the elevator.

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HON. C. C. BROOKS.

There are a host of petty ailments which are the direct result of the weather.

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Whether it be a cold or a cough, catarrh of the head or bowel complaint, whether the liver be affected or the kidneys, the cause is very liable to be the same.

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One Place Without Divorces.

Divorces are practically unknown in the reigning house of Russia. True, the Grand Dukes Paul and Cyril have married divorcees, the wife of Cyril being Princess Victoria Nelita of Great Britain, who was formerly the consort of the Grand Duke of Hesse; while Grand Duke Paul is wedded to the exwife of his former aide-de-camp, Gen. Baron Pistolkors. But I can not recall any case since the days of Peter the Great of a member of the house of Romanoff obtaining a release from the bonds of matrimony by means of divorce. There is a reason for this. The Russian church is terribly strict about granting divorces, being almost as bitterly opposed thereto as the Roman Catholic church.

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National Wealth.

In 1860 the total value of all property in the United States was ascertained to be approximately \$12,000,000,000 which included slaves.

By 1900, and after slave values had been wiped out, the total property value of the United States was \$88,517,-406,755, showing an increase of more than \$76,000,000,000 in forty years.

By 1904 the total property value of the United States had increased to \$107,004,211,917, which was more than Kind Old Man-Here is a quarter if \$18,000,000,000 in excess of what it was

So that in four years, from 1900 to 1904, the total value of property in the United States increased by one and a half times what it was, covering a perlod of eighty-four years since the foundation of this government from 1776 to 1860.

On the occasion of the last birthday anniversary of the King of Italy a letter-carrier was remembered with an increase of pay. The man, whose name is Domenico Silicia, has been in the service at Rogliano for the last sixty years, is 80 years old, blind, and still attends to his duties, with the assistance of a grandchild.

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"Are you guilty?" the lawyer asked his burglar client.

"Sure," replied the prisoner, "I cracked the crib all right, but I inflamed condition of the mucous thought from the size of your fee you might dig up a little of this unwritten law for me."-Philadelphia Ledger.

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