LOUP CITY, - - NEBRASKA

Children in Big Cities. The family living outside of the larger cities can thank its stars for one thing, and that is that its children are not made a reproach to it. In New York, says the Montreal Herald, there are plenty of apartment houses where they will not permit families with children to rent an apartment at any price; and there are others where children, while not excluded, are made very unwelcome. But in the wide country, children cannot be in the way. The farm house is joyfully made the bigger for their accommodation, and the long days of winter are the cheerier for their presence. Their mothers are not so wearled by rushing from "bridge parties," to theaters, and from receptions to balls, that their "nerves" cannot endure the prattle of the little folks; rather do they take the keenest pleasure in their merry company. The farm house would be very empty without them;

A World-Wide Conquest.

the city flat is crowded by their in-

trusion. Then, too, the child is always

less he imprisons it in a factory or a

ful labors of the farm.

Not only the English language, but our alphabet, seems to be destined to become the prevailing one of the world. In all likelihood the Japanese will soon legally establish our alphabet for the empire. The government has had in mind for some time the substitution of the Latin alphabet for the clumsy and uncertain Chinese characters which have been in use since time immemorial, but without waiting for government sanction, leading men in the empire have been pushing forward a movement for this substitution which is taking a deep hold upon the people. The Latin alphabet which we and most of the European nations use is in reality an Irish alphabet, says the National Tribune. It is based upon the writing of the Irish monks in the early centuries, and which was so clear and beautiful that it rapidly gained popularity over the crabbed and laborious characters used by the monks in other countries in the transcription of manuscripts. It fore, but stuck to my seat-I had will be greatly to the advantage of the world to adopt this Irish-Latin alphabet and make it universal, and at the same time giving every letter a certain and unchangeable value.

Worthy Russians in Want.

The future historian of the Russian revolution will find the advertising columns of the St. Petersburg or Mosditions. Thus the daughter of a noble- for me, it was there always. I knew man advertises that: "Robbers have thing. I am an honest girl; will not man is the most difficult, she is also some rich family adopt me or let me do household work or nursing?" Many "want" advertisements begin: "I come from the starving province." The appeals for immediate aid are incessant: "I have expended my last penny for fatuated fool that I was, I tore out all this advertisement," begins one announcement, which makes one wish of something to say to her, something that there were a St. Petersburg Char- that would start her to thinking well ity Organization society to respond. That many others of a similar character come from respectable women genuinely in need of immediate aid is vouched for by a German observer. The terrible crisis of the last year or two has evidently reduced many and it was my turn to shudder. I can't worthy men and women to absolute

In connection with the death of Archduke Otto, second nephew of the emperor Francis Joseph, it is interesting to take note of the curious chain of succession to the throne of Austria. When Archduke Franz Ferdinand, who was heir to the throne after the death of Prince Rudolph, contracted a morganatic marriage with the Countess Choteh, and so lost the right of transmitting the succession, Archduke Otto became heir-presumptive. It was soon evident, however, that if ever he came into the order of succession he would be forced to renounce it in favor of his son, Archduke Karl, now 19. Thus it comes about, says the London Globe. that while the present emperor was the nephew of the Emperor Ferdinand, he will in all probability be succeeded by Archduke Franz Ferdinand, his nephew, and he in turn by his nephew Franz.

A skeleton of a "lexolophodon" has been landed at New York. Persons who have not been permitted to see it yet feel confident that it must have an ordinary hippopotamus beaten several city blocks.

One young man who entered Prof. Wiley's poison squad three years ago is dead, but so are others who stayed

When a man looks specially foolish either he is just engaged or somebody has named a new baby after him.

Divorces are said to be most frequent in small towns and villages. Perhans it is because gossip is most

active in such places. Mirrors are to be marked up 20 per cent. in price. Here is a chance for women's clubs to recommend a boy-

No, Euphonia, poetic license will scarcely stretch a point so far as to sanction the rhyming of Pegasus with

cott of the article.



## By DAVID GRAHAM PHILLIPS, Author of "THE COSTER

CONTRIGHT 1905 by the BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANYS

CHAPTER XII-Continued. too, every time I lifted my eyes, by face. He ate and drank hugely—and through this noisy gluttony he manout, has paused at the pantry, with the her only, "Until to-morrow." sack of plunder beside him, to gorge himself.

a financial burden to the city man, un-I looked at Anita several times, each time with a carefully-framed remark store, but, to the farmer, it is generalready, each time I found her gaze on ly an asset as soon as it grows old me-and I could say nothing, could enough to take its share in the healthonly look away in a sort of panic. Her eyes were strangely variable. I have seen them of a gray, so pale that it was almost silver—like the steely light of the snow-line at the edge of the horizon; again, and they were so that evening, they shone with the deepest, softest blue, and made one think, as one looked at her, of a fresh violet frozen in a block of clear ice.

I sat behind her in the box at the theater. During the first and second intermissions several men dropped in to speak to her mother and her-fellows who didn't ever come down town, but I could tell they knew who I was by the way they ignored me. It exasperated me to a pitch of fury, that coldly insolent air of theirs-a jerky nod at me without so much as a glance, and no notice of me when they were leaving my box beyond a faint, supercilious smile as they passed with eyes straight ahead. I knew what it meant, what they were thinking-that the "Bucket-shop King," as the newspapers had dubbed me, was trying to use old Ellersly's necessities as a 'jimmy" and "break into society." When the curtain went down for the last intermission, two young men appeared; I did not get up as I had bereached that point at which courtesy has become cowardice.

They craned and strained at her round me and over me, presently gave up and retired, disguising their anger as contempt for the bad manners of a bounder. But that disturbed me not a ripple, the more as I was delighting in consoling discovery. Listening and watching as she talked with these young men whom she evidently knew well. I noted that she was distant and cow newspapers in 1906 a rich source only politely friendly in manner habitof information as to actual social con- ually, that while the ice might thicken enough about women to know that, if killed my parents and stolen every- the woman who can thaw only for one the most constant. "Once she thaws toward me!" I said to myself.

When the young men had gone, I leaned forward until my head was close to hers, to her hair-fine, soft, abundant, electric hair. Like the inthe pigeon-holes of my brain in search of me. She must have felt my breath upon her neck, for she moved away slightly, and it seemed to me a shiver visibly passed over that wonderful white skin of hers.

I drew back and involuntarily said, 'Beg pardon." I glanced at her mother hope to give an accurate impression of that stony, mercenary, mean face. There are looks that paint upon the human countenance the whole of a life, as a flash of lightning paints upon the blackness of the night miles on miles of landscape. The look of Mrs. Ellersly's-stern disapproval at her daughter, stern command that she be more civil, that she unbend-showed me the old woman's soul.

"If you wish it," I said, on impulse, to Miss Ellersly in a low voice, "I shall never try to see you again."

I could feel rather than see the blood suddenly beating in her skin. and there was in her voice a nervousness very like fright as she answered: 'I'm sure mamma and I shall be glad to see you whenever you come."

"You?" I persisted. "Yes." she said, after a brief hesitation.

"Glad?" I persisted. She smiled—the faintest change in he perfect curve of her lips. "You

are very persistent, aren't you?" "Very," I answered. "That is why I have always got whatever I wanted." "I admire it," said she.

"No, you don't," I replied. "You think it is vulgar, and you think I am vulgar because I have that qualitythat and some others."

She did not contradict me. "Well, I am vulgar-from your standpoint," I went on. "I have purposes and passions. And I pursue them. For instance, you."

"I?" she said tranquilly. "You," I repeated. "I made up my mind the first day I saw you that I'd

make you like me. And-you will." "That is very flattering," said she. 'And a little terrifying. For"-she faltered, then went bravely on-"I suppose there isn't anything you'd stop at in order to gain your end." "Nothing," said I, and I compelled

her to meet my gaze. She drew a long breath, and I thought there was a sob in it—like a

frightened child. "But I repeat," I went on, "that if you wish it, I shall never try to see you again. Do you wish it?" "I-don't-know," she

As she spoke the last word, she lifted her eyes to mine with a look of said I with a laugh. "You are perfect forced friendliness in them that I'd ly certain I am going to propose to rather not have seen there. ! wished you."

XIII. FRESH AIR IN A GREENHOUSE.

drawing-room into that same library. ury without love, it'd be as easy to

I to be blind to her defects, to the stains Ellersly sat opposite me, and I was and smutches with which her sur- cial reason one way or the other, I'm irritated, and thrown into confusion, roundings must have sullied her. And that friendly look seemed to me an the crushed, criminal expression of his unmistakable hypocrisy in obedience friends, those ladies and gentlemen. to her mother. However, it had the extremely bad manners it would have effect of bringing her nearer to my been regarded in me had I made as own earthly level, of putting me at begin with your thinking you are demuch noise as he, or lifted such quan- ease with her; and for the few remaintities at a time into my mouth. But ing minutes we talked freely, I indifferent whether my manners and conaged somehow to maintain that hang- versation were correct. As I helped dog air-like a thief who has gone her into their carriage, I pressed her

not that kind. When there's no speder and drivel, like the rest of your acted, I am business-like. Let's not through the house and, on his way arm slightly, and said in a voice for

deception. Let's begin right." She was listening; she was no longer longing to fly from the room; she was curious. I knew I had scored. "In any event," I continued, "you been brought up to it, like all these girls of your set. You'd be miserable At five the next day I rang the El- without luxury. If you had your choice lersly's hell, was taken through the between love without luxury and lux-

ents need money—they have decided

producing asset. And I am willing to

I was blocking her way out of the

room. She was standing, her breath

coming fast, her eyes blazing. "You

are-frightful!" she exclaimed in a

came lying and pretending and let you

lie and pretend, and let your parents

and Sam lie and pretend, you would

find me—almost tolerable. Well, I'm

willing to smirk and grimace and dod-

But when there's business to be trans-

ceiving me, and so hating me and de-

to sell you, their only large income-

buy. What do you say?"



"I CAUGHT HER IN MY ARMS AND KISSED HER-NOT ONCE, BUT MANY TIMES."

between the two rooms were almost how a starving poet would choose bedrawn. She presently entered from tween a loaf of bread and a volume of the hall. I admired the picture she made in the doorway-her big hat, her love life-your kind of life-better!" embroidered dress of white cloth, and that small, sweet, cold face of hers. And as I looked, I knew that nothing, true." nothing-no, not even her wish, her command—could stop me from trying gan. to make her my own. That resolve must have shown in my face-it or the passion that inspired it-for she paused and paled. "What is it?" I asked. "Are you

afraid of me?" She came forward proudly, a fine

"But if you knew, you might be afraid of me.

"I am," I confessed. "I am afraid of you because you inspire in me a feeling that is beyond my control. I've "I shall never love you." committed many follies in my life-I have moods in which it amuses me to defy fate. But those follies have al- prophecy.' ways been of my own willing. You"-I laughed-"you are a folly for me

But one that compels me." She smiled-not discouraginglyand seated herself on a tiny sofa in the corner, a curiously impregnable intrenchment, as I noted-for my impulse was to carry her by storm. I was astonished at my own audacity: I was wondering where my fear of her had gone, my awe of her superior fineness and breeding. "Mamma will be down in a few minutes," she said.

"I didn't come to see your mother." replied I. "I came to see you." She flushed, then froze-and I thought I had once more "got upon" her nerves with my rude directness.

How eagerly sensitive our nerves are to bad impressions of one we don't like and how coarsely insensible to bad impressions of one we do like! "I see I've offended again, as usual,"

said I. "You attach so much importance to petty little dancing-master tricks and caperings. You live-always have lived-in an artificial atmosphere. Real things act on you like fresh air on a hothouse flower. "You are-fresh air?" she inquired

with laughing sarcasm. "I am that," retorted I. "And good for you—as you'll find when you get used to me.

I heard voices in the next roomher mother's and some man's. We frequent at the minister's table—in waited until it was evident we were not to be disturbed. As I realized answered that fact and surmised its meaning, I looked triumphantly at her. "I see you are nerving yourself,"

The curtains over the double doorway | foretell which you'd do as to foretell poems. You may love love: but you

> she said. "It is low and vile, but it is "Your parents need money-" I be-

She lowered her head. "It is true,"

She stopped me with a gesture. "Don't blame them," she pleaded. am more guilty than they." I was proud of her as she made

that confession. "You have the making of a real woman in you," said I. "I should have wanted you even if you scorn in her eyes. "No," she said. hadn't. But what I now see makes what I thought a folly of mine look more like wisdom.'

"I must warn you," she said, and now she was looking directly at me, "Never is a long time," replied I. 'I'm old enough to be cynical about

"I shall never love you," she repeated. "For many reasons you wouldn't understand. For one you

will understand." "I understand the 'many reasons' you say are beyond me," said I. "For, dear young lady, under this coarse exterior I assure you there's hidden a rather sharp outlook on human na- bargain vastly different from that my ture—and—well, nerves that respond passion was picturing. to the faintest changes in you as do

She flamed scarlet and half-started mine can't be altogether without sensitiveness. What's the other reason PRESIDENT TELLS
—the reason? That you think you love "Your mother-in the next roomexpects it, too," I went on, laughing some one else?" even more disagreeably. "Your par-

"Thank you for saying it for me," she replied. You can't imagine how pleased I

was at having earned her gratitude, even in so little a matter. "I have thought of that," said I. "It is of no consequence."

"But you don't understand," she pleaded earnestly. "On the contrary, I understand per-

"Because I am frank, because I am fectly," I assured her. "And the reanonest? Because I want to put things son I am not disturbed is—you are Special Message the Reon a sound basis? I suppose, if I here, you are not with him." She lowered her head so that I had no view of her face.

> "You and he do not marry," I went on, "because you are both poor?" "No," she replied.

"Because he does not care for you?" "No-not that," she said.

"Because you thought he hadn't enough for two?" A long pause, then-very faintly:

"No-not that." "Then it must be because he hasn't

as much money as he'd like, and must | Progress Made Under American Adspising me and trying to keep up the find a girl who'll bring him-what he most wants." She was silent.

"That is, while he loves you dearly, he loves money more. And he's willing to see you go to another man, be would have married for money. You've the wife of another man, be-everything to another man." I laughed. "I'll take my chances against love of that sort."

"You don't understand." she murmured. "You don't realize-there are brought up as we are."

"Nonsense!" said I. "What do you lows: mean by 'we'? Nature has been bring- To the Senate and House of Represening us up for a thousand thousand years. A few years of silly false training doesn't undo her work. If you and selfish vanity."

ily. "The point is, I love him-and always shall. I warn you."

"And I take you at my own risk?" Her look answered "Yes!"

"Well,"-I took her hand-"then, we are engaged." Her whole body grew tense, and her

not so bad as all that. If you will be dredging San Juan harbor. as generous with me as I shall be I doubt whether our people as with you, neither of us will ever re- whole realize the beauty and fertility

slowly released her hand.

"I shall ask nothing of you that you are not ready freely to give," I said. Impulsively she stood and put out her hand, and the eyes she lifted to mine were shining and friendly. I caught her in my arms and kissed her -not once but many times. And it was not until the chill of her ice-like face had cooled me that I released her, drew back red and ashamed and stammering apologies. But her impulse of friendliness had been killed; she once more, as I saw only too plainfelt for me that sense of repulsion. felt for herself that sense of self-deg-

"I cannot marry you!" she mut-

"You can-and will-and must."

cried, infuriated by her look. There was a long silence. I could easily guess what was being fought out in her mind. At last she slowly drew herself up. "I can not refuse," she said, and her eyes sparkled with defiance that had hate in it. "You Ricans of the next generation, but have the power to compel me. Use also as far as means will permit to it, like the brute you refuse to let me train them so that the industrial, agriforget that you are." She looked so cultural and commercial opportunities young, so beautiful, so angry-and so of the island can be utilized to the

have to be taught what is good for both Americans and native Porto them. Call in your mother, and we'll Ricans, were devoted to their work.

Instead she went into the next seated at the tea-table in the corner farthest from the library where her is, in character. daughter and I had been negotiating. "Won't you give us tea, mother?"

said Anita, on her surface not a trace of the cyclone that must still have been raging in her. "Congratulate me, Mrs. Ellersly,"

said I. "Your daughter has consented to marry me." Instead of speaking, Mrs. Ellersly

began to cry-real tears. And for a moment I thought there was a real heart inside of her somewhere. But when she spoke, that delusion van-"You must forgive me, Mr. Black-

lock," she said in her hard, smooth, polite voice. "It is the shock of realizing I'm about to lose my daughter." And I knew that her tears were from joy and relief-Anita had "come up to the scratch;" the hideous menace of

"genteel poverty" had been averted. "Do give us tea, mamma," said Anita. Her cold, sarcastic tone cut my nerves and her mother's like a razor blade. I looked sharply at her, and wondered whether I was not making a

(To be Continued.)

## Whirlwind Regulating the

This Case.

unreliable quantity and Shakespeare ple's names. has celebrated the "woman's wit," which, when the door is shut, will "out at the casement," or, that exit being denied, selects the keyhole or flies out with the smoke. But even more difficult to foresector control is the action of the individuality inclosed in the small boy.

Young Mrs. Randall was often in of relief. despair about Percy, who would ask dreadful questions at inopportune For instance, when ments there were guests—and guests were ome lull of conversation Percy was liable to point a fat finger at the guest and solemnly inquire: "Mam-

na, what's that man's name?" However, Percy could by superhuan exertions, be made to understand ome things, and then he invariably to trust his own voice there's so

young mother. Just before two visit-The Mississippi is proverbially an understand that he must not ask peo- nificant figure.

"Besides, mother's going to tell you just what these gentlemen's names are now." she said. 't'hen you won't

Percy repeated "Mr. Small" and 'Mr. Lawson" until he thoroughly knew them. The mother put him in his high chair this time with a sense

He kept praiseworthy silence for some time, but finally-"Mamma," he burst out-and the fat finger irresistibly lifted itself-'which one of 'em is Mr. Small an'

which is Mr. Lawson?" "Don't take no stock in the man that's always whisperin'." advised Uncle Jerry Peebles. "If he's afraid to trust his own voice there's some

## OF CONDITIONS IN PORTO RICO

## sult of Chief Executive's Recent Visit.

MUCH GOOD WORK DONE

ministration is Pointed to with Pride-Last Year the Most Prosperous the Island Has Ever Known -Congress Urged to Confer Full American Citizenship Upon the Porto Ricans-Would Have All Insular Governments Placed in One

Washington.-President Roosevelt's message, describing conditions in Pormany things that mean nothing to you to Rico, and making recommendations and that mean—oh, so much to people for legislation he believes necessary, was read to the congress. It is as fol-

tatives: On November 21 I visited the island of Porto Rico, landing at Ponce, crosshe had cared for each other, you ing by the old Spanish road by Cayey wouldn' be here, apologizing for his to San Juan, and returning next morning over the new American road from "No matter about him," she cried Arecibo to Ponce; the scenery was impatiently, lifting her head haught- wonderfully beautiful, especially among the mountains of the interior, which constitute a veritable tropic Switzerland. I could not embark at San Juan because the harbor has not been dredged out and can not receive an American battleship. I do not think this fact creditable to us as a hand chilled as it lay in mine. "Don't nation, and I earnestly hope that im--please don't," I said gently. "I'm mediate provision will be made for

of Porto Rico, and the progress that There were tears on her cheeks as has been made under its admirable government. We have just cause for pride in the character of our representatives who have administered the tropic islands which came under our flag as a result of the war with Spain; and of no one of them is this more true than of Porto Rico. It would be impossible to wish a more faithful, a more efficient and a more disinterested public service than that now being rendered in the island of Porto

and one of the notable features in every town was the gathering of the school children. The work that has been done in Porto Rico for education has been noteworthy. The main emphasis, as is eminently wise and proper, has been put upon primary education; but in addition to this there is a normal school, and agricultural school. three industrial and three high schools. Every effort is being made to secure not only the benefits of elementary education to all the Porto best possible advantage. It was evi-"So I shall!" I answered. "Children dent at a glance that the teachers. took the greatest pride in it, and were endeavoring to train their pupils, not far more than mind in citizenship, that

I was very much struck by the excellent character both of the insular police and of the Porto Rican regiment. They are both of them bodies that reflect credit upon the American administration of the island. The insular police are under the local Porto Rican government. The Porto Rican regiment of troops must be appropriated for by the congress. I earnestly hope that this body will be kept permanent. There should certainly be troops in the island, and it is wise that these troops should be themselves native Porto Ricans. It would be from every standpoint a mistake not to perpetuate this regiment.

In traversing the island even the most cursory survey leaves the beholder struck with the evident rapid growth in the culture both of the sugar cane and tobacco. The fruit in- istered. After seeing the island perdustry is also growing. Last year was the most prosperous year that the island has ever kno vn before or since tration, it is but fair to those who dethe American occupation. The total of exports and imports of the island well-nigh impossible to have devised was \$45,000,000, as against \$18,000,000 in 1901. This is the largest in the would have accomplished better reisland's history. Prior to the Ameri- sults. THEODORE ROOSEVELT. can occupation the greatest trade for The White House, Dec. 11, 1906.

any one year was that of 1896, when it reached nearly \$23,000,000. Last year, therefore, there was double the trade that there was in the most prosperous year under the Spanish regime. There were 210,273 tons of sugar exported last year, of the value of \$14,-186,319; \$3,555,163 of tobacco, and 28,290,322 pounds of coffee of the value of \$3,481,102. Unfortunately, what used to be Porto Rico's prime cropcoffee has not shared this prosperity. It has never recovered from the disaster of the hurricane, and, moreover, the benefit of throwing open our market to it has not compensated for the loss inflicted by the closing of the markets to it abroad. I call your attention to the accompanying memo rial on this supject of the board of trade of San Juan, and I earnestly hope that some measure will be taken for the benefit of the excellent and high grade Porto Rican coffee.

There is a matter to which I wish to call your especial attention, and that is the desirability of conferring full American citizenship upon the people of Porto Rico. I most earnestly hope that this will be done. I can not see how any harm can possibly result from it, and it seems to me a matter of right and justice to the people of Porto Rico. They are loyal, they are glad to be under our flag, they are making rapid progress along the path of orderly liberty. Surely we should show our appreciation of them, our pride in what they have done, and our pleasure in extending recognition for what has thus been done, by granting them full American citizenship. Under the wise administration of the

present governor and council, marked

progress has been made in the difficult

matter of granting to the people of the

island the largest measure of self-gov-

ernment that can with safety be given

at the present time. It would have been a very serious mistake to have gone any faster than we have already gone in this direction. The Porto Ricans have complete and absolute autonomy in all their municipal governments, the only power over them possessed by the insular government being that of removing corrupt or incompetent municipal officials. This power has never been exercised save on the clearest proof of corruption or of incompetence-such as to jeopardize the interests of the people of the island; and under such circumstances it has been fearlessly used to the immense benefit of the people. It is not a power with which it would be safe, for the sake of the island itself, to dispense at present. The lower house is absolutely elective, while the upper house is appointive. This scheme is working well; no injustice of any kind results from it, and great benefit to the island, and it should certainly not be changed at this time. The machinery of the elections is administered entirely by the Porto Rican people themselves, the governor and council keeping only such supervision as is neces sary in order to insure an orderly election. Any protest as to electoral frauds Rico by those in control of the insular is settled in the courts. Here again it would not be safe to make any change I stopped at a dozen towns all told, in the present system. The elections accompanied by any disturbance; and no protest has been made against the management of the elections, although three contests are threatened where the majorities were very small and error was claimed; the contests, of course, to be settled in the courts. In short, the governor and council are cooperating with all of the most enlightened and most patriotic of the people of Porto Rico in educating the citizens of the island in the principles of orderly liberty. They are providing a government based upon each citizen's selfrespect, and the mutual respect of all citizens; that is, based upon a rigid observance of the principles of justice and honesty. It has not been easy to instill into the minds of people unaccustomed to the exercise of freedom the two basic principles of our American system: the principle that the majority must rule, and the principle that room. I followed, saw Mrs. Ellersly only in mind, but in what counts for the minority has rights which must not be disregarded or trampled upon. Yet real progress has been made in

> cessful self-government. I transmit herewith the report of the governor of Porto Rico, sent to the president through the secretary of

having these principles accepted as

elementary, as the foundations of suc

All the insular governments should be placed in one bureau, either in the department of war or the department of state. It is a mistake not so to arrange our handling of these islands at Washington as to be able to take advantage of the experience gained in one, when dealing with the problems that from time to time arise in an-

other. In conclusion let me express my admiration for the work done by the congress when it enacted the law under which the island is now being adminsonally, and after five years' experience in connection with its adminisvised this law to say that it would be any other which in the actual working

Spanish Custom in Decay.

Formerly the dowry of every peasant girl in Spain included a set of of Vienna, wears a heavy gold watch But the Mother Failed to Succeed in ing clergymen arrived for supper Mrs. linen sheets. On account of the in- chain and a massive watch, which is Randall had an interview with her creased cost of linen, this branch of son, and succeeded in making him trade has dwindled down to an insig-

> Behind on Rent. "They say poor Shifter is ten years ahead of his time.' "Well, it's not true. I'm his landlord, and I know he's just six months

behind."-Tit-Bits.

of sunshine and song.

Italy's King a Coin Collector. The king of Italy's hobby is the collection of coins. In his collection are more than 50,000 specimens. Strangely enough, he is not musical, much to the regret of his musical subjects, of whom there are so many in that land

Wooden Spoons in Brittany. The making of wooden spoons is a handicraft in Brittany, and one of considerable importance, for wooden spoons are employed almost universally there for table use.

Executioner Saved Watch. Joseph Lang, the public executioner

held securely in his pocket by a thiefproof hook. Both the chain and the hook withstood the attack of a pickpocket who endeavored to relieve the hangman of his treasure in a crowded street of the Austrian capital recently. The thief was captured, and the watch, on which the grewsome record of its owner's official activity is engraved, was saved.

Important Discovery in Silk. An article in the Strassburger Post nentions a discovery said to have been made by a chemist and engineer of St. Etienne, by which the color may be taken out of silk, and it may be recolored in any desired tint, without in any way injuring its texture. The article goes on to state that in case the inventor can do what he promises it will almost revolutionize the silk industry, and entirely do away with the danger of in-juring silks through coloring by means of too strong chemicals.