Caleb Bingham, was one; the National Preceptor (I think it was Everett. called) was another, and Porter's Rhetorical Reader came a little later. from in these books (and I have left In all these, as with Murray's book, many books of this class unnamed) the pieces were selected with an eye to declamation. Some of these were erd, who are not at all generally re-"On Linden When the Sun was Low," "The Burial of Sir John Moore," bell, Milton and other great names "Marco Bozzaris," "The Old Oaken are represented in them. Taking lit-Bucket," "Webster's Reply Hayne," with passages from other hundred years ago, the school books speeches of his, and many besides that I speak of fairly sampled it. of similar note.

for reading, the verses for a youthful speaker beginning-

You'd scarce expect one of my age To speak in public on the stage; If I should chance to fall below Demosthenes and Cicero, etc .-

are to be found. This apt bit of verse has been usually credited to Edward Everett, but it was written.



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I believe, by his brother, Alexander

While there were authors quoted like Mrs. Opie, Granger and Brainmembered at this date, Byron, Campto erature, then, as it was eighty and a

The latest book to which I have In more than one of the books used referred is Porter's Rhetorical Reader. But that appeared seventy-seven years ago. It was more than a reader. It taught rhetoric, gesture, vocal expression and all that concerns oratory. It was from these books, and others like them that I have named, that the great men of two or three generations ago got their first steps in culture. If they had been perfect books they could not remain so, for new authorship, new ideas and a different perspective in all fields of thought have necessarily dismissed ing, crowded with passengers, and gether, dissolving and regathering them. But they did more than promote the three R's-"reading, 'riting mon help by means of her Marconi and 'rithmetic;" they opened an imaginative and spiritual outlook into the world that made the common and district schools great nourishers of character and genius.

EXPLICIT

The following simple and explicit directions are posted up in a hotel on the Nordfjord:

> The fire escape! Direction for use:

The one end of the rope is to be fixed at the hook in the window sullen muttering of distant thunder. frame, the other is to turn out of log. If more persons are to be saved, you have to pull up the conhook and go on till nobody is left,-Punch.

ONE TO BE PROUD OF

woman for a cook.

One day when a box of especially beautiful flowers was left for the way for them to travel. Through mistress, the cook happened to be present, and she said, "Yo' husband send you all the pretty flowers you gits, Missy?"

"Certainly, my husband, Mammy,"

proudly answered the lady. "Glory!" exclaimed the cook, "he suttenly am holdin' out well."-Ladies' Home Journal.

THE FIRE ESCAPE

They were country people, pure and simple, but they had read the home papers and thought they were educated up to all the improvements of the day.

When they visited Washington, D. C., they went through the navy department and saw the models of some of the new battle ships.

Pointing to a companion ladder hanging over the side of one of the ships, she asked her better half what

it was. "Oh," he replied, "that's the fire escape."-Harper's Magazine.

THE PITY OF IT

"'Tis one of the saddest things about married life."

"What is?" Herald.

A Night in a Wireless Station

is told by a writer in Cassell's Sat- completed the evidence, so far as I urday Journal (London) as follows:

As my presence in the wireless station was strictly against all rules der lies," said Simms, picking up a and regulations as laid down by the for that might mean that my good "I don't pretend to be a scientist; friend, Simms, the operator, would I'm only an operator. This coherer get into serious trouble, and that I is the basis of 'wireless' in reality. should deplore. So I shall call the It contains a slender silver rod at station Pol-Bryann, which is as little like its name as possible.

A little cluster of huts forms the station where the mysterious power that, independent of cable or aerial He took hold of the key and comwire, has annihilated space, and proved of very real value to the the republic, smashed in and sinkenveloped in fog, was able to suminstallation, so that every soul too faint to be deciphered without aboard was saved, can call wireless this coherer," said Simms; "it mag-'a charming, scientific toy," as people did once call the most wonderful able, as you'll see presently. The invention of the age?

towering mast, and the halliards coil. I release it by using this soundwhich hoist aloft the receiving rods ing key, and it passes through the and transmitters were thrumming a merry song to the lilt of the fresh gale that blew as I made my way to Pol-Bryann. It was dark and cold, and the roar of breaking surges ran throughout the night like the

"Come in," said Simms, "you've the window. The plaited snotter, just hit the right time. We'll have which is fixed at the log of wood, is all the liners calling us up before to be put under your arms, where- midnight-there are five due in the upon you may safely let yourself next few hours." I entered and slide down. You may regulate the gazed about me in some wonderment, hurry by keeping the rope under the for I had never before been in a wireless station. I will describe this, which is like, and also unlike, most trary end of the rope, fix this at the of the others. Like, in that the short-distance Marconi is a simple matter; unlike, because it holds a long-distance installation, which enables it to send messages clean across the Atlantic when circumstances fa-A happily married woman, who vor. Think of it; close on three had enjoyed thirty-three years of thousand miles are those messages wedlock, and who was the grand- sent, starting from England and armother of four peautiful little chil- riving in America with some degree dren, had an amusing old colored of certainty, and yet there is absolutely nothing to guide the errant electric waves; there is no wire roadimpalpable space, driving resistlessly in and amongst the electrons of the luminous ether, the electric signais go, telling the news of a continent to another continent three thousand miles away!

Equipment of a Station

"Come outside, if you're warm," said Simms, "and I'll show you the plant. It's more than a bit interesting." I followed him obediently. Closer inspection solved the four masts into four slim towers, and against the flying scud of the storm was shadowed a mazy network of wires, reaching from mast to mast. "The more wire surface we have the better the chance of sending and receiving messages," explained my guide. "Here's the dynamo house like any other. We make our own electricity, of course. That's all that's to be seen outside. Now, we'll get back again if you don't mind, for there might be signals."

Once more in the receiving room and he began to explain the meaning of the various instruments which lay about in orderly array on tables. There was a large telegraph key, such as may be seen in any postoffice, but "The fact that the wife can't think very much larger, and an electric of anything new for dinner, and the switch. Two or three telephone re-husband, while dissatisfied, can't husband, while dissatisfied, can't suggest anything." — Washington suggest anything." — Washington coil, capable of emitting a magnifi-

An interesting description of a | cent spark, and a box containing a night in a wireless telegraph station little motor, worked by clock-work, could see.

"It's in the coherer that the wonsmall glass tube in which was a company, I shall not give its name, pinch of some metallic substance. each end-see them? In between the two points of these rods is a portion of silver and nickle filings with a very little mercury. Now watch!" menced to sound. A vast flash ran across from pole to pole of the inworld at large, is harnessed. For duction coil, a blinding flash; and who, after reading the story of how the pinch of glittering dust in the coherer began to gather itself towith precision.

"The electric messages would be nifies them and makes them readelectric current is generated in the At each of four corners rises a dynamo house, and is stored in the

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