SUBSCRIPTION BATES. One Year, cash in advance, .. 

Entered at the North Platte (Nebraska) postoffice as second-class matter.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1897.

Ir is stated that nearly all the great steel mills of the country have enough orders on hand and in sight to keep them at work for a year, thereby giving employment to thousands of laboring men.

ment of state funds to the amount of \$527,762.93. Bartley promptly never paid them the promised refurnished bond and his case was continued.

FORTY thousand old veterans of the Union army answered their final roll call in 1896. The fellows who have been growling over "the enormous pension list" will be gratified, but there are millions who will read the statement with heavy hearts.

THE action of General Thayer in testing the constitutionality of the recanvass act has created much indignation among the fusionists of the state. The recanvassing of the votes will cost the state considerable money, and if the law is invalid it should be so asertained before the work is performed.

A FEW days ago a thief entered the apartments of the Spanish vice consul at New York and stole \$3,000 in cash and \$17,000 worth of jewelry and a number of valuable papers. The perpetrator of the deed is supposed to have been a state secrets were the real purpose clear field. They come out of it playing in darkness and untenanted when I enof the robbery. Sly boys, those merrily; they disappear into it playing tered, but I knew that he would not

WALT MASON says: Tim Sedgwick intimates that Benton Maret is the real governor of Nebraska and that Silas Holcomb is a dummy in other words. Silas is the case of a Waterbury watch, and Benton is the works; Silas is the handsome meerschaum pipe that pleases the eve, while Benton is the elegant Turkish tobacco that charms the gullet. In which case Silas ought to publish a card.

SHELDON'S bill re-apportioning the state for legislative purposes, was indefinitely postponed in the house Friday, thereby killing it. The present apportionment is an injustice to the people of the west part of the state, and especially this district, which casts 6,000 votes and has but one representative, but the constitution provides that re-apportionments shall be made at stated periods and at no other time. Had a census of the state been made in 1895, the present legislature could have legally made a re-appor-

THE chief items in which there has been an increase of importance during the past year, aside from manufactures, were the imports of dutiable food products and live animals, and of free articles of voluntary consumption, commonly known as "luxuries" were imported under the McKinley act in 1892. The farmers will be particularly interested to note that, under the Mc-Kinley act, the importation of food and live animals-products which come in direct competition with the products of the American farmeraggregated only \$39,000,000. 1895, after one year of trial of the existing tariff law, the importation of this class of goods aggregated \$231,000,000 and in 1896 this was increased to \$233,000,000, notwithstanding the depressed times which reduced the volume of imports upon most lines of goods.

In closing an editorial, a writer in Saturday's Journal truthfully a royal gamekeeper and the dancer a turn of her photograph. says: "The republican party in royal gillie, I rest content with my "You are lucky," I answered slowly. Nebraska undoubtedly owes its Scots who march out of the fog and back signal defeat last fall to the great mistakes of its conventions, brought about by the vicious methods of trading votes for nominations. Un- quite the perfection of the dancing art | and selected a pipe. Then he stretched known men who make politics their as the Scotch know it. If that does not himself in an easy chair. business have sought office for what they could make out of it and by tions, disappear somewhere in that scheming and dickering with each dancer's kilt, though that dancer's kilt other, have secured their election to grows no larger. How he carries them | that he could tell me, but upon this I offices of honor and trust to which they never would have been nomi- few collections the brawniest of hairy that she did come near loving me-was nated if they had come before the legged highlanders could not dance unconvention on their individual merits: The party has been humiliated into the dust by the malfeasance of those who have been thrust upon it pipe. Often not a penny is left in the by these indefensible and dishonorable methods."

passed a strong Cuban resolution of sympathy, with but one dissentaccorded American citizens, it pro- thing as a London fog to have fairies, ceeds: "We regard such treatment the piper and the dancer are they. barbarous in the extreme and inim-

ical to the spirit that should be shown by one civilized nation to another and that longer silence or inaction on behalf of the United States would be a dishonor to the diginity and loyalty of the Nation. of June; but, though the period bade That we resent and disapprove of the present attitude and policy of the present administration in its unpatriotic treatment of these outrages, daily committed by Spain against our national honor; and That we commend the action of Consul General Lee in resigning his Consulship rather than obey the instructions of the State Department in its unpatriotic and un-American policy in Cuba."

SUNDRY pops who voted for farm-As was expected for several days, er Heitfeld in the Idaho legislature ex-treasurer Bartley was arrested and elevated bim from his barn to Saturday charged with embezzle- the senate, are making a great hue and cry because, as they allege, he ward for their patriotic action, which was \$250 per head. After Heitfeld was elected, according to these statesmen, he arbitarily cut down the price of votes \$150. It is said that they propose to make so much noise about the fraud that he has perpetrated on that the farmer will be refused his seat when he moseys down to Wahington next week. It is a distressing situation.-Journal.

#### FAIRIES OF THE FOG.

SCOTCH PIPERS AND DANCERS IN TH STREETS OF LONDON.

They Appear Only on Dreary Days, When They Have a Monopoly of Sidewalk Entertaining, and Usually Manage to Bag All the Pennles Within Reach.

Out of the thick fog that hangs over the square comes the Scottish piper, and with him the Scottish dancer, both clad In full Scottish regalia. Not since our last foggy day had I seen them. So far had been kept by Dick's note and by the as I know they never appear in clear emotions resulting from its perusal. which curse London, leaving to them a London to Dick's rooms. The place was

to any save the ears of the faithful, it "Meanwhile, there's baccy and a new has an indescribable charm in a London fog or in a Scotch mist. It rouses you out of the dull, sticky phlegm that the lit the lamp, found Stevenson and presoot laden fog imposes on you. It brings pared to spend an hour pleasantly. The you to the window of your apartment to | time passed most happily. At last I laid gering figures appear from behind the walked across the room to take a spill yellow curtains like living pictures at a from the mantelshelf and in a moment

the only thing about him that is not girl I hoped to marry. bright and fresh. He lays them down and blowing, as if he were piper to the a portrait of Dick's fiancee. whole Scottish people. So forcefully does he march that we fear he is going to pass us by for the wealthy household-

ers in the next street. cle, still playing and now marching with finicky steps, which show off his great white spats strikingly in the dim light. the windows, bows and smiles and the lie to all the overwhelming evidence craves our wealth. If we are conscious of a preconcerted theatrical movement on the part of our canny, kilted friends it only re-enforces our admiration, and jingle, jingle, jingle, go our pennies-Americans' Frenchmen's, Englishmen's landladies', servants' pennies! A harvest of pennies, reaped by canny fingers and put in an extensive granary somewhere in the most picturesque of all national garbs. Still the fingers go up to the feathered cap for a few more pen nies; still the piper plays for a few more pennies-which are forthcoming. It is Dick entered. kept up until the people in the windows

payment until goods are delivered. Then the player takes up his position on the sidewalk opposite the side of the street which has contributed most liberally, and the dancer gives us-well, kilt would be guilty of that any more | deed- But we'll wait until you have than a Scot in a kilt would mention | met her. Only I promise you you may Bobby Burns at the banquet of a Scot-

But nowhere else is the highland fling and the bagpipe quite so attractive as on | like." a London pavement when the fog is thick and one must work by lamplight at midday. The gayly clad piper who summons the greatest of Scottish bards and his guests to dinner, and after they are seated marches solemnly around the table splitting the ears of these same guests, has not one-half the poetry of the piper of the fog. I have heard tell how the finest of Scottish dancers dance around fires in the open to amuse the queen when she is at Balmoral. She is welcome to them. Though the piper be into it after they have emptied my pockets of pennies.

Another collection is taken before we may enjoy the sword dance, which is get the last of your pennies, the farewell collection will. All pennies, all collec--an English penny is as large as a sil- | well nigh betrayed myself. Had she adver dollar-is a question, for after a der the weight of his wealth. But I have seen the dancer now and then take a handful of something out of his kilt and put it in a pouch under the piper's block. After the messenger boy, who, being in a hurry, has reclined on a stoop for a little rest and recreation, has parted with his last ha'pence the dancer On Friday last the State Senate picks up his rusty swords, the piper larly effective in the cure of consitpastrikes up a tune and they march away into the fog. In one foggy day they and liver troubles they have been proved must earn enough to keep them in Scotch invaluable. They are guaranteed to be must earn enough to keep them in Scotch ing vote. After reciting the situa- "whusky" until another foggy day perfectly free from every deletertious tion in Havana, and the treatment comes. If it is possible for such a wicked

# THE PHOTOGRAPH.

My own poor holidays were of the scantiest at the time of this narration. I had enjoyed my freedom for ten days fair to live forever in my memory, I seemed to have been already a twelvementh back at work upon the evening when I found Dick's letter awaiting me at my lodgings:

MY DEAR MORTIMER-I am in town again at last. Arrived last night. Come round and smoke a pipe-tonight if possible. I've a hundred things to tell you. Meanwhile, if you will believe it, I'm engaged. Yours, Dick.

The news he told me was the pleas antest possible, for I also, to tell the truth, had learned in my ten days' freedom how unenviable are the liberties of the mere bachelor. I remained free for the present, but I nevertheless hoped to follow his example before the year was

One can do a good deal in ten daysindeed I had fallen hopelessly in love in less than that number of hours. But I felt it rather too much to ask that Maud should have recognized and learned to reciprocate my feelings in so short a time, and so I had not spoken. All the same, I knew that it would be a crushing disappointment to me if she had not accomplished it. Her home was at Brighton, she once told me, and she well knew my friends, the Meynells.

For Maud-I could find no words to express her. I put my hand into the breast pocket of my coat and drew out a photograph. It was not a very good likeness; the hair was not dressed in the fashion which had become familiar to me, and that fashion, of a surety, was the most charming that ever occurred to the mind of ingenious woman. But still the picture had enough of her to be for me the most beautiful thing in the world, save only her sweet self. I had stolen it. She was stopping with the Luttrells, with whom I spent my holiday at Sandybar, and Madge Luttrell was a great friend of mine. She had detected or foreseen my devotion to Mand, I think, even before it revealed itself to me. At any rate, I knew she would be discreet, and, trusting to her clemency, I had stolen the precious photograph out of her album upon the morning when I left Sandybar.

I had soon finished the meal which stood ready for me and from which I weather. Their friend and ally, the fog, Then I found my hat and stick and my drives away the thunderous piano organs | very largest pipe and set out across merrily, but not until they have tarried fail me and struck a match to discover long enough to charm away our pennies. If he had left a note to tell me when he Unbearable as the bagpipe music is would return. "Back at 8," it read

It was now upon the stroke of 7, so ! wait impatiently until the gay, swag- aside the book and filled my pipe. found myself gazing at the photograph The dancer carries two rusty swords, of Maud Cameron-the girl I loved, the

It was in a frame of elaborately beater on the pavement. Meanwhile the piper | silver, already somewhat tarnished by marches on straight ahead, swaggering | tobacco smoke, and beyond a doubt was

I turned away from the mantel-her face looked forth upon me like a stranger's out of that frame-and took my copy of her photograph from my pocket. Then suddenly he performs a half cir- I laid it upon the table in the full light of the lamp. It had not all her beauty; her loveliness was half of everchanging expression, and so must needs escape At that instant the dancer looks up at the camera. But still the picture gave which had crushed my faith in her. For a moment I was content. He might account himself master of her love; might, if it pleased him, believe that no man disputed with him the kingdom of her heart. For a moment, despite all evidence, I believed that she was still true to the unspoken fact between us, that she could not betray me.

There was a sudden sound of footsteps on the stairs, a hand upon the door, and even as I thrust back her photograph into my pocket the door opened and

"Hope you've not had long to wait," set their faces hard against any further | he said. "I had to be out for awhile." "Not long," I answered. "And now, I suppose, I must congratulate you?"

Dick laughed. "Do you only suppose? I am the luckiest beggar in the world. But, never mind, you will see her some what do you suppose he gives? Not a | day, and then you will speak differently. highland fling, of course. No Scot in a You will envy me, madly, for insafely venture your congratulations. Here is her photograph, by the bye, a wretchedly bad one, but still not all un-

He moved to the mantel and handed me her picture, inclosed in that abominable frame of his. I took it from him, and for a minute and more gazed hard upon her face.

"It is all true," I kept whispering to myself. "She has betrayed me." Dick watched me in silence, evidently convinced of my admiration. In reality I was wondering whether it would

be better to tell him that we had met. Presently he broke silence. "Well." he said, holding out his hand for the re-

"She is very beautiful." "Aye," he said contentedly, "but you don't know how beautiful! That photograph is a libel." He put it back upon the mantelshelf

"You two must know one anotherindeed she is already eager for your ac-

quaintance." I was steeled, I thought, against all mitted that her fancy for me-I knew dead, I could have borne my burden uncomplainingly and might have forgot-

ten. But that she should deny that it

Free Pills. Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & lo., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particution and sick head ache. For Malaria betance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to stomach and bowels size 25c per box. Sold by A. F. Streitz | naval depot of the Baltic sea.

#### had existed—that she had ever known me—that was past toleration.

"They live at Brighton," Dick continued, "so that we are not too far away to visit them. You must come down some day with me. I want you to There are times when it were unwise

to be sincere. "I shall be delighted," I said even while I reviewed the excuses upon which I should be able to rely in the event of his some day tendering a more definite invitation. Then I turned the conversation into other channels, and in a little while, somewhat to the disgust of my friend, who had much to tell, I

About a month had passed when I had a note one day from Mrs. Luttrell: DEAR MR. MORTIMER-We have taken tickets for the Lyceum matinee on Saturday, and three or four friends are to meet us there. wonder if you are free that afternoon and would care to meet us and go with us to the

theater. Yours very truly,
FRANCES LUTTRELL. It was a miserable, foggy day, and I half feared they would not come. But though their train was somewhat delayed they presently arrived, and we took a cab along the Strand. Madge looked unusually pretty and greeted me with a disappointing cheerfulness. I had counted on a little sympathy from her, but her aspect was one of rather mischievous enjoyment. It would have been timely enough if she had held in store for me some very delightful surprise. She even referred to a matter which had hoped for a month past had escaped her observation.

"I did not think that you would de scend to theft," she said. "I would have given it to you. And, of course, you have discovered your mistake." We were entering the theater as she

spoke, and there was a momentary pres of people, and I affected not to have heard her speceh; indeed I was not a little angry. Her clumsiness was obviously intentional, for I was well aware that she in nowise suffered from want of tact.

A moment later we were being shown to our seats.

"Will you take the inside seat?" said Madge, and I moved obediently to the last vacant one, next to the lady whose face was turned from me. I was just taking my seat when she turned and looked up at me. She had the grace to blush, for it was Mand Cameron, but there was no tremor in her voice when she spoke a moment later.

"How do you do?" she said politely, and in the same words I answered be Presently she leaned a little nearer and spoke to me in her soft, pretty voice: "You have nothing to say?" she said. 'You may talk, you know."

I turned to her with a look of desperation. Why could not she leave me to myself? "I had forgotten," I said. "I must congratulate you-or Dick, at any

"Oh," she answered smilingly, "you may congratulate me also. Do not fear; it has happened marvelously well." "Marvelously well!" I echoed.

"Yes," she continued, "and particular larly in that you are his special friend. It is so nice for the wife when the husband's friend is nice. But why didn't you tell him you knew the Luttrellsand me?"

I stared at ber, incredulous of her "How could I tell him?" I said indignantly. "You had denied acquaintance

with me, and, since you had forgotten, do you think I wished to remember?" I was a trifle startled at the effect of this speech. It should have silenced her. I thought so at least, but it seemed as if I had injured her, and now a greater

indignation than my own arose in her. "It is not true," she said. "What do you mean? I saw him only a fortnight ago, when I returned from Sandybar, and I distinctly remember telling him that day that I had met you there Mother did suggest that he might bring you down one Saturday; but, of course"-I interrupted. "You only saw him a fortnight ago? Why, 'tis a full month since he told me you were engaged. And yet you have known him only a

She looked at me with a sort of piti ful amazement.

"He told you he was engaged to me Why, he's engaged to Mary, my sister. And besides"— A new life entered into me. The old

hope lived again. Yet I was convinced. "He showed me your photograph," She looked at me a moment. Slowly

the bewilderment faded from her face, and it appeared she was mightily amused.

"Did he tell you my name?" sh asked. "He showed me your likeness and told me you were engaged to him.

don't remember if he told me your name. But there was no need. I do not forget Mand chuckled. There is no other

"You have seen the photograph before?" she said.

"I stole it out of Madge Luttrell's album the day I was to leave Sandybar.

"Surely it was a little curious to steal the photograph of a lady you had never met, for it is to Mary, my sister, that Mr. Ferguson is engaged, and it was her photograph you took from

I was stunned with the sudden joy and with the sense of my great stupidity. I knew that her eyes were upon me, and I would have given worlds to be with her for a moment only, away from this great crowd of people.

"I burned it," I said, "a month ago. You will give me one of your own?" She answered nothing, and at that moment the curtain rose. But I was well content. -- Exchange. A Joke on a Supreme Court.

Judge Burlingame has a joke on the Michigan supreme court. In ordering s new trial for J. S. H. Holmes, convicted of murder in the first degree and whose defense was insanity, the supreme court took occasion sharply to criticise Judge Burlingame's charge to the jury, asserting that it too fully expressed the court's opinion of the merits of the case. The charge to the jury in the Holmes case happens to be a verbatim repetition of a charge to a jury made by Judge Burlingame five years ago in a trial where insanity was the defense, and in sustaining the verdict at that time the supreme power. It is made from concenstrated court found fault with the charge be- Mecca Compound and possesses all of its cause it did not go far enough.-Cor. Chicago Times-Herald.

The strongest fortress in European greatly invigorate the system. Regular Russia is Cronstadt. It is the Russian

OSTRICH HUNTING.

Profitable Sport That Is Making the African Birds Scarce. An ostrich chase is very attractive sport, or rather the sale of booty is so great as to attract hunters. The Arabs give themselves to it with a real passion. Mounted on their fine little horses, they

try as much as possible to fatigue the ostrich, for as it is 8 feet high and has very strong legs it possesses a quickness of movement which the best horse cannot attain. It has great endurance, Overtaken by the hunter, it seeks to defend itself with its feet and wings, but more often it still strives to escape by night, uttering a plaintive cry. In fact, the ostrich is deprived of the power of flight by reason of its great size. The muscular force with which nature has endowed it is not equal to lifting such a weight. Its peculiar organization has made it the courier of the desert, where it is able to quickly traverse the almost limitless expanse.

The Arab knows very well that it is the habit of the ostrich to make great detours about its nest in a circle. He chases it, then, without ceasing until it is almost there, when, worn out, it succumbs, concealing its head in the sand in order not to see its enemy, or instinctively hoping to escape a danger which it cannot see any more. This chase requires eight or ten hours, but it offers large rewards. The plumes are worth a considerable sum, the skin makes good leather, and the Arabs are very fond of the flesh. Besides, in spite of the fact that it reproduces its species rapidly, the ostrich is all the time be- storm. "Jest look at it a-comin down! coming rarer, and it is hunted for ex- Hed I 'a' know'd we was a-goin to hev port and domestication in other countries. It is one of Africa's great re- home-you'd 'a' seen me a-leavin sources and may become a new source home. of prosperity to Algerians if they are willing to make the effort. The point of an autopsy on one, doubtless for a time captive, when the following was found in its stomach: A parasol handle, two a handkerchief, a pair of eyeglasses, a ring, a comb, three large rocks, the necks of two beer bottles, the sole of a shoe, a

#### THE INNUIT RACE.

A Peculiar People Who Live on the Coa Line of Alaska Territory.

and also corruptly called Eskimos, occupy almost the entire coast line of Alaska, with the numerous outlying islands from the boundary line westward along the arctic coast to Bering strait; thence southward to the Alaskan peninsula, over the peninsula and the Aleutian islands, and eastward and southward along the coast to Mount St. Elias, with the exception of a comparatively small territory at Cook's inlet, and also at the mouth of Copper river, at which points the Tinneh tribe of Indians from the interior have forced their way to the coast. Living constantly on or near the sea, they from infancy have not the slightest fear of the dangers of the deep and at an early age become bold navigators and skilled fishermen and sea

The word "innuit" in their native tengue signifies people, and as such is used by them to designate those of their own race as our people. "Eskimo" is a word of reproach and has been given them by their neighbors, the term meaning "raw fish eaters." The Innuits of Alaska are physically much superior to those inhabiting the eastern side of the continent, in Greenland and Labrador. They are all of the same race and speak a common language through each locality, and often each village from the Atlantic to the Pacific will possess a dialect distinctively its own. Those of our territory are tall and muscular, not a few of them being 6 feet in height. They have small, black eyes, high cheek bones, large mouths, thick lips, coarse brown hair and fresh, yellow complex ions. In many instances men will be seen with a full beard and mustache and in some particular families their manly beauty is further enhanced by wearing a labret below each corner of the mouth in a hole cut through the lower lip for the purpose. They are a good natured people, always smiling when spoken to, and are fond of danc ing, running, jumping and all athletic sports, —Alaska News.

# Robber Gulls of the Pacific.

"Out on the Pacific coast a great deal of amusement is furnished to people of the ridge vander. That's where Absalom an observant disposition," said L. C. Bunkel lived an his pap lived before Gardner of Grays Harbor, Wash., "by him. Absalom's pap was a stingy man a walk along the seashore. For instance, -so stingy he'd squeeze a cent tell the there is the robber gull, one of the most Injun yelled. Consequent, when he died, graceful of birds, which always follows he left Absalom a fortune of \$700. It the pelican. The latter is an expert at was a fort nate thing fer the son, fer catching fish, which it sees from a he'd much ruther 'a' set on the porch great height, diving with the swiftness a-listenin to the birds an watchin the of a bullet and seldom missing its prey. | bees hummin over the sunflowers, with But after getting the fish in its huge the pangs of hunger a-gnawin throo his beak with the pendent sack it is unable | insides, than to 'a' worked. to handle it readily and always throws which answers the same purpose as a an what my pap said was allus truewind, and before the fish reaches the gull is one of the swiftest of the feath- nothin. ered race."-Denver Republican.

## Didn't Know It.

"What do you think of those autograph hunters, Noah?" asked Johnson. "Autograph hunters? What are thev?" replied Noah. "Why, people who hunt autographs, of course," explained Johnson. "I really don't know enough about

don't believe I ever even saw an autograph. We didn't have any in the ark, s it?"-Harper's Bazar.

## MECCA CATARRH REMEDY.

For colds in the head and treatment of catarrhal troubles this preparation has afforded prompt relief; with its continued use the most stubborn cases of catarrh have yielded to its healing soothing and healing properties and by absorbtion reaches all the inflamed parts effected by that disease. Price 50 cts. Prepared by The Forter Mfg. Co. Council Bluffs, Iowa. For sale by A. F.

TWO DEVILS.

Flaming Flame was a devil red— This is what the old Northmen said— A demon subtle and swift and sly, Who lived upon wood that was old and dry. The Northmen fell on their knees for fear Lest Flaming Flame should come too near. For his bite was deadly and sharp, they said And his tongue was cruel and long and red.

Flaming Flame Was the devil's name. This is what the old Northmen said. Riminy Rime was a devil white, Who drove his horses at dead of night And combed their manes, with the wild wind

As he called their And the Northmen fell on their knees to cry As Riminy Rime went driving by. They shivered and shook with an awful dread For he split great rocks at a glance, they said

Riminy Rime Was feared in his time. This is what the old Northmen said. Flaming Flame was a devil red, Who ate dry wood, so the Northmen said. Riminy Rime was a devil white, Who split up rocks in the dead of night. But little Goo Goo, in his cradle warm,

Loves Flaming Flame and fears no harm, While Riminy Rime at the window, too, Draws beautiful scenes for little Goo Goo. Flaming Flame Was a devil's name. Riminy Rime Was feared in his time. But who cares a fig what the Northmen say, For little Goo Goo knows better than they.

#### -Nell K. McElhone in Youth's Companion A LAZY LOVER.

"Mighty souls!" the patriarch cried, flattening his nose against the grimy window pane and peering out into the it like this, you'd 'a' seen me a-leavin

The old man thoughtfully stroked his bushy beard. He felt that he had met the popular saying, "the stomach of an | but just retribution for coming to the ostrich," has been confirmed recently by store to loaf. When, an hour before, he had awakened from a doze in his armchair, picked up his stout stick and hobbled to the village, the sky was clear keys, two great pieces of coal, a glove, and blue. Not a cloud was visible anywhere, and the sun was blazing down on the fields of yellow grain that he overlooked from the porch of his little bell and a little harmonicon. - Paris II- house on the hill. But the storm, as storms do in that mountainous part of Pennsylvania, was gathering its force unseen behind the neighboring mountains, piling black cloud on black cloud and then, like an army charging on a sleeping enemy, it swept forth from its The Innuit race of people, commonly hiding place amid the flash of lightning and the crash of thunder and del-

"My, oh, my!" muttered the old man. "It serves me right. I ought to 'a' know'd better. Whenever I runs down here for a minute's loaf, it rains. Never a team comes along to give me a lift home, an I hez to paddle back in me leaky ole boots.

He hobbled to his chair by the empty stove, about which were gathered the men of the village, despite the fact that no fire blazed within and cold weather was far ahead.

"I hope the company hain't displeasin," snapped the chronic loafer. He knocked the ashes out of his pipe, refilled and lighted it and sprawled out upon the counter, pillowing his back against a pile of calicoes. "Not at all, at all. It's the loafin I

hate. I never could loaf," said the old man, glancing at the prostrate form. The chronic loafer made no reply save

faint "Huh!" "Jest because a felly sets around the stove hain't no sign he's lazy," said the miller warmly.

'Fur be it from me from sayin so, ovs, fur be it," said the patriarch, stroking his beard. "But, as I was sayin awhile ago, I don't want to git inter no sech habits as Absalom Bunkel." "Abs'lom Bunkel - Bunkel - Bunk-

el?" repeated the shoemaker, punctuating his remarks with puffs of -tobacco "Bunkel-Bunkel?" said the store-

keeper inquiringly, tapping the end of his nose with his pencil. "Who the heck's Abs'lom Bunkel?"

the loafer cried. "Absalom Bunkel was a man as was nat'rally so lazy it was a credit to him every time he moved," the patriarch began. "You uns knows the ole lawg house thet stands where Big run crosses the road over the mo'ntain. It's all tumbled down now. They ain't no daubin atween the lawgs. The chimbley's fallen; the fence hez gone, an the lot's choked up with weeds. It's a forlorn place, but when I was a lad it was jest about the slickest thing along

"Now, Absalom was afore my time, it in the air, catching it in its pouch, but I heard all about him from my pap, soldier's haversack. That is the gull's true as gawspel, it was. When ole man opportunity. The instant the fish leaves | Bunkel died, Absalom was 35 year old. the beak of the big bird the robber | He didn't go off spendin his fortune. swoops down with the swiftness of the Not much. He jest set right down on a rockin chair on the front porch an let Madge's album. She is considered rather | distended jaws of the pelican it is snap- his sister Nancy tend the house. Nance ped up, and the pelican is left far behind, milked the cow, Nance made the garlooking foolish. Pursuit is useless, for | den, Nance done the housework an come the pelican is a heavy flier, while the to store. He done nothin-absolute

"He was never outer bed afore sun up. Ef it was warm, he'd set on the leetle porch all day, lookin over the walley, watchin the folks goin by an the birds a-swoopin along the fiel's or throo the trees, listenin to the bees a-buzzin aroun the garden, to the dreamy hum of natur', fer to do him credit he loved natur'. Ef it was cold, he set all day be the fireplace a-bakin his shins. Once in awhile 'em to say,'' said Noah. "Fact is, I Nance'd fergit to leave him wood when know. What kind of a looking beast nearest possible fence rail, kerrys it infire an keeps a-pushin it in as it burns cated person.

to store, lookin as pretty as a pictur' in her red sunbonnet, swingin a basket an singin a melancholy piece. Absalom woke with a start as she stepped outer the woods above the house, an he got a sight of her pink cheeks afore she ducked under her bonnet, fer when she seen stamps to pay the cost of mailing only. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. V. If a handsome cloth-bound embossed binding is desired, send ten cents extra. (thirty-one cents in all) to pay the additional expense of this handsome cover.

him she sudden stopped singin an walked by, a-lookin over the walley. Thet one glance done Absalom Bunkel

He staid awake tell she come back. "Thet night he didn't eat no supper." " 'Nance,' sez he to his sister. 'How

fur is it to Crimmels?' "'Nigh onter a miled,' sez she. "An he jest groaned, drawed his boots, tuk a candle an went up to bed.

"Twicet a week all thet summer Annie May Crimmel come a-singir down the road. An Absalom, dozin or the porch, 'u'd hear her voice tell she'd reach the edge of the woods. There she'c stop her song an go ploddin by, gazir over the walley, like he wasn't about or wasn't wuth lookin at. Absalom kept gittin fatter an fatter from doin nothin, an it seemed to him like Annie May Crimmel was prettier every time she went to store. He was onrastless; he was onhappy. He know'd what was wrong, an he seen no cure, fer to him thet girl walkin 'long the road not 26 rods from his house was like a chunk of bread danglin jest beyant the reach of a starvin man.

"Perhaps you ams wonder why he didn't go down an speak to her. Thet wasn't Absalom's way. He might 'a' walked thet fur to git warm. But to speak to a girl? Never! Oncet he called to her, but she was bashful an hung her head an walked on the faster.

" 'Nance,' sez he to his sister thet night at supper, 'I've kinder a notion fer Annie May Crimmel, ' he sez. " 'Hey vou!' sez she, lookin sur-

prised, though of course she know'd it, an fer weeks hed ben a-wonderin what 'u'd become of her. " 'An perhaps,' sez he, 'you wouldn't

mind steppin over there tomorrer an tellin her.

"'Umph!' she sez, perkin up her nose, 'You'll see me a-gaddin round the walley settin up with girls fer you!' "He set thinkin a piece. Then he sez trem'lous like, 'Nance, how fur is it to Crimmels'?"

"'A mile to an inch,' sez she. "He jest give a ground an went off to

"They say thet next day toward evenin Absalom was seen to rise from his chair, to hesitate, to set down, git up ag'in an begin movin toward the road. He got to the gate, pushed it half open an leaned on it. Tell sunset he stood there, a-gazin wistfullike toward Crimmel's place. Then he give a ground an went to supper.

"Winter drove the lazy felly inter the house. All day long he'd stay by the windy watchin fer Annie May Urini mel, an as she passed he'd smile softlike. When she was gone, he'd look solemn ag'in. An all the time he kep' gittin fatter an fatter an more an more on

rastless. "The winter broke. March come an went. April 1 was a fine, warm day, so Absalom took his cheer out on the porch an set there lookin down the ridge into the walley, where the men was a-plowin fer oats. All at oncet he heard a creakin of wheels an a rattle of gears thet caused him to turn his eyes up the road. Outer the woods come a wagon, piled high with furnitur'. It was a flittin, the Crimmels' flittin, as he know'd when he seen Andy a-driving an the missus an Annie May settin on the horses. Bunkel was stunned-cleaned stunned. The flittin went creaking past the house, him jest settin there starin. He know'd what it meant to him. He know'd it was fer him the same as the death of Annie May, but he couldn't do nothin. The wagon swung round the bend below the house

an was outer sight. "When he seen the last of the red bonnet flashin in the sun, he th'owed his hands to his head like they was a pain there. Sudden he jumped from his chair an run toward the road yellin: Hey, hey! Annie May!'

"He tore throo the gate, down the road an round the bend. They was in sight agin. "'Annie May!" he called. 'Annie

"The wagon stopped. The girl climbed offen the horse an run toward him When he seen her comin, he set right down to wait fer her. She stood still. " 'Annie May,' he called, 'come here.

I've somethin to tell you. "But she turned round an walked. with hangin head, back to the wagon. He jumped up an begin runnin after her ag'in. She heard his callin, an throwed out her hands an started to-

ward him, cryin, 'Absalom, Absalom! "Bu Absalom Bunkel never spoke his mind to Annie May Crimmel. Afore he reached her he stopped sudden, kinder hesitated, then fell for'ard, face downward, inter the road. The girl went to him, but found him dead-dead from overexertin."-New York Sun.

London is 3,315 miles northeast of Washington city.



wonderful snake-strangling powers from his father, but modern science shows that a baby's strength depends largely on the mother's health at the time the baby is

To bestow a strong and rugged constitu tion on her little one, a prospective mother should fortify her own health and strength with Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. is the most wonderful health builder ever devised for women. It imparts elasticity and endurance to the special organism, and gives power and tone to the entire

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There is no other medicine equal to it in Nance'd fergit to leave him wood when she went out fer a spell. Does he cut some? Not him. He jest goes to the nearest possible fence rail, kerrys it inter the house, sticks one end inter the

Women would save themselves and their families from much unnecessary sickness "Now, it happened thet when he hed ben livin this way tell his forty-fifth year ole Andy Crimmell tuk the place about a mile beyant his. One nice aft ernoon, as Absalom set a-dozin on his front porch, Andy's dotter, Annie May, come trippin down the road on her way to store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store lookin as pretty as a pictur' in the store look in the store look in the store look. "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look, "The People's Common your look in the store look in the store