by hoped that the nursery life was gay; at they hoped that they would find little girl often played with dolls; at they hoped that she was kind.

Near by sat an old doll neatly dressed In a new frock, black and red; She smiled at the French dolls—"As to that, Don't feel afraid," she said.

The new dolls turned their waxen heads, And looked with a haughty stare, As it they never had seen before That a doll was sitting there.

"Oh, we're not in the least afraid," said one,
"We are quite too fine and new;
But perhaps you yourself will find that now
She will scarcely care for you."

The old doll shook her head and smiled:
She smiled, although she knew Her plaster nose was almost gone, And her cheeks were faded too.

And now it was day: in came the child, And there all ay and bright Sat three new dolls in little chairs— It was a lovely sight.

She praised their curls, and noticed too How finely they were dressed: But the old doll all the while was held Clasped close against her broast —St Nicholas.

BLIND JUSTICE

BY HELEN B. MATHERS.

CHAPTER I.

The woman flashed across the court at me a look of scorn, ay, and of contempt, but of fear not a trace. And yet I, who had placed her in the dock where she stood, I, who had made those purely disinterested efforts to hang her, that seemed certain to be crowned with success, felt that however much I might deserve her detestation. I in no sense was or looked the mistaken fool that she supposed me.

udith they called her, and a Judith she was, with the grand frame and limbs of a daughter and mother of the gods, and like her great namesake, she too had slain her man, though not to such heroic purpose and results.

This woman had no tribe to glorify her crime, and only one friend on earth with a heart to be wrung by it, and that man now stood as closely as might be, beside her, his comeliness all aged and dimmed by the anguish through which she had brought

And yet I felt, for the first time, sorry for my work, when that look of hers, in which spoke a virile innocence, so sure of itself as easily to afford contempt, flashed upon some inner consciousness of mine, leaving outside it the brain and that had already tried and found her guilty.

But, no-I had seen this strong. calm woman in the throes of fear and agony, her not easily moved nature shaken to its very depths, and no criminal yet ever had circumstantial evidence so pitilessly arrayed against her. I forced my eyes from her, and fixed them on the counsel for the prosecution, who had already com-

menced his indictment against her.
"This woman," ne said, "little
more than a child at her marriage, had lived a notoriously miserable life with Seth Treloar, though to do her justice, no blame of any kind attached itself to her conduct as a wife; and when within the year he disappeared, leaving no trace, she remained in her native village, supporting herself by any sort of work that came in her way. She does not appear to have encouraged any lovers; but when seven years had passed, she boldly announced that she felt herself legally free of Treloar, and married a man whose character was as good as her former husband's had been the reverse, and whom she loved with a passion more than equal to that detestation she had felt for the other. From being the butt of a drunken and brutal scoundrel, she became the cherished and adored wife of the best looking and best natured man in the village, and for some brief months tasted that supreme happiness which is known only to those persons who in the past have acutely suffered. Perhaps so much content irritated the on lookers, for only cold looks were cast upon the two, while the malicious prophesied that Treloar's return would cut short the pair's felicity, and affected not to consider them man and wife at all; so that by degrees they became completely iso-lated from their neighbors, and no living feet save their own ever crossed the threshold of Smugglers'

This house had formerly been the rendezvous of smugglers who were said to have within it some hiding place in which to dispose of their stolen goods; but though smugglers went there no more, its bad character remained, and its lonely position at the end of the parish made it feared, so that the rent was a mere trifle, and as Treloar had brought Judith back to it a bride, so now Judith brought Stephen Croft thither as bridegroom, and there they dwelt

as much alone as on a desert island. The woman defied her world, caring nothing, but the man felt her position keenly, and at last persuaded her that it was best to emigrate, and to this she at last very

reluctantly consented.

Six months, then, after the ceremony that the villagers declared no ceremony, Judith Croft sat one night by the fire in the almost empty cottage from which she was to depart on the morrow, with the man who represented all the sweetness and happiness she had found in her life.

She heard steps on the path, the latch lifted, and we may surely pity the unhappy woman when, springing through the dusk, she found herself clasped in the arms, not of Stephen

Croit, but of Seth Treloar. Of what passed between them. God alone was witness, and God alone knows the truth; when the man she loved came in an hour later, she

no sign of excitement or anxiety about her.

She prepared the fish he had brought in for supper, ate with him. and from that moment he never left her until they rose early next morning, to be in time for the train that was to take them to Liverpool. So much Stephen Croft said in his evidence, most reluctantly given, but still more reluctantly two damning pieces of evidence against her were drawn from him. He said they had arranged for

their landlord to take over the few poor sticks of furniture they possessed, and had sent on their personal belongings the day before, but there were some few odds and ends to be carried between them, and he had brought in a coil of stout rope for binding them together. At starting, the rope was missing, but his wife could not account for its disappearance more than himself, and did not "fuss" about it as most women would have done under the circumstances. At breakfast (this was only dragged from him bit by bit) he noticed that she ate very little, but furtively collected food on a plate, and set it aside, as if for an unexpected guest. He asked her why she did this, and she said the neighbors would be all over the house the moment their backs were turned, and she would gratify their curiosity as to what they had for breakfast. He reminded her that their landlord was trawling that day. and several subsequent days, at a distance, and that no one could know the secret place, previously agreed upon, where they were to hide the key of the house. laughed strangely, and said that though you may lock people out, you could not lock them in; but this speech, though he did not understand it. was afterwards distinctly quoted in her favor. Then they collected their small effects, and without a God-speed from a friend, or a kindly eye to follow them on their path, passed away from the home in which they had been so happy, to the one that had yet to be earned in the uncertainty of the future. Perhaps the man looked back, but at some distance from the house the prisoner did more, she affected to have forgotten something, and bidding him go forward, retraced her steps quickly. But he reluctantly admitted that she returned empty-handed, that she was pale as a corpse, with wild eyes, that she gasped for breath. stammering and presenting every appearance of a woman who has received some horrible shock, but when he asked her if she had met with some insult from a passing neighbor, she shook her head, but would give no explanation of her state. She showed extraordinary eagerness to reach the train, but did not utter a syllable during the journey, though a sinister incident occurred during it. That incident (here the counse turned and looked steadily at me) was

brought the prisoner to where she stood that day. This gentleman had in his hurry jumped into a third instead of a firstclass carriage, and congratulated himself on his mistake when he saw partment. They were simply the two most magnificent specimens of man and womanhood that he had ever seen in his life, but the man looked troubled and perplexed, and the woman gave one the same impression as of some usually calm majestic aspect of nature, now convulsed and shaken to its very core. He saw the fine hands clenched beneath her woolen shawl, the splendid eyes blind to all save some awful inward sight, and he recognized that a tragedy had been, or was to be enacted, and he watched her, with entire unconsciousness to herself, unremittingly for mile upon mile.

witnessed by a gentleman, to whose

keen observation, swift action, and

masterly manipulation of fact and

surmise was due the brilliantly con-

clusive chain of evidence that had

The vigilance was unexpectedly rewarded. She moved abruptly, searched her pocket for a handkerchief with which to wipe her damp brow, and pulled out with it a small, curiously shaped silver box that fell into the man's lap. The blank horror of her eyes slowly quickened with some recollection, she stretched her hand to take it, but he drew back, and with astonishment in his face lifted the lid, and found the contents to be a white powder. Into this powder he thrust his fore-finger and instantly applied it to his tongue, on the moment crying out that his tongue was burning. then that his throat and stomach were on fire, and violent nausea completed the symptoms of having swal-

lowed a violent irritant poison.
"You have taken arsenic!" cried the stranger present, whereon the prisoner shrieked out, snatched the box from Stephen's hand, and threw it far out the window.

The stranger, approaching the window, took the exact bearings of the spot where it must have fallen, they were then close to a station, and there he got out, having watched these two until the last moment.

The man was urging questions on her as to who gave it her, or where she had got it, but beyond that one shriek, the stranger heard no sound issue from her white lips from first to last. Only as the other closed the door,

he saw her lean forward, and press the fisherman's hand with a passion of tenderness, that startled the gazer: clearly the poison was not intended for the husband, therefore for whom?

The stranger bade the guard watch the pair, and communicate to him, at an address he gave the station at was sitting alone by the hearth, with which they descended, then he re- is \$2.50 for each offense.

traced the distance he had come from a certain point, and with very little difficulty found what he wanted. The box was of pure silver, of for-eign make, which he subsequently discovered to be Austrian, and it was three parts full of arsenic. He locked the box away, said nothing to anybody, but watched the daily papers carefully.

He had not very long to wait; on the fourth morning he read how in a cellar, formerly used by smugglers beneath a cottage at Trevenick, in Cornwall, had been found the dead body of a man whose appearance gave rise to suspicions of foul play, and who, on examination was found to have in his viscera sufficient arsenic to kill three or four men. The man was well clothed, well nourished, and concealed in a belt upon him was found one hundred gold pieces of money. He was at once identified as the long missing husband of a woman who had within the past few days left the village for Australia with her second husband.

Jake George, a fisherman, swore to seeing a man enter the house at 7 o'clock the evening before the pair left, but he saw no one come out, though his work kept him near by till 8, when Stephen Croft himself came home. He was not near enough to hear voices, though he could easily have heard a cry had there been one. He peeped, as would be shown in the evidence, but he could see nothing. With what superhuman swiftness and strength must this woman have overcome her victim, so that not even a moan or cry reached the spy without! What selfcontrol must have been hers that she could meet her husband with a smile, and sit at board with him that night, however absolutely she might break down on the morrow! In one short hour she had done as much, and more, as a man could do. and she had done it thoroughly. Secure by her hearth, the murdered man hidden at her feet, she sat with undaunted front, no smallest trace around of the man who had visited her. Without that hollow cave below, she might have murdered, but could not have concealed him; but as it was, this hiding place favored the swiftness and subtleness of the crime to an extraordinary degree. For who could believe that he, the former master of that house and the woman in it, walked of his own free will to the disused trap-door, and deliberately elected to be lowered by a rope to a cold and noisome dungeon peopled only by rats? No! It was for Stephen Croft to quail, to shrink away out of sight as a defrauded man, or, if Treloar showed himself moved by his wife's en-treaties, and actually consented to leave her to her happiness, would he not have left, as he came, by the

We see no such thing when, in imagination, we project our gaze upon that bare, dismantled room; we see a man who, whatever he may have been to her in the past, had since possibly repented, and pros-pering in his new life (as his clothes sufficiently proved), had remembered the woman who once loved him, and returned to share his prosperity with her. He found her more beautiful than ever, and probably the very thought of taking her away from another man enhanced her value in his not over-fastidious mind; he meant to take his rights and told her so, while the miserable woman only half heard him in straining her ears for her lover's step without. She must have acquiesced to all appearance in his demands, or he could not have taken from her hand the cup of milk with which she had stealthily mixed the poison; strangely enough, she must have also been possessed at the time of a strong narcotic, since traces of one were found in the stomach, so that the cool, firm hand doubly doctored the draft she handed to the unsuspecting man.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Not a Target of That Kind.

One of the deputy commanders of the state naval force employed to prevent the depredations of oyster pirates in Chesapeake bay, says a writer in Harper's Weekly, accepted the captaincy of one of the sloops, because it was an easy berth and the pay was sure. His duties consisted in sailing over his district and avoiding pirates. One fateful day he fell in with a lot of depredators, and, before he could get away, they were impolite enough to fire at his boat. Acting quickly, he put on all his canvas, and sailed shoreward with all possible speed. When he reached the harbor, he went promptly to the telegraph office, and sent his resignation to Annapolis. A week later Commander Seth met him and asked him why he had resigned. "General Seth," he replied, "during the war I paid three hundred dollars for a substitute, and, at my time of life, I have too much self-respect to allow myself to be shot by an oyster-pi-

Rigged for Comfort.

An Aroostook, Maine, farmer travels in great comfort through the long reaches of snow and in the face of the bitterest north winds in a onehorse sleigh, hooded over like a prairie schooner and with a stove inside. the funnel sticking through the top. It is a rig of his own invention, and while not architecturally beautiful in appearance, it is mighty comfortable

London Sandwich Men.

Sandwich men on the streets of London are required by law to walk near the curbstone, but not on the sidewalk, and not less than thirty yards must separate each sandwich man from his placarded comrade. The fine for violating the regulations

REPUBLICAN DOCTRINE.

PAYMENT OF PENSIONS.

Extract From the Speech of Hon. William W. Grout, of Vermont, in the House of Representatives, Friday, March 2, 1894.

The house, being in committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and having under consideration the bill (H. R. 6482) making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30 ,1895, and for other pur-

Mr. Grout said; Mr. Chairman; The bill before us carries \$151,581,570. The appropria-tions for the present fiscal year was for \$166,530,350, which makes the present bill \$15,950,780 less than the one of a

Upon this statement the question at once arises: Is the sum named in this bill sufficient to meet the expenditures of the pension bureau for the next fis-

cal year? COMMISSIONER RAUM'S ESTIMATE.

At first glance it seems altogether improbable, in fact almost incredible, that this reduced sum will meet the requirements of the bureau, especially when we remember that the late commissioner, Gen. Raum, than whom no commissioner ever had the business of the peusion office better in hand, estimated when before the committee a year ago that if the work of the bureau were pushed for the next two years as it had been for the two years then last past the expenditure for the fiscal year 1895, the year for which this bill provides, would amount to about \$180,000,-

But he also estimated that at that time, with a continuance of the same energy, there would be upon the roll 1,250,000 pensioners, there now being but 996,142. roll and as to expenditure. which would, as you see, have been nearly \$15,000,000 more than the appropriation for the present year, the fiscal year 1894. But instead of that this bill carries almost \$16,000,000 less than the appropriation for the current vear, and in round numbers \$30,600,000 less than Gen. Raum could see going to the old soldiers in the year 1895 under a vigorous and friendly yet fair admin-

istration of the Bureau. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, I feel constrained to say that I think the sum named in this bill is all that will be expended by the pension bureau under its present management; indeed, I think it is more than will be expended, and that several millions will be left over at the close of the year 1895. Mark you, I do not say it is all I think ought to be expended under the pension laws as they stand on the statute book of today, but I think it is all that will be expended, unless a great change takes

And now that the friends of this administration may understand how successfully it has been in cutting down pension expenditure, a matter of sin-cere congratulation, of course, among themselves, let me give just a glimpse of the work of the pension bureau for the past few years, with certain comparative results under the last and present administrations. That, I think, must satisfy all, not only that under republican administration would the old soldiers, their widows and orphans, receive at least \$30,000,000 for the next fiscal year more than now, but it will also satisfy you that the smaller sum reported by the committee is all or more than will be paid them under the present management.

Remember I am standing by the bill as reported by the committee, so far as the amount appropriated for the pay-ment of pensions, and I present the following facts and figures simply for the purpose of showing how completely the present administration has reversed the liberal pension policy of the past, and if possible to bring its friends to a realizing sense of the great injustice being done the men who preserved the Union of the states, and made possible the greatness of this rich and prosperous American people. [Applause on the republican side.

UNSETTLED CLAIMS. In the first place, I want you to fix in mind that on December 31, 1893, there were 811,572 unsettled claims pending in the pension bureau. 244,706 of which have been examined and rejected, but are always open to further

consideration on additional evidence. This leaves 567,866 claims that have never yet been taken out of the pigeon-

hole for examination.

Now, please fix another fact in mind, viz., that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1892. Commissioner Raum is-sued 311,589 certificates. How many certificates do you suppose Commissioner Lochren issued in the first six months of the present fiscal year? Only 33,999. This shows that Raum adclaims or, in other words, granted pensions more than four times as fast as Lochren is doing.

REJECTIONS.

But there is another side of this work in which Judge Lochren far exceeds Gen. Raum. It is in rejections. For six months, viz., for June to November, inclusive, in 1892, Commissioner Raum rejected 48,398 claims and allowed 110,266. Commissioner Lochran for the same months in 1893 allowed 35,755,

but rejected 67,383.

In other words, Raum admitted four cases just about as often as he rejected one. But under the present administration the order is entirely reversed, and under Lochran two cases are rejected almost as often as one is admitted. And during the sultry month of August last the proportion was very much larger, only 5,173 cases being admitted and 23,663 rejected—a case rejected a little more than four and one-half times as often as one was admitted. It should also, perhaps, be stated that during this dismal month of August rejections in the office seem to have culminated. In a single month 23,663 sad messa-

ges had gone to as many anxious, and in many instances destitute homes, scattered over the whole country. Such a flood of adverse decisions, together over 12,000 suspensions, could hardly help stirring the atmosphere in every section; and when the veterans met in national encampment at Indianapolis early in September last no one was surprised when they entered their protest against this indiscriminate slaughter of the innocents. I say "indiscriminate slaughter," for it must have been such. From the very

to pensions been rife, like an evil ius whose fell influence had reach-

ed the whole pension force.
It may be as Doesticks would say, only a 'remarkable coincidence,' but from that time the number of rejec-tions became suddenly less, in September being only a little more than half, and in November a little less than onehalf as many. It was a little time before the meeting of this encampment that a halt was called in the wholesale suspension of pensions, without notice to the pensioner. Mark you, I do not say that this meeting of the veterans had anything to do with staying the hand of the executioner, but as a faithful chronicler of these sorrowful times I give you the facts and the dates, and

let you draw your own inference.

More directly to the point, however, as showing the sufficiency of this reduced appropriation, is a comparative statement of the amount of the first payments for the same half of the fisyears 1892 and 1893. These first payments, remember. depend alto-gether upon the number of cases admitted or certificates issued; and as the issue of certificates is increased or lessened the expense is increased or lessened, approximately, at least, for the payment to those already on the roll is all the time very nearly a fixed quantity. Hence, it is perfectly clear that the way to keep down pension expendi-ture is to keep down the issue of cer-tificates—and that is just what this democratic administration is doing with a vengeance; and that, too, 'in a way that is peculiar," though all the time "with a smile that is clildlike and bland.'

PENSION ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890. While President Cleveland and Sec-retary Gresham have been struggling to reverse the march of liberty in the islands of the Pacific, Secretary Hoke Smith, more successful in the work of undoing, under date of May 27, 1893, revoked order 164 and directed the com-missioner of pensions to formulate new rules for the allowance of pensions under the act of 1890, and also to have the 400,000 claims already allowed under order 164 re-examined and read-justed according to the new standard. And right here let us see what that new standard is. It will be found in Commissioner Lochren's order 225 of June 9, and in the new "rules for rating.

THE PINCH IN THE NEW PROCESS.

I will not stop to read order 225, which, except in the negative, unfrindly spirit that pervades it, quite incompatible with the benevolent intent of the act itself, is not so very different from Raum's order 164. The pinch in this new process does not lie in this order. It is to be found in the "rules for rating," which the commissioner said would be prepared by the medical referee; and three days later, June 12, that official brought forth, with the approving midwifery of Commissioner Lochren, the following monstrosity. I say monstrosity! And Mr. Chairman, when you was a lock at this when you get a square look at this newcomer in the pension office you will also say mostrosity. Here it is. I will thank the clerk to read.

The clerk read as follows:

[Circular.] DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF PENSIONS, MEDICAL DIVISION, Washington, D. C., June 12, 1893.

In the matter of rating cases under the act of June 27, 1890, the following directions will serve as landmarks only, and will be subject to such variations as the particular case may require:

to such variations as the particular case may require:

The ratings will be \$12, \$10, \$8 and \$6.

The rating of \$12 will be allowed only in the following class of cases:

1. In cases where the claimant is clearly disabled from performing any effective manual labor.

2. In loss of either leg or foot.

4. In total deafness of both ears.

The minimum rate shall be allowed for a disability equivalent to anchylosis of eibow joint, deable inguinal hernia uncomplicated, and double inguinal hernia, one incomplete.

The ratings between \$12 and \$6 will be given in proportion as the claimant is disabled from earning a support by manual labor. abor.

If there are two or more disabilities each lemanding a rate of 86, the rating of 88, the

If there are two or more disabilities each demanding a rate of 86, the rating of 88, the rating of 810 snall be allowed and if there are two or more disabilities, each demanding a rating below 86, shall not be added to make a minimum rating, and such shall be rejected.

All specific ratings as published in the book of instructions have no application in adjudicating claims under this act.

Thos. Featherstonhaugh.

Approved:

WILLIAM LOCHREN.

Approved:
WILLIAM LOCHREN,
Commissioner.

Mr. Chairman, here is not only a new system of ratings, ignoring the wisdom of thirty years' experience as expressed in the standard schedule, but wonderful indeed; yes, monstrous even; here is a new arithmetic with a new rule for addition, in which twice 6, or any larger number of times 6, make 8, twice 8, or any larger number of times 8, make 10; and all the numerals below

6 count for nothing.

Mr. Chairman, if these were nominal ratings, like some under the old schedule, substantial, as will appear from section 2 of Commissioner Lochren's or-

2, No specific injury or disability can, as such have a pensionable rating under that act (June 27, 189), nor be considered other-wise than as it affects the capacity of claim-

Now, let us, for just a moment, see what you would have under this system. Remember the new "rules for rating" say the minimum rate, which is \$0, shall be allowed for a disability equivalent to anchylosis of elbow joint rated at \$10, o. double inguinal hernia. uncomplicated or one incomplete, rated at \$12 in old schedule.

Now, suppose a claimant has anchy-losis of elbow and knee joints: has nearly total deafness of both ears; has double inguinal hernia and anchylosis of shoulder joint; has lost thumo and index finger, and all the toes of one foot, and is also suffering general debility in a degree equivalent to double inguinal hernia; and what will his pension be? Only \$8 per month. Preposterons and impossible, you will exclaim!
But it is even so, for the new rules of
rating say: "If there are two or more
disabilities (remember, two or more), each demanding a rating of \$6, the rating of \$8 only shall be allowed."

this case 8 times 6 make 8. Now, suppose another claimant has a stiff wrist and ankle, is blind in one eye, has severe, not total, deafness of both ears, has lost index and middle fingers, has inguinal scrotal, or ventral hernia, not double, but single, and is at the same time suffering from general debility in a degree equivalent to a stiff wrist or ankie, what pension do you suppose he has under the new rules? None at all. More preposterous still, you say: but all these ratings would be below \$6 each; and do not these rules say, "two or more disabilities each denature of the case, so many rejections in so short a time could not have happened had not the spirit of resistance such cases shall be rejected. So say

these monstrous, these hideously mon

strous new rules.
Mr. Hopkins of Illinois. That accounts fore some of the rejections that are made.

Mr. Grout. Of course it does. Mr. Grout. Of course it does.

Now, Mr. Chairman, suppose a third claimant has all the disabilities of applicant No. 1 and all the infirmities of No. 2; what pension ought he to have?

Can you help thinking, sir, that he ought at least to have \$12 a month, especially when you recall that the last pecially when you recall that the last congress, with the approval of Benjamin Harrison, to show our brethren of the south that a republican administration could be fair, could be generous even, raised the rate of disabled Mexican war pensions from \$8 to \$12 in re-cognition of their early defense of the flag, though most of them had after. flag, though most of them had afterwards been in rebellion, an increase of which, by the way, I have never heard the pension reformer complain? I say, can you help feeling that claimant No. 3, loaded with nearly all the ills flesh is heir to, though he might be able to hoe potatoes and pick up chips, ought to have \$12 under the law?

Mr. Chairman, I cannot say what his

Mr. Chairman, I cannot say what his rating would be, except that it would not be \$72. Here again the new "rules of rating" stand in the way of manifest justice. Here they are: The rating of \$12 will be allowed only in the following cases:

1. In cases where the claimant is clearly disabled from performing any effectual

disabled from performing any effectual manual labor.

2. In loss of either hand or arm.

3. In loss of either leg or foot.

4. In total deafness in both ears.

"Allowed only" in the above cases

at most only 10 the above cases is the language, and this man could get at most only \$10 per month.

Mr. Chairman, I might multiply illustrations to show the systematic hostility to the soldier of these new rules. But the foregoing must suffice as show-ing how completely he is barred from the benefits of the act of 1890 by the ingenious work of the nulliflers; and this democratic administration of the pension bureau.

MEANING OF FEMININE NAMES. Rachel is Hebrew, the lamb.

Margaret is Greek, the pearl. Clara is Latin, the bright one.

Florence is Latin, the blooming one. Ruth is Hebrew, and means beauty. Beatrice is Latin, the one who makes happy.

Catherine, a Greek name, means the . pure one.

Agnes is of German origin, the chaste one. Charlotte is a French name, mean-

ing all noble. Blanche is of French origin and signifies the fair one.

WITS AT WORK.

Clara-Don't you think he is too old to love? Maude-That may be, my

dear, but he's too wealthy not to. Traveler-I see you advertise shelter for man and beast? Tavernkeeper -Yes, sir; I can give you either. Which do you prefer?

Maud-Why don't you give young Sewers some encouragement if you love him? Nell-Oh, he ought to be able to press his own suit. He's a tailor.

Aunty-What a lot of pretty dolls you have. Little Niece-Yes'm, they is real pretty; but I do have so much trouble wiz zem. Sometimes I fink

they must be all boys. Prisoner-It's hard to charge me with forgery, for you see I can't even sign my own name. Judge-That point is immaterial; it's another man's

name vou're accused of signing. "Brinkles says you owe him \$10," said the man who has no tact whatever. "That's very true," was the reply. "I'd have paid it long ago, only I was afraid of hurting his feelings. "What do you mean?" "I was afraid he would think I thought he needed

the money." Company had unexpectedly "dropped in" to dinner at the home of the small boy who was fond of pie. His mother, not having an ample quantity, diminished the generous slice he usually received. But he objected and, pushing his plate aside, said: "I ain't going to take that piece of pie; it's long and slim and thin and not a bit wide and hardly any thick."

The visitor at the boarding house was entertaining one or two of his friends at the piano, and two boarders were listening at the head of the stairs.

'Who's that at the piano?" asked one. "Blamed if I know," was the reply; "he hits the piano as if he were a blacksmith, but he murders the music like s butcher."-Detroit Free Press.

A Contrary Influence. "Did you tell anybody that funny story I gave you yesterday?" asked young Woodby Witte.
"Yes. I told it to an old gentleman

who works in our office." "Did he laugh?" "No. He cried. He said it reminded him of his childhood days."-Washing.

A Definition. Teacher-What is the feminine of man, Thomas?

Thomas-Woman. Teacher-And the feminine of gentle-

Thomas (unhesitatingly) - Dude!-

Hadn't Any Left. "Confound you, sir! I've a notion to

pull your nose. What do you mean by telling people that I've got a temper?" "I take it all back, sir. When I said that, I wasn't aware that you had lost it

this morning."—Brooklyn Eagle. Completely Gone. "He is madly infatuated with her."

"Indeed?" "Yes. He even went so far as to tell her that if she were only a few years younger he would marry her."-Life.

Not That Kind of a Young Man. Maud-What did young Fitznoodle do when you rejected him. Did he get down

Ethel-No, he went off on his ear .-