Making Light of a Burden.

The period of putting on spectacles is often long deferred by middle aged pecple, who "hate to seem old," or dislike AN INSANE NEGRESS THROTTLES A confessing to themselves that they have reached one of the significant turning points of life. People have, however, different ways of accepting the inevitable. One charming woman, who has passed this visual limit, declares that her comfort is thereby daily increased.

"I was always so lazy!" she says, "Nevertheless, I had to do a thousand things I hated. Now when I go out for an afternoon I can leave my glasses at home, and so, when I am asked to look at photographs, try a new crochet stitch. it is such a rest of mind and saving of

Another woman, and a very pretty

see without glasses, actually goes to the length of declaring that he doesn't need endeavor to please the patients, there are them at all. He proves the case by standing at a distance from print and doctor said, who are as ferocious as wild reading it without difficulty.

"There's nothing the matter with my eyes," he then explains humorously, "The only trouble is, my arms aren't chines in the institution, and they be-

An Owl Is the Farmer's Friend.

Of all birds, from the farmers' standpoint, owls are the most useful. They hunt silently and in the night, and are nothing short of lynx eyed cats with wings. The benefit they confer upon agriculturists is most incalculable, and is susceptible of proof. It is well known for fear of a sudden attack from the mad less a matter of common knowledge that, like other birds of prey, they return by the mouth hard indigestible parts of the food in the form of elongated pellets. These are found in considerable quantitits about the birds' haunts, and an examination of them reveals the fact that owls prey upon a number of predaceous creatures, the destruction of which is directly beneficial to man.

Of course the evidence gained in this extent owls assist in preserving the bal-ance of nature it may be mentioned that ance of nature it may be mentioned that the wall. Her eyes were bloodshot and 700 pellets examined yielded the remains she was foaming at the mouth. When f of 6 bats, 13 rats, 237 mice, 693 voles, 1,590 shrews and 22 birds. These truly remarkable results were obtained from the other patients are terror. She began tearing off her clothes, of the 22 birds were those of 19 sparrows, and presented a hideous spectacle. 1 greenfinch and 2 swifts. The tawny that was to confine the negress before are also mighty hunters, and an examination of their pellets shows equally in-

Greek and Roman Stoves.

are, stoves were made there in the dim and misty vistas of the past. It was not just the pattern used in Chicago at president present process the threw down her picture frame, which was of light pine, and seizing a bench, which she broke with ease, and catching up a heavy oaken with the pattern used in Chicago at president present process and present process the threw down her picture frame, which was of light pine, and seizing a bench, which she broke with ease, and catching up a heavy oaken with the pattern used in Chicago at present process the threw down her picture frame, which was of light pine, and seizing a bench, which she broke with ease. ent, but was a metal basin in which charcoal was burned. It sat in the midcharcoal was burned. It sat in the mid- I spoke to her gently, calling her by bag. It will cost you nothing!" dle of the room, and as the resulting name, told her it was all right, that no The same implement, still called by its old Greek name of brazier, is still employed in many portions of continental

But the progressive Romans improved on that and made a hypocaust. It was the germ of the present furnace. It was the floor, picked me up and threw me prepared for it, and the heat was conducted to the rooms and baths through crevices left in the floor and lower portions of the wall. Later flues were provided, conducting heat to any portion of the house. In some of the old Roman villas in England the remains of these old time furnaces are still found.-Chicago Herald.

A Remarkable Phenomenon.

On Thursday, March 19, 1719, there appeared at London, about 8 o'clock at night, a "sudden great light moving after the manner but more slowly than a low Orion's belt, then lying in the southwest, and went upward instead of downward like a falling star. Its size, according to the testimony of numerous observers in Spain, France, Ireland, Holland and some parts of Germany, as well as those who saw it in London and all over England, was about that of the full moon. It was of whitish color, with an eye in the center as blue as the most azure portion of a June sky after a thunder storm. It went straight upward in its course until out of sight, leaving a track of fiery red sparks in its wake."-St. Louis Republic.

Reason for Gratitude.

"I even once read a grateful defence of Captain Kidd, the pirate.'

"But you don't know the circum stances under which it was written?"

"He boarded a vessel where everybody was seasick. He gave the usual order, 'Your money or your life.' Everybody felt so thankful at the prospect of being forbearance so beautifully inculcated put out of their misery that they one in the Sermon on the Mount. and all refused the money. He accordingly hung them, and the captain, who We should have at least one for every was spared, was so thankful to be spared ten patients, but we have not half that their complaints that when he got on shore he wrote the article."-St. Paul

Their Point of Difference. Kate-Such an owl as you are! Why

can't you be talkative, like Tom Rattelon? Such a difference as there is be-

Fred-There's only this difference, my dear girl: I think and say nothing; Tom talks and says nothing. -Pittsburg Bul-

Dr. Johnson and Sydney Smith were both inveterate tea drinkers. The for- We are now investigating the cases re-Dr. Johnson and Sydney Smith were mer said that "he never gave his teaket- ferred to in the daily papers, and as far the time to cool," while the latter gave as as we have gone we find that our keepers a sure recipe against the prevailing epi- are not at fault. In case we should find demic of his time, melancholy, "a teadotherwise we shall see that justice is kettle simmering upon the hob."

otherwise we shall see that justice is done."—New York Telegram.

MANIAC AND DOCTOR.

PHYSICIAN IN A CELL.

Dr. Dent, of Blackwell's Island, Nearly Loses His Life-Timely Arrival of Attendants Prevents a Fatal Result-A Thrilling Encounter.

Dr. E. C. Dent, superintendent of the insane asylum on Blackwell's Island, told me of a thrilling experience he had with a mad negress. Dr. Dent has been for ten years connected with the asylum, or read dear Mary Ann's last letter, I has had many narrow escapes from death, but his battle with the giant negro woman, he said, was the closest

call he ever had. one, owns to a bit of tacit deception in ent of the institution on Blackwell's Isl-When Dr. Dent became superintend-"I try to put my glasses on with the air of having always worn them," she confesses. "I can't help hoping that should be expressly forbidden. His idea people will think me near sighted from was that in the treatment and care of But a dear old gentleman, who can't be patients they should be made to feel at animals. These violent cases occasionally take advantage of the fact that there come insulting and aggressive and oftentimes very dangerous.

The negress was one of these cases, She had been in the institution for several years and was incurably insane. All the attendants and nurses in the ward in which she was confined were in mortal dread of her, and they were She is nearly six feet in height and very muscular. She had been a laundress in

said Dr. Dent, where I found the negress in a terrible rage. She had driven all the nurses out of the ward and the other and saw my sad face and tattered garway is infallible, and to show to what patients were completely cowed. She

she could kill or main any of the patients, teresting evidence.—Cornhill Magazine. a few moments. There was no time to Warm as Greece and Rome and Egypt dozen paces she threw down her picture some poor, ragged boy in my audience one wanted to harm her, and to keep

"Thinking to catch her off her guard I grabbed for the arm that held the bench | bill was inside. Europe, where it is utilized for heating and swore that she would kill me, and to tell the truth I was a little afraid she size. The way she chucked me about down again, almost took the life out of me. She played with me as a cat does with a mouse, but, strange to say, though she had me at her mercy, she did not attempt to beat my brains out with her club. It all happened in a very few prizes were turning up. It was then minutes. When she gave me a breathing spell I appealed to her sympathies and she calmed down considerably, and after talking to her in a conciliatory manner we decided to compromise. She agreed to go to her cell quietly, after I had promised to give her something to ease the pain in her head. I walked to the cell with her, in order to fasten the door falling star. It started from a point be- and as I did so she grabbed me around on the outside. I opened the cell door, the waist, lifted me from the ground and carried me bodily into the cell, then slammed the door. 'Now I will kill you, sure,' she cried.

"She imagined that it was I who had hit her on the head and had caused her all her sufferings. Her powerful hand was at my throat when the attendants rushed in and rescued me. It was the narrowest escape I had ever had. She was given an opiate to quiet her, while I, more dead than alive, was carried to my office considerably bruised."

"How about the cases of rough usage to patients that have occurred in the institution?" I asked.

"In spite of all the care and supervision and under the most rigid discipline, it rarely happens that the patients are roughly spoken to, much less roughly treated, by the nurse; but, of course, attendants upon the insane, like the ordinary run of mankind, are not universally sweet tempered, nor endowed too liberally with that spirit of Christian

"We have too few attendants here. number. The employes are overworked: they are kept busy constantly from the time they get up till they go to bed, with duties of a most trying character. They are cut off for the most part from social pleasures, and their sacrifices are many for small pay. But whenever a case comes to my attention of a nurse or attendant caught in the act of abusing a patient there is an immediate discharge. The patients are encouraged to tell their grievances to their supervisors and physicians, whom they are taught to regard as their friends and protectors, and their reports of ill treatment are investigated carefully when there is the least

SOFT SOAP AND HARD.

The Eloquence of a Bowery Fakir Is Potent with an East Side Audience

A street fakir of the finest type stood at the corner of the Bowerv and a cross street, and addressed the attentive throng with all the rhetorical flourish of a United States senator.

"I was once a poor boy," said he, "with only two cents in my pocket, and I found myself here in this great city without a home and without a friend, May the fates preserve you from any such hardships as I saw, dear gentlemen! Barefooted, hungry, sleeping on the cold ground under the unsympathetic stars, eating the crumbs thrown .to me from the tables of the rich, I was indeed a blighted being. I did my best to get employment, but there was no room for me, and I began to contemplate suicide.

"That was cowardly of me, gentlemen, I admit, but I had been made a coward by my privations. I was not myself, and my suicidal purpose was the mad despair of a half insane youth. Yes, I was determined to commit suicide, and was starting in search of a secluded dock where I could plunge into the cruel river without the danger of be ing rescued, when a piece of good fortune befel me which changed the whole course of life. As I was passing along the Bowery my attention was attracted by the voice of a gentleman who stood on the corner just above where I am standing now. He had a small black bag with him, very similar to the one 1 am carrying, and in this bag were small cakes of soap, which the gentleman was offering for sale at twenty-five cents a

"Now, I did not much stand in need of soap at just that moment, notwithstanding the very thorough bath I was about to give myself, and I should not have stopped to listen to that gentleman had I not perceived that he was offering woman, whose name is Ann Kinney. a very remarkable inducement to the public to buy his wares. Will you believe it, gentlemen, in many of the packthis city, and during an altercation with ages of soap contained in that bag were her husband she received a blow on the wrapped greenbacks ranging from the head, as a result of which she became one to the five dollar denomination! 1 was seized with an immense longing to "I was summoned to the acute ward," | try my luck in that soap lottery. Providence was watching me at that moment. The soap vender looked down

> ". There is a lad, said he, 'whom I should like to help. He will be permitted to draw a cake of soap from this bag without charge, and we shall see what his fortune will be.'

"I drew, gentlemen, as I was directed, and, joy of joys! there was a five dollar bill in my cake of soap. A year later I "There was only one thing to do, and | had \$1,000 in the bank, and now I am proud to say life is a perpetual delight. So much do I feel my indebtedness towhich, with her strength, she could do in | ward the gentleman who saved me that I, too, have taken up the philanthropic summon other help, so I opened the door | work of distributing bank bills among and walked in. The mad woman made the needy. And I always make it a prac-

The poor, miserable lad thus importuned did as he was directed, and as the crowd watched him unfold the paper wrapper it was seen that a five dollar

"You see," exclaimed the fakir, unwrapping several of the cakes to display the money within, and then throwing would, for I was only about half her them back into the rig, "you can scarcely help drawing a prize.'

Instantly there was a rush in the soap business. As fast as the fakir could make change coins fluttered into his hands. The excitement continued for a number of minutes, and then some one in the crowd began to complain that no that the fakir discovered a policeman approaching, and hastily shutting his bag he hurried down the cross street. and turning sharply to the right after going a short distance, disappeared, and in a few minutes was joined by the ragged boy who had been allowed to draw the five dollar prize. His profits her age was given as forty-nine instead on the soap must have been fully \$10 .-New York Sun.

An Expert Opinion.

The New York State Meter inspector's deputy was asked this question the other day: "Could a gas company make meters record more than was necessary to be consumed by tenants by putting on an increased pressure through the pipes?" The inspector replied: "Of course, an increased pressure will make more gas go through the meters than is necessary for the lights. The companies have to put on a lot of pressure about 6 o'clock in the evening when everybody is lighting up. That is what makes the gas jump and flare so. All the gas coming through the pipes is not burned, and that is where the patent governors and regulators step in.

But the consumer can regulate that just as well without a governor by turning the gas partially off at his meter until he gets a stream just about adequate to the number of lights he uses. It makes the light steady, and saves about 20 to 25 per cent. of gas to the consumer. I have done it for many years, and found governor.'

Just Think Over It.

Who has not at some period of his existence puzzled his brain over this query: If a goose weighs ten pounds and hall its own weight, what is the weight of

Many persons have undoubtedly been tempted to answer fifteen pounds at once, when the correct answer, of course, is twenty pounds, as they discover after giving the problem a little thought .-New York Tribune.

The largest county in the United States is Yavapai county, A. T., which has an area of almost 30,000 square miles. Nine states of the Union are each smaller than this one county. It is larger than the whole of West Vir-

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OPERA HOUSE CORNER

A lady who is known to be an extremist in many of her views gravely told the following dream over the coffee

the other morning to the great amuse ment of her husband and some friends. who declared it essentially feminine and characteristic of her sex.

She dreamed that she had died, and in the interval before the freed spirit made its way heavenward she was an unseen observer and listener to all that took place in the room in which the poor clay she had so recently inhabited lay. She was touched with the devotion of her mother, who, like Mary of old. was always first and last beside the body. soon to find sepulture, also intensely interested in the arguments for or against cremation (this having been her own pet theory), which her friends held forth in the presence of her disembodied spirit and longing to depart with the celestial throng awaiting her, yet mortified and thrilled on the threshold of heaven by the fact that, graven on her casket plate. of thirty-two.-Utica Herald.

Do Women or Fashions Change? In an apothecary's window in New York is a heap of the vinaigrettes that were in use four or more years ago. They are of cut glass, from twelve to fourteen inches long, an inch thick, and of the fashion, for whereas women paid many dollars to get one only the other day, so to speak, no lady would carry one the length of an avenue block today for five times as much money. The same moral is pointed by a picture that was famous sixteen years ago. It is Arthur Lumley's sketch of two rival schools meeting on Fifth avenue. The beauty of the school girls in that picture gave the picture great eclat. Today the girls look like dreadful guys. Their queer hats, their waterfalls and their balloon skirts condemn the work as a picture of something preposterous. -- San Francisco Argonaut.

Old Cities of Europe Changing.

Said a woman returned from a trip abroad, which was by no means her it to work just about as well as a patent | first: "I have discovered that the historic monotony of even European life can change. When I first saw Ghent, ten or a dozen years ago, it was a picturesque walled city; now I find that much of its wall has gone into its fine quays. So with Bruges, which all guide books used to delight to remind you had not had a house built within its limits for an extraordinary length of time-a hundred and fifty years at least. I was there recently to discover some marked changes-some almost modern houses and others altered in a manner which has done away with a degree of their delicious antiquity."-New York Times.

Woden, from whom we have the name Wednesday, was a prince of high standing among the Saxons. His image was prayed to for victory. On the third day after each succeeding sun worship the ginia, and almost as large as South Car- old Saxons spent hours invoking the blessings of Woden.

The deceased was a noble Christian woman, a member of the Presbyterian church. She leaves three sons, John, Walter and Charles to mourn the loss of their only parent, the father having joined the silent

Mrs. Rutherford was born at Gilboa New York June 1st 1830 and HAVE THE MOST came to Nebraska in 1869 she was a sister of the late C. M. Holmes of this city and settled near his farm in Rock Bluffs precincts.

majority twenty years ago.

During her illness which proved fatal she suffered great pain but bore it with true Christian fortitude. The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Presbyterian church. Rev. Baird will officiate.

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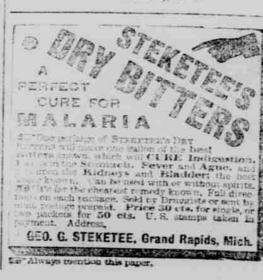
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