That Puzzled an Inquisitive Boy ed Convulsed His Phonorous Father. Characters That Appear to Have an Extensive Wardrobe

"Papa," asked the boy, looking up from his book, "can a man grow a real beard in one day?"

"I should say not," answered the father cautiously, being mindful of the fact that within a week the boy had put to him this question-"Why does a woman walk on her heels in crossing a muddy street," and when he answered that he did not know, the boy had said. "To get across." But there was no sell about the question the boy asked, nor about the next one, which was this:

"Can a man get bald in one night?" "He might in an Indian country," answered the father, whereupon there was silence for a little time. Then the boy impatiently said:

"I don't understand these pictures at all. Everybody in them keeps changing around, and I don't know who is who, and I don't see how they know

each other half a day running."

The book was "The Swiss Family Robinson," and the title page declared that there were "100 illustrations." It was worth while to follow the "family" through the pictures.

Putting aside a colored frontispiece which depicted a lusty barelegged boy on a rock, with a polo cap crowning a shock of yellow hair parted in the back a bow in his hand and his eyes fixed or a spouting whale that looked like a sardine sneezing violently, the panorama opened with the "family" kneeling in grateful prayer for its escape. The father, with head bald on top, smooth shaven face and long locks of white hair falling on his shoulders was the central figure, and made an ideal vicar of Wakefield. Fritz, the eldest son, wor a long coat and long trousers, and France, the youngest, was distinguished by a large button on his coat in the small of the back. This was in the fore-

LIGHTNING CHANGES.

A few hours later, in the afternoon, behold the change! The father had grown fine, closely trimmed side whiskers, and he and his sons had changed their straight locks for crisply curling hair. From a gentle faced Madonna the mother had been changed into a vivacious looking Jewess, and, strangest of all, two St. Bernards in the first picture had become trim bulldogs, with every appearance of being able to make a good fight.

Then there came a lightning change. In five minutes their father's whiskers had grown an inch or two, Fritz and he had gotten into knickerbockers, terminating in the father's case in blue stockings and buckled shoes, both of them had lost the curl out of their hair, and one of the bulldogs had been metamorphosed into a setter standing over a redish brown rabbit that was declared in the text to be an agouti.

Noon, the next day, and the father and stone jug that might have held molasses and might not. The father looked like a Highlander in a farmer's clothes, and Fritz, who had grown three or four years older, was dressed like Danton when that gentleman was of some consequence in Paris and looked like him. One of the dogs had become a King Charles spaniel. The other did not appear, but was probably in seclusion, settling on the breed in which he would next appear.

The pair were on a hunting excursion on their deserted island. A few hours later Fritz had gotten his shock of yellow hair back, and traded his Danton costume for knickerbockers, blue stockings and a sack coat, while his father had somewhere picked up a Russian peasant's dress, and grown a full brown beard, and the King Charles had become a setter. The jug had disappeared.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE. That night the father shaved himself down to the side whiskers, dyed his own and Fritz's hair black, put a sailor shirt on himself and a pair of striped lawn tennis trousers on Fritz, and the next morning went out sailing. While they were absent the Jewish faced mother changed her countenance for a subdued Irish, arrayed herself in a dark blue gown that disclosed a red petticoat, and put a yellow handkerchief on her head. Taking Jack, one of her other sons, and putting a trim polo cap on his yellow locks, the two, accompanied by one of the St. Bernards, went out for a walk.

A day or two later the father had gotten back his full, yellow beard, which he seemed to wear with his peasant costume, and one of the dogs had changed into a hound. But if you hoped the father would stay that way long enough for you to get acquainted with him, divest your mind of that thought. Before night he had returned to his trim side whiskers and curly hair, while Fritz had shrunk in length, broadened in girth, and put on long trousers that were too short for him and heavy shoes.

And so the pictures run. The father changes his clothes, his beard and his hair at least once, and often two or three times a day, Fritz is a good second in this kaleidoscopic performance, the mother facially runs through all the races and exhibits a bewildering number of different costumes, the little boys must have been branded or their parents would never have been able to keep track of them, so extraordinary were the changes they underwent, and the dogs offered enough varieties to have given a capital bench show. The "one hundred illustrations" were altogether the most entertaining things about the copy of "The Swiss Family Robinson" over which the boy puzzled and the boy's father laughed .-New York Times.

A veteran Provincetown (Mass.) fisherman, who claims to know, says that when mackerel are on the move the advanced body is entirely composed of fe-male fish, while the rear column is formed of the male.

certain and rapid means of resuscitating and each man insures his life for the persons from the effects of suffocation. A sapper among the men under his command at Chatham was one day found enveloped in the folds of a half empty war balloon The coal gas with which it had been inflated had suifocated him, | tee "drop off," the sums insured on their and to all appearances he was a dead man. But efforts were made to restore him, though the pulseless heart and ca-daverous face of the man gave no encouragement to persevere. In a moment of something like inspiration it some tubes of compressed oxygen, which had been prepared for the oxyhydrogen

This pure oxygen, at a very high pressure, was hurriedly conveyed into the mouth of the prostrate sapper by means of inserting the nozzle of the valve between his teeth, and the supply was "gently turned on" to the smallest exent. The effect was absolutely instantaneous. In an instant he opened his eyes and seized the nozzle between his teeth. In short, the sapper was not only thoroughly revived within a few minutes, but in half an hour walked away, quite well, to the barracks, and refused to go to the military hospital, as was

suggested by his commanding officer. Of course the objection will be raised that everybody has not tubes of pure oxygen at high pressure in readiness to apply to such cases. Happily oxygen in quantities as large as those administered is not needed, and it can be stored "in small, strong bottles made of the finest steel, with a valve giving an absolute

hermetic seal."

These vessels may be as small as a soda water bottle, and may be made part of the medical stock of every doctor. Oxygen at any degree of compression required can, in fact, now be obtained, and the whole apparatus for restoring vitality can be packed in a small box quite portable.

What possibilities may not such a discovery as that to which we have drawn attention involve! It is equally available, we are assured, for those persons who have been asphyxiated by choke damp in coal mines, or by ordinary coal gas. People apparently drowned, and those insensible from long exposure in the rigging of a ship, might also be saved from an untimely end by what Colonel Elsdale calls "a dose of oxygen."

It would probably be invaluable, too, in cases of suffocation from the fumes of charcoal, or in cases where chloroform had operated injuriously on a weak heart. Such a discovery should at once occupy the attention of the Royal College of Physicians, with a view of ascertaining whether Colonel Elsdale has overrated the beneficient effects to be anticipated from the administration of pure oxygen.-London Chronicle.

How It Feels to Have a Bug in One's Ear. "A bug in his ear," is a figure very extensively used in common conversation. But, reader, did you ever have a bug in to be found in the state. Those Fritz were again presented, seated this your ear in fact? If not, you have no wanting a satisfactory livery can't time by a brook, but conveniently near a idea how it feels. B. F. Tomlinson, who experienced the sensation, says he never suffered such torture in his life. The bug crawled into his ear while he was lying in bed asleep, between 11 and 12 o'clock one night. It was only a common candlebug or fly, but the degree of torture one of them can inflict while in the ear is beyond the scope of the imagination. Mr. Tomlinson said that when he awoke he dreamed that a railway train had jumped the track, struck him in the ear and was plowing its way through his head. The train kept going, but it seemed that it would never get

> Occasionally it would stop and then start again with renewed force. Then again the train seemed to be at a standstill, but the wheels would be turning with lightning rapidity. The train would move off gradually with a grating noise, and would not stop till the whistle blew for the next station or it ran off the track or collided with another train, which frequently occurred. Mr. Tomlinson stood the torture till daylight, when he sent for a doctor, who succeeded in fishing out the bug, which in the meantime had died. Mr. Tomlinson said that if the bug had remained in his ear an hour longer he would have been a raving maniac.-Mexico (Mo.) Intelli-

Strengthening Cast Iron.

Some of the most prominent iron founders are introducing a new and simple practice in order to secure stronger castings, the method in question consisting in placing thin sheets of wrought iron in the center of the mold previous to the operation of casting. This method was first resorted to, it appears, in the casting of thin plates for the ovens of cooking stoves, it being found that a sheet of thin iron in the center of a quarter inch oven plate rendered it practically unbreakable by fire.

This result has led to the process being now applied to the casting of large iron pipes, a core of sheet iron imparting additional strength and lessening the liability to any fracture. As an evidence of the additional strength capable of being imparted by this means, it is stated that a plate of iron one-fourth of an inch thick, cast with a perforated sheet of 27-wire gauge wrought iron in the center, possessed six times the strength of a similar cast plate with no core. The quarter inch plate had the strength of a plate one inch thick .- New

York Sun. A Door in an Old Church.

Now and then a small door may be seen high up in the piers that divide the nave from the chancel. This is the door that once gave access from the winding stair within the pier to the footway on the top of the screen with which most churches were once provided. When screens were found inconvenient and were removed, these doors were left. Ress church, Herefordshire, has a noticeable example; Hinckley church, Leicestershire, has another.-Gentleman's Renewer.

church debt has been hit upon in Melbourne, Australia. The church com-Colonel Henry Elsdale, of the Royal mittee-or vestry, as the case may beengineers, claims to have discovered a divide the total debt among themselves. amount that falls to ms share. The policies are transferred to the church and the annual payments on them are made out of the collections. Then, of course, as the members of the commitlives drop in, and later, when the only survivor dies, the last installment of the church debt is paid. -Pall Mall Gazette

People Who Live Over 2,000 Feet High. The population between 2,000 and 5,000 occurred to Colonel Elsdale to send for feet is found mainly on the slope of the great western plains. In this region the belt between 2,000 and 3,000 feet is al most everywhere the debatable ground between the arid region of the Cordilleran plateau and the humid region of the Mississippi valley. Above 3,000 feet irrigation is almost universally necessary for success in agricultural operations. - Washington Star.

The most unhappy period of marriage, according to French divorce statistics, is for the period extending from the fifth to the tenth year. After that the figures drop rapidly. Only 28 per cent. of the couples seek divorce between their tenth and twentieth years of union. Only one pair in 100 seeks to cut the knot after the period over thirty and under forty

The Forth bridge was begun in 1881. There were then only two cantalever bridges in existence, one of them carrying the Cincinnati Southern railroad across the Kentucky river, and the other spanning the river Warthe at Posen, in Germany Both of these were built in

Among the articles made of asbestos are mittens to guard the hands of firemen, assayers, refiners and others who are exposed to burning. As the material is not affected by heat, the workman thus protected can grasp hot irons, crucibles and the like without discom-

Next Monday night the amusemnt lovers will be amused by the comedians Brown and Green with the Creoles, Eight comedians, ten beau tiful creole ladies, with the Pickaninny quartette, should be able to entertain an audience. Elegant cos tumes will be used in the first part. Mr. Downing assures the Plattsmouth people that everything will be first-class and will give the audience a surprise when the curtain

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I think Ely's Cream Balm is the best remedy for catarrh I ever saw. I never took anything that relieved me so quickly, and I have not felt so well for a long time. I used to be troubled with severe headaches two or three times a week .- J. A. Alcorn, Ag't U. P. R. R. Co., Eaton,

I have been a great sufferer from dry catarrh for many years, and I tried many remedies, but none did me so much benefit as Ely's Cream Balm. It completely cured me. M. J. Lally, 39 Woodward Ave., Boston Highlands, Mass.

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Wreck on the B. & M.

A freight train was doubled up between here and Lincoln this morning which delayed the morning east bound trains. No particulars further at this hour accessible.

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A O. U. W., s. Meeis first and third Friday eve\_ings of each month at G. A. R. Hall in Rockwook block. Frank Vermilyea, M. W. D. B Euersole, Recorder.

A O. U. W. No. 84—Meets second and feurth Friday eveninos in the month at G. A. R. hall in Rockwood block, E. J. Morgan, M W, F. P. Brown, Reaorder,

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#### PLACES OF WORSHIP.

CATHOLIC.—St. Paul's Church, Oak, between Fifth and Sixth. Father Carney, Pastors Services: Mass at 8 and 10:30 A. M. Sunday School at 2:30, with benediction. CHRISTIAN.—Corner Locust and Eighth Sts. Services morning and evening. Elder J. K. Reed, pastor. Sunday School 10A. M. EPISCOPAL.—St. Luke's Church, corner Third and Vine. Rev. H B. Burgess, pastor. Ser-vices: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School

GERMAN METHODIST.—Corner Sixth St. and Granite. Rev. Hirt. Pastor. Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 10:30 A. M.

PRESBYTERIAN.—Services in new church, corner Sixth and Granite sts. Rev. J. T. Baird, pastor. Sunday-school at 9:30; Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

The Y. R. S. C. E of this church meets every Sabbath evening at 7:15 in the basement of the church. All are invited to attend these meetings.

FIRST METHODIST.—Sixth St., between Main and Pearl. Rev. J. D. M. Buckmay, pastor. Services: 11 A. M., 8:00 P. M. Sunday School 9:30 A. M. Prayer meeting Wednesday even-

GERMAN PRESENTERIAN.—Corner Main and Ninth. Rev. Witte, pastor. Services usual hours. Sunday School 9:30 A. M. SWEEDISH CONGREGATIONAL-Granite, be-

COLORED BAPTIST.—Mt. Olive, Oak, between Tenth and Eleventh, Rev. A. Roswell, pas-tor. Services 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. Young Men's Christian Association— Rooms in Waterman block, Main street. Gos-pel meeting, for men only, every Sunday af-ternoon at 4 o'clock. Rooms open week days from 8:30 a. m., to 9:30 p. m.

SOUTH PARK TABERNACLE—Rev. J. M. Wood, Pastor. Services: Sunday School, 10 a. m.: Preaching, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; prayer meeting Tuesday night; choir practice Friday night. All are welcome.

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