#### STRUTHERS' ADVENTURE

Result of His Efforts to Save the Sukia's Daughter.

Struthers was discontented, so was Bones; the causes were different, but the effect the same.

Struthers had knocked about Central America for almost four months on a vain quest for adventures which would make his college vacation a unique one, and fill his room at the "Hall" with tropnies and the boys' ears with thrilling stories.

Bones was beginning to rebel at the society of native curs, whose combined forces did not suffice to give him a semblance of the delightful scrimmages he was wont to have in Cambridge.

Struthers' latest vagary-and owing to his father's liberality he was able to indulge in many such-was the chartering of a small native schooner. With a crew of six black Caribs he was now skirting the Mosquito shore of Honduras on his way to Cabo Gracios a Dios, where he expected to catch a homeward bound steamer.

He yearned for the delights of civilization and ice, and felt that, after all, the conventional pleasures of tennis, canoeing and dancing at Bar Hurbor were perhaps preferable to the uncertain joys of mule back and hunting in the wilds of Central America.

The outfit, or what remained of it, was rusty and battered, but the hardships which had wrought this change in his "impedimenta" had been vastly beneficial to the owner in hardening his muscles and broadening his shoul-

With Bones things had not gone so well; an almost steady diet of bananas had made him thin, and between the chigoes and gurrapatas very little of his glossy coat was left, save in shreds and patches.

"It's too bad, Bones, old fellow; they haven't left you much hair," said Struthers. "Never mind, your troubles will soon be over. I say, Ossorio," turning wrathfully upon the Carib captain, "what is this beastly, old country of yours good for, anyway? I haven't had a decent adventure or seen anything worth telling, in the whole length and breadth of it!"

"You haven't seen him all, Buckra," replied the Carib, a splendid specimen of that race of semi-civilized black smugglers, who dart along the Caribbean coast in their swift dories.

"Way yonder," he continued, pointing toward the west, "is de lan' ub de Waikas; plenty fun dere; but white man no sabez him. No white men dere, not eben Spanish man, only Waikas, Buckra, only Waikas."

"Perhaps you're right, Ossorio, about the plenty fun. At any rate, I'll have another try at amusement before I cut the country; so put about and make for some river you think your friends, the Waikas, may live near."

Soon they were sailing along the low sandy coast which lay to the left, and as they rounded a little cape Struthers cried out: "Look, there's the mouth of the river."

"I see him," answered the Carib, "make we put in dere. I tink me, p'raps, see Walka town soon by." The Carib's supposition was correct,

for the schooner was soon near enough for them to perceive the high-peaked thatened roofs and bamboo walls of the native houses nestling among the waving palms and plumy cocoanut trees which lined the river bank. The schooner was over the bar and

abreast of the village before the natives were aware of their presence.

Then they came running and jumping down to the river bank like so many children, in high glee over the arrival of strangers and the possibility of beads, and perhaps a little rum.

The landing was soon made, and the Carib, polyglot that he was, acted as interpreter in presenting Struthers to the old chief, Dama Pisano, who at once bid the strangers welcome and conducted them to his watla, or

Installed in a wide hammock within the semi-darkness of the watla, and a large gourd of cool pineapple mishla at his side, Struthers forgot his discontent and asked many questions of Pisano through the Carib.

He learned that the music they had heard was part of the ceremony attendant upon the death of an old sukia or "medicine man," whose funeral was to be held on the following day.

"To-morrow, at first sun un, de fun'ral begins. Dama Pisano aska you if you wan' to see him-better you domaybe it 'muse you," said the Carib,

with unconscious sarcasm. At sunrise the next morning he was suddenly aroused by the rattle of mus-

ketry, followed by doleful howls and lamentations. Rushing out of the watla, where he had spent the night, he saw a large pit-

pan (dugout) coming slowly down the river, while on the bank abreast of it marched two columns of Waikas, the men constituting one column, the wom-

In the pitpan was the dead medicine man, his three widows and a solitary

The pitpan made a landing, and the coffin, followed by the crowd of silent Walkas, was carried along a narrow trail into the forest.

The open space of the burial ground was in the midst of the great junglea small circle of light surrounded by impenetrable darkness.

Room was made for Struthers, Ossorio and Bones, and at a signal from Pisano the crowd fell back, the new sukia stepped forward and the ceremonies began.

Bending low over the swathed body. mur to bewail his loss and recount the good deeds of the dead man; one by one the women joined in-the chant increased rapidly in velocity and volume until it formed a grand swelling chorus | fully on a coil of rope, then at the facof distress, then slowly died away into an marticulate sorrowing.

In a silence broken only by the mufkneeled down and solemnly stuck little | Vail in Boston Globe.

wooder ty, res of men with uplifted sword-lambachetes in the ground. This, c. plained Ossorio, was to

frighten away any evil spirits who might attempt to steal the body. The dead man's entire kit of weapons and a bunch of plantains was placed in the coffin with him, to proteet and feed him on his long journey to the land of everlasting felicity.

Again the low-murmured wail began and continued until it reached a frenzied pitch. Faster beat the drum and faster whirled the women about the open grave in a wild ecstatic dance until, weak and dizzy, they sank to the ground, squirming and clutching at the grass about them while the foam flicked from their mouths as from rabid animals.

Once more silence fell upon the assembled crowd. The sukia stepped to the grave and with his machete dispatched three dogs and a cat which were to bear the dead man company on his

"I say, Ossorio, this is horrible-it's voodooism-let's go," muttered Struth-

"Yes, Buckra, obeah an' voodoo; de Waikas long time come from Africa; dey still keep up er r'ligion ob der faders. But make me wait; he stop now, see, dey do sometning else," added

the Carib, as the natives swayed back. The crowd parted and two hideous old hags stepped into the open, dragging between them a trembling young native girl, who cast terrified glances before her.

"Shame to whip such a nice little girl," murmured the Carib. "What do you mean-who is going to whip her, and for what reason?" demanded Struthers.

"De Waika man tell me de dead sukia's her fader," answered the Carib. 'Waika always whip de 'lations of de dead man at de fun'ral; maybe she do something when he live he no whip her for-dey whip her now for shuah."

Hardly had the Carib spoken, when a brawny Waika buck stepped forward with a heavy manatee whip, which flashed through the air down upon the girl's shrinking shoulders, and left a long red welt of tortared flesh.

A shriek burst from the girl and she writhed and twisted vainly to escape from the clutches of the hags who held

"Look out, Ossorio, I can't stand this," gasped Struthers. "I'm going to stop it!"

But the faithful Bones, who had crouched till then at Struthers' feet, relieved them from all further responsibility, for, as the Waika raised his arm for the second lash, Bones, at a whispered word from Struthers, gave a low growl, and, gathering himself together, made one of his famous jumps and launched his forty odd pounds of bone and muscle straight at the executioner's breast.

was down, with Bones at his throat, before the assembled crowd realized what had happened. Then, with fierce vells, machetes

It was all so sudden that the Waika

were drawn and the men made a rush at Liones. Struthers and Ossorio were before

them, however, the former vowing he would shoot the first man who touched the dog.

Bones, obedient to his master's command, released the Waika, who, staggering to his feet, rushed to the grave | The Dry Humor of the Picturesque Peoand, seizing from beside it a loaded musicet, raised it to take aim at Struth-

Before he could fire, a knife thrown by the Carib pierced his right who, which fell limp at his side.

To make a stand against such overwhelming numbers was madness, so ing, maddened mob of Waikas.

On and on they dashed, till they were breathless, till their hearts beat against | the next question? their breasts, as though they would burst through. With every step their pursuers seemed to gain, and Struthers was about to give up in despair when a glimmer in the heavy shade ahead revealed the river.

They crashed out into the open, and in an instant had jumped into the pitpan, which had recently borne the into the river when the angry Waikas emerged from the forests.

The yells of the disappointed natives | no difficult-it's impossible." spurred them to swifter paddling, and they were on the schooner's deck before the Waikas could launch another dugout

The Waikas were too cautious to risk an immediate attack, but soon had a dozen pitpans manned and armed.

"O, for a breeze," cried Struthers, "to take us out over the bar and away from these heathens!"

But no breeze came, though the anchor was catted and all sail set ready for the wind.

On came the Waikas, the war drums beating, the gourds rattling, and the men yelling like demons.

Suddenly, amid the pandemonium raised by the Waikas, came sounds of rasping and creaking overhead. The Carib looked anxiously aloft from his place under the bulwarks and gave a cry of gladness.

Hardly had he spoken when a shout of anger came from the Waisas. Struthers, raising his head above the taffrail, saw the pitpans slowly falling behind, while the freshening breeze carried them faster and faster toward the open sea.

For a long time he watched the receding canoes until they were but specks far stern. Finally the Carib touched his shoulder.

"Bucka," said Ossorio, "we are out at sea now. Which way must I head de dory? You want to make for Cabe Gracios an' de home steamer, or you the sukin began in a low, rapid mur- tink you want to hab some more 'ven-

tures?" Struthers turned slowly upon the questioner; he looked first at the peaceful Bones, who was slumbering blisting shore line, and replied with a little

eatch in his voice: "No. Ossorio, I think this adventure fled tones of the tom-toms and the sobs | will do me for a time-let it be Cabo of the erouching women, the new sukia Granios and the steamer."-Stevens

TO PREPARE TOUGH MEAT. Remove the Sinews and the Worst Pieces

Will Be Perceptibly Improved. There are a great many unpromising-looking pieces of meat that make excellent braises and other dishes. But if anyone imagines that it is as easy to prepare a tough piece of meat that Country Gentleman. has abundance of fat and sinews in its nake-up as a prime roast, she is mistaken. It requires time and patience to deal with a sinewy piece of beef. If the meat is to be a success as a braise the greater part of the fat and all the sinews must be removed. It is not at all difficult to do this, but it requires patience and a keen-edged knife about the size of a boning knife. Keep the knife near the sinew and scrape it away from the meat on both sides. Continue until all the sinews are ren oved. A tough piece of round is very much improved by this process.

There are so many sinews in the leg that it had best be used for soup, though the patient French cooks very often take the trouble to prepare this cheap meat for stews. These stews they serve with piquant sauces flavored with tomatoes or mushrooms, so that the whole dish takes on a grand air and is really delightful to eat, while the meat is deliciously tender. A breast of yeal with its surplus fat and gristle is not a very promising subject in the hands of an inexperienced cook. But remove the soft bones very carefully, so as not to waste a particle of the meat, and remove a large portion of the fat. Make a well-flavored stuffing. If you wish, use about a pound of clear, lean yeal, chopped fine and pounded to a paste to the loaf of bread used for the stuffing, or make the old-fashioned dressing of bread mix it well in a tub of luke-warm small onion and a liberal teaspoonful well; let them soak for an hour or of parsley for flavoring and bind the more; occasionally stir but do not rub dressing together with two or three them. After they have been in the raw eggs, according to their size.

Economic cooking of a superior order can not be done in slapdish manner. A costs about three times as much. The veal takes twice as much time to prepare. Either dish is equally delicious. An epicure might prefer the breast of veal, if it was prepared in perfection. Even a roast must be attended to while it is cooking, but probably bears neglect better than almost any other service of meat, always providing the fire

was right when it was put in the oven. It is because of her dainty care and skill in flavoring that the French housekeeper excels in her ragouts and other rechauffes. She seasons a hash with as great care as if it were a piece of choice game. The result tells in the excellence of the dish. The careless cook who chops up the debris of meat from the last meals without stopping to separate the lean from the fat and remove all the bones and any sinews is sure to make a failure of her work. In all hashes, except corned beef, where a little fat is allowable, all fat should be removed and clear lear used. Look over the meat very carefully. If potatoes are used allow about half the quantity there is of meat. The care taken in this matter will pay in the superior excellence of your dish .- N. Y. Tribune.

## MATTER-OF-FACT.

ple of Scotland.

Some years ago there lived in Perth, Scotland, a man of weak intellect. well-known by his Christian name, Jamie. One dark night an acquaintance found Jamie lying at the foot of an outside stair. "Is that you, Jamie?" asked the acquaintance, in a voice of the two men dashed into the trail be the greatest astonishment. "Av. it's hind them, hot pursued by the shrick- me," replied Jamie, in a tone of complete resignation.

"Have you fa'en doon the stair?" was

"Ay! I fell doon; but I was comin' doon, whether or no."

To illustrate further the matter-offactness of the Scottish people, David Pryde mentions that a company at an artist's house were talking about their successes and failures. "Do you find it difficult to sell your

pictures?" said the lady of the house cornse of the sukia, and were well out to an artist who had been perfectly "No," said he, in a slow voice: "it's

A country doctor met one day the son of a patient of his who had been

"Well, my lad," said the doctor.

"how is your father this morning?" "He's deid," replied the boy. "Dead!" cried the doctor. there a medical man beside him when

he died?" "No," answered the lad; "he jist deid hissel'."-Youth's Companion.

## Something New in Skirts.

Among cold-weather garments are new skirts of fine felt in different state. This insures more moisture in cago Inter Ocean. colors, elaborately braided around the bottom with sontache a shade darker, or in black. Moreen skirts, flannel lined, are both neat and serviceable. For wearing with serge or other wool gowns of black, brown, gray or green. a petticoat to match, silk lined and faced with canvas at the edge to keep it away from the feet all around, and stood fact that biscuits, to be good. trimmed with rows of military braid, is must be very soft when put into the admirable. Flannel-lined silk skirts pans, and in no other way can this be the goose. trimmed with one or two flounces simply hem-stitched are very nice for after- just described. -N. Y. Ledger. noon wear. Striped or shot silks are the best, and the colors should be subjective. A thin flannel lining is requisite for warmth, especially if capes are worn instead of the long-skirted coat. will never quarrel with the gown; and tion should ever be borne in mind .-St. Louis Republic.

"Wouldn't -go - to - a - football - game!" Washington Star.

### HOME HINTS AND HELPS.

-Prune Whip: Wnites of five eggs, beaten stiff, three tablespoonfuls sugar. one-nalf pound soaked prunes, cut fine. Mix, and brown in a hot oven. Make boiled custard of the yolks and one pint of milk, and serve together .-

-To Color Almonds-Rose-Colored Almonds: Blanch and cut sweet almonds in small pieces, put them on baking-plate and pour on them a little of any vegetable liquid, of an infusion of cochineal or carmine: then rub them in your hands to mix them well with I won't steal Alice's sticks of candy; the color; when all are done, dry them on a stove or in the oven .- Farm, Field and Fireside.

-A plum pudding is quickly made by crumbling a pound can of pudding made by a reliable firm, adding two cups of bread crumbs soaked in milk, a small cup of minced suct, three eggs beaten light, half a cup of sugar and a cup of stoned raisins. Turn all these ingredients, after mixing, into a but- I will not sputter nor cough nor sneeze. tered mold and boil three hours .-American Agriculturist.

-Our Favorite Pudding: Bake a plain sponge cake in a layer pan. When ready for use cut into pieces, and split and butter each piece; place in a dish. Make a custard of four eggs to a quart of milk; flavor with vanilla; pour over the cake, and bake about one-half hour. A half cup of sherry added to the custard improves it. Sweeten custard to taste; one cup sugar is enough.-Detroit Free Press.

-To Wash Blankets: Take a pint of powdered borax, pour boiling water upon it until the soap is dissolved, then water until it looks like the dirt was out, put them in a tub of clear water several days at a time with only a dog without ringing them, and after soakfine roast of beef can be cooked more ing and stirring awhile, pass them quickly than a breast of veal, but it through the wringer and hang on the trained for the business. line to dry .- Yankee Blade.

-German Puffs: One pint of milk, the yolks of six eggs, five tablespoonfuls of flour, one of melted butter, balf a teaspoonful of salt. Mix the flour in a little of the milk, then add the remainder, the eggs well-beaten, and the salt and butter. Butter muffin-tins and half fill them with the batter. Bake twenty minutes in quick oven. Serve on a hot platter and pour over them a sauce made as follows: Beat the whites of the six eggs to a stiff froth. gradually beat in a cupful of powdered sugar and the juice of one large, or two small, lemons. - Boston Budget.

-Sewing Campaign.-I take my winter evenings to read. I have three children under five years of age, so I plan a campaign of sewing. I do my washing and ironing, sweeping, a lot of baking, get ready some cold meat, and begin my sewing week. I have dried corn, canned tomatoes, canned fruit, pudding and milk, and other quickly-prepared dishes during the siege. I use sweet cream instead of making gravy for potatoes. My husband helps to run the machine. I sew till the floors get pretty dirty, and the baking is all gone; then I commence cooking again.-Rural New Yorker.

## BREAD-MAKING MADE EASY.

A New Method Which Requires Very Little

It is one of the fine arts of life to do things in some easy and practical fashion. Who ever invents or devises a way to save labor, to do two things with the same amount of tax and exertion usually required for one, has conferred a lasting benefit on mankind. Particularly is this the case in household affairs. The difficulty of getting competent help and the burden of domestic care seems to increase with every year, and easy ways to do things are of unspeakable value, especially to delicate women who have everything to look self to a lamb without being noticed. after, and in emergencies must take up No! At the first sign of a stranger the the entire labor of the establishment dog barks.

A new idea in bread-making is well Then a remarkable sight is to be worth the attention of every woman, seen. The oldest and strongest ram whether she be delicate or care-bur- of the flock advances to the dog's side dened or not. A semi-invalid makes All the other rams come forward and bread without weariness by a simple take their places near by, facing the process. Instead of the usual knead- foe. The ewes and the lambs huddle ing and mixing she uses a chopping- closely together behind their deknife. Sprinkling on a very little fenders. flour, she chops the sponge for five or She never uses a bread-board, but fighting. the bread and much longer keeping qualities. Biscuit and other similar articles are made in the same way, the How It Is Observed Among the People kneading process being almost entirely dispensed with, nothing more being necessary than dexterous handling and a little care that the dough does not stick to the cloth. It is a well-undermanaged as easily as by the method

## Afghan Making.

Bits of worsted always accumulate in a family where much work is carried on. It is a good thing for some Black silk skirts are always ladylike; member of it to have always an afghan so, too, shepherd's check silk skirts in course of construction, to which these odds and ends can go. The makin making a purchase this considera- ing is a clear pleasure, it is so simple and satisfactory, and there are several patterns that call for many shades of yarn. An afghan is in constant re--"Where we goin'?" said one small quest; not, as once for the carriage, but of Christmas is not unlike our own. boy to another. "Ter the football to keep at hand when one lies down to "So'm I. My big brother's make a light covering to throw over to take me." "Humph. My big brother one. When all the materials were wouldn't go to a football game." bought outright it made about as expensive a piece of work as could be en-"Naw. My brother was in the war. gaged upon. But by adopting this He's seen reg'lar battles, he has."- "hit-or-miss" plan it is quickly and of gifts wrapped in paper. The "Urn sheaply obtained .- N. Y. World.

# FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

TURNING OVER NEW LEAVES.

Now what is that noise?" said the glad New Now, what is that singular sound I hear? As if all the paper in all the world Were rattled and shaken and twisted and twirled.

"Oh! that," said the jolly old earth, "is the Of all my children, both girls and boys, A-turning over their leaves so new, and all to do honor, New Year, to you

WHAT THE LEAVES SAID. I won't call Robert a jack-a-dandy; I won't squeak my pencil on my state; I won't lie in bed every day and be late

I won't make faces at Timothy Mack:

Rust's and turn them so and so:

won't make fun behind anyone's back

The good shall come and the bad shall go I won't tear "barn doors" in all my frocks; I won't put my toes through all my socks. I won't be greedy at dinner table! At least-I think I won't-if I'm able! I will not pinch nor poke nor tease, I will not grumble nor fret nor scold, And I will do exactly whatever I'm told. Rustle and turn them, so and so! The good shall come and the bad shall go.

# SMART SHEPHERD DOGS.

They Take Entire Care of a Flock Without Anyone's Direction

-Laura E. Richards, in Youth's Companion

In South America, in the region of the great pasture plains, dogs are trained to be shepherds. I do not mean that a dog goes out with the herdsmen and helps watch the flock. I mean that the dog goes out alone and soft soap, put into it a tablespoonful of that he takes the entire care of the sheep without anyone's direction. In South America there are vast plains where for miles and miles there is litcrumbs alone. In either case use a water, enough to cover the blankets the vegetation save the short grain on which sheep feed. There are no habitations for men.

On these vast pastures there are immense flocks which are often left for to take care of them. But well he knows how to do it, for he has been

When "Colly" was only a day old he was taken away from his own mother and given to a big, motherly sheep. She let the little blind puppy share the dinner of her own baby lamb. His little bed was in a warm, soft nest made of the sheared fleece of a sheep.

He was never allowed to taste of meat. He was not permitted to associate with other dogs or with children. His only associates were sheep. Consequently all the strong friendship, all the loyalty, all the protecting instinct . which belongs to a good dog's nature were turned towards sheep. The little dog grew to love sheep, to play with sheep, and, above all, to watch over sheep and protect them.

No hungry stranger could approach one of these big wandering flocks in the vast and lonely plain and help him-



THE OLDEST AND STRONGEST RAM AD-VANCES TO THE DOG'S SIDE.

They Have Been Observed by Darwin and

The dog does the talking for the ten minutes two or three times during whole party and gives all the orders. the rising process. No kneading is re- acting the part of a commanding genquired except just enough to put it in- eral, but the rams, with their big. to shape when it is ready for the pans. cruel horns and strong heads, do the

spreads a large cloth-folded over to Sometimes when the owners have climbed to the top of a hill near by, several thicknesses-on the table, sheds near enough the dog drives the covers it thick with flour, and shapes flock out to pasture and brings them | the spiders were dropping from a rethe bread out on that, taking care that back in the evening. No matter how no dough sticks to the cloth. With this large the flock may be, he knows if chopping process, it is impossible to even one sheep is missing and he gets handle the dough in an extremely soft out and hun's for it until found.-Chi-

## THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.

in Foreign Lands. Christmas season finds its ex-The fare of old England-the boar's head spiced and garlanded, the peacock garnished with its own feathershas been replaced by the turkey and

But the evergreen of the season and the Christmas carol are of older date. We may trace their accestry to the "Saturnalia" of the Roman. The early church saw dange: to their converts in these practice; and prohibited the green boughs, but later the prohibition was withdrawn and the custom was incorporated uto the canons of the church. But these acts of natural religion were brought to us by our Saxon forefathers and are remnants of

the worship to their heathen gods. In the Italy of to-day the celebration The week preceding is a week of fast or fish days. Christmas Eve ushers in the great festival. Then assemble the children and friends to partake of a sumptuous supper, after which a curtain is withdrawn and shows the table of Fate" is brought into use. Each per ber.

son draws in turn, and the presents distributed as determined by the oracle. Exchanges of gifts are made until each person is satisfied.

In Germany, the Christmas tree is the special care of the housewife, who sees that the members of her household are represented, from the least to the greatest. The social gatherings are held on New Year's Eve. The bells. of the city ring in the new year, followed by a burst of congratulation from all present, with the greeting Prosit, Neu Jaur.

Christmas morning in Norway sees the roads crowded with sledges. A simple service in the churches is followed by an early dinner given to relatives and friends previously invited. Tea is served at seven o'clock, after which strolling pantomimic performers. are admitted. These are rewarded by sweet-meats and a little money. The



THE GERMAN-CUSTOM.

men smoke while the women talk; finally the sledges carry the guests home over the snow in the bright

moonlight. In England the theaters are turned into pleasure grounds for the children. The nursery rhymes and the popular fairy tales are acted, amidst unrestrained applause from a highly appreciative audience. The elders are also entertained by witty jokes and touches on the politics and leading topics of the day. Children are the principal actors in these pantomimes and are often the bread winners at a season

when work is so scarce in England. Christmas is no longer looked upon as a time of riot and carousal. It is now universally recognized as the feast of all children because of the Holy Child. In our own country gift giving is no doubt the prominent feature. Many regret the custom, saying that it engenders hypocrisy and selfishness. Our lives, they think, would be more spontaneously generous if no day was set apart for gift giving. Let us therefore look to it lest we lose the spirit of Christmas, of which the gift is the mere expression for: "Peace on earthand good will towards men."

It Was Remarkably Strange.

The Somerville Journal has a story of little Dorothy, six years old, who, like all other children, is a born egotist. She went out for a horse-car ride with her aunt. She had her new purse with her and was very desirous to pay her own fare, but her aunt

said no. "You are my guest," she explained to Dorothy, "and so I must pay your fare; but you may take the ten cents and hand it to the conductor, if you

like. So Dorothy took the dime, and when the conductor came along she handed it to him in the most dignified manner. He gave her a quick look, and estimating that she was under the fiveyear limit he rang in only one fare, and handed back a five-cent piece, which Dorothy took without a word. "Wasn't it strange?" she asked, after she got home. "The conductor

took my fare, but he didn't charge. Aunt Alice any fare at all."

SPIDER SHOWERS.

Other Naturalists. Showers of mud, worms, frogs and rain of various colors have all happened, but spider showers are worthy of mention, and may be regarded asthe most beautiful thing in strange showers.

The spiders are gossamers, and White, in his "Natural History of Selborne," describes the showers that he saw, one of which continued a whole day. The gossamers descended from a surprising height, for when one manthree hundred feet high, he found that gion in the atmosphere that was still

beyond his gaze. Darwin, another observer of spider showers, describes one which he saw in 1832, when on board the Beagle, atthe mouth of the La Plata river, when the vessel was some sixty miles from land, and he seems to have been the first to notice that each parachute of gossamer carried a spider aeronaut. pression among us in a variety of ways. | for he not only observed them arrive on board the ship, but he also saw them reproduce a new parachute, and on this frail bark launch forth again

"on the bosom of the palpitating air." These gossamer showers are great mysteries, and, once seen, cannot very readily be forgotton, for the air on these occasions becomes literally crowded with the tiny parachutes mentioned, which are composed of a few threads of almost invisible gossamer, with a small but lively spider attached.

It Rained Lemon Drops. Little Edgar, aged three, who happened to be very fond of lemon-drops. was out on the porch one day when a sudden and violent hailstorm came up. "Oh! oh!" the boy screamed with delight, "it's vaining tandy!"

Slang Suppressers. "Is Miss Fosdick still president of your Society for the Suppression of Slang, Miss Skidds?"

"No; she got too fresh and we turned her down."-Retailer and Job