SWINGING ON THE GATE.

I can see a picture painted. I can smell the drying hay Where the busy mowers rattle through the kazy summer's day; I can see the hungry plowboy wading through the billowed corn, With expectant ear to windward, list'ning to the dinner horn; While unconscious of necessity, the future or of fate, make wondrous childish journeys as I swing upon the gate.

Strange how back among the many recollections of the past Memory will grope and wander till it brings to us at last Some poor, foolish, fond remembrance, seeming hardly worth the while, Yet somehow made wondrous potent, like a tender passing smile, Fleeting, gone, and soon forgotten-yet remembered by and by With a swelling in the bosom and a dimming of the eye.

Now my temples fast are graying and my eyes have soller grown With the years of varied happiness and sorrow I have known; Still I sometimes hear the echo, when the evening lights are low, And without my darkened ensement ghastly breezes eerle blow. O of the friendly, rusty rattle of the latchet as when late

In the hazy, lazy summer time we swung upon the gate, -Lowell Otus Reese, in Leslie's Weckly.

the girl lightly.

the loud pedal down.

are almost dumb."

she said.

you first."

was newous.

So Mr. Winterflood proceeded to his

in a vain attempt to adjust an instru-

worse and worse," said the old man.

sadly. "Some of the notes in the bass

At that moment Mrs. Bush entered

the room with an expansive smile of

triumph on her face. "Monty has call-

ed, and wants to see you particularly,'

"Monty?" said her daughter with a

Then she remembered with a start

her reckless words at the breakfast

"If you are a wise girl you will seize

the chance," said her mother; then

she added piously, "but I don't wish to

The girl sighed, and swept rather

angrily out of the room. It was really

any one just now. Whoever heard of

She found the glittering youth ir the

library. His attire was as nearly per-

fect as the most expensive tailor could

make it but it was easy to see he

the young lady rather rudely, but she

was not in a gracious humor. "I

thought you were busy in the city at

"Of course, it's awfully nice of you

to look in," she said hastily. "You

didn't come to the concert last night?"

"No." he stammered. "The fact is

I understood that you-you were going

The young lady frowned. It was

rather a sore point. Jack had prom-

ised to take her and he had not turned

up, so that she had been obliged to go

with her parents. Monty had uncon-

sclously scored one, and her mind re-

"I wanted to ask you something," he

"I'm just going shopping," she said

too if you like, and then you can ask

me as we go along." With true fem-

helne procrastination she was trying to

postpone the evil moment, for she had

an insane feeling that she would have

to keep her word, and accept him if

he succeeded in asking her the ques

"I want to know, if-" he began

"What about umbrellas?" she asked

"I don't think so," he said. "The

"Of course, yes, you were going to

ask me a question," she said sweetly.

'Now, isn't it funny? Whenever peo-

ple ask me questions. I always give

Her eyes were sparkling with ex-

citement. She had obstinately made up

her mind that If he succeeded in pro-

posing, and forced her to give an an-

ewer, it should be 'yes.' She had also

decided that she didn't want to say

'yes.' but didn't quite know why she

objected. So she was fending for her

life, and wondered why Jack didn't

luppen to look in, or a chimner catch

fire, or indeed anything happen to save

Without giving him a chance to say

word, she chattered on. And all the

time she was chattering she was think.

ing and trying to reconcile herself to

the inevitable. But the more she look-ed at him, the less alturing became

the prospect of a carriage and furs.

She noticed that his forehead was both

narrow and low, and though she had

ed, she liked it in other people. Be-

sides that, his watch chain troubled

er. Why did he wear such a very

"But I can't stand here listening to ou." she said at last, when she found

er breath was giving out. "You are

her from her own obstinate folly.

severely. "Is it likely to rain?"

question I was going-

the wrong answer."

"You can come

this time in the morning."

with some one else."

verted to the furs.

with sudden energy.

begnn.

desperately.

"What a funny time to call," said

a man proposing before lunch?

frown. "What brings him here?"

HE ASKED HER FIRST

HE must marry somebody," said | ber mother. "I don't see why she shouldn't refuse them both, if she wants to,"

200

said her father. The girl proceeded with her breakast calmir. She had endured the arguments of her excellent parents on the subject of her matrimonial future for several weeks. Indeed, they were uch more disturbed about it than she has berneif. Being pretty, a triffe polit, thoroughly healthy, and essentially feminine, she was in a delightful state of indecision.

Jack was everything that an ideal lover should be-reasonably good-lookmg, absolutely devoted to her, a demon at all games, and entirely lacking the most elementary notion of financial

Monty, in his own peculiar way, was table, and her heart sank. almost as suitable. If he wasn't handsome, he was the best dressed man in Belsize Park, which is saying a great Seal; he played no game, except perstande you. I think you said you "bridge," which he had reduced to a intended to accept the one who asked She art; and his financial condition

was literally glittering. Jack appealed to the romantic sine of her character, and had the support too had to have one's words taken up of her father; Monty appealed to her like that. She didn't want to accept prudence, and had the support of her mother.

"You will have to make up your wind directly," said her mother.
"I am afraid I can't, mother," said

the girl, helping herself to toast cheerfully. "It is so tiresome.

"If I were a girl, I shouldn't hesitate ave minutes," said her father, mean-

"No more should I," said her mother, meaning Monty.

coke first," said the girl, handing in somewhat vapid smile. "But I had a er cup for a second edition of cof- | telephone message-

"Don't be wicked." said her mother. "Not a bad notion," remarked her Other, reflecting that he could wire

to Jack, and give him a hint. "You don't mean what you say,"

mid her mother thoughtfully. Of course, she badu't meant it, but saving said it, she began to think that she did. "Why not?" she said. "I suppose I must be a duffer, but I don't know my own mind a bit. Monty repesents a carriage and furs, and-and I really think I should look rather ol-In furs. Not elipped rabbit skins,

you know, but real furs." Her mother nodded approval. "You are a girl who wants to be well dreamed." she said.

Mr. Bush looked at his daughter countfully. "What does Jack represent?" be asked.

She ponted. "I don't quite know." the said. "I think he represents everything that's jolly except the carringe and furs. That's what is so aggravating. If I could only take a little bit of each, it would be all right. I don't feel a scrap like a girl always does in books. I simply don't know what I want, and I shall accept the one who asks me first, because I like them both very much, and-and I dare say it will be all right."

Her parents shook their heads at her recklessness, quite forgetful that if they had not been so urgent, the girl would have been able to make up ber wind without assistance.

bocking," said Mr. Bush, and be ade up his mind to send off a wire the the favorite as soon as he reached the city. "Jack must cut up here this corning, and get it over." he reflected. It's only a kindness to her to save ber from that snob."

His wife popped on her bonnet as ped round to the nearest telephone all office. "I must give Monty a hint." "Margaret will thank me me day for saving her from pov-

Mappily ignorant of the steps her had taken. Margaret set about little round of household duties. ek Mr. Winterflood came to e the plane. He had wrestled with frawing room plane, once a quar-fer fifteen jenra, and the little man, with his red pocket handker-and black bag, was a particular

door.

"Oh, dear, how slow you are," she said. "If it's about the dance-"It isn't about the dance," he stammered. "It's about you. I-I want you to marry me."

Nothing could have been more awkward than his proposal, but it reduced her to a state of despair.

The piano tuning was going on sol emnly. Tap-tap-tap, went the notes, "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen." followed by a grand flourish of chords Pil take you home again, Kathleen.

Then tap—tap—tap, again.

Across the ocean wild and wide, Then tap—tap—tap, again.

"Why?" she asked, argumentative To where your heart has ever been

"Why-what?" he gasped, blinking his little eyes in a bewildered way. "I really must call at the butcher's,"

she said, jumping at the chance for

delay given by his indecision. "Bui-will you?" "You mean, marry you?" she asked demurely. "You don't give me time to

think."

"I'm awfully fond of you, and-and all that sort of thing," he said, eager ly. "We should be tremendously jol I always feel when you are near ly, and-all that sort of thing. The governor says I can draw up to \$5.000 The smiles that you once gave to me a year out of the business for a start I scarcely ever see them now, and and things would be ripping." The many, many times I see and-and things would be ripping." She looked at him desperately. Wha was she to do? She began to feel for some queer reason that to accept him was almost impossible, but she had given her foolish little word.

Then a bright idea struck her. Perhaps he would let her off. "Suppose I don't love you," she

"Nobody is at all likely to call," said "That doesn't matter a bit," he said

irritating task, tapping note after note cheerfully. "If you will promise to The marry me, I expect I shall make you ment on which a certain healthy young love me in time. I am-oh, lord, what lady delighted to play comic opera with a beastly row that plano-tuner is mak. The Margaret sat by his side. "It gets

"Perhaps it would be better to tall it over another morning," she sug-

"No, no, tell me now," he said. The plane tuning had suddenly ceased, and he was dashing at the subject brave. The wife who girds her husband's sword ly. "I'm awfully fond of you, Margaret. The fact is you-you have falls ly bowled me over. I can't say exactly what I mean, because I am not much Doomed nightly in her dreams to hear of a hand at talking, and all that sort of thing, but-

There was a gentle knock at the door, and Monty muttered something under his breath which no British prin. The mother who conceals her grief ter would set up in type. It was little Mr. Winterflood whe

entered. "Good morning, miss," he said.

hope I haven't disturbed you." "Not at all," she said, beaming with pleasure.

"Oh, I found something of yours is the piano," said the little man. "Something of mine?"

"Yes, it's a letter. No wonder the bass notes were hearly dumb. Good morning, miss." She took the envelope, and tore if

open. It was addressed to her is Jack's handwriting.

"Dear Maggie"-it ran-"I expect catch you, but too late. I shan't be back for two or three days at the soonest. Good-bye, dear little girl, or rather au revoir. This is my birthday, and I made up my mind a long time ago that I would ask you to-day to share my lot. Will you be my wife! There! at last, I have summoned up my courage. When I come back I will try to tell you how much I love you Good-bye once more.-Jack. I am leaving this on the top of the plane so that you will find it in the morning Wait for me, Maggie. Don't promise yourself to any one else, until I have

told you all I mean." For some inscrutable reason that leter cleared the way. She knew exactly what her answer was. She knew man for the rest of her life.

efter Mouty had gone.

"Quite," she said. "I kept my word.

Poplar Trees as Lishtning Rods. a constant stream of water from the half-soled his own boots. of water which flows down the sten a safe conductor towards the ground Of course the atream goes seldom in a straight line, and at places where the limbs join together the flow of water takes often another direction. The limb may be doomed, but the haystack is

No More than Bight little midnight supper I served at your house last month," said the caterer. "You'll have to wait until I get the doctor's bill for enring me of indiges off your bill."-Philadelphia Press.

A church has as much trouble in discharging a preacher gracefully as the narriage engagement

-- OLD **FAVORITES**

Since first you were my bonnie bride The rows all have left your cheek. I've watched them fade away and die; Your voice is sad whene'er you speak, And tears he in your loving eye.

Oh! I will take you back, Kathleen, To where your heart will feel no pain, And where the fields are fresh and green, I'll take you to your home again.

I know you love me, Kathleen, dear, Your heart was ever fond and true, That life holds nothing dear but you; A darkening shadow on your brow

To that dear home beyond the sea. My Kathleen shall again return, And when thine old friends welcome the Thy loving heart will cease to years. When laughs the little allver stream, Beside your mother's humble cot. And brightest rays of sunshine gleam, Then all your grief will be forgot.

That smile that well her pain dissem-

One starry tear-drop hange and trem-

Though Heaven alone records the tear, And fame shall never know her story. Her heart has shed a drop as dear As e'er bedewed the field of glory.

'Mid little ones who weep or wonder, And bravely speaks the cheering word, What though her heart be rent asun-

The boits of death around him rattle, Has shed as sacred blood as e'er Was poured upon the field of battle.

While to her breast her son she presses.

Then breathes a few brave words and

Kissing the patriot brow she blesses. With no one but her secret God To know the pain that weighs upon her. Shed hely blood as e'er the sod

Re-cived on Freedom's field of honor. -Thomas Buchanan Read.

THE JOY OF KNOWING

Knowledge Farmers Should Have-Vaine of Contact with Soil.

There was a day, says Breeders' Gacette, when the farm was a little world. The farmer did it all, knew it all. you'll be wild with me for not turning lie sold little, he bought little. up to take you to the concert. But His men were paid in kind. A have been summoned into the country lay's work was exchanged for a by telegram. Uncle Tom is seriously bushel of wheat. If the farmer ill probably dying, and has asked to pwned his soil he could hardly fall to see me. I leave Euston to-night, and live well. He could even make money have just dashed in here hoping to if he had the advantage of living close to cities. There were no railways. The prairies and the deserts were untamed. The farmer then did not know how badly he did things. He had not found out how costly many of his practices were. His cattle were fed and fattened when 4 to 6 years old. His wethers must be 4 years old. There was even a "4-year-old" club in England, the purpose of which was to maintain the practice of eating only 4-year-old mutton. Rotation of crops was little practiced. Fertility was maintained, if at all, by careful saving of manures. In that point our fathers were often better than their sons.

While the old-fashloned farmer sold little he also bought little. He did not not only whom she did not want to go into the markets for feeding cattle marry, but whom she must marry, up or sheep; he did not go on the market less she wanted to be a miserable wo for foodstuffs or fertilizers. He kept cows, the maids milked and made but-"Is it settied?" asked her mothe ter, the calves were grown on the place; they were finally fattened and sold. The farmer did not dream of and have accepted the one who asket shipping them to market himself. He me first. Jack came last night. There's did not much watch markets. He his letter."-Montreal Family Herald knew little about sources of supply In feeding cattle or sheep, or as to ages most profitable to buy. There was then In Holland the Lombardy poplar & much less need that the farmer should often used as a lightning rod, and it to an educated business man. There planted near haystacks and isolated was need that he should be economical. farm houses. This poplar has the habit saving, skilled in all manner of trades. of growing nearly vertical, with the and arts, for he made his own tools branches in an upright position; as soot soap, shingles, candles, clothes, houses. is the rain falls the water runs alons He was a carpenter, builder, skilled the branches and forms along the stem aximan, swing the scythe and cradle,

ton to the ground. When lightning The schools were ruder then. The strikes in the vicinity, the tree being farmer's son worked morning and the highest object has the best chance evening, going generally late to school, of being hit, and when the lightning tearned to read, spell, cypher, a little strikes the tree it finds in the stream of geography. What he learned did not ween him away from the soil. He fend steady-going papers by the fire of wiffter's evenings and good old-fashfoned books. To-day the while system ofschooling is changed. - Boys are passhed ta much at 10 as we did at 16. There is no longer any time for them-to-dowork on the farm before or after ackept. gura They bring their hooks borne from school. They get liftle thus far in their books to lend them to think of the farm or of agriculture. We will not say that modern school systems are inferior to the old, but we do believe there is too much divorcing of brain work, study and hand work, "Baya dees est off when they have plenty of acual contact with the soil and the real work of the farm in connection with ill the schooling you care to give. We tre not giving too much education to p give them the right kind. Mathenation will not hurt, but will be

too much time. Chemistry is the foundation of all sciences; the boy cannot do without that. Geology helps. Butperation he placed his back to the garages yet the Languages will help if they do not take any helps. All these and other things but lay broad the foundation for a profitable agricultural education and make a man able to understand and appreciate this world of which he is a part. The life is more than the meat

The tendency of modern agriculture, with its machinery and borse power, enabling men to reup wide fields, is essentially destructive. There is great horse-power, an elephant-power being need of scientific and practical teachings of soils and maintaining and restoring fertility to them. You cannot learn that of the farmer practicing his pounds per head. In Germany it averart on the prairies to-day. He is a agus not quite three pounds per head. soil-robber, and wisely enough; for all young generation of farmers must cease to be soli-robbers. The farmer is a business man. He must know with definiteness and skill many things. He must know how wisely to choose cattle for feeding, to buy feedstuffs wisely for them, to feed them economically. Thanks to modern methods practical men, skilled in these arts, are now to be found in our agricultural colleges.

Agricultural education pays well in the joy that it brings the young farmer. The common processes of the art take on a new meaning. As he plows, instead of turning up a dead soil he is settled. It is nowhere a dead world to him, but a source of thought and pleasure everywhere. He will do things better, he will make more money for he will take a new interest and pleasure in doing things.

RAPID BRIDGE-BUILDING.

Iron Work Manufactured, Shipped Hundreds of Miles and Erected.

Wherever the demand is made, the earth fit his purpose. In the wilds of of steel across a torrential ravine from the hands are adjusted. a precipice on one side to the mouth of must fit like watchworks when put together in the finished structure.

Five years ago the Pencoyd Bridge Company, of Philadelphia, maguiactured for the English government the to \$500 a year. famous Athara bridge in seven spans of one hundred and firty feet each, weighing one and one-half million pounds, in twenty-sine working days. The metal was shipped to Egypt, and carried more than a thousand miles up the Nile Valley into the Soudan. After arriving at its destination it was put together on its piers, ready for railway traffic, within sixty days, without using any timber staging and with absolute accuracy of fit in all its parts. This bridge was imperative for the success

pany built the Gokteik double track railroad viaduct to cross a ravine in Burma. This viaduct is nearly half a mile long and three hundred and twenty feet high in its highest portion, and the weight of manufactured metal was about three and one-half million pounds. This structure was shipped from the place of manufacture just about half way around the globe, and then transported several hundred miles inland, and rapidly erected, with every bolt and rivet fitted accurately in its place.-Woman's Home Companion.

Giad of It.

An out of town visitor stepped into an auction room the other day to see what sort of knickknacks were being 000 already on hand for the erection of sold. He did not know that the at- a magnificent 12-story clubhouse, Ferlooked shabby.

"Now, I'll give your pocketbooks rest." said the auctioneer. "Here is a prominence, have agreed to pay the What am I bid?" He held up a dusty, diminutive piece

of porcelain, which looked rather pretty through the dust.

"Five," said someone. "Ten," said a second.

"Fifteen," said the interested offlook er, fingling his available 35 cents in

The little vase was bld up until the man from out of town reluctantly bld his 25 cohis. "I'll linve to walk home." he reflect-

ed. "but it isn't far to the hotel. don't see how those people make any money." But the price soared up till the

was finally knocked down to the last hidder at 80.

Then the out of town man's knees were loosened, and his tongue cleaved

to the roof of his month when he way the paretriser nonchalantly hand over four twenty-dollaris hills - Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Elitor Had One. nywhere? "asket the long-haired vis-

"Yes." replied the editor, reaching under his desk, "are you a literary man?"-Philadelphia Ledger.

Anything a d Everything. Towne-Some people kick at thing and some at another. Browne-Yes, but most pe one thing and another.-Philadel

if a man is prejudiced and know

The oldest graduates of Yale and Harvard are ministers.

A Japanese bride gives her wedding presents to her parents as a slight recompense for the trouble they have taken in bringing her up.

The power of an engine in India is sometimes given in elephant instead of equal to twenty-two borse-power.

In England, the annual consumption of Southern fruit amounts to lifteen

The average passenger haul on steam ploneers must be soil-robbers. The railways has increased from twentythree to twenty-seven miles since electrical lines have been competing for suburban business.

The botanical papers report that De Vries, the great Dutch experimental evolutionist, has by long continued selection produced a variety of clover which has normally four leaves. India was in possession of a steel

secret once, which is lost now. This was the inlaying with gold of steel bindes in such a manner that the strength of the blade was not impaired nor its temper spoiled.

An investigation of the Ohi and turning up the history of the world An investigation of the Ohi and since the very rocks cooled. He is Yenesei Rivers, made under the austhinking of the chemistry of that soil pices of the Russian government, has and of the problems concerning it and revealed the fact that these streams its productiveness-problems that are navigable by ocean stamers for a neither he nor his sens will find-all distance of 1,000 miles from their

A Chelsea (England) hospital is mourning the loss of a bequest of \$6. 63) through a legal informality. The his training, but what is as important, testator signed his will in his bed room, and the witnesses thoughtlessly carried it into another room before signing it. thus making the document invalid.

An English watchmaker has just fin-Ished making a tiny watch in the form of a shirt stud. Its dial is two-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, and it engineer must make the face of the is to be worn with two other stude. By turning the upper stud the watch is the Andes he must throw his structure wound, while by turning the lower one

More than 8 000 women are employed a tannel on the other. At distances of in the various government offices la thousands of miles from the place of Washington, 2.044 of whom have enmanufacture the parts of the bridge tered the service after competitive examination. Nine hundred of them are mold salaries ranging from \$1,000 to \$1.800 a year, the others being poid the compensation of ordinary cierks-80.0

"Conscience money" in Great Britain now amounts to thousands of pounds annually. The first sum noticed was on March 30, 1780, w'en \$1,800 was carried to the public account in consequence of a note received by the chancellor. The writer with troubled soul implored him, "as an honest man, to consider the money the property of the nation, and to be so just as to apply it to the use of the state in such a manner that the nation may not suffer by its having been detained, and thus to ease the conscience of an honest man."

INSURES HER LIFE FOR A CLUB. Chicago Woman Evolves a Strikingly

Original Plan of Financ . Mrs. Pauline Harriette Lyon, secre tary of the Woman's Athletic Club, of

Chicago has evolved a strikingly original plan to previde the club with a permanent and onlatiaf home of its own. She has had

her life Insured for \$350,000 and with the policy as collaseral a Chicago banker will adcance the smount. which will be used in addition to \$200 -

tendance was composed chiefly of pro- ty members of the club, which includes fessional buyers, and noted that it Mrs. Emmons Binine, Mrs. J. Ogden Armour, Mrs. Harold McCormick and others of equal social and financial shaple little vase with China designs, premlums on the insurance. The club will have a natatorium, gymnasium, recreation rooms, libraries, fountain room, bowling alleys and numerous sumptuous spartments for Chicago's select women and will be the best fitted club of the kind in existence.

C. fl of Na urai Glass.

A cliff of natural glass can be seen in Yellowstone Park, Wyoming. It is half a mile long and from 150 to 200 feet high, the material of which it consists being as good glass as that artificially manufactured. The dense glass which forms the base is from seventyfive to one hundred feet thick, while the upper portion, having suffered and survived many ages of wind and rain, has paturally worn much thinner. Of course, the color of the cliff is not that of natural glass-transparent and white-but is mostly black and some places mottled and strenked with brownish red and shades of olive green and brown.

Haner in Winter. Some curious e perinfeires tiave been made at one of the royal philanthropic Institutions in Copenhagen. For some years back the seventy boys and girls in the place have been carefully weighed every day in groups of fifteen and under. Thereby it is proved that the children gain weight mostly in autumn and in the early part of December. From that time till the emi or April there is scarcely any increase weight. More remarkable still, there is a diminution till the end of sur-

Show some people real diamon and they will insist they are stone