# CAMPFIRE SKETCHES.

cent.

The charge of the Minnesotans was

the more brillfant, not only because it

was more bloody, but because it effect-

ed its purpose. Fate had selected the

regiment for a sacrifice, and it went

to the sacrifice with perfect willingness

and unsurpassed intrepidity. Its deed

deserves to be commemorated not alone

in the granite, but in deathless verse.

An Old-Time Politician.

some farm-house garret an old wood-

cut of a gigantic figure in full hunting

costume-fringed deerskin shirt and

leggings, a belt full of tomahawks and

knives-rifle and powder-horn slung

across his shoulders, and beneath, the

name so familiar to their grandfathers

-Davy Crockett, says Youth's Com-

panion. That is, perhaps, all they

know of a man who was once a power

in the land. It may be worth their

while to see what qualities gave a man

Davy Crockett, a hundred years ago,

was the ten-year-old son of a poor

Irish emigrant in the Western wilder-

ness. He earned his own living by

the wildest part of Tennessee. His

honesty and reckless courage soon

made him the foremost man in the

mountains. He was elected to the

state legislature although he could

But Crockett hunted knowledge as

persistently as he had hunted panthers;

he studied books by night and men by

day. He was also a shrewd business

man, and started powder-mills which

brought him in a large income. Defeat

followed success. The powder-mills

blew up, he lost office, and was left

penniless. He lived by hunting for a

year or two, and then was elected to

On the day when he took his seat a

question of finance involving foreign

relations was before the house. The

"I don't understand a word they say.

But I will understand," he said to his

A day or two later the lumber ques-

tion came up. Crockett spoke. He

knew his ground. He had sound com-

mon sense and a sharp mother wit,

and his speech was successful. During

his whole political career, he com-

manded respect because he never spoke

on a subject which he had not master-

But David Crockett was first of all a

fighting man. He was prominent in

the Texan war of independence, and

Relic of George Washington.

rious old stove, said to have belonged

to George Washington and afterward

presented to Christ's church in Alex-

andria, Va. It is a solidly built ar-

rangement, about six feet high, capped

by an American eagle cast in iron. The

and how, if the thing did not "draw,"

did he vent his ill humor at its con-

trariness, when there were no doors to

Above the tapering, square part is a

corrugated column, a foot high, and

upon this rests the eagle, with out-

stretched wings. Each side of the

stove is artistically decorated with the

figure of a woman in iron and raised

Wallington as a Wit.

Duke of Wellington: "How is it that

we in Vienna speak French so much

hetter than you English?" To which

the Duke replied: "Well, Princess, if

Napoleon had twice visited London

with his armies, as he has Vienna, I

have no doubt we should be much more

Louis Philippe of France introduced to

the Duke of Wellington one of the

French marshals whom he had beaten

in the Peninsula. The tafrahal partly

turned his back to the Duke, which

greatly displeased Louis Philippe, who

apologized to the Duke for his mar-

shal's rudeness. "Forgive him, sire,"

familiar with the French language."

An Austrian princess once asked the

from the stove, as in cameo effect.

slam nor to kick shut.

In a store on the west side is a cu-

backwoodsman listened eagerly.

scarcely write his name

power in those early days.

neighbors.

congress.

neighbor.

ed.

died in the Alamo.

Our boy readers may have seen in

GOOD SHORT STORIES FOR THE VETERANS.

The Light Brigade Outdons-Deed of a Minnesota Regiment - A Relic of Gen. Washington-A Story of Davy Crockett.

o'er the meadow

on

shoulder'd

dewy buds glis-

the

vas creeping.

tened the sun,

his gun

Lexington. LOWLY the mist Bright hen from his couch-while his When children wera sleeping-Rose the bold rebal and

14

4 : L.M.

Waving her golden veil Over the silent dale, Blithe look'd the morning on cottage and

spire; Hush'd was his parting sigh, While from his noble eye Flash'd the last sparkle of Liberty's fire.

On the smooth green where the fresh leaf

is springing Calmly the first-born of glory have met;

Hark! the death-volley around them is Look! with their life-blood the young

grass is wet. Faint is the feeble breath,

Murmuring low in death-"Tell to our sons how their fathers have

died:' Nerveless the iron hand. Raised for its native land,

Lies by the weapon that gleams at its Ride

Over the hillsides the wild knell is tolling. From their far hamlets the yeomanry

As thro' the storm-clouds the thunderburst rolling, Circles the beat of the mustering drum.

Fast on the soldier's path Darken the waves of wrath; Long have they gather'd, and loud shall

they fall: Red glares the musket's flash,

Sharp rings the rifle's crash, Blazing and clanging from thicket and wall.

Gayly the plume of the horseman was dancing.

Never to shadow his cold brow again; Proudly at morning the war-steed was prancing.

Reeking and panting he droops on the rein;

Pale is the lip of scorn. Voiceless the trumpet-horn Torn is the silken-fring'd red cross on

high: Many a belted breast Low on the turf shall rest,

Ere the dark hunters the herd have pass'd

Snow-girdled crags where the hoarse wind is raving. Rocks where the weary floods murmur

and wail, Wilds where the fern by the furrow is

waving. Reel'd with the echoes that rode on the

gale; Far as the tempest thrills Over the darken'd hills, Far as the sunshine streams over

plain. Roused by the tyrant band,

Weke all the mighty land, Girded for battle, from mountain to main.

Green be the graves where her martyrs are lying! Shroudless and tombless they sunk to

their rest; While o'er their ashes the starry fold

flying. Wraps the proud cagle they roused

from his nest. Borne on her northern pine, Long o'er the foaming brine Spread her broad banner to storm and

to sun; Heaven keep her ever free

#### ed-a loss of about seventy per cent. The loss in killed and wounded of the First Minnesota was eighty-two per

SOME GOOD STORIES FOR OUR JUNIOR READERS.

Two Little Girls and Their Rebellious Locks-One of the Greatest Wonders of Nature - Prices Paid for Wild Animals-Mines of Australia.

> Dirge for a Young Girl. NDERNEATH the sod, low lying. Dark and drear, 33 Sleepeth one left, in dving, Sorrow here they're

> > grave bore cold her. Vigils keep.

Soft and fair.

Rest in peace, thou gentle spirit,

Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart contribcarried to an extreme, modesty is liautes to the St. Nicholas a Southern ble to become ridiculous, as in a case sketch under the title of "An Old-Time reported by the St. Louis Globe-Demo-Christmas Gift." It tells of a little crat: white girl and her slave maid, who 'belonged to each other," from the legislature, in a brand new suit of time when they were a day old. Mrs. broadcloth and a silk hat, gold headed

cane and white lawn tie, wandered up Of course, both children had their into the sanctum of the Courier-Jourfaults and their small vanities, and nal, stood around in a listless way. some of them are rather funny, as we looked over the papers, went down-

stairs and came back several times. Mimi's long, flaxen hair was very He was asked to take a seat, which he straight, and she longed for curls; declined elaborately, and ended by Yuyu's was hopelessly curly, and the drawing his chair in a confidential way desire of her heart was to get it up to the "Roundabout" man's desk. straight. And so, at bedtime, Mimi would sit on a low stool while Yuyu paper that I am at the Galt House with put the long yellow strands in curl my bride, and just fling in something papers, and then the little maids would about my being a prominent Indianachange places. Yuyu would take the ian? I don't care anything about this low seat, and Mimi would divide her sort of thing myself, but you know how kinky hair into sections, rub each lock the women are. I want fifty copies of with a bit of tallow candle, and wrap the paper sent to this address." He laid it round and round with strips of caldown two dollars and a half, grinned, ico until not a kink of the entire mop got red in the face, said "Good mornwas allowed to have its wilful way. ing," and vanished. When it was done, Yuyu would declare that it was all she could do to shut Huckleberry requests us to say that her eyes, and, indeed, her eyebrows he is at the Galt House with his bride; did look pretty high, and she appeared that he is a prominent member of the very wide-awake. After this, both Indiana legislature, and that he, himchildren would kneel and say their self, personally, cares nothing for prayers, and Mimi, being mistress, newspaper notoriety, but that a soclewould get first into her own little bed, ty note would be very gratifying to while Yuyu tucked her in. And then Mrs. Huckleberry. He added that he Yuyu would say, "Good night, little mistus." Or, perhaps, she would linwanted fifty copies of the paper for distribution to his constituents.' ger awhile, and they would talk a lit-tle, as when, one night, Mimi said: "Yuyu, I been a-thinkin' that maybe it's a sin for you and me to put our fayette was sent by Washington and Congress to France to ask further

yu. "Does you mean dat curls is a sin-or straightness?"

"I was just a-thinking about the curls for you and straightness for me."

"Law, honey, Gord don't care-des so we do our duty, and don't tell lies."

"An' keep the Sabbath holy-eh, Yu-Well, good-night, then. My yu? head feels awful bumpy, though, whether God cares or not." And Mi-

# FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. ing town of Ballarat, Victoria, Austra- IN THE ODD CORNER.

SOME STRANGE, QUEER AND CURIOUS PHASES OF LIFE.

The Most Wonderful Temple-Unique Souvenirs from India-Cheating a Bull -A Singular Theatrical Performance-

An Extraordinary Record.

lia. It has about 25,000 inhabitants,

nearly all of whom are employed in the

mine. There are more than 100 miles

of tunnels under the city, some of them

being at the depth of 2,000 feet. The

entrance to the mine, which is con-

trolled by a corporation and is known

as the Band, Barton and Albion Coun-

cils, is outside the city. The rock in

which the gold is found beneath Ba!-

larat is not rich in the yellow metal.

It yields but half an ounce of standard

gold to the ton, and yet the Band, Bar-

ton and Albion mine has vielded more

than £50,000,000 of gold since it was

opened 30 years ago. The work is

done so systematically and so thor-

oughly that it is enormously profitable

in spite of the low grade of the ore.

The supply of paying quartz seems

practically inexhaustible, and as the

vein is extensive, being spread over

much territory, the mine bids fair to

last for centuries. The workmen in

the Band, Barton and Albion are much

more comfortable than the workers in

a coal mine. There are no noxious

gases and no danger from explosions.

Pure air is forced through various

shafts, and thus into the drivers. The

tunnels are drilled far apart, so that

there will be no danger to the city

above, where all is trade and busi-

Jast As He Put It.

Modest people should have a care. If

Years ago a member of the Indiana

"Couldn't you," he said, "put in the

Next morning he read that "Mr. John

A Seastek Hero.

supplies of men and money for the

American colonies. He sailed from

Boston in the frigate Alliance, on Jan.

11, 1779. The harbor was frozen, and

a passage had to be cut for the ship

Off the Newfoundland banks the ship

was assailed by a terrible tempest,

which threatened destruction, and La-

fayette was very zeasick. His aide-

de-camp, the Chevalier de Pontgibaud,

who relates the incident in his me-

through the ice.

No man is a hero while seasick. La-

ness.

## Charleston

ALM as that second summer which precedes The first fall of the snow. In the broad sunlight of heroic deeds, The city bides the foe, As yet, behind their ramparts, and proud,

Her bolted thunders sleep Dark Sumter, like a battlemented cloud, Looms o'er the solemn dep.

stern

No Calpe frowns from lofty cliff or scaur To guard the holy strand; But Moultrie holds in leash her dogs of

war, Above the level sand.

And down the dunes a thousand guns lie couched, Unseen, beside the flood-

Like tigers in some Orient jungle crouched.

That wait and watch for blood. Meanwhile, through streets still echoing

with trade,

Walk grave and thoughtful men, Whose hands may one day wield the patriot's blade

As lightly as the pen.

And maidens, with such eyes as would grow dim Over a bleeding hound,

Seem each one to have caught the strength of him Whose sword she sadly bound.

Thus girt without and garrisoned at home. Day patient following day. Old Charleston looks from roof, and spire, and dome, Across her tranquil bay.

Ships, through a hundred foes, from Sax-

on lands And spicy Indian ports. Bring Saxon steel and iron to her hands, And summer to her courts.

But still, along yon dim Atlantic line, The only hostile smoke

Creeps like a harmless mist above the brine, From some frail, floating oak,

Shall the spring dawn, and she still clad

in smiles, And with an unscathed brow, Rest in the strong arms of her palm-crowned isles,

As fair and free as now?

We know not; in the temple of the Fates God has inscribed her doom And, all untroubled in her faith, she waits The triumph or the tomb.

## The Leaf Insect.

The "Leaf-insect" is a native of the East Indies and the islands of the Eastern Archipelago. Dr. Duns, in describing it, says: "Suppose the top of a sprout of this year's growth to be broken from a bay, the leaves stripped off. two of them taken and laid back along the sprout to within about a quarter of an inch from the top, you have then the body and head of the insect. At the end of the bare sprout two forked incipient leaves stand out. These will do for the horns. The leaves lying thus along the sprout give as they taper towards their points the aspect of the body; while the uncovered projecting part, with its halfformed buds, represents the head and the eyes. The wings bear the most striking resemblance to an oak-leaf cut up the center. The regularity of the larger veins, and the distinctness of the smaller ones are very marked. Then you have the four leg-like fragments of leaflets, joined to the upper parts of the body; while two arms, serving the same purpose as the tentacular of the butterfly branch off from the shoulder. These are also like fragments of a leaf; but when they are brought together they form an entire leaf, with its base at the head and its point projecting." When the insect rests among the leaves its resemblance to them is so perfect that only a most acute observer is likely to detect it; even when it flies it looks far more like a stray leaf torn from a branch than a true insect. The Leaf-insect moves about very slowly, and if it were not for its extraordinary resemblance to the foliage among which it passes its life would be powerless to escape the attacks of its numerous enemies.

bold, flowing hand, and although difficult to read with the naked eye, is easily deciphered with the aid of a magnifying glass. The second part of the Nazim's offering consists of two grains of rice bearing inscriptions in similar microscopic characters, the first concerning Their Excellencies' visit to Hyderabad and the second concerning the artist who did the work. This is one Syed Shakir All, who a few years ago sent a somewhat similar offering to the Queen as a birthday present.

### Most Wonderful Temple.

The most wonderful temple in the world is built on a rocking stone on the summit of a mountain in northera India. It is impossible to imagine a more wonderful situation than that of this temple. The rocking stone is situated on a mountain over twenty thousand feet high. It weighs many thousands of tons, but is balanced on so fine a point that a comparative light pressure is sufficient to make it sway. Whether or not the great rock was raised to its present position by human hands is a mystery to scientific, minds. If it were, the labor was one to which no modern engineering feat can be compared. The Hindu priests teach their followers that the rock was placed in position by the help of the gods. In this way they add considerably to the feeling of awe which they desire to create. The worshipers at this shrine must first make the ascent of the mountain, a matter of great difficulty. Then they spend seven days of preparation in a temple built on the solid mountain before they are permitted to make the final passage to the mysterious rocking stone. To reach this stone it is necessary to cross a bridge over a great chasm. Nature and man had combined to make this Hindu shrine awe inspiring to the devout. After crossing the bridge the pligrim mounts a ladder, to which he clings in terror for his life here and in the hereafter. The temple on the rock is necessarily a small place. Three priests officiate in it. The mysterics which take place there no man is permitted to reveal. Europeans have seen it from a distance.

A Singular Theatrical Performance.

A very remarkable theatrical performance took place recently in St. Andrew's hall, at Berlin. The play was Schiller's "Maria Stuart," all the actors were deaf mutes, and the entire audience consisted of persons similarly afflicted. To a visitor in possession of all his natural faculties the production of the drama had something indescribably weird. Fancy a nice little theater, a well appointed stage, actors moving about gesticulating in a manner exasperating to those not conversant with the sign language used by deaf mutes, and not a sound to be heard, except the walking of the people on the scene. The drama was given without a cut, and for four long hours the audience sat spellbound, not a person leaving until the curtain had been lowered for the last time. These performances occur at regular intervals, and are arranged by the teachers of the Berlin Deaf Mute Institute.

#### Cheating a Bull.

A Connecticut sportsman relates in Forest and Stream an adventure which must have been exciting enough to save his day from monotony. "I was hauling my boat across Eley's meadow to the creek-a hard pull, with decoys, gun and ammunition. I was about half-way across, and had sat down to rest, when I noticed that one of a large herd of cattle was coming my way. I looked again. It was a big bull, and evidently meant business. I knew he would overtake me if I ran, so I turned over my boat and crawled under it. The bull seemed surprised that I had disappeared, and after sniffing around a while went off. I waited until he was nearly up with the cattle, and then started again. But the old fellow was no fool; he had his eye on me, and I had hardly started before he came back on the run. To do my best I couldn't make the creek. so under the boat I went again. This time the bull was mad. He bellowed

ever bending o'er her, Eyes that weep; Forms, that to the 50 1 When the summer moon is shining Friends she loved in tears are twining

Chaplets there.

Throned above; Soul's like thine with God inherit Life and love!

Two Little Girls and Their Rebellious

driving a wagon and by hunting, and even then known in the settlements as Locks. a boy who would not cheat an Indian of a wolf's pelt, and who could bring down a panther at long range with one shot. Whatever Davy did, he "did thorough through," in the words of his

As soon as the young man had enough money to buy two cows and a Stuart says: horse, he married and took up land in

look back at them.

hair up this way." "Which way?" asked the alert Yu-

vainness, Yuyu. Maybe God intended

Wide as o'er land and sea Floats the fair emblem her heroes have won!

#### The Light Brigade Outdone

The recent dedication of the monument of the First Minnesota regiment at Gettysburg has called pulbic attention to the fact that there are in history charges quite as terrible, intrepid and bloody as that of Balaklava, made justly famous by Tennyson, and that the charge of the First Minnesota regiment at Cemetery Ridge was one of them.

On this occasion, a breach had been left between the Union forces of Hancock and Sickles, and the Confederates advanced to take advantage of it. The objective point was a battery which was the only one to stay the advance. Hancock, at the post of danger, looking over this little force of two hundred and sixty-two men, exclaimed to its leader:

"What regiment is this?"

"The First Minnesota."

"Colonel," said the general, pointing to the enemy, "charge and take those colors!"

This was no blunder, like the order at Balaklava, but a desperate chance, The Minnesotans advanced in splendid order against a force vastly greater than their own; they did not recoil under a terrible fire that mowed them down; they hurled themselves on the run into the enemy; they were literally swallowed up in the Confederate ranks. The line of the enemy was broken, and fatally; for the attack occupied the Confederates so long that the sepporting movements which Hancock had in the meantime ordered succeeded in checking the advance.

After the fight was over, and Cemetery Ridge had been saved to the Union forces, the First Minnesota-"all that was left of it"-came back with the flag of Wilcox's Confederate brigade, which was the one that Hancock had ordered the regiment to capture. But only forty-seven men returned.

Fifty-six men of the two hundred and sixty-two were killed outright, and nineteen were mortally wounded. One hundred and forty more lay wounded on the field. Not one was taken pris-ODOF.

The Light Brigade at Balakiava consaid the Duke, "I taught him to do that sisted of six hundred and seventy in the Peninsula."-London Daily men. Of these, all but one hundred and ninety-eight were killed or wound- News.

undation is square and massive, with mi yawned. four stout legs, rather fancifully

"Mine ain't got no feelin's to it-no wrought. The stove is square, slanting mo'n my foots when they goes to upward almost to a point. In it at its sleep-but I likes de way it feels when base are two openings, and these apit ain't got no feelin', 'ca'ze I knows pear to be the only doors. There seems it's a-stretchin'. Good night. Sleep to be no receptacle for ashes, and one tight." is left to speculate upon how our dig-

And by this time, unless Mimi were nified George started the fire in the too far gone, she would answer: "Don't morning when the weather was cold, let the mosquitoes bite."

#### Prices of Wild Animals.

The greatest animal mart in the world is at Hamburg, Germany, and the following are the current market prices for animals:

Female Indian elephant, six feet high, trained to do several tricks, carries six people in saddle, \$1,500; female elephant, five feet six inches high, no tricks, \$1,300; young, fresh imported male elephant, four to five feet high, from Burmah, \$1,000; females, \$1,100; zebras, 5 years old, per nair, \$2,000, and both broken to drive single or double harness; 8 months' old zebra, male, \$450, and female, 3 months old, \$350; Nubian wild ass, 6 years old, \$200; wild asses from the Russian steppes, per pair, \$900; double humped camels, per pair, \$500; Hamas, 4 years old, per pair, \$250; Axis deer from India, per pair, \$200; Sika deer from Japan, per pair, \$150; waterbuck antelopes, 2 years old (country not given). per pair, \$750; Bengal tigers, male, 6 years old, female 3 years old, per pair, \$1,750; Bengal tigers, female, 3 years old, each \$750; Nublan lions, 6 years old, per pair, \$1,500; Nublan Hons, 2% years old, per pair, \$1,000; and 1% years old, \$600; female jaguars, 18 months old, each \$225; pumas, 3 years old, per pair, \$300; India leopards, male, \$175 each; striped hyenas, each. \$75; Russian wolves, each, \$100; young polar bears, per pair, \$450; polar bears. 18 months old, \$650; and fully grown, \$1,000 per pair; young Russian hea a, \$150; African and Indian porcupines, each, \$40; male kangaroo, \$125; heaver rats, \$30 per pair; male ourang outang, 7 years old, \$1,500.

#### Built on Gold.

About 28,600 ounces, or nearly £112.and was the average daily production of the gold mines of the world hast year. That was the highest in the history of gold mining. The total output in 1896 in all parts of the world was nearly £41,000,000, two millions more than in 1895, and more than double the output of 1890. The richest gold mine tional bargain sale of fine shoes since in the world is located under the thriv- Adam went barefoot."

moirs heard him soliloguizing thus of the hopelessness of the situation and the emptiness of glory:

"Diable! I have done well certainly. At my time of life-barely twenty years of age, with my name, rank and fortune, and after having married Mademoiselle de Noailles to leave everything and serve as a breakfast for codfish!"

A Wonder of Natura, Here is a picture of a very wonderful rock, which lies in a broad plain acar



Ladybrand, in the Orange Free State. It is not far from the boundary of Basutoland, near the mountain courtry. It will be seen that this rock looks very much like a man's head. The resemblance is, indeed, very striking, when one views the gigantic boulder from a distance of about 200 yards. Curiously enough, too, the profile is not unlike Sir Walter Scott's, This quaint stone is conceded by all to be a wonder of nature. Its huge size may be appreciated by comparing it with the people who stand in the foreground of the sketch.

### How an Ant Found Its Way. The president of the Agassis asso-

clation, Mr. H. H. Ballard, recently caught an ant near its hill, shut it up in a box, carried it 150 feet away and set it free in the middle of a sandy road. What followed he thus deacribes: "It seemed at first bewildered. Then it climbed to the top of ridge of sand, erected its body as high as possible, waved its antennae for several seconds, and then started in a straight line for home."

A firm in Omaha (Neb.) advortised the other day "the most highly seasa-

#### An Extraordinary Record.

A British newspaper of the year 1777 contains the following singular record: "Old William Douglas and his wife lately died; he and his wife were born on the same day, within the same hour; christened at the same time and in the same church; they were constant companions, and at the age of nineteen were married at the church at which they were christened. They never knew a day's illnss until the day before their deaths, and on the day on which they died were exactly one hundred years old. They died in one hed. were buried in one grave close to the font where they were christened. They never had any children.

## Unique Souvenirs from India.

Not the least interesting of the souvenirs which Lord Elgin brought home on the completion of his Vice-royalty in India are two remarkable specimons of native caligraphy presented to him by the Nizam of Hyderabad. The first, which is in the shape of a tree, with birds perched on it, overshadowing portraits of Lord and Lady Elgin, covers a space of about eight inches by four, and into this compass is crowded the whole of chapter vill of Sandi's Gooliston "Rose Garden," which usually makes forty-five pages of printed matter. Every word is written in a



and pawed, and tore up the sod around the boat with his horns; but I held the boat down. Finally, when I was getting tired, he got tired himself and went so far away that this time I made the creck and launched my boat.

## A Remarkable Wildcat.

The zoological garden in Paris has recently acquired a specimen of the rare wildcat of Siam. Instead of being larger than its domestic relatives, as our wildcats are, this animal is of about the size of a common house-cat. It is surprisingly flerce and untamable, and very heautiful, its justrous fur being marked and banded with symmetrical figures in black and white, as fine, according to a Paris journal, as though drawn with a pencil.

#### Life Tenure There.

An old woman who has a milk stand in St. James' Park, London, has occupled it for 53 years. Her family has had the privilege of selling milk at the stand for over 100 years. Milk to the value of £28 a month is sold at the stand.

The average man never fully realizes at midnight how very sleepy he is going to be at 7 o'clock the next morning.