SONG OF THE SWORD.

I remember the day that she hung me On the wall by the musket's side and kissed my blade with a reverent

For the honor of him who died;
I heard her say that I served him well,
And he trusted his life to me
As he grasped my hilt with his daring
hand

And we swung to the victory.

She came to me in the dark alone, As the long years fluttered by,
And I heard her song and I felt her kiss
And I thrilled to her tender sigh; I knew that she saw us in visions sweet When the bugles blew to the charge And he swung me forth to the gleaming

And I swept through the human targe.

She came one day when her locks were

And took me from the wall;
She wiped the rust of her tears away, again rang the bugle call;
aid my hilt in a stalwart hand—
master's son, I knew,
I the drums awoke and the troops

And the trumps of the battle blew!

I leaped to the life of the battle-roar,

The spirit of strike awoke; I danced in the light of my blade that shon? Through the flame of the battle-smoke.

y steel rang clear on the forman's steel, Then, stiffened and cold and still, I felt the clasp of the hand that had drawn My blade with a hero-will.

I am hanging again on the chimney wall; The summers have bloomed and fled; There are two 'neath the hill that are slumbering sweet-

The dead that are greatly dead!
Sweetheart, mother, she softly girdes
Through the shadows wherein I hang,
And lays are car to my blade to hear The echo of battle's clang.

Her lips are warm with the breath of love; Oh! woman who gave her brave To her country's call and the battle thrall And the peace of the soldier's grave! She breathes her prayer in her tender

And listens to hear me tell How herce they rode to the lines of death, How nobly they fought and fell.

Her gray head bends to the song, the dusk

Steals silently through the room; The birds are asleep in their little nests Where the cannon were wont to boom.

Her cheek is soft on my polished face,
Her pale hand claspeth me,
Ah! worn, wan lady, you're dreaming tonight,
And the dead have come back to thee!

- Folger McKinsey, in Balamore News.

THREE RINGS #UDUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUU

ANY years ago there lived in an Eastern land a nobleman who owned a ring of priceless value. The stone was a large opal, which reflected many various and brilliant hues, but far more precious than the beauty of gems of gold was the magic power hidden in the ring of making its wearer beloved by his fellow-men.

The noblen an, who was the happy owner of the ring, never removed it from his finger, and was resolved that after his death it should also remain in the possession of his own family. So he bequeathed the ring to the one he loved best among his sons, with the condition that he in turn should bequeath it to his favorite son, and so through all succeeding generations. The inneritor of the ring was always surè to be beloved by all who knew him, and was, besides, to be considered as the head of the family without

regard to birthright. After being handed down in this way through several generation, the ring came at last into the possession of a father who had three sons, all equally obedien, and loving and all equally dear to him. Many times did the father try to decide in his own mind to which of his sons he should bequeath the ring, but as he loved them all equally he could not choose

between them. Being one on, alone with his eldest son he promised him that he should inherit the ring, and at another time to the second son, seeming to him the most worthy, he made the same promise, and even did the same another day to the thir ! son. Soon after this he was attacked by an illness, and feared that his end was drawing near. yet he was still unable to decide to whom 1 * should really leave the ring. feeling so unwilling to deprive two of his sons of that to which all seemed to have an equal claim. At last, in the midst of his perplexity, a new idea struck him, and he sent secretly an order to a jeweler-to make two rings after the pattern of the magic ring, and to spare no expense or pains to make them exactly like it.

The jeweler was very skillful, and succeeded so well in his task that when he brought the two rings he had made, and sho .: ed them to the nobleman with the original ring, the latter could not discern which of the three was the true one. He paid the jeweler a large sum of money for his work, and dismissed him. Then he called his eldest son to him, and took a tender farewell of him, bestowing upon him his blessing and one of the rings, which the son of course supposed to be the true and only one. He next sent for his second son, and spoke privately in the same way to him, giving him also a ring; and so with the third, and soon after this he died.

His sons buried him with great pomp, at 1 when the funeral was over the eldest son spoke to his brothers and te the friends who were assembled and claimed to be the head and ruler of the fat ily, as being the possessor of the ring. He was happy in the feeling that, besides bestowing upon him this power, his precious ring wor'l cause him to be so beloved by t no one would envy him the posi on he claimed, and he resolved in his own heart that he would be so loving and kind to his brothers and so good to all around him that he should

always show himself worthy of his father's choice.

Great was the astonishment of the other brothers, and all were amazed when each showed his own ring and told of his father's last words to him and made the same claim that the eldest had made.

Then arose an eager discussion; the rings we's examined, and it was found impossible to distinguish the magic ring from the others, and the brothers determined to bring the matter before the judge. The judge questioned all the brothers closely, but each one affirmed exactly the same thing, that the father had privately promised to give the ring to him alone, and that upon his deathbed he had sent for him and had actually given him the ring.

Not one of them was willing to be lieve that the father had deceived him in the matter, but each was more inclined to suspect his brothers of bringing forward a false claim, supported by a ring which he pretended to be the true one. But even this they were very unwilling to believe, for the brothers had always lived in mutual love and trust.

The judge was at first much per plexed, and exclaimed, angrily: "Do I sit here in the seat of judgment to unravel all the riddles that foolish people may bring me? I cannot pronounce which is the true ring and who is the true head of the family. But stay," he continued, "you tell me that er of making its owner beloved. This can never have such power. Now, say which of you is most beloved by Do the rings, then, only work inwardloves himself best? Oh! then you are your father has bestowed upon each acres.

of you a false ring. "So if you wait here to hear my sentence you wait in vain, but if you in Calaveras, Touloma, Fresno, and seek my advice, I will gladly give it Tulare Counties they are now disapyou. My counsel is this: Return to pearing-by the axe. In brief, the ma-Each one has received a ring from his father; let each one believe his ring by people who have every right and to be the true ring; and in order to prove to others the truth of his claim let each one strive to make himself the most beloved; let him show a gentle, generous spirit, a noble forgetfulness of self, sympathy with others, truth, fidelity, modesty and, above all, of even the larger trees are more than plety toward God. So will he who exbeloved, and so will all see plainly

who is the owner of the true ring." The brothers returned to their home and followed the wise counsel of the judge. They vied with each other in showing an amiable, unselfish temper, untii, by the constant practice of the virtues which the Judge had recommended to them they grew so unselfish that the disp te about the ring was forgotten, and they passed their lives together in harmony and happiness, and so the decelt of their weak and unprincipled father had a better result than it deserved. -- New York News.

The Lawyer's Right to Weep.

The Supreme Court of Tennessee has decided that a lawyer has the right to shed tears to influence the verdict of a jury, and, in fact, says that if he can bring tears to his eyes at will he is derelict if he neglects to do so. The case was one in which the defendant had appealed on the ground that the weeping of the attorney for the plaintff had unduly influenced the jury. The court found that the point had never been raised before, and asserted that the manner of defense must be 'eft largely to the judgment of attorneys. "Some," said the judge, "deal wholly in logic argument without any embellishment. Others use rehetorical and occasional flights of fancy and imagination. Others rely upon noise and gesticulation, earnestness of manner and vehemence of speech. Others appeal to the passions, prejudices and sympathies of the jury. Others combine all of these modes." He declares that no cast iron rule should be made, but that tears have always been considered legitimate arguments before a jury, and would appear to be one of the natural rights of counsel, as it would be difficult to decide whether or not the emotion was natural if such a point should be raised. He says a trial judge should not interfere with the shedding of tears unless they are indulged in +> such an excess as to 'impede, embarrass, or delay the business before the court."-Chicago Trib-

Suspicious Liberality. "It was a mean trick," said Jones, with a smile, "but I wanted my wife to come home, and it was the only way that I could think of to get her back. She went away about five weeks ago on a vacation, and left me alone to get along as best I could. It wasn't long before I grew tired of the arrangement, tired of getting my meals down town, tired of sending checks in reply to her demands for more money. Three days ago I received a letter asking me to send her \$25 at once. It was then that my plan suggested itself. By return mail I sent her a check for double the amount that she had asked for, and enclosed it with a note that read: 'Don't hurry

back.' "It worked as I thought it would. My wife returned by the first train with a strange gleam of inquiry in her eyes and a set about her lips that bodes trouble for me if she confirms boring under. However, I have her at home, and I am not losing any sleep sweeping and scrubbing, it has taken over what she may suspect."-Detroit a polish like that of a plate-glass mir-

Free Press.

CALIFORNIA'S BIG TREES.

Swayed in the Sierra Breezes When Christ Walked the Earth."

The Department of Agriculture has issued a report on investigations of the big trees of California that brings out some interesting and new conclusions. It shows that the dimensions of the big trees are unequaled and that their age makes them the oldest living things. They are described by the report as "the grandest, largest, oldest and most majestically graceful of trees," and "the scarcest of known tree species, with the extreme scientific value of being the best living representatives of a former geologic age."

The report says the bark of the big trees often is two feet thick and almost non-combustible. "The oldest specimens felled," it says, "are still sound at the heart, and fungus is an enemy unknown to it. Yet the big trees apparently have not increased their range since the glacial epoch. They have only just managed to hold their own on the little strip of country where the climate is locally favorable."

Continuing, the report says: "The only grove now thoroughly safe from destruction is the Mariposa, and this is far from being the most interesting. Most of the other groves are either in process of or in danger of being logged. The very finest of all, the Calaveras Grove, with the biggest and tallest trees, the most uncontaminated surroundings, and practically all the true ring possesses the magic pow- the literary and scientific associations of the species connected with it, has must decide it, then, for the false rings been purchased recently by a lumberman, who came into full possession on April 1, 1900. The Sequola and are supposed to embrace and give sely upon yourselves, so that each one curity to a large part of the remaining big trees, are eaten into by a all deceived, and deceivers, too! sawmill each and by private timber Doubtless the true ring is lost, and claims amounting to a total of 1173 town has never been accurately de-

"The rest of the scanty patches of big trees are in a fair way to disappearyour home and cease your strife. jority of the big trees of California, certainly the best of them, are owned in many cases every intention, to cut

them into lumber." The most recent investigations, according to the report, confirm the estimates that these giant trees probably live 5000 years or more, though few half as old. The average rate of cels most in these virtues be the most growth is estimated at one inch of diameter for every twelve years. The report also corroborates the statements of one authority who says that one tree, on which he counted 4000 rings, was undoubtedly in its prime, "swaying in the Sierra winds, when Christ walked the earth." The report states among other things as the result of the official investigations:

"The only place in the world where the big trees exist is in ten isolated groves on the west slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The species, how ever, represents a surviving prehistoric genus of trees once growing widely over the globe. The Southern groves how some reproductions through which there is no hope of perpetuating these groves. In the Northern groves the species hardly holds its own."-New York Times.

Pussy Could Read Her Own Letters, "I have a cat that can read," declared a lady. "At any rate, she knows when a letter comes for her." "A letter!" exclaimed her friend, in

astonishment. "Yes, a letter. If you don't believe it, I will prove it to you. Just walt a

moment while I direct one." She left the room and presently returned with a sealed envelope, addressed, "Miss Pussy, No. - Blank street, City." This letter was duly posted.

The next morning the postman came and soon afterward the servant entered with a bundle of letters, among which was that for Miss Pussy. Placing them near her feline highness on the floor Pussy's mistress said:

"Now, Pussy, pick out your tetter." Surprisingly enough Pussy at once showed an interest, and in a moment had pushed aside with her paws the envelope addressed to her.

"Wait a moment," said the mistress "and she'll open it." Scarcely had she said this when Miss

Pussy tore open the envelope, and in a moment was literally devouring its contents-catnip!-Buffalo Enquirer.

Origin of the Red Sea.

M. A. Issel, in a recent issue of the Bulletin of the Geological Society of Belgium, discusses the above interesting question. He believes that in late miocene or early pliocene times the Nile, a mightier river than it now is, emptled its waters directly into the great lake, the outlet being an immense waterfall. Even in post-pliocene times the Nile continued to send a portion of its waters into the Red Traces of this connection are furnished in the actual faunas of the two seas. The opening of the Straits of Bab-el-mandeb was caused by volcanic activity followed by a period of subsidence and erosion of the barrier which separated the Red Sea from the Indian Ocean. It is remarked that the opening of the Suez Canal has senforms of life.

Polished Floors in Manila, There are millions of feet of flooring in the Philippine Islands which have been hewed with the adz. Some of the floors of the best houses of the wood is so fine that, from daily

To keep a mother and a babe prisoners in a hospital for debt suggests that Cincinnati needs a Dickens.

It has been decided that the prairie dogs injure land and must be poisoned. After the prairie dog is extinct scientists will probably discover that he is much needed in order to kill off some

"Autocarette" is the latest verbal horror. The thing itself may be admirable. The name makes its author worthy of imprisonment for the remainder of his natural life, at hard study of English grammar.

Hereafter the gold finder in Alaska will not have to spend all he carns, for the necessaries of life are becoming as abundant and cheap in many parts of the Territory as they are in the older sections of the United States.

Professor Koch is now convinced that, in consequence of the discovery of the important role played by mosquitoes in the conveyance of the malarial polson, it will be possible by means of judicious measures to eradicate malaria in most localities.

Young Mr. Lemon, of Bloomsburg. Orangeville. This has not been beaten since Mr. Stump, of Maryland, who was married to Miss Post by the Rev. the other two? Speak-you are silent. General Grant National Parks, which Mr. Lockwood in a church in Garrison Forest, celebrated his wooden wedding.

> The number of lives lost at Johnstermined, but including those missing and who are believed to have perished in the flood the total is about 2300, while the damage done there to property is conservatively estimated at \$9,750,000.

> A comely young woman in Ohio has been sent to an insane asylum because she imagines that her face is ugly. More of this same sort of feminine insanity, judiciously distributed, would do no harm. The victims should not as moral examples.

The Washington Post has observed a marked decline in the use of the wheel. Society seems to have given it up altogether, and now it is chiefly used as an article of utility, to get clerks and workmen to and from their business, and occasionally to carry former bicycle devotees to the golf

When the next war looms up the English press purposes a joint note to the War Office asking that experienced tournalists be made censors in the place of insolent, underdone subalterns and cocky officers. The correspondents agree that the greatest hardship of the Boer War was the exasperating censorship.

Maxim gun drill is now carried on in the various schools of instruction in Canada. Cadet corps regulations have been extended to include not only universities, colleges, collegiate institutes, and high schools, but the public schools. Provision has been made for the formation of cadet battalions and cadet corps to be attached to existing battalions of militia.

The appearance of Cornelius Vanderbilt in the political arena is ascribed both at Newport and in New York to his clever wife, who is determined that if he is not to be the chief of the Vanderbilt family in point of wealth, he shall be its acknowledged superior in intellect, public spirit and usefulness to the community among which his lot is cast.

Excitement pervades the United States Fish Commissioners' experts. Professor Barton Warren Evermann, an ichthyologist, has found two little minnows, or darters, which do not belong to any known species, in Lake Maxincuckee, Indiana. Without regard to their feeling, he named them "Hadropteru Maxinkucklensis Evermann" and "Estheostoma Aubeenaubei Evermann."

It is gratifying to learn that the effort to acclimatize the reindeer in Alaska has been successful. Although most of the 520 animals imported from Lapland nearly three years ago died \$1850, and after the cost has been reen route from the over-richness of the paid the taxpayers will be delieved overheard conversation between the diet of hay, on which they were fed because of the impossibility of providsibly affected the distribution of some ing the tundra moss on which they thorities were constructing a similar tell you are only five. You don't even thrive, a small number survived. The herd, which was later enlarged by the addition of 700 reindeer doe from Siberia, now numbers 3000 head, and its rapid increase under Government pro-Manila are of this nature. You can tection seems assured. The introducsee the rough places where the chips tion of a domestic animal capable of uses-if young women do not learn to the horrible suspicions that she is in- have been cut out, but the grain of sustaining life on the bleak tundra and use more d' rimination in the choice equally useful as a beast of burden of husbands.-Pittsburg Dispatch. and food is an event of the greatest importance to our Arctic dependency. | 000, of whom only 500 are Europeans. | Plaindealer.

科学中的工作的工作的工作的工作的工作的工作的工作的工作的工作

Good Roads Potes

最为最后成绩的2000年4月200年4月20日4年200年4月3 Solving a Vexations Question, ORSEMEN, bicyclists and agree that the country should contain enough good roads, so that everybody who wishes to move about either for sarily understand his own language, business or pleasure should have an | but admits the fact that there are other opportunity of doing so with the great- tongues, and also that, when he travest possible comfort and economy. But what kind of a road will best suit all persons is the question on which all seem to split. The farmers declare that the roads ought to be of stone so that farm produce may be taken son is, in every instance, a member to market for twelve months in the of the Ta-chuan (literally, "Big Fist"); year instead of for only nine months, or, as it is now called, "Boxer," socithe time in which a dirt road may be used ordinarily by the farmers. The farmers put up a strong argument, saying that the farmer is the backbone of the Republic, and that when the farmer does not prosper there can bers. be no general prosperity. Then the blcyclist comes along with a splendid argument to show that a stone road joggles too much for the wheelmen. Iy and from early youth, not that they The cyclists declare that the road ought to be either of ordinary dirt or they may engage in a perfectly lawful of macadam where it will not pay to and recognized career. They are eahave asphalt pavements for the wheel- gaged as watchmen by wealthy resi-Penn., has married a young lady of men. The automobile men who are dents and as guards by travelers carnow rapidly increasing in numbers, rying a large amount of money, or to rather side with the farmer who needs convoy species for great distances. a rock road that can be used in all kinds of weather, but the driver of perfect safety, for it places the proplight harness rigs or the rider of horses steps into the contest and de- the Ta-chuan Union, and thieves or clares that stone roads injure all malefactors dread arousing its venhorses that have to travel faster than gennee. Not a single instance is on slow jog trot. The horsemen de record where a member of the Ta-chuclare that the stone pavements breed all kinds of trouble for horses that travel moderately fast, including the horses driven by tradesmen and deliverymen. The injury of the stone Tuan, and grandfather of the heir aproads, they declare, are to the foot, leg and lung. Dr. H. H. Kane, President of the Drivers' and Riders' League, of New York, is out with a statement on this subject, which will no doubt attract the attention of all ing of private detective in our social classes concerned, and which may lead arrangements. This is further conto a compromise in the demands made hereafter by the various organizations with the happy result that e crybody will get some of the things he desires be locked up, but should be exhibited even if he does not have the whole road to himself. The plan proposed by Dr. Kane is as follows: First, there should be one road along the main artery of traffic to and from the principal markets built of stone for the farmers and all others who have to do heavy trucking; second, on either

side of this stone road should be a dirt road about eight feet wide for the es pecial use of horsemen and all kinds of harness vehicles. The dirt road might in most cases suffice for the wheelmen, but in case there was any unusual demand for increased space for bicycle riders, Dr. Kane would rec ommend that on the outside of the dirt road there should be a specially constructed bicycle path. This plan of having a complete road, the horseman thinks, would give every class of road users the kind of a road it needs, and would insure harmony among all road users. He says that the members of the L. A. W. are strong enough generally to get what they wish, and in some sections the farmers prevail and they get what they wish. The riders and fast drivers, he says, have never made much united effort to get what they want, but he believes the time is coming when such action will be necessary for the preservation of valuable horsefiesh. He contends that the proposed plan would enable the farmers, the wheelmen, the drivers and riders, as well as the automobile men to work together for a composite road-centre stone, eight feet on each side dirt, and

blcycle paths on the outside.-New Convicts and Good Roads,

The agitation of the League of American Wheelmen to have convicts used in building public roads is slowly making headway. On this subject the New York Post recently contained the following:

"The League for Good Roads,in Oneida County, reports favorably on the experiment of employing convicts on road-making. Under the direction of the Board of Supervisors and the superintendence of a trained engineer, the county prisoners have constructed a macadam road, one and three-tenths of our burden behind us. miles long, through the village of New York Mills, near Utica. The county authorities made a contract with the road district, whereby it was to furnish laborers at twenty-five cents a day, and allow the use of its stone crusher, steam-roller, etc., free of charge. The road district furnished the necessary fuel and material, and paid for supervision. The cost of the road was about \$5875, or \$4500 a mile. and the total cost was only three times the amount of the annual road tax. As it will cost only \$250 a year to keep the new road in repair, the annual saving will amount to about to this extent, or the money can be two: devoted to other improvements. While this road was building the State auone of equal length, which was to know the difference between corn and cost, at the contract price, \$9000."

Saved by a High Collar. A high collar saved the life of a young woman of Vermont when her husband tried to cut her throat. This shows that high collars have their

NEW IDEA ABOUT BOXERS. Every Watchman or Doorkeeper in Pekin

a Momber. Writing of "The Revolution in China and Its Causes," in the Century, R. Van Bergen gives considerable infor-

mation as to the Boxers. Any intelligent man who has lived at Pekin for six months knows of automobile owners are still these so-called Boxers, and has, knowtrying to solve the vexatious ingly or not, employed one or more question of good roads. All of them. By the term "intelligent" is meant a man who does not suppose that every numan being must necesels or resides in foreign countries, it becomes him to familiarize himself with such foreign languages."

Every resident of Pekin employs a watchman or doorkeeper, and that r .ety. Properly considered, it is not a secret society, but bears a great resemblance to our labor unions. Its purpose is mainly benevolent, namely, to provide for old or disabled mem-

The society of the Boxers is made up of men whose physical and muscular strength has been trained purposemay enter the athletic arena, but that Such a guard or watchman insures erty or person under the protection of on was faithless to his trust.

The Government recognized the union and frequently employed it to convoy treasure. The father of Prince parent, is, and has been for years, the official patron of the union.

It is evident from this explanation that a member of the Ta-chuan corresponds somewhat to the modern callfirmed, since, in either case, men may be hired for specific purposes, and not always in strict conformity to law. The history of the United States contains instances where corporations, in fear of depredations by striking workmen, have engaged a body of private detectives to repel any attack upon their plants. A man in possession of a well-filled purse could, at Pekin, engage any number of Ta-chuan members for purposes which would not bear publicity.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

All our progress is an unfolding like the vegetable bud. You have first the instinct, then an opinion, then a knowledge, as the plant has root, bud and fruit. Trust the instinct to the end. though you can render no reason. It is vain to hurry it. By trusting it to the end, it shall ripen unto truth, and you shall know while you believe

A good conscience is to the soul what health is to the body. It preserves a constant ease and serenity within us, and more than countervails all the calamities and afflictions which can possibly befall us.

He who asks of life nothing but the improvement of his own nature, and a continual moral progress toward inward contentment and rightful submission, is less liable than any other to miss and waste his life.

If you want to be miserable think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you and what people think of you.

Some of the best lessons we ever learn we learn from mistakes and failures. The error of the past is the wisdom and success of the future.

Mere ideals, unsecured by deeds, are like unframed pictures. They do not long retain their freshness and wholeness and beauty. It is a maxim that those to whom

everybody allows the second place have an undoubted right to the first. Self-knowledge is that acquaintance with ourselves which shows us what

we are, and what we ought to be. Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow

If we could but conquer our inmost enemies we could stand thousands of our outward ones.

Providence has given us hope and sleep as a compensation for the many cares of life.

Feminine Superiority.

There is a little story that illustrates the calm self-satisfaction with which the feminine mind asserts its superior-

Lucy and George are children of East End parents. Lucy is seven and George is five. She has attended the primary department of a private school just four months. Here is an

Lucy (with a greatly pained expression)-"Why, brother, anybody could

George (who hates to acknowledge his inferiority)-"I do, too! Wheat is

Lucy (taking pity on him) - "Why, George, you know well enough you don't know. Listen to me and remember. Wheat is wheat and corn is corn, and wheat grows in a wheatfield and corn grows in a cornfield! And The population of Zululand is 150. don't you ever forget it."-Cleveland