A LOWLY LIFE.

So uncomplainingly she bore the moil of bousewife care and unremitting toil, And, he it said, throughout her length of

Her womanly reward was stinted praise.

She lived a life as lowly as the loam.

Yet just her ratient smile suggested home
And mother-love that watched o'er trundle bed.

Till e'en the praiseless husband often said She made his home-life happy.

So, when the friends had crossed upon ber hreast Her tired hands that she might better rest, And noted the angelic smile of peace She wore at labor's end and toil's sur-

cease, epitaph to mark her grave they And, while no deed of martyrdem was

named. The lines told all of wife and mother They writ beneath her name: "A Farm-

er's Wife-She made his home-life hanny." Roy Farrell Greene, in Good Housekeep-

******** Why Mrs. Parker Was Worried.

WOMAN who lives on the south side relates a horrible experience that she had the other day with one of her husband's debtors.

The debt had been of long standing, and the man who owed the money had been paying it off in regular installments by mail, sometimes inclosing a postoffice order and sometimes a bill. The last time it had been a bill and the letter uever came, so he wrote to say that he would make a trip to Chicago and bring the money himself. The day appointed the woman's husband had to be out of town, and he asked her if she wouldn't for once forego the joys of shopping and stay at home and act as cashier, and she agreed to do so in consideration of a reasonable commission on the payment.

"You can give him a receipt for it," said the man, whose name is Parker. "I'll fill it out before I go, and it won't be any trouble to you at all. Treat him nicely, although I needn't tell you to do that-only he's an odd sort of genius and has peculiar little ways. Some of the people out at Waukegan have got the idea that he is a little out of his head, but he isn't, and I will say that there isn't one man in a million that would act as square as he has done. Ask after his son in New York and how he is getting along with his corn-shucking machine. That will to hustle."

The Wankegan man arrived on time. He was large, loose-jointed and elderly, with a wild eye and a timid, besitating manuer. The fashlon of his clothes was decidedly rural and be were heavy cowhide boots. As he explained the object of his visit he fingered his long, wispy beard nervboots on the door mat he followed her slly. into the sitting room, where he seated himself on the extreme edge of a chair and gazed earnestly at a crayon

portrait that hung over the bookcase. Mr. Parker told me to tell you how sorry he was that he couldn't be here to see you," said the woman, with an engaging smile, as she seated berself opposite her visitor.

Yes'm," coughing behind his hand and transferring his gaze to the clock. "But he thought as far as the bustness was concerned that I could attend to it just as well as be could."

There was an embarrassed silence. Mrs. Parker felt the contagion of the man's pervousness. She thought that be certainly was odd-almost alarmingly so. She caught his eye in the course of its wanderings around the room and noticed that he colored slightly. She coughed and he coughed a rasping echo.

"He left me the receipt," she said. at last. Yes'm.

Another silence. The man shuffled his feet uneasily and the woman began

"It was too had that your last remittapes was lost, but Mr. Parker told me to say that he would give you credit for half the amount, or all of it if you thought that he ought to

"That wouldn't be right," said the man. "I don't want him to lose anything by accommodating me. But you've got a pack of darned thieves here in Chicago-a lot of rascals that them if I had the chance." He spoke with great vehemence and looked at her so angrily that she qualled and wondered if her servant was within

"A man's money isn't safe," he added. Then in a gentler tone: "Have you got a bootinck?"

"A bootinck?" "Oh, well: may be I can manage without, but they come off a trifle stiff." He pressed the toe of one of his boots against the beel of the other and pushed with it; it slipped and his right heel grazed his left instep, and be uttered a cry of pain. The woman started up from her seat with an exclamation of alarm, but her eccentric visitor wa between her and the door and she feared that he would jump at reach it. She was, moreover, conscious of sudden weakness in her Perhaps, she thought, he wasn't really dangerous and she could bumor him. It would most likely excite and anger him if she should cry out.

He looked up and said: "Excuse me," then took his boot in his hand imported some years ago by the mahand pulled at it violently. Mrs. Parker arajah of Darbhanga

had heard of the power that a calm, stendy look has over the insane. She looked at him calmly and steadily. though her face, she felt, was growing white with terror. The trouble was that he would not look at her, but continged to wreatle with his boot.

At last an energetic wrench brought the boot off and the madman thrust his arm in it up to the elbow. Then be said: "By Jinks?" and smiled in an imbecile, self-reproachful sort of way. "How s your married son in New

York?" inquired Mrs. Parker, in a tosh of aspiration, moistening ber parched lips with her tongue.

"Him?" replied the maniac. he's all right-leastways he was when last heard from bim."

He bent down and tackled the other boot, and Mrs. Parker once more rose and tried to edge her way round the table to pass bim. He stopped and looked up and she retreated to the window and seated berself, with an assumption of carelessness, on the sill. If the worst came to the worst she might throw herself out and risk the injury that she might sustain from the broken glass and the fall. It was not more than eight or ten feet to the ground, and anything would be preferable to the horror of being in the

clutches of a madman. Then another thought came to her. Perhaps she could attract the attention of some passer-by and dumbly summon assistance. She looked quickly out.

A man was passing-a roung man with a quite noticeable dark mustache, fashionably attired and holding his arms gracefully bowed out from his body. Mrs. Parker, who is a goodlooking young woman, threw her whole anguished soul into an imploring look and beckoned stealthily but imperatively to him. He smirked engagingly at her in return and raised his hat, hesitated, then smirked again, caressed his little mustache and passed

"There!" exclaimed the lunatic. Mrs. Parker started. He had got the other boot off, and, standing in his stocking feet, was groping inside of it

as he had in the other. "Good joke on me," he said. clean forgot which one I put it in, and I couldn't tell nothing by the feel." Withdrawing his hand he drew out a thin, flat package, and then, moistening his finger, separated from it a \$10 bill, which he extended to Mrs. Parker, who looked at it wonderingly for an instant and then dropped into a chair and began to sob hysterically.

It appears that this is not the end The man from Wankegan who had made a safety-deposit vault of his boot please him. Well, good bye; I've got tried for some minutes to soothe and calm the agitated woman, but his gentle ministrations only seemed to make her worse. He stood and turged helplessly at his beard and then rushed from the room in search of belp. Going down stairs he suddenly came upon the servant, who, in consequence of his bootless condition, had not heard his approach. Before be could explain his mission she screamed ously and seemed unwilling to look and fell over against the gas stove in the lady in the face. She invited him a dead faint, and, as Parker says. in, and after carefully rubbing his there was a dickens of a time gener-

> Another thing, there is a young man with a slight, dark mustache who passes the house quite frequently and annovs Mrs. Parker by raising his hat to her and sometimes kissing his hand. Parker has not caught him as yet, but he is biding his time, and has expressed his intention of breaking that young man's darped neck.

As for the Wankegan man, he called at Parker's office for his receipt, and hesitatingly inquired after Mrs. Parker. "You'll excuse me, Henry." be said. "but ain't she a-well, just a lit-

tle, you know-"Hey!" said Parker. The Waukegan man tapped his fore

head significantly with his forefinger.

-Chicago Record.

Mature Brides of the Rich Young Men Three cases of marriage between the elite of New York where the brides were several years the senior of their youthful mates may not betoken more than accident, but it looks as if a precedent had been inaugurated which in time might be made a fashion. Women age so much faster than men that these five years or less should be on the other side of the family. If the moneyed aristocracy of this country adopts a social custom it goes. "When we were twenty-one" will read some day when he was twenty-one and she was twenty-seven, and the inequality, in spite of beauty dectors, in a decade will be too apparent for the lady's happiness. Lady Randolph Churchill and sught to be hung. I would help hang her young husband are not yet dis contented with their match, but Mrs. Langtry, who wedded a comparative juvenile, has already found her doll is filled with sawdust. However, marsafer with women older than themselves.-Boston Herald.

English Song Birds For India.

Darjeeling, the tnountain sanitorium of Bengai, is getting tired of talking of the tornado that wrecked the station a couple of years ago. So the improvement committee have thought of something else. They declare themselves dissatisfied with the cucaoa, hitherto Darjeeling's almost sole feathered warbler, and are trying to import English song birds, at a pound aplece, to her and strangle her before she could plant in the woods, says a Calcutta correspondent. It is a bad lookout for the songsters, as the woods are full of Himalayan ravens, and Himalayan ravens feed on young birds. But the improvement committee are sanguine. and the lieutenant-governor of Bengal is alleged to have made the suggestion, so nobody protests. The ravens, by the way, are said themselves to have been THE STORY OF WINDSOR.

An English Castle Since the Norman

Conquest.

Those of us who have passed pleasant hours wandering roundabout Windsor Castle are very vividly reminded of it by the sad ceremonies performed there recently. The history of Windsor Castle is the history of

England since the Norman Conquest. Edward the Confessor granted the site of the castle and the town to the Abbot of Westminster, but William the Conqueror was so struck with the beauty of the surrounding scenery and the importance of the situation as a military poet that he "traded" with the Abbet for some lands in Basex, and erected a fortress, which Henry the

iret enlarged. Court was first held in the new palace in 1110, after which it was often the scene of regal festivities.

Stephen during his reign considered it only next in importance as a stronghold to the Tower of London.

Henry II. held a parliament within He walls in 1170, when, in addition to the English Barons, King William of Scothad was present.

Nothing but the fear of treachery prevented Windsor from being associated with Magoa Charta, instead of the peighboring plain of Runnymede. where the meeting of the Barons and King John took place.

Contending factions alternately had possession of the castle during the reign of Henry III., and many alterations were made during that period. Indeed, the only parts which remain exactly as in the time of Henry III. are the towers on the western wall, and even these have been refaced.

While alterations were going on in 1852, some houses being pulled down in Thames street, a subterranean passage, from the Garter tower to the bottom of the ditch, with the masonry in good condition, was discovered. The magnitude of this is appreciated by looking down the precipitous "Castle slopes" from the heights of the north terrace. This soble promenade was added by Queen Elizabeth.

Another "sally port" was discovered later on the south side, but is probably later than Henry III.

Windsor was the principal residence of the first and second Edwards, and here Edward III. was born.

Edward III., who instituted the noble Order of the Garter, rebuilt the castle almost entirely, employing Witliam de Wykeham (Bishop of Winchester) as superintendent of the works at a weekly malary of seven shillings, with three more for his clerk. He also rebuilt the chapel of St. George. In 1554, August & Queen Mary and her consert. Philip II. of Spain, made their grand public entry into Windsor. To Charles I, this castle was first a

palace and then a prison.

Charles IL, the "Merry Monarch." took up his residence here after the restoration, and made "alterations" rather than improvements. His interior changes are not criticised, how-

Noble avenues of elm and beech trees, and park improvements general ly marked the regimes of William III. and Queen Anne. George I., who frequently resided

here, introduced the Continental cu tom of dining in public every Thursday. George III. made it his chief resi-

dence. Mainly out of his own private purse he restored the north front, renovated the Chapel Royal and built the Royal Vault. In 1823, when George IV, took up

his residence bere, began the enormous expenditure that made the castle what it is to-day.

His brother, the "Sallor King," William IV., though very popular, received little credit for the carrying on of this work.

But the entire plan, made by Sir Jeffrey Wyattville, in 1824, was only completed in the reign of Victoria, who is to rest here, where, with the Prince Consort, she loved to live a beautiful home life so different from the hollow pomp and circumstance which distinguished that of most of her prede-CESSOUS.

Windsor Castle and Windsor town are on the best of terms, the latter being the dearest, sleepiest, old place

Growth of Freight Cars in a Becade. To-day the freight car that has not a capacity of at least 60,000 pounds is considered rather out of date, and cars for handling heavy freights, such as ore and coal, are constructed with a capacity of 100,000 pounds. The size of the locomotives and the weight of the rail in the track has been corre spondingly increased. When the large capacity cars began to come into use switchman on the Union Pacific road happened to see one of the old and small Union Pacific cars between two of the large and modern type, and he wrote on the car with chalk: "Ob riage is a lottery anyhow, and it is a little boxcar, don't you cry; you'll be question if rich young men are not a freight-house by and by." Another employe seeing one of the modern coal cars, with its unusually high sides, wrote on it: "Shop! No roof."-The National Magazine.

Irish Humor About British Soldiers There must have been at least on interval in the Authors' Club's recent dinner to Captain Hedworth Lambton of Ladysmith fame when every one was in a thoroughly good humor. Dr. Copan Doyle must have been moderately sure of it, too, else he would never have dared to tell to his fellow Britishers there a story which he did for its point has been touched on once or twice during this war with some acidity. This was the story:

An officer was giving his men a little lecture on the war and its lessons and "How do the Boers, fight?"

"Behind the rocks, sir." a soldier re-"And bow de the English fight?" "Rehind the Irish, sir."

'a quiet wedding" may be regarded as entirely obselete.

An Irish philosopher says that there is no blessing like health, especially when a fellow is sick

Economists who are alarmed by the decrease of matrimony might remedy the matter by getting up a bill to subsidize married people

Paterson, N. J., should now try to bring to the front its renntation as a menufacturing town, which has of late been so much overshadowed.

A Kansas editor apologizes for say-

ing a bride appeared in her "shirt sleeves." "We wrote 'shert sleeves,' " says the editor, "as plain as we know Rich men de not require curfew.

They see to it themselves that their children are not only carefully guarded during the day, but safely locked up

Sorrow and joy follow closely upon the heels of each other. Witness the death of the aged Queen of England and the marriage of the young Queen of Holland.

The Lancet pronounces the present underground steam trains in London 'exceedingly dirty." All attempts at ventilation have failed, and the proposed substitution of electric traction seems the only remedy

Poets and poets' sons appear to get no discount on their crimes in English courts. Oscar Wilde went to the treadmill like any other felon, and Sir Edwin Arnold's son Julian has just begun a ten-year sentence for embezzlement.

The Chinese are forbidden by law to ise cow's milk. It will not be surprising to find China supplementing its boasts about gun powder and the art of printing with a claim that it was the original discoverer of oleomargar-

The organization of a Parisian club for the purpose of marrying its members to American beiresses may be accepted as a French challenge to the young men of America to put forth their best efforts to keep the helresses in the country.

Prairie chickens in Kansas only a few years ago were looked upon as a pest. Now the farmers are encouraging their propagation by keeping hunters off their farms. The chickens are much more plentiful now than for several seasons back.

There are over 100 towns in England and Wales that own and operate public baths. They are patronized by all classes, and are said to give perfect it to trap or granite because it is softsatisfaction. The examples of these towns might be profitably followed by every town in the United States.

A Rhode Island statistician, after a careful investigation among bankers in foreign financial centres computes the amount the United States owed abroad rear age as \$3,330,000,000. Against this he sets, as owed to the United States, \$500,000,000, leaving a let indebtedness on the part o this country of \$2,830,000.000. The annual charges against the United States he figures as \$150,000,000, made up of an interest account of \$90,000,000, travelers' credit \$50,000,000, and loss by expatriation on the part of beiresses and wealthy gentlemen \$10,000,000.

The Belgian hare issue has been met by the Massachusetts Game and Fish Commissioners with the report that the National Secretary of Agriculture's fears do not apply to Massachusetts at least. Its flesh is good to eat. Its fur is good to wear. And its body is good to shoot at. Well protected, the Belgian hare "can possibly be increased sufficiently in our woods to partially supply the demand for something to shoot at-a demand that must constantly increase with the growth of population and the recognition of necessity for healthful recreation."

A Connecticut cat is charged with turning on the gas, with the result that a whole family nearly came to an untimely end. This is a new crime to lay at the door of the most unresponsive and haughty of domesticated animals. A dog is a shamefaced thing. always ready to show penitence for his sins. Hence the ease with which he obtains forgiveness. Perhaps it is owing to his contempt for contrition that the cat has been accused of transgressions, from breaking choice china to raiding ice boxes. This self-contained acquaintance, but not friend careless servants for innumerable generations. Perhaps it is because he had such a good time in ancient Egypt that he is so "chesty" now

Good Roads Potes

公司中国的政治中国的中国的 System in Road Building.

THE Governor in his message wisely emphasizes the desirability of system in road building. He would have the old State roads reopened and others constructed, so that the improved highways would form continuous lines, traversing county after county throughout the whole extent of the State. Such roads would, of course, connect the principal cities and large towns of the various counties and correspond somewhat to trunk lines of ratiroad, giving good traveling from town to town and from county to county, and each would greatly conduce to the development of the communities along its route and to the founding of new ones. The Governor seems to think it appropriate that the State itself should take the initiative in the building of such roads, because they will serve general and not merely local interests, and it is probably desirable that they should be constructed first of all

Such roads, however, will not, as the Governor makes plain, answer the whole need. There must be a multiplicity of cross roads and side roads connecting different parts of the same towns and villages, and these are no less important that the others. All the people do not live on the main roads by any means. Many a man will drive over a side road to the village, or from one part of the town to another, abundred times for every single time when he will drive to the next town or the next county on the main highway. It would be most illogical and unjust to say that while intercounty and intertown traffic shall have good roads intracounty and intratown traffic shall continue to wallow in dust and mud. This latter system of local roads is therefore as essential as the former. But, unlike the former, it may properly, and indeed should, be left to local initiative and direction.

We should have, then, two distinct yet connected and harmonious systems of roads. One would comprise such great highways as the old Albany Post Raid, along the eastern bank of the Hudson River, and the Boston Post Road, skirting the Sound. The other would consist of intersecting roads, gridironing each county and town. The State roads might well be made of extra width and be constructed of trap rock, which is probably the best road metal in the world. after the most approved plan of Telford and Macadam. There is enough trap in the talus of the Palisades and in the quarries of Rockland County to build such roads from Montauk Point to Niagara Falls, and the distribution of it to Learly all points would be cheap and easy. Granite, however, might also be used, especially in combination with limestone.

The local roads might largely be constructed of local material at much less cost and yet be practically as serviceable as the others. Limestone, which is so widely distributed throughout the State, makes an admirable road if properly used, some preferring er and therefore easier for the horses' hoofs. Some villages in Westchester County have provided themselves with capital roads by using the refuse chips and dust from the marble and limestone quarries of that region. Again, deposits of bowlders and gravel are to be found in almost every county, and road built of broken bowlders with top-dressing of selected gravel comes pretty close to the best standard. But, whatever the material, all the roads of both systems should be built according to well devised and consistent plans, so that we shall be spared the sight, now too often visible, of a fine bit of road a mile or two long running "from nowhere to nowhere" or from a slough to a slough.-New York Tribune.

An Important Matter.

"Good roads" is an important mat ter to be dealt with at the present session of the Legislature, but like most important matters it is in danger of being complicated by too many conflicting plans. That heretofore pur sued of inducing counties and local authorities to do their share, with cooperation from the State, is a good one to adhere to, and it will be better to be a little slow in the good work than to run up debts and mortgage the future. A bill just introduced proposes to issue State bonds not exceeding \$50,000,000, subject to approval by a vote of the people, for the construction and improvement of highways. That would start a new and prodigal policy. which it is desirable to avoid. The value of improved roads is one that accrues as fast as they are constructed. and the people should be induced to pay for them as they go along, or in cur only local and short time debts, at most for sections that must be completed to be of use. The State help should be rendered liberally, but judiclously and without imposing heavy obligations to be met in the future The work will have to be gradual, and will take a long time at best, but it will grow in appreciation as it advances.-New York Mail and Express.

Good Roads.

It may be well to add that the good roads movement existed long before there was a bicycle or a League of American Wheelmen, but the farmers of America owe much to the riders of of man, has acted as the scapegoat for the narrow track machine for having given the movement an added impetus - Denver Republican.

The girl with high ideals seldom marries an aeronaut.

AMERICAN MULES EXALTED. Growing International Recognition

Their Merits Reported. One effect of the Anglo-Boer war in South Africa has been to exalt not only in market value, but also in fficial consideration, the American mule. There has been a constant demand for American mules for service in the military operation of the English. The distinction of the American mule has become international, and it need be no surprise, therefore, that in recent official publications in Washington the mule, no longer the subject of alighting official reference, should have a position of dignity and prominence.

Thus, recently, there has appeared a bulletin concerning the number of mules in large cities from which it appears that there are nov 600 mules in New York City, 560 in Chicago, 213 in Boston and thirty-seven in Detroit, these being the cities in which mules are least esteemed. In Philadelphia the number is 1500, in Baltimore 1000, in Kansas City 2400, in St. Louis 2800, and in New Orleans 3400.

The former distinction of Memphis as the great mule city has been obliterated in the march of progress of the mule to belated distinction, and the total of Memphis is exceeded by Louisville, a city much further north, the industrial interests of which are not such as to make many calls for the purchase of mules.

The distinction of the American mule as recognized officially does not stop short with mere enumeration, for there appears also a statement showing "the number of mules per 100,000 inhabitants in certain cities and groups of cities of the United States." Thus it appears that there are 1195 mules to each 100,000 inhabitants in New Orleans, and ninety-nine mules only to each 100,000 inhabitants in Washington, in which mules are but poorly represented.

In New York City it may be of interest to the future historian to know on official authority, there are seven mules for each 100,000 inhabitants in the borough of Queens, eight in the borough of Brooklyn, twenty-two in the borough of Manhattan, twenty-five in the borough of Richmond, and thirty-one in the borough of The Bronx. Why this disparity exists in the borough of The Bronx there is no accompanying official explanation.-New York Sun.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Selfishness insults love. Abiding achievement is greater than restless activity.

We do not have to be blind in order to see eye to eye. Evil fasteus on us only because it

finds affinity in us. A good man not only knews how to live; he knows how to die. The adder on a jeweled tray is as

dangerous as its fellow in the dirt. The approbation of self is seldom born of the approval of conscience. He that deals fairly with his neighbor does not have to flee from him.

He who will not listen to the teachings of failure shall never hear the

It is hopeless consulting the compass of conscience when you lay the loadstone of lust beside it.

The roots of a strong tree do not make much rustle, but they do the

hanging on in time of storm. Charity draws from an exhaustless fountain; the more it gives, the more

it has to give .- Ram's Horn.

Englishmen and the Queen. Curiously enough the great mass of Englishmen knew little or nothing of the sovereign as their ruler. They had only the vaguest idea of the part she took in the government of her realm and her people; they knew practically nothing of the controlling and dominant force she exercised in international and domestic politics. But about this they cared nothing. It was sufficient for them to know that she was a good woman, a woman whose heart always went out to her people, who shared with them their joys as well as their sorrows, who was keenly interested in everything that could make them better and happier. And perhaps more than anything else was the knowledge that she was a woman who had suffered much, whose heart had been sorely wrenched, and whose spirit often tried, and yet through it all she had remained screne, hopeful, always an example for right living, always an inspiration to the weary and the afflicted. Perhaps that was the real secret of the devotion which she inspired in Englishmen the world over. A. Maurice Low, in Harper's Week-

Pleasant For the Parents. A gentleman invited a certain lecturer to his house to take tea. Immediately on being seated at the

table a little daughter of the house said to the guest abruptly: "Where is your wife?"

The lecturer, who had recently separated from his better half, was surprised and annoyed at the question and stammered forth the truth:

"I don't know." "Don't know?" repeated the child. Why don't you know?"

Finding that the child persisted in her interrogations, despite the mild reproof of the parents, he decided to make a clean breast of the matter and have it over at once, so he said with calmness:

"Well, we don't live together. We think, as we can't agree, we'd better

He stiffed a group as the child began again, and darted an exasperated look T at her parents.

But the little torment would not be quieted until she exciatmed; "Can't agree! Then why don't you

fight it out, the same as father and mother do?"