Miss Apperthwaite was at home the following Saturday. I found her in the library with "Les Miserables" on her knee when I came down from my room a little before lunch time; and mighty funny critter!" she looked up and gave me a smile that made me feel sorry for any one she had ceased to smile upon.

"I wanted to tell you," I said, with a little awkwardness but plenty of truth, "I've found out that I'm an awful fool."

"But that's something," she returned encouragingly-"at least the beginning

of wisdom." "I mean about Mr. Beasley-the mystery I was absurd enough to find in 'Simpledoria.' I want to tell you-"

"Oh, I know," she said; and although she laughed with an effect of thought "far away" returned to her eyes as she spoke. There was a certain inscrutability about Miss Apperthwaite sometimes, it should be added, as if she did not like to be too easily read. "I've heard all about it. Mr. Beasley's been appointed trustee or something for poor Hamilton Swift's son, a pitiful litle invalid boy who invents all sorts of characters. The old darky from over there told our cook about Bill Hammersley and Simpledorla. So, you see, I understand."

"I'm glad you do," I said. A little hardness-one might even have thought it bitterness-became apparent in her expression. "And I'm glad there's somebody in that house, at last, with a little imagination!"

"From everything I have heard," I returned, summoning sufficient boldness, "it would be difficult to say which has more-Mr. Beasley or the child."

Her glance fell from mine at this, but not quickly enough to conceal a sudden, half-startled look of trouble (I can think of no other way to express it) that leaped into it; and she rose, for the lunch-bell was ringing.

"I'm just finishing the death of Jean Valjean, you know, in 'Les Miserables," she said, as we moved to the door. "I'm always afraid I'll cry over that. I try not to, because it makes my eyes red."

And, in truth, there was a vague rumor of tears about her eyes-not as If she had shed them, but more as if she were going to-though I had not noticed it when I came in.

. . . That afternoon, when I reached the Despatch office, I was commissioned to obtain certain political information from the Honorable David Beasley, an assignment I accepted with eagerness, notwithstanding the commiseration it brought me from one or two of my fellows in the reporter's room. "You won't get anything out of him!" they said. And

they were true prophets.

I found him looking over some documents in his office; a reflective, unlighted clgar in the corner of his mouth; his chair tilted back and his feet on a window-sill. He nodded, upon my statement of the affair that brought me, and without shifting his position, gave me a look of slow but wholly friendly scrutiny over his shoulder, and bade me sit down. I began at once to put the questions I was told to ask him-interrogations (he seemed to believe) satisfactorily answered by slowly and ruminatively stroking the left side of his chin with two long fingers of his right hand, the while he smiled in genial contemplation of a tarred roof beyond the window. Now and then he would give me a mild and drawling word or two, not brilliantly illuminative, it may be remarked. "Well-about that-" he began once, and then came immediately to a full stop.

"Yes?" I said, hopefully, my pencil poised.

"About that- I guess-" "Yes, Mr. Beasley?" I encouraged him, for he seemed to have dried up permanently.

"Well, sir-I guess- Hadn't you better see some one else about that?" This with the air of a man who would be but too fluent and coplous upon any subject in the world except the one particular point.

I never met anybody else who looked so pleasantly communicative and managed to say so little. In fact, he didn't say anything at all; and I guessed that this faculty was not without its value in his political career, disastrous as it had proved to his private happihess. His habit of silence, moreover, was not cultivated: you could see that "the secret of it" was that he was born gulet.

My note-book remained noteless, and finally, at some odd evasion of I laughed outright—and he did. too! I pup.

He joined cachinnations with me heartily, and with a twinkling quizzicalness that somehow gave me the idea that he might be thinking (ratherapologetically) to himself: "Yes, sir, that old Beasley man is certainly a

When I went away, a few moments later, and left him still intermittently chuckling, the impression remained with me that he had some such deprecatory and surreptitious thought.

Two or three days after that, as started down-town from Mrs. Apperthwaite's, Beasley came out of his gate, bound in the same direction. He gave me a look of gay recognition and offered his hand, saying, "Well! Up in this neighborhood!" as if that were a matter of considerable astonishment.

I mentioned that I was a neighbor, and we walked on together. I don't carelessness, that look which I had think he spoke again, except for a "Well, sir!" or two of genial surprise at something I said, and, now and then, "You don't tell me!" which he



Dowden, Beasley and I All Slid Down the Banisters on One of the Hamilton Swift, Junior, Days.

had a most eloquent way of exclaiming; but he listened visibly to my own talk, and laughed at everything that I meant for funny.

I never knew anybody who gave one a greater responsiveness; he seemed to be with you every instant; and how he made you feel it was the true mystery of Beasley, this silent man who never talked, except (as my cousin

said) to children. It happened that I thus met him, as we were both starting down town, and walked on with him, several days in succession; in a word, it became a habit. Then, one afternoon, as I turned to leave him at the Despatch office, he asked me if I would drop in at his house the next day for a cigar before I started. I did; and he asked me if I would come again the day after that. So this became a habit

A fortnight elapsed before I met Hamilton Swift, Junior; for he, poor little father of dream-children, could be no spectator of track events upon the lawn, but lay in his bed upstairs. However, he grew better at last, and

my presentation took place. We had just finished our cigars to Beasley's airy, old-fashioned "sittingroom," and were rising to go, when there came the faint creaking of small wheels from the hall. Beasley turned to me with the apologetic and monosyllabic chuckle that was distinctly

his alone. "I've got a little chap here-" he said; then went to the door, "Bob!"

The old darky appeared in the doorway pushing a little wagon like a reclining-chair on wheels, and in it sat Hamilton Swift, Junior,

My first impression of him was that he was all eyes: I couldn't look at anything else for a time, and was hardly conscious of the rest of that weazened, peaked little face and the undersized wisp of a body with its pathetic adjuncts of metal and leather. I think they were the brightest eyes I ever saw-as keen and intelligent as a wicked old woman's, withal as trusthis, accomplished by a monosyllable, ful and cheery as the eyes of a setter

Thus the Honorable Mr. Beasley, aving a handkerchief thrice around his head and thrice cheering. And the child, in that cricket's

"Br-r-ra-vo!" This was the form of salutation familiarly in use between them. Beasley followed it by inquiring, "Who's

oice of his, replied:

with us today?" "I'm Mister Swift," chirped the little fellow. "Mis-ter Swift, if you please, Cousin David Beasley."

Beasley executed a formal bow. There is a gentleman here who'd like to meet you." And he presented me with some grave phrases commendatory of my general character, addressing the child as "Mister Swift": whereupon Mister Swift gave me a ghostly litle hand and professed him-

self glad to meet me.
"And besides me," he added, to Beasley, "there's Bill Hammersley and Mr. Corley Linbridge."

A faint perplexity manifested itself upon Beasley's face at this, a shadow which cleared at once when I asked if I might not be permitted to meet these personages, remarking that I had heard from Dowden of Bill Hammersley, though until now a stranger to the fame of Mr. Corley Linbridge.

Beasley performed the ceremony with intentional elegance, while the boy's great eyes swept glowingly from his cousin's face to mine and back agin. I bowed and shook hands with the air, once to my left and once to my right.

"And Simpledoria!" cried Mister Swift. "You'll enjoy Simpledoria." "Above all things," I said. "Can he

shake hands? Some dogs can." "Watch him!" Mister Swift lifted a commanding finger. "Simpledoria, shake hands!"

I knelt beside the wagon and shook an imaginary big paw. At this Mister Swift again shook hands with me and allowed me to perceive, in his luminous regard, a solemn commendation and approval.

In this wise was my initiation into the beautiful old house and the cordiality of its inmates completed; and I became a familiar of David Beasley and his ward, with the privilege to go and come as I pleased; there was always gay and friendly welcome. I always came for the cigar after lunch, sometimes for lunch itself; sometimes I dined there instead of down town; and now and then when it happened that an errand or assignment took me that way in the afternoon, I would run in and "visit" awhile with Hamilton Swift, Junior, and his circle of friends.

There were days, of course, when his attacks were upon him, and only Beasley and the doctor and old Bob saw him; I do not know what the boy's mental condition was at such times; but when he was better, and could be wheeled about the house and again receive callers, he displayed an almost dismaying activity of mind-it was active enough, certainly, to keep far ahead of my own. And he was masterful: still. Beasley and Dowden and I were never directly chidden for inpainfully by the look of troubled surprise that met us when we were not quick enough to catch his meaning. The order of the day with him al-

ways began with the "Hoo-ray" and "Br-r-ra-vo" of greeting; after which we were to inquire, "Who's with us today?" Whereupon he would make known the character in which he elected to be received for the occasion. If he announced himself as "Mister Swift," everything was to be very grown-up and decorous indeed. Formalities and distances were observed; and Mr. Corley Linbridge (an elderly personage of great dignity and distinction as a mountain-climber) was much oftener included in the conversation than Bill Hammersley. If, however, he declared himself to be "Hamilton Swift, Junior," which was his happiest mood, Bill Hammersley and Simpledorla were in the ascendant, and there were games and contests. (Dowden, Beasley and I all slid down the banisters on one of the Hamilton Swift, Junior, days, at which really picturesque spectacle the boy almost cried with laughter-and old Bob and his wife, who came running from the kitchen, did cry.) He had a third appellation for himself-"Just little Hamilton;" but this was only when the creaky voice could hardly chirp at all and the weazened face was drawn to one side with suffering. When he told us he was "Just little Hamilton" we were very quiet.

Once, for ten days, his Invisibles all went away on a visit: Hamilton Swift, Junior, had become interested in bears. While this lasted, all of Beasley's trousers were, as Dowden said, "a sight." For that matter, Dowden himself was quite hoarse in court from growling so much. The bears were dismissed abruptly: Bill Hammersley and Mr. Corley Linbridge and Simpledoria came trooping back, and with them they brought that wonderful family, the Hunchbergs.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Summer Vacations in Africa.

At the equator in Africa there are only two seasons-the wet and the dry. The former is the summer season, and lasts eight months. The thermometer averages from 110 degrees to 126 degrees Fahrenheit. The other four months are the cold and dry season, when the thermometer rarely goes above 70 degrees Fahrenhelt. During the rains the natives live in houses made principally of bamboo and roofed with leaves, but as soon as the rains stop, which is some time around the first of June, they take on a holiday mood, desert their towns, and set out; household furnishings are transported on the heads of the women and chil-

CATTLE-FEEDING SURVEY RESULTS

Extensive Studies Have Been Made in Connection With Many Agricultural Colleges.

GOVERNMENT MAKES EXHIBIT

Amounts of Feed Necessary to Make Same Amount of Total Gain on Feeder Steer Shown Pictoriallly-Systems of Feeding.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In an exhibit at the International Live-Stock exposition recently held at Chleago, the United States Department of Agriculture showed some of the results obtained from an extensive survey of steer feeding in the Middle West. These studies have been made in co-operation with agricultural colleges in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska. The survey has been car-



A Prize-Winning mereford Shown at the International Live-Stock Show.

ried on for the last four years, and it has involved approximately 20,000 steers each year. Another year's study is to be made, but results have been obtained to date that are of practical interest to cattle feeders throughout the United States.

Resu. s of Survey. The results of this survey, thus far, were shown at the exposition in a booth entitled, "Beef Production," a part of the large government exhibit. It was found that two types of ration are being used by cattle feeders generally throughout this region. The type used in a locality is determined by the kind of hay that is grown there. About the same number of steers are fed by each method throughout the region studied.

Feed Necessary.

The exhibit showed pictorially the amounts of feed necessary to make the same amount of total gain on feeder steer, and the length of feeding period, under each system of feeding. as determined by this survey. Information on feeding problems and other phases of beef production may be secured by asking for bulletins from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

STANDARD FOR BEEF BREEDS

To Assist Beginner Department of Agriculture Issues Bulletin Giving Information.

The question of the beginner, which is the best breed of beef cattle?" cannot be answered if he insists ppon definite reasons, for no beef has been found superior to all others. A man may have a personal choice, his neighbors may be raising one particular breed, or his conditions may be more nearly ideal for one breed than any of the others.

In order to help those who are uncertain as to which breed is best adapted to their conditions, the United States Department of Agriculture has prepared a builetin in which are given the characteristics of the beef and dual-purpose breeds in the United States, together with a brief history of their development. A comparative standard of excellence for beef breeds is included in the bulletin, a feature which makes it possible for the beginner to compare the breeds point by point.

A copy of the bulletin may be had free of charge by writing the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and asking for Farmers' Bulletin 612.

WHITEWASH THAT WILL HOLD

When Properly Prepared and Applied Material Will Cleanse, Disinfect, and Stay On.

Whitewash is often made in a slipshod way and is put on carelessly. It does not do the job well and will not last. When whitewash is properly made and carefully applied, it will

cleanse, disinfect and stay on. Slack ten pounds of quicklime in two gallons of water. Cover the container and allow the lime to slack for one hour. Add enough warm water to make the whitewash spread easily with a brush. To each five gallons add one pound of glue, (stick glue dissolved in warm water), one-fourth pound of sait and one pint of crude warm, with a good whitewash brush.-Paul C. Jamieson, Poultry Extension Specialist, Colorado Agricultural Col-

DOCKING LAMB WILL MAKE BETTER ANIMAL

Tails Are of No Benefit and May Do Some Harm.

Should Be Removed-When Youngster Is About Two Weeks Old-Operation Requires Two Men and Knife or Docking Iron.

Lambs' talls are no benefit and may even do harm; therefore they should be removed when the lamb is in its second week of life, say the live stock men at the New York state agricultural college at Ithaca. The operation requires two men and a sharp knife or docking fron. One man holds the lamb and the other locates a joint in the tail by feeling on the inside.

The loose skin is pushed back so that a flap will grow over the stub and the tail is cut off at .. joint about one and a half inches from the body. The cut is made quickly with a sharp knife. A piece of cord tied tightly around the stump close to the body will stop excessive bleeding, but it must be removed in eight or ten hours so the stump will not slough off.

Even old sheep can be successfully docked with hot docking froms, the college says, and there is no danger from loss of blood. Searing the adl off with trons heated to cherry red sterilizes the wound and prevents

Reasons given by the college specialists for docking lambs are that in the first place the tall is of no benefit; if it is left on filth accumulates around and beneath it; and females are likely to fail to breed. An additional reason for disposing of the tail is that lambs look neater and deeper in the leg and wist if the tail is docked.

NOSE PRINTS IDENTIFY COW

Method Is Being Employed to Determine Animals Being Tested for Milk Records.

There are finger prints to identify criminals, footprints to identify newborn bables, and the latest use of the inkpad is to identify cows. It is a sure means of identifying "Tessle," the family cow, when she comes home late at



Demonstrating Simplicity of Means of Identification.

night. Just take her nose print. In the photo Prof. W. E. Peterson of the Uni versity of Minnesota is demonstrating the simplicity of this means of identi fication. This method has been adopt ed to identify cows being tested for milk records by the state of Minnesota.

POTATO GRADES GAIN FAVOR

Big Majority of Buyers Demand That Shippers Do Business on Basis of Federal Rules.

The federal potato grades are growing in popularity. "More than 75 per cent of the buyers of potatoes in carlots are demanding that shippers do business on the basis of the U. S. grades," it was stated by the Department of Agriculture following a sun vey of the trade.

Investigators found in Minnesota that out of 24 buyers in different parts of the country who were queried, 18 demanded the use of U. S. Grade No. 1. The October forecast put the potato crop at 433,015,000 bushels. To move so huge a crop at a profit department officials urge strict grading of potatoes according to the No. 1 specifications.

MARKS ON LINCOLN HIGHWAY

Uniform System of Signs Now Extends From the Hudson River to the Golden Gate.

The marking of the Lincoln highway was finally completed in 1921 when, wifh the co-operation of the New Jersey highway department, the last permanent signs were placed along the 60-mile stretch between Jersey City and Trenton. The remainder of the marking in 1919 and 1920 has been well maintained with the result that a uniform system now extends from carbolic acid. Apply evenly, while the Hudson river to the Golden Gate. The Lincoln highway is undoubtedly the best marked highway in America and this system installed at great expense is a wonderful aid to motorists.

Merchant Now Eats Anything on Table

"By the help of Tanlac I have overcome a case of nervous indigestion I had suffered from for ten or twelve years," is the emphatic statement of Norman W. Brown, well-known wall paper and paint dealer, of 213 N. Cedar St., Charlotte, N. C.

"My stomach was always out of fix and everything disagreed with me. I was troubled with heartburn and dizzlness, and at times there was a pressure of gas around my heart that almost cut off my breath,

"Since taking Taniac my digestion is fine. My appetite is a wonder and I eat just anything I want. In fact, my stomach acts and feels just like a new one and my nerves are as steady as a die. To put it all in a few words, I am just the same as a new man. It's a pleasure for me to tell my friends about Tanlac."

Tanlac is sold by all good druggists. -Advertisement.

The New Venice.

Any modernization of Venice would be a profanity, yet we cannot wonder that this city with its glorious maritime traditions longs to become a world port once more. How to accomplish this without marring the beauty of the remarkable aquatic city was a problem. This danger has been happily averted by a wise governmental policy. Trade is to be diverted away from the city itself to a great new harbor, and industrial centers now being built upon the mainland at Marghera and Mestre. These points are connected with the sea by a new ship canal dredged across the lagoons in continuation of the Guidecca canal.-Scientific American.

No ugly, grimy streaks on the clothes when Red Cross Ball Blue it used. Good bluing gets good results. All grocers carry it .- Advertisement.

He Clipped Her Wings.

"Somewhere in Indianapolis there it a girl who is minus some of the feathers on her hat and she'll never know, maybe, how they came to be clipped off," said Robert Bailey, statehouse elevator man, the other day.

"The girl was on an Irvington car along with 128 others. She kept bobbing her head around and nearly tickled the face off a fellow on the car. He reached in his vest pocket, got out a pair of little scissors, and every time she wagged the feathers across his face he took off a slice!" -Indianapolis News.

The Conductorette.

"How's that pretty conductorette making out? Can she make 'em step lively?"

"Rather! They begin to step lively the minute they spy her."

A wasted opportunity always comes home to roost.

W. L. Douglas shoes are actually de-manded year after year by more people

than any other shoe in the world BECAUSE W. L. Douglas ing surpassingly good shoes for forty-six years. This experience of nearly half a contury in making shoes suitable for Men and Women in all walks of life should mean something to you when you need shoes and are looking for the best sheer shoes spices for

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quality, material and work-manship are better than ever before; only by examining themcan you appreciate their superior qualities. No Matter Where You Live No Matter Where You Live shoe dealers can supply you with W. L. Douglas shoes. If not convenient to call at one of our 110 stores in the large cities, ask your shoe dealer for W. L. Douglas shoes. Protection against unreasonable profits is guaranteed by the name and price stamped on the sole of every pair before it set to sie is your shoes leave the shoes leave the factory. Refuse substitutes. Prices are the same everywhere.

are the same everywhere.

To Merchants: If no dealer in your timen handles W. L. Prosident Dauglas shoes series today for W.L. Dauglas accisave rights to handle this guide selfine, quick suffice, and handle this Brooks

Death only a matter of short time, Don't wait until pains and aches become incurable diseases. Avoid painful consequences by taking



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