So I looked my very maddest es I walked up to her door, Fill she looked up at me smilin, while a-washin

up the floor, An her cheeks was red es roses, an her hair es black as night.

I forgot to scold an sass her, fer she seemed so sweet and bright.

But my hand was to the plow now, an it wouldn't never do

To forgit them deperdations jes' by lookin at her shoe, So I gethered up my anger, an I said, "Now

And my tone put out her eyes' light, an the

But I ain't no man for foolin, an I went right on to say How her pigs et all my melons an her cows et

tons of hay,

How her chickens scratched my corn out, an I wouldn't hev it so, Gittin harder all the time, like a madman will,

you know. Then the widder she looked up, with a tear-

drop on her cheek, An a somethin in her throat that wouldn't let But she sobbed an cried out in a kind o' teary

tone, That she hed no one to help her an was poor an all alone.

An my hand was off the plow then an a-reachin out for hern.

I hed learnt a suddent lesson that I never thought I'd learn.

Well, my scoldin was a failure, seein what I

thought to do, For her pigs an cows are all here, an the widder's with 'em too.
-Will F. McSparren in Yankee Blade.

A MEAN TRICK.

He had often tried to propose to her, but she was such a very flippant young person that he found it herculean to reduce her to a sufficiently serious frame of mind. Then, too, he was by no means certain as to her feelings toward himself. Some definite assurance either way would, he felt, have been grateful, although it is safe to affirm that had such assurance been unfavorable to his hopes he would none the less have been anxious for further information.

However, he was denied the satisfaction of even well grounded suspicion. She had such a baffling sort of manner. Never had he been able to surprise her into an admission of anything, however trifling, which might be taken as an indication that he aroused within her emotions of any kind whatever. It was certainly very difficult to know what to do.

Many times had he almost taken advantage of a momentary silence on her part. Times without number had he nearly clasped her in his arms as she pirouetted past him, but she was too quick for him. The boldest effort on his part had been made one evening after he had brought a friend to call upon her. Minna. Bob and the friend had all sat in the kitchen and pulled taffy. Next evening Bob said sheepishly:

"Do you know, Minna, what Ikey was tellin me last night?"

"How could I know without you told me?" returned Minna, with spirit. She was washing dishes, and she clattered them in the pan.

"He was asking me if I was going to marry you."

"And what did you tell him?"

"Told him I didn't know." "That was right," said Minna, swirling

the dishcloth around. "And he-he said I was a durned fool

if I didn't."

Minna went off into peals of laughter. Then she sobered up.

"Didn't what?"

"Didn't marry you." "So you would be-if you got the chance!" was the prompt reply.
"That's what I told him—if I got the

chance, but I can't get the chance," de-

jectedly. "What right had you to tell him you couldn't get the chance?"

"'Cause you ain't ever give it to me." "No, an I never will," returned Minna,

with emphasis. "Jes' what I thought," said Bob dis-

mally. "Guess I'd better go." "Guess ye had," remarked his hostess hospitably. As she spoke she wiped out

the dishpan and hung it up on a nail behind. "If I was you, I'd learn a few things before I came courtin.' "But you're a big sight clever'n me,"

answered Bob meekly. "That's so," said Minna laconically

as Bob passed dejected out of the kitchen door.

On thinking over the interview on the way home, Bob thought that on the whole he had not made much progress. A few days later hope returned, bright

eyed and smiling, and Bob determined to make another attempt to secure the elusive Minna. In the soft dusk of the early summer evening he went thoughtfully across the field toward her father's cottage, now softened of its daytime angularities and, to Bob's imagination, nestling confidingly in the trees.

"House ain't much like Minna," he reflected sadly. "Wisht I could think on some way to cotch her."

As he walked, crushing down the moist grass, he revolved a dozen schemes in his mind, all of which had sooner or later to be dismissed as impracticable in view of the uncertain nature of the damsel in question. If he could only be sure of how Minna would take anything. But the sea, then migrate to the rivers and he never could be. She was as wayward as the summer breeze.

Suddenly, in the midst of his pondering, an idea came to him-a heaven sent | them to return to the sea to lay their inspiration, so beautiful, so clever, that the cunning little god himself must have been hiding in a bluebell along his path. Bob gave an emphatic clap to his leg, and the listening Cupid might have heard a short chuckle, followed by a delighted

exclamation. "Gosh! But that'll do it!" as the wooer sped along his path. Minna herself met Bob at the door and gave him a chair outside beneath a fragrant honeysuckle. She sat down near him on the doorstep and leaned her head against the case ment. She looked very pretty, her black

eyes darkening the lids and her face pale in the dusky twilight, her hair curling in moist little ends around her small face. Bob looked at her, and his heart failed him. But he remembered a certain Thomas Anderson, who report said had loitered beneath the honeysuckle for the last few nights, and

brought back his oozing courage. "They wuz talking about you last night down at the pump," he remarked. with assumed cheerfulness.

"Talkin about me?" said Minna angri-"How dared they?" "Oh, Lord!" gasped Bob to himself.

"If she gets mad before I begin!" "They wuz sayin-sayin"-"Well?" sharply, "what wuz they say-

"They wuz sayin how as you'd never

marry any one-you wuz that uncertainlike and flightvlike."

"Who said that?" said Minna, turning wrathful eyes upon him. "I don't exactly remember," faltered

"Most likely yourself," disdainfully. Bob could not truthfully disown the remark, as he had made it frequently, in confidence, to his near companions in the village. So, after this unexpected home thrust, he remained uncomfortably

Minna pursued her advantage.

"Nice doings them, fur a man!" she went on contemptuously. "Talking about girls when they can't talk back for themselves!"

If the reported conversation had not been wholly imaginary, Bob would have been stricken with remorse. As it was, however, although inwardly trembling he saw an opening and took it. "But I spoke back for you, Minna, I

did."

"Oh, you did, did you?" was the discouraging comment. "Since it wuz you said the worst, seems to me it wuz all you could do."

"They said a lot more'n I did," Bob continued, with fictitious courage, "They said as how I needn't be hangin around here, fur ye'd allus scorn me till the jedgment and not marry me at all." "There wuz some truth in their re-

marks," remarked Minna snubbingly. "But there's wusser nor that," he said, with well forced gloominess. "I said as how I knowed you would marry me"-

"Who made you so wise?" interrupted Minna sarcastically. "An a man bet me you wouldn't, an-

an-I bet him you would." "Beasts!" ejaculated the much incensed Minna.

"An I bet a fearful lot, Minna. Gosh! I'm scared to think of it. If I got to give him all that money, the farm ull have to go sure."

Minna looked frightened.

"How much?" she asked faintly. "Wonder how much she'll stand?" Bob asked himself perplexedly. Then he glanced at her tentatively. "I'm most afeared to tell you. It's-

it's-gosh! Minna-it's \$100. "Oh, my!" ejaculated Minna. "You never did.'

"A hundred dollars!" repeated Bob chokingly, and overcome by the feelings he had aroused he buried his head in his hands. From this safe retreat he continued disjointed remarks broken by

"Don't care for myself. (Sigh.) I don't want to live anyway, but the farm'll father." (Sob.)

"Oh, no, no," said Minna tearfully. "They're old now to start over agin (a protracted sigh), but I kin work for em. I'll do it"- and Bob's shoulders shook with nobly suppressed emotion-"it u'll come hard to lose the old place now -(sob)-after all them years.'

"Oh, don't, don't, don't, Bob! I can't bear it!" gasped Minna, choking down the tears. "I'll-I'll"-

Bob waited a moment. Then he went | Birdie:

"Poor sister can't go to school or nothing," rocking himself to and fro in apparent deep grief, "an there's no wood got for the winter"—here he wept aloud, and seeing this Minna, too, wept aloud.

"Oh, Bob," she cried. "how could you be so-so"- and she burst again into

tears. "Dunno, Minna," he said in a choking voice, "but there ain't no help for it now. It's all got to go-farm an all."

"Never!" said Minna hysterically. "1 will marry you-I will!"

care nothin about me."

"I didn't afore," said Minna tearfully and shamefacedly, "but that was an awful lot of money to bet on me. I like you for it, Bob, I do!"

"An you will marry me?"

She nodded. "Thank you, Minna," Bob said mourn-

fully. "It's awfully good in you."

A moment elapsed before he started on the real business of courtship—he had to her that her hat isn't on straight."—Deproceed carefully-and in that moment troit Tribune.

Bob looked up at a very jester of a twinkling star and silently exchanged with it a knowing and prodigious wink .-Madge Robertson in Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Migratory Crab.

The West Indian migratory crab is the only creature that is born in the sea, matures in fresh waters and passes its adult life on land. Once a year these creatures migrate in thousands from the uplands of Jamaica, deposit their ova in streams, pass through a fresh water stage, after which they follow their parents to land until the time comes for eggs in turn.-London Tit-Bits.

Nilsson's Home Fads.

Christine Nilsson lives in an elegant house in Madrid. In its internal decoration she has displayed a certain amount of eccentricity, for her bedroom is papered with sheets of music from the scores of various operas that she has interpreted, while the walls of the dining room are covered with a collection of hotel bills, the result of the diva's many professional travels in both hemispheres. -Exchange.



A MISTAKE.

The Tale of a Weary Man and a Beautiful Blond.

Scene-Railway station. Time-One p. m.

Beautiful Blond (to ticket agent)-What time, please, does the next train leave for Woodchuck Junction? Ticket Agent-One five.

blond)-Excuse me, madam-Beautiful Blond (haughtily)-I believe

I got here first, sir.

Anxious Man-But-Ticket Agent-One to Wookchuck? Beautiful Blond-Oh, mercy, no! I want to go to Perryville. Now, they

told me that the train-Ticket Agent-That's right. Change at Woodchuck. One to Perryville?

Anxious Man-Madam, I believethe train was late I might not be able to and kidneys. Bucklin's Arnica Salve, make connection. The railroad com- the best in the world, and Dr. King's panies are so dreadfully independent, you know. And then my mother told

Ticket Agent-That's all right. Train waits. One way?

Anxious Man-Pardon me, but-Beautiful Blond (still ignoring him)-What is the fare, please? Ticket Agent (impatiently)-Two fifty.

Do you want a ticket or not? Anxious Man-Sav-Beantiful Blond-Will I have to wait

long at-what's the name? Oh, dear, I'm so dreadly forgetful. Oh, yes. Woodchuck Junction? Ticket Agent-Forty minutes. (The

gong sounds.) Come, hurry up. Beautiful Blond-Mercy, yes. (Hands him \$5 and gets change and ticket.) Oh, dear, I haven't a moment to lose. (Rushes administered in time prevents its spread out.)

Ticket Agent-Where to?

where. Ticket Agent-Then what do you

Anxious Man (wearily)-Nothing. I thought perhaps that woman wanted this umbrella she left in the horse car .-

Hard on Baby.

"Mr. Scribbler, have you seen anything of the baby?" asked a distracted enough. woman about noon last Thursday as the furniture was being placed in the van for removal. "No. How'n thunder can I take care

of a baby and see that this crockery is put in the warehouse van without being smashed to flinders?" "But I'm sure I hear the darling cry-

ing somewhere. Are you sure that she is not in the clothes basket with the saucepans?" "No, she ain't. Howd' you s'pose

she'd get in there?" "But I hear her as plain as can be. Why, Peter, I do believe she's in this roll of carpet!"

It was true. The baby had been left in the middle of the sitting room floor, and the men who took up the carpet tossed a breadth over her without observing her, rolled her up in it and stood the carpet up in the hall. The child when rescued was punctured here and there with rusty tacks, and its mouth was partly stuffed with carpet dust, but otherwise it was quite hearty.-Tit-Bits.

Why She Wept.

During the wedding ceremony at a packages 25 cents. Sold fashionable church in Harlem Birdie & Co. Sept. 8-3 mos. McGinnis, one of the bridesmaids, wept bitterly. After the ceremony Dudely Canesucker, who was present, said to

"What were you crying about, Miss Birdie? You were not the bride." "I know it," replied Birdie, with a lump in her throat. "That's what broke me all up."-Texas Siftings.

A Widower Probably.

He (who has just been accepted)-Carrie, darling! Do you know you have made me the happiest man in the world? She-Yes, Harry, but we must not be married right off-not for a long, long time.

He-Oh, that's all right. That just "'Tain't right to ask you," Bob said suits me, you know. I'd like to remain sadly and hypocritically. "You don't the happiest man in the world for a year or two.-Boston Transcript.

Inhuman Treatment. "They say Wilkins abuses his wife

shamefully." "The deuce he does! Why, he doesn't appear to be a brutal fellow at all. What does he lo-beat her?"

"Oh, no. He waits until after they get seated in the theater and then tells

A Hard Question to Put.



Photographer-Now, madam, if it is not asking-er-too much of you, will you-er-kindly make an effort to-ah -to look pleasant? It will only be for a moment.—Harper's Bazar.

A Foolish Question.

Dora-Oh, I'm in such distress of mind, and I want your advice. I am loved by three men, and I don't know which to accept.

Clara-Which one has the most money? Dora-If I knew that, do you suppose I'd waste precious time running around for advice?-New York Weekly.

THE motto of the Chicago girl has been changed from "I Will" to "I Did" since the official records show an attendance of three-quarters of a million people at the fair on Monday. She is no longer represented in the prints as standing in the attitude of an Amazon, with a club in her hand and a flaming eagle on her head. She is now seated in an easy chair with a handkerchief around her head and a tired but contented look on her countenance. Chicago is free to admit that the world has been Anxious Man (just behind beautiful obliged to take a back seat since her achievement of Monday.

Four Big Successes.

Having the needed merit to more than make good all the advertising claimed for them, the following four remedies have reached a phenominal sale. Dr. King's New Discovery, for consumption, coughs and colds, each bottle guaranteed. Electric Bitters, Beautiful Blond-But they told me if the great remedy for liver, stomach New Life Pills, which are a perfect pill. All these remedies are guaranteed to do just what is claimed for them and the dealer whose name is attached herewith will be glad to tell you more of them. Sold at McMillen's

> Too many church members think the world ought to have been saved long ago because they now and then put a nickel in the collection basket.

> > Distemper Among Horses

Safely and quickly cured by the use of Craft's Distemper and Cough Cure. It not only cures distemper but when among horses and colts that have been exposed to the contagion. It is not Anxious Man-I'm not going any- expensive and is easily administered. Send for book on distemper, free. Address Wells Medicine Co., LaFayette Indiana, or ask McConnell & Co.

Sept. 8-3 mos.

In religious matters there are people who think when they throw a straw to a drowning man they have done quite

Mr. Clayton Palmer, of Pleasant Ridge, Ohio. was afflicted with piles for over thirty-five years. He says: "I have had more relief from Cham berlain's Eye and Skin Ointment than anything else I ever used, and I have used many kinds. I am well of them excepting the itching; and beleive in time, I will be entirely cured of that trouble, by using the Ointment. I am willing to testify to its worth any time. 25 cent boxes for sale by McConnell.

It is astonishing how many kinds of people the devil can catch when he baits his hook with money.

Morris' English Stable Powder Not only cures but prevents dissase and when fed two or three times a week will keep your stock in fine condition. will make them fat, sleek and glossy. Changes the entire system, gives new blood, new life, and puts them in good condition for spring work. Full pound

The man who can pay his debts and won't do it would steal if sure that he wouldn't get caught.

ackages 25 cents. Sold by McConnell

The World's Fair

Can not remain such without blooming look and radiant complexion which health alone imparts. Parks' Tea, by clearing the blood of impurities, makes the complexion regain the hue of youth. Sold by A. McMillen.

A wise man can see all there is in a fool's head every time he opens his

A prominent physician and old army surgeon in eastern Iowa, was called away from home for a few days; during his absence one of his children contracted a severe cold, and his wife bought a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for it. They were so ing a specific of any medicine he had \$1.00. Sold by McMillen. ever seen. For sale by McConnell

some man joins simply to help along his watched.

Morris' English Stable Liniment Leads the procession. The wonder liniment of the age. Cures after all others have failed. Has stood the test of twenty years of constant use by one of the leading veterinary surgeons of the Cure for the liver and kidneys, price English profession, and is now sold in this country upon a positive guarantee. Good for man or best. Price 50c and \$1. Sold by McConnell & Co. Sept. 8-3m.

The cholera is one way God has of showing us that he hates dirt.

The good die young-but they are using Haller's Little German Pills now and honest men will soon be a drug on the market. Sold by McConnell & Co.

The biggest kind of sinners generally feel religious in a graveyard.

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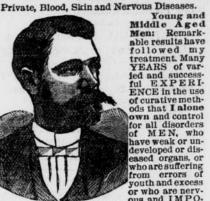
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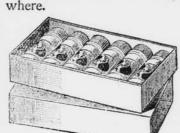
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