

In the daintiest pink and white; From her mischievous hand she flings Pink petaled lawn daisies, the sprite The daisies are speids, and after She's cast them and knows that I'm bound, The ring of her delicate laughter

TO PEGGY ON THE LAWN.

Creaks into bright ripples of sound. So now I'm her poor captive knight,

Unable to cope with her art; Henceforth, with her baby feet light, She will walk roughshod o'er my heart. -London Spectator.

NORTH WIND'S GIFT.

A boisterous fellow indeed is North Wind, but he is not always as rough as he is known to be on some occasions. He may be as gentle as a slumbering babe in its cradle, he may bewitch all living things with the tones of his lyre. or he may burst with the might of an all powerful giant upon the world of men. That was a mischievous prank he played in days of yore on a boy in Norseland and whom we will call Olaf. Pay heed and you shall learn about it.

Olaf was the only son of a widow, and she was both feeble and poor. She had taught the boy to wait on her, and this made him kind and thoughtful.

One day she sent him for some flour to the storehouse. This was a frame building, raised from the ground on wooden props, and had to be reached by a flight of stairs. Olaf ran lightly up the steps, got the flour and was turning to hasten down again when North Wind came puffing and panting that way, caught up the flour and bore it off through the air.

Olaf went back for more flour, but the moment he set foot on the stairs North Wind snorted and sniffed about him, and, pips! away went the flour. If you'll believe me, the same thing happened a third time, and now Olaf was positively angry, for it seemed quite too provoking that North Wind should "you back your tablecloth and your act in such a senseless fashion. So Olaf made up his mind that he would go in search of the thief and demand back the flour.

He set out at once, but he walked many a long, weary mile before he came at last to North Wind's home. North Wind had quieted down and

was in a most gracious mood when Olaf presented himself before him.

"Good day," said Olaf. "I hope you are well. Mr. North Wind," "The same to yourself, my boy," said

North Wind, and his voice was gruif. but not unkind. "What brings you here, if I may ask?"

"I've come," said Olaf, "to see if you'll be so kind as to give me back the flour you took from me on the storehouse stairs. Mother and I are poor, and if we lose the little we have we'll starve to death."

"I haven't your flour," said North Wind, "but since you're so badly off here's a tablecloth for you. It will supply you with all you want to est and drink if you but say, 'My cloth, spread yourself and serve up all sorts of good things.' '

and left it there in the place of the one he coveted.

"North Wind is a pretty good fellow." said Olaf when he got home to his mother. "Here's a ram he has given me that will make all the money we want, if I but say the word."

"It will take a great deal to make me believe such stuff." exclaimed Olaf's mother. 'My ram, make money," cried Olaf

promptly, but never a coin did the ram bring forth. "I knew it was all nonsense," wailed

the widow, and that was all the comfort Olaf got. Without another word he sped back

to North Wind and told him the ram had proved absolutely worthless. He had come now to demand his rights, he said.

"Upon my word, you're a plucky lad," exclaimed North Wind. "Well, the best I can do for you now is to give you the stick in yonder corner. It may be of some use to you. If you say. My stick, do your duty,' it will go on striking until you say, 'My stick, be still.' With many thanks Olaf started for home. As he passed the inn where he

had lost his treasures, he thought it might not be a bad thing to stop there once more. So he went in, threw himself down on a bench and was soon snoring loudly.

The landlord quickly spied the magic stick, and taking it for granted it might be worth as much to him as the cloth and ram he had taken from the same guest he found another stick that looked like it to leave in its place. But as he laid hands on North Wind's

gift, Olaf, who was only pretending to be asleep, started up, crying: "My stick, do your duty.

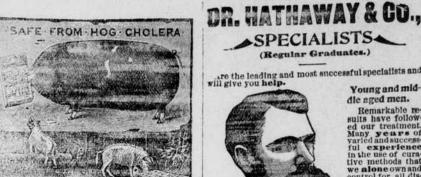
landlord, who tumbled headlong over benches and tables, shrieking and screaming: "For mercy's sake, bid this stick be still, or it will beat me to death Stop it-for pity's sake stop it, and I'll give

ram." As soon as Olaf thought mine host

"My stick, be still."

its labors, and the landlord restored the stolen goods to their rightful owner. Olaf put the tablecloth and the stick in his pocket, and fastening a cord to the ram's horns led it home in triumph. North Wind had paid handsomely for the flour, and the widow and her son lived in peace and plenty all their

A new kind of building material as a proposed substitute for ordinary stone or brick is now receiving special indorsement on account of its freedom, under various and repeated tests, from the usual liability to crack or fracture. To insure this property, with the other essential adaptations, silicic acid is used, powdered and cleansed from all impurities. Five to ten per cent of this is mixed in warm river or rainwater, and this is applied to slaked or well burned lime, or added to hydraulic lime, Thanking North Wind with all his the resulting product being mixed with heart, Olaf took the cloth and started sand and small portions of fluorspar. This mixture is cast into molds, in various shapes as may be desired, and after removal the castings are left to dry from 12 to 24 hours, which brings them to a condition as dry as atmospheric air. In this state they are brought into a steam boiler and steam blown through so as to drive out all air, after which the boiler is hermetically sealed up and steam let in under a pressure of 10 atmospheres. In this high pressure steam bath the stones remain for ted to a bath of boiling and saturated chloride of calcium for 6 to 12 hours, also under a pressure of about 10 atmospheres, in the same boiler, and the condensed water may be used for the bath. The stones are allowed to dry in the open air, or, more quickly, by circulating steam inside the boiler after the chloride of calcium has been withdrawn and prior to taking out the stones. -New York Sun.



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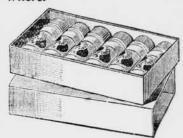
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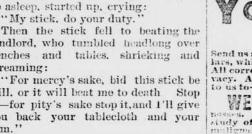
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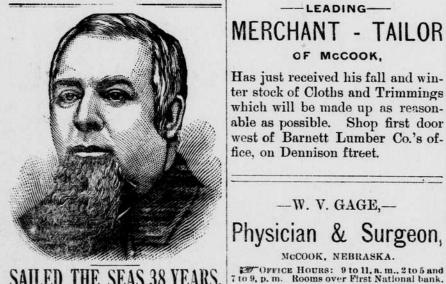
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prepare the evening meal, Olaf thought he would surprise them. So he threw his cloth on a table in the corner, say-

ing: "My cloth, spread yourself and serve up all sorts of good things."

Scarcely had he spoken before the cloth did as it was bid, and every one 48 to 72 hours, afterward being submitin the room was filled with wonder. There was no one better pleased than the landlady, for she thought how much hard work and trouble it would save her if she had such a cloth. She spoke with her husband about

it, and in the middle of the night he stole into Olaf's chamber and changed the cloth for one his wife had given him that looked like it.

When Olaf woke the next morning, rested and refreshed, he set out at once for home, taking with him the wrong cloth. He got there safely the same MERCHANT - TAILOR day and ran to his mother, crying:

"Well, I've been to see North Wind. and he's not so bad, after all. Here is Has just received his fall and win-the kind that if I just say the word it ter stock of Cloths and Trimmings will furnish us with all we need to eat which will be made up as reason- and drink."

"I'll have to see that with my own eyes before I can believe it," said his west of Barnett Lumber Co.'s of- mother.

Olaf laid the cloth on a table, and with the air of one who knew what he was about said:

"My cloth, spread yourself and serve up all sorts of good things."

But never so much as a crumb of dry bread did the cloth serve. "There's no help for it," said Olaf.

'I'll have to go back to North Wind and ask him the meaning of this." Away he went so fast that he reached

North Wind's home that same afternoon.

"Good evening, Mr. North Wind." said Olaf.

"Good evening, my boy," said North Wind. "What now?"

"I want my rights for the flour you took. That tableloth is good for noth-

"Well, here is a ram," said North Wind, "that will furnish you with all the gold coins you want. All you have to do is to say, 'My ram, make money.' " Olaf thought this was pretty nice, and he went off feeling well content. If he had gone straight home, he would have had no further trouble, but feeling tired he stopped at the wayside inn

orders he thought he would try his ram, and sure enough he soon had a handful of pure gold coins.

The landlord saw this and thought he would like to own so valuable a beast. When Olaf was fast asleep, he flesh may be in some time during the took another ram into the boy's room afternoon.-Boston Transcript.

The Coldest Cold.

The science of chemistry, like that of geography, has its undiscovered north pole. Four hundred and sixty-one degrees below the freezing point of the Fahrenheit thermometer (-274 degree C.) lies a mysterious, specially indicated degree of cold which science has long been gazing toward and striving to attain, wondering meanwhile what may be the conditions of matter at this unexplored point. Its existence has long been indicated and its position established in two different ways-viz, the regularly diminishing volume of gases and the steady falling off of the resistance made by pure metals to the passage through them of electricity under increasing degrees of cold. This point, to which both these proc

zero of absolute temperature. By mor than one eminent observer it is suppos to be the temperature of interstel ar space, the normal temperature of the universe. Whether or not this supposition be correct, the efforts which have been made and are still in progress to reach this degree of cold have been many. diverse and ingenious, the equipment of the explorer being not boats, condensed foods and the general machinery of ice exploration, but all the varied resources of mechanics and of chemistry which can be combined to compass the extremest degree of cold .- McClure's

Physician-John, just loosen up those

pounds.

gone tighten them up again. That fat man who wants to lose some of his

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