# OUR GALLANT TARS.

# A CUSTOM THAT WILL ENDURE AS LONG AS THE NAVY ENDURES.

Drinking the Toast to "Sweethearts and Wives" Every Saturday Night-It Makes the Men In the Navy Better, Truer, Nobler and Braver.

The people of this country are very fond of their naval officers, so far as they know them. It would be a good deal better for the country if they were better known, for among them are to be found as large a percentage of fine, brainy, lovable and well bred men as in any of the familiar professions.

There is not much sentimentality in the navy, but there is a deal of sentiment, which is a vastly different thing. Certain cynical young women who have met officers and who have noticed how attentive they are sometimes think that this is merely a "dainty, sham devotion," bestowed upon young women whom they meet at every port they touch. But this is not true. There is more genuine chivalry among the officers of the United States navy than is to be found among any class of men on shore.

It is one of the conventions of the navy to place women upon a pedestal, and there is no finer convention in the world. It may be because that for so much of their time they are denied the delight of seeing women. But they never forget them.

Every Saturday night in every United States warship affoat there takes place a ceremony so beautiful, so exquisite, that it seems to have escaped from the land of chivalry and wandered into American life. There, flattered and amazed at its welcome, it has remained ever since and made the men in the navy better, truer, nobler and braver, for it must be confessed that the officers are, first of all, splendidly American.

When a ship is under way, there is no woman aboard her. She has no place there. Maybe each man carries an image of one in his thoughts during his watches on deck. Of these things he does not speak. But once each week he comes forth boldly with his fellows and reverently sends greeting from across the seas to her. From the China sea, from stormy Cape Horn, from the peaceful Mediterranean comes the message.

"Sweethearts and wives!" That was ever and always will be the sailor's toast. And when it is given aboard Uncle Sam's ships it is a tribute to the sweetness, the purity, the beauty of American womanhood. There are men who have drunk that toast every Saturday night for more than 40 years. It is never old to them. The officers would as soon think of passing unnoticed an important disciplinary regulation as passing Saturday night without this ceremony. It does not matter whether the ship is on the high seas, or anchored in a foreign port, or lying at the dock in the Brooklyn navy yard, so long as her men are aboard they drink the toast. It is a custom as old as the navy. It will endure as long as the navy endures.

When the supply of wine is running short during a long cruise, the officers deny themselves during the week that they may have it for this toast on Saturday nights.

The servants are well trained. They have the champagne nicely chilled and open it almost without orders. After the dinner is finished the executive officer arises. Very likely there is gray in

# A SPY'S CLOSE CALL.

# Be Was Rescued From Impending Death by a Clever Newspaper Ruse.

On the battlefield of Antietam Mr. Mc-Clure met General William J. Palmer, then a captain, and strongly urged him not to continue his movements as a spy after Lee had crossed into Virginia, but the gallant young soldier gave no promise as to what he would be likely to do. and the very first night after Lee crossed the Potomac he was again in Lee's camp and brought back important information to General McClellan.

Again he returned and entered the Confederate lines and when he did not report after a week it was assumed that he had been captured and would probably be executed as a spy. He had been captured, was tried and condemned as a spy and sentenced to be executed, but he was saved by a clever newspaper device determined upon after a conference in this city between President J. Edgar Thomson of the Pennsylvania railroad, Colonel Scott and Mr. McClure. Thomson took special interest in Palmer, as he had been his secretary, and was much attached to him.

It was decided that Washington dispatches should be prepared for all of the Philadelphia morning papers announcing the arrival at the capital of Captain William J. Palmer, stating in what particular lines of the enemy he had operated, and adding that he had brought much important information that could not be given to the public at the time. These dispatches appeared next morning in all the Philadelphia papers, prominently displayed, and of course reached the southern lines within 48 hours.

The result was that Captain Palmer's identity was never established in Richmond, and his execution was thus suspended. In a little while, when some prisoners had been exchanged, there was a vacancy made in the list of the exchanged men by death. Palmer's friends had him take the place and name of the dead soldier, and he thus escaped and returned to the service.-Philadelphia Times.

#### Calling Smith.

Miss Kate Field relates an experience which she had in trying to sleep in a hotel in a Utah mining town where the partitions between the rooms were of boards merely and quite innocent of lath and plaster. The ordinary going and coming of the early part of the night were bad enough, but toward morning, when at last she had fallen asleep, a loud voice shouted from her keyhole: "Smith! Smith!"

As her name was not Smith, she made

no response. "Smith!" came the shout again. "It's

time to skip!" "My name is not Smith," she then an-

wered. From across the hall came the call of the day clerk, who occupied the room

there: "No. That ain't Smith. Smith's at the end of the hall."

"Well, this is the end of the hall," came from the neighborhood of the keyhole again. It was the voice of the porter.

"Aren't there two ends to the hall? It's the other end, you blockhead.' "Who wants Smith?" came a sharp

voice from the distance. "I'm Smith." "What's the matter? I'm Smith," came still another voice.

"Well, whichever Smith wants to get up at 4 o'clock, him's the one," growled the porter. Both these Smiths slammed their doors

# CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT DOGS.

Eskicaos Find the Faithful Animal a Ne-

cessity of Their Miserable Existence. "Without dogs the larger portion of the great Eskimo family peopling the barren northern coast of America would find it impossible to exist in its chosen home." So writes E. W. Nelson in his "Mammals of Northern Alaska." They are used in the winter for hunting, sledge drawing and the like, but in summer are mostly left to shift for themselves. They receive much hard usage, as well as do much hard work, but are described nevertheless as a rollicking set, full of play, fond of human society and quarrelsome as schoolboys.

Mr. Nelson credits them with a vein of humor and declares that their varying characteristics can be read in their faces. They are worth from \$2 to \$15 apiece, according to age, size and intelligence. For sledge drawing they are harnessed in teams of either seven or nine-three or four pairs and a leader. The load is from 350 to 700 pounds, and the course is mainly through unbroken snow or over rough ice. With a team of seven dogs and a load of more than 300 pounds Mr. Nelson made a journey of more than 1,200 miles in about two months. The last 60 miles were made over a bad road

in a continuous pull of 21 hours. They localities distant from sufficient water are much affected by the moon. During for other methods, the ore or gravel befull moon half the night is spent by them | ing run through a crusher or steam driin howling in chorus. "During the entire winter at St. Mi-

chael's," says Mr. Nelson, "we were inva- this, it strikes a powerful blast of air, riably given a chorus every moonlight which carries it between two sets of night, and the dogs of two neighboring slowly revolving copper cylinders coated villages joined in the serenade." He with one-sixteenth of an inch of merspeaks of its "wild, weird harmony" curv.

and seems to have found it agreeable rather than otherwise. The influence of of three each, one above the other, so the moon is also very apparent when the that the dust, driven by the air blast, dogs are traveling. They brighten up passes between them in a wavelike line. as the moon rises, and pricking up their The ore first strikes a cylinder similar ears start off as if they had forgotten to the others, but revolving in an oppotheir fatigue. The fur traders take ad- site direction, which catches the coarser vantage of this fact and sometimes lie over during the day and travel at night. gold and the nuggets. Then, passing between the other cylinders, all the gold The dogs endure an astonishing degree is caught, however fine, and the waste of cold. Mr. Nelson saw a female with is carried by the air blast to a conveyor, two newly born puppies lying upon the which bears it away. The mercury on snow near a hut, with no sign of shelter, the cylinders is constantly renewed, so when the thermometer ranged from 30 that a fresh surface is always presented, to 35 degrees below zero.

#### Indian Coronets.

nets should hesitate before accepting Indian ones. The case of an English woman who sued for divorce from her Hindoo husband points a moral. She alleged cruelty as a ground for her suit, and it is claimed that the same plea might be made by nearly all the women who marry orientals and go home with them.

As a usual thing, the oriental gentleman pursuing his studies at an English or American university is a picturesque figure. He is likely to be very clever, and it is taken for granted that he is a prince at least, when he is at home. He is popular with his fellows, and through one of them he meets and marries a frequently attacked also. Few nonscienpretty, freely brought up girl. Then he tific readers, by the way, are aware that takes her home.

She may not meet with unkindness from her husband's family, for the oriif the husband has not cut himself adrift that the skull bones separate centrally. from the religion and ties of his childhood his wife must conform to a certain rangular orifice with apparently indefiextent to the ordinary life of the native woman And inasmuch as she will Press only do this so far as her love and duty to her husband oblige her, she will certainly fail to satisfy her new relatives

# I WONDER WHY.

I wonder why hearts change so carelessly. Forgetful of the fires they have set Aglow in other hearts,

Forgetful of the trembling lips once wet With dews of kisses. I wonder why it comes-forgetfulness To steal away the loyalty and truth

That once were glorined, Leaving alone a tormless shadow-ruth For those forgotten.

I wonder why we cannot earnestly Command our loves as we command our lives

And prove it sweetly true That love remains to him who truly strives To grow in constancy.

I wonder why we never know ourselves-Can never look into ourselves and see The hidden springs that wait A magic touch to burst forth mightily And 'whelm our startled souls.

I wonder why once earnest vows enshrined Within the inner temples of our love Grow faint with lapsing time, Like echoes from some whispering voice

above The faroff floating clouds-I wonder why.

-New Orleans Times-Democrat

Gold Separation.

What is claimed to be the most advantageous process for the separation of fine gold in placers comes from Montana. It is a dry process, designed especially for er, after which it is dumped into the hopper of the separator. Dropping from

These cylinders are placed in two lines and it is asserted that the process has been subjected to such various tests, and so successfully, as to demonstrate American women who long for coro- its peculiar adaptability to the class of

work in question .- New York Sun. All Snakes Do Not Hiss.

The popular idea that all snakes hiss is incorrect when anacondas are in question, if we may believe a close observer of the serpent family. The sound they make is more like a growl than a hiss and has been well described by a traveler as a "low, roaring noise." Their pow ers of deglutition are sufficiently wonderful to make exaggeration unnecessary, credible witnesses testifying to the fact that one has been known to swallow a horse, while bullocks are not innot only do the jaw hinges of the boa tribe become dislocated in the act of swallowing a large animal, subsequently entals have many amiable and attractive resuming their proper position by means qualities, and they are not cruel. But of the elastic connecting tendons, but

A Luxury of the Rich.

so the whole constitutes a sort of quad-

nite powers of expansion .- Detroit Free

A modern treatment of nervous prosrequires that the p

# SMITH WAS A BAD MAN.

### And He Had Learned One Game of Which He Could Boast.

"But speaking of train robberies," put in the colonel, "reminds me of a man I met when I was in command of Fort D. A. Russell at Chevenne. He was an express messenger named Smith, and his run was on what they called out there the 'high line' of the B. and M. railroad. Smith ain't much of a man to look at. but he was great in action, as you'll agree. "I'd heard of Smith before I met him. He'd killed two men down in western Kansas, and they were saying around Cheyenne that he was 'bad.' So I was curious to get him to tell me the story, and after awhile he did. "He used to have a run on the Santa

Fe down where it crossed into Colorado. All the messengers, you know, carried guns in those days-they do yet, for that matter-but Smith understood the use of a six shooter better than some of his mates. Things had been so smooth on his run for so long that he got a bit careless at last and used to leave the door of his car unlocked so that the brakemen could come in and talk with him whenever they liked without his having to go to the end of the car to unlock the door.

"Smith had one game, though, which was all his own. He told me that he had practiced it a good deal so that he could shoot within a fraction of a second after hearing any one say, 'Put up your hands.' All the train men on his run knew that. You know those fellows are great in skylarking, and Smith had warned them never to try to play that joke on him, because, he said, the first man who came into his car and took him unawares with that remark would be likely to die.

"One day he was sitting behind his little square iron safe checking off his money packages. He had the safe in a corner of the car facing one end. He always sat with his back against the front end of the car. The front door was always barred. When he raised the lid of the little trunklike safe the messengers used then, he always put his two big six shooters on the corners of the safe in front of the lid. Any one approaching him from the rear end of the car couldn't see the guns, but they were ready for instant use.

"Well, on this day I'm telling you about, as he was checking off the packages, he heard the car door open and some one come in. He took it for granted that the visitor was the brakeman whom he was expecting, and without looking up went on with his work. He checked two or three more packages and was almost finished when he heard the sharp command, 'Put up your hands!'

"He looked up on the instant and saw two men, not in the least disguised, covering him with six shooters. His own hands were behind the lid of his safe. 'All right, boys,' he said. 'Don't shoot. They're up.'

"They went up, that was true, but as they came over the lid of the safe there was a six shooter in each one. Both six shooters cracked the instant their muzzles came above the safe lid, and both bullets killed. The robbers fired, but they didn't pull until after they had been hit, and their bullets went wild.

"It was all done so quickly that there was no outcry or noise, and when the brakeman went into the car a few minutes afterward he found Smith washing up the blood from the floor. The dead men were on a blanket in a corner. That was how Smith got his reputation for being 'bad.' "-New York Sun.

THE UNDERSTUDY.

LUBACTORS WHO MUST BE READY TO TAKE PRINCIPALS' PLACES.

Delays and Uncertainties They Find In Getting to the Front-They May Go Through an Entire Season With N Chance to Show Their Powers.

After two years of patient waiting and study a young actress, who was an understudy in one of the principal stock companies in town, gave up her position the other day because during all that time she never got an opportunity to display her talents before the public. She was on the salary list of the company, and as wages are paid 52 weeks in the year by that particular organization it seemed rather like quitting a good thing, but it was not a question of finance with her. She is an actress of recognized ability, and understudying was not particularly suited to her taste. She had part after part in new plays and reproductions, but the principal somehow or other managed to get through without being ill, or never suffered any mishap, so it seemed as if the actress was destined to become a permanent understudy. This instance is only one of numberless simi lar experiences showing the trials and tribulations of understudies.

All the big stock companies are well supplied in the matter of understudies. and while they are required to keep a certain number of professionals on hand they have innumerable applications from amateur aspirants for histrionic honors, who are only too willing to serve as understudies on the chance that some accident will take them to the front. Most of these come from the different schools for the training of actors. The understudies receive their parts almost at the same time they are delivered to the principals. They are rehearsed regularly with the company and are presumed to be as well prepared for the first night of a play as the principals.

Manager Charles Frohman's company is probably one of the best equipped or ganizations in the country in the way of understudies. Eight of these are employed as regular members of the company the year round, and while they are probably not seen more than once or twice during a season they are always ready for any emergency that may arise. Augustin Daly's and A. M. Palmer's companies are also well supplied with understudies, and both have long lists of amateurs ready to go on at a moment's notice in case of sickness or other necessity.

Every big traveling organization generally carries two understudies while on the road. Some companies dispense with their services, however, by requiring the members of the company to make themselves proficient in two or more parts. Thus if the first comedian should suddenly be incapacitated the second comedian jumps in, and so on all through the cast. The understudies who travel regularly with the company are usually a man and a woman. The former understudies all the actors, while the latter is perfect in all the feminine roles. Their salaries and expenses are on a par with those of the principals.

Although many of the stars now conspicuous in the theatrical firmament began their dramatic career as understudies, it is not often nowadays that the stars themselves are understudied. It is generally assumed by the managers that the star is the attraction for the public. and to substitute somebody else is to

his hair. His face is reddened by weather and seamed by years, for men who reach position cannot be young. But his heart is still young. They have dined well, and the content of well filled stomachs shines on their faces. But when the lieutenant commander rises they are still. He stands straight with his hand upraised, the champagne bubbling deliciously.

"Gentlemen, are your glasses charged?" There is not one which is empty. The officers rise and bow their heads in answer.

"I give you" (the lieutenant commander speaks earnestly, and there is a soft glimmer in his eyes)-"I give you sweethearts and wives. God bless them!"

"Sweethearts and wives-God bless them!" comes in chorus from the officers. Then they drink, and if there runs down their spinal cords a little thrill, and if their eyes grow moist and their hands shake a bit it is a tribute to themselves and to American womanhood to whom this toast is drunk. With something in their breasts throbbing like the great engines, and the swish and gurgle of the waters dulling their ears, there is conjured before them, like the azure nimbus of a dream, a home with a soft voiced woman and the prattle of a child, or a slender, girlish figure bending her head to hide the love light in her eyes. On Saturday night the officer at sea feels that he is very near home.

Every one knows that naval officers are famous for the attractions which they have for the fair. This may show that it isn't the uniform alone which is the magnet .- New York World.

#### The Forger.

Sir John Evans says, in Longman's Magazine, "that not even the trained antiquary is proof against the forger and confesses that not only has he himself purchased forgeries, but has published accounts of them as if they had been genuine-accounts which any amount of subsequent withdrawals fails to annihilate. Counterfeits and forgeries abound in every department of archæology. Spurious manuscripts, inscriptions, gems, pottery, glass, enamels, ivories, coins, weapons, implements and armaments have each and all been foisted on collectors at different times and in various countries."

## A Modern Hero.

• Mme. M -, a very talented pianiste, when sitting next to Colonel Ramollot at the dinner table, asked him in a winning tone of voice:

"Are you fond of music, colonel?" "Madame," replied the warrior, rolling savage pair of eyes, "I am not afraid of it!"-Paris Rappel.

nent pro didn't want to get up. "It's Smith in No. 1!" screamed the

day clerk.

The right Smith had not been waked at all, so the porter found No. 1 and pounded on the door so hard that everybody in the house who had not already been waked was aroused, and several people rushed out into the hall, thinking there was a fire.

The porter went down complacently to the office on the floor below.

"Well," said he to the night clerk, "I waked him up anyhow."

# A Curious Parasite.

It is an old saying that every dog has his day. According to an English anthority, that day is neither very long nor specially comfortable in Fiji. It is impossible to keep foreign dogs alive for much more than a couple of years. Those born there may live four years. The cause of this mortality is a species of worm that lives in the blood vessels, arteries and heart. Adult specimens of this parasite sometimes measure as much as five inches, and the blood of some animals is actually swarming with them. Puppies are often troubled with them, although it seems to take about six months to develop them to a troublesome stage. When a dog is attacked, it begins with a sharp barking, which is at once recognized as the beginning of poor Fido's last chapter. Thus far no remedy has been found or even suggested. The same parasite is found in dogs in eastern Asia, and identical symptoms are noted. The animal may live six months to two years after the first indications are observed .-New York Ledger.

#### His Wish.

A wicked story is told about two partners who respected each other's business ability, but who hated each cordially. To one of them came a fairy saying that he could have any boon he desired, and whatever he had his partner should have in double portion. Naturally his first wish was for a barrel of money. "All right," said the fairy, "but your partner will get two barrels on that wish." "Stop a little," said the first. "Perhaps you'd better not give me a barrel of money. I'd rather you would make me totally blind in one eye."-New Orleans Times-Democrat.

## A Watch on the Wall.

For many years a silver watch might be seen fastened to the wall of one of the fronts of the inner quadrangle of Somerset House. Londoners used to point it out as having saved the life of New York Advertiser.

and will be looked on with coldness and suspicion by them.-New York World.

## The Sun's Fire.

How was heat originally imparted to our great luminary? Was he "born in fire" and has he been in an active state of combustion since the day of his birth. or was he once "a darksome body, flitting hither and thither and yet going nowhere in particular?"

phia Ledger. If once a mighty planet of somber hue, why is he now the torchlight as well as the heating apparatus of a great system of worlds, and, being both, who is equal to the task of calculating even the cycle of time wherein the great change took place? It may have been that there were no worlds in what is now the solar system prior to that time, or, if there were, probably only two.

These two black giants of this darkened portion of the great universe may have collided and coalesced into a vast nebula, from whence the whole of our system has been evolved. If light and heat were thus mechanically produced and still retained to a certain degree in our sun, the largest fragment of the two colliding worlds, is it not altogether likely that the great solar fires will finally burn out and that as a result man and all living creatures will become extinct on all of the inhabited planets?-St. Louis Republic.

## Whited Financial Sepulchers.

With some very few exceptions, which it were invidious to name, but which all in the railway world know as such exceptions, the railway corporations of the United States literally live from hand to mouth and have no working or reserve capital whatever, although their business requires it more than any other. The railways are capitalized for much more than they are worth. Usually the bonded indebtedness, car trust certificates, equipment and terminal securities, taken at par, represent a value in excess of the cost of the road, and upon them fixed interest is compulsorily payable. Hence, whatever the road earns upon actual cost must, unless it exceed, say, 6 per cent, be paid out annually in the shape of interest alone.-Simon Sterne in Forum.

## Used Visiting Cards First.

The Chinese are said to be the originators of visiting cards. So long ago as the period of the Tang dynasty (619-907) viciting cards were known to have been in use in China. From ancient times to the present day the Chinese have observed the strictest ceremony with regard to the paying of visits. The cards its owner when he fell from a scaffold, and he placed it there as a testimony.— and of a bright red color.—Chicago Rec-

to bed in a quiet room and fed for weekson enormous quantities of milk. He must take exercise, however, and this he does by proxy through the device of massage. He must do absolutely nothing for himself, and if his nose itches the nurse must scratch it. Patients under such treatment sometimes gain four or five pounds of flesh per week. It is of course a luxury of the rich .- Philadel-

# English Women Agitating.

Mrs. Millicent Garret Fawcett lately addressed an audience of women at Bloomsbury, England, on the extension of the parliamentary franchise to women. The meeting closed with the carrying of a unanimous resolution in favor of woman suffrage, proposed by Mrs. Fawcett and seconded by Mrs. Ormiston Chant.

## A Suggestion.

The Wooer (tall and lean)-Miss Bowser-Dorothy, I would fain speak what is in my heart, but I-I fear to-to let myself out.

Dorothy (calmly)-Don't do that! You are too long now. It would be better to take in a tuck or two .- Pittsburg Bulletin.

## Described. Public Library Official (tearing up

card)-What chump let you have a book on that card? It expired a month ago. Nearsighted Party-He was a sour looking, light complexioned young squirt with curly hair and-why, it was you!-Chicago Tribune.

Texans use rattlesnake skins for belts and for charms to prevent rheumatism. The negroes have become experts in killing the snakes by crushing the heads only, so that the skins shall not be injured.

Every well developed adult of the human species has lung surface equal to 1,400 square feet. The heart's power is sufficient to lift itself 13,000 feet each hour.

Mirages may occur in any place where the denser stratum of air is shifted above the lighter stratum, thus causing a reflection of the rays of light.

The advocates of cremation assert that burial grounds will be regarded as rell's of an uncivilized age by the year 1994.

Bells, says a writer, toll for the making or breaking of engagements in some German towns.

The acts of this life are the destiny of the next.-Eastern Proverb.

# Painstaking Forgers.

"Men try in every way possible," said a prominent bank president, "to obtain the signatures of New York bankers.

"Their object is evidently to use them in committing forgeries. At least we suspect so, and for that reason try to be as careful as possible in signing letters.

from the west of such a trivial nature produced "The Daughter of the Regithat we suspect an ulterior motive upon the part of the writers, and if we answer them at all do so by typewriter, even to the signature.

"One forger or counterfeiter in Indiana is exceedingly systematic and persistent in his efforts to obtain the signatures of our officers. As regularly as the year comes around he writes, inclosing a \$10 bill, and requests us to send him one of our new \$10 bank notes in exchange.

"He always gives the same reason for the request-that he wants it for 'his collection.' Of course that is nonsense. We believe that he wants a new bill so that he may discover if we have changed our officers and get their signatures.

"He never does get them though. We always return his bill with a typewritten letter on paper containing no names, excusing ourselves on the ground that we have no circulation outstanding."-New York Herald.

# Woodpeckers That Look Ahead.

There is a species of the bird known as the woodpecker in the far west that the tramp, was supposed to be inimihas an unusual amount of reasoning fac- table, was ill, and at the eleventh hour ulty. It is much tamer than the species of that bird found farther east and frequents the towns rather than the woods. They make holes along the eaves of the dwellings, and in these holes they place acorns, not for the purpose of eating them, as the birds do not eat the acorns at all, but for the purpose of devouring the grubs that germinate in the acorn. This indicates a continuous train of thought, looking forward to the time of the creation of the worm and its desirability as food.-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

#### A Curious Fatality.

A curious fatality seems to have attached itself to the family of Captain Wilson, the African fighter. All the members of it that have died have been the victims of accident or violence, except his mother, who succumbed to an attack of paralysis. The husbands of two of Captain Wilson's sisters were drowned, as were two brothers in South Africa. There remains now the eldest son, Dr. George Wilson, a pioneer of sanitary science and a lover of fox hunting .- New York Ledger.

practice a deception which is injurious to the show. In some instances, however, where the star has had to be replaced by an understudy, the latter has made even a better hit than the star.

Billy Crane was an understudy in the beginning, and Manager Joe Brooks tells an amusing anecdote of the actor's first experience as an understudy. He served "In this bank we have many letters in that capacity with a company that ment" in this city some years ago. Among the parts which Crane had to commit to memory was that of the notary. It was a particularly hard part because the notary had to begin by declaiming a long legal notice. Crane got the part pat, but in order that there should be no possibility of his making a break he copied the process into a book which the notary was supposed to carry. The notary wore a robe that tranci on the floor. In making his entrance Crane's foot became tangled up in the robe and he pitched headforemost on the stage. The book with the prompt lines flew across the stage. Crane pulled himself together in a moment, and without losing his presence of mind began firing the process off. He went through without a break, and his original entrance made a hit with the audience.

One of the most notable instances of understudying was that furnished while Denman Thompson was in the midst of his long run with "The Old Homestead" at the Academy of Music. Walter Gale, whose characterization of Happy Jack. the manager heard of the trouble. The part was a most important one in the cast, and nobody could be found to take it among the members of the company. Finally a young Irishman named James Fitzgerald, who was acting as dresser to Thompson, astonished that actor by declaring that he would take the part. It seems that he was understudying Gale right along unknown to anybody. Fitzgerald went on that night and imitated Gale to a dot in everything except the latter's soul racking cough. Young Fitzgerald made a hit and played Happy Jack many times, but his career was brought to an untimely close by an attack of pneumonia, to which he succumbed .- New York Sun.

#### The Word Mother.

Here are 15 varieties of the word mother, all bearing a distinct resemblance: Anglo-Saxon, modor; Persian, madr; Sanscrit, matr; Greek, meter; Italian, madre: French, mere: Swedish, moder: Danish, the same: Dutch, moeder: German, mutter; Russian, mater; Celtic, mathair; Hebrew, em; Arabic,