A WOMAN'S WORK.

When breakfast things are cleared away. The same old problem's rising, or she again sits down to think Of something appetizing. The dinner she must soon prepare Or give the cook directions, And great is the relief she feels m she has made selections.

When dinner things are cleared away, The problem that is upper Is just the same, with one word changed, What can I get for supper?" the wants to give them something new, And long is meditation Till choice is made, and then begins

When supper things are cleared away, Again her mind is worried, For then she thinks of breakfast time, When meals are often hurried. She ponders o'er it long until The question is decided, Then bustles round till she makes sure That everything's provided.

The work of preparation.

That "woman's work is never done" Has often been disputed, But that she's worried is a fact The worry over what to eat
Is greatest of these questions,
And glad she'd be if some one else Would make the meal suggestions. -Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph

A STORY OF A VOCAL CLEW.

BY SEACOAL.

"Yes; I am a detective."

Tom Oakley, leaning over the back of a large stuffed chair in the club parlor, smile playing over his lips. One or two words: of us had suspected something of the kind, but all of us were astonished at his frank admission. He waited for some comment, but none of us spoke. "A consulting detective, if you will,

but nevertheless a detective," he went on. "I regret the necessity of the admission, not for the reason that I am ashamed of my work, but because my usefulness is likely to be somewhat impaired by knowledge of it. I presume you have the prejudice against the work that is common. Deal with the the club as you see fit. I shall not defend myself nor explain, no matter how much I may care for the loss of associations. However, detectives are not held in the disrepute they once were. catch a thief was in application, a detective was not the sort of person one invited to dinner. That was the days of Jonathan Wild and Vidocq. After all, in those days it was the man himself and not his work that was in discredit. Now, when plays are written to glorify spies and detectives, it will hardly do to hold the latter in disrepute. However, I have discovered an especial aptitude."

law." remarked one of us.

"I faithfully tried to for three perceive my great legal abilities. Somediscovered my detective abilities, and in the year following I made more of an income three times over than in the three preceding years."

"Give us the accident, Tom," demanded Harwood.

"You know Weltwerter, the brewer?" added Tom. "Well, something more than a year ago an employee sought me him for injuries received at the brewery. Weltwerter is a good fellow, and I thought more would result from an appeal to his sympathies than from a clear that contributory negligence could not be proved against my client. The brewer was away at his country seat at the time, but I wrote him and promptly received reply to the effect that he would be at his city house on a certain night not far away, when if I over. His house was in Bedford avelots, with his stable on the rear street. 'Arriving at the appointed time, I found Weltwerter and his wife in great distress and excitement.

"Their house had been robbed. How much time had elapsed since the burglary they could not tell, but it was some time within two weeks, since the brewer had visited the house two rior of the house and its habits and weeks previously, and there were no customs. Said I: signs of robbery then. All of their plate was gone, which, together with other valuables, made a substantial loss, but these things, however much nothing compared with the loss of certhe guiding purpose of his life was

"Immediately on the discovery of the robbery the brewer had sent for the police detectives and was waiting for them when I arrived. At my suggestion all went over the house. We found a basement window at the back of the house broken and the rear door open. Evidently the thief or thieves had made their entrance through the window and had opened the door from the inside. A spoon on the floor near the door, an article of little value outside of it, another on the walk leading to the carriage house led us to follow in that direction and on the floor of that house found several unimportant articles apparently thrown away. It seemed to me that all the booty had been transported to the stable and removed at leisure from there because more was taken than two men could have carried away at once. Going back to the house all the indications to me were that whoever the person was he was famillar with the interior of the house. knew the location of the valuables and had gone about his work with a precision born of that knowledge. The valmables plate and papers had been

locked in a large safe in the dining room. The safe doors were open and the lock uninjured, so that it was clear the thief knew the combination, I pointed out all three things to the brewer. But he was confounded. He could fix on no person, for only himself, his wife and his daughter Leila knew the combination. His servants, including the coachman, had accompamed him to his country place and had not been absent a day or a night.

"In the course of our examination we reached the large music room on the other side of the hall and in the rear of the parlor. As the Weltwerters were all musical it was the principal gathering place of the family when at home. There was a piano here, a harp, a violoucello in a frame, a rack for violins and a closet in the rack. In fact, there were instruments about sufficient to supply a good sized orchestra. The brewer, who had been looking over these instruments and had attempted to unlock the closet in the violin rack, suddenly made an outcry. The lock of this closet had been broken. He flung words passing rapidly between him and his wife I gathered that a valuable violin had been stolen, that it was an Amati for which he had paid a vast sum and that it was his own pet instrument.

"While the brewer was lamenting his loss I observed on the piano several sheets of music. Though I know abso-B4B4B4B4B4B4B4B4B4B4B4 lutely nothing about music, I took them up and saw that it was not printed, but manuscript, music and that on faced our little group with a cynical covered with notes, was written these

"'The gentleman relieving you of some of your valuables begs to submit that there are here grave errors of composition. Go to your graphophone and listen to how it ought to be.'

"Abruptly asking the brewer if he had a phonograph in the house, he indifferently pointed to a corner where I saw an instrument. Going to it, I found one with a recording appliance attached. On the cylinder was a record. Removing it, I brushed off the dust and, replacing it, set the machine knowledge I have given you here in in motion, when an agreeable air was ground out in what I thought rather a standing that I devoted all my time to good baritone voice, to be suddenly changed to spoken words-these:

" 'Compare the version I have sung into the 'phone with your manuscript, When the principle of setting a thief to and you will see that you are wrong in your sixths and can detect your error.'

"Weltwerter was quite evidently annoyed by my manipulation of the phonograph, and so when I showed him the sheets of music he replied impatiently:

"'Yes, yes; it is my daughter Leila's work. She composes music. This was when I was called up on the telephone done the day before we left for the by my sister. We had been conversing country. It is not complete.'

"But the words written at the bottom "We all thought you were practicing of the page, to which I directed his at- demand of the central office to protect tention, awakened him to interest. In us in our possession of the line, when I fact, he was astounded, and he de- was startled by another voice-the one years," replied Tom, "and nearly starv- manded that I should again put the of the record on the Weltwerter phonoed. Clients were shy, having failed to machine in motion while he compared graph—the one I had been looking for, the written music with it. In this he thing more than a year ago accident was joined by his wife, an accomplished planist, as I afterward learned. Again and again the record was played, until the voice was strongly impressed on my memory.

"The brewer could not recognize the voice, but Mrs. Weltwerter seemed to find something familiar in it, though and giving his telephone number. she could not fix it into association with any person. The brewer evidently to bring a suit for damages against | believed that the person who had written the words and sang to the machine were one and the same and that he was a musician. His indignation that a musician should be a thief and that suit, especially as I wasn't altogether | that thief should be enough of a musiclan to detect errors in his daughter's composition and be impudent enough

to prove it was ludicrous. "While Weltwerter was mixing his indignation at the critic with laments over the theft of his Amati by the critic I was closely examining the writing. would call we would talk the matter It clearly indicated to me familiarity with the use of the pen together with nue, a double house, occupying several | the spoken words of the record, a habit of grammatical expression. Gaining the attention of the brewer, I said that these things indicated that the burglar was a man of education, a trained singer, of a baritone voice, familiar to a degree at least, with the technical side of music, and that other indications showed that he was familiar with the inte-

"This is no ordinary burglar, Mr. Weltwerter. The points I have made should be clews to his detection and should enable you to settle on some one value in money they represented, were or more persons to be suspected. In fact,' said I under sudden inspiration, tain papers, over which Weltwerter 'I should not be surprised if at the end made great moan, declaring that in it you would find that the man coveted your Amati and that he entered the house for the purpose of securing that in the first place.'

"Mrs. Weltwerter was impressed and asked if I were a detective. Before I could reply her husband broke in with the explanation that I was a lawyer and it seemed to me in a tone implying that therefore there was no reason for giving consequence to my words. Before I could sustain myself by argument the police detectives summoned by Mr. Weltwerter made their appearance. After learning all the brewer could tell them they went about an examination of the premises after their methods and concluded that the burglary was the work of professionals, though they differed among themselves as to what professionals they were. I took issue with them and aired the theories I had advanced to Mr. Weltwerter. I showed them the writing on the music sheet and ground out the tune for them and wound up with suggesting that this man, avowing himself to be the one who had taken the valuables, possessed accomplishments not usually the acquirements of

the professional burglar. "These astute men resented my no-

tions treated them with infinite scorp. even intimated that I had written the words on the sheet to bolster up my position and said that they were quite certain that inquiry of Miss Weltwerter would elicit that the phonograph record had been made in her presence by a friendly critic perhaps her instructor. Weltwerter seemed to wabble to their side, perhaps because the idea of an educated musician and a burglar in one and the same person was too incongruous for him to grasp with belief, but his wife inclined to my view. I was nettled, and the scorn with which I was treated made a detective of me, for, convinced that the police detectives would never find the man on the lines they adopted, I then and there determined to make the inquiry myself.

"One of the first things I did was to persuade Mrs. Weltwerter to send for her daughter Lella, with whom I had a conversation immediately on her arriv-One police notion was dissipated at al. once. She had never submitted her composition to the criticism of anybody open the door excitedly to find that it and knew of no corrections sung to the was empty. From his outcries and the phonograph. She was piqued over the assertion of error in her work, and as she listened attentively to the record, holding her written music in comparison, I watched her narrowly. Almost immediately a dull, red flush crept over her face, but whether it was due to a recognition of the voice or to a conviction that she had been detected in error I could not determine, but when the sudden change to the spoken words took place a sort of startled light sprang into her eyes. She hesitated in the bottom of one sheet, but partially reply to my question if she recognized the voice, finally saying that she did not; that at first it seemed familiar, but the impression faded as she listened. I was not satisfied. It seemed to me as though the young woman could have said more if she were inclined-that she had something of suspicion. I pressed this view upon her, but she escaped conclusions by asserting that a tone or two of the recorded voice had suggested a person, but only a tone or two; that it was simply absurd to associate the person with the deed of bur-

glary. "Fortunately for me I had plenty of time to make inquiries, but notwiththe work I made no headway. Firmly convinced that the burglar was a professional musician, I worked on that line, attending all places where I could hear baritone singers. I tried to make the acquaintance of all musicians who had been in the habit of gathering at the Weltwerter house, but it was summer time, and I could reach but a few. "One day, at the end of three weeks

of this discouraging work, I was sitting in my office quite despondent. but a moment when some one cut in on us on a crossed line. I was about to dreaming of, for three weeks, and I listened breathlessly. The subject of the talk of the two who had cut in was the orchestration of some musical score at a theater for which the voice was at work. It ended with a remark of 'the voice' that the other could communicate at any time with him by telephone

"I closed my talk with my sister as quickly as I decently could and hasten- Holdfast Tom, Old Joan Point, Stone ed to the central office. Learning the Top, etc. name of the subscriber who had the number 'the voice' had given, I was surprised to find it was that of a druggist on the hill. This did not bear out my theory, but I traveled to the store to find it one of the superior sort. It hill is where the government house is required the exercise of no little skill situated. It is so called because of the to discover who had talked through the telephone an hour previously on a musical subject, but it came out in the end, and I was told that it was a professional musician known as Elmer Molesworth, occupying apartments on

a floor above the store. "Inquiries in the neighborhood showed that the musician was held in esteem as an industrious, upright man. I learned, however, that more than once he had been one of a stringed quartet fine old trees and a good bit of decent at musical gatherings at Weltwerter's. Armed with this fact, I sought Miss Weltwerter and forced her to the admission that she had recognized Molesworth's voice in that of the record, but was not willing to believe it. From her also I learned a valuable fact. She had as a precious relic a sheet or two which she kept in the safe in the dining room.

"On the occasion of a musical at their house once she had talked to Molesworth of this, and taking the musician to the safe had opened it before him to show it. I saw now how Molesworth had obtained the combination and knowledge of the contents of the safe. By a little strategy in a few days I obtained a note from Molesworth, so that I was enabled to make a comparison with the writing on the music sheet and to see a marked resemblance.

"It now seemed ripe for an arrest, but here Weltwerter stepped in. He feared if arrest were made his papers would be lost, and he preferred the recovery before everything - said he would sacrifice everything for themhis plate, valuables and even his loved Amati. He begged me to undertake their recovery. So I began my detective career by compounding a felony. I visited Molesworth in his apartments and bluntly charged him with the burglary. He was cool and self possessed. He denied my charge indignantly, but I told him the story of his deed and the methods of its accomplishment step by step and how I had been led to fix upon him. All this time my eyes had been busy about the room. As I ascended the stairs I had heard the sound of a violin, but I saw none. Beside his desk was a shawl on the floor,

and something seemed to be under it. Suddenly I sprang up and lifted that shawl. Under it was a violin. Molesworth turned pale, and 1, lifting the in- Ination papers writes to The Academy strument and pointing to a mark on it, expressing his chagrin at the discovsaid dramatically. It was the tempta- ery of the fact that he knows less than tion to possess this Amati that led you he did years ago. "I knew some things into the crime.' He wilted at once. I then-arithmetic, for example, Today followed up my advantage by promis- I am at the mercy of any waiter who Ing him on behalf of Weltwerter im- brings me change. At booking offices munity, silence and safety if he would return what he had taken, and he ing their trains while I do laborious broke down and confessed.

"That afternoon I returned the prized papers and the Amati to the brewer. Look at this: The plate had been disposed of or degave me a handsome fee.

a leak in the funds of a bank of which | each? he was a director and in which I was successful. This led to similar em- do it now. I have no idea where to beployments, until now I am a full fledg. gln. It may be easy, but the point is public officer on the right track, though to be a jugglery with x, and I could Court street as before.

were proofs of his rights to an estate of rocks and trees and a ruined castle In Germany and to the title of the fam- draw diagrams of the heart and principort them he had brewed beer in this informed boy. Today I don't see how country. He has sold out to a trust, I I should pass the third class college of believe, and is going to Germany soon." | preceptors."-London Academy. Brooklyn Engle.

The first case of black rain which comes under review occurred at Grahamstown and the surrounding dismiles, says Chambers' Journal. Since been recorded in Ireland, one of which | you get mighty tired of it. was felt over an area of 400 square miles.

examined the water which fell at Grahamstown, but it was noted that the liquid gradually cleared when placed in a suitable vessel, and a black precipitate fell from it. In the latter cases referred to the deposit has been carefully examined and was found to consist of microscopic organisms, which averaged about the twelve thousand five hundredth part of an inch in the same fungoid organisms that are agree that a whole lifetime of it might responsible for blight in the plants begin to pall. which they infest and subsequently for smut, mildew and rust in wheat and barley.

The writer sums up his remarks thus: "Humidity is known to contribute largely to the copious production during the seasons of frequent rain- New York Sun. falls the production of a fungoid vegetation is largely increased."

St. Helena.

St. Helena is a great place for caves the latter. Geologically speaking, the island is largely, if not wholly, volcanic, and a lot of extinct craters are apparent. Some of the pinnacles have | first?" queer names, such as Lot's Wife, the Man and the Horse, the Asses' Ears,

The only inhabited place is Jamestown, which has a population of about 2,500. It lies in a deep valley surrounded by very high hills. It is not a particularly healthy place. Ladder almost precipitous ladderlike wooden stairs, by which its acclivity of 600 feet has to be scaled.

Nearly four miles inland from Jamestown is an isolated farmhouse, on an elevated plateau about 2,000 feet above the sea. This is Longwood, where Napoleon lived from 1815 until he died there, in 1821. The house is a long, low, whitewashed, fairly trim building, with extensive outhouses, some rather farm land.

The Last Chinese Actress.

Many vistors to the Celestial kingdom have noted the absence of women from the stage. All the roles in a Chinese play are taken by men. This singular custom is traced back to a womof original manuscript by Mozart, an's whim. The Emperor Yung Tsching married an actress at the beginning of the eighteenth century, when women were allowed on the stage. The emperor died and the empress dowager ruled the country for her son, the Prince Kim Sung.

To satisfy her vanity this shrewd and most peculiar woman issued a decree in the year 1736 forbidding, under penalty of instant death by the sword of the executioner, any member obtained from white wines. Malt vinof her sex to appear on the Chinese stage. "After me, no one," said the empress dowager, and since her day no woman within the reach of Chinese law has dared to test the strength of her decree. In Hongkong (a British colony) women have played in Chinese theaters, but never as yet, we believe, in San Francisco.

Weight of Women's Brains. The woman's brain is always less than the man's. From Boyd's figures we can pick out 102 men and 113 women between 64 inches and 66 inches high, averaging close on 65 inches, for each group. But the brains of the men average 46.9 ounces, while those of the women are only 41.9 ounces, which gives the men an advantage of 12 per cent. There are 21 small men whose height averages 62 inches, and there are 135 women of the same height. The brains of the men weigh 45.6 ounces, those of the women only 42.9 ounces .-New York Herald.

He Once Knew Something. A middle aged gentleman who has been looking over his old school exam-I keep vast crowds waiting and misssubtraction sums in my head, but at school what a hand I was at figures!

"Three graziers, A. B and C. rent : stroyed, and Weltwerter, highly pleas | plece of pasture land for a month. A ed over his recoveries, let it go. He | puts on 27 cattle for 21 days, B 19 for 24 days and C 23 for 25 days. If at the "This started me on my career, for end of the month the rent and other Weltwerter, with an exaggerated idea charges amount to [23 5s. 10d., how of my abilities, called me to ferret out much of this ought to be paid by

"I could do that in 1884. I couldn't ed consulting detective, who puts the that I have not the key. There used maintain my lawyer's shingle on manage it. Now that I pay income tax and have statements of account from "Weltwerter's papers? Oh, neither my publisher every half year I can you nor I would care for them. They manage it no longer. And I seem to have known zoology too. Zoology! seem to have been able to describe and lly from which he was descended. To pal blood vessels of the crayfish. Once obtain the money with which to sup |-good heavens-once I was a well

The Navy Man's Life.

"Laymen call our life exciting and think that we see a lot of the world," said the navy man, "but it's a big mistake. What do we know of any of the trict in August, 1888, and it extended ports we visit? The pier, other boats over an area of no less than 360 square that may happen to be there at the same time, and the English club of the then there have happened several town-that's all we see. And it's all showers of a similar description, but we know about. After you've touched less pronounced in their sable charac- at a few ports and gone through the ter. Other showers of black rain have same performance over and over again,

"As for our life, what is it but a perpetual club life? There are a few No one seems to have microscopically professional club demands, but the rest of our time is spent in much the same way that a man spends his at his club -in smoking, reading, in swapping lies, in making oneself agreeable to one's friends who may do him the honor of a visit and in making oneself agreeable to some other fellow's friends who may do him the honor of a visit-that's the sum of our existence, and when you think that's it length, and which were identified with for day in and day out, you can but

"It's like wearing evening clothes at the time or spending one's life at the opera, or always having dessert and nothing else for dinner. All play and no work makes a dull boy of almost any Jack. I sometimes wonder how of fungl, and during protracted drought any of us navy men manage to rise the regions affected thereby will re- superior to our opportunities for sinkmain comparatively bare of fungi, but Ing Into stupidity's lowest depths."-

Started Ills Muse.

"It seems so strange," said the lady who had returned to visit the old scenes again, "that your son Arthur is and hills. Both abound, particularly a poet. When I knew him, I never that direction. I suppose, though, that via the you have seen it in him from the

"No," the young man's mother replied; "he never gave any indication of it as a boy. His schoolbooks are not, as one would naturally suppose, scribbled full of rhymes. He did not lisp in numbers, as we read that other poets did. Indeed Arthur was about as plain and practical a boy as could have been found anywhere."

me. When was it discovered that he

had this gift?" "Well, the first time we noticed it on him was one day after a heavy sign, as he regained consciousness he seemed to be a poet."-Chicago Times-Her rates, etc., address

Clerical Sarcasm.

A clergyman on a recent Sunday gave out the following notice, says The Christian Endeavor World:

"The regular meeting of the donkey parade will be held, as usual, at the close of this service. Members will line up just outside the church door, make remarks and stare at the women who pass, as is their custom.

"Any member known to escort a young woman to church like a man and sit with her like a gentleman will be promptly expelled from member-

Vinegar.

Vinegar is a diluted form of acetic acid and has been known from the earliest period. Wine vinegar is made from wine lees and inferior wines, principally in France, the finest being egar is procured from an infusion of malt which has previously undergone fermentation or from apple cider. Vinegar in the form of lotions is a valuable external stimulant.

Joke on the Other Fellow. His Mother (to wife going through the pockets of her husband's clothing) -I wouldn't do that, Irene. Come, now, do you think it is right?

Wife-That depends upon the motive. My object is not mercenary. I only want to play a practical joke upon any pickpocket who may happen to operate upon dear George.- Boston Transcript.

Artificial flowers were unknown to the ancient civilized nations of Europe. They are first mentioned in Italy in the fourteenth century, but in China they were known at an earlier date.

The Persians did not punish the 'rst offense of murder.

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