

to speak of a certain statistician whose figures, he said, were so precise that they tend to arouse suspicion. In this connection he was reminded of an American sugar planter in Hawaii, who, in showing a friend about the place, took him to the edge of a volcano. "That crater, George," said he, "is exactly 70,004 years old."

"But why the four?" asked George.

"Oh," he replied, "I've been here four. It was 70,000 when I came."

FINANCIAL TROUBLES

A man, returning to his home in Virginia after several years' absence, met one of the old negroes, a former servant of his family. "Uncle Moses," he said, "I hear you have gotten married."

"Yes, Marse Tom, I is and I's having a moughty troublesome time, Marse Tom, moughty troublesome."

"What's the trouble?" said my friend.

"Why, dat yaller woman, Marse Tom. She all de time axin' me fer money. She don't gin me no peace."

"How long have you been married, Uncle Moses?"

"Nigh on ter two years, come dis sping."

"And how much money have you given her?"

"Well, I ain't done gin her none yit."

THE DOCTOR

The doctor comes smiling, and he holds my weary hand,

And he says I'll soon be better, and that soon he'll have me stand;

He promises the roses to my cheeks shall come again,