### A Realism.

"At last we are alone!"

It was the man who spoke.

The woman trembled and lifted her eyes to his face.

They were beautiful eyes, but they were tremulous eyes—eyes which look out from a heart which is irresolute, fearful.

He stamped with his heavy foot upon the floor of the room.

The echoes brought back in their invisible arms the sound, and let it ripple out again until it struck the walls once more and fell into the vast void of silence.

A bat, disturbed by the unusual activity, darted from a corner and blindly dashed in eccentric convolutions about the dusty building.

Great ropes of cobwebs hung down from the ceiling, and across the corner of the room dead flies swung lightly in the hammocks the spiders have fastened there.

The dust rose in listless clouds from the shock of the heavy footfall, and sank again, overcome by its inertia.

Even the air was resting.

The spirit of desolation seemed to pervade the place.

The womam looked furtively around upon her dim surroundings and shivered.

The man laughed harshly.

"Alone, I said," he growled.

"Yes," she murmured.

A faint light struggled in through the great windows in front, thick with dust.

"Where are we?" she whispered, and shivered as the bat dashed into her hair.

"Listen," he replied hoarsely, "we are in a store which does not advertise."—*The Keystone.*

### A Myrtle Creek Lady Takes a Shot at Tramps.

Last Saturday night about 10:30, while the overland train was taking water at Myrtle Creek station, a couple of burglars visited the residence of Mr. W. V. Lippincott, recently station agent at that place, but now transferred to Medford, whither his family are preparing to follow. The place is isolated, and only Mrs. Lippincott, two children, and the girl staying with her, were in the house, occupying an upper room, with the lower sash of the east window raised. Mrs Lippincott heard some one working at the lower window, and got out of bed and quietly approached the window, revolver in hand. She distinctly saw two men at work directly under her, and without any delay she aimed and fired. One man threw his hand to his shoulder and cried "I am hit!" Another sharp report and the other man exclaimed "I'm shot, too!" By that time the house dog was on the scene and chased the would-be burglars down to the river bank. One of the men had called at the house about seven o'clock the same evening, and finding no man about, thought it would be a soft job. Similar receptions would render the business extra hazardous, and that kind of robbery would not occur often.—*Plaindealer.*

### "Peter the Poet."

It takes an iron strap to keep the underjaw of a barber from wagging, but iron straps are not the strongest jaw-fasteners in this gabby world. Last week the wife of an East Portland barber gave birth to four girl babies. The little ones are doing well, butan awful and ominous silence has fallen upon the chin of the barber.

Old man Howard, in the Alameda jail, accused of complicity in the Lake county stage robberies, is said to be worth $20,000. The human soul that wallows in $20,000 and breaks through the law of the land to get more mire, is a delightful soul. Wouldn't it look lovely among the lily-beds of paradise!

Nelson C. Long, of Sherman county, predicts a longer, harder winter this year than any other since 1862. Ducks and geese are far more numerous than usual, and the squirrels are still laying in supplies. Hens don't seem to lay well, cats are unusually melancholy, and newspaprs are handing down older jokes than usual. So prepare every shelter and store-room about the place, Mr. Farmer, and be ready for a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Whiskey needs water, and the more water the better the whiskey. When the water is low at the Medford distillery, the whiskey don't come. The business stopped last week on that account, but Ashland's authorities, who know how it is for whiskey to be without water, having seen whiskey go it alone on several occasions, will arrange to supply the mill.

Most of the newspapers that fail in Oregon are weaklies.

### A Lost Child.

[Grants Pass Courier.]

EDITOR:—I am trying to find my father. I am told that his name is James E. Bailey. I have no recollection of him, nor do I remember that I ever looked on the face of a [illegible]. My mother died fifteen [illegible] in Boon county, Iowa, [illegible] only a year old. Short[illegible] mother's death I was [illegible] a neighbor named Morgan. When I was eight years old we moved to Nebraska, and at this time father seems to have lost track of me. I understand that he endeavored to find me, but was basely led by an uninterested party, to believe that I had died. I have only recently learned that the Morgans were not my parents. I am passing my life among strangers. They are nothing to me; I m nothing to them. The thought makes me homesick and lonely and sad. I believe my own dear father is living somewhere in this wide, wide world, and if he is, I mean to find him. You can assist me if you will; but I can offer you no reward, at present, except my gratitude and my blessing. If you are unable to give me any information regarding my father, please help me to publish and circulate this notice and oblige. Sincerly yours,

RETA BAILEY,
San Bernadino, Cal.

[Papers please copy.]

### Unsafe Money to Carry.

My father was once with his ship at Rangoon. One day during a heavy thunderstorm he was driving in a cab to his agents, when he saw a "coolie" (porter) drop down in the street. He got out of the cab at once and went to the man, but he was dead. There was a burned patch in his waistcloth, on the right side, and some blackened copper "pice" lay on the ground. The man had just received them for carrying a load, and, as the clothes of the poorer natives of India and Burmah have no pockets, he had twisted them into his waistcloth, and this money must have attracted the lightning. But the most curious part of it was the queen's head on one of the coins was clearly impressed on his side, and even the words "Queen Victoria" were clearly defined.—*London Tit-Bits.*

### About Hop Lice.

Prof. Washburn, of the Oregon Agricultural College, is authority for the statement that hop lice are particularly partial to a so-called wild plum, "Peterson's Seedling," says the *Rural Northwest.* Upon thickets of this variety, in the vicinity of hops, and frequently at a distance from them, were found thousands of winter eggs. The Italian prune seems to offer no attraction. The hop lice lay their eggs on trees of the plum family in the fall. These eggs hatch in the spring and produce three generations, the last of which is winged and flies to the hop vines.

### A Booby Prize.

A very cute "booby" prize given at a party was a cabbage, tied with a pink ribbon. When it was untied the top was lifted up and the inside contained fine candy. The center of the cabbage has been hollowed out, then lined with tissue paper, filled with the sweets, the top put back and tied on. It created much merriment.—Ellye H. Glover in *Good Housekeeping.*

### Telling Fortunes.

In England a ring, a button, and a coin are often placed in the wedding cake. She who secures the ring is to be the next bride; the button, the old maid; the coin secures a wealthy suitor. A ring put in a posset "infuses magic power," and "will tell the fair if haply she will wed."—Cassell's *Family Magazine.*

### Policy in the Pulpit.

A preacher in Iowa lost his pulpit for telling the truth. He was a forcible preacher, but deficient in education, and occasionally committed some grave misdemeanors in grammar. One Sunday, while speaking rapidly, he made a gross assault on Lindley Murray. No sooner had the sentence escaped his lips than he stopped and said: "I am aware that my education is deficient. I regret that I did not have the advantages of good schools when a boy. If I had been more fortunate I would now be preaching to a more intelligent congregation." The minister told the truth, but it was the last time he preached in that church.

WIT.—A wayward young man, broken in health, had gone to the far southwest to recuperate. He was in jail at Tombstone, Arizona, for stealing the hind quarters of a beef. In the loneliness of his cell he sat down and wrote as follows: "Dear Father: I have picked up some flesh since I came out here, but am still confined to my room. Please send me $100," etc., etc.

### Something for the New Year.

The world renowned success of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, and their continued popularity for over a third of a century as a stomachic, is scarcely more wonderful than the welcome that greets the annual appearance of Hostetter's almanac. This valuable medical treatise is published by the Hostetter Company, Pittsburg, Pa., under their own immediate supervision, employing sixty hands in that department. They are running about eleven months in the year on this work, and the issue of same for 1892 will be more than ten millions, printed in the English, German, French, Welsh, Norwegian, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian, and Spanish languages. Refer to a copy of it for valuable and interesting reading concerning health, and numerous testimonials as to the efficacy of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, amusement, varied information, astronomical calculations and chronological items, &c., which can be depended on for correctness. The almanac for 1892 can be obtained free of cost, from druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the country.


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| Leave. | | Arrive. | |
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| Roseburg | 6:20 A. M. | Portland | 4:00 A. M. |

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| Leave | | Arrive | |
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