

SQUIRE BOASTFUL.

A king had a squire called "Squire Boastful," because he promised a great deal and performed little. The king's jester thought he would teach "Squire Boastful" a lesson, and he did so.

One day the king wanted some very nice roast birds for dinner. He called his squire and said:

"Hans, go to the woods and shoot ten birds for my supper."

"Not ten only," answered the Squire, "but a hundred will I shoot for you."

"Good," replied the king: "if you can shoot as well as that, you may bring me a hundred; you shall have a dollar for each."

The jester heard this and went before the squire to the woods where the birds were most plentiful, and said:

"Little birds, fly! fly away!
Hans the Boaster comes to this place,
Now for your lives pray run a race!"

So when Hans reached the woods there wasn't a bird to be seen; all had hidden in their nests. When he went back to the king empty-handed, he was sent to prison for a hundred days because he had not kept his word.

When he was free again the king said to him one day, "I must have five fish for my dinner."

Hans remembered the hundred birds, and tried to rein in his boastful tongue. "I will bring you 50 fish instead of five."

"If you are such a good fisherman, you may bring me 50," said the king, "and you shall have five dollars for each one."

So the jester ran to the sea and cried:

"Little fishes, swim away!
Hans the Boaster comes to this place,
Now for your lives pray run a race!"

And when Hans reached the seashore, not a fish could be caught. They had all gone to the other shore. When he returned to the king again empty-handed, he was put in prison for 50 days because he had not kept his word.

When he was once more at liberty, the king said to him, "I must have a rabbit."

Hans remembered his imprisonment and replied:

"Sir, I will bring you at least 10."

"If you are such a good hunter, bring me 10; you shall have \$10 for each one," answered the king.

And the jester hastened to the forest and cried:

"Little rabbits, run away!
Hans the Boaster comes to this place,
Now for your lives pray run a race!"

And Hans hunted all day and never shot a single rabbit; so he had ten days more in prison because he had not kept his word.

When he was at liberty the king said, "I must have a stag for my dinner."

Hans remembered the sufferings his previous boasts had brought upon him, and replied modestly:

"I will go to the woods and try and find one for you, sir."

Scarcely had he got to the woods when he shot a very fine stag. He took it joyfully to the king, who exclaimed, "See, when you do not promise impossibilities, you are able to keep your word."

And the jester laughed in his sleeve, for "Squire Boastful" never boasted after that.

DEPRIVATION OF SOLAR LIGHT.—It has been repeatedly claimed that depriving miners of solar light injuriously affects their health. This point has recently engrossed the attention of Dr. Favre at the Commeny collieries. He does not think that the mortality of miners must be attributed to the action of the deprivation of solar light upon the blood, and cites by way of confirmation that he examined the blood of certain of the horses which were kept underground all the year, and he found the normal number of corpuscles in the blood.

LARD is being shipped in large quantities from Chicago to San Francisco, via New York and Cape Horn.

GLASS MILLSTONES.—The *Manufacturer and Builder* calls the attention of manufacturers who cast heavy pieces of glass, and also of millers, to a recent German discovery, that the finest flour is produced by those millstones which have the most glassy texture and composition, and the consequent discovery that pieces of glass combined in the same way as the French burr, and similarly grooved on their surfaces, will grind better than the burr millstones. The consequence of this discovery has been the invention of the glass millstones now made by Messrs. Thom, and used in Germany and Berkendorf with great satisfaction, as it is found that they grind more easily and do not heat the flour as much as is the case with the French burr stone. In grinding grist they run perfectly cold. In order to make such stones, blocks of glass of from six to twelve inches wide are cast in a shape similar to the French burr, but more regular and uniform. They are connected with cement in the same way, and dressed and furrow cut with picks and pointed hammers; but it is believed that diamond-dressing machines might be profitably applied. It is said that these millstones, made of lumps of hard glass, do not wear away faster than the burr stones. Stones of four and a half feet in diameter, driven by six-horse power, ground 220 pounds of flour an hour, and did it remaining cold. The grist is drier, looser, and the hull more thoroughly separated from the kernel than is the case with other stones.

TO PREVENT RUST.—Prof. Olmstead, author of "Olmstead's Natural Philosophy," gives the following as a preventive of rust: For farm implements of all kinds, having metal surfaces exposed, for knives and forks, and other household apparatus, indeed for all metals likely to be injured by oxidation or "rusting," take any quantity of good lard, and to every half pound or so, add of common resin ("rosin") an amount about equal to the size of an egg or less—a little more or less is of no consequence. Melt them slowly together, stirring as they cool. Apply this with a cloth or otherwise, just enough to give a thin coating to the metal surface to be protected. It can be wiped off nearly clean from surfaces where it will be undesirable, as in the case of knives and forks, etc. The resin prevents rancidity, and the mixture precludes the ready access of air and moisture. A fresh application may be needed when the coating is washed off by friction of beating storms or otherwise.

DEPTH OF ROOTS.—Mr. Foote, in Massachusetts, has traced out the tap root of a common red clover plant downward to the perpendicular depth of nearly five feet. Hon. J. Stanton Gould followed out the roots of Indian corn to the depth of seven feet, and states that onions sometimes extend their roots downward to the depth of three feet; lucerne, 15 feet. Hon. George Geddes sent to the museum of the New York State Society a clover plant that had a root four feet two inches in length. Louis Walkoff traced the roots of a beet plant downward four feet where they entered a drainpipe. Prof. Schubart found the roots of rye, beans and garden peas to extend about four feet downward; of winter wheat, seven feet in light subsoil, 47 days after planting. The roots of clover one year old were three and a half feet long; those of two year old plants four inches long.—*Factory and Farm.*

ARTIFICIAL MILK.—The *American Journal of Pharmacy* says the best substitute for mother's milk, according to Martiny, is the yolk of chicken egg, which weighs, on an average, 231 grains, and when diluted with two ounces of water of about 100° and 76 grains of milk sugar, has nearly the same composition as the milk in the first period of lactation. Subsequently, the fat and protein decrease, and to one yolk may be added four ounces of water, and 100 grains of milk sugar.

A PLAGUE has appeared among Cossacks of Astrachan.

WOMAN'S LOVE.—A man, who had struggled with a malignant disease, approached that crisis in its stage on which his life seemed to depend. Sleep, uninterrupted sleep, might insure his recovery. His anxious wife, scarcely daring to breathe, was sitting by his bed; her servants exhausted by constant watching, had all left her. It was midnight, a door was left open for air; she heard, in the stillness of the night, a window open below stairs, and soon after approaching footsteps. A moment more a man with his face disguised entered the room. She instantly saw her husband's danger, and anticipating the design of the unwelcome intruder, she pointed to her husband, and pressing her finger upon her lips to implore silence, held out to the robber her purse and her keys. To her great surprise, he took neither. Whether he was terrified or charmed by the courage of her affection cannot be known. He left the room, and, without robbing a house sanctified by such strength of affection, he departed.

WOMAN'S DEVOTION.—Another striking evidence has been furnished of a wife's undying and unconquerable love. Away out in Charlevoix, Michigan, recently, one Edward Ward whipped his wife so outrageously that his neighbors tarred and feathered the monster. But what did the supposed indignant wife do? Apply a match to the inflammable material, and thus cremate the villain who had so shockingly maltreated her whom he had solemnly promised to love, serve, protect and cherish? Nothing of the kind. On the contrary, she removed the tar and feathers from so unnatural a husband, poured oil on his wounds, bound up his sores, and then accompanied him in his flight from a community of which he had proved so unworthy a member. Woman! woman! who can appropriately extol thy virtues, or properly sing thy praises?

PLEASANT EVENINGS.—Make the evenings pleasant, mothers, if you wish to keep your husbands and children at home. A lively game, an interesting book read aloud, or, in musical families, a new song to be practiced, will furnish pastime that will make an evening pass pleasantly. A little forethought during the day, a little pulling of wires that need not appear, will make the whole thing easy; and different ways and means may be provided for making the evening hours pass pleasantly, and a time to look forward to with pleasant anticipations. We visited once in a large family where it was the duty of each sister in turn to provide the evening's occupation, and there was a pleasant rivalry between them as to whose evenings should be the most enjoyable. As a natural consequence, the brothers were rarely absent from home.

A CHILD CARRIED OFF BY A HOG.—On Saturday evening last a Mexican called at Dr. Walker's office to have him look at a little child, but the doctor was out and the man returned the following day with the child. The Mexican stated that he and his family went out "pecan" gathering, and that while the child was lying on the ground a large hog seized it by the ankle and ran off with it. The shrieks of the child attracted the attention of all, and soon the child was rescued, but not until its little limb had been fearfully bitten by the hog. Dr. Walker called to his aid Dr. Wooten, and after thorough examination they decided upon amputation, which was done.—*Austin (Texas) Statesman.*

REMEDY FOR COLOR BLINDNESS.—*La France Medicale* states that M. Delboul has found that if a person afflicted with Daltonism looks through a layer of fuchsine in solution, his infirmity disappears. A practical application of this discovery has been made by M. Joval, by interposing between two glasses a thin layer of gelatine previously tinted with fuchsine. By regarding objects through such a medium all the difficulties of color blindness are said to be corrected.