Ben Lindsey, the Street Arab's Best Friend

A Denver Judge Who Is Doing Remarkable Work in Reforming Wayward Youths.

COUNTY COURT Judge in Denver, | tervention of the court be Colo., was recently called upon to address a large meeting of boys nges ranged from 9 to 14 years. You might expect a Judge under such cirumstances to pull a solemn face, call audience "My dear young friends," and then treat them to a long string of w-book maxims. Not so this Judge. He joked with the boys, used their own slang, told them enough of his own boyhood days to show them that he understood and sympathised with them, and then suddenly asked:

"Say, kids, how many of you fellow ever swiped things? Now, everybody who has hold up his hand."

Every little hand went into the air as quick as a wink, although the boys knew that the man speaking to them was the Judge of the Children's Court, and could have them haled before him and punished

The man was Judge Ben B. Lindsey, who presides over the Juvenile Court in Denver, and who has been selected as chairman of the National Committee on Juvenile Courts by the recent National Conference of Charities and Correction held at Portland, Me. Judge Lindsey is the best-known and most distinguished of all the "children's Judges," and the power which he wields over naughty boys to make them better is simply marvelous. "Ben" Lindsey, as everybody calls him

in Denver, remembers that he was a boy 'swine things" as the next boy. There fore, he has changed the old system un-der which youngsters were sent to jall for swiping a handful of peanuts from on the street corner.

For a Judge, "Ben" Lindsey has some startling ideas, but they are based on the bedrock of common sense. The cardinal principle on which he administers justice in his court is that "a boy who swipes things is not a thief."

Some Startling Ideas.

some cases it may be well to let the boys think so; in others I would not," the Judge said. "In reply to my questions, the boys in the public schools of Denver declared that in their opinion at least one-half of the boys in school would 'swipe things.' Some boys said nearly all, most of them said two-thirds, practically all said one-half. If this be a fact in Den-ver, it is no less a fact in every other city in this country. Denver boys are the best

An intelligent understanding from the boys' standpoint will. I think, convince unblased mind that such children are any unbiased mind that such children are not thieves, yet all must admit that it is such habits persisted in that make thieves, burglars and other criminals. They are persisted in in entirely too many cases, though I believe the majority of such cases are of an isolated or infrequent Judge Lindsey and sent away sworn nature, and are checked by proper home training, as they should be, before the in-

"Every case against a child must be judged more from the standard of the child than from that of the man. No one can seriously expect a street boy of 12 to respect the law intended for the protec-tion of the fruit-vendor in the same way that we have a right to expect the adult to respect a law of no higher sanctity or binding effect for the protection of the banker or the merchant."

Criminals Converted Into Officers. These are the principles on which the Judge conducts his court. His methods are no less original. He aims to make every little "criminal" who is brought before him an officer of the court.

Nearly all the cases are dealt with by putting the boys on probation for periods om two weeks to two years. The Judge us keeps in touch with them without mishing them. Every other Saturday they report to him, some 200 or 300 of them; and he usually talks to them on some subject that immediately gains a boy's heart and attention. His favorite topic is "snitching"—when it is right and when it is wrong. "Snitching," as most boys know, means telling tales, "peach

'Now, look here, kids," the Judge will say. "Of course, it's mean to be a dirty little enitch. If you saw a pai swipe things, you wouldn't call the cop. Quite right. But you know by this time that it's a mistake to swipe things. It's wrong, and, besides, it gets you in trouble; it gets the whole gang in trouble.

gets the whole gang in trouble.

"Now, you must all agree that, if a fellow won't leave off swiping things, you can give him fair warning to stop, and then be at liberty to suitch on him if he doesn't. It'll be the best thing in the world to have him brought to the court before he becomes a regular crook bebefore he becomes a regular crook, be-cause you know we don't want to soak it in to him. We only want to help him." This reasoning, impressed on the young-sters again and again, appeals to their sense of justice and shows them the way to help their friend, the Judge, without violating their code of boyish henor or boy world. Thus it is that the graduates of the court enforce the law among their "pals" far more thoroughly than all the licemen and probation officers in Den-

Four boys were brought before the Judge for swiping things from back porches. They were not criminals; they simply had a craving for excitement and adventure. The Judge talked to them in a way they could understand, put them on probation, and made them promise that if any one of their "gang" should offend against the law they would warn him, and then, if he persisted, "snitch."



BEN, B. LINDSEY, JUDGE OF THE CHILDREN'S COURT IN DENVER, AND, NEXT TO HIS MOTHER, THE AMERICAN BOY'S BEST FRIEND.

fense, it is a pretty sure thing that somebody else is to blame as well as himself," said the Judge.

"Take the case of one little fellow of 10, who had held up another boy in an alley and robbed him of \$3. I find that he has read dime novels since he was 7, and is particularly interested in Jesse James, about whom he knows much more than he does about George Washington. His mother has had knowledge of his course of reading. She must be brought in for contributing to the delinquency of her child. I believe this cannot be done un der the law of any other state except CoI-

of drinking beer and sending them to the saloon. One of the boys has already acwho did this very thing to wind up in

withstanding the rigid enforcement in Denver of the law against selling tobacco

many. If a boy has committed an of- , boys brought before me are in the habit quired a liking for liquor. He led a raid on a bottled goods wagon and swiped a lot of beer for the rest of his gang, none of whom was over 13. His mother must also be brought in. I have known boys The drug store man on the corner, not

to minors, has persistently sold cigarettes to some of the boys who appear in my court. He must be brought in. orado.
"I find that the mothers of two other and habitually wanders in the yards. He

brass appliance on a freight car, which he sold to the ragman for 50 cents. So the ragman and the mother who permitted the boy to go on the railroad tracks, which of itself made him a delinquent, are brought in.

Lindsey's Personal Influence. The Judge has a wonderful influence over all the boys with whom he comes in contact. This was shown some time ago when crap shooting became a nuisance in one of the principal streets of Denver. The storekeepers complained that the street boys swore viciously and obscene-ly when engaged in this game, to the annoyance of their customers. One of the leaders of the boys heard

of these complaints and went straight to the Judge about them. He had graduated from the Juvenile Court. from the Juvenile Court.

"Say, Judge, I'll get do kids together an' you can give dem a talk," he proposed. "If you want dem to stop shootin' craps, I guess dey'll do it. Th' cops won't never stop it. You see, Judge, it's this

way, if dem cops tink dey re goin' to stop it, dey mustn't come behint us." The Judge attended a meeting got up by his young friend at a newspaper office that night, and the result was the forma-tion of an Anti-Crap-Shooters' Union by

onger a public nuisance.
In the Winter of 1902-03, Judge Lindsey fought a hard battle until he persuaded the Colorado Legislature to pass a law that no children under 14 abould be sent to jail. In the worst cases they are sent to a special "detention home." His most ardent supporters in that fight were the street boys of his acquaintance who had been the victims of the jall system. They collected evidence for him and testified before the Governor, the Legislature, the Police Board and other authorities.

Chief among these boys was one named Mickey. Later on he was threatened with arrest by a policeman, and he went to the Judge about it.

goin' ter take no more chances. If dia day.

'ere Legislatur' will keep kids out o' jali under 14, you can set me back two years."

'The lads confessed 13 burglaries and thefts, including a number of blcycles. told him that "he never told de trut' to de cop, because it wouldn't do a ting but there. I found every bicycle stolen listed git you inter trouble." But he always tells the Judge the truth. "'cause I never "The officer in charge did not care at

nurest English descent.

fact he knew nothing about these people

which candor certainly commends itself

no means of pure English descent. To a

mistakably as their patronymics would

entire settlements. This fact goe

acceptable to the successful colonists, and

naturally un

which he contended was a gross libel. He that citizens who had lost their property didn't mind that so much. What hurt in this way would insist on having it rehim was that "they's done gone an' put turned I away stood in the way of her

Judge Lindsey says his one great interest in life is working to make fine men out of the street boys who are brought before him for trial. No trouble is too great for him,

Sympathetic Relations.

Judges go home. behind. He finds eight or a dozen boys the reformatory. They had a had rec-walting for him. They may have been arrested, or they may merely have come for advice. Anyway, he usually gets each boy had cost the state about a home late for dinner; and before he is through with the meal there is a boy to lowing for their share of the cost in the unknown of the falls.

If he knows there are any boys confined at the police station he pays a surprise fore him in court. There is not a moment of the day he can really call his own. Even his noon recess, when he is sitting

"Above all things, get the truth," said the Judge, when discussing his methods of handling the boys. "Never let a boy tience, and today one of them, after 18

selves. They had never been in court, never been detected. They came to me through the influence of a boy who had been in court and whom I had befriend-

me." said he. "Didn't I help you get this law through?"

"You did, Mickey; you rendered noble service."

"Well, where does I come in? Didn't I tell you some time back dat I was 15?"

"Yes, Mickey, you did."

"Say, Jurge, forget it! I'm t'rteen from now on. I've been pinched so much when I haven't done nothin' dat I ain't happened two years ago. Every one of those four boys is a promising fellow today.

Charley is another street arab who is Curiosity directed me to the police department in intimate friend of the Judge's. He ment to see just how many of their consold him that "he never told de trut" to fessions would fally with the complaints

been able ter keep out o' trouble until 1 first to enter into my plan of getting at ran up against you." Charley is a 'sport.' He went to the recovery of any of the property. I knew Judge once in deep distress. A Denver this was hopeless. I was met with a

IGNORANT MOUNTAINEERS "DOWN SOUTH"

Origin, Manner of Living and Characteristics of an Illiterate People.

has already barely escaped serious acci- newspaper had printed a story about him rather stern and determined argument dent, and has committed one theft of a which he contended was a gross libel. He that citizens who had lost their property that citizens who had lost their property

turned. I even stood in the way of beit in de sportin' page, where all me fren's from Cheyenne to Albuquerque'll' read it in connect that I was about to compound's felony. convince the officer-a well-meaning man that these four boys and their redemption were more important to the State of Colorado than the recovery of a few

bicycles and small trinkets—even to the unfortunate citizens." In the evening, at the end of a busy ession in the Civil Court, the other dudges go home. "Ben" Lindsey stays by the police to send two youngsters to

upkeep of the jalls. "I knew the police department would laugh at me if I let these boys out of jail visit to see that they are being properly treated. He has organized a football the policeman expressed it. I patted them team, a baseball team and three boys' on the back and let them go.' Of course, clubs out of the little rascals brought be-

case of any boy.
"After spending 26 hours in personal work with those two boys on Sundays and tion of an Anti-Crap-Shooters' Union by in the Civil Court, is spent in dealing with the boys themselves. Now they are enforcing the law, and crap-shooting is no by his probation officers.

get away from you with a successful lie months, is absolutely redeemed, as steady on his soul. You have lost the battle if a workman as any average boy. Neither has returned to his evil ways. I have

He has got his system down to such a fine point that it is now quite common for street arabs to come and tell him when they have swiped things or committed other offenses. Here is a typical case, told in Judge Lindsey's own words:

As returned to his evil ways. I have hopes for the others, though I am not so sure of success.

"From the police standpoint the experiment has more than succeeded. They have neither been in fail nor pursued by the police. Before, this was constantly "Four boys came to my chambers late the case. I have had the help and symmone night to 'snitch up'—to tell on themexperiment, though they regarded it auspiciously at first."

These are only two out of hundreds of boys who have been reclaimed from what "Judge, de cop says he's goin' to shag me." said he. "Didn't I help you get this law through?"

ed.

"This boy would never 'snitch.' I would over into good citizens by "Ben" Lindsey. ask him to. Yet he learned the lessons of the Juvenile Court. He had induced of Thereof and There of the street boys. of Denver, and is more popular among them than even the local baseball champions and pugilists. His work, more than that of any other Judge in the co dren's Court.'

"The Criminal Court method of han-"The Criminal Court method of han-dling juvenile offenders used to cost our county an average of \$42 for each case handled in court," said the Judge. "It now costs about \$10. The Criminal Court convicted and sentenced nearly all for crime, and sentenced 75 per cent, to jails or reformatories. The Juvenile Court convicts no child for crime, and is compelled to send only about 5 per cent of probationers to the industrial school. It sends none to jail. In my own experience it really is wiser and less expensive save children than to punish criminals -(Copyright 1904.)

CONDITION OF THE WORKING MEN OF BELGIUM

John Mitchell Writes of a Country Where the Wage Is From 40 to 80 Cents a Day.

respondence of the Sunday Oregoncopyrighted, 1904, by John All rights reserved .- To the traveller passing through Belgium, the country appears to be one continuous industrial town. From the car window one sees nothing but cities, towns and villages, and one is rarely out of the workers generally. From this report it appears that the great majority of the laboring popularies, work from ten to cleven and a half

To the American, accustomed to magseems quite incomprehensible that the Belgium population manages to exist upon its small territory. The whole country is not much more than 100 miles each way, not much greater than a quarstate of Ohio, and in about three hours one can traverse it in any n. Upon this small area there nost 7,000,000 inhabitants, and the population increases by leaps and bounds. The birth rate is excessively high, and in spite of the fact that the country is more densely populated than any part Europe, except Saxony, there seen be more immigrants than emigrants Half of the people are Flemfsh and half are French; but both sections of in perfect harmony and accord, continu increase in population with each year. Fith such a crowded population it is natural that Releium should be a land For the most part the gather into cities and towns, and ever the farming population is so dense that there is no isolation in the life. As o pases through this country one can see how carefully the land is cultivated. The ture farms, almost two-thirds of the being less than two and one-half in extent. Such a thing as a large farm is almost unknown, not one having the area of the ordinary stead. The movement from the country to the city is very easy because of the small area and the easy communi-cation, and as many of the cultivators of the soil do not own the land which they work, the temptation to leave the field for the factory is correspondingly Women and Dogs Supplant Horses

Everywhere in Belgium one sees evidences of the utmost thrift and econom and the greatest posible utilization of every available means of increasing the income. Nothing seems to be thrown away, and the cheapest means of production seems always to be used. Thus in Belgium, dogs to a large extent take the place of horses. The milkman, the baker, the coaldealer, the seller of petroleum and the vendor of small ar-ticles, who cannot afford to feed a horse, generally goes about town with a little irawn by one of these strong dogs. One sees a dog harthe wagon either in below the truck, and sometimes these dogs draw as much as half a ton, or even a ton of coal. The dogs work willingly, dragging their heavy oads from early in the morning until late at night, and on the whole they are But the sight is not a pleasant one, for they are often taxed beyond their strength and their tongues hang out and their bodies droop from

Next to the dogs, women are the hardest worked creatures in Belgium. Often a woman is harnessed with a dog. Women, in fact, are employed almost everywhere. Until within a few years many of them worked underground in the mines; and even now there are many shousands who do the hard work of we saw a troop of women with little twig brushes cleaning the street in an energetic but highly effective manner. There were fully a score of them, and although they were paid only 30 cents a day, it is probable that the work was not only worse done, but was dearer than it would have been in an American city where higher wages would have been

Wages 40 to 80 Cents a Day. The Belgians appear to be not only

they accomplish very much less; their work extends through long hours and the pay for it is extremely small. Recently the government took a census tion of certain small provinces, the hours, and that only about one in ten whole of Beigium resembles nothing but a cluster of mines, workshops and factories around which the population of the country is scattered. tries, about a quarter earn less than 40 To the American, accustomed to mag- cents a day, another quarter earn from nificent distances and large spaces, it 40 to 60 cents, and another quarter from 60 to 80 cents. Less than one in six earn over 80 cents a day, and less than one in a hundred of the whole working population earn over \$1.30 a day. Ever we take only the adult male the wages are very low. Only about on man in ten earns over 50 cents a day and only one in twenty earns over \$1.20 The wages of women are naturally much less. Almost a quarter of all the people engaged in industrial enterprises are women, and of these women about twofifths earn less than 30 cents a day nine-tenths less than 50 cents a day To find a woman engaged in any pri vate industry carning over \$1 a day is like looking for a needle in a haystack, the census showing that only one in 10,000 earn this magnificent salary. The boys and girls under 16 are paid in proportion, one-quarter of them earn one-sixth earning as much as 30 cents High Cost of Food.

Of course, one cannot straightway com pare Belgian, or, in fact, any Continental wages with those paid in America. The conditions are different, the standard of living is different, and the cost of the aricles that the workmen consume is also different. It is not true, however, that the condition of the workmen in Belgium or, in fact, in any Continental country, is at all comparable with that of workmen in the United States. The Belgians say that they earn less but that it costs the less to live, but the truth is that they live for less because they live on less. In the mining districts the workmen live in well built little brick houses, but they have only a few rooms to a family. The clothing is much cheaper, though also much poorer in quality, and articles of which labor forms a large part of the cost are also generally cheaper. The ordinary ar-ticles, however, which the workingman must use are almost us dear, and in some cases considerably dearer, than in the United States. At Liege, for instance, a pound, but on the other hand fried eggs cost (in October) 3 cents apiece resh butter 28 to 30 cents a pound; beef 23 to 26 cents a pound; pork chops from 16 to 17 cents a pound, and lard from 9 to 18 cents, according to whether it is American or Belgian. Other prices are equally comparable with those in America. Sugar costs from 5 to 6 sents a pound, rice from 3 to 8 cents a pound, and petroleum from 12 to 14 cents a gallon. In other words, unprepared food is upon the whole as expensive, and in the case of meat, butte and eggs, more expensive, than in the United States. In many parts of Belgium the workingmen rarely obtain meat, and then only the inferior cuts, and much of the lassitude and lack of energy of the worker is perhaps accountable to the fact that he is under-nourished.

There are many articles which Belgium is able to produce much more cheaply than the United States, but in other in dustries the cost of production is greater than with us. To some extent this may be due to the low wages of may be due to the low wages of the workman and the consequent theffectiveness of his work Low wages usually mean high cost of production, because the work done by cheap laborers is usually of a low grade. To some extent, however, the low wages are due to the smaller natural resources of the country. Near Liege we visited a number of real mines and were surprised. the country. Near Liege we visited a number of coal mines and were surprised to find that the veins of coal which were exploited were so thin, so superimposed upon each other, and at such a pitch, that they could not have been worked at all in the United States. In our soft-coal mines the average output per man is from extremely thrifty but to work quite continuously. They do not work as hard the average output per man is from three to four tons per day, but in Belgium virus."

The league has much work mapped out

RUSSELS, Aug. 24.—(Special corre-) as does the American workman, and only about two-thirds of a ton. The Belis less than one-half of what the Amer ican miner receives, but despite this fact the cost of producing coal at the Belgian mines is over \$2.50 per ton, while in the United States it is not far from \$1 per

miners appear to be slightly better than those of most workmen in Belgium. The wages are quite low, averaging only about 85 cents per day, but the work is more regular than in American mines. In the mines which we saw considerable provision had been made for the comfort of the men. They went to their work in their ordinary clothes and washrooms were provided for changing garments and for cleaning whatever was necessary. Provision was also made for the health of the miner while underground, so that the mines could be kept in a sanitary condition and the men rendered immune as far as possible from disease. This is especially necessary in the Continental mines, as many of the workers suffer from the worm disease which is prevalent saw had small hospitals and men who were injured were paid from a fund to which both mineowners and miners con-

To a considerable extent the workmen

For a long time they have been organtry, and the co-operative societies have also formed a nucleus about which the Belgian workingmen have grouped themselves. The co-operative movement is very successful in Belgium, and a considerable part of the profits from co-opera tion have been devoted to the education of the working classes and to improving their conditions generally. The trade union movement itself is rapidly gaining ground. In 1902 there were over 100.000 unionists, who were represented in a congress of workingmen, and this number did not include 40 organizations which failed entirely to put in an appearance. Many of these unions are socialistic in politics, but others belong to the Catholic party, others to the liberal party, whilst still others are neutral politically. The gain in membership during the year 1902 was over 10,000, or more than 10 per cent of the membership of the year preced-

workers, the organization among them appears to be retarded. In 1902 there were only 3000 women organized and represented at the congress, the percentage of women unioniste being smaller for Be glum than for most other countries. Organization, however, has begun to take root throughout the whole working class, and a steady growth in the numbers and the leaders in this movement.

JOHN MITCHELL. In collaboration with Watter E. Weyl

What Civic Improvement Did for St. Johns Continued From Page 30.

dred tints, the roof can be green of brown, or even a shade of red. In a country where green is a natural background the man who would paint his house per green or sky blue must be color-blind and yet you will find such colors used. If it is necessary to have a fence, paint it white, and if you can't afford paint,

use whitewash. And in regard to trees, he appropriately remarked: "I want to impress upon ou the necessity of preserving every one that it is possible to. You have many beautiful natural parks, many beautiful trees scattered around your city, every one of which is worth its weight in gold. It is your duty to weave around each of them such a wall of sentiment that the upon them would do so at his peril. . In my opinion there is nothing that would justify lynch law so much as the destruc-tion or mutilation of beautiful shade The franchise that you grant to erect telegraph or telephone poles and to string wires for commercial purposes does not carry with it the right to de-stroy or mutilate shade trees. If the trees

are in the way, move the poles, Remember that what it has taken God Almighty a century to bring to state of beautiful perfection some fool with an ax, endowed with less sentiment than a tond, can destroy in 15 minutes. Man, with all the talents which Nature has bestowed upon him, has never bee save the trees. "I do not believe there is a city in the

serve the parks which Nature gave her and as a result millions have been spent correcting the errors which an exercise of ommon sense would have prevented Even here you have been too lavish with the ax, but it is hoped that your eyes have been opened to the beauties which Nature bestowed upon you, and that at least one city can boast of natural parks. The organization in Portland which I have the honor to represent take son said by tourists to be one of the mos seautiful cities in the country. This is also my opinion, after having seen many of the large cities of the East, and I talk it all the time. That is what you want to do with St. Johns. Talk it all the time: no matter what you say about it.

use the color should be white or kin- waste the Winter months, but work while sun shines. A public library is an am-bition which it will make an earnest endeavor to satisfy, and when an organiza-tion of energetic and determined women make up their minds they are going to do, there are generally good results. Another campaign they propose to conduct is for the use of paint in well-selected colors on all buildings. The town has grown with such rapidity the past ears that in the majority of cases they were painted, and they still remain that way. Civic beauty does not favor weather-besten boards, but fresh, clear paints of tones that harmonize with Na-It is also thought that the passing of a stock ordinance will be given close attention this Winter, so that by Spring rose bushes on the curb and keep the streets in good condition Keep your eye on this Civic Improve ment League. It has started out with the right spirit and has already proven in its infancy, that it is an association which does things instead of spending its

time in useless pow-wows.

MARION MAC RAE. A Phantasmagoria. William J. Lampton.

All night a sky-blue elephant Sat roosting on my bed. That is to say all of the night Between the hour of 3 A. M. And when the pink sun rose To paint its glories on the dawn. And when the morning came The huge, cerulean brute was gone-Could not circumference it, And when I looked upon the hat That I had worn the night before I wondered much if human head Could be so small That it should find a fitness there. Betimes, a friend came in To ask me to the matin meal with him. And to his sympathizing ear I whispered what a night Of blue and elephantine woe Had compassed me about. He listened kindly, rang the bell And said I needed something sur To splint my nerves. I shuddered at the thought Of splints upon the raw, And told him o'er again About my awful head
And of the sky-blue elephant.
"You say the elephant has gone?" he asked.
"It has; but, oh, my head!" I cried,
And clasped it in my trembling hands.
"Where has it gone." he asked.
"I only know that it has gone." I cried.
"I know," he laughed. "It's in your head;
That's why it buiges so
And feels so oversized."
The beliboy came
With glasses and a jug.
I looked and shuddered at the sight.
"Oh, that's all right,"
My blithe and breezy friend broke in;
"The huse amphibian within your brain
Is sore in need of something wet."
My friend was right, About my awful head

imply; so much so that Teutonic faces and names are seen and heard among them everywhere, and not infrequently far in substantiating the tradition that a large proportion of these peculiar people owe their origin to the Hessians employed In the army of King George, These hired soldiers were na

life, and dialect as well, which such habitation would naturally engender. To this day Teutonic words and idioms are current in these mountain hamlets, and many localities are distinguished by names as Dutch Fork and Dutch Gap, the word Dutch being misapplied, as often happens in this country, for the word German. The superstitions and imaginations which characterize the mind, and express themselves in the folk lore of German nations, have given a distinct coloring to the traditions and oursery legends of this simple-hearted Illiterate Nomenclature.

The wood, the air and the water are to them inhabited by beautiful and uncanny beings who reveal themselves only to those favored few who have eves to see what the ordinary man can never perceive; and whatever may be the ancestral origin of the Cracker, there is in his very ignorance and illiteracy a certain pic uresqueness which is palpably evident word as well as in idea. Many travelers who have been blessed with superior advantages to these humble folk are selves too superficial of thought and feel ing to detect this quality, and hence find nothing in their faith or speech but matter for ridicule. For instance, the com-mon expression among these people of "chort sweet'nin" for sugar, and "long sweet'nin' " for molasses, is an exhaust-less source of amusement to a class who evidently have not the wit to perceive its metaphorical significance. Surely there is in this illiterate nomenclature an element of picturesqueness which ought to appeal

to the dullest imagination.

The very name Cracker is also remotely traceable to a love of the picturesque among these mountaineers; for the man who drives his team of oxen over the difficult mountain ways guides his "beastises" or "critters," as he calls them, by the continuous crack of his whip, wielding it with such wonderful and unfailing dexterity as to play a tune which echoes through the mountains, and fills the air with its rhythm and resonance. The stolid exen move in time to this rustic must cherishes his beast with an affection sec only to that which he feels for his

High Ideals in Morality.

In his domestic life the Cracker is amenable to all the laws and traditions which govern citizens of the highest civllization, and the women especially whether from the example of the clasin the South, known to them as the "restercrats." or from their own innate love

HAT the Crackers are a people sul and withal exhibit a propriety and de- when and where he pleases the right to generis no one who knows them will corum in their relations with the opposite deny. Their faults are patent and decided; likewise their virtues, says Zitalla Cocke in the Boston Transcript. Not a Cocke in the Boston Transcript. Not soon loses caste among her neighbors; many months ago an intelligent and re- and Cracker men, like all others, are spected clergyman stood in the presence wont to prize her who is the most difficult of a missionary society and pronounced to win. Their social games and dances, in disqualified terms his opinion of these neverscourse. There is a chivalry among mountaineers. He characterized them as these men as exalted in its nature and degraded beyond the condition of the lowdegraded beyond the condition of the low-est foreigners who come to our shores, and to this pronouncement added the courtliness in its expression. In Cracker statement that they were also of the pariance the escort "hangs his girl" when she accepts his proffered arm, but his gal-His utterances provoked an immediate lantry and appreciation are as unques-

contradiction from a person who knew carpet who is vastly his better in social people and their belongings, and Many of their phrases have the flavor when afterward he was interrogated concerning his authority for such wholesale and quality of English which is long obso denunciation, he calmly replied that in lete, and some of their songs in high favor on festal occasions smack strangely of the Elizabethan age. A suitor who is rejected is said to have "got the sack," and the to our admiration. Who, then, are the Crackers? In the first place, they are by lection of partners for a dance or game is often proceeded by the chorus, in

which both sexes join: large degree the Celtic element is con-spicuous among them. Scotch-Irish, with There's a flower in the garden for you, young an occasional admixture of Weish, and another strain prevails widely and

There's a flower in the garden for you; Come and pluck it while you can, There's a flower in the garden for you."

Nor are these untutored and unsophisticated minds wanting in seriousness of onviction, either in religion or politics. Many of them, in the war between the States, fought on the Union side, and as many on the Confederate; and there are no more inveterate and uncompromising 'minded," as they say, to accept any speedily retired to the mountain fastourse of action. Previous to the war arge proportion were old line Whigs, and it is a notable fact that after the extinc tion of the Whig party the Crackers in the mountainous region of Alabama obstinately refused to vote at all until a instructed them concerning the new issues, when they voted to a man accord istent are they in what they call their religious "persuasion.

Religious Convictions.

In a recent mission held by the Episcopal Church in this region, a man applied to the bishop for baptism, and insisted on being immersed. "Certainly, replied the bishop, "the prayer book plain y says immersion, aspersion or effusion," and as early as practicable the bishop and candidate went to a stream nearby, a multitude awaited them. The tismal service was read and explained to the company, and the bishop proceeded to administer the rite, and in the name of the trinity to submerge the candidate

scaped from the bishop's hands and was walking toward the bank of the stream when the bishop grabbed him and sublected him to a second immersion where baptism." replied the bishop, as he put the refractory convert under the water for the third time, nor did the beautiful and apostolic ceremonial of baptism by notwithstanding the obstinacy of the can

That the Cracker woman has also the urage of her convictions is evident from the incident of a marriage ceremony performed by the same bishop. On this occasion the young woman was a convert to the church, while the gawky young bride groom was ignorant of the requirements of response, and when the bishop put the uestion, "Wilt thou have this woman to nute, in fear and trembling. Five tin ng an answer, when the bride, seizing the terrified groom by the collar, gave him a robust shaking as she uttered the words tones not to be misunderstood, "I will. Upon another occasion it was the bride-groom who was master of the situation and in response to the same question said with imperturbable coolness; "Why, bishop, that's what I'm here for!"

The "Moonshiner,"

The "moonshiner" among these people although under the ban of the law, es eems his logic unanswerable when he argues that the corn, apples and peaches from which the contraband article is disof integrity, are generally strictly moral tilled are his own, and as he can sell them

sell his whisky is equally unimpeachable; nor does he hide behind logs or trees to shoot officers when the chances are equal. Only when overwhelming numbers render personal contest impossible does he resort to such protection. He is willing, as he declares, "to come out and fight like a man if he has a living chance.

A traveler passing through the moun-ainous or hill country of Alabama would, at different stations or points where the reat fron horse halts for provender Cracker woman enter the car, clad in a omespun dress and bonnet of similar ma terial, unless successful ambition had pro-vided a headgear of more pretentious quality. Her home, in all probability, lies petuous neighing of the iron steed, and she has trudged miles with her burden of nuts or fruit, eager to turn an honest penny by tempting the appetite of the

eauty. Milkmaids have ceased to be divine since the gods deserted Olympus. And yet one may sometimes see, descending a mountain path, a bright-eved lass as lithe of limb and fleet of foot as Diana herself. But hard work and scanty living write their sad history on faces as spector of persons. The Cracker man, although not an Apollo, is as strong and hardy as the trees among which he makes his home. He is also a vendor of small wares, as chickens, eggs and berries and apples, which in size and flavor surpass my apples of the world, together with ome-knit hostery and counterpanes his home he is nothing if not hospitable, rejecting proffer of payment for a meal with an indignation which betrays a sense

Willie Winkle. William Miller.

f injury.

Wee Willie Winkle rins through the town, Up stairs and doon stairs, in his nich-gown, Tirlin' at the window, cryin' at the lock, "Are the weans in their bed?-for it's now

Hey, Willie Winkle! are ye comin' ben? The cat's singin' gay thrums to the sleepin' The doug's speidered on the floor, and disna gie a cheep; But hero's a waukrife laddle, that winna

fa asleep. Ony thing but sleep, ye rogue:-glowin'rin' like the moon. Rattlin' in an airn jug wi an airn spoon,

Rumblin', tumblin' roun' about, crawin' like a cock. Skirlin' like a kenna-what-wauknin' sleep fn' folk!

Hey, Willie Winkle! the wean's in a creel! Waumblin' aff a bodie's knee like a vera eel, Ruggin' at the cut's lug, and ravelin' a' her thrums: Hey Willio Winkie!-See, there he comes!

Wearle is the mither that has a storie wean, A wee stumple stoussie, that canna rin his

That has a battle sye wi' sleep, before he'll close an ee; But a kiss frae aff his rosy lips gles strength

A Pretty Good World.

t's a pretty good sort of a world, old man, A pretty good world, I say, n spite of what people are growling about, And kicking against every day,

Away in the skies. Beaming down upon you. it's a pretty good sort of a world, old man, A pretty good world, I say.

It's a pretty good kind of a world, old man, A pretty good world, I say, in spite of the tears and in spite of the fears

That hurass us on the way, There's glory enough In the green of the hills, The blossoms that bloom Near the moss-covered rills.

A pretty bright world, I say, It's a pretty good sort of a world, old man,

A pretty good world, I say. And better and better it grows if we speed Love's message along the way; And brighter and brighter

It's a pretty good sort of a world, old man,

A pretty good world, I sav.