## A BLESSED MORTGAGE

She had secured a new cook at ply and Tom sprang up and obstructed her way. and not told the new girl, but it was it necessary to mention that the bands, fered sum was very low indeed.

mprove. Almira, but you know so able to pay you more at the start." Munroe had, smiling sweetly on rs, who did not know that very litfancy cooking was ever done in that shold. And so Almira took up her den, and for the first time in nineyears of her life began to earn

Pollers had always been farmers owned their own place, but Al- useless money?" 's father had somehow managed behind and a mortgage had been nel upon the farm. The man who ne to pass that it was hard to pay the interest. This particular year few weeks until the interest was there were ten in all-made up pathizing ear. mind to go out "to service." Her nination created a great commoen had ever worked out, and the at intervals that Almira was obto stay at home most of the time farm. sist her mother, and her educawas limited.

not without some inward strugshe had decided that the only way could help along would be by exing her chief gift, cooking. Mrs. to cancel the mortgage? e's advertisement in the Weekazette had caught her eye, and was very happy when she secured mation. The wages were not out she could save all the money r father, and there would be one sadly. to feed at home. That counted

Munro's family consisted of herand a brother. Mr. Monroe had several years before and his widas quite wealthy. Her home, sitin an aristocratic suburb of the although small, was handsome liked to call herself economicwe cannot deny she was in things. She dressed elegantly marked price. At the grocerics thanks, he hurried on. the same way, and wee to the t who wasted a scrap of anyor presumed to eat more than tress thought necessary. After licacies she considered unnecesit the slightest compunction. other Tom, who paid a bandie, once saw this performance

would be casting pearls before she remarked to his intense as she replaced a dish of lemin the closet and substituted a of molasses.

monstrated with her, but to no

Birney was one of those big d convivial fellows who, left ore money than they needed sded in getting rid of it in differnd unprofitable ways. He was ally bad, but he drank a good d never had done anything usehis life. He had been put in ther's office, but he was extreme ak in his arithmetic, and sucin mixing up the figures so that it took an expert to un them. After that his father of tried to make a business man but said that as Tom had been it for a gentleman he should be

this was exactly what poor Tom of cut out to be that is, if we to the accepted meaning of the a man of refined manners. He horses and enjoyed the society men: liked better to hear a German girl sing funny songs garden than to bear Patti at rand. If he ever yielded to his Importunities to accompany a dancing party he was sure to n his partner's toes, to tear their by his awkwardness, and drink ich champagne at supper. In m, although kind-hearted and was very ill at ease and out But I'll try again, if only to show e at society, and at last, after you-" He stopped abruptly and rung t himself very conspicuous at a her hand and rushed out of the room. ork dance, his sister yowed she ft him to eat his late breakfast

was feeling very badly and in-In a severe case of "katzen-" the result of too frequent visthe punch bowl, but looked up Almira came in with his breakad noticed that she was looking

bing, Mr. Tom," replied Almira,

k toward the door quietly.

Munroe was in esctasies of de- ble of any kind. Almira made no re-

"Say, you're working too hard, and one that she paid her not half Sister Eleanor pays you beastly small she had been compelled to pay wages, I'll be bound. Maybe it's a sook who had just left her. But new gown or a bonner you're gr'er-Almira Pollers, a fresh, pleasant- ing after-eh, Almira? Here, take this ed young country girl, had ap- and get it." And before Elmira could a for the place and had accepted speak the impulsive Tom had plunged Monroe's offer of \$2 a week to his hands into his pockets, brought out with, her new mistress did not a lot of coin and pushed it into ner

"How dare you?" she demanded, so of course, you shall have more as choked up she could scarcely articulate. "Have I ever given you any about fancy cooking I scarcely reason, Mr. Tom, to treat me with such disrespect?"

"Disrespect?" repeated Tom, very red and astonished. "Do you think I meant any disrespect to you, Almira? I swear I respect you more than any other woman I know; I only thought you were pining for some of the pretty things most girls like, and why shouldn't I do some good with my

Almira saw that he was honest in his speech and was appeased, but when he asked anxiously, "If it isn't the mortgage was very well satis- a gown or hat, what in heaven's name to receive a good interest every is it?" she burst into tears, and forand renew Peter Pollers' note, but getting that she was Mrs. Munroe's servant-girl and that Mr. Tom was her brother and a rich man, forgetting crops had mostly failed. It lacked all save the trouble that was wearing on her and making her pale and thin, when Almira, the eldest of the she poured out her woes into his sym-

She fold him about the mortgage their farm, how it had been renewed in the family. None of the Pollers | from year to year when the interest was paid. They had grown so accuswas very distasteful, but Almira tomed to that they had never thought nally carried the day. Had her of losing the place until Mr. Pollers, on tion been thorough enough she taking the interest so hardly carned Id gladly have taught school, but and increased by Almira's savings, had it led her indirectly to her Tom. -To. refinery. The "sweeteners" form an little Pollers had appeared at such been informed that his creditors needed the money and must have it on the

> The blow had fallen like a clap of thunder from a clear sky. The thought of leaving the old homestead was insupportable, and yet where could Peter Pollers expect to raise the money

Almira told her story, punctuated by sobs, and Tom listened attentively. When she had finished, he asked, "Is It a large sum, Almira?"

"Oh, yes, Mr. Tom, \$2,000!" she said.

"Hum!" said Tom, pulling his mustache and looking very hard out of some one to pay the man and take up the mortgage?

"Suppose-suppose-I take it up. Almira?" ventured Tom, still looking out ell appointed, and she had sum- again. Astonishment and rapture ap-

"Bosh!" said Tom, brusquely. "It's never was a closer woman in cuse me of being good, Almira; I'm in- ship. spects than she. The shop peo- corrigibly bad, I am. But" (hearing aded to see her come in, for al- footsteps approaching), "run on. I'll it is self-evident that the most powerful she always purchased the best, drive out and see your father to-day variably haggled at the price and get the mortgage." And without she got the goods for less than giving her a moment to express her

Not long after this Almira noticed that Tom was drinking steadily. He took what meals he are at home alone. Mrs. Munroe declaring she would not t table Mrs. Munroe removed and could not lend him her countenance The girl, as she waited on him, felt a for a servant's coarse appetite great deal of pity for this man, who seemed so alone and was wasting health and fortune in dissipation, and sum for the privelege of sharing at last one morning when he was look ing unusually used up and his hands were trembling so that he could hardly hold his cup she again forgot the difference in their stations and spoke out "Mr. Tom," she said, "I'm sorry for

"What! Sorry for me? What do you mean, Almira? I'm having a jolly good time. A short life and a merry onethat's my motto.

Almira shook her head and looked at him stendily. "Do you never think how much good you might do instead of throwing yourself into little better than

"Humph! That's pretty strong lan guage. I must say," he growled.

"But It's true, Mr. Tom, if you keep on you'll sink lower and lower-oh, it's dreadful to think of it." Almira shuddered as she picked up her tray and left the table. "Hold there," sald Tom, "you don'

understand it, Almira. It's got such i hold on me. How can I shake it off? I've got no one else to help me if I try," and, weakened and unnerved as he was, the tears started to his eyes. "Tell me what to do."

"You can get down and pray to God to help you," said Almira, solemnly, "and you can go to the cure. They say it's wonderful what they can do. a man, Mr. Tom, and try it," she urged. Tom sat irresolute for a moment, then rose and grasped her hand. "I will try," he said, "and if I come out ahead it will all be owing to you. But it will be hard, Almira. I know, for I tried once, only I couldn't stick it out.

if Mrs. Munroe had known that her never ask him to go with her brother set such value on Almira Pol-She told him this very emphat- lens' good opinion she would have been the morning after the ball, 23 horrified. She reported that brother Tom had gone to a sanitarium because she had lectured him into it, and was quite satisfied as the weeks lengthened into months and Tom still remained

> In truth he was having a terrible fight with the demon who had so nearly claimed him as his own. But at last he "came out ahead," as he himself ex-

plained it. When he returned home he walked straight through all the handsome rooms down to the kitchen, where Alth it, Almira," continued Tom, on his face even before he spoke, told to help her if she was in trou-

"Oh, I'm so glad," she faltered, put MANUFACTURE OF KEROSENE. ting her toll-worn hand into the one he

held out. "I knew you could do it." "You had faith in me, did you, Almira?" he asked, still holding her hand and looking curiously at her beaming face. Almira nodded assent.

"Well, I'm cured now-wouldn't touch gallons of the very finest flowing around me. But will it last? I can't tell, and I've got to have somebody to on again. I've got to have a wife who will love and believe in me and keep me from falling. You're the only one the only one I want for a wife. Say yes, Almira.

"Ob, Mr. Tom," she cried, trying to terial. draw her hand away, "you can't mean t-why-I'm-only your sister's cook." case. You're the noblest girl I know, and I want you and only you. Can't you try to love me enough to marry me, Almira? I'll try to be a good husband, I swear."

"How can I help loving you," mur-

Birney." And in spite of Almira's rean hour they were married.

Mrs. Munroe, when she was notified

never could make a gentleman of him. capable and may be able to keep him straight."

The usual order of things was reversed when Mrs. Tom Birney on her wedding day made her father a present, and it was nothing less than the morigage on his farm. And Almira said, ders," which perform the same wer as they all drew around the fireplace as the sweetening stills, but is a newand watched it turn to ashes, that it invention, and is patented by an outwas a blessed mortgage after all, for sider, who allows only forty in each ledo Blade.

## ALMOST CERTAIN DEATH.

The Gunner in the Tower Will Be in Great Danger.

the steel fleets of two first-class powers, and passed off into the "steam stills" to which nautical authorities have been for the next process. looking forward ever since modern battleships became the mighty engines of the same as in the two previous procproblematical forces that they are, the esses, with the addition of a washing military must and fighting top will play by steam from perforated pipes passa deadly part and be the station of dan- ing through it. It is "vapored" off as ger and herolsm.

the mast of yards and sails, has van- The kerosene oil now passes into the the window. "Couldn't your father get | ished from the modern ship of war, agitator for the final process. The agi-The Newark is the only modern ship in tator is a funnel-shaped tank in which the United States navy which has sall- the oil is treated with acid, and beaten carrying masts. The place of the mast and blown about by a machine called that was erected for sail-carrying pur- a blower, and washed by torrents of of the window and getting very red poses is taken on the modern warship water until it roars like the lake in a by a steel tower, which rises from the storm. Every particle of foreign matcome to keep it up well. Mrs. peared on the girl's face at his words. deck to support one or maybe three or ter is thus expelled. It is then pumped "Do you mean it, Mr. Tom? Oh, you four circular galleries, where rapid fire off into the storage tanks for shipping. or machine guns are placed, which, in time of action, pour their hall of bullets gave largely to her church, but simply a good investment. Don't ac- at the decks and ports of the hostile

The object is to kill the gunners, for gun is powerless if its crew is dead. Take the twenty rapid-fire guns distributed along the superstructure of the Indiana. From a fighting top such a storm of lead could be driven upon these great guns as would make it imsossible for men to work them. Therefore it will be one of the first duties of a warship to shoot away with its heavy guns the military mast of its adver-

As one well-directed shot will send the mast tumbling, it is not probable that any ship will come out of an engagement with its military mast standing. The shooting away of the mast will, of course, mean the death of every man in the fighting tops. Men sent there will know as they climb the dark adder to their stations that they go to Amost certain death, and will have only one duty before them, to kill as many of the enemy as they can before the tash comes

Men who in turrets and sponsons selow are handling the great guns have very hope of life and victory before them, but the men in the tops go to their duty with no such hopes and expectations. To man the fighting tops in action will be a kind of martyrdom

specially hard to endure. To perform deeds of valor in the face of contending armies or to suffer with fortitude in the gaze of admiring thousands is one thing; to climb up calmly nside a steel post and work away at such an unpoetical mechanical device as a rapid-fire or machine gun until such ime as it may please the enemy to blow me into "kingdom come" is quite an-

Yet the modern man-of-warsman is nilltary mast, and would obey an order man a gun in the fighting top as read ly as he would the bugie call which sumnons him to his meals.-New York

Soldiers Have a Right to Vote.

In some of the European countries he line between the soldier and the citizen is very sharply drawn, the former not being allowed any of the rights or privileges of citizenship. In our own land of freedom a citizen is none the less so from the fact that he is serving his country in the army. Any soldier, on complying with the registration laws and in other ways fulfilling legal requirements, has the same right to vote as though he were following the business by which he made his living pefore he enlisted.

"Do you have a telephone in your iouse?" "No; I sometimes have to work at the office at night, and if I had a phone at home my wife would call me up every thirty minutes to see if I was there."-Chleago Record.

On board steamship: Pitkin-Brace up. old boy. Seasickness can be thrown off if you only think so. Simpson-Do you -see-any one throwing it off-faster than-I am?-Detroit Free Press.

of Lighter votor. How many housekeepers, as they fill their lamps with kerosene oil or the entertainment has lasted long their summer stoves with gasoline, have any idea how these olls are made? a drop of it if there were gallons and And yet a few miles from Chicago, at Whiting, Ind., is the largest oil refinery

in the world. Everybody knows that in its crude help me if that dreaded thirst comes state the oil comes out of the earth, but The meats, consisting for the most it would be an utterly useless discovery were it not for brains and money used in the refining of the raw material. By who had faith in me, Almira, and you're use of the brains and money, however, not only the clear oil, but several other carved wooden spoon, with deep, boatproducts are drawn from the crude ma-

Naphtha, benzine, gasoline and kero-"That has nothing to do with the illuminating oil, belong to the same host placing him whom he desires most tion as the kerosene. This, of course, mured Almira. "I've nearly worshiped the lighter oils have been distilled out, then of food progresses rapidly, with you since you lifted that heavy load wax is made so closely resembling the from my poor father's shoulders, and product of the bee as to deceive even an usual in Persia to linger over meals, if you think I am good enough for expert and that it is used in chewing or to prolong them to talk, which is betgum factories, candle factories, laun-"Put on your bonnet right away and dries and even in candy factories, one we'll find a license and a parson. Mrs. is often met with a polite look of doubt Munroe might say some things-un- or an incredulous shrug of the shoulpleasant things-to Almira Pollers that ders. Yet it is so. It is possible to go she would not dare to say to Mrs. Tom | yet further, and say that hundreds of homes in Whiting and in Chicago have monstrances she was marched off, and been made comfortable this winter by so expeditious was Tom that inside of the refuse that adheres to the bottom wax has been pressed out. This refuse of the happy event, gave full sway to makes a good coke, is easily lighted, her rage in the privacy of her own and is warmer, cleaner and cheaper room. When kind friends offered con- than coal. Hundreds of tons are redolence she sighed and wiped a few moved from the stills daily before they imaginary tears with her handkerchief, are "charged" again, and hundreds of "Brother Tom was always the black those who use this fuel do not know sheep of the family," she said. "We that it was once crude oil, dug in the Ohio fields and piped on to Whiting. suppose we should be thankful he's The carbon used in electric lights is also done no worse. The girl is really quite made from this coke. Nothing is wasted.

As the most common the kerosene oil is perhaps the most interesting of the products. After leaving the crude still it appears again in the "sweetening stills," or in the "compound cylin-Important factor in the refining of Ohio oil. Owing to the "compound" before mentioned and the continuous friction of the limmense wire brushes, which keep the oil in a mad whirl, it loses much of its bad odor. It is again va-In that coming naval battle between pored off, cooled in the condenser boxes

In the steam stills it is treated just before, and now one would suppose As everybody knows, the old mast, that it was ready for use. Not quite. -Chicago Tribune

> Heading Off the Train Robber. The latest patent invention for the circum vention of the train robber has a distinctly vicious look. It is taken for granted that the train robbers will climb up over the cross-head guides, steam chest, and running board, so as to attack the cab of the locomotive on the front side. As they reach the running-board the engineer loosens a catch; the running-boards, hung on hinges at their outer sides, drop to a vertical position, and the enterprising robber is wedged, in great discomfort, betwen the boards and the boller Spikes are fixed in the edge of the running board, which prevent him from extricating himself, and the more he tries to get away the more tightly he becomes jammed. At the same time that the engineer springs the catches of the running-boards steel shutters drop automatically about the windows of the cab, and also at its rear, so that the engineer and fireman are fully protected from any bullets incident to the operations of such of the robbers as are not cared for by the running-boards

Steam pipes having sultable discharging nozzles are situated by the intruders. These pipes are conected to the engine boiler, and their contents of hot water and steam can be directed with great effectiveness against the enemy. Similar devices are provided upon both the tender and the express car.

The Bicycle in the Future Has anybody, we wonder, thoroughly realized the change that will come over the appearance of our cities when everybody uses a bicycle, and almost all traction is mechanical? There will be a delicious silence, to begin with. No lumbering vans, no banging omnibuses, no clattering of iron hoofs upon asphalt. Every wheel will be of India rubber and the horse will only be used for nthusiastic over the advantages of the pleasure. Then the dust sweeper and the scavenger boy will be abolished. No longer will tons of manure be deposited upon London streets every day. And locomotion will be enormously cheapened. When neither horse nor harness, neither corn nor vet's bill, is required, a ride in a cab will cost per- erb, ma'am; "She thet giveth to the haps threepence, and a ton can be car- poor an' unfortunit lendeth to the ried from farm to market for a shilling Lord. or two. The city merchant and his clerk can alike live miles out of town, proverbs, I see. steering themselves home at night in their motor cars. The suburbs of London will extend a dozen miles all round. The changes that will ensue are so many and so great as to be unimaginable yet. A revolution is coming-may it be soon!-London Chronicle.

> A Story and Its Moral. Just as a Mount Sterling family had sat down to dinner while the head of the family was saying grace a hungry tramp stole the pan of biscuit out of the

Moral: You should watch as well as pray .-- Winchester (Ky.) Democrat.

In a Modern Light. Bereaved Husband-Ah, yes; she was a ray of light in my darkened life. she is an X-ray.-Washington Times. than spots on a man's pants.

PERSIAN DINNER PARTY.

Brushed Into a Whirl, the Oil Secomes Guests Squat on the Floor and Eat in a Hurry.

enough, he gives the signal for supper. which is served either in the same or in another room. A cloth is laid on the floor, around which are arranged the long, flat cakes of "pibble bread" which do double duty as food and plates. part of "Pilaws" and "chilaws" of different sorts, are placed in the center. together with bowls of sherbet, each of which is supplied with a delicately shaped bowl, whereof the sides slope down to form a sort of keel at the bottom. The guests squat down on their sene, the last often called coal oil or knees and heels round the cloth, the family. The three first named being to honor on his right side at the upper lighter oils, do not require nearly so end of the room it, e., epposite the much handling to bring them to perfect door). At the lower end the musicians and minstrels take their places, and is easy to believe, but when it is said all, without further delay, commence that from the same crude oil, after all an attack on the viands. The consumpbut little conversation, for it is not ter conducted while the mouth is not otherwise employed. If the host wishes to pay special honor to the guest, he picks out and places in his mouth some particularly delicate morsel. In about a quarter of an hour from the commencement of the banquet most of the guests have finished and washed their hands by pouring water and sides of the "stills" after even the over them from a metal ewer into a plate of the same material brought round by the servants for that purpose. They then rinse out their mouths, roll down their sleeves again, partake of a final pipe, and unless they mean to for the night, depart homeward, either on foot or on horseback, preceded by a servant bearing a lantern. Pittsburg Bulletin.

Uses of Ice Water.

In bealth no one ought to drink ice water, for it has occasioned fatal inflammation of the stomach and bowels, and sometimes sudden death. The temptation to drink it is very great in the summer. To use it at all with safety the person should take but a single swallow at the time, take the glass from the lips for half a minute, and then another swallow, and so on. It win be found that in this way it becomes disagreeable after a few mouth-

On the other hand, ice itself may be taken as freely as possible, not only these New York roof gardens. without injury, but with the most striking advantage in dangerous forms of of the loveliest "peaches" in the vaudedisease. If broken in sizes of a pea or ville bean and swallowed as freely as prac- American. ticable, without much chewing or crunching between the teeth, it will often be efficient in checking various for a Chicago wholesale house. What kinds of diarchea, and has cured vio- would you do if you were in my shoes? lent cases of Asiatic cholera. A kind of cushion of powdered ice kept to the entire scalp has allayed violent inflammation of the brain, and arrested fearful convulsions induced by too much blood there. In croup, water as cold as ice can make it, applied to the throat, neck and chest with a sponge or cloth, very often affords an almost miraculous relief, and if this be followed by drink ing copiously of the same ice-cold elethe wetted parts wiped dry, and in the social swim when he's at home? the child wrapped up well in the bed Eva-Yes, he's instructor in a natatoclothes, it falls into a delightful and rium there.—Derroit Free Press. life-giving slumber. New York Ledger.

Beaconsfield's Silence "the dullest (the word, writes the tell which, Canon in a subsequent letter, was rather the 'most silent') guest he ever had in his house; he hardly ever spoke." Undoubtedly Lord Beaconsfield could be most agreeable when in the humor, York Weekly. but be needed apparently the stimulus of congenial companionship, or of some end which was worth the effort. By all accounts, he was given to fits of tacfturnity, and although he was known in his youth as a voluble and persistent talker, it was impossible to watch his sphinxlike immobility in the House of Commons, sitting with folded arms and seldom speaking, without feeling that silent meditation was more natural to him than speech and the turmoil of de bate. And that seems to have been his own opinion. One of those who heard Lord Bath's remark on the silence of his distinguished guest was Mr. Richard Doyle ("Dicky Doyle"). "I believe," be said, "that talking was always more or less of an effort for Disraell; and, indeed, he once told me as much. 'Circumstances,' he said, 'have forced me to talk a great deal, but nature intended me to be a silent man." -- Contemporary Review.

Here Is the Scorcher.

Here is the definition of a scorcher from Capt. McNamara of the park police force of Brooklyn, which is the scorcher's home: "The scorcher," said he, "Is never older than 25, and seldom younger than 18. We have him under arrest about six times a week. He is the straight-haired, thin-jawed, wildeyed idiot, with his back humped like a mad tomcat's tall, who tears down the path with no regard for the safety of others. He is nearly always long in to legs and thin. Somehow or other, your fat man is not much on scorching When he is very young we hope he will outlive the habit, but when he is 25 we have no plty for him."

She Had flim There, Petie Pushalong -You know the pro-

Mrs. Sharpley-You are a lover of

Pette-Yes, ma'am. I wuz brought up Mrs. Sharpley-Then, perhaps, you

are familiar with the old saw? Petie-What old saw, ma'am? Mrs. Sharpley-The one behind the wood-house door.

A Scientist. Duffer (proudly)-Miranda, I believe there is a big future for our Tommy. He must learn things in a practical way, as

But he was gone.-Cleveland Plain-

Mrs. D.-Lor', John! I understand. Look at the darling this minute in the coal-acuttle, studying minerealogy!-

Sympathetic Friend-And now, size; We contend that nothing looks worse

LET US ALL LAUGH.

When the Persian host thinks that JOKES FROM THE PENS OF VARIOUS HUMORISTS.

> Pleasant Incidents Occurring the World Over Sayings that Are Cheerful to Old or Young - Funny Selections that You Will Enjoy.

Short Supply. Clergyman (about to baptize an infant)-Name the child. Father-Charles Emilius Otto Philip

Ferdinand Lehmann. Clergyman (aside to apparitor)-Please fetch me a little more water. Scherz und Ernst.

Luck. Mrs. Hilby-Goodness! What luck

that Willow woman has! Old Hilby-What's happened now? Why, she's actually got the St. VI tus dance."

'And you call that luck?" "Certainly. Just think how it must make her diamonds sparkle."-Odds nd Ends.

Quite Impossible. Elder Sister-I hope I made myself quite plain to Lord Soften when I re-

fused him last week. Younger Ditto (who glories in her elder sister's beauty)-You would never be able to do that, old girl.-Fun.

She Didn't Like Dogs.

Mr. White Wash-De dog woan hurt yo'. Doan yo' see his tall or waggin' Miss Irene-But dat's not de end I'se

Hewson-Say, what do they raise in

Newson-Peaches, my dear boy; some business.-Philadelphia North Good Advice.

"Say, I've had an offer to go to work After a careful inspection-"I think I would black 'em."-Rockford Republic A Wonder.

Customer-Say, Shears, that last suit you made me was a nine days' wonder. Shears-How's that?

Customer-Well, I don't care to wear It any longer.-Washington Times.

Ella-I hear that Mr. De Llon is right

Polite doctor (cautiously)-Your hus-In 1875 Lord Beaconsfield paid his band is suffering from overwork or ex- her. Boo-hoo-hoo.

first and only visit to Longiest, and cessive indulgence in alcoholic stimu Lord Bath said afterward that he was lants-it is (ahem) a little difficult to Auxious wife-Oh, it's overwork. Why, he can't even go to the theater

> without rushing out half a dozen times to see his business partners. New Lady-Is it true that you have fallen in love with the princess? Lieutenant-Quite right. I just want



Pretty Widow (to pressing suitor) Well, Harry, I suppose I must share your troubles.

Harry-But, dear, I have no troubles. we're married.

At the Asylum. Physician-You say that lunatic is a

married man. How do you know? Assistant-He was found roaming about in a dry-goods store, mumbling: Yard of crepon, spool of silk, bathing

suit."-Adams Freeman. Boarding House Deterioration. Star Boarder-Why is a great singer

like an "old salt?" Cheerful Idiot-Because she makes her money on the high C's .- Detroit



"Three balls."

Very Particular.

Butcher-Have you any orders this morning, madam?

Young Wife (who is keeping house)-Yes, that calf's liver you brought me last week was very fine. I want another but be sure and get it from the same calf, as my husband is very particular.-Texas Sifter.

A Fountain.

"Here is a fountain pen, sir," said the dealer, "that we guarantee will never dry up." "What do you call it?"

"The Jim Corbett, sir."-Columbia Register. Light Badinage, "Why," said the match, with some

warmth, "do you make light of me?" "Because," answered the man, "I like to see you flare up,"-Answers.

Kind of Him. Editor (to aspiring writer)-You hould write so that the most ignorant can understand what you mean. Aspirant-Well, what part of my paragraph don't you understand, sir?-Tit-

Just t'e Fame. "There's the devil to pay at my

"Better go to church then." "Well, there's the preacher to pay."-Atlanta Constitution.

The Devil's Wife. "Do you think the devil is married?" "I guess so."

"Whom would be be likely to mar-"Some flame of his, I suppose."-Ex-

change.



Mother-Why, what's the matter, Johnnie-Sister won't stan' agin de

board an' let me frow knives aroun' Taken to Poker. "It is astonishing how many school

children have taken to card-playing. "What do you mean?" "Why, I passed a group in front of a schoolhouse yesterday, and nearly every one said I passed." -Cleveland

Plaindealer. "Mr. Green, there seems to be some thing serious the matter with the horse I bought of you yesterday. He coughs and wheezes distressingly and

think perhaps he is wind-broken. What would you advise me to do?" Jay Green (promptly)-Sell him as quickly as you can; jes' like I did.—Tid-

Lakeside-What has become of that fresh office kid of yours?

Wahash-Oh, he was too fly entirely Why, do you know, he worked me regu larly every three days for more than a month by getting off to go to ball games on the plea that he wanted to go to his mother's wedding?-Cincinnati En-

He Was Cruzy. Attorney-What was there about the deceased that led you to believe he was of unsound mind? Witness-Well, for one thing, he abhorred bleyeles.-Philadelphia North

We wish we could be a pretty girl P. W.-Oh, but you will have-when dressed in white and blue, and find a dollar on the streets.

DRIFTING.



While resting on your oars; To hear your sweetheart's dreamy song

Each ripple forms a melody. Each splash a gladsome note, Which seems to intermingle

But when you drift upon the sand, Farewell to songs of love; You hear your sweetheart's stern com-mand:

"Now, dear, get out and shove."