BY JES' LAUGHIN'.

M's curious what a sight o' good a little thing will do;

ye kin stop the fiercest storm when it begins ter brew,

An' take the sting from what commenced to rankle when 'twas spoke, By keepin' still an' treatin' it as if it

wuz a joke. Ye'll find that ye kin fill a place with

smiles instead o' tears, An' keep the sunshine gleamin' through the shadows of the years By jes' laughin'.

Folks sometimes fail to note the possi

bilities that lie In the way yer mouth is curvin' an' the twinkle in yer eye;

It ain't so much what's said that burts ez what ye think lies hid;

It ain't so much the doin' ez the way s thing is did.

An' many a home's kep' happy an' contented, day by day,
An' like as not a kingdom hez been res-

cued from decay

By jes' laughin'. -Selected.

F HE morning sun lay warm and clear after the rain of the night before, and young Atherley, as his horse loped easily along the wide range, sang aloud for very joy of light heartedness. Out here, away from cities and crowds, how good life

The train was in, and Atherley hurried around the corner, then halted suddenly, dazzled by the vision which confronted him. On the lower steps of a car near the middle of the train stood a girl, her fair hair blowing in the wind, her hands full of pink roses, her eyes gazing straight into his. For a second neither moved. Then, as a voice from within called "Marlon," the girl, with a quick flush, turned up the steps, and Atherley, stricken with the consciousness of his dusty "chaps," huge spurs and sombrero, slipped back. He had quite forgotten his letter. The engine gave a preliminary snort, the conductor yelled "All aboard?" but Atherley still stood motionless, his eyes fixed on the car wherein she had disappeared. As the slow length of train began to move the girl slipped back to the platform for a moment, and on the ground, almost at Atherley's feet, fell a pink rose. To spring forward, seize the flower, then swing aboard the last car as it passed was to Atherley but the work of another moment. Before he had fairly realized it he was on the train and speeding eastward as fast as steam could carry him.

Practical thought forced a way, and his first act was to take account of

"Jim will take the horse back," he reasoned. "It's all right, Luckily, 1 have just about enough for my ticket to New York." Somehow he had decided that she lived in New York, "And as for meals. Well, who knows what may turn up?" with cheerful optimism.

At the next stop he sneaked for ward to the smoking car and sat down to think things over. She was certainly a mighty pretty girl! Atherley, feeling for the rose hidden in his breast pocket, concluded that he would probably not regret his action.

"But I've got to get busy on the food question."

There were three or four other men in the car, the younger ones chatting tegether, and another, rather older, reading in a corner. All eyed him curiously, and Atherley had an inspiration. If he worked them right, amused them told them oneer experiences. they might supply him with food and drink, and as for cigars, well, he must husband those he had carefully. In pursuance of this idea he moved nearer, and soon held the group enthralled with his breezy frankness.

"So you really just jumped on the train and came," asked the older man at length, when Billy had grown aweary of his talk and moved away, "and for no other reason than that you wanted to see the world?" Atherley laughed rather shamefacedly.

"That's what I told those fellows, But I don't mind telling you the truth. It was-it was on account of a girl.' he said, haltingly. The older man's

lips twitched. "A girl! How so?"

"I saw her on the car step," confessed Atherley. "And-and I liked her," he ended lamely, not even to himself did he care to mention the rose "I wonder if you have seen her?" he added, engerly. "She had on some kind kind of a blue skirt, with a white waist, and carried some roses. They called her 'Marion.'"

The older man started.

"Marion!" he exclaimed, "why, that's my daughter," unthinkingly. Then he stopped, rather annoyed. A young ranchman, no matter how charming and gentlemanly, was hardly a person from Chicago. Now if you are ready." to be presented to the carefully guarded Marion. But Atherley was too absorbed to notice the hesitation.

EMPEROR OF JAPAN.



EMPEROR MUTSHUHITO.

The Emperor of Japan, to whose genius is accredited the most remarkable victories achieved by his forces over the Russians, has come to the front as one of the famous rulers of the world. As the man who actually selected the officers that figured in the triumphs on land and sea, and who in a measure supervised the work of the war board at Toklo, his discernment and efficiency have been awarded unstinted praise. The Emperor's name is Mutshuhito, and his imperial title is Tenno, but the appellation by which he is called in relation to external affairs is "Kotei," a word of Chinese origin. Only foreigners, it is said, make use of the poetic title, Mikado. The Emperor was born at Kyoto, Nov. 3, 1852, and succeeded his father, Komeo Tenno, Feb. 13, 1867. The Japanese assert that their empire was founded by the first Emperor, Jimmu Tenno, in 660 B. C., and that the dynasty still reigns. The present ruler is said to be the one hundred and twenty-second in unbroken descent, and he is venerated by the common folk as a son of the gods. Many current sayings serve to perpetuate this reverence, such as "The Emperor has neither father nor mother," or "In heaven there is one sun; on earth there is one Emperor." The Emperor's wife is Princess Haruko, but she is childless, and the heir to the throne, Prince Yoshihito, is the son of a second wife. The Japanese law for royalty admits the choice of inferior wives, but, strange to say, prohibits polygamy.

your daughter, oh, I say, what luck! That will save me an awful lot of time and trouble. I expected the lence of a lon in locating her Though I knew that I should do it in the end," he added confidently. "Do you mind telling me your name?"

"My name?" divided between indignation and mirth, "I am James Arbuthnot," he declared rather pompously. But Atherley was clearly unimpressed.

"Better and better," he cried. "I always was a lucky devil," joyously. The older man leaned back and stared at him.

"My dear young man," began he in his most formal manner, "I think we must understand each other. I certainly fall to see where the luck comes in." Atherley, starting in his turn, became suddenly enlightened.

"Of course. You mean that you don't know me," he cried. "Oh, that's all right," easily. "I've heard dad speak of you hundreds of times. I'm Billy Atherley, and I've just been out looking up some properties in the West."

The older man's brow cleared somehow.

"Not William H. Atherley's son?" Atherley nodded.

"The same. So now won't you introduce me to your daughter?" wistfully. "It would save such a lot of time."

Arbuthnot, his gray eyes twinkling, looked at the young fellow quizzleally. "If you are much like your father, and I think you are, you would be hardly apt to wait long for my services," he remarked jocosely. "Come along, then. All I ask of you is please to get married before we reach New York." The tone strove to be stern, but young Atherley laughed happily.

"I make no promises," he declared with gay defiance. "Oh, here, hold on a moment," as a sudden recollection of his unmailed letter recurred to him. Pulling out the envelope, he tore it into fragments, letting the pieces float out of the open window.

"It was to say that I wasn't coming home," he explained. "I will telegraph -San Francisco Call.

You can't blame the man who is "Your daughter!" he cried. "Really putting up a stove for hitting the pipe. rying them,

TELEPHONE ON THE CONGO. Impossible to Talk During Middle of

the Day in Rainy Season. The telegraph and telephone lines of the Belgium Congo region show how some peculiarities both in the construction of the lines and their operation, owing to the climate and the

character of the country. Where the line runs through the forests the wires are placed as much as possible upon trees and in other cases upon iron poles, says the Scientific American. The wire, which is of phosphor-bronze, is painted black, so as not to attract the attention of the natives, who lay hands upon all the copper they can find.

The other brilliant objects of the line, such as the insulators, are also painted black. A cutting thirty feet wide is made through the forest for the line, so that there is no risk of fire or from falling trees.

Besides the telegraph offices of Leoville, there are nine telephone offices and six cabins. The latter are used for communicating with the steamboats on the river

The first hours after sunset are the best for telephoning, and it is possible to telephone direct from Matada to Kwamouth, or 380 miles. From the latter point to Bonia, or 410 miles, the voice still heard.

After 10 o'clock a. m. the heat makes it impossible to use the telephone, especially in the rainy season. This is due to the fact that a return wire is not used, and the use of the earth return is accompanied by great disturbances in the middle of the

The greatest enemies of the telephone lines are the wild animals. In the rainy season atmospheric discharges often strike the wires, therefore the lines need to be constantly inspected and repaired.

Resort in a Desert.

A remarkable hotel is in the Sahara desert. From the windows on two sides nothing but pathless sand is to be seen. On a third side stand 280,000 palm trees.

If some men didn't have money women would have no excuse for mar-



Plan for Chicken-House. A Texas woman in Farm and Ranch describes a chicken house for the benefit of any who may wish a clean, convenient one.

It is built of 1x12 boards, well slatted on three sides; the front has a stripped or latuced door in one corner, this to insure plenty of ventilation; the roosts are swinging poles, sus-



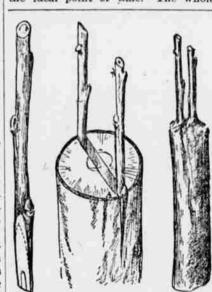
CONVENIENT CHICKEN HOUSE.

pended by heavy wire, out of the draft. The walls come within fourteen inches of the ground and the nests are made on the outside, then securely boxed up with a slanting cover that is hinged on and can be raised from the outside. This prevents having to enter the henhouse when you wish to gather up the eggs. It has the appearance shown in the illus-

Small tin cans are tacked on the roost, the walls and near the nests; in them is kept mothine balls; they keep out all vermin.

Cleft Grafting.

Varieties of grafting are many, but cleft grafting represents the method commonly in use for the grafting of orchard trees where the old top is to be removed during the course of a few years and a new one is to be grown in its place. The ideal time for this top grafting is waep the leaves are just pushing out, for then the wounds of grafting heal rapidly. But in practice, if a large amount of work is to be done, it may be necessary to begin from one to two months earlier and to continue several weeks beyond the ideal point of time. The whole



CLEFT GRAFT SCION-CLEFT GRAFTING-A WAXED STUB.

operation of cleft grafting appears clearly in the filustration.

Hogs in the Orchard.

In regard to the hogs skinning the orchard trees, if you put a dozen or two of hogs on an acre of land, very likely they will skin the trees, or a flock of sheep would also. They must have room. There must not be too poldville, Kwamouth and Coquithat- many in a bunch. It is said that hogs will tear down a pigpen to get the wood to eat. If you throw them a little lime they will let the pen alone. I know that they have been known to dig out a stone wall for the lime. If you feed a hog some corn and don't starve him to death, he will let your trees alone. Give the hog room enough and give him something to eat. -J. J. Blackwell.

Sheep Shearings.

Sheep are more economical meat producers than steers.

When breeding to improve ewes should be two years old when bred.

The more sheep you can keep and keep right the less per sheep will the cost be.

Under ordinary conditions the manure from sheep should pay for the labor of caring for them.

A good foot rot medicine must be somewhat caustic, in liquid form and cheap enough to use freely.

Sheep should be charged with the value of the food consumed and what

the pasturage is worth. If sheep are pastured on low, wet land, care must be taken to keep their

feet well trimmed.

Sheep cannot be fattened profitably when they are full of parasites. Kill the vermin and then fatten.

To secure the best returns in feeding have the sheep as even as possible. If the best profit is realized, not only the wool, but the mutton and the lamb, must contribute their part.

It will pay, if you intend to sell your sheep at public sale, to have some one grade them up in even lots.

Don't let any one top your sheep. Better improve your sheep until people will want to buy the tall end of the flock.

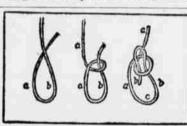
Teaching a Horse to Stand.

As soon as the colt is fairly gentle and has been ridden a few times, throw the reins down, and with a strong but soft rope hobble his front legs. Fasten a rope twenty feet long to one front leg and the other to a stout post or stake. Ordinarily the horse will not move when thus fastened, but if he does he soon comes to grief. A few lessons of this sort will never be forgotten.

After a while it will only be necessary to wrap the reins around the horse's front legs, and later simply dropping the reins to the ground will be sufficient. If any time the horse gets to moving around and forgets his early training, pass the reins through the stirrup and then up and over the horn of the saddle. This pulls the head around to one side and the horse will generally not go far.-Farm and

Useful Bowline.

The bow and knot is one of the most useful knots we have, and one which comparatively few can tie. It is a knot sailors use constantly. The illustration will show exactly how it is tied. Lay the parts together as in the first figure, b crossing over a. Then bring a over b. bringing the end up through the loop as in the next fig-



HOW TO TIE THE KNOTS.

ure. Now carry b around and under a, passing it down through the loop as in the final figure. It is impossible for this knot to slip when properly tied. It is useful in all sorts of emergencies. In a loop thus made a man can safely be hoisted to any height with no danger of the knot slipping. It is especially useful for the farmer. An animal can be led by means of it with no danger of the knots slipping and choking the animal, no matter how much it may plunge or pull.-American Agriculturist.

Is United States Losing Ground? Dr. Saunders, director of experimental farms in Canada, is authority for the statement that there were produced in the Dominion last year about 80,000,000 bushels of wheat. In the contest for the production of this cereal Canada possesses many advantages over other countries in climate. Canada's chief competitors in the British market in the future, in Dr. Saunders' opinion, will be Russia, Argentina and India. He pointed out that the exports of wheat from the United States are rapidly declining.

In 1902 American exports of wheat to Great Britain amounted to \$1,000,-000 bushels, or 54 per cent of Great Britain's total needs; in 1903 these exports were 45,000,000 bushels, and last year only 12,000,000 bushels, American flour exports had similarly fallen off from 7,000,000 hundredweight in 1903 to 4,000,000 hundredweight in 1904. Is the United States to be superseded, relegated to a place farther down in the line of wheat-producing countries?

Culling the Flock.

The usual custom with good sheep farmers is to go carefully over their flocks each year, and reject and send to the butcher all the aged ewes, yearling ewes, ewe lambs and rams that are not of the desired quality, or have not proven valuable as breeders. This culling process should be carefully carried out.

Value of Inferior Wheat. Damaged wheat, shrunken, shiveled

wheat and screenings are all good for feeding purposes. Probably lambs utilize them to a little better advantage than other animals, although when ground they make good feed for pigs and cattle.

Gathered in the Garden.

Probably no other small fruit will give more weight of crop for the space it occupies than the currant.

Cut the black knot out of the plum and cherry trees.

Bone meal and wood ashes in the soil are great for sweet peas.

Don't trim the cherry trees now. Wait till June and then be light handed.

To bleed the grapevines by cutting during March, April or May is bad management.

Radishes are usually ready for use in six weeks from sowing.

Cold frames are useful for forwarding lettuce and cabbage in spring or early summer.