10+0+0+0+0+0+0+0+0+0+ A Matter of Business

By TOM MASSON

Copyright, 1903, by Tom Masson

*************** HE turned her sweet face upon the president of the bank. It was an earnest face, too, not one in which sorrow had left its mark, but demure, intelligent, yet fine and aristocratic in its almost severely classical lines.

The president of the bank was used to dealing with women. Only just the moment before one reputed to be the richest of her sex had left him, tall, matronly, severe, almost shabbily clothed. And he had enjoyed talking with her, for she always gave him ideas. Once he had made \$5,000 by her ad-

But here was a different proposition. He glanced rapidly at the young woman before him, at her hat, at the tips of her fingers, and then covertly down at her shoes, and mentally decided that she was a lady.

But ladies, he knew by experience, sometimes expected very foolish things to be done for them, so he braced himself for almost any degree of polite refusal as he said:

"What can I do for you?" In answer she took a man's card out of her cardease and laid it on his desk. "I want you to tell me," she said, "what you know about that young

The president of the bank glanced at the name on the card-"Mr. John Scofield Granger."

man."

Granger was one of the bank's depos-

"I should like to oblige you, madam," he said, "but our relations with our depositors are strictly confidential." In answer to this the young woman again opened ber cardcase and, taking from it a larger card than the one she | truth." had first presented, laid it by the other.

"This is my name," she said. "I believe you know papa." - name on the card. Yes, he knew papa. | you. It was a case of finding out what | thick with it, we all opened our shells | Yule, or midwinter, feast is seen in its

So this was his daughter. "Surely, Miss Meredith," he said; "but why did you not ask your father to procure this information for you?"

"Papa is so busy," she replied; "besides, this is a matter that concerns myself alone. Now, can't you break your rule if I assure you everything will be in the strictest confidence and tell me what you know about Mr. Granger?"

The bank president smiled. "You seem somewhat interested in this young man," he observed.

His visitor blushed slightly. "I am," she said. "The fact is I am thinking of marrying him, but I want to be sure. You see, I am somewhat the partitions everywhere else imperused to looking out for myself, and this is an important matter. And so I am looking up Jack."

are quite right," he observed, "and I shall give you the same consideration trust in the world. Excuse me a mo-

He disappeared into the cashier's office, and when he returned he bore in simply endure our laws and our yoke, his hand a penciled memorandum.

Granger has held an account with us | Lellious, and so soon as we lose sight for five years, during which time it has of them they hasten to betray us and of us mon whom it falls to close our tuation. There is little or none of it in large black hats, and large hats are alnever once been overdrawn. He is return to their former wild and misconnected with a large importing



"I came," she said, "to see about Mr Jack Granger.'

house, as you probably know, and we have every reason to believe he is worthy of your confidence." She held out her hand. "Thank you."

wished to know." In fifteen minutes more Miss Meredith had cent in another card, her own, to the vice president of a large dry goods house on Worth street. He came

she said. "That is precisely what I

running out to meet her. "Hello, Maud!" he said. "What can I do for you? What are you doing downtown? This is no place for you." "I came on a matter of business.

Uncle Billy," she said. "Do you keep those books in your office that give the standing of business people?" "Why, yes, of course; both of 'em."

"Then tell me what you can find out about Mr. Jack Granger."

-"Who's he?"

"Here's his business card." Uncle Billy looked at the pasteboard. "I can tell you now," he said, "that the firm is all right. As for the boy himself, I'll get a special report on

What do you want to know for?" "I'm thinking of marrying him." Uncle Billy burst into loud laughter. "Good for you!" he exclaimed, "That's Outside each house is a fence of wickthe way to do. If all girls were like erwork made of reeds. The girls are that, there would be fewer divorces. Why don't you go down and see the are never allowed to go out of the head of his firm? He'll tell you about house, yet they seem strong and other ideas thought to belong to more ly begin. That's where you should bethe young man."

"That's where I'm going now," she STORY OF AN OYSTER said. "But you know I made an appointment with him by telephone while Jack will be at luncheon."

The head of the firm was sitting at his desk when she came in obedient to her appointment, and wondering what in the deuce Miss Meredith wanted to see him about.

Her business was soon stated. "I came," she said, "to see about Mr. Jack Granger. Is he honest, sober and industrious? How is his everyday temper? Can you trust him? Does he get a good salary and will be ever get any more? I want to know all you can tell me.

The head of the firm looked at her in blank amazement.

"Please don't think me impertinent, she said, "but this young man has asked me to marry him. You know, I really think a great deal of him, indeed I"-

She paused and then went on more slowly:

"I cannot afford to take the risks that I have seen other girls take. I now-that is, if there is any worst." The head of the firm walked to the door and closed it, while his kindly old eyes beamed affectionately upon his earnest questioner.

"My dear young lady," he said, "you're the kind that it does me good to look at. I'll tell you all I know."

It was nearly half past 8 that evening when she came down to greet him. "You mustn't mind my keeping you waiting," she said. "I have had so much to do.'

"I like that," he replied. "So much to de! Now, if you had the things to do that I am doing"-"But really I have been busy. I've

been looking you up. I hope you don't mind." "Looking me up! Is that why you

haven't given me my answer?" "Yes, that's the reason. I've been to your bank and your firm and some to marry you I wanted to know the His face flushed.

"It wasn't a question of trusting was business. Do you mind?"

He caught her hand in his. "No," he replied; "why should I? What's the answer?" She put her head on his shoulder. "You'll do," she said.

MAN'S LOVE OF THE DOG. I All Animals, Only the Dog Has

Made Alliance With Us. Man loves the dog, but how much more ought he to love it if he considered in the inflexible harmony of the aws of nature the sole exception, which piereing in order to draw closer to us brood." are alone, absolutely alone, on this was meessary to close my shell tight serve us in spite of themselves. They They are impotent prisoners, victims "I find," he said, "that Mr. Jack | breapable of escaping, but silently todievous liberty. The rose and the corn.

proach like the birds. Among the animals we number a few ervants who have submitted only idity the uncertain and craven herse, who responds only to pain and is atached to nothing; the passive and deause he knows not what to do nor here to go, but who nevertheless unheep, who knows no other master than open shell and devoured her. east, curses us in her mysterious the dredgers as the "bit." our smile. They do not even hear the other things. ound of our voice as soon as it no lonwilderment of the horse, in whose eye the sea through a porthole, still hovers the infatuation of the elk

Sure of a Fine Funeral.

Irishman in his employ, "are you say to ware, or full grown oyster. But I things besides. There is probably not ing any of your money?"

ought to deposit it in a good bank, so There I await my final fate, which as to keep it in circulation." will, I fear, be a fishmonger's counter. "Sure it'll all go into cirkylation the . New York News. second day afther I'm dead, sor," said

Larry proudly.- Youth's Companion.

Glels Kept In Cages. It is said that the people of New Britain have a peculiar custom of conhim and send it up to you tonight. fining their girls in cages until they reach marriageable age. These cages are built of wood cut from the palm tree and are inside the rude houses. caged at the age of two or three and

TOLD BY HIMSELF ABOUT HIMSELF AND HIS TRIBE.

The Trials and Tribulations of the 1nd the premium this coin commands on the Fishmonger's Counter.

ly lifeless. Then we turned gray and government and probably have not so finally black. At this stage we became much gold in them as they represent. floated, the sport of waves and tides. never in general circulation, being so Some of my brothers were carried out easily lost that they soon became to sea and so vanished; others were scarce. One of the handsomest coin swallowed by fish. At last we all be- relics seen is a \$10 gold piece bearing gan instinctively to sink toward the the mint stamp of 1799. It is larger

tion. Many fell on mud-the most fa- a charm on his watch chain. The ownwant to know the worst about him tal thing a young oyster can do. These er says he refused an offer of \$150 for perished at once. Others attached this relic, The old octagonal \$50 pieces themselves to plants and weeds which were quite common in California in grow at the bottom of the sea. They early days, when gold dust was largely lived for a time-so long at least as the used as a circulating medium. They plant remained alive. Then, when the were made of pure gold, and, while plant died, they perished as well.

> to a bit of "cultch"-that is to say, one in these days, many still remember of the old shells which the dredgers them as the handsomest coins they ever and oyster men so carefully scatter all saw. Many people now would consider over the sea floor of an oyster bed. I them handsome on account of the said settled with my deep shell uppermost in them.-New York Tribune. and my flat or right shell nearer the ground. At the time I did not know why I did this. I have since realized that it was because in that position I should be more easily able to eject the sand and crit which a rough sea sometimes stirs up in shallow water. I attached myself firmly to my anchorage log is very ancient in its origin. All of "culte" and felt myself at last fair- through the middle ages every farm-

y started in life. Soon I noticed that every single mor- burned its Yule log upon the hearth, sel of sell or stone around me was the log being dragged in with much other places. You see, as you want me tenanted by tiny oysters, all lying in ceremony. the same position as myself and all firmly ar chored.

There I lay, unmoving, for nearly a "Then you couldn't trust me?" he year. Food, in the shape of tiny ani-Papa was a well known member of others thought of you and comparing wide, and, making currents in the wa- most flourishing state among the Norsethe Stock Exchange named Meredith. It with your private opinion, Jack. It for by means of the tiny hairs which men, who commemorated the fiery sun our mouths. Our choicest delicacles from Dec 25 to Jan. 6 they could trace were the minute green algae, which cratic native,

When I first anchored myself, I was but the twentieth of an inch in diamewould have been necessary to examine me. At that stage my shell was perectly transparent.

At the end of ten months I had increased in diameter to fully the size s that love of a being that succeeds in | of a dime and become what is called

During all this time I had been learnmeable that separate the species. We | ing many things. I found out that it thance planet, and amid all the forms | when dangers of various kinds i .eatis very sensitive. If you watched us found it before. from a boat in calm water, you would are that the mere shadow of the boat shells immediately.

It was meessary to be most careful. worst is the five fingered starfish. One from the text. brough indifference, cowardice or stu- of by sisters, anchored not a yard away, fell a victim to this terror of the oyster beds. It clutched her with is long fingers. She closed her shell, en off. Hour after hour it clung there until on the second day after its first er the cudgel and the pack saddle reggrip she, poor thing, opened her shell ains the idea that lurks behind his to get a mouthful of food. At once the ars; the cow and the ox, happy so long startish injected into her a fluid which letter; they are eating and docile because stupefied her so that she could not

oultry yard because she finds more floated as "spat," came a startling pela with their bucklers." naize and wheat there than in the change in my existence. Something neighboring forest. I do not speak of huge and heavy came out of the shadthe cat, to whom we are nothing more ow of a boat above and approached, than a too large and uncatable prey, rasplug and grating along the bottom. he ferocious cat, whose sidelong con- It was a great triangular dredge of

ger threatens them, and when they and, having selected all the oysters gize for his ignorance. look at us it is with the distrustful be and spat, "shaded" the rest back into

or gazel that sees us for the first time, titles of other brood, was put into a machine, shoe his horse, doctor his or with the dull stupor of the rumi- "wash"-a measure holding five and a cow, break his colt, row or sail his nants, who look upon us as a momen- quarter gallons and relaid. Here life boat, "butcher" his pig. shear his tary and useless accident of the pas was less eventful and food most plen- sheep, skin a fox, track a deer, hive ture.-Maurice Maeterlinck in Century. | tiful. To fatten well an oyster must | bees, serve as guide or lumberman "Larry," said a merchant to a sturdy brood to half ware and from half ware town meeting and do a hundred other still went on growing and developing. a man in all England who can do half "Indade I am, sor," replied Larry, until one day the dredge swept me up so many things. The American is "I've got \$400 hid away in a safe again, and I was raised once more into quick witted, has far more general tothe upper air and rapidly brought in. | telligence and information and is there-"But It isn't a public spirited policy I was then dropped into a large bag fore by far a better workman.-H. C. to hoard money away," remarked the and suspended in a tank of fresh sea Merwin in Harper's Magazine. merchant, thinking to quiz him. "You water, which is constantly renewed.

> He Knew a Thing or Two. Anaxagoras, the Athenian philosopher, who flourished in the fifth century before Christ, taught his scholars that wind was air set in motion by rarefaction; that the moon owed her light giving properties to the sun; that the rainbow was the resulting phenomenon of reflection; that comets were wan-

modern times.

COINS OF THE PAST.

Gold Pieces That Were Once Common, but Are Yow Rarely Seen. Recent mention of the disappearance of the \$2.50 gold piece from circulation Succellent Rivalve From the Time as a curio has set many to rummaging of Planting Until His Appearance in old pocketbooks and bottoms of cash boxes and drawers in search of odd or out of date coins. Some have found a There were about 900,000 of us when, \$2.50 piece, but not many. The \$3 as tiny flakes of spawn-or "spat," as piece, once quite common, but always a he syster spawn is called-we floated sort of curiosity, is oftener found, and but into the water one day on "the many have specimens of the little gold coins representing 25 cents and 50 At first we were white and apparent, cents which were not minted by the visibly alive. For several days we They used to pass as coin, but were than the present \$10 plece. The owner Then began again terrible destruct has it hung in a band and wears it as they had not the elegant finish of the Fortunately for myself, I drifted on gold coins minted by the government

> BURNING THE YULE LOG The Custom One of Ancient Origin.

The Yule Candle. The custom of burning a large log of wood which is known as the Yule house, cottage and castle in England

At Yuletide when the great log flamed In chimneypiece and laugh and jest

The word "Yule" itself seems to be maleulae, which an oyster loves best, derived from the Angle-Saxon "Geol," fringe our gills and which men call our | wheel with a mighty feast. They bebeards, we washed the dainties into lieved that during the twelve nights he is that movements of their great give to full grown oysters that greenish | t din, or Odhinn, the god of storms, tinge that is the mark of the aristo- and other deliled beings on the earth. The Yule log, with its cheery blaze, comes to us across the centuries as a dim memory of the fires lit to celebrate ter-so small, indeed, that a microscope | the setting out of the sun on his northward journey toward the light and warmth of summer.

A large candle known as the Yule candle used also to light the Christmas eve festivities. It was a bad omen if the candle burned out before the evenng was at an end.—Detroit Free Press.

A Rain of Commas.

daughter of Guizot, the historian, was of the same colored ribbon, the distinc-The bank president bowed. "You of life that surround us not one, ex- ened, when the tide was low or, in win- a charming lady, but she had a culpa- tive note in these bodices being that repting the dog, has made an alliance | ter, when frost was severe. You may | ble indifference to the art of punctua- everything must be the exact conor of with us. A few creatures fear us, most perhaps imagine that an oyster is a tion. Her father wrote her two pretty the skirt. The streven are very full, lumb and motionless slaves. But they ling on round about it. But you are course," after her second lecture, we wrist with a lace cuff. For afternoon wrong. The mantle fringe of an oyster are not told, but at least she had not wear there is nothing so popular as

"My dear Henriette," wrote Guizot, "I am afraid I shall still have to take crossible an cyster bed will cause those you to task with regard to your paneyour letters. All punctuation marks a | ways exceedingly becoming to youthperiod of repose for the mind, a stage ful beauties. They are either built on urchins prowled among us and de- done with or momentarily suspended flowing plumes or their outlines are voured many. But of all our foes the and which is divided by such a sign softened by bunches of tips. An ex-

mately connected, like drops of water." | there with a parrot's breast and head. Either Mlle. Guizot was taking a clever revenge or she was past all redemption, for this is her father's next

"I dare say you will find me very or centuries they have not had a close again. Then the monster turned provoking, but let me beg of you not to sought of their own; the affrighted litself inside out, shot litself into the fling so many commas at my head. You are absolutely pelting me with error; the hen, who is faithful to the Then, one day a year after I had them as the Sabines pelted poor Tar-

The Versatile American. The Englishman has none of that ail around mental activity which distinguishes the American. He knows only empt tolerates us only as incumbering wrought fron. At the bottom was a one thing-that by which he earns his parasites in our own homes. She, at that bar with a blunt edge, known to living-and he does not desire to know anything else. Far less is he ashamed eart, but all the others live beside us | As the "bit" approached it scraped of not knowing it. A London policeis they might live beside a rock or a the bottom of the sea clean, and next man, if you ask him about some distree. They do not love us, do not know | instant I, too, found myself lifted and | tant street or building of importance, us, scarcely notice us. They are un- dropped into the net, together with will reply civilly, but unabashed, "I aware of our life, our death, our depar- hundreds like myself and a miscel- can't tell you, sir; that is not in my ture, our return, our sadness, our joy, laneous collection of small soles and beat." An American policeman would know the fact, and if he did not know One of the men sorted over the catch | it he would feel called upon to apolo-

Many a New England farmer can build or repair his barn, paint and I, in company with enormous quan- plaster his house, "tinker" his mowing have a certain amount of fresh water. play the fiddle, solve a problem in wrists, while the stock is all over hand In this snug retreat I passed from arithmetic, make a good speech in work.

> Where Three Is a Crowd. Tom-I suppose you spent a pleasant evening with your best girl. Dick-Pleasant? Huh! A fellow can't

> make love to his girl in a crowd. Tom-Oh, was there a crowd there? Dick-Yes, and the chump didn't have sense enough to realize that he wasn't wanted.-Chicago Tribune.

Where It Should Begin.

"But why do you have your here marry in the first chapter?" they asked dering stars, and that the fixed stars "Because," replied the author, "it ha were at an immeasurable distance be always seemed absurd to me to end : yond the sun, besides giving them many novel just where a man's troubles realgin the story."-Chicago Post.

NOMAN AND FASHION

A Dress Frock.

The illustration shows a dress frock of Pompelian red satin for a little girl from five to eleven years old. The skirt is made with box plaits in front, two of which are ornamented with straps of



FOR A LITTLE GIRL. cashmere embroidery. The bottom of the skirt is finished with rows of stitch-

The blouse, with tucked plastron of the same satin, is trimmed with bands of the embroidery, forming standing collar, turnover collar with cravat ends, half bretelles and shoulder straps. The sleeves are box plaited on the outside and finished with cuffs ornamented with stitching, forming points. The belt is of the satin.

The Chiffon Blouse.

Every tailor made gown of the present moment has as a bodice one of those charming blouses of chiffon and lace, the chiffon being in the same color as the costume and all carrying out the new idea which we seem to be exploiting i. e., the skirt and waist to match. These chiffon bodices are really the prettiest fad we have indulged in for a long time. They are made always in a tone of chiffon to match exactly the costume with which they are worn and are generally made up in the style of a full bodice of accordion plaited chiffon, fitting somewhat loosely over a tight fitting lining of satin or silk. Then a bolero or stole of lace with half sleeves and collar is added. Often stripes of old lace form the only ornamentation. Very often the bodice is pouched all round over a swathed waistband of silk cut rather high. Again it is sometimes made tight fitting at the back and sides and very The Countess Henriette de Witt, the loose only in front, with a narrow belt that I would accord to the largest tre unaware of us, and not one loves creature of such low organism that it little essays on the subject. Whether with a cap of lace and a loose bishop eq. This one operation involves many us. In the world of plants we have cannot see or feel much of what is go- she was able to take the "middle undersleeve of chiffon confined at the subordinate and infinitely swift efforts

> Hats For Young Women. All very young women are affecting tremely attractive hat has a straight "You, Henriette, suppress those pe- brim in the front and on one side, and riods, those intervals. You write as at the left side it is turned up abruptly the stream flows, as the arrow flies, and caught with a rosette of black vel-That will not do at all, because the vet. Another model of rough black felt ideas one expresses are not at all inti- is turned up on the left side and held

these little bodices.

Embroidered Shirt Walst. The illustration pictures a pale blue broadcloth shirt waist with brilliant



FOR MORNING WEAR toned embroidery. A band of orienta work is down the front and at the

Many New Ruchings.

A revival in the way of dress accessories is the many new ruchings for the neck and sleeves. These are seen in crepe de chine, mousseline de sole, chiffon, liberty. French mull and all kinds of fancy nets.

They come in the narrow widths for collars and will take the place to a certain extent of the turnover collars and cuffs which have been worn so long.

A Little Off. "Really," said Mrs. Oldcastle, "your little dinner last night was quite recherche."

"Oh, dear." her hostess groaned, "I just knew that new cook would make stood near by. a botch of it some way!"-Chicago Record-Herald.

Flattery was formerly considered a vice, but it is now grown into a custom.-Syrus.

what we suffer. Quesnel.

A GRASSHOPPER RACE.

Mackay Won It Because the Professor Got the Wrong Bottle. John W. Mackay was an early riser, a hard worker and, although exceedingly hospitable, was himself abstemious and could seidom be induced to host's ginss. play cards for money, and then for only nominal stakes. The only game the wine before helping the rest of us?" that seemed to attract him was the "grasshopper races" with which the mining superintendents on the Com- done." stock beguiled a portion of the noon hour while waiting for luncheon at the not answer my question, though. Here, Savage company hoisting house. Boys waiter," the man persisted, "you tell caught grasshoppers and sold them to me why when you open a bottle of the players at 25 to 50 cents each. Each wine you pour a few drops into the player paid a fixed stake, ranging from host's glass before serving the guests." \$1 to \$20, into the pool, and the man | The waiter smiled and answered: whose hopper made the longest jump captured the pool. On the day before custom, a politeness. Its origin lies in Christmas it was agreed to celebrate the fact that after the removal of the that holiday with a pool the stakes in cork there might be left in the neck of which were to be \$100 for each player. | the bottle a little dust or a few specks The terms were "play or pay," and at of cork. The first drops poured out the instance of a German professor would in that event contain the dust or who was a superintendent of a leading the cork, and thus the guest were he mine each man was allowed to use any served first might get this refuse; hence mean's that he might devise to stimu- the host is given the first drops. late his grasshopper. The professor was so full of his scheme to scien- how to open wine you have no difficulty tifically capture the \$1,000 pool-for in keeping the bottle's neck clean. The there were ten entries-that he commu- custom, therefore, is a formality in nicated it to a young assayer who was America. In Italy, though, it is a real not a grasshopper plunger. The pro- necessity, for over there they pour a fessor had experimented and ascertain- little oil in the necks of their bottles of ed that a grasshopper that was touch- native wine before corking on the ed by a feather dipped in a weak solu- ground that this makes the wine air tion of aqua ammonia would jump for tight. No doubt it does, but it also in his life. The young man also experi- some cases gives to the first glass from mented, and as a result he filled a bot- the bottle a decidedly oily flavor. Theretle of the same size and appearance fore the first glass the host gallantly with cyanide of potassium and man- takes."-Philadelphia Record. aged to substitute it for the other in the professor's laboratory. The next day, when the professor after much boasting about his scientific attainments dipped a feather in the substituted bottle and touched his insect with it, the grasshopper rolled over as dead

VERBATIM REPORTING.

Francisco Call.

It Involves Five Distinct Simultaneous Mental Operations. Psychologists may find an interesting

the principles of the system employ- Higginson in Atlantic of recollection, association and decision.

Fifth, all these mental operations are carried on while the pen or pencil is one at a salary which begins at the rate from two or three words to an entire of \$100 a year, with a yearly rise of sentence behind the speaker-this, of \$20, and the other at a salary comcourse, in rapid speaking-thereby com- mencing at the same rate, but with a plicating the situation by compelling half yearly rise of \$5. In each case memory to keep pace with attention. payments are made half yearly. Which In other words, while the scribe is of them has the larger income? had they wings, would fly at our ap | Dangers were many and terrible. Sea | more or less long, an idea which is | very severe lines or they are a mass of | writing the predicate of one sentence | Who is not tempted to say the forand analyzing an unfamiliar word in | mer? the subject of the next, he is at the tain more than perhaps six or eight but No. 2 gets \$60 for the first half year words of the exact phraseology of a and \$65 for the second, or \$125 in all. speaker at one time. The competent stenographer can hold up ten, fifteen, twenty words or even more in his memory, while at the same time taxing his mind by the act of writing the words that preceded.—The World Today.

COSTLY LANTERNS.

The Fancy Lamps That Passenger Conductors Used to Carry. Modern railroading has driven the passenger conductor's lantern almost out of use. Years ago the pride of a passenger conductor was his lantern. Then the cars were not so brilliantly illuminated as they are now, and the ticket taker was obliged to carry his light on his left arm in order to see the pasteboards as he passed through the

dimly lighted car. At one time the conductors indulged in considerable extravagance in the to children?" matter of lanterns. Some of them were gold and silver plated. The upper part | go and see what baby is crying about of the glass globe was colored blue, and and tell Johnny to stop throwing things the name of the owner was cut in old at people in the street and make George English letters. At the meetings of the and Kate cease fighting and tell Dick Conductors' association manufacturers if he doesn't stop blowing that tin trumwould arrange a great display of costly | pet I'll take it away from him.-Titlights at one of the hotels in the city in Bits. which the meeting would be held. Some of the conceits in the lights were unique, and the prices ranged from \$25 to ten times that figure. The glass and en wedding, are you? plating were kept in a highly polished state, and none dared to meddle with this part of the ticket puncher's equip-

Conductors still carry their own lanterns-that is, they are on the train ready for use-but there is nothing like the need of them that formerly existed. Chicago Tribune.

The Kind Hearted Elephant. A New York minister is responsible for this story, though he does not youch for the truth of it, useful as it

may be to point a moral: "A nest full of young linnets were in the corner of a field in India. Having lost their mother, they were cold and hungry. They flapped their little featherless wings, thereby attracting the attention of a huge elephant, which

"'Ah,' said the elephant, 'you poor little things! You have lost your mother and have nobody to nestle you. I am a mother and have a mother's heart. I will nestle you and keep you warm.' And thereupon the elephant We rarely confess that we deserve sat upon the nest containing the poor little linnets."

WHY WINE FIRST TO HOST.

In America a Mere Formality, but In Italy a Real Necessity. The wine was opened dextrously by

the waiter, who before serving the guests poured a few drops into the "Why did this waiter give you a lit-

asked a man of curious mind. "Oh," said the host, "that's always "I know it's always done. That does

"It's a matter of form, sir; an old

"As a matter of fact, if you know

HE WON THE AUDIENCE.

The Way Fred Douglass Got the Best of Captain Rynders.

The inexhaustible sense of humor in Frederick Douglass kept him clear of as a salt mackerel, amid the roars of any sense of gloom, as was never betthe crowd. Mackay's hopper won the ter seen than on the once famous ocbig pool, and two widows, whose hus casion when the notorious Isaiah Rynbands had been killed in the Yellow ders of New York, at the head of a Jacket mine, received a gift of \$500 mob, had interrupted an antislavery each from an unknown source.-San meeting, captured the platform, placed himself in the chair and bidden the meeting proceed. Douglass was speaking and, nothing loath, made his speech only keener and keener for the interference, weaving around the would be chairman's head a wreath of delicate sarcasm which carried the audience field for investigation in the intellec- with it, while the duller wits of the tual processes that are involved in rap- burly despot could hardly follow him. id shorthand writing. There are at Knowing only in a general way that he least five distinct mental operations was being dissected, Rynders at last carried on continuously during verba- exclaimed, "What you abolitionists tim reporting. First, there is the sensa- want to do is to cut all our throats!" tion of sound received by the ear; sec- "Oh, no," replied Douglass in his most ondly, there is the perception by the dulcet tones; "we would only cut your brain of the word uttered, practically hair." And, bending over the shaggy simultaneous with the sensation in the and frowzy head of the Bowery tyrant, case of a distinct speaker, but often he gave a suggestive motion as of scisdelayed a large fraction of a second sors to his thumb and foretinger with when a preacher "drops his voice" or a professional politeness that instantly a witness in court has a foreign accent. brought down the house, friend and In the third place, the stenographer foe, while Rynders quitted the chair in must analyze the consonantal structure | wrath and the meeting dissolved itself of all the less common words in the amid general laughter. It was a more sentence, all except the stock words cheerful conclusion perhaps than that and phrases, which he writes by word stormier one-not unknown in reformasigns by a practically automatic habit. | tory conventions-with which Shake-Fourth, there relatively uncommon speare so often ends his scenes, "Exwords must be put on paper according eunt fighting." - Thomas Wentworth

> Which is the Larger Income? Here is an interesting problem in mathematics: Two clerks are engaged,

Yet the latter is the correct answer. same time giving his auditory attention | for in the first year the first clerk reto the predicate of the second sentence ceives \$100, but the second clerk rethen being uttered by the speaker, ceives \$50 and \$55, which amounts to This is impossible to an untrained mind. \$105 in the year. The first clerk in The average educated person cannot rethe second year gets, to be sure, \$120,

> Gin In England In the Old Days. Before intoxicating liquor was made dear by taxes and its sale was regulated by licenses the use of it in England was astonishingly common. Not only were there in London 6,000 or 7,000 regular dramshops, but cheap gin was given by masters to their work people instead of wages, sold by barbers and tobacconists, hawked about the streets on barrows by men and women, openly exposed for sale on every market stall. forced on the maidservants and other purchasers at the chandler's shop, until, as one contemporary writer puts it, "one-half of the town seems set up to

> > In the Nursery.

furnish poison to the other half."

"Mamma, why do landladies object Mother-I'm sure I don't know. But

Their Celebrations. Hicks-Going to celebrate your wood-

Wicks-Yes. Hicks-Well, I guess I'll celebrate my wouldn't wedding. It was just five years ago that that girl from Chicago said she wouldn't marry me.-Somerville (Mass.) Journal.

Properly Diagnosed. Lushman I'm troubled with headaches in the morning. It may be on account of my eyes. Perhaps I need

stronger glasses. Dr. Shrude-No: I think you merely need weaker glasses and fewer at night.-Exchange.

The Original Ones.

Butler-But do you remember all you Baker-I hope not. If I did I shouldn't enjoy the original writings of some of my friends, you know .- Boston Tran-

The Essentials. "Which would you rather marry,

Ethel, brains or money?" "Money, of course. I can get along without the luxuries, but I must have the necessities."-Brooklyn Life.