

THE EASIEST THING.

Why John Randolph, the Dwarf, Dropped the Gum Drop Industry.

That John Randolph, late of Chicage, hould forsake that wicked city for the more effete environment of Greater New York is not surprising when his really pathetic story is known. I met Mr. Randolph recently, after a lapse of years, wearing an air of settled melan-choly, a wide brimmed hat and hair that hung to the middle of his back. At first I hardly knew John, he had changed m much

He is less than 2 feet high, broad of beam and is blessed with a pair of legs that resemble a horse collar. It was those legs that supplied the missing link in the chain of recognition. For years Mr. Randolph flourished in the gum drop industry in the Chicago Ten-derloin. With a candy tray strapped to his stomach, John stood in front of thet aters and other places of amusemenand infested saloons, doing a thriving gam drop trade at all hours until the sotpads finally drove the little man from his native heath.

"I couldn't stand it any longer," said John, with a half sob. "Not only did the footpads break me up in business, but they hurt my feelings so that I had to leave town. How would you like to be carried into an alley, held up by the beels and shaken like a meal sack until everything in your pockets fell out? Well, that's what those Chicago thieves did to me, a respectable business man. I was too little to sandbag, and the footpads used to jolly me and say I was the easiest thing in town. Then the pa pers got to printing pieces about John Randolph being shaken down again, with pictures supposed to be funny, but I couldn't see the joke.

"This winter was the worst of all. I could stand being robbed two or three times a week, but when they got to making the coin out of my clothes every pight, and sometimes twice of an evening, I left town. I intended to go into business here, but they won't let me wear a tray, and if I carried a basket the people would be stepping in it. But I've got a new scheme. See my hair and hat? Well, I've got some buckskin breeches with fringe on them and a revolver, and I'm going to strike the dime museum circuit as the Lilliputian Buf-falo Bill."-New York Journal.

As Others See Us.

From repeated reference to the watthan fold, you will note that it is at

The Watteau Plait.

present in great vogue, and will in all likelihood pass over into next spring to be used on gowns of ceremonial pretensions. Where it cannot be used for certain reasons it is simulated. Ribbon trimming is disposed in such a way as to give a quaint wattean effect behind. Although dressmakers suggest many pretty ways of using ribbon as garniture, the plain satin ribbon is generally employed. Fancy ribbon is not so popular as it was a year ago. The plain kind, either contrasting in color or matching the foundation, if the frock be of mull or some thin fabric mounted over a col-

ored silk, is preferred. For ball gowns, faconne mousseline chiffon, silk tarlatans and tulle are the leading fabrics. The more diaphanous and light the more fashionable the fabric. Only the Lows on the breast and epaulets are permitted to be stiffened with wire. Fall bebe front, embroidered belt and many flowers around the neck and waist are fashionable. Elderly ladies wear gowns of moire glace and velours, white, pale blue, heliotrope and cornflower blue velvet.

As regards colors which will be fashionable, may be mentioned, first, all the greens. They will be worn in all tones, from the palest to the darkest, passing through the bronze shades. The mordore, gray and mauve will be worn extensively. Claiming great attention is a very delicate mauve, called bulgaria .-Philadelphia Times.

How Two Girls Made Money.

"A country girl who is determined to go to Paris to study art is laying aside for this purpose each dollar she has earned," writes Ruth Ashmore, in an article on "The Girl In the Country," in The Ladies' Home Journal. "She found that there was no one else in the village who could make as good bread and Liscuit as she; that those who had to buy complained of the baker's bread. She made no effort at sending her bread to a woman's exchange, as she knew that such places were always overstocked, but she went through her own town -a very small one-and asked for orders. She is making money because there has never been a sad loaf of bread or a heavy biscuit sent out from her kitchen. She will supply a neighbor with hot biscuits at teatime, and she has learned to make dainty rusk, especially for invalids, who enjoy these light, sweet dainties. Her prices are

reasonable. "Another girl, ambitious to gain something, got her father to let her have a bit of ground and to give her the money that he would otherwise have bestowed upon her for a wedding dress. With this she was able to buy plants and to hire a boy to help her, and during the summer, while the boarding houses around demanded them, she served the freshest of radishes, the crisp-est of lettuce, the earliest corn and the

FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

Indian Playthings.

An article on "Home Life Among the Indians" is written for The Century by Mrs. Alice C. Flet ber. The author says: Playthings are improvised by the Indian youngster with no small power of invention. Fine war bonnets are made from corn busks, at the expense of much time and labor, and everything that children see is modeled in clay Dishes, pipes, ponies, whole villages show their imitative faculty, while coffins with a bit of glass set in the li covering a pinched up baby indicat their keen observation of new custom-Dolls vary as much as the children an

their surroundings Stone babies at not uncommon among the Alaskan: dull enough in appearance, but evident ly responsive in the fancy of the small northwesterner. Dollies made of faw: skin, with painted eyes and cheeks an real hair, having hauds with wondfully tapering fingers and clad in gaugarments and moccasins fitting we. their diminutive feet, are the delight o the children of the plains. One woman who was skillful in the manufacture of dolls made a pair for me, but refused t duplicate them because she had already used nearly all ber own hair in the construction of doils. Hobby horses for boys are as universal as dolls for girls The sunflower stalk with one nodding blossom left on the end is a favori pony. In their races the boys ride on stalk and trail two or three others afte them as "fresh horses," thus increasing the dust and excitement of the play.

How the Geese Flew.

Peter, playing by the gate, Found a stone and bore it strright Where a plank beside the pond To the water led beyond.

"Now I'll make a bridge," said he, Chuckling to himself in plee. "Mother Goose with goslings nine Shall enjoy this bridge of nine!"



O'er the bridge her goslings led. "Come along, my little doars Follow me and calm your fears."



Him Helpless.

A Fearful Experience Three

From Otsego Republican, Cooperstown, N. Y.

LEGS AND ARMS.

a Hazardous Encounter Which Renders

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Two Big Oaks, the Sisters.

WANTED-TRUSTWORTHY AND On the banks of Cooper's creek, about travel for responsible, established house four miles from Camden, N. J., two in Oregon. Monthly \$65.00 and expenses. very large white caks stood. The property was once owned by Mr. Kay, who Position steady. Reference. Enclose named them for his two daughters, self-addressed stamped envelope. The These trees survived the family so long Dominion Company, Dept. Y Chicago. that the writer was unable to learn the names given them, and the trees seem

to be the only memorial of the family. One was prostrated by a strong wind ated in northern markets, and conseabout two years ago. The one still standing measures 20 feet in circumferquently the demand is too limited to encourage shipments. It seems doubtence, in height about 75 feet, and the ful if the distant shipment of fresh figs branches extend from the trunk about 85 feet each way. The fallen one was will ever become a profitable business. The fruit is more perishable than any 17 feet in circumference, and 216 fenceposts were out from the branches. We other that is generally marketed. It can think the practice of planting and nam- be handled only by the most careful and experienced persons, and even then ing trees as memorials an estimable one, and a tablet giving the date of planting it is not in a condition to show its best quality. Ripening in midsummer, when should be attached.-Rodolfus Bingham, Camden, N. J. the northern markets are crowded with many well known fruits and not being

The attaching of the names of friends especially attractive to the eye, fresh to trees is a pleasant practice. This can figs would at best gain favor slowly. be done either by planting a tree espe-The fact that many people do not care cially for the person or by associating for them at the first would be another the name with one already growing. obstacle in the way of their popularity. The Herne of Shakespeare did not plant Moreover, the fig is a tedious crop to the oak, but Herne's oak is just as fahandle when in proper condition for the mous as if it had been planted for him market. It is necessary to pick the trees or by him. It is to be regretted that the over carefully every day during the seaname of the lady who was associated son cr much fruit will be overripe. with this grand old oak cannot now be With large trees this involves much lagiven. Certainly it would add materi- tor. The actid juice of the immature ally to its interest. A white oak is a fig eats into the fingers of the pickers pleasure in itself. -- Meehan's Monthly. and packers, while rainy weather occasions heavy loss by the cracking of the fruit, which renders it unfit for

Power Over Animals. It is a curious thing the power which some human beings have over animals. There is in Lowell a boy, differing in no

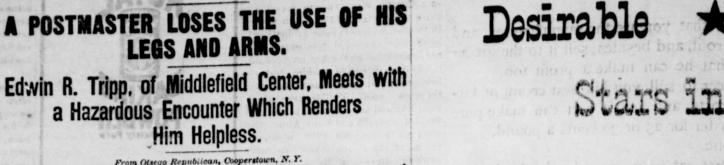
Home Duties of Indian Children There are home duties as well as

market -Southern States.

active gentlemen or ladies to

Fresh Figs For Northern Markets

Fresh figs are not known or appreci-



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LITERATURE

And The

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None who are engaged in any of the mechanical pursuits can succeed without reading and studying this standard Magazine of Sciences and mechanical Arts. It is illustrated with all modern cuts of latest inventions in all the branches of mechanism, and its fund of knowledge is inseparably connected with inventors and mechanics. Sold with THE WEST at clubbing rates.

Fat Man---What a consummate ass that fellow looks in that get up!-Comic . Oute.

'Oly Hold 'Umbug. A story is told of an eminent legal practitioner who was afflicted with dif-feulty in prononneing his aspirates many years ago. He had a particular dislike to a late lord chancellor who had published a book of hymns. Upon seeing his rival enter the court on one occasion he was overheard to mutter, "''Ere 'e comes, 'umming 'is 'ymn tenes; 'oly hold 'umbug, 'ow I do 'ate "m!"-Westminster Gazette.

For All Practical Purposes

"My friend," said the traveler with the skullcap, putting his head out of the car window as the train stopped at a desolate looking village, "what is the name of this dried up, God forsaken Wace?

"That's near enough." responded the dejected citizen who was leaning against the little red shanty that served as the reilway station. "Let it go at that."---Chicago Tribune.

All Put On.

"I don't like the stage manager," said the soubrette petulantly. "He's always making us learn some new popular song.

'What of that?'' asked the first comedian. "Oh," answered the soubrette, "I hate a man who puts on so many airs!"

-New York Press.

Expansive Ohio.

Teacher-Jimmie Green, you may rice. Can you give us the geographical boundaries ef Ohio.

Jimmie-No ma'am. You can't catch ne on any such game as that. Since last November Ohio hasn't had any boundaries. -- Chicago Times-Herald.

Dramatic.

Manager-Everything set for that farmyard scene? Property Man-Everything but the

Once more the eternal feminine and

the exigencies of realism were in aire wonflict, -- Cincinnati Enquirer.

His Idea of It.

The Giddy Young Thing-What 18 that proverb about there being no martying in heaven?

The Chronic Bachelor-Fools rush in where angels fear to tread. --Indianapotis Journal.

Appropriately Named.

"What made you advertise your vandewille show as 'Elizabethan?' They didn't have such things in that age."

"You see, I've got five girls named

The Descon's Alarm.

The New Minister-Six hours' sleep to enough for any man. 1 The Absentminded Deacon - Good ions! You don't preach as long as hat, do you?-Yonkers Statesman

she thinks she will double the size of her garden next summer."

Surely t. and of the delft craze has fully arrived when furniture is enameled in the shining white and painted in the brilliant blue. Chairs are to be bought, all windmills and watery channels outlined by stiff little trees. Even cradles are thus painted by some evil minded designer who has not learned the first principles of his art and who is not aware of the height of absurdity reached by such designs so used. A very dainty cradle was seen not long aro, painted in a dresden design of the violets, resebuds and forgetmenots on a white ground. By the way, although an amateur cannot paint furniture in any sort of pattern, almost any woman can wield a brush well enough to give a piece of furniture a few coats of paint, and now one can buy all possible shades in a powdered form so that their mixing

with the white enamel until the exact tint wished for is attained is an easy matter within the reach of any of us who desire to renovate an old chair or table.

She Runs an Electric Car.

Miss Hattie K. Miller of Santa Bar bara, Cal., is probably the only woman in the world earning her living as motorman on an electric car. When electric street cars were first introduced in Santa Barbara a few months ago, she made a thorough study of the principles on which they were operated. When she applied for the situation, she answered all the requirements so well that she was appointed without hesitation. She likes the work. "It is like sitting in the saddle and guiding a gay horse in a sharp race over a wild road," she said recently to a reporter. "When I grasped the motor brake, I felt I had a force under my control that could outrun a

horse or any moving thing. I knew I had human lives in my charge, but I felt that it required skill, not muscle, to estimate the speed of the car, to round the curves properly and to start and stop as required." Miss Miller is said to be as good looking as she is intelligent.

Miss Anna Millar

Miss Anna Millar holds one of the most important managerial positions in the country. As manager of the Chicago Orchestral association, with Theodore Thomas and his great corps of mnsicians under her control, she is a big factor in the musical world, and as the chosen administrator of the influentia business men who give the orchestra its backing she is in a position calling for business ability and tact such as are demanded of few women in the land.

The Home Garden.

Remove the dead leaves from plants every day and sprrs the foliage with water. This will give the plants a fresh appearance and will, in great measure, keep down insects. Tie up neatly to stakes all straggling, growing plants. Cleanliness of this kind helps to keep the air of the room pure and contributes to the viger of the plants. Turn the pote frequently o the plants may not grow one sided.

To the pond, with queckings loud, Followed her the noisy crowd. Caught behind the ponderous stone One poor gosling staid elone.



she stepped, and, ah, 'tis true, flew board and goslin;'s tool trued to fly-alackaiay-In an unexpected way!

Naughty Peter watched the fun, Grinning at the mischief done. -St. Faul's.

Arithmetic and Geography.

It is an interesting fact that the two studies of arithmetic and geography seem to be diametrically opposed to each other in the affections of school children. Pupils who are particularly proficient in one are apt to be backward in the other.

A story is told of a little boy who was slow in arithmetic and whose apparent stupidity in this field was a great grief to his father, who had been a hematician. One day, when the father and son were walking out, they passed a place where a "learned pig was on exhibition, and the father took the boy in to see the prodigies that the "Just look at that," said the fath

"Why, there's a pig that can count a: add up numbers. Don't you wish y were as smart as he?" "Ha!" answered the boy. "Just 1

me ask him a few questions in geogr phy. "-Youth's Companion.

> The Mysterious Guests. I had three friends. I asked one day

That they would dine with me, But when they came I found that they Were six instead of three. My good wife whispered: "We, at be But five can hope to dine. Send one sway." I did. The rest Romaining numbered nine.

"I, too, will go," the second cried. He left at once, and then, Although to count but etc.ht I tried. There were remaining ten.

"Go call them back!" my wife implore "I fear the third may go And leave behind, to share our beerd.

Perhaps a score or so. The second one then straight reture As might have been expected. He with the ten, we quickly loarned Eleven made. Dejected,

We saw the first returning. He, With all the rest, turned round, And there, bohold, were my friends there, Though six they still were found.

Por those of you who yet may find My riddle too complex
Fil say the friends I had in mind
Were 'S' and 'I' and 'X.''
-Ralph G. Taber in St. Nicholas

One For the Doctor.

"You look very much better today, little one, " said the doctor to the youth ful invalid.

'How do you know, sir? You haven't looked at my tongue yet," was the reply. - Exchange.

respect from his companions, wi this power in a marked degree. Every stray dog or cat in the neighborhood knows him and loves to be in his company. A vicious horse which the stableman can with difficulty handle will stand like a lamb while he harnesses and unharnesses him. The doves fly around him, and in the woods the wild birds apparently regard him as a friend and ally. The most remarkable exhibition of his power, which has long been known

and commented on by his friends, was given the other day. A large and vicious rat was captured in the stable in one of those traps which permit of easy ingress and no egress. The men who were looking at the animal were afraid to go near the trap, the animal showed such terror, but the boy, when he beheld the imprisoned creature, fearlessly put out his finger and stroked its head, the rat manifesting as much pleasure as would a cat or dog.-London Star.

Supped In IIIs English.

Many funny stories are told about the famous maestro, Signor Arditti, and his efforts at expression in the not too familiar English tongue. The best, perhaps, relates his impromptu speech some years ago at the promenade concert, when Mlle. de Lido had been detained by a railway breakdown, and, having no time to put on evening attire, she sat for the moment in a private box while the conductor begged the indulgence of the audience, who naturally would have been astonished to see her in traveling costume. Signor Arditti boldly took the plunge. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "Mlle. de Lido is undressed in a box. But she will sing if you weesh." And the wicked promenaders laughingly shouted an immediate affirmative. -London Tit-Bits.

One Better.

An Englishman was boasting to an American that they had in the British museum a book which was once owned by Cicero. "Oh, that ain't nothin!" retorted the

American. "In the museum in Boston they've got the lead pencil that Noah used to check off the animals that went into the ark. "--Woman's Journal.

The Water Lily.

Several specimens of water lilies have the very curious peculiarity of blooming all day, and at evening closing their blossoms, and, by retracting the stem, drawing the flower entirely under water. There is no more singular fact in the history of flowers than this oddity of the water lily.

Ptolemy, king of Macedon, was the Thunderbolt, from the vigor of his military movements.

Strategic Mr. Chaffle.

Mrs. Chaffic-I don't know how J

can get Johnnie to take his medicine. If I tell him what it is, he won't take it, and if I don't tell him he won't take it.

Mr. Chaffic-I'll tell you what to do. Just put it on the table and forbid him to touch it, and then he will take it sure. -London Tit-Bits.

pleasures for the children. Boys are required to look after the ponies, to lend a hand in planting, to belp in the harvest, and they are often made to do active duty as scarecrows in the newly planted field, where, like little Bopeep, they fall fast asleep. The girls help to gather wood, bring water and look after the younger ones. As they grow older they are taught to out, sew and make garments. In former days, the old Omahas say, no girl was considered marriageable until she had learned to tan skins, make tents and clothing, prepare meat for drying and could cultivate corn and beans, while a young man who had not learned to make his own weapons and to be a skillful hunter was not considered fitted to take upon bimself the responsibilities of the provider of a family .- " Home Life Among the Indians," by Alice C. Fletcher, in Centu-7.

The Glamour of Distance.

It is laughable how the consuls of the different nations in Africa, Asia and South America are frequently criticised by their papers at home for not being more assiduous in looking after the commercial interests of their countries, and how they are bidden to take pattern by the representatives of other nations Thus the British trade papers held the German and United States consuls up as admirable examples, and the United Etates and Germany go into raptures over the faithful and energetic conduct of the Britishers. And so it goes cn .---New York Merchants' Review.

Denver's "Daughters."

The Denver Daughters of the Revolution opened the new year in new quarters in the City Troop armory. They will hereafter keep open house all the time, and are the first woman's organization in Denver to attempt such a thing. The Woman's club of Denver also has quarters in the armory and moved in simultaneously with the Daughters.

Moody's Advice to Wires.

Addressing women who are wives the other day in Trement temple, Bosten, Mr. Moody told them that if they have just complaint against their hustands they should seek divorce. Anticipating the objection that such advice would break up homes, he declared that he gave it for the upbuilding of the home and the defense of the family honor.

Mothers and Daughters.

Brooklyn has a cuchre club called the Methers and Daughters' club. No one is eligible for membership who cannot bring a mother or a daughter with her. They meet for play in the afternoon, and when once assembled they quickly separate into two groups, chi composed entirely of daughters, the other of mothers.

Economy.

Little Dick-Papa, didn't you tell mamma we must economize? Papa-I did, my son. Little Dick-Well, I was thinkin that mebby if you'd get me a pony I wouldn't

THE EUSMOPOLITAN.

This monthly magazine is one of the very best printed in this country, and is sold to all subscribers at rates within the ability of all to pay. It is finely illes trated and presents the names of famous authors as contributors. The West and the Cosmopolitan are sold at reduced rates at this office.

THE ARENA

"We do not take possession of our ideas but are possessed by them. They master us and force us into the arena, Where like gladiators, we must fight for them." Such is the exalted motio of the Arena, and the entire contents of this monthly magazine are upon a plane and in keeping with its motto. The Arena's gallery of eminent thinkers is a group of interesting men and women, and their thoughts are worthy the consideration of all people. The Arena is sold with THE WEST.

Louis -

MAKE YOUR SELECTION.

LOOK OVER THIS GROUP.

FLORENCE. OR.

wear out so many shoes. -Good News. THE