



WAITING.

Serene, I fold my hands and wait, Nor care for wind, or tide, or sea; I rave no more 'gainst time or fate, For lo! my own shall come to me.

A TRAP FOR THE CZAR.

NIGHT was falling over St. Petersburg—one of those raw, damp, gloomy nights which are worse by far than the hard, dry, crackling frosts of the Russian winter—when a tall man, in the long gray froze overcoat and military cap of an infantry officer, came slowly across the great square in front of the Winter Palace.

about the streets in the rain all alone, with no crown on or anything, instead of sitting on his golden throne with a diamond on his head, like the great King Solomon, whom Father Paul used to tell us about?

searched from one end to the other, they were nowhere to be found. The author of the strange plot, of which they had been the instruments, was never discovered.



Rupert and the Monster.



THE BOGEY.



WHAT IT REALLY WAS.

When Rupert to the closet goes, by feeble candle light, He sees a dreadful bogey there, and quickly takes to flight.

What Rufy Was Afraid Of. He said it modestly enough—not at all in a boastful way. You see, he was only quoting grandma.

"I heard her say it—I couldn't help hearing," Rufy said, quietly. And of course he couldn't help the soft little pink color that spread all over his cheeks, either.

"This is a queer age we live in," sighed a young housekeeper. "We've just lost a very good cook for a very absurd reason, I think.

"As she was so very quiet I could not tell whether or not she was as well pleased with us as we were with her; but about six weeks ago the trouble began.

"Your house is just as handsome as anybody's," she went on; "other people that I've lived with entertained all the time and their houses weren't near as pretty or as nice as yours; you never have anything but a club meeting once in awhile.

"I reiterated my two reasons—that we couldn't spend the money in that way and that we preferred simple amusements. Ella didn't seem satisfied; but the matter was dropped.

"Last Monday," said the young wife, according to the Detroit Free Press, "she asked to spend a week at home with her sick aunt, and, as I couldn't well refuse, she departed. To-day I received a postal card from her couched in these words:

"Dear Mrs. Blank—My aunt is better, but I'm not coming back. I've got a more stylish place."

The Reporter Scores. Senator Tracale—Did you tell that reporter I had nothing to say?

Servant—Yes, sir. Senator Tracale—I suppose he was very much disappointed.

Servant—I hardly know, sir. He said he was aware of the fact that you never said anything but was under the impression that you never missed an opportunity to talk.

Chairhouse. A New York institution gets its name, "chairhouse," from the fact that human beings so poor they cannot buy a lodging at the cheapest Bowery resorts, put up 5 cents for a chance to occupy a chair for the night.

Ignorance in Russia. Official statistics show that there are 17,000,000 children in Russia between the ages of 6 and 14 receiving absolutely no education.

Many a man with a good scheme lacks the required nerve to push it through.

One man's fad is another man's fortune.

"found out." He sat up in bed and uttered a little exclamation. "Oh, I know—I know! And—it's so!" he cried, in shame. "She meant I was afraid of work!"—Youth's Companion.

Angels Were a Little Slow. "Mamma," called 4-year-old Bobby from the nursery, "please come and sit by my bed until I go to sleep."

"Mamma's busy now," was the reply. "Just keep quiet and the angels will be with you."

"You said that before, mamma," rejoined the little fellow, "and I kept quiet ever so long, but not an angel showed up."

Thankful for Doctor's Skill. "Have they any candy in heaven, mamma?" asked little 4-year-old Margie, who was slowly recovering from a serious illness.

"I think not, darling," replied her mother. "Then," said the little invalid, "I'm awful glad we've got such a good doctor."

Maggie Couldn't Understand. "Mamma," said little Margie, "the minister says I got my blue eyes from you."

"Yes, dear, I suppose you did," replied her mother. "Why, mamma," exclaimed the little miss in surprise, "did you use to have four eyes?"

A Necessity in a Needle. "How do you spell needle, Bobby?" asked the teacher. "N-e-e-d-l-e, needle," was the reply.

"Wrong," said the teacher, "there is no 'i' in needle." "Well, then, tain't a good needle,"—Little Chronicle.

Tommy's Trick. "How old are you, mamma?" queried little 5-year-old Tommy. "Well, I'm over 18," replied the mother with a smile. "But why do you ask?"

"Oh, I just wanted to see how you would get out of telling a story," said Tommy.

SCARCITY OF CORKS. How Excessive Demand Has Developed Several Queer Industries.

The fact that the world's supply of cork is much less than the demand has been working a peaceful revolution in many trades.

In the big hotels, restaurants and saloons the cork perchquisite is now a moderately valuable privilege. They are no longer cast contemptuously by, but are thrown into a box or cask, where they accumulate until the cork-picker arrives, who pays a round sum in cash for all offered to him.

The peddler who buys them sells them to the second-hand man, who sorts them into various classes. Many large corks can be recut with considerable profit. Others which have been injured can be cut so as to discard the injured portions and utilize that which is sound.

The tool illustrated can be easily fashioned by any blacksmith. It is similar in form to the grubbing hoe familiar to most farmers, although not so hard. It should be made so that the wide blade will be about four inches wide along the edge and from one and one-half to two inches wide along the edge of the narrow blade.

Handy Farm Tool. The tool illustrated can be easily fashioned by any blacksmith. It is similar in form to the grubbing hoe familiar to most farmers, although not so hard. It should be made so that the wide blade will be about four inches wide along the edge and from one and one-half to two inches wide along the edge of the narrow blade.

Sublime Nerve. The most phenomenal case of nerve known on the American continent is reported from Wichita. A rug peddler called several times at a house and found the people away from home.

Usual Thing. Ping—How did you come out on that stock deal last week? Pong—Lost \$500. Ping—But I thought you said a friend had given you a pointer? Pong—So I thought—but it turned out to be a disappointment.

According to the opinion of the average man, there are a great many worse and but few better men in the world than himself.

The more a man knows that should be forgotten the better his memory is.



AGRICULTURAL

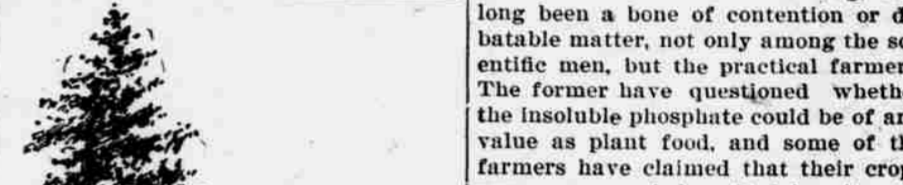
work will be rendered much easier by having a large quantity of the one variety. In facing the barrel pick out fruit that is fairly representative of the contents of the barrel.

Comfortable Resting Place. Where the trees about one's house are small, or where there are none, this arrangement, described in Country Gentleman, will be found pleasant in summer.

The floor and framework of this shady resting place are made of wood, while the covering is either white duck or striped awning cloth, sold at all dry goods stores—the only fault to be found with the latter being its liability to fade.

Insoluble Phosphates. The use of insoluble phosphates, whether in the form of phosphatic rock or of the so-called Thomas slag, has long been a bone of contention or debatable matter, not only among the scientific men, but the practical farmers.

To Cure Bad Habits. A bad vice sometimes crops out in the herd when a cow or two begins to draw its own milk by sucking. To prevent this vice, fasten a frame as portrayed. Fists of hard wood, 10 or 12 inches long and 1 1/2 inches square, are held together by eight round pointed sticks of tough hard wood two feet long and one inch in diameter, passing through the hard wood sticks. These dimensions may be too large for a small neck. Fasten the round sticks in the desired place with screws 3/4 inch long. The yoke may then be removed or adjusted to fit a large or small neck.—Farm and Home.



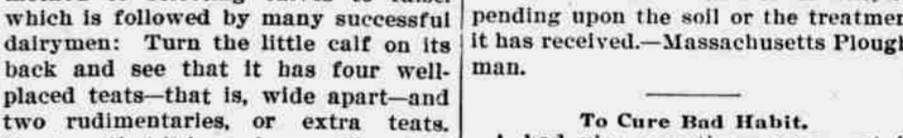
Wind-Sucking Horse. The habit of wind sucking, or stump sucking, as many call it, is practically incurable, except by a difficult operation which can only be performed by an expert surgeon familiar with the anatomy of the parts.

Farm Notes. If one has been so unwise as to have gotten in more area of crops than he can cultivate properly it may pay him even now to abandon some of it and cultivate thoroughly the remaining portion.

Some of the weeds that cover the fields will be eaten off by sheep if the animals are given an opportunity to destroy them. Put the sheep at work at this season and they will destroy many weed pests.

There is no need of disorderly back yards in summer time. It is always possible to pick up an. make the place clean and if there are unsightly objects or outlooks they may be concealed by quick-growing vines or plants. Morning glories, reclusus or castor bean, and the newer golden glow are all valuable as screens.

There is always something new in weeds. Just when the farmer has conquered the advance crop he encounters at this season of the year one of the most persistent of all pests—crab grass. It grows very rapidly and on all kinds of soil. It is very easily destroyed when young, but if it gets a start and covers the ground it sometimes happens that the field must be abandoned until next year.



DOUBLE-EDGE HOE.

ordinary garden hoe and the edges kept well sharpened, one may work very close to the plants in the rows without injury to them.

This tool would be especially useful in working among strawberry plants, using the wide edge for cutting off the runners and the narrow one for weeding close to the plants. A few tools of this kind would cost but little and save their cost in one season.

Proper Packing of Fruit. The finer varieties of fruit should be packed in boxes. When barrels are used the best fruit is injured by overpressing. The fruit must be packed at the right time. Last year a lot of the Northern Spys were picked so early that very serious loss is the result, because the warm weather has ruined their keeping qualities. The question of grading is too large a one to deal with here. Great care is necessary in grading, and the