IN A MAIL BAG.

A Curious Mixture of Joy and Sadness, Humor and Pathos.

"See here, will you please be so kind as to move away? Don't hug up so close to me, you-you black-bordered envelope."

"Excuse me. I feel so badly that I hardly know what I am doing. I know you do not like my company; nobody does. I don't blame them. I am sorry, You look happy, you dainty pink envelope, sealed with blue wax. Blue wax is the symbol of love, is it not?"

"Yes, true love. Love true and pure as the skies, and as enduring. I am a love letter."

And the pink envelope fairly glowed with the bliss of its scaled kisses. It bore the smell of forget-me-nots, and its pretty direction was as fine and perfect as copperplate. Truly it had a right to glow and throb-for it was love that kindled its warmth and sent a thrill through its every fiber.

"Alas! I carry a sad message to a far-off home-

"What is it? Tell me. Love, you know, is very curious, and-and-my pretty lady never sent such a letter as I am before in all her life. Tell me your secret and I will tell you mine ---" "Stop that nonsense, you two there in the corner of the bag, can't you?"

"Who are you?" asked the loveletter quickly. It was such a happy, giddy thing that it could afford to brave and face even a business-like similar to that of lettres de cachet in envelope with the picture of a mighty structure in one corner.

"Well, I'm a full-grown business let- utos. ter, and I'm on my way to tell a man that our firm can not give him any more eredit. I'm fired of hearing you two in the corner gabbling, and I wish you feature, it was seldom resorted to. An CATARRI would quit it at once."

are so closely allied that even the commonest of us ought to consider and have patience.'

"Well, well, who spoke in that dear tone?"

"I come from a great poet. He is a leader of mankind. He helped to free the slaves; and he has done much good in this great world. He is now an old. white-haired man; and he sits in the golden sunset of life, respected, beloved and estremed by the whole world. He has written his name upon the page of time, and all the ages to come will never erase that name. He is known abolished, but in name only; it was reas Whittier."

And for a brief period the mail bag was silent. It was great company they -those wonderful, mysterious, different, queer and eurious missives were in. The dainty pink love letter nestled against the black-bordered one. The one carrying a sad, sad message to some one far away. The stern, businesslike letter, with never a word or line of rythm in it, lay side by side with a commonplace envelope bearing a poem fresh from the hands and brain and heart and soul of one of the purest singers God ever gave the divine gift of poetry to. And then another voice broke the stillness, and the rest shuddered as they heard its rough, brutal tones.

"And if ye air keerful, pard, ye kin kill the ole cuss wi' one blow o' ver club. He hain't no longer strong; jess a little tap-presto; he's dead an' the swag is yourn."

"Who dare speak of such a theme as murder? Do you know that I came from the hand of one of the highest judges in the land? Reveal yourself, villain, and let the strong hand of the law throttle your murderous design before it goes further," came from a long, legal missive with a red seal. But the criminal letter said not a word: it only slipped down out of sight and was covered finally by a letter from a farmer. In this latter letter was a check for one hundred dollars; and the letter was worded as follows: "Send me the one thousand in 'green goods' soon as possible. I think I can use them without much trouble."

Then all was quiet again for a period. "O, dear boy, I hear bad news from you, Don't do it any more. It has killed your mother and is killing me, your poor old father. Don't drink! don't drink! don't drink!"

"Aye! aye! so say we all," cried out four or five from a little pile.

"And when we cracked the last bottle, Jack, a sigh went around our little circle. We had piled in the stuff pretty freely and were feeling good. The last bottle! That almost broke our hearts. Our motto is-'a merry life and a short one'"

"Gracious, I smell something like a drunken man's breath. I don't want nothing more to do with you," breke in a long, lean, spidery envelope as it slipped down among a lot of jolly letters from some school girls. The spinster's letter lay there, drinking in with keen delight the merry prattle of the girls' letters. It felt young again and -it made a stern determination to enter the lists once more and battle bravely for some man's heart. Helter skelter, rough and tumble-all in a mixed pile upon a table the letters were thrown by the hands of the mail clerk. Flutter, flitter, flash and flurry-here. there, everywhere, but all properly distributed at last.

And when the recipients of each letter received his or her mail all were at last safely housed.

The tears that fell upon the blackbordered missive, the kisses rained upon the pink love-letter, the pale look that confronted the business letter, and all the cries of joy, the sobs of sorrow. the chuckles of exultation and the other thousand and one expressive terms and acts-all went out in air; and the mail bag never told the story of its romance. -H. S. Keller, in Detroit Free Press.

-Dried sharks' fins are found in every Chinese store in New York, and seil for four dollars per pound.

THE RUSSIAN POLICE. How It is Organized and Administered at

the Present Time. The police in Russia, as in all absolute ing officials and protecting the govern-

ment. Alexander I., in imitation of for the water absorbed by his clothes. Napoleon, made it a department of the State. Nicholas, refining thereon, divided it into two sections—the ordinary police, under the Minister of the Interior, and the secret police, under the Emperor in person. The latter was a privileged body, above all law, responsible only to the Czar, and with almost unlimited authority. Its head was member of the Committee of Minsters, and by his intimate relations with the sovereign and freedom from other control became the most powerful personage in the empire. This institution was preserved by Alexander II.
with its a tributions intact. Although stitution was preserved by Alexander II. by law subjects of the Czar could no onger be arrested and condemned without legal process, the Third Section could seize, incarcerate or deport at will, and even secretly. By jesuits ical distinction it did not pretend to panish or to interfere with the course punish or to interfere with the course of justice against crime; it merely sunpressed indefinitely individuals who were deemed a danger to public order. Its existence after the inauguration of the reign of law presents an anomaly You will save France, of which the King could avail at pleasure, despite tribunals and stat-

During the early years of Alexander Trouble, IL's reign, when Russia seemed proattempt upon his life in 1866 restored "Love and death, my staid friend, it to favor and activity. Notwithstanding its irresponsible character and its almost unlimited powers, it was worsted in the duel with nihilism from CREAN BALM 1870 to 1878. Of its last chiefs, General M. zentsoi was assassinated, and Gen- ELV RReTHERS 56 Warren St. New York eral Dreatela, severely wounded, resigned. I sinefficiency caused a change in its organization; a double police Led at times to absurd results, and the publie agents of one department often wasted their efforts in pursuing the emissaries of the other, acting in secret. After the explosion of the Winter Palace, in 188), the Thirl Section was moved from the imperial chancellery and united to the ordinary police, in order, by giving the whole SARSAPARILLA, service a single head, to increase its efficiency. Both departments were placed under General Loris Melikof, upon whom, as Minister of the Interior, almost dictatorial powers
were conferred for the preservation of public order. While this change made J. R. CATES & CO., Proprietors. no alteration in the attributions of the secret police, it was a slight gain in principle. The Third Section was no longer under the personal direction of the Czar, but became one of the departments of government, and as such was Call or Dr. Spinney & Co. subject to administrative control.

The unreasoning violence and monstrous atrocities of the radical party not only led to the revival of this tremendous engine of despotism with increased powers, they have also turned the wheel of progress backward, deprived the nation of liberties accorded, and destroyed the hope of further concessions for years to come .- Albert F. Heard, in Harper's Magazine.

TURKISH INVITATIONS.

Literary Paroxysms That Are Absolutely Absurd and Nanseating.

The Oriental imagery, so plentiful in all the written communications of the Eastern peoples, has been carried by the Turks to the point where its literary paroxysms become very absurd. One Effendi, or dignitary, writing to another, speaks of himself as "thy ser-"thy miserable valet," "thy slave," and so on, while all his references to the person addressed are to "thy highness," "thy gracious lordship." "thy most exalted personality," and the like.

The Turk, in addressing his equals or superiors, never uses the plain words "you" or "me." Instead of "I saw you the other day at the mosque," he says: "I observed at the mosque the dust of your excellency's feet," There is a Turkish proverb which declares the word "ene" to be always and everywhere hateful.

Here are two genuine Turkish invitations to festivals:

"Noble and venerated friend: Tonight, when the silver barque of the moon, now fourteen days old, floats out upon the sky's azure expanse, bestowing apon all the world romance and tenderness, we shall be assembled at the village of Rumili Hissar, in the place called Hozreti-Mollah, a spot full of delights; and all the night, even to the rising of the sun, we shall taste the pleasure of the feast. We shall not admit a delay so great as the thickness of a bair. May the fleetness of sails and the strength of rowers bring thee, thou

source of joy, to all thy friends!" "Most gracious master and most venerated lord: This evening, if it please Allah, when the great king of the army of stars, the sun of all the worlds, shall, setting forth towards the realms of the shadows, thrust his foot into the stirrup of velocity, thou art besought to illuminate us with the bright rays of thy countenance, which, indeed, rivals the sun's. Thy arrival, like that of the zephyr of the spring-time, will, for us, dissipate the somber right of solitude and desolution."

And this ponderous composition is only an invitation to "come and dine at six." - Fouth's Companion.

-A noted instance of a very small, yet perfectly developed dwarf, was the celebrated Bornlawsky, of twenty-nine inches height, who died in 1827, aged about forty.

-A champers case of meanace is reported from Montreal Tim omploye of a co ceca secides talle fell into the water while in the performmonarchies, has had to combine the ance of he duties and had his wages duty of preventing crime and watching | docked for the time lost while he was over the people with that of supervis- getting dre! A local paper thinks the man was lucky in not being used



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CAPITAL PAID IN.

CAPITAL PAID IN.

Side, oo.

ACCOUNTS Lond subject to there.

Side, oo

There is a woman living at Hannibal, Mowho is so heavy she can't walk, and is wheeled around in a cart by an arla-bodied attendant. She wei, he 410 pounds, and otherwise is in good

A STAB IN THE DARK

A STAB IN THE DARK

Sometimes fails of its murderous intent. The insiduous and dastardly attacks made upon the reputation of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters by persons who seek to paim off cheap and flery tonics as identical with a or "the same thing under another name," or "counally as good," in most instances react disastrously upon the naprincipled traders upon popular credulity who attempt them, converting their speculations into ruinous failures. The Bitters is a pure, wholesome and thorough medicine, shaped to the total cure and prevention of fi verand saue, bilious remittent, dyspepsia, constipation, biliousness, debility, nervou ness and kidney troubles. Its every ingredient, unlike those in the imitations of it, is of an ascertained standard of excellence, and while they, by reason of their flery properties, react injuriously upon the brain and nervous system, of both those organs it is a sedative and invigorant. Refuse all these harmful imitations.

Fresh lime scattered around the cellar will help to keep it dry.

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The convict is naturally in a good humor when he's breaking out.

"Yes; I shall break the engagement," she said, folding her arms and looking deflant; "It is really too much to converse with him; he's as deaf as a post, and talks like ne had a mouthful of mush. Besides the way he hawks and stits is disgusting. "Don't break the engagement for that; tell him to take Dr. Sage's catair'h Remody. It will ure him completely." Well, I'll tell him. I do hate to break it off, for in all other respects he's quite too charm. for in all other respects he's quite too charming." Of course it cured his catarrh.

The offner flower is sifted for sponge cake the lighter the cake will be.

SPINAL WEAKNESS AND LUNG TROUBLES. 56 FRINCE STREET, NEW YORK,

March 25, P81, Having been troubled with pains in back and chest during the last Winter I was compelled to remain at home unable to attend to business, until I was advised by a friend to try one of Allcock's Ponors Plastens. After applying one to my chest and one to my back in three hours I found relief which I had not got in over three months. I cheerfully recommend them to persons having spinal weakness and lung troubles. HENRY J. GALLAGHER

The Czar of Russia is building a castle near Kasha in Finland.

REMARKABLE SURGERY. The science of surgery has made such won-derful progress in modern times that the most intricate and delicate operations are now un-dertaken and carried to a successful issue. There are now several well authenticated cases of what is known as pneumotony, that is to say the removal of diseased portions of the lungs in cases of consumption. While, how-ever, this delicate operation has sometimes been successfully performed, the risks attend-ing it are so great, and the chances of recovers so slight, that it is sel om resorted to. The safest plan in consumptive cases is to use 1r. Pierce's Golden Medical D scovery. This will always cure the disease in its earlier stages, thoroughly arresting the ravages of the terrible malady, by removing its cause and healing the

There are not more than 150,000 Quakers in

Consumption, Wasting Diseases. And General Debility. Dectors disagree as to the relative value of Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites; the one supplying strength and flesh, the other giving nerve power, and actiog as a tonic to the digestive and entire system. But in Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites the two are combined, and the effect is wonderful. Thousands who have derived no permanent benefit from other preparations have been cured by this. Emulsion is perfectly paintable and easily di-gested by those who cannot tolerate plain Cod Liver Oil.

A strong effort is being made in London against extravagance in funerals.

THE NEW PRIZE STORY is eagerly sought for, read with pleasure or disis eagerly sought for, read with pleasure or dis-appointment, is then tossed aside and forgotten. But lacies who read Dr. Pierce's Favorite Pre-scription, read it again, for they discover in it something to prize—a messenger of joy to those suffering from functional derangements or any of the painful disorders or weaknesses pecul-iar to their sex. Periodical pains, internal in-flammation and ulceration, readily yield to its wonderful curative and healing powers. It is the only medicine for women, sold by druggists, under a positive guarantee from the manufac-turers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or money will be refunded. This guaran-tee has been print d on the bottle-wrapper, and faithfully carried out for many years.

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See Antisell Piano advertisement. TRY GERMEA for breakfast,

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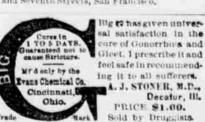
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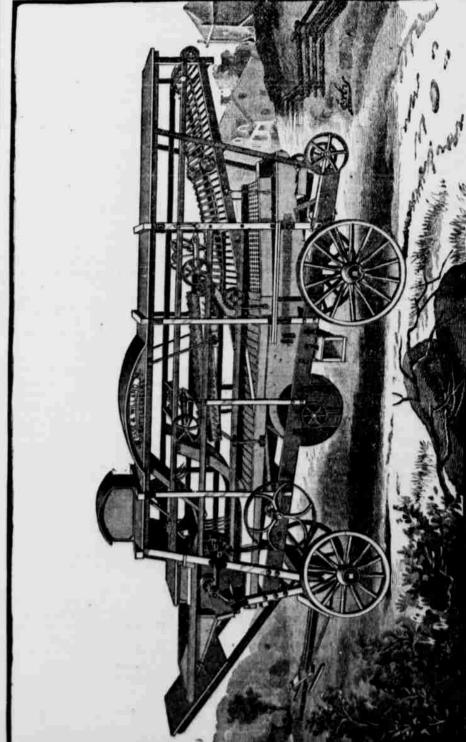
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