Proposing by the Dictionary. 656666666666666666666666666666666

tlonary at a fire sale. It was un- tionary a minute." abridged and contained eighty thousand words printed on one thousand two hundred and heavy white paper. There was no ap- quisite terment. pendix of weights

and measures and proper names, but

Ruth laid the dictionary on the small table that stood in the center of the ful bore," room, a perfect monument of ugliness, and without unwrapping it or vouchsafing any explanation as to what it their limbe parlor and began to remove. the dust and cinders she always carried home with her from the downtown district.

Her mother regarded the package on the table with increased eurloshy. She a corner of the paper covering, but she dld not remove the wrapper,

Buth came back into the parlor at length and sat down near the window. Mrs. Culberson looked from the package to her daughter and back again in stlent agony. Evidently she could endure the strain no longer.

"What did you get to-day, Ruthle?" she asked, meckly.

Ruth turned round with a wondering air, as if not fully comprehending the import of the query. Her eyes followed her mother's to the ugly center table, and, "Oh, that," she said, with a smile, "that's a dictionary.

Mrs. Culberson's dismay could not have been more complete had she been informed that her daughter had brought home a boa constrictor.

"And what did you get that for, Ruthle?" she asked.

"Because I needed lt," returned Ruth.

"Itumsthave been pretty expensive," hazarded her mother.

"Yes," sighed Ruth, "It cost nineteen

Mrs. Culberson appeared relieved.

but not entirely satisfied.

"It seems to me, Ruthle," she went on querulously, "that a girl who works his finger rested. There was one word for ten dollars a week, which is the underlined with a pencil, and she knew only income two people have to depend upon, ought not to be spending her money for a dictionary. If you had nineteen cents to spare for books why didn't you buy three or four of those paper-backed novels instead of a dictionary?"

"Mother," said Ruth, quietly, "I wish you hadn't asked that. It makes it necessary for me to remind you of some things that would perhaps better be left unsaid. Whose fault is it that we have to live on ten dollars a week? Is it mine? Did I take what money my father had left us and squander it in dishonorable speculation? Is it my fault that I have had to work ever since I was ten years of age?

"Am I to be blamed because you, in your old age and sickness, are obliged to sit here day after day in this cheerless, comfortless room which is all I can give you except the food that holds soul and body together? And, lastly, mother, is it my fault that my education was so neglected when I was young that I find it necessary to refer so often to the dictionary now? I am. not complaining, mother, but you ought not to reproach me for indulging in just one expenditure in which your comfort was not considered,"

In spite of Mrs. Culberson's keen disappointment in regard to her daughter's purchase, she derived unlimited satisfaction from dllating on the merits of the dictionary to the other board-

"If you ever want to look anything up," she said cordially, "just drop into our room and see what the dictionary says. You'll always find it on the stand in the front room."

The Culbersons lived in a boarding house where dictionaries were a rare commodity. Indeed, Ruth's was the only one about the house, except Mr. Winter's, which was an exceedingly small pocket edition, that contained only the words most in common use.

But somehow as soon as it became known that there was a large dictionary in Mrs. Culberson's room on the second floor, and that everybody had been given free access thereto, the destre for knowledge was given a wonderful impetus.

But the person who found occasion to refer to the blg book most frequently was Mr. Winter. Mr. Winter was a grocer. Of course, in his business he daily met with many terms that required elucidation. Hitherto he had found the pocket edition perfectly satisfactory, but after the advent of the unabridged dictionary, the much-worn, green-backed little book suddenly lost its usefulness, and never an evening clockwork-tick, tick

R UT H CULBER- passed that Mr. Winter did not rap at son bought her dies Mrs. Culberson's door and politely request to "come in and look at the die-

His prolonged visits annoyed Mrs. Culberson at first. His presence prevented her scolding at Ruth, and as he himself seemed deeply immersed in scholastic lore, thus forbidding opening eighty-one pages of a conversation with blue, the poor old and drinks will find much to inferest lady's evenings became seasons of ex-

up here so often," she said, petulantly, gether it would weigh fourbon tons, then she paid only nineteen cents for it. one night, after he had closed the dic- He has feasted on a good shed herd of tionary and gone away. "He's an aw-

> "It's your own fault he comes," said Ruth. "You invited him."

was she went into the alcove adjoining Mrs. Culberson, "I invited all of them. Doesn't be annoy you?"

"No," she said, softly; "I don't know that he does,"

As the spring days took on the heat of summer Mrs. Culbersen became more fretful, Ruth became younger felt it and lifted it and tried to tear off and prottler, and Mr. Winter studied a little later hour each evening in blissful oblivion of the added heat of the

Mrs. Culberson had long since censed sitting up waiting for him to go, but bade him good-night and went to bed in the alcove.

One evening in early June, one o'clock passed and Mr. Winter had as yet made no movement toward going away. Ruth watched him closely, as she always did when he seemed engrossed with the words before him and she noticed that he had not turned a page for more than an hour.

He looked up at length and their eyes met. Ruth felt ber face flushing again, and with the realization of her weakness the flush grew deeper.

"It's a pretty knotty problem that I have been puzzling over to night," be said, with a sigh.

"Couldn't you find what you are looking for?" she asked softly.

"I hardly know. I found the word I wanted. Whether it will ever mean to me what I would like it to mean I do not know. Here it is, I have been looking at it a good deal intely."

He turned the big dictionary around till she could read the line over which it was the one he wished her to sec. It spelled I-o-v-e.

"Is that ever to be for me?" he asked. The blush had deepened into scarlet then. For a moment a look of exceeding happiness transfigured her face, but a moment later the old troubled expression drove it away. She turned the leaves of the dictionary till she came to the word "mother."

"That's all right," he sald, and nodded toward the alcove.

Away over near the back of the book her next answer was found.

"Ruth," called out Mrs. Culberson a most men and women." quarter of an bour later, "what made Mr. Winter stay so late this evening?"

"He was looking at the dictionary, "Did he find what he wanted?" ask-

ed Mrs. Culberson. "Yes, mother," said Ruth, "I believe

he did."-Chicago News.

An Unnamed Hero.

Among the melancholy applications for "leave to presume death" in the Stella disaster was one touching in its revelation of a deed of heroism. The applicant was a Miss Baker, whose father, a major, had gone down with the vessel. Both were about to perish when the father made a piteous appeal to a boat load of passengers who were leaving the side to find room for his daughter. One man, of whose identity there is absolutely no trace, instantly stepped back to the ship and allowed the lady to take his place. As the boat cleared the side the vessel went down, carrying with it the girl's father and her unknown rescuer. How beautiful! how unutterably sad! His anonymity seems somehow to enhance the heroic granduer of his death. Nothing would have been gained by knowing his name. A man capable of such a deed wants no mortuary honors, nor the local habitation of a monument. He belongs to the infinite of greatness, and his fitting grave is the sea .- London Dally News.

Stealing Diamonds.

A hole in his right heel enabled a negro workman in the diamond fields of South Africa to secrete and steal gems to the value of \$273,000. These he expressed in small parcels of fruits to a cousin in King William's Town, in the extreme south of Africa, from which place both recently departed for

When you are invited out to dinner, would you rather have a lot of style or a plenty to ent?

Some people do business just like

EDIBLES REQUIRED BY A MAN MAKE GREAT BULK.

In Seventy Years of Life He Lats a Herd of Cattle, and Drinks More than Would Fitt the Heidelberg Tun-In teresting Comparisons.

A prominent scientist of a mathematical turn, having a little space time on his hands, devoted some of it recently to computing the bulk of food he has consumed in the secenty years of his life. The resulting figures are surprising, and in the comparative details of his report the average man who cars hlm. The scientist says, in summing up, that if all the bread he has eaten "I don't know what makes him come | could be duplicated and gathered toexen, sheep and pass which, if represented in one animal of each of the kinds mentioned, would make the prehistoric mammeths look like babies in

FOOD OF A LIFETIME. [In a lifetime of seventy years. Assum-160 pounds, ten men's forms could be made out of the salt the septuagenarian has consumed so fur. Of butter he consumes a ton, adding 250 to 300 pounds. of cheese to aid digestion. The average man, he says, will eat apples in quantities to aggregate in size one big apple measuring afteen to sixteen feet in circumference; the giant orange made up of the branges he cals in a lifetime would measure at least ten feet in circumeference, the pear five feet,

As to Consumption of Tobacco,

Man consumes five and a half pounds of solids a day, namely - One and a half pounds of breadstuffs, one pound of meat, half a pound of sich, two pounds of vegetables and fruit and half a pound of various, other foods. That means nearly a ton a year, or fifty four tons in sixty years. A man drinks at least a half plut of ten or coffee for breakfast, lunes, dinner or supper, and between times be less a full plut of something weak or strong, or both. This makes his plats, or sixty-nine galleus, per annum, equal to 4,380 gallons In seventy years. All in all, a man consumes 193,000 pounds of food and drink "Of course I invited him," retorical comparison, "If all the milk, ten, in seventy years, if his appetite is good, coffee, beer, wine, figure and and water. That equals 1.280 times his own

THE FOOD REQUIRED IN A LIFETIME.



THE DRINK OF A LIFETIME





LOAF OF BREAD CONSUMED BY A MAN IN A LIFETIME

I have used or wasted in those years," he continues, "had been stored in a vessel of sufficient capacity its size would make the famous Heidelberg tun look like 30 cents. Being an ordinary man, without special likes and dislikes in the matter of food, bread was the staff of life with me, as it is with

SOPORTION OF MAN TO MASS OF NOURISHMENT CONSUME: 15 1 TO 1800

What a Giant Potato!

He reckons that he daily are one and one-half pounds of bread, biscuit, cakes and crackers during sixty out of his seventy years of life, adding that as a boy under 10 years he probably consumed about half that quantity. This makes in seventy years 280,000 to 300,-000 pounds of brend, etc., a quantity equal to 441 cubic yards. "A man eats on the average three potatoes a day, weighing in the neighborhood of onequarter of a pound," continues this authority, "That isn't much per week and per year, perhaps, but amounts up in sixty or seventy years. Imagine twenty-one potatoes piled up week after week for seventy years, making due alowance for a lesser consumption during the first ten years. The glant potato evolved would fill two flat rallway cars of the longest kind, and 100 men would be unable to move it. Carrots and turnips, though benithful vegetables, are not eaten in great quantities, yet if those consumed by the 70-year-old man in life were formed into one a big donkey would look insignificant beside it. The rest of the vegetables he consumed would fill twelve farmers' big wagons."

The Baby and the Ox.

One of the illustrations printed herewith, showing an ox and a baby, gives the comparative size of the ox needed to supply all the beef he got away with In sixty years. The proportions are drawn accurately; the baby weighs twenty pounds, the ox 360,000 pounds. Most people eat fish of various kinds, besides meat and vegetables. Figuring one-half pound of fish as the average daily consumption, the total amount consumed by a man, if he lives to a ripe old age like our friend, the mathematician, is 10,000 pounds. The calculator asserts that he has caten 10,000 eggs. Americans are great sugar enters. The statistician quoted confesses to having eaten 6,0000 pounds of sugar since his birth. To offset the sugar, a person eats twenty-five pounds



weight, assuming that he weighs not

less than 150 pounds. Man must have his cigar, his pipe, his elgarette, or all three of them. Our mathematician says he began smoking In his twentieth year, and that he averaged one dozen of eigarettes a day. Up to the present time he has smoked 219,-000 cigaretes, which in the aggregate would fill a wrapper sixteen feet long and eighteen inches thick. He smoked also six cigars a day, which, made up in one wrapper, would weigh about two tons and measure sixteen feet three inches, and two feet thick. "I never used to smoke more than an ounce of tobacco a day," he adds. A little figuring will show that the insignificant ounce a day means 1,150 pounds of tobacco in fifty years.

Affected by Men.

Men have their little affectations, as well as women. Among the latest is that of turning the toes in. It is very impressive. With feet shod in the extraheavy and extra-big boots so fashionable just now, and accompanied by the popular peg-top trousers, the turned-in toes are at their awkwardest. It is all on account of the game of golf. Much golf makes one pigeon-toed, as is proved by the devotees of the game. Instinctively in driving and swinging the feet veer inward, and before long they point that way off the links as well as on them. This principle once established, the next step was that all ambitious to become golfers should turn their toes in. Then everybody who hoped to be taken for a golfer began to turn his toes in, and finally all those who blindly do a thing just because everybody else is doing it, and no matter how ugly and senseless the thing of sait per year, or about 1,600 pounds | may be, became pigeon-toed.

"Do Not Grasp at the Shadon and Lose the Substance,

Many people are but shadows of former selves, due to neglect of he Look out for the blood, the founds life, the actual substance; keep that a by regular use of Host's Sarappools robust health will be the result. Be to get only Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla Never Disappoints

Making None of Him. "I think," said the though mother, "that you might to might young Brown paying to note and

to our daughter." "Why?" demanded the tanging "He impresses me very la father.

"That's just it," thoughtful mother "We may toturnel s something to make the unbitions er think we regard morely all above them socially if we mental sure of him. "-thicken Park

He Boyert Not.

The other day when a sur many very hard, four or ave men were b ing a few glasses of her havily beerhouse, when one man mid to COIDTIANY:

"It's a drop of now much should stir things up in the ground One curious and man, who we known to have been sympocked sing his wife's lifetime, replied:

"By Jove, I hope had, I only lard th' wife yesterday" - ware Momen

The Irony of Pate.

"Do you see that pale your up ealling out 'Cash' at the migcounter?" 17 Yes. 22

"Fate's awful funny someting Ten years ago, when we were boys's gether, his one ambition was to by mighty hunter and catch lion wing basso, "-Tit Bitts.

An Ocean of Year

It has been calculated that some thing like 1,250,000 pints of term imbried yearly by Landoners, and the the teapot necessary to comis my amount, if properly shaped would so fortably take in the whole of St. Park cathedral. - N. Y. Sun.

The police arrested a man thesis day with a pocket full of skeletories. but released him when the man de plained that he lived in a band house.

One trouble with this world age the Atchison Globe, is that the fall killer is gallant and when he need some women he raises his hat innal of his club.

In hearly every street in Japanes cities is a public over, where it a small fee, homewives may have nedle

ners and support cooked for them. At present England sells Coloubs nearly 70 per cent of the cone sid used by the latter, and the Caust States only about 11 per cent,

C. A. Dewey, a Kennstin, Wis. hatware merchant, recontly ordered the der from a Chicago house, and ifter waiting a reasonable length of time wrote to inquire why he had not teceived it. He was informed that its ladder had been shipped by mistakes Admiral Dewey at Manila, Atmos was sent after it and it was overtake just as it was about to be placed a board of a steamer at San Francisco.



An Excellent Combination

The pleasant method and beneficial effects of the well known remety. Symue of Figs, manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP Co., illustrate the value of obtaining the liquid lass tive principles of plants known to be medicinally laxative and presenting them in the form most refreshing to the taste and acceptable to the system. is the one perfect strengthening laxitive, cleansing the system effectually-dispelling colds, headaches and fever gently yet promptly and enabling one to overcome habitual constination per-manently. Its perfect freedom from every objectionable quality and sab-stance and the property of the property stance, and its acting on the kidners liver and bowels, without weakening or irritating them, make it the ideal laxative.

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