Forgive me, of thy gentle grace, If I can find 'mid scenes so choice No fairer vision than thy face, No dearer music than thy voice.

Forgive me if when bleak rain drips And mist obscures the wintry skles I find June's roses on thy lips, June's heaven in thy radiant eyes.

So craving skies forever blue, And roses ever at my door, Forgive me if I ask of you, For I love much and more and

more. -I. Zangwill.

### The Traitor's Thumb

"That's grand slam again in no trumps to us, and the rub," said Guy Hardwick as he added some big fly ures on his score sheet. "What do you make it work out at, Willie?"

Willie Stamford's face looked rather white as he slowly totaled the amount that Hardwick and his partner had won; he was already realizing what a fool he had been to attempt to play bridge against a man with Hardwick's notorious luck.

"I think," he said at last, "it is exactly £550. I'll have to send you a check, Hardwick."

'All right," returned the other man, easily. "No hurry, old chap. Nobody game for another rubber, eh? Well, it is a bit late."

"You do have the most extraordinary luck, Guy," said Willie. "Luck!" said Hardwick. "You may

well say that; I've got a mascot, you

Mason, his partner, laughed somewhat skeptically.

"It is all very well to laugh at what you don't understand, but I'm not joking. Look here, if you fellows will hold your tongue I'll show you the thing.

Hardwick took a silver cigar case from his pocket and held it out to them open. They peered over it eager-



"HAVEN'T YOU HEARD, SIR?"

ly, wonder written large on the faces of all three.

It did not contain cigars. All that there was inside it was a curiously shaped brownish, weezened, shriveled object set in a wide gold rim of an tique workmanship, round which ran a somewhat roughly executed inscrip-

"It's a man's thumb," replied Hardwick. "I found it amongst a lot of odds and ends when I succeeded my old uncle at Hardwick. You know he would not have left the place to me only I happen to be the last Hardwick left, and he went and chucked a whole lot of money-all he could, in fact-to impossible charities and things, and I thought I was up a tree with the death duties and that. Well, I was rooting about, and as I say I found that grizzly relic and a long rigmarole written on parchment wrapped round it, which being interpreted and condensed informed the reader that the owner of the thumb had been a disreputable Hardwick who had tried to betray some fortress for the safety of which he was responsible. He was caught red-handed sneaking off with the keys of the front gate, and somebody lopped off his thumb during the resulting unpleasantness. The gentleman was subsequently boiled in oil or hanged-1 forget which-and the thumb was pickled, and sent to his sorrowing relatives as a little reminder not to follow his distressing example. As for that chaste and elegant mounting, I don't know who put that on.

"I felt pretty desperate when I found what a trick old Uncle Guy had played on me, and as I stood one day with that thing in my hand an idea flashed into my head.

"'Good luck you bring, do you?' I said to myself. 'Well, Mr. Traitor, we

will try your luck.' "I did. I went off with my last hundred pounds and a single ticket to Monte Carlo and made that bank sit up there. The traitor certainly was all on for roulette. Then I tried the stock exchange and paid off the death duties and all little worries like that. been a breach of honor, though the mention of a gumdrop.

WORMS AND WORMS.



The most recent benefaction of John D. Rockefeller is the gift o \$1,000,000 to a commission of twelve scientists, educators and business men. to investigate the "hookworm disease" in the South, with the object of checking its ravages. The disease does not exist north of the Potomac river, as the worm thrives only in a certain temperature. But in the South there are 2,000,000 victims infected by this parasite, which virtually sucks away the vitality of those in whom it finds lodgment.

The hookworm is a hair-like parasite, which enters the human system to some extent through the mouth, but generally through the skin. It ultimately lodges in the intestines, where it feeds on the mucous membrane, forming a poison which, while rarely fatal, renders the victim anaemic, retards development, and, by lowering his vitality, makes him easily subject to typhoid, pneumonia, consumption and other more serious diseases. Much of the so-called laziness and shiftlessness observed in certain sections of the South and which seriously interfere with economic development are due to the hookworm. The disease, however, can be successfully treated, and it is to this end as well as to introduce sanitary precautions by which the malady may be prevented that the Rockefeller gift is made.

my lamented ancestor's net: we scoop the dollars gaily in, even when we play bridge for penny points or beggar by neighbor with somebody's children. Well, good-night, you fellows."

He lounged out laughingly, putting the silver cigar case carefully back in to an inner pocket as he did so.

"I wish," said Willie Stamford, as they parted on the club steps, "some kind ancestor had left me a mascot."

"Get Hardwick to lend you his," suggested White, the man who had been his partner; and he and Mason hailed a belated taxicab, leaving Willie alone in the murky night, for Hardwick was and killed by a motor bus just before Is generally deemed absurd; dready out of sight.

"Five hundred and fifty pounds," groaned the young man to himself as he walked along the deserted street. "Heavens! Why, I can't raise fifty, let alone five hundred. Briefless barristers shouldn't play bridge." Suddenly something lying in the mud by the curb caught his eye as the hazy light from a street lamp fell upon it. He picked it up. It was a silver cigar case with a crest engraved upon it-Hardwick's. He opened it, his hands shaking with excitement as he did so. There was no mistake. Inside-sinister, crooked, loathsome-lay the goldmounted traitor's thumb.

"Hardwick's luck," he exclaimed. 'By George! He must have dropped it out of his pocket and not noticed. I'll take it round to him in the morning. It is too late now."

He slipped the sliver case into his as he climbed into the taxi after Mason flashed into his brain. "Get Hardwick to lend you his," hammered and churned seething in his head. He borrow the thing for a bit?" he told himself. "Not keep it, just borrow it for a week or two to pull things round a bit and set me on my feet. Hardwick might refuse if I asked him, so I will say nothing about it. If it doesn't bring me luck I'll return it at once. At any rate, it is too good a chance to be thrown away."

He closed the case and again put it in his pocket as he reached the front door of the old house where he lived and pulled out a latch key.

After he had drawn the bolts he felt in his pocket the last edition of an evening paper at which he had not yet troubled to look. He unfolded it and glanced absently through its columns.

"By George!" he cried. "Florida has won the Grand National. A 60 to 1 outsider, and I have a fiver on the beast. Hardwick's luck has started

me off with £300." Three months later Willie Stamford. poor briefless, obscure no longer, engaged to be married to a girl whom ae had loved for several years, but whom he had not dared to ask before to share the fortunes of a younger son, stood waiting for the door of Hardwick's flat to be opened for him. In his pocket he carried the silver cigar case and its withered, crooked contents which at last he was returning to their owner. He was going to make a clean breast of what he had done. Hardwick, he knew, was never a fellow to bear malice. Even as a boy at school he had been a generous-hearted lad. Willie felt certain that when ne explained to him how very tight a corner he had been in when the traitor's thumb came into his possession he would understand and overlook what

Willie acknowledged to himself had

Apparently, all is fish that comes to lapse had made him a rich man rising fast in his profession.

> As he thought over these things growing nervous and uncomfortable the door opened, and Hardwick's mar appeared.

Stamford screwed up his courage and made the plunge. "Is Mr. Hardwick in?" he asked. "

want to see him on important busi ness." The man's mask-like face twitched

with a sudden gust of feeling. "Haven't you heard, sir?" he said Hear my adoring sigh!

in a voice that only rigid affort kep steady. "Mr. Hardwick was run over A cabbage, by the common herd lunch time today, sir. It's terrible bad business."-New Orleans Times Demo-

## Monte Carlo Threatenea.

The little village of Cap D'Ail, on the national road near Monte Carlo, is threatened by destruction from a land slide, a Cincinnati Inquirer's Monte Carlo dispatch says. Suspended like the sword of Damocles above the hamlet is a huge rock, which has lately given signs of collapsing completelyit has already partially destroyed the town hall and ominous cracks have appeared in the walls of other buildings.

The cause of the threatened catas trophe dates back to when two Monte Carlo contractors commenced to dig the foundations of a dwelling house just at the foot of the rock. These operations cut away a portion of the base of the rock, with the result that the pocket, and suddenly White's words huge mass moved slightly, causing the walls of several houses to become cracked. After having visited the scene the mayor of Cap d'All informed M. de Joly, prefect of the Alpes-Maripulled out the case again. "Why not | times department, of the situation and a civil engineer was appointed to report on the steps to be taken.

A few days ago traffic on the railway line, which passes close by, was diverted to a branch line, and similar changes were made in the tramway service. Despite these precautions. however the rock again moved and partially wrecked the house which serves as the Cap d'All town hall. Should the rock fail on to the national road it will destroy the water mains which supply Monte Carlo and Menton and will probably block the railway line.

## Comrades.

To complain is not a fault of age alone; it is a favorite pastime of youth also. A writer in the Argonaut tells the following story of an incident in a Western university. The dean of the institution was told by the students that the cook was turning out food not "fit to eat."

The dean summoned the delinquent. lectured him on his shortcomings, and threatened him with dismissal unless conditions were bettered.

"Why, sir," exclaimed the cook, "you oughtn't to place so much importance on what the young men tell you about my meals! They come to me in just the same way about your lectures."

## Good Boys.

"Young men are so selfish about not wanting to kiss their sisters more often."

"On the other hand, they show wondrously generous spirit toward their chums in turning all such pleasures over to them."-Boston Herald.

Up to date, every joke concerning Dr. Cook and the north pole has made REAL OLD CROFTER'S HOME

Exact Reproduction of Irish Cabin Built for Children's Playhouse. One of the show places of Far Rockaway is the handsome residence of James Caffrey, the Brooklyn Eagle says. Visitors during the summer months rarely fail to stroll up Green-

wood avenue from the beach so as to get a glimpse of this fine piece of colonial architecture, with its massive stone columns towering thirty or more feet in the air.

But while the villa is interesting. there is still a more interesting object on the grounds that draws forth exclamations of pleasure and admiration. It is the play-house of the Caffrey children. This play-house occupies a prominent site on the great lawn to the west of the Caffrey residence. It is an exact reproduction of an Irish crofter's cabin, and is be-

in this country. feet in size and one story high. The seems to be no probability that inwalls are of hewn stone and white-dustrial conditions will be radically washed on the exterior. It has a changed in this country soon. The thatched roof, straw tightly bound to- people generally are too well satisfied gether to a thickness of about one foot. There are three windows in the front fore, be expected to continue indefiand three in the back walls.

Near the center of the front wall is the entrance. Visitors notice a sign, painted in real Celtic characters, "Don Na Stoegas," which in English means, Fort of the Fairles." There is just the faintest idea of a porch over the entrance, the roof being supported by two heavy trunks of trees. The door to this "Fort of the Fairies" is made adjoining states. of white birch limbs, set together lattice fashion, and swung on heavy crude iron hinges. An old chain and latch fastens the door when the children are not in the house.

While the exterior of the cabin is interesting, the interior is equally so. Inside the walls are covered with twigs and straw intertwined and cemented over, while the children's playthings, tables, chairs, rockers, dressers, sideboard, etc., together with toys and dolls galore are found there. It is an ideal place for the children to preside over and play in.

#### The Sentimental Sen. c.

My sentimental sense is such That Realism's ruthless touch Can not displace The fond embrace

With which Romance I cling to. Now pigs are hardly thought to be A theme for loving eulogy, Or lyrical apostrophe; Pigs are poetical to me.

And so a pig I sing to. Oh, pig, thy blue and beaming eye Smiles on me from thy rose-decked

Oh, pensive pig, Romantic pig,

Both coarse and plain, Of common grain, A vegetable yokel.

And yet to me a cabbage seems Fit subject for an artist's dreams; For fond effusions, tender themes; A cabbage, in the moon's pale beams Inspires my praises vocal. Oh, cabbage, of the pale-green hue, Washed by the pearly morning dew,

Oh, cabbage fair, Oh, cabbage fair, I bring thee homage true!

And some there be of whom I wot, Who holds that kitchen soap is not A proper thing Of which to sing In sentimental measure. But kitchen soap, by one of taste.

Upon a pinnacle is placed; And any scene by it is graced. So smooth and bright, so pure and chaste,

It gives exquisite pleasure. Oh, kitchen soap, of graceful form, I bring to thee my worship warm. Oh, kitchen soap,

Oh, yellow soap, You take my heart by storm! -Harper's Weekly.

## Fing Display Accounted For.

On a visit to St. Petersburg a visitor noticed that on the occasion of the birthday of the Czarina there were only one or two flags visible, these being displayed on official buildings. On a later visit, a week or two later, he observed that flags were everywhere, the very streets obscured by waving bunting. "Why," he asked a friend. "do you show a flag now while you did not then?" "Well," was the reply, "a police agent came round and said that if I did not display one I should be fined 200 rubles. So I hoisted three, to be on the right side, and the others are doing the same."

Cent Fine by Judge Landis. Judge K. M. Landis, who fined the Standard Oil Company \$29,240,000, has fined John Bower, of Rockford, Ill., 1 cent. Bower had sent a threatening letter to his brother-in-law, who is alleged to have misused members of his family. The judge apparently sympathized with Bower and told him that if he had said to the relative what he had written to him it would have been all right

## Ice Box Repartee.

"Huh!" sneers the plate of ice cream to the piece of limburger cheese. "You needn't give yourself such airs. Didn't you see in the papers where there are a million microbes to each drop of ice cream?" "I did." retorts the limburger.

"That's nothing. Compared to me you are a sparsely settled territory."

When you die, will people say of you: "It's too bad he didn't die ten years ago!"

The world's estimated steam power in use to-day is 12,000,000 horse-power.



Are Farm Land Prices Too High! How long will the price of farm lands continue to increase? Just so long as the price of farm products continue to increase, and these prices will remain firm so long as labor finds steady and profitable employment. In no other country in the world is labor so well rewarded as here. Where prices are low, wages are necessarily lieved to be the only one of its kind low. The man who receives liberal returns for his work can buy liber-The play-house is about 15 by 12 ally, and can pay a fair price. There with them. Good markets may, therenitely:

Farm lands which may be relied on to product satisfactory crops of grain and grass are not selling too high. Land which, with proper management, will produce from 60 to 100 bushels of 50-cent corn per acre is well worth \$150 an acre or more. There is a large amount of such land in Kansas and

The sure way to increase the value of land is to increase its productiveness. Under existing conditions prices will take care of themselves. The days of large surpluses are past. Demand crowds close upon the heels of supply. Mouths are multiplying faster than food for them.-Kansas Farmer.

### Individual Hog Houses.

"Noticing articles from time to time on the construction of individual hog houses, I wish to submit the plan of houses that we use," writes a correspondent of the Breeder's Gazette. "I make them six feet square on the ground, both doors to be hinged so they will open and close readily. Twelve-foot boards make side and roof. I use good soft pine flooring, as it is lighter and much easier to move when necessary than heavier lumber. Four pleces 2 by 4 inches and six feet long



INDIVIDUAL HOG HOUSE.

are for sills. Two pieces 2 by 4 inches and 6 feet long are for ridge and plate.

"If this plan is used it will be found much more satisfactory than a plain A shaped house. The door in the roof can be opened when the sun shines. Sunshine is the best tonic known for little pigs, and the door is essential when the sow needs attention at pigging time as a means of entrance and. as is sometimes the case, a very hasty exit."

Value of the Home Market. Farmers should encourage their home town, to build up a good home market for their dairy and poultry products, fruit, vegetables and many things that sell far more profitably at home than they could by shipping them away. Here is where the French farmers gain their prosperity; they have good home markets, where they market everything at high prices di-

Towns can be revived by the farmers and merchants working together to get new industries, and the home market soon develops for all the farm products that make a prosperous community, and as the town grows the farms increase in value.--Inland Farmer.

rect to their customers in their

thrifty home towns and villages.

#### Squashes and Pumpkins. With care in storing, there is very

little difficulty in keeping these, especially the former, in good condition until spring, and I have kept some varieties of the genuine ple pumpkins until well into March in just as nice condition as they went into storage. Select those that are well matured. and make sure that they are gathered before being touched in the least with frost. Store in a cool, dry place as late as safety from freezing will permit, then remove to a garret where they will keep cool and dry, but always safe from frost. Do not pile them, but set them on the floor and, better still, separate them so that they do not touch. In this way, weil matured specimens can be kept almost t will,-Exchange.

## Alfalfa Solls.

Alfalfa does best on well-drained solls, where the water level is several feet below the surface. It is a very deep-rooted plant, sending its roots down into subsoil which is largely unavailable to other farm crops. These roots will not thrive in a water-soak ed soil, and in attempting to grow alfalfa on a wet soil, or a soil with the water level only a few feet from the surface, the alfalfa is placed in unnatural conditions and little can be expected of it. If possible, a field with a sufficient slope to effect thorough surface drainage and sufficiently open to porous to provide good under-drainage should be selected for alfalfa .-Maryland Experiment Station.

Why They Don't Lay. Many who keep hens are asking themselves just about now why their pullets don't lay, when the fact is that a lot of their young stock was hatched too late, or was not given proper food and care during growth. The size and general appearance of a pullet does not always denote the time when she should commence producing eggs. I have seen flocks of pretty big nice pullets and they would lay hardly an egg all winter. The first essential for winter eggs is the right kind of stock to produce them. Food will not supply that want; it may help some and in some instances it's pretty difficult to help the matter very much by giving extra care. The strain has got to be of the right sort if they prove themselves reliable and profitable layers. After being in the poultry business so long and seeing so many people fuss and experiment and work in the effort to get eggs from stock that had no eggs to lay, no inclination to make eggs or ability to commence to get ready to lay, it is impressed all the stronger upon my mind that there is a whole lot to this hen business besides feed and care.-

#### Beehive of Concrete.

Inland Farmer.

Among the occupations which offer profit and amusement, and at the same time entirely suited to women,

is that of bee raising. Its advantages are that little space is required, there is no great expense and the work is light, requiring only a limited amount of time and care. Much of the apparatus required may be made at home and where the facilities for

CONCRETE BEEHIVE this are not present, the things may be purchased without any great outlay of money. There have been many improvements lately in the manner of con-

structing the beehives, and probably the most interesting is one which is made of concrete. A patent has been recently issued covering the manufacture of concrete beehives, but any one with a little ingenuity may easily make them, and a set of molds once having been made satisfactorily, may be used indefinitely and any number of hives made from it. Anyone attempting to make a hive of this material should acquaint themselves with the character of the cement and should also be familiar with the habits of

### Warning to Dairymen.

We have repeatedly warned the dairymen that the oleomargarine law is likely to be amended next winter, and that the amendments proposed will destroy the value of the law, so far as concerns the protection of dairy products. Again, we ask you-have you written your congressman about it? Do you know his views? Does he know what you want him to do in the matter? Does he know what you are going to do to him in the campaign next year if he doesn't give you a square deal? This is no joke. It is a serious proposition, and no time is to be lost if the oleomargarine law is to be preserved in its present form. -Missouri Dairyman.

Convenient Light for the Barn. Many fires may be avoided when the short winter days require the use



pulleys, the lantern FOR SAFETY. attached to one end and then pulled up to a convenient height, the loose end of the rope being fastened to a cleat on the wall. If this device is arranged in about the center of the barn much better light will be given than if the lantern were carried around from place

#### to place.-Cor. of Farm and Home. Prizes for Peasants.

The hilly territory of Trieste, it is stated, in a consular report on that district, is covered by pointed stones which prevent any cultivation, and some years ago the Society Agraria offered prizes for those who would remove them and thus change the waste ground to meadows. The work has now been going on for some years and every autumn a commission ascertains the area of the proposed redemption and the difficulties to be encountered and fixes the prize to be given. In spring it again visits the improved grounds and pays the prizes if deserved. This year in the different parishes sixty-six peasants improved forty-four acres and received \$1,040.

# Sunshine in the Dairy.

Sunshine is the dairyman's best friend. When the sun beats down hot in the summer we are apt to think it an enemy, but a week of clouds, even in July, casts a gloom over everything and makes both man and beast at cross purposes with the world. Sunshine is required to kill germs and microbes and keep both animal and human dispositions sweet. The Vermonter's cow barn that must be built so warm and tight lacks sunshine to keep the inmates in the best of health. All along our country's northern border, tuberculosis is on the increase in dairy herds.-Farmers' Mail and