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The Old Schoolhouse.

at least to me, was its distance the Gospel. where I lived. It was not so very far, For enough when the drifts of snow both of us will treasure it among our sweetthe fences on either side of the est memories, and the thermometer took a race and or the mercury tried to see if acter helped to mould mine. il not hide itself in the bulb.

then we did pretty well going to but to come home about dark, the wind as it came fresh from the Pole, with no flannel wrapper or was not all fun, nor very suggest-

a Fourth of July pienic. for a little fellow I did pretty well, and one or two other boys, I had my afa "lee" chance behind a kind and whose ample skirts defended limst frozen noses from too sharp a

from Jack Frost. here was a great advantage in havol so far from home that we could expected to go home to dinner. That the most of the hour for play. Very entes were occupied in disposing of -two of bread and butter, and two or againsts, and an apple or two.

loolhouse, as I remember it, was for ornament. Economy was conboth a virtue and a necessity. In s place, it was built upon land, stones, for the stones and the soil alout in the proportion of brick and rin an ordinary chimney.

elot could grow little more than bushalas these had been cut, the site could et little. Then it was not thought mtoput much underpinning to the house at interfere with the circulation of ender the floor,

milt had ever been wasted upon the or inside of the old schoolhouse. The maments were a big box stove located as near the center of the room as one guess, and a thig 'pile of wood piled and dry" in the "entry."

ese were what I most admired, for they buted most to my comfort. I suppose stimate is upon the principle of "Handis that handsome does.'

we not drawn a very pleasing picture s seat of learning. The name is approfor there was hard earnest studying there, and good foundations of educawere there laid in many minds.

o not say that more and better work a not have been done with better helps, the tools and the time we had were made e post of. I know of one boy at least was often up by four o'clock on many mings, studying by the dim light of a talandle, or by firelight.

to see what they did.

working boys enjoy after sitting upon beiches for three hours.

the was a great deal of running and kind of men the boys would make.

Ill enjoyed the sports, but all did not engood, honest application to study. The who would cheat in his recitation-well, attainly was not cultivating conscience a. If afterwards, as a business man, he lonest, his practice of cheating in school not make it easier to do just right in his

best time for a tree to secure a good gat trunk is when it is small and grow-

teachers were not many nor were they rip, if he himself was faithful.

mer as his, or enjoy it more.

de understood boys; knew just how to

then common in the country schools. "elikedhim, almost lovedhim, and greatrespected him. After all, there was but of the number who really captured my and he was the only one whom I ever

he would join us freely in our sports, and the lithest of the number; but there something in his eye which was, after letter than the look of authority, with sestion of power. It seemed to look into neart, and say, "I am your friend; I love and want to help you all I can."

we loved him, as a matter of course, tried to please him. Yes, we often for-We were thoughtless and careless, hid not quite understand how to tell him regrets; but some way he could seem boys' hearts, and to understand what

of their tracks, but there were the in adopting a new armament.

same eyes, speaking of the same tender heart; and I was so glad to know I had a place in it yet.

Now what do you suppose melted those eyes the quickest and most? It was not the review of any part of the history of either of us; it was not the me-

mory of any sorrow, but the fact that his thing about its old pupil was a Christian, and a minister of It was a short visit that we had, but if he there I have than three quarters of a remembers it with half the pleasure I do,

He will never know how much his char-

The Jeanne of Arc Myth.

The reproduction, with Sarah Bernhardt in the leading role, of the play of "Jeanne d'Arc," in Paris, has given occasion for a renewal of the old controversy as to whether Jeanne was ever really burned at the stake, or whether her place was not taken by some one else and she set free. One M. Lesigne has brought together in a book all the facts tending to show that Jeanne never was burned, and that she actually married a country gentleman in Lorraine and raised a large family, of whom there were direct descendants as late as a century ago. The stories were first put into general circulation in 1683 in a publication called Mercure Galant, and were then based upon discoveries made by a certain Father Vignier among some old manuscripts in Metz. The first document was a record of the visit of Jeanne, the Maid of Orleans, to her relatives in that city, and subsequently there was discovered a marriage contract of Robert des Armoises with "Jeanne of Arc, the Maid of Orleans," the marriage having taken place at Arlon, where the Duchesse Elizabeth of Luxembourg made a splendid fete on the occasion. A deed in which the "Maid" and her husband conveyed certain land was also found, and subsequently at Orleans in the public archives there were discovered various entries in the public accounts that went to show that moneys had been paid to her, or for her, to her relatives at various times after she was supposed to have been burned at the stake. These documents heve made it absolutely certain that somebody who was known as "Jeanne d'Arc" and "The Maid of Orleans" was living and somewhat of a public character for many years after the original Jeanne had presumably been reduced to ashes. The advocates of the original Jeanne, however, insist that the woman to whom the documents refer must have been a different one, either an imposter or a woman whom some connection in the army had caused the people of her acquaintance to designate by the title of the dead heroine.

Early Use of Soap.

More than two thousand years ago the Gauls were combining the ashes of the it was not all dull work and hard beech tree with goat's fat and making soap. We had a fun, and a great deal of When Marius Claudius Marcellus was hastening southward over the Flaminian way, annot speak for the girls. I think laden with spoils wrested from the hands must have had dull times. The boys of Viridomar, and Gallic king lying dead by | gat. ed up what would aid her in caring not remain in the house at " intermis- the banks of the Po, his followers were bringing with them a knowledge of the sports were of the kind that hearty, method of making soap. The awful rain of burning ashes which fell upon Pompeii in 79, buried (with palaces and statues) the humble shop of a soapmaker, and in siling, and jumping and snowballing, several other cities of Italy the business semetimes, would you believe it? we had even then a footing. In the eighth wised our lungs, and made a little noise. century there were many soap manufactories at isn't it queer? One if he had only in Italy and Spain, and fifty years later the the about it, could have picked out the | Phoenicians carried the business into France, while he recover who were to grow from these boys. and established the first factories in Maris, one might have judged pretty well seilles. Prior to the invention of soap, fuller's earth was largely used for cleansing purposes, and the juice of certain plants served a similar purpose. The earth was spread upon cloth, stamped in with the feet, and subsequently removed by scouring. It was also used in baths, and as late even as the eighteenth century was employed by the Romans in that way.

The Queen's Autograph.

ad the faithful application and manly R." which she attaches to such papers as of the editor to be, and the promise have to bear the royal autograph, says the reship in the characters of others, and London Figoro. There are veteran statesophecy of inture culture and queenli- men living who will remember that the character which told, quite as much the sovereign became one of considerable in Ves. there is a difference in girls importance in the last months of George IV's

or wise, or skilled, and I fear that such a debilitated state that the writing of the not strictly conscientious, but this numerous autographs was practically imthere was no teacher of the possible for him, and under these circumer from whom the student could not stances a short bill was hurriedly passed through Parliament authorizing the King to like to tell you of some of them. affix a fac-simile of his autograph by means I remember, was a large man of the of an inked-stamp. It was also provided, thry or more. I think he was born however, in the bill that George should, before stamping each document, give his shot in the back and dead. This act of prehe had good learning, so far as it verbal assent to it in a specified form. The Duke of Wellington was in office at the had boys full grown, but none so large time, and it was often his duty to lay cerany student bring so large a tain documents before the King for his

One day the "Iron Duke," noticing that work out of them in school hours, his Majesty was stamping the papers before help them to have a good time at him without repeating the prescribed verbal formulary, ventured to enter a respectful or eight average boys could put him but firm protest. The King, much irritatshowdrift during the play hour, but ed, exclaimed. "D-n it, what can it would not have undartaken it in the signify?" "Only this, sir," replied the Duke being used ext school, or anything else which would "that the law requires it." George IV. said no more, but at once began to repeat the 1887 the imperentation recall any punishing of even the requisite formulary as he stamped each of the remaining documents.

Into Sahara's Desert-

reau has nowplunged boldly into the country his enterprise by his friends and the Govern-Geographical Society, as well as the Govern-

Germany's New Rifle-

Next week the Garde du Corps will be place of business, for he fills an import- with the weapon. These rifles have been with the weapon. made in a German manufactory, so that the to his advantage, and to the comfort of whole supply made by the factory at Steyer whole supply made by the factory at Steyer can be used for the reserves. Germany has

DOWN IN A SNAKE'S DEN.

Amid Horrible Surroundings.

No country in the world is more prolific in the romance of crime than that portion of this nation known as the Indian Territory. Set apart as it is by the peculiar laws of the United States Government as an independent empire, placed beyond the reach of the common criminal law save in closely restricted cases, it has been for years the natural territory adjacent to it. Early in the year 1882 the ranchers in the vicinity of Arbuckle's Mountain, Chickasaw nation, were raided time and again by a particularly bold band of horse-thieves, who evidently made their headquarters in some of the fastnesses of that mountain, where they found a ready and safe retreat from pursuit. These de predations ceased as suddenly and mysteriously as they had commenced, and, after wondering over it for some time, the whole matter passed out of the mind only to be recalled in a startling manner.

As was afterward learned the band had consisted of a white man known as Walt Stevens and two negroes bearing the euphonious titles of Bully July and Friday Monday. Stevens was the possessor of a charming young wife, to whom he was warmly at tached, who so thoroughly reciprocated his affection that she had given up everything to follow him into that wilderness, there to share his most uncertain fortunes. His two

COMPANIONS IN CRIME.

devilish purpose. As they were returning other in its history. late one night in May from an unusually long trip, and while they were following the trail where its windings about Arbuckle Mountain compelled the three to ride in single file, July, who was purposely in the rear shot Stevens in the back. The injured man fell from his horse to the ground, where he was set upon by the two conspirators and disarmed. Then, deaf to the prayers of their helpless victim, they carried him to a well-like cavern in the side of the mountain, which was known to be a veritable den of rattlesnakes, and thrust him in to a horrible death.

Having disposed of the husband, the next move on the part of the plotters was to get the wife within their power, and they set about the performance of this task with an ingenuity that was truly devilish. July rode up to the cabin, evidently in hot haste and greatly agitated, and told Mrs. Stevens that her husband had fallen from his horse some distance up the mountain and had broken his thigh. A suspicion of the truth of this story never crossed the mind of that faithful little woman, and filled with anxiety, but with all a true woman's is when a loved one is in danger, she for him and mounting behind the murderous wretch, who was even then nursing a blacker crime in his heart, started for the side of her injured husband. Arriving at the scene of the first tragedy she first began to realize

HER AWFUL SITUATION

She than began to read the looks the two in 1885-86 made practically the same jour- tic horizon beyond. The ascent is one of been the portion of their friend and comnative between such a death or submission more than three years. to them. During four long days and nights The Queen's signature to state documents ful anguish she suffered finally brought along the French traveller's route he was grin's costume is a course black rug of raw is still a model of firmness and legibility, no compassion to the hearts of the demons in able to send letters home, and his progress goat's hair six feet long by two wide. look back, and in my memory see sign of Her Majesty's advanced age being human disguise. Then came the fear of dis- for more than two-thirds of the journey was No inducements are adequate to persuade discernible in the boldly written "Victoria | covery through her, and July overruled his known in Europe before he himself emerged | the women to spin a broader pattern, consecompanion in the determination that she, on the shores of the Indian Ocean. This is quently it is of little use except to sit upon. too, must die. He solemnly promised her a great advance on the conditions of African It is worn thrown over the shoulders with allowed to go home, and while she was try- who ventured no further inland than Lake dust, and thus certainly forms some protecgentle, diligent modest sister. question of the signing of state documents by | ing to force down a few morsels he shot her | Tanganyika were lost entirely to view for | tion for the back against the rain, but leaves through the back of the head. Her body more than a year. was then consigned to the same grave as the husband's, and the murderers rode away During this period His Majesty was in feeling perfectly safe from discovery.

About eight months later Monday, while on a drunken spree, told the story of this double murder to a woman with whom he had become infatuated, and at the same time confessed that he lived in constant fear of death at the hands of July, who would never feel safe so long as he lived. His fears proved prophetic, as he was found the next day caution on the part of July

CAME ONE DAY TOO LATE,

emphasis that could not be mistaken.

Undaunted by the fate of Camille Douls, thoroughly frightened man was only able any abuses they may discover. The Board the young explorer who was murdered in the to gasp out "snakes" when he sank upon of War, by imperial orders, has, time after Sahara about a year ago. a M. Fernand Fou- the ground in a fainting condition. When time, called for returns of the various milihe had sufficiently recovered to tell the tary stations, but these instructions have of the Touaregs. He was dissuaded from story of his brief trip he assured his deep- been wholly disregarded, and no report of ly interested auditors that the bottom of the kind has been received. We command hav n her join your church choir." ment of Algeria, but all to no purpose. The that dark hole was absolutely filled with that within two menths from the the biggest snakes ever seen out of dreams. | date of the receipt of this decree, ful ment gives him nothing but sympathy, and His appearance and well-known nerve bore lists of the above particulars be forwarded no one believes that he will come alive out ample evidence to the truth of his story, to us, and we further order that all changes of the mysterious desert where several of his and for a time there was a decided lack be reported from time to time for the inforintrepid fellow-country men have already of volunteers to take his place. Seeing mation of the that unless he came foward he was in danger of loosing the evidence : o necessary to his case, but which was so we'l guarded the marshal announced his determination Next week the darde du corporation to make the next visit to the regions below equipped with the new small-bore repeating to make the next visit to the regions below himself. In preparing for this visit he whom I was able to find on my late rifle, and by the 1st of April the whole peace stripped himself. In preparing for this visit he to the old home. I went to see him in effective of the German Army will be armed stripped himself of all superfluous clothing, and taking a sack in which to gather what was left of the two victims and armed with a revolver, he gave the signal to lower away. When nearly to the bottom; the cook, opening the door. years had not passed without leav- thus once more anticipated all other armies he sent back the signal for a halt, and thus once more anticipated all other armies he sent back the signal for a halt, and then calmly began shooting the

LARGEST OF THE REPTILES that had had been attracted from the sur-Evidences of an Awful Crime Uncurthed ronding rocks by the light of his torch. After a few had been killed the remainder of the inabitants of this dismal den seemed

to be a panic stricken, and exhibited as much

haste in retreat as they had shown in re-

senting this intrusion from the outside. shot the expectant crowd about the mouth of the cavern could feel the rope twitching a notice to hoist away, and in obedience to refuge of the law breakers in all that vast this command they lifted with great care what all supposed was the object of their with that object in view that the Thousand search. When the latter end of the rope was reached and disclosed an immense serpent still squirming, but with the accuracy of the Marshal's aim, they felt that they had been sold again, but realized, as they had not before, something of the nerve it had required to reach the bottom of that cave and dispossess its owners. After this somewhat grim joke, considering the time and the subject, the Marshal was himself brought to the surface, carrying with him

the remains of the two unfortunate people

who had been consigned to this frightful

Stevens's remains were identified by means of a peculiar buckle worn upon his pistol belt, by the unusual formation of his teeth and and whenever there are navigable channels by some peculiarities about the heels of his boot. The remains of Mrs. Stevens were not so readily identified, but enough was shown fifteen feet or more. Of course our plans to bring the murderer July within the reach | will have to be approved by the engineers of of an outraged law, and in the January following he paid the penalty upon the scaffold will be the favorite means of reaching the at Fort Smith, where so many of his kind soon began casting eager eyes toward his have gone to their last account. The case wife, and as their advances were coldly re- was a wonderful one, both for the atrocity course, our plans are not complete yet, as we ceived they began to plot to put the hus- of the crimes committed and for the wondband out of the way, imagining him to be erful manner in which justice sought out the ation by the governments of both countries. their only obstacle. With such men the criminal in spit of his murderous precautions plot and its execution are never far separ- for safety, and his execution had, perhaps ated, and these two fiends were not long in a greater influence upon the superstitious finding an opportunity to consummate their | criminals of that wretched country than any

The Quickest Trip Across Africa.

The twelfth journey across Africa from sea to sea has been made by Capt. Trivier. He has apparently added nothing to geogathering place where all the upper waters also be utilized." of the Congo meet to issue from the lake as River, the supposed outlet of Lake water to run very rapidly there?" Tanganyika, empties into Landji. His jourthe river at Stanley Pool, and by means of hibitory engineering difficulties. steamers to Stanley Falls and on Lake Nyassa and the Shire River he shortened his land march by about fourteen hundred miles. Reaching Quillimane in the last at Stanley Falls and Kassongo.

this unfortunate woman, already heart- the improved facilities for travelling in inner of the heat he was dressed in a thick doublebroken by her cruel loss, was obliged to sub- Africa but also the fact that a man may now | breasted waistcoat and felt-cloth jacket mit to her husband's murderers. In all that cross the contient without losing touch with with the inevitable struka over his shouldtime she never ate nor drank, and the fright- civilization. From every important point ers. This integral part of every Montenethat if she would eat a little she would be travel only ten years ago, when explorers the two long-fringed ends draggling in the

Abuses in The Chinese Army.

A recent Pekin Gazette contains a curious decree from the Emperor respecting the mon Ulster coat or Scotch plaid. Our friend condition of the army. It begins by refer- was very communicative, and insisted on purposes in the various provinces, and says for a moment he spread his rug for my use, every detail connected with the pay and atmosphere. I was surprised to see that numbers of the troops should be carefully both he and the Dalmatian drank copiously checked. Of late, however, it has come to from every running stream we came across. however, as the woman, enraged over the the Emperor's knowledge "that abuses are As he grew more at home with us he produckilling of her lover, told his story to a deputy of frequent occurrence; that false returns ed a letter from a brother of his dated "John-United States Marshal, who at once started are made of the number and payment of the sonville, Cal.," where he had been mining out to verify it. The first place visited was soldiers; that the General in command leads for many years, and I frequently heard later the cavern on Arbuckle's mountain, where a life of dignified ease and comfort that of others who had emigrated to the fields. the bodies were supposed to be, and where reviews are held very irregularly, and that, Our companion had a general recollection of it was thought the proof would be found in fact, the whole military organization has all the British Consuls and well-known necessary for bringing this now three times fallen into a state of disorder and effeteness travelers who had visited Montenegro, and a murderer to punishment. The only way | very little short of what formerly prevailed | seemed astonished that I was not personally to enter the cavern was found to be by | in the ormy of the Green Standard." Hence | and intimately acquainted with all of them. means of a rope, and one of the boldest of the Emperor, "being deeply pained at this On the whole, however, he was an intelthe party was lowered into it. Before he state of things," commands all Manchoo ligent, quick-witted fellow, full of stories had made fully half of the descent the Generals in Chief, Viceroys, and Governors and questions, and his company helped not signal for raising him out came with an to exercise a constant and strict surveillance a little to shorten the long walk. - The over the troops in their respective jurisdic- Fortnightly Review. Upon reaching again the sunlight the tions, and to denounce in the strongest term

Despondent.

"What do you suppose he drowned him-Mr. Y. And then the fun began. "Somebody told him his day-old baby was the image of him."

A Gifted Butcher Boy.

"Who put those eggs on the mat?" said | you last?" "I fust faid them there," replied the butcher boy.

THE THOUSAND ISLANDS BRIDGE.

Stepping Stones Across the Current of the Great St. Lawrence

A dispatch from Ottawa in the N. Y. Herald says :- While our masters and yours are busily erecting custom houses along the borders between Canada and the United In a few moments after hearing the last States, with a view of lessening the intercourse between two commonwealths, the perverse inhabitants thereof are busily engaged in overcoming whatever obstacles nature presents to that intercourse. It is Islands bridge project has been submitted to the Canadian Parliament, and its projectors will in due course ask incorporation from the United States Congress.

The proposed bridge will extend from some point between Rockport and Gananoque on the Canadian side of the river, and between Alexandria Bay and Clayton on the American side. The river at that point is thickly studded with little rocky pineclad outcroppings of the Laurentian formation.

"On these stepping stones," said Mr. R. C. Carter, one of the projectors, "our bridge will walk over to the American side of the river. The double island known as Wellesley Island will be used as much as possible there will be a swirging span in the bridge. The height above high water mark will be both governments. Our railway and bridge hundreds of summer resorts that are scattered up and down the Thousand Islands. Of can do nothing until we are sure of incorpor-"The longest span is the part that swings,"

added Mr. Carter. "Will there not be enormous engineering difficulties to overcome?" I asked.

"Our engineers assure us there will be nothing but the ordinary difficulties encountered in bridging a great river."

"But there is the great width. Isn't the river about two miles wide at that point?" "The river is very wide," said Mr. Carter, with a smile, "but if you look at the map graphical discovery, for his route from coast | you will find that just at the spot where we to coast had been traversed by earlier ex- intend to construct our bridge the large plorers. He did not leave the beaten path, island known as Wellesley Island almost fills as he had promised, to settle the interesting | up the bed of old St. Lawrence. Then there questions whether Lake Landji is the are smaller islands in the channels that can

"Well, does this large island that you the Congo proper, and whether the Lukuga speak of dam up the river and cause the

"We are informed that the waterflow ney is noteworthy, however, as the quickest | there does not exceed four miles an hour. trip yet made across Africa. Starting from There will be a great many sections of the the west coast above the Congo he struck bridge, but we do not anticipate any pro-

The Black Mountain.

Climbing is much the same all the world days of November he completed his trans- over, and the only noteworthy feature. in continental journey in a few days less than our ascent was the atrocious heat reflected a year, which included stops of some length from the bare gray slabs of rock on every side. Long before reaching the summit I The earliest travellers in equatorial Africa had added my shirt to my coat, and when occupied about the same time in making the after two hours' very stiff work, we stood at distance from Zanzibar to Tanganyika, length on the crest of Kerstaz we felt we had which is not half-way across the continent. | well earned therefreshing breeze which greet-The explorers who most nearly approach ed us from the other side, but which never Trivier in the celerity of their journey are blows in the fearful natural oven from which Capello and Ivens, who in 1884-85 crossed we had just emerged. The view from the from Mossamedes to Quillimane, along the top is magnificent, embracing not only the when she saw her husband's belongings water parting between the Congo and the whole length of the Bocche, but stretching scattered about a hastily constructed camp. Zambesi, in fourteen months. Dr. Lenz, who over the further mountains, on to the Adriavile wretches were casting upon her, and it ney that Trivier has just completed; was the steepest known, and Lady Strangford needed not the confession of their former seventeen months on the way. Livingstone aptly describes the impression produced in crime to tell her of her husband's fate or of was twenty-two months on his journey from saying that one "has the feeling of ascendthe fate that awaited her. With gloating Loanda to Quillimane, and all the other ing the highest tower in the world and looksatisfaction they detailed the death that had transcontinental travellers, Stanley, Cameron, ing down from the top into the perpendicular Manteucci, Arnot, Wissmann, Gleerup, and depths below." On our way up we overtook rade, and then gave her the fearful alter- Serpa Pinto were from sixteen months to a Montenegrin, who, as being the first specimen of the race I had met in his native Trivier's journey demonstrates not only wilds, interested me considerably. In spite

the chest and throat exposed. It is too narrow to wrap round as a blanket, and, speaking from experience, I failed to get as much warmth and comfort out of three strukas as would have been given by a comring to the immense expenditure incurred accompanying us into Cettinje, whither he yearly in establishing armies for defensive was himself bound. Whenever we stopped that to create a proper feeling of spirit and and was particularly anxious for me to wear enthusiasm in the army it is essential that it when we reached the higher and colder

Fitted for the Choir.

cr-' Your daughter is very handsome Mr. Smith. r-"Yes, she is. I'm thinking of

P .- 'That's good. Is she a fine vocalist? F .- " No ; but she's got an awful temper."

The Old, Old Strife.

"That baby's always meddling with things. I never saw such a girl !" said Mrs. Younghusband. "Takes after your mother, I guess," quoth

Sunken Treeasure.

"What have you been doing since I saw

"Been falling in love."

"Ah ; got in very deep ?" (Sadly) "Two hundred dollars.