" Little Boy-Blue."

[The following farm lyric was written years ago by Abby Sage Richardson. Few of our readers have probably ever seen it.[

Under the hay-stack little Boy Blue, Sleeps with his head on hi arm; While voices of men, and voices of maids, Are calling him over the farm.

Sheep in the meadows are running wild Where poisonous herbage grows; Leaving white tufts of downy fleece, Leaving white tufts of downy neece, On the thorns of the sweet wild rose.

Out in the fields, where the silken corn, Its plumed head nods and bows; Where golden pumpkins ripen below, Trample the white-faced cows.

But no loud blast on the shining horn, Calls back the straying sheep; And the cows may wander, in hay and corn, While their keeper lies asleep.

His regulsh eyes are tightly shut, His dimples are all at rest; The chubby hand turned under his head. By one rosy cheek is pressed.

Waken him? No! Let down the bars, And gather the truant sheep;
Open the barnyard, and drive in the cows,
But let the little boy sleep,

For year after year we can shear the fleece. And corn can always be sown;
But the sleep that visits little Boy Blue,
Will not come when years be flown.

EARTHQUAKES AND VOL-CANOES.

BY FELIX L. OSWALD.

During the storms that have now and then visited the islands of the tropics, trees, which an ax could not fell in less than a day, have more than once been torn from their roots and overthrown with a violence that hurled their branches in every direction; and witnesses of such devastations might well suppose that a hurricane is the mightiest of all manifestations of the elemental forces.

And yet it has been calculated that the power of an earthquake exceeds that of the most violents storm at least a thousand times, or about as much as the explosion of a powder-mill exceeds the propulsive force of an air-gun. Not all earthquakes are of destructive violence; but their concussions, whether light or heavy, are always irresistible. An earthquake shock may upheave the ground only a quarter of an inch, but the most massive building and the grandest mountain range will be upheaved as surely as a light frame cottage. In a destructive earthquake the weight of a building adds nothing whatever to its security. Houses, built of the heaviest masonry, and which no storm could as much as shake, have been shot from their foundations by an earthquake shock and their walls hurled about as a pile of loose pebbles would be scattered by a hammer stroke.

About three hundred years ago the Spaniards founded the City of Caracas in the coast-hills of Venezuela, and had to rebuild it several times on account of the frequent earthquakes to which that part of South Amcrica seemed especially exposed. Experionce at last taught the citizens that high and narrow buildings had no chance to resist these visitations, and they began to build their houses after a plan which they hoped would insure their permanent safety. With the exception of a few churches and watch-towers all buildings were limited to one story, resting on deep foundations and covered with a flat roof without turrets and projecting chimney-stacks.

The four corners were re-enforced by buttresses, and a rim of terraces generally ran all around the base of the walls. Higher up girders of iron joined stone to stone, and often house to house, sometimes inclosing a whole block with a band of riveted bars. Yet on the 10th of June, 1812, seven thousand of those houses were demolished in less than a quarter of a minute. A single earth-quake shock turned the city into a heap of debris, and more than twelve thousand of the inhabitants were crushed under the walls of the buildings they supposed to be earthquake-proof.

Fourteen years later the same city was again destroyed by an earthquake that upheaved the coast of South America from Buenos Ayres to the Isthmus, but spent its main force in the West Indian Islands. The island of Hayti was rocked like a ship in a storm, and on the north-west coast of erally torn into pieces, the beach in many places having been covered with mountainous heaps of rock avalanches. On the island of Sumbawa in 1772 a broad promontory was torn from the connecting mountains and turned into a sea-girt rock. The natives have a tradition that their island once formed a part of Java, till a violent earthquake tore a chasm across an isthmus now intersected by the strait of Lombok; and there is reason to believe that by a similar catastrophe Java itself was torn from the south coast of Sumatra. From Sumatra to Timor Laut some eighteen or twenty islands form a most remarkable chain, resembling a shoal of fish swimming in a straight line, with the largesc ahead and three or four of the smallest bringing up the rear. A mountain chain, forming what might be called the backbone of each island, runs from western Sumatra to the east cape of Timor Laut, all along exhibiting the same geological characteristics and maintaining the same general direction and even the same average height of 6,500

Yet an earthquake that could tear a chasm across a mountain range of that elevation would shake our planet as the bursting of a boiler would shake an engine-house, and might account for the eruption of such vol-canoes as the now extinct crater that inundated southern Oregon with a lava-bed nearly 2,000 feet thick and covering an area of 24,000 miles.

For in the mountains of South America, well as in the volcanic regions of the Old World, it has been observed that a violent earthquake is generally either accompanied or followed by a volcanic eruption. It would almost seem as if the fissures connecting the craters of active volcanoes with he restless fires of the nether world were now and then liable to obstructions, oblig-ing the pent-up vapors to force their upward way with a violence that shakes the surrounding mountains as the force of expanding steam shakes a vessel of boiling water, till the cover of that vessel yields to

the ever-increasing pressure.

That process would also account for the curious smoke-like haze which has frequently been observed on the eve of an earthquake. Before uplifting a mountain range the imprisoned vapors must now and then succeed in forcing an outlet through the subterranean fissures of such mountains, or

even through the interstices of apparently solid rocks, and thus cloud the atmosphere of large districts, often for weeks, as before the great earthquake of 1812, when the Atlantic coast of our continent seemed to be veiled as the haze of a forest-fire.

A few days before the destruction of Charleston that same haze was observed all through the southern Alleghanies, and became so remarkable on the afternoon of the last day that in many counties of northern Georgia the mountaineers congregated on the cross-roads to discuss the possible cause of the curious phenomenon.

There are some other signs that have now and then enabled the inhabitants of volcanie districts to predict an earthquake or a violent eruption. The sudden outbreak of a hot-spring is a symptom of that sort. Before the earthquake of Lisbon new springs of scalding-hot water are said to have burst from the rocks in the Portuguese province of

The eruption of Mount Cotopaxi in 1831 was preceded by the outbreak of torrents of hot water that clouded the valley of Rio Bamba with vast volumes of steam and covered the fields with dead fish of that peculiar kind found only in subterranean

Strange subterranean rumblings were heard near Charleston a few minutes before the catastrophe; but it would be a mistake to suppose that every volcanic outbreak is preceded by such noises. Several of the most destructive earthquakes on record came as suddenly as a flash from a clear sky, while in other cases the subterranean thunders continued for so many days that the inhabitants of the disturbed districts had ceased to dread the possible significance of the phenomenon, when the long-delayed outbreak surprised them after all. In 1759 the plains of of Michoacan in south-western Mexico were agitated for nearly a week when the ground at last burst, and the swaying hills gave birth to a new mountain, the volcano of Jorullo, which has ever since continued to explode showers of ashes and flaming cinders. On the island of Java, too, the dreadful convulsion which in 1772 engulfed the mountain range of Papandayang, was preceded by subterranean thun ders that were heard all over the archipel ago of the Sunda Islands, and so frightened the mountain-cattle of the Java colonists that hundreds of them perished in the cliffs and ravines in their desperate attempts to reach the open plain by the shortest oute.

The instinct of domestic animas has more than once given their masters timely warning of similar dangers. A few days before the most destructive earthquake on record the pigeons of Antioch are said to have left their nests in the city walls and taken refuge in the suburban groves. The philosopher Dion Damascius warned his fellow-citizens to follow the example of the winged re fugees, but failed to inspire them with his presentiments of peril, and on the third day came an earthquake which cost the lives of 250,000 human beings, and shook the very mountains all over Syria and Asia Minor. On the afternoon of the 5th of October, 1746, the barber Perez, a citizen of Lima in Peru, was attending to a customer, whose dog suddenly began to betray signs of uneasiness by standing in the open door of the shop and breaking forth repeatedly into a peculiar howl, then listening for a second or two and breaking out into that ominous wail again. Several of the visitors had started to their feet, but stood silent, looking at each other in vague alarm, when the owner of the shop made a spring for the door, as if under the impulse of a sudden inspiration, and rushing out into the street, shricked out a warning : Cuidad, vecinos" Look out, neighbors!" he shouted, "there is trouble coming !" and almost as an echo of his words a rumbling noise and the sound of distant screams approached from the direction of the sea, and in the next minute the crash of falling houses resounded on all sides. An earth-wave had struck the town, and swamped the neighboring sea-port of Callao with a flood that swept away all but forty of its five thousand inhabitants.

On the other hand, certain animals have been known to maintain a strange indifferonce in the very catastrophe of such convul-Horses have been seen grazing with sions. perfect unconcern, while the hills were shaken by the roar of a volcano or the shock of a wall-breaking earthquake. the explanation of that indifference is perhaps the circumstance that in an open p animals have no special reason to dread a volcanic disturbance. During a violent storm a bomb-proof building would be a storm a bomb-proof building would be a haven of refuge from the dangers of falling trees and drenching showers, but an earth-quake that might make such a building the tomb of its inhabitants would spare the children of the wilderness, except perhaps on the slopes of steep mountain ranges, where destruction may come in the form of a rock avalanche.

Train Stopped by a Mouse.

Did any one ever imagine that a mouse could stop a railway train? It seems to be impossible; nevertheless it was done recently at the town of Carpi, near Modena,

in Italy.
On the Italian railroads an electrical apparatus, upon the departure of a train from any station, rings six strokes upon a gong in the next station. The station-master at Carpi, hearing his gong ring three strokes where they should be six, immediately came to the conclusion that there was something wrong on the line, and ordered up the elec-

tric signals of warning.

The train, which by this time was under

The train, which by this time was underfull headway, came to a dead stop.

Then began a transfer of telegraphic messages. The passengers were anxious to know what was the matter. They waited while the messages went back and forth. The enquiry established the fact that everything was right on the line, and the train thing was right on the line, and the train was ordered forward after considerable

station-master, about this time, thought it might be well to look into his gong, and there he found, stuck fast between the cogs of the electrical apparatus, a poor little mouse.

The unhappy animal had happened to be in the interior of the clock when it "struck one," and down he attempted to run, but was eaught between the murderous wheels. His little body was big enough to stop the whole apparatus, and consequently the train as well.

On a first glimpse at the sea. "Astonish ing! Who would have thought there could be as much water as that?" "True; and remember you only see what's on top."

HOUSEHOLD.

HOW TO CHOOSE MEATS.

A few suggestions on the subject of choosing butcher's meat may not be out of place. Good beef when fresh has a fine grain and is of a vermillion color, with a slight tint of purple on the cut surface. It is firm but tender to the touch, and is so elastic that no mak is left after pressure like fresh butter, and firm. Sometimes the lean is slightly veined with fat, but it must have no flavor of suet. The surface must be quite dry when cut, scarely moistening the finger. If a clean knife be pushed up to the handle into the raw meat the resistance will be uniform if it be fresh, but if some parts are softer than others it has begun to decompose. When beef is lean, coarse, and sinewy-looking it is old and tough. wash
Mutton and lamb should have a fine grain; utes.

the lean should be bright and evenly tinted, TORONTO COOKIES. - Take one cup sugar and the fat perfectly white. In mutton the lean is pale red. In hanging mutton, if it be hung with the cut part up instead of down, as usual, the juices will be better

will be quite white. Veal should be six or eight weeks old before it is killed, else it is unwholesome. Too young yeal may be detected by a bluish tint. The vigilance of meat inspectors, however, prevents the immature yeal from entering the special properties. Veal should have firm, white fat, and the inside the thigh. If there be plenty of clear firm fat there, the meat is good.

Pork when fresh and young is smooth

and firm and the rind is thin. The lean must be of a uniform color, and the fat white and not at all streaked. Salted comfed pork has pinkish fat. A good test of ham is to run a knife under the bone; if it comes out clean and smells pleasantly the ham is good. In choosing fish see that the gills are bright pink, the fins stiff, and the be bright.

STARCHING.

Allow a teaspoonful of good starch to each shirt and collar. Use just enough cold water to wet the starch, mash it free from lumps, add a little more, and stir it well; add for each shirt a little sperm or white wax as big as a pea and a quarter of a spoonful of salt to three spoonfuls of starch, pour on boiling water, stirring slowly all the time; boil hard for fifteen minutes without scorching, skim and strain while hot. This can done only by dipping the strainer in cold water, while the starch is in the bag, and squeeze it immediately before it becomes

Wet bosoms and collars in hot water wring very dry, and starch while damp; rub the starch well in and wring in a dry towel and remove all starch left on the outside; spread out evenly, rub down with a dry cloth, and roll tightly together; let it lie two or three hours and then iron, and you will have a gloss on your shirts and collars equal in appearance and perhaps better in quality than if it had been done at a Chinese laundry.

CHOICE RECIPES.

BLUEBERRY PICKLES.—For blueberry pickles old jars which have lost their covers or whose edges have been broken so the powder. covers will not fit tightly serve an excellent purpose, as these pickles must not be kept airtight. Pick over your berries, using only known to cure even a ham.

sound ones; fill your jars or wide-mouthed bottles to within an inch of the top, then your in molasses enough to settle down into all the spaces; this cannot be done in a moment, as molasses does not run very freely. Only lazy people will feel obliged to stand by and watch its progress. As it settles, pour in more until the berries are covered. Then tie over the top a piece of cotton cloth to keep the flies and other insects out, and set away in the preserve closet. Cheap mo-

cups ugar two pints flour, two teaspoonfuls baking pow ler, one teaspoonful extract nutmeg. Sift the flour, sugar, and powder to-gether; rub in the butter cold and add enough : weet milk to make a soft dough ; add the extract last; roll out half an inch thick and cut out with a biscuit cutter; wash over with milk and bake twenty min-

and one cup butter, beat together to a froth then one-balf cup milk, to this add enough flour to stiffen, into which has been put one teaspoonful baking powder. Roll out, cut into shape desired. Bake about ten minutes in a quick oven.

meat inspectors, however, prevents the iminit small lumps, cut them across slightly mature veal from entering the market. In each way once with a sharp knife, set them choosing mutton or veal from the careass in tins not touching each other, brush them the quality may be determined from the fat over with milk or butter melted in milk. and bake.

Keeping up Appearances.

An English visitor to Persia travelled post through that country with a native ser whose duties included the preparing of his master's meals at every halting-place. The public houses of the country furnish shelter only, with not so much as a chair or a table. Even a brick floor is a luxury. How the eyes clear and full; the scales and skin must servant magnified his office under such circumstances is told in a ludicrous way :

We carpeted down there on a divan of brick, and Ali kindled a fire. It was a foul place indeed. But Ali was never to be daunted; his little fire was soon burning at my feet, the water boiling, the canteen opened and ready; and then, in his swaggering way out he comes with.

"Now, zur, what you like take? What you like take you have !"

But his words were mere bombast; it was only an Eastern man's opening. However, sometimes I steadily replied,—
"Like roast beef, Ali, got?"

"Ah, roast beef no got this day!" he

would say.
"Well, like mutton, Ali, got?" H

"Ah, mutton no got this day!"
"Like chicken, Ali, got?"

"Ah, chicken no got this day !" and so it

would end, "Got eggs."

This was his usual way, and nothing that I ever said would break him of it, but, with oberer look, each time he would begin: "Now, zur, what you like take?" as before, as though he had really every delicacy of Persia at command. In this instance, however, it was not even "Got eggs!

It is an open question whether Jonah was the first secretary of the navy, or of the in-

You cannot expect a girl of the period to stand fire because she is accustomed to face

An exchange says salt is a remarkable remedial agent. So it is, indeed. It has been



LADIES' WALKING COSTUME.

For this costume the "Erminie" jacket and "Ramona" skirt are used in combin-Each possesses special features ation. which the other serves to enhance when they are used together. The materials employed for the costume are brown serge with a very broad twill, and striped plush with the pile in different lengths and a frise weave in the narrow stripes. The plush is in two shades of brown with a slight mixture of red and ecru. This is used for the under-skirt, where it shows at the right side,

the revers on the drapery, and the vest, lining for the fronts, cuffs, and collar of the acket; and the remainder of the costume is of the serge. The vest is illustrated turned back to disclose a chemisette and collar of white pique. The hat is of fine brown plush, placed smoothly on the frame, the brim faced with lighter brown faille, and the trimming composed of brown faille ribbon and shaded brown plumes. Tan-colored Suede gloves. Price of jacket patterns twenty-five cents each. Skirt pattern, thirtycetns.

FALL FOLLIES.

Self-possession is nine points of the law.

Teacher—"Hans, name three beasts of prey." Hans.—"Two lions and a tiger." Some things are more valuable when they are upside down. A figure six, for instance.

There is one consolation for the Charleston sufferers: they do not have to listen to all the entertainments that are given for

"Speckled beauties"—a great many of the young ladies who have returned from their summer vacation with sun-spots on their faces.

A word to Voters—A few rings on your hand is not objectionable, but what is required of you is that you get your hand on the rings.

It is stated that funerals cost three times as much as they did for y years a co. Herein is seen new proof of the unwisdom of procrastination. Think, improvident reader, how much you might have saved had you mortelled off your cuffed shoil forty years

A Tragedy and its Lesson.

Another dreadful tragedy in which a lovesick boy and a young girl still in short dresses lost their lives, has just occurred at Chalfin Bridge, Ill. Eddie Clark was seventeen years of age and imagined that he loved Melissa Fultz, aged fifteen. The little girl had a good deal of sense and refused to love with her youthful admirer, telling him that she was too young and that her mother did not approve of her having a lover. After receiving this information the young boy procured a revolver and the following day when going home from school with Melissa, shot her dead without a moment's warning, and then followed the act up by killing himself. The two children were buried side by side, their funerals being held the same day. It is a pity that the young girl could not have been spared to what, with her mature good sense, must have been a very useful and bonorable life. It is a pity also that the soft headed young sprig could not have been soundly spanked and sent to bed the first time he expressed his so-called love for his playmate. There comes a time in all young lives when a strong preference exists for some member of the opposite sex, and this critical period is the one which all parents and friends shoul pay great attention to. The first socalled love case, safely over, the afflicted one generally settles down to be something steady and is not at all likely to suffer a severe recurring attack until the passions are well under control and the person is possessed of sufficient judgment to avoid more than the usual serious outcome of love affairs whether followed by marriage or not. The young must be carefully trained and closely watched by some responsible friend to guard against such distressing affairs as this article has to deal with. There are many older persons, also, who need a good deal of watching and advice which they don't get. But with all the care and endeavors of sensible, well-balanced people there is always a vast amount of business accumulating for the fool-killer to dispose of.

The Local Paper.

The local paper interests all classes, and is read by all classes. The business man examines it because, besides the general and local news, it contains the legal notices, tax, sheriff and auction sales. And all classes read it, because it describes the home-life of the people in all their pursuits of business or pleasure, records the marriages, births, and deaths, and faithfully reports their opin ions, feelings, sympathies, and hopes, in joy and sorrow, in health and in sickness, in life and in death. It is the best and truest type of the people who have made this country great, and by whose toil great cities

An advertisement in the home paper challenges attention with a force it could not have in a foreign paper. It is a delicate compliment to the town in which it is published and to the people in it—a public testimonial that the town and its business are worth cultivating. And they return the compliment.

A Horse as an Amateur Bread-Maker.

A Hightstown farmer's horse had an experience the other day that it will not care to repeat. Driven to the city and left standing in front of a grocery store it took occasion to poke its head into a basket in the back of a delivery wagon and to ab-stract therefrom three or four compressed yeast cakes and the best part of a sack of Pillsbury flour. The result of this amateur breadmaking was not made apparent until the animal was driven home, when the yeast proved to be as good as ever, and the began to experience sensations commonly known to bread pans. The veterinarian who worked over the horse for 12 hours avers that it was at least eight feet in circumference for some time previous to obtaining relief, and is quite sure that if it is an intelligent beast it will hereafter take its staff of life unleavened.

The Inventor of a Thimble.

I have heard with interest that the thimble of plain sewing was invented in the year 1684 by a gallant young Dutch goldsmith of Amsterdam, who devised the "thumb bell"—for this was its original name—in order to protect his sweetheart's thumb tops when she was engaged with a needle and cotton. There are thumb thimbles still, and sailors, I believe, always wear them. The "thumb bell "has, as a rule, however, become a "finger bell;" but in shape only little change has taken place in it since the loving Hans placed the first thimble on the thumb of his lady love.

Both Wanted Her.

A telegraph operator was one day trying to call up an office in a small town in the interior of the Province where the instrumer t was precided over by a woman. He was about giving up in despair, whon the operator in another small town a few miles from the first, ticked out the query:
"What in heaven's name do you want?"

"I want Miss Brown, at Burgville," re-tied the telegraph man. "I have been try-

plied the telegraph man. "I have been trying to get her for the last half hour."
"That is nothing, "came the reply. "There is a young fellow clerking in a dry goods store there who has been trying to get her for the last three years, and he her not you for the last three years, and he has not suc ceeded yet. Do not get discouraged."