Pages from Parson Parlett's Diary king?"

January 8, 1667.-Forth to Brackminster, by appointment, to meet with the bishop, who hath given me the living of Sternax, newly vacated.

His lordship very courteous and did offer to lodge me that night. But was anxious for Dorothy, she being all at the sermon. But one Lord's Day alone, and did think of it the more that 'tis now two years to that very day that her dear mother did leave me a widower, to my unceasing sorrow.

Yet the good bishop would have me, at the least, dine with him and did hasten the meal for my greater expedition. A good dinner of roast pullet and sucking pig, but I have drank better wine. I was not, I fear me, the good company I generally be

In Sternax parish, as my lord bishop did privily inform me, there be a man of strange life and behavior, albeit of good substance and position, one Sir | meat), up he got and was walking out Ralph Brant, whom Mr. Thorp, the former parson, now dead of the jaundice, did ever regard as a thorn in his was wont to lie on the steps of the

flesh

On my asking wherein he did more particularly offend, "Nay, that," quoth | did of a sudden change his mind and the bishop, "I cannot precisely tell. did pat it on the back instead. Lord! But Mr. Thorp did ever complain of how I should have loved to have seen him as a pagan man who did set a bad example to the parish, nor would accept his pastor's guidance in the matter of almsgiving. Yet I am bound to say that my nephew, who did meet only one another's defects. That matwith this same Sir Ralph in foreign ter of the dog should have healed their the expedition. He has chartered the parts ere he came into his inheritance at Sternax, ever spake loudly in his praise, as a most excellent good young man and a valiant. And 'twixt you and me, Mr. Parlett, your predecessor, though a worthy man and a pious, was wanting in discernment."

I was a little downcast at the thought of so contrary a parishioner, which the bishop perceiving did lay his hand

kindly on my shoulder. "Be of good cheer!" said he. "What though the man be an odd fish? 'Twill be for you to angle for him and draw | day. him to land by virtue of your office!"

Thence, parting from the bishop with his blessing, to the White Hart Tavern, where I had bestowed my nag, and whence I did homeward wend me in company of Mr. Thrupton, of my parish, whom, being originally from Sternax way, I did cautiously sound as to Sir Ralph Brant.

never seen, but have heard strange things of would fill a book.

Whereupon he, being a merry man and of a pretty enough wit, did, to my great content, fall to beguile the way with talk of this Sir Ralph. I will briefly set down one or two things he did tell me.

Some three years ago, Sir Ralph being but newly come to Sternax, a couple of footpads, bold knaves, did stop several that journeyed that way, leaving them ever the poorer for the meeting. At length the rascals did wax so impudent as to strip a wealthy grazier to the skin and then truss him like a fowl to a stake passed under his bent thighs, and was found next morning under a hedge well-nigh perished with cold. Now Sir Ralph, when he heard it, did disguise him with a mock white beard, and bowing his shoulders did shape himself as an aged man, and leaning on a crutch did go that way of a moonlit night. Up to him the two rufflans and did jeer him, and were for treating him like the rest, when he out with a stout cudgel from under his cloak, and, being a marvellous strong coldness irketh the more. man, did trounce them both and tie them back to back. And the end was | Perchance he be warped of some trouthey were lodged in Brackminster jail, | ble beyond the common. and were both hanged.

chance to be passing through Sternax | ning ways, and is already known and village one day, when he heard words loved of all my poor people. And in between a widow woman and her sooth the maid be a passing sweet grown son. The mother was entreating her son to turn the dung-heap aside from her cowhouse door lest she | village, where be tales that Sir Ralph should soil her skirts going to milk.

'And think ye I be going to soil my hands with the dirty work?" cried the | I be loth to credit and so be Dorothy. gulky lout

Up steps Sir Ralph. "Yes, my man," quoth he quietly, "and not only so, but you'll wash the stones for a path for your mother when all is done.' Which the main did as meek as a

lamb, under the shadow of Sir Ralph's sapling staff. 'And now for your pay," said Sir Ralph, with a queer smile, "follow

And the rustic followed him, not knowing what to think, till they got out of sight and ken of all men into the heart of Sternax Common, where Sir Ralph did baste him right heartily

with his oaken stick. 'And now be off and be a good son to your mother, or there'll be another

pay-day. And from that day no saint could keep the fifth commandment better than did Toby Sikes.

At which hearing it did seem strange to me if Sir Ralph were not the best beloved man of that country-side. "Nay," quoth Mr. Thrupton, "'tis not so. For he hath a strange twist of temper and consorteth but little with see a stranger on his domain. As to womankind, he doth so abhor it (des-

they love him."

"And is he sound for Church and

Mr. Thrupton laughed right merrily. "Why, for aught I know, and so he may be! But he hath deserted Sternax Church since his quarrel with Parson Thorp a year ago last Martinmas. This was how it befell :-

"There was little love betwixt the two, and the parson had been reproaching him for faxity in churchgoing, being perchance secretly vexed that when he did come he ever fell asleep Sir Ralph did not slumber thereat, for the discourse was discharged full at his head. He heard himself likened to moody Saul vexed with an evil spirit, and hurling javelins of despite at the David of the pulpit who would fain have harped to him the soothing melody of true doctrine and sound advice And all in so pointed a manner as to draw the stare of the congregation upon him. And Sir Ralph did sit on with folded arms like to a stone figure. But when the preacher went on to compare him with Nebuchadnezzar, driven for his sins to a lonely life far from the haunts of men and eating grass as oxen ('twas another craze of Sir Ralph's never to eat butcher's of the church, holding himself mighty stiff and straight, when a fat and wheezy old dog of the parson's which pulpit did come to meet him, wagging its stump of a tail. The wrathful man did raise his foot in act to kick, but

I could not help but join in Mr Thrupton's merriment; yet was I inly grieved as well for Mr. Thorp as for Sir Ralph; good men both, yet blind to one another's virtues and seeing

January 9.-Did arrive home and found Dorothy, to my joy, in good health and of gay spirits, and did rally me on my good fare at the bishop's, which was better, she would have me note, than the Apostles'.

But I, too, was in pleasant mood, and made answer that they dined off fish fresh caught, which was a tit-bit Brackminster, being inland, knew nought of, whereat she did break into merry laughter, which was music to it-charts made by the only man who

She be vastly handsome, my Dorothy, and light-hearted withal, as a thrush in the coppice on a summer's

April 10.—We are arrived at our new home and find the house but a sorry one. Yet is the garden marvellous pretty, with yew-tree hedges cunningly he heard of the treasure and after trimmed and many sunny nooks studying over the matter for a voyage wherein to sit-a thing to which my predecessor was more given than most of his coat, being a sickly man and weather.

Dorothy and I be already drawing plots of alterations in the house which, "'Tis a man," quoth he, "I have methinks, will be for the better and, doubtless, more to my daughter's liking, Mr. Thorp having been unmarried, so that less did content him.

Nor will Dorothy have me forget mine own comfort, but hath herself en island and the golden treasure, too. devised a room for my books and to compose my discourses, which pleaseth me vastly. And she hath moreover planned for me a bowling alley in the that his little schooner was none too

April 12.—I have to-day seen, but from a distance only, Stark Hall, the abode of Sir Ralph Brant, who, I find, owneth the bulk of this and other par- get a much better craft, and return for ishes hereabout; a fine house, but of an the rest of it. But if he took it all neglect it shows.

he hath heard my sermons ill reported scheme, and started for home, of, for the people, and notably the sorry sermons.

nor hath he made me welcome.

Now my Lord Trusfit, in my last parish, was ever careful to do everything for my content, and was wont to show me great civility-vension twice a year and a runlet of his best wine every Christmas-so that Sir Ralph's

Yet would I not judge him hastily.

where the grazier did swear to them | May 3.—Dorothy, God bless her! be growing into much favor in the parish Here be another tale. Sir Ralph did by reason of her kind heart and winmaid and the apple of mine eye. May15.—Am newly come from the

is wont to set man-traps and such-like heathenish engines in his woods, which June 15.—Since my last writing things so strange have befallen that, in the telling thereof, I deem them worthy of more fulness and precision than

is my wont. 'Twas nine o'clock at night on May 19, when, after we had supped, a knock came at my door, that Farmer Thribble, of Hebbleston, was took of a sudden worse and would fain see me.

"Alack, poor soul!" cries Dorothy, "'tis he of whom I heard yesterday. Dame Powlett would have it he hath been ailing ever since his ague!"

warm cloak for fear of the night air. sea in an open boat. But the survivors they whirled until it seemed to us to The messenger, a raw country lad, did were picked up, and at last, by way whom the sight was new that we must bay charger of good size—a deep, rich, guide me to the farm, which, being on of half a dozen ports, he reached his cry out to them to cease. The sight bay, with a dash of white about the the uttermost border of the parish, I home in Cape Breton too much broken was positively maddening. After fif- fore foot and still more of the same had not hitherto visited.

(To Be Continued.)

ITALY'S GENTLE QUEEN.

Some time ago the Queen of Italy trusion on his privacy and detesteth to of silk mittens for her birthday, giv- man's lips and from his hand the maps most unpleasant manner which gave A striking feature of the bay is the ing her the money for the material. and charts of the island. Capt. Gould one the "creeps." One old fellow kept intelligence he displays. What has pite his goodness to the village wid- A pair of beautifully worked mittens find the treasure and to share with the ed at the mouth. ow) as he will have all his household arrived on the Queen's birthday. The wrecked Captain whatever was found. So much for the uncanny sights we ing true about the Emperor's favorite work done by men, nor will even have little girl received in return another But bad luck befell him before he reach- saw this beautiful day in January with charger. a female wash his clothes, but the gardener must do it; slovenly, no doubt, but of that his master recketh little.

The gray charger is a finely-bred the sky as blue as turquoise and the pair; one mitten contained lires, the money nor ship for the scheme. Since the horse, also, with a magnificent head other bonbons. Queen Marguerite inthe has been shipping as he could day our dragoman took us to the Isle that has been shipping as he could be the pair; one mitten contained lires, the day our dragoman took us to the Isle then he has been shipping as he could be the pair; one mitten contained lires, the money nor ship for the scheme. Since the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that has been shipping as he could be the pair; one mitten contained lires, the money nor ship for the scheme. Since the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the Isle that the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our dragoman took us to the pair is a finely-bred day our drago There be rumors that, being once cross- closed a little note, saying: "Tell me, and doing his best to induce men with of Rhoda, near where Moses was found he is of excellent disposition. ed in love, it hath soured the man. my dear child, which you like best." money to help him in his venture. He by Pharaoh's daughter; then to Old However this may be, he is, though The reply ran as follows: "Dearest has at last succeeded, but the Cape Bre- Cairo, which is indeed quaint and deepyoung and comely and of a most dis- Queen-Your presents have made me ton Captain died two months ago in his ly interesting to a Coptic church, Strong-minded women now abound, tinguished presence, of so grim and shed many tears. Papa took the home and the Cocos Island gold is not which it is said, is built upon the spot stern a mien that men fear more than mittens with the money; my brother for him. But whether or not Capt. where stood a shelter for the Virgin Disdains the question, so profound, had the bonbons."

AN EXPEDITION TO SEEK BURIED TREASURE IN THE PACIFIC.

Capt. Gould Knows Where a Famous Hoard Is Hidden and Has Persuaded Some Landlubbers to Advance the Money He Needs-A Cape Breton Man's Adventures*

For many years the Captains who sail the Pacific Ocean and the adventurous folk who go with them or listen to their tales ashore have talked and schemed and dreamed about the Cocos party of favored guests: Island and its buried treasure. The men of the sea all know, and they have convinced many landlubbers, besides, that there is much treasure buried in Cocos Island. Many an expedition has been planned to go there in search! of it, but it is one thing to plan an expedition to go in search of buried treasure and quite another to get up the next morning, and put hard-earned cash striped awnings, and lanterns which into the scheme. So the sea folk have were stretched over our heads the talked, the land-lubbers with money have listened and believed, and the expeditions have scome to naught, and the treasure still waits in Cocos Island. But next week an expedition is really sex were allowed in the room or house going to start from Victoria, B. C., in search of it, and is pledged not to return until the treasure is found, or every foot of ground on Cocos Island has been turned upside down.

The scheme has been directed by Capt. Gould, who has persuaded half a dozen men or more to put up \$500 each into schooner Aurora, and will take with him several other sea captains whose faith in the buried treasure of Cocos Island is as dauntless as his own. They have no doubt that they will be able to find it at once, because they have

of the island which show exactly where the treasure is buried and how to reach has ever been in the island and found the treasure.

CHARTS AND MAPS

He was a sea Captain from Cape Breton, who owned a little trading schooner, and ran along the coast of South Americo and Mexico. In one of his trips or two, concluded that he was just the man to find it if anybody could. So ever of a great languor in hot the next time he left port he cleared ostensibly for a trading voyage, but as soon as he was out of sight of land turned the bow of his schooner toward the golden island of his dreams. And after he had sailed and sailed far down toward the equator, he found the gold-But he was a prudent man, was the Cape Breton sea Captain, and he knew seaworthy. And he figured the matter | French and some Italian. Finally a out that if he took a little of the treasure he could go back to San Francisco,

> The next morning all on board had been with out two remaining bouquets, hav- propellers could not be utilized. his two comrades ashore.

THEY LOOTED EVERYTHING

the waves had left on the schooner and took from the men everything they posing. The three were subjected to such only Europeans present, great rebrutal treatment that the two seamen died after a few weeks, and the Captain, in final desperation, stole a small were glad that we came. boat one night and started alone out upon the Pacific Ocean. He put up a wind there was and he rowed for all in mind is the Mohammedan Sunday, his iron muscles were worth, and at the and an eventful day. The court surend of the second day he made a land- rounding the arena in which this weird he rested for a few days, replenished holds about 500 persons, and it was his tiny stock of water from a spring, filled with all sorts and conditions of roots. Then, dauntless soul that he predominating element. Soon after we was. he took to the sea again in his entered the court the whirlers made

and blood-boiling heat and brain-with- funniest looking chimney pote hats. ering solitude he was picked up by a After marching around and around for about the Horn that ship was wrecked, eous noise of a band composed of tom- of horseflesh. and the Cape Breton Captain a second toms, tambourines and some wind in-And she did hasten to fetch me my time endured the horrors of the open struments, they began to whirl, and

the decks of a ship again. The few remaining years of his life exhaustion, apparently. It appears, charger. His head and neck are parhe spent in making maps and charts however, that this part of the pro- ticularly handsome. While full of spir-(most minute in their details and dir- gramme is for effect entirely. ections) of Cocos Island and its buried From this place we drove to hear is the possessor of high courage and gold. Capt. Gould, who has been very the "Howlers," quite as famous as the shows his high breeding in every line friendly with him in former years went "Whirlers," who were a horrid lot of and movement, while the carriage is so to see him one day a few years ago healthy, lusty men, simply howling and fine as to command the attention of asked a little girl to knit her a pair and had the whole story from the old making as much noise as possible in a all who see him. engaged to do everything he could to it up until he had hysterics and froth- been said of many animals, "they can

what they are going for, the expedition will at least settle the most widely believed tale of buried treasure that is talked about in all the regions washed by the Pacific Ocean.

AN ARABIAN WEDDING

The Sterner Sex Excluded from the House of the Bride-a Pretty and Interesting Event.

The following extract from the letter of a gir in Cairo describes an Arabian wedding which the writer was permitted to witness as one of a small

At 8 o'clock in the morning our Aragonian, who, by the way, is a fascinating and picturesque fellow, well supplied with letters of recommendaclub pennant or the company emblem tion from many famous people, met us at the door of our hotel with three enormous bouquets. Arriving at a very narrow street, we proceeded a short distance on foot under red rags, length of the street. The round was sprinkled with sand, and along the sides of the houses were seats provided for the men, as none of the sterner of the bride. We, the women mounted three flights of stairs, and found ourselves in a large room filled with Arabian women of various classes, also some Grecian and Turkish women. These were arrayed in many-colored garments, pink silk scarfs, gold embroidered jackets, blue plush and wool stuffs, combinations I cannot begin to describe. The women gathered around us and led us to the divan arranged for the bride, seating the oldest in the party in the middle, while the rest of us were given seats on either side. We remonstrated, but they assured us that the bride could sit upon a chair. We were great curiosities to them, apparently, and we certainly enjoyed the novelty of our position. In their simple way they showed us great hospitality. The approach of the bride was heralded by a most conglomerate lot of howling women and children, playing tomtoms, tambourines and native instruments anything but musical. We arose to resign our seats of honor in favor of the bride and her attendants, but she insisted that we two remain on either side of her, while she occupied the middle seat just vacated by one of the party, and so we sat through all the howling and banging, the pushwho spoke a little English, some use in its stead of the more very intelligent Greek woman took us in charge; she was quite a linguist, or that which find soil to be its agent and we were enabled to appreciate in making the wheels go around.

spect, and in good English said they On the following day, Friday, we were taken to see the famous Whirlsmall sail and took advantage of what | ing Dervishes. Friday, one must bear ing on a small uninhabited island, where and uncanny performance takes place in both body and mind ever to tread teen minutes of constant whirling co.or above one hind foot. they dropped to the ground from sheer

Gould and the schooner Aurora find and Child while they were in Egypt. Dear, is my bonnet really straight?

IT MAY BE VALUABLE FOR YACHTS AND OTHER SMALL CRAFT.

The Invention of a Yachtsman of Scotland -It May be Used at Will or Threws

Out of Action. John Ferguson, of Scotland, vice-commodore of the Royal Forth Yacht Club, and owner of the famous cutter Petronilla, has invented a propeller which can be utilized to give the vessel speed through the water or be withdrawn within the hull at a moment's notice. The principle is such that the new invention is equally valuable to large and small craft, whether it fly the yacht

that floats at the masthead of a transatlantic liner. The one great difficulty with which the operation of the propeller has been confronted from its earliest day is that in sudden contract with a hard object, the result is likely to be a broken or twisted blade, and that means that the vessel must lie up for repairs until the propeller is in good condition. While such accidents cannot always be avoided it often happens that if it were possible to change the position of the propeller or withdraw it from the water, it could be saved from injury. This power is exactly that which Mr. Fer-

guson's invention possesses. THE FIRST EXPERIMENTS

guson's inventions' posseses.

with the sheathing propeller, as it is called, were carried out on a fishing boat of about seven tons, yacht measurement. When not in use, the propeller is invisible, as it is housed in a tube fixed through the stern post of the vessel. A movement of an extending rod, or rather rods, brought about by the pulling of a lever in the engine room, brings the propeller in position outside of the boat. The blades are still feathered-that is, they are folded together. The pull of a second lever unfolds the blades and places them in position. Now let the lever that gives the propeller motion be pulled and the vessel will at once receive that impetus which forces her through the water.

Although it is true that the invention is adjustable to craft of any size, it is more particularly applicable to yachts and other vessels of comparatively small tonnage. Not only is the single propeller of this sort valuable, but so long as it is possible to withdraw it into the hull when not in use, ing and jostling of these half-civilized propellers can be placed at almost any creatures. After every one had seen desired point. Again, it is not a necthe bride an enormous woman laden essity to operate these propellers by with jewelery and golden chains, be- means of steam; electricity or oil of gan to howl and hammer on a tam- some sort may be utilized to equal adbourine, then the guests threw coin vantage. This is one reason why the into the bride's cap while the women small craft would be benefited, for it howled and made other hideous noises. would oftentimes do away with the big After this the guests began to mingle engine room force which the modern with one another, and we found some steam yacht requires, and permit the

DAINTY ELECTRICAL ENGINE

what we had seen after her explana- A fact well known to all sailor men tions. Then came the refreshments, who have served aboard steam craft is appearance most forbidding for the and his ship should happen to go to the and we had to eat little cakes and big that the slower a propeller moves, the bottom of the sea, that would be the cakes, all shapes and flavors, and last more difficult the ship becomes to con-April 29-"Tis strange how Sir Ralph end of the treasure. So he took on one awful affair of some kind soaked in trol. It sometimes happens that a comes not to church. It cannot be that | board only enough | to carry out his | wine. This was the end of the bride's | vessel whose engines are not over and part of the entertainment. We went above powerful gets caught in the seas And sure enough, so the tales of the down stairs to join the men of our in such a way that her propeller beyounger men, do flock to the church sea folk all say, on the third night from party, and there met a very jolly old comes useless. She then loses steerage every Lord's Day. And Mr. Bullamy, Cocos Island there came a sudden priest, who had been in London and way and flops about in the trough of the churchwarden, tells me 'twas but storm so furious that the ship was Paris, spoke good French, and who in- the sea and perhaps in the teeth of a a thin congregation in Parson Thorp's driven far out of her course. And in terested us very much. He it was who gale becomes practically helpless. Mr. time-the main old women and chil- the middle of the night he heard the was to perform the ceremony. The Ferguson's invention renders it posdren, and for the most part sad, and roar of breakers and felt the crash of man we had not yet seen, but we were sible for one of these propellers to be jagged rocks through the rotten hull soon presented to him, with his at- placed on each side of a boat, as well But Sir Ralph I have not yet seen, of his little ship. All night long the tendants, who were parading up and as at the stern. Equipped in this way, storm raged and the waves rolled over down this inclosed street, preceded by it would be difficult for a ship to take the vessel as she pounded on the rocks. an Egyptian band. We presented him such a position that some one of the

drowned except the Captain and two ing left one with his 16-year-old bride. There is no objection to the electrical others. The schooner had struck on the Again we all went upstairs, and saw engine. As the propeller may be opoutlying rocks of a small island, from the groom lift the veil of the bride, erated by the latter as well as the formwhich the natives soon came out in supposed to be the first sight of her er, it gives the owners of sailing yachts small boats and took the Captain and fair countenance. This was the ninth a chance to have all the benefits which and last day of this wedding perfor- result from proceeding under sail almance, and the most important one, most altogether and at the same time for they were at last duly tied by the having sheathed in the hull, a proold priest, and went home by morning peller, that in case of a calm will enlight. It was a weird performance. able the vessel to proceed without the sessed, even to their last stitch of cloth- Through it all they showed us, the loss of time which must otherwise follow. The propellers for small craft are only intended to promote a slow rate hoped we had had a pleasant time and of speed, but this would be a great improvement upon the unpleasant and enforced idleness of a calm.

FINE HORSES.

Emperor William Has Two Pet Chargers a Bay and a Gray.

The stables of Emperor William of and gathered some edible fruits and people. Americans and English, the Germany contain many valuable blooded horses, but there are two which he their appearance, dressed in short prefers above the others. Both are After ten days of thirst and hunger white skirts and on their heads the worthy the fancy of any man, even a king. One is dark color, the other sailing vessel bound for London. Down fifteen or twenty minutes to the hid- light, and both are splendid specimens

Of the two, the Emperor selects the dark horse more frequently. He is a

The bay is a fine example of the ideal it, he is docile and well-mannered. He

do everything but talk," comes near be-

THE DEFECT IN HER ARMOR.

But where is she whose mental weight