

THE WORLD OF LABOR

ECHOES FROM THE BUSY MILL AND THE WORKSHOP.

News and Happenings of Special Interest in the Various Fields Where Mechanics and Artisan Hold sway Night and Day.

Tokyo has 120 periodicals. Train via I. h. s. 45,000 gold m. n. rs. Emp. for William's train cost \$70,000. Europe uses 565,000 tons of salt annually.

A Swedish mine has been worked 800 years. European armies cost \$2,000,000,000 a year.

The "dumb" piano is a new invention in which young ladies can learn music without making any sound.

Milwaukee is really a foreign city, only 10 per cent. of its population being native born of American parentage.

Michigan capitalists, headed by Congressman Linton, have bought 300,000 acres of Florida land to form a colony. Japanese workmen wear, both on their caps and on their backs, an inscription stating their business and the name of their employer.

France produces about 808,000 tons of finished iron a year. The ore for it is largely drawn from Algeria, Spain, Elba and Sardinia.

The t. r. a. w. a. y. s. o. n. i. t. u. s. e. s. and underground railways in and around London, within a radius of five miles, carry each year, it is claimed, about 453,000,000 passengers.

An automatic restaurant has just been opened in Berlin, where, by dropping coins in a slot the dishes are sent up on a tray; rolls, wine and coffee are now served, and more elaborate dishes are to follow.

Fans, umbrellas, kites, speacles, gongs, bank notes, postage stamps are all the invention of the Chinese. Hanway was the first to introduce the umbrella into England, and he borrowed the idea from China.

Under Glasgow harbor a tunnel has just been completed and will be opened in six months, connecting the two tanks of the Clyde. It is 16 feet in diameter and 700 feet long, and has taken five years to build.

In German experiments copper has been found to prolong the existence of leaves on potato vines and increase the number and size of the tubers. A 2 per cent. solution of sulphate of copper in lime water was sprinkled on the plants.

J. L. Hand, of Pelham, Ga., is known as the watermelon king. He plants several thousand acres of seed every spring and in the summer season ships hundreds of carloads of melons north.

The shipping of all nations is of the approximate value of \$1,190,000,000, while the 110,000 locomotives at work represent a value of \$1,000,000,000. The railways give employment to 2,294,000 while shipping employs only 705,000.

The milk of the reindeer and its cheese product are said to be most excellent for all lung diseases. The natives, who live largely on the same, are remarkably free from all forms of disease, and among them the healthiest and most robust people in the world.

There were whole streets in Tyre entirely occupied by glass works, and it is stated that the first glass houses were erected in Tyre. The glass houses of Alexandria were highly celebrated for the ingenuity and skill of their workmen and the extent of their manufactures.

Two steamer loads of 1,000 Don C. sacks have already left Odessa for the Ussuri, Litoral, in Siberia, of which Vladivostok is the port, and others are to follow. They go as cargoes, and receive from the Government railways and free grants of land.

Twenty acres of celery in Orange County, Cal., will produce 25 cords. A cord of celery will sell for \$30 in the Chicago market. At this rate the total product of the twenty acres would be \$10,000, or \$500 an acre for freight charges. The celery is raised on plant lands.

Contrary to the statements frequently heard, that old rails cannot be used again, they are put to many uses. A great amount of barbed wire fencing is made of railroad iron, and very often the rails are used as foundations for large buildings. There are many people who know that the Missouri Temple in Chiasso rests on a foundation of steel rails, layer upon layer, six feet deep.

Farmers have taken to the bicycle in parts of Ohio, and they go to town on the wheel instead of driving. They make long trips in the same fashion to cities that hitherto they have seldom visited. One livery stable keeper in an Ohio town has bought some bicycles to rent. He says that everybody uses the wheel, while few persons ride or drive horses, so he is gradually changing the character of his business.

S. D. Cone, of Aberdeen, S. D., has made arrangements to plant 100 acres of Russian sunflowers. After the oil has been extracted the seed meal left makes a splendid cake for cattle and horses feed, much superior to the product of flax. The stalks will number about 12,000 to the acre, and are expected to yield five to six cords of fuel, about equal to wood, and worth in the neighborhood of \$15 per acre. The work of extracting the oil will be done in Aberdeen.

When nickel steel comes into general use for the construction of vessels, as it undoubtedly will, said a Canadian gentleman at the Great Northern the other day, "Canada will, in a sense, control the shipbuilding industry, because so far as is at present known, there is very little nickel outside of the Dominion, while we have nickel-bearing pyrites practically without limit. The whole vast stretch of territory reaching from Lake Superior to Labrador is rich in it, and will produce hundreds of thousands of tons of it annually for an unlimited period whenever the demand requires it."

Is the blacksmith's trade-mark a scowl? A writer on "Trademarks and Faces," in Blackwood's Magazine, finds the following to say about him: "In most blacksmiths the constant exercise of the corugated or supercilious muscles causes a permanent frown, and gives the face a somewhat hard expression, but whether there is any inward and spiritual state corresponding with this outward and visible sign I am not quite sure. Whether their characters in any way correspond with their facial expressions I did not discover; there was a gay courtesy in their countenance while in hospital which was singularly dignified and pleasing, although always slightly suggestive of the politeness of foes during an analysis."

COMMONPLACE ECONOMY.

Applied to Our Food According to the Rules of Health.

In the domestic training of our girls we must not overlook this one important thought of economy. It should not come on the best of important things as a secondary consideration. By economy we do not mean the purchasing of cheap food or stinting in the quantity. It is simply extravagant and profitless to look around for cheap eatables. The economy consists in purchasing the most nourishing food and preparing it in the most palatable and proper manner, not wasting what might be left over at each meal. It certainly will require some thought and time, but it can be done easily by making use of the hints and receipts that are accessible to all. It is these little odd concomitants that make our bill of fare eke out. Yet we must urge that it cannot be done to satisfaction unless judgment and common-sense are used. This we cannot impart to the housekeeper or cook. It is not a natural gift, then, by all means it must be cultivated in order to be a successful cook and economist. "Wasteful waste brings woe," is an old adage with which all are familiar and the very quintessence of truth. It is not the greatest quantity we consume that nourishes, but only what we digest. If we would but consider this more seriously there would not be in the world so many dyspeptics.

Too much thought or time cannot be expended on this last great truth, that it is not quantity, but quality we need. Variety, too, must be seriously considered. To sit down to meal after meal of the same things is tiresome; our nature requires a change in this particular as well as in other things.

We may just now say a few words in favor of the pineapple, one of the most delicious fruits we can have. Yet how often we hear it asserted that it is too indigestible to eat. The reason of this, too, is because it is not properly prepared. To put it before human beings cut in slices we consider a crime, for thus prepared the very hard and indigestible core is eaten, which cannot be digested any more than a piece of leather. Then what must necessarily follow is suffering, and the sufferers vow they will do it no more. Now the better way is, after it has been pared, to take a fork and pick off the substance from the core in fine pieces, then you can eat it with as much pleasure as a berry, and feel no more discomfort from its effects. When you gaze at that great, hard core, from which has been taken in small bits the luscious fruit, you'll not wonder it cannot be eaten without having to pay the penalty. Thus to be an economical housekeeper much study is required in the selection, preparation, looking carefully to the left-over parts that will with judgment do more than was ever dreamed could be done. The housewife scarce realizes how much is wasted by being burned or in any way spoiled in the cooking.

THE COCK'S DOMAIN.

Some Appetizing Dainties for Every Day in the Week.

Cereals can be made palatable even to those who begin by disliking them if they are prepared properly. They should not be boiled simply in water, but in a mixture of equal parts of milk and water. They should not be stirred, for stirring makes them starchy, but cooked in a double boiler.

Rhubarb is a highly medicinal vegetable, which should be used as much as possible during this season. It is not only a valuable tonic, but a delicious dish when made into a "rhubarb Charlotte." Butter a baking dish thoroughly and cover the bottom an inch deep with fine bread crumbs, then with a layer of rhubarb that has been peeled and cut into thin, small pieces. Scatter the rhubarb thickly with sugar, cover it with a second layer of bread crumbs and over the crumbs put bits of butter. Continue to fill the dish in this way to the top. The top layer should be bread crumbs. Bake the pudding in a slow oven for an hour, or until the rhubarb is thoroughly cooked all through and the top brown.

Asparagus and peas, early vegetables, which have a delicate flavor of their own, are not improved by being smothered in sauces. Only a little salt and butter should be allowed to dress them. Strongly and unpleasantly flavored vegetables, however, like carrots, onions, turnips and cauliflower, are improved by being served with sauce.

A delicious filling for sandwiches is made as follows: Chop two tablespoonfuls of cold ham very fine, rub the yolk of one hard-boiled egg to powder, add a dash of catsup, pepper, salt and the merest hint of onion juice. Mix all the ingredients into a paste, with the white of an egg chopped coarsely and sprinkled in. This is enough for three sandwiches.

A dainty morsel for the hungry half hour before bedtime is "cheese crackers." Spread thin sphyrettes or salted crackers with a little butter and sprinkle lightly with grated Parmesan cheese. Place on a dish in the oven long enough to brown them slightly. These will keep for several days.

There are ways of spoiling the delicious strawberry, and one is to sugar it and let it stand for awhile for the juice to go out of it; another way is to take the hulls off quite a while before putting on the table. The hulls should be left on as long as possible.

For the Summer Girl.

Skirts remain straight and round, with godet and organ-pipe backs. The general revival of wash material for gowns will be an interesting phase of the summer world of fashion.

A fetching cotton fabric showing fancy stripes on dark and light blue grounds is known as marine twill. All bouffant effects should be left entirely to the thin woman, who needs them and can wear them with good results.

Tall women may wear long capes with good results, but those who are short or of medium height should wear them much shorter.

Among silks taffeta has the preference for spring and summer wear, as it is of light weave and is produced in a great variety of effects.

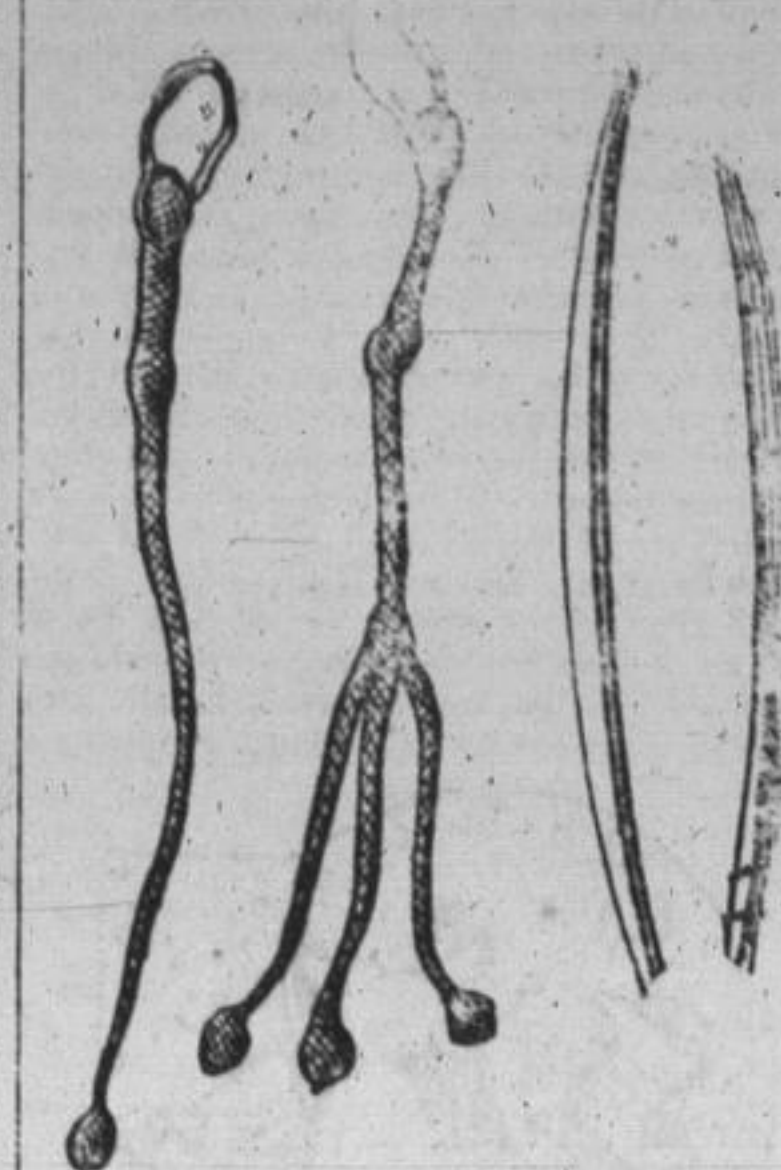
The Baby's Name.

"What are they going to call your new brother, Jack?" "Oh, I don't know, Jack, I guess." "But that's your name." "That doesn't make any difference. It was papa's before I had it. Pa and ma have a way of makin' us boys use up their old things."

PUNISHMENT BY THE KNOT.

Much More Severe Than Any Flogging With an Ordinary Cat.

Our own record in the matter of flogging is not a nice one. Happily, some diligent research is needed to present it fully, for the whip, as an instrument of discipline, has almost disappeared in this country. It is a good many years since the "cat" has flourished over the backs of our seamen; and its employment in our prisons is exceptional in



Russian instruments of punishment, these days. And even where it does exist the present day punishment of the "cat," inflicted with an instrument that carries no knots and seldom more than fifteen or twenty strokes, is not to be compared with the savage floggings of the past.

The Russian "knout," however, is a much more terrible instrument of torture than the "cat," as will be seen from the accompanying illustration. And, unfortunately, one never knows for certain how much of the knout is left in modern Russia. The telegraph wire still at times carries the horrid whizz of it from remote Siberia, and only the other day came the news from St. Petersburg of a new imperial ukase "abolishing the use of the knout for the punishment of offences committed by the peasantry, who have hitherto been completely at the mercy of the local judges in this respect, because statistics were submitted to the Czar, showing that in ten years 3,000 persons, mostly guilty of thefts of produce, had died after punishment with the knout."

Granted the infliction of the knout, the 3,000 deaths are easily believed; the instrument itself (supposing this report to be true) evidently dies harder than its victims. But even in Russia, where the rod and its equivalents have had a more extended and bloody existence than in any other European state, the humaner spirit of the age has been felt, and one is disposed to regard as exaggerated the statements just quoted. Certainly it had been generally supposed that the knout was abolished for all but the gravest offences, as long ago as 1866. But Russia has never been governed wholly by its written laws, and there are regions of that empire where a ukase may be slow to reach the "local judges."

JAPAN'S EMPRESS.

One of the Cleverest and Most Progressive Women of Her Land.

The Empress of Japan is a clever woman, according to the Japanese standard. That she is amiable goes without saying; she is deeply imbued with western ideas with regard to the status of woman, and the influence she has exercised in the state as well as the domestic circle has been worthy a woman born and reared among the most liberal ideas of the occident, says a writer in the Pall Mall Magazine.

Her readers and teachers have found their seed falling into good soil. She began at once to interest herself in silk culture, lacemaking and embroidery. Competent women were selected to instruct Her Majesty in the art of silk weaving and the care of the worms, etc. Lace schools are under her patronage, and she has never failed to encourage any industry and education among women. She is most benevolent, giving to charity with a free hand. It is said that she gives so liberally of her private allowance that were it not for the care of the chancellor of the exchequer she would be a bankrupt before the end of the first week of the quarter. The peeresses' school is especially under her fostering care, as well as several of the hospitals in Tokio. She is particularly fond of children, and often goes into the children's wards with her arms full of gifts for the little ones. Each autumn there is held a fancy fair or bazaar for the purpose of raising money for the public charities, and Her Majesty makes a point of spending one afternoon there, buying liberally; and, if one did not know that she was the Empress, there would be no outward sign to discover her identity. She wore a tailor suit of dark blue, a seal-skin cloak and blue bonnet, with feathers and aigrettes when I saw her, and was fair to look upon. The entire service of the palace and of the Emperor's table is European silver, porcelain and glass being marked with the imperial crest of the sixteen-petaled chrysanthemum, and the kiki mon of the Poulownia lippalis appearing on the decorative design woven in the white nappery and traced on the delicate porcelain surface.

Popular Ignorance of the Bible.

Aside from the standpoint of inspiration and considered merely as literature, the ignorance shown in connection with the Bible is deplorable. Poetry borrows many figures from Scripture. Prose makes constant allusions to holy writ. Yet how few there are who can explain these extracts, and reference. For instance, the President of a Western college tested the knowledge of his freshman class regarding the Bible. He placed upon the blackboard more than twenty extracts from Tennyson, each containing some reference to a familiar Bible scene or truth. Out of a class of thirty-four, most of them sons of professional men and merchants, a ridiculous small proportion knew anything of "Jonah's gourd," or "Joshua's moon" or "Jacob wrestling with the angel." This goes to show that there is a very meagre Biblical knowledge in this country.

CANADA'S SINGERS.

Women Who Have Made a Name as Writers of Verse.

The following is the concluding portion of an article that appeared in Munsey's Magazine:

E. Pauline Johnson is another Canadian verse writer, interesting because of her origin. She was born on the Grand River, near Brantford, Ontario, and is the daughter of Chief Johnson, a full-blooded Mohawk Indian. She has recited her poetry before American and English audiences, heightening the effect by donning aboriginal costumes. I confess, however, that her Indian pieces are to me the least attractive of her compositions. I like best "The Song My Paddle Sings," in which words and music admirably fit the theme.

Though most of her work has been done in the fields of fiction and journalism. Miss Ethelwyn Wetherald has shown a high and undoubted capacity for song. Born in Canada, of English Quaker parentage, and educated at Friends' schools in New York and Ontario, her first literary venture was a poem sent to St. Nicholas. For a time she was an editorial writer on the Toronto Globe, and for three years she did almost all the editorial work on Wives and Daughters, a monthly published in London, Ontario. She has contributed to other periodicals, and has written a novel, "The Algonquin Maiden," in collaboration. Her best verses, probably, are a series of sonnets contributed to the Toronto Week.

Another female singer, too early passed away, was Isabel Valancy Crawford, author of some scattered pieces of rare poetic merit. Miss Crawford was born in Dublin, Ireland, and died in Canada nine years ago. Of her vivid verse, and of its verbal beauty, these highly imaginative landscape pictures may serve as examples:

High grew the snow beneath the low hung sky,
And all was silent in the wilderness;
In trance of stillness nature heard her God
Rebuilding her spent fires, and veiled her face.

The land had put his ruddy gauntlet on,
Of harvest god to dash in famine's face;
And like a vintage wain, deep dyed with juice,
The great moon falter'd up the ripe, blue sky,
And drawn by silver stars—like oxen white
And horned with rays of light.

Mrs. S. Francis Harrison has published a volume of poems, dealing chiefly with French subjects, entitled "Pine

Rose and Fleur de Lis." Her chief faults are a labored gorgeousness of phrase and a cold artificiality; but she has a facile style, a good vocabulary and is capable of better work than she has yet done. It is but just to say that her poems are much admired in Canada.

Agnes Maule Machar, though better known as a novelist, has written some creditable verse. So has R. W. Light-hall, to whom is due the thanks of all lovers of poetry for his admirable collection of "Songs of the Great Dominion"; and so too, has Peter McArthur, a young verse maker of promise, now resident in New York.

Here we must bring this brief and necessarily inadequate study of a rare harvest of song to a close. Canada is in herself an inspiration for the poet. And while these singers have all imbibed something of the haunting spirit of her woods and inland seas, the variety of her folk lore and the kaleidoscope lights and shades of her panorama, the poet who shall do in verse for the land and its history what Parkman, with a poet's warmth and imagination, has done in prose, has yet to inscribe his name on the scroll of Canadian literature. It may be that from this group will emerge the bard upon whose shoulders shall fall the mantle of the splendid destiny selecting him as the regal genius to carry forward the message of the Canad world, the promise and the potency of all it holds. It is to the future rather than to the past that these true servants of song have turned.

A child of empire, and almost the latest born of Britain, Canada is yet neither British nor French. Though a Province of a world circling imperial system, her government is as free as ours, and her proximity to the Great Republic helps to make her aspirations republican. Her tendencies run in many rivers rather than in one broad stream, and her literature is sure to reflect this diversity, and to grow with the political growth of the country.

Henry's Conundrum.

"Helen," said Mr. Whykins, who somehow never gets hold of an idea until it is old, "I have a good one for you. I think you'll appreciate it, only you must not let it make you angry."

"What is it, Henry?" "What's the difference between a woman and an umbrella?" "The difference," she answered, serenely, "is that a man isn't afraid to take an umbrella with him wherever he goes, and that he doesn't try to conceal the fact that it's above him when a real emergency arrives. That's the principal difference, Henry."—Washington Star.

AS HARD AS THE DIAMOND.

Such Are Two Products of Chemical Experiments.

The diamond has always been regarded as possessing one quality which placed it beyond rivalry, namely that of hardness. There are several gems which compete with it in hardness, and at least one, the ruby, when of rare size and quality, outranks it in costliness. But none in the whole list equals it in hardness.

"Diamond cut diamond" has become a popular saying. The hardest steel cannot equal the diamond in that respect. The diamond, says a recent and authoritative text book of chemistry, "is the hardest form of matter known."

But science progresses, and if nature has set aside for her king of gems the distinction of unparalleled hardness, the art of man has not been equally considerate. There are at least two products of chemical experiment which have proved, according to the great French chemist, Henry Moissan, to be as hard as diamonds.

These are produced from the rare metal titanium. Monsieur Moissan has succeeded in preparing titanium in the electric furnace. In the pure form it is harder than steel or quartz, and when combined with silicon or boron, so as to form a silicide or boride of titanium, it matches the diamond itself in hardness.

Titanium resembles tin in its chemical properties, and it is the characteristic element in the beautiful red and brown crystals of rutile. These, in the shape of needles, are sometimes found penetrating large white quartz crystals, forming gems that the French call "love's arrow."

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Turnips boiled like betas, with their jackets on, are better flavor and less watery. A small bit of sugar added while the vegetable is boiling corrects the bitterness often found in them.

To clean knives without spoiling the handles, use a good-sized piece of cork, which can be manipulated on the knife, and in a little while it will give all the brightness and cleanliness desired.

Do not spoil the effects of a nicely served dinner by offering a weak, thick or cold coffee. Last impressions should be good, so, when you serve the coffee let it be hot, clear and of good strength, and leave plenty of room in the cups to add cream or milk, as is desired, and see to it that the latter is also hot.

If a last spring hat saw a little wear and can be made into a smart shape (which is easy to do, considering how every low-crowned shape is worn), then fix it over. Wipe the straw off thoroughly with a damp cloth dipped in kerosene, noticing carefully that each particle of dust is removed. Place another damp cloth over it, and press it lightly with a hot iron.

At the towel counters in the large shops are now sold scrub cloths of loosely woven hemp, excellent for matting and oilcloths. Cotton dust cloths of yellow cotton flannel are also purchasable nowadays. These are better even than the much-valued chamolis skin, which they considerably resemble. An admirable dust cloth is one of the large gray squares of banana cloth, which a few of the largest shops keep for occasional purchase by a dusty "aunt" or "marm" who still uses the plantation headress.

The best kind of a laundry apron is made of rubber cloth or of blue or brown denim. The former is to be preferred, because it protects the dress the best against a wetting. Some one suggested a desirable out-of-door wrap for the houseworker not long ago, to be made large and loose in jacket shape with very big sleeves and a hood attached. This can be slipped over the dress when there are windows to wash, clothes to be hung on the line or any out-of-door service to be done in cold or chilly weather.

Blocks of Milk.

Irkutsk is a city in Central Siberia, where people have more occasion for fire and furs than for artificial ice cream or thin clothing.

The markets of Irkutsk are an interesting sight in the winter time, for everything on sale is frozen solid. Fish are piled up in stacks like so much cordwood, and meat likewise. All kinds of fowl are similarly frozen and piled up.

Some animals brought into the market whole are propped up on their legs and have the appearance of being actually alive, as you would go through the markets you seem to be surrounded by living pigs, sheep, oxen and fowls standing up and watching you, as though you were a visitor to the barnyard.

But, stranger still, even the liquids are frozen solid and sold in blocks. Milk is frozen into a block in this way, with a string or a stick frozen into or projecting from it. This is for the convenience of the purchaser, who can take his milk by the string or stick and carry it home swung across his shoulders.

So in a double sense, such as is unknown in other countries, a man can buy his drink "with a stick in it."

A Map on Annabel's Face.

"Annabel," called a Harlem mother over the bannisters, as she heard the front door close.

"Yes, mamma," replied a sweet, girlish voice, and Annabel Googan slowly framed herself in the darkness of the staircase.

"Was that Mr. Tinberry, Annabel?" "It was, mamma."

"Do you know it is twenty minutes past eleven?" came in cold tones from the wrapped figure in the upper hall.

"Mamma, we hadn't the slightest idea it was so late," said the young girl, earnestly. "You see," she continued, "Mr. Tinberry has been telling me about China and Japan. He said everybody ought to know about the war, and it was so interesting we never thought how late it was getting. Do you know, mamma," added the sweet girl, as she reached the landing, "that in China they—"

"Did Mr. Tinberry draw a map of China on your face, Annabel?" asked Mrs. Googan, sternly.

"Why, mamma?" said the daughter in startled tones.

The young girl rushed to a mirror and saw with horror-stricken glance that at the left side of her face was a black mark and stained with ink.

"Heaven and earth," she exclaimed, "his fountain pen must have leaked into his waistcoat pocket!" and with a shriek of horror the beautiful girl fell fainting to the floor.—New York Commercial Advertiser.