

# Saint Mary's Beacon

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## ST. MARY'S BEACON

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## FACTS FOR THINKING PEOPLE.

There are a few, perhaps half a dozen sewing machines of real excellence, differing from one another more or less in principle, construction and adaptability, one being suitable for tailoring, another for bookwork, another for family use, &c. &c., the rest are inferior, and by far the greater number comparatively worthless.

It is noteworthy that the sewing machine for which the highest premium was awarded at the World's Fair in New York in 1853, long since sunk into merited oblivion. The past fifteen years has seen numerous machines, with high sounding pretensions, rise with a flourish, confound the simple and vanish. So will it be while erudition lasts. This is all that is to be desired in the final test. As the purchase of a Sewing Machine is, or may be, the act of a life-time, care should be taken to get what time and use have approved.

During the past six years the Howe Machine Co. have made and sold over 400,000 Machines, and to-day, though manufacturing at the rate of one per minute can hardly supply the demand. What better evidence is needed to prove that the public have decided that they are "The Best"? G. A. Simms, Agent, Leonardtown.

**ITALY HERBARS.**—A writer in the "Saturday Review" says: "Of course one would not like to see women give themselves to any one, no matter who might be, for the sake of getting married; but the solid things of life should be taught them as well as its poetic and beautiful, and false hopes, false ideals, unsubstantial love, should be rigorously excluded. A bad marriage or a loveless life is not a pleasant end to that never-acted romance; nor is the dismemberment which comes with such certainty on the heels of the inevitable and inevitable marriages a blessing to be desired. Beauty fades, passion cools, the blindness of romance gets conched when seeing is too late; poetry does not pay the butcher, and gallantry of bearing of the "long sword, saddle and bridle" kind is apt to lose itself in domestic language when the pot is empty of puddings, and half a dozen children swarm about the musty bedchamber or dingy quarters in which love and folly have reduced the gay lieutenant and his bride. On the whole, Prince Prettyman is a dangerous fellow either to get or to wait for, having the trick of unsubstantially throughout. Romantic girls would do well to reflect that, if they are to have only one gown in a lifetime, they had better buy one that will wash and wear creditably to the end, rather than a flimsy bit of finery that looks well only in the beginning, and goes to pieces before the first year is out.

**CLOTHES ON FIRE.**—Three persons out four would rush right up to the burning individual and begin to tear with their hands without any definite aim. It is useless to tell the victim to do this or that, or to call for water. In fact, it is generally best not to say a word, but to seize a blanket or any woven fabric—if none be at hand, take any woolen material—hold the corners as far apart as you can, stretch them out higher than your head, and running boldly to the person, make a motion of clapping in the arms, mostly about the shoulder. This instantly smothers the fire and saves the face.

The next instant throw the person on the floor. This is an additional safety to the face and breath, and any remnant flame can be put out more leisurely.

The next instant immerse the burnt part in cold water, and all pain will cease with the rapidity of lightning. Next get some flour, remove from the water, and cover the burnt parts with an inch in thickness of flour; if possible, put the patient to bed, and do all that is possible to soothe until the physician arrives. Let the flour remain until it falls off itself, when a beautiful new skin can be found. Unless the burns are deep, no other applications are needed. The dry flour for burns is the most admirable remedy ever proposed, and the information ought to be imparted to all.

The principle of its action is, that like the water, it causes instant and perfect relief from pain by totally excluding the air from the injured parts.—*Scientific American.*

"Mary, go into the sitting-room, please, and tell me how the thermometer stands." Mary (after investigation): "It stands on the first mantel-piece, just agen the wall, wum."

## FARMERS' INTERESTS.

SPEECH OF COL. JAMES H. BIRCH, JR., AT CAMERON, MO.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—The day we celebrate is a propitious one for the farmer to take into consideration their own interests, involving as they do questions as comprehensive as the whole system of government, and as broad as the republic itself, whether of currency, of finance, of commerce, of manufactures, or of transportation. Coming directly to my subject let me ask, what are "farmers' interests?" This simple query cannot be fully or faithfully answered without first asking and answering what are his responsibilities, his duties, his obligations, and his burdens. Let us examine in what the burdens consist. The first one is, that the national wealth of the country consists solely in its productions, from which are derived all the revenues of the Government, all the fortunes in the country, and from which every human being draws his sustenance and support. In other words, the whole financial support of Government, of commerce, of manufactures, of speculations, of transportation, and of robbery have their foundation resting upon the producing interests of the country, and upon their ability to pay and to continue to pay rests not only their solvency but their very existence. This proposition is as true as it is startling. There is neither national wealth in nor national taxes derived from our lands, our houses, our railroads, or our cities, and only so far as they aid in the development of the country are they even auxiliaries in the production of the wealth of the country. Suppose you were to destroy every city in the United States, every manufacturer in the country, every railway in the land, the great agricultural staples would soon rebuild them, and as in the case of Chicago, with still greater magnificence. On the contrary, were you to blot out every farm in the land, or change our fertile prairies into ridges as sterile as the sands of the sea, the great channels and marts of commerce would become as silent and unnumbered as the streams of the forests, when the "windows of heaven are shut and the skies become as brass," and their echoes, but lamentations over the destruction of a glory which could only be replaced by the same causes which gave it its original life.

When a house is built to rent its owner intends that it shall pay a rental equal to the interest on its cost, with the value of the land added, and to which he adds local and State taxes, with cost of insurance and repairs. The merchant, in addition to the cost of his goods, adds rent, cost of doing business, insurance, taxes, and profit. The manufacturer makes up the cost of his articles by adding to the materials used the interest on his capital invested, the value of the labor used, the insurance, taxes, repairs, and profits, and if he is in the schedule of protected articles, the tariff that is laid for his benefit. But the farmer, being the bed-rock on which is founded society, government, commerce, manufactures, and all kinds of business, has no one to charge up all these items to. He is forced to sell in market for the best price he can get, and at the same time has but little if anything to say as to what it shall be. In addition to his own taxes, he pays the taxes on every thing else, and coming every day in competition with himself, is forced to take that price for his produce which is left after abstracting enough to allow all others to live on, and thousands to get rich by hauling.

The last census reports show that for June 1, 1870, there was employed in the manufactures in the United States, as capital, \$2,118,308,769. That for the year the value of material used in manufactures was \$2,488,427,542. There was paid wages for labor, 775,584,343. Now add to this 10 per cent. as interest on capital used, amounting to 211,830,876. And 5 per cent. for insurance and taxes, 105,915,438.

Which added makes the gross sum of \$3,581,742,900. Now subtract this sum, composed of material used, wages for labor, interest on capital, with insurance and taxes, from the value of the manufactured articles, valued at their factories, and amounting to the sum of \$4,232,325,442, and we have the enormous clear profit of \$650,582,543. Now here I have allowed every sum which is properly included in the cost of an article, with 10 per cent. interest on the capital invested, and we have as net profit over 30 per cent. on the entire amount of capital used. Is there a farmer here who will rise and say that he has made 10 per cent. on the amount of his capital invested in his farming operations, or is there one who would not be glad to be insured that much on his business this year? Now, why is this?

Here are two of the largest business arteries in the country, the one not making even the ordinary interest value on his capital, and the other making over 30 per cent. in addition to the ordinary interest value of his capital—the one growing rich and the other poor. There must be some controlling reason for all this, entirely outside of those laws which control such matters when left free and untrammelled. It is fair, therefore, to assume that this \$650,000,000 of surplus profits is the exact measure of protection received by the manufacturers at the expense of the producer, through the operation of the tariff legislation of the country. It is but right and proper to denounce the "back-salary grabbers" as robbers, but in view of the facts herein disclosed they are but the worms feeding upon the leaves of the tree, whilst the borer is left undisturbed at its root in its work of destruction and death.

No wonder they are clamorous for protection! No wonder they are willing to use, when necessary, millions of their profits, by placing them where Oakes Ames did his Credit Mobilier stock, "where it would do the most good." No wonder they cry out that their factories will perish but for the bonus thus paid them yearly by the people! We know that this is not true—that they will not perish—but suppose it were so, better than the farmers, for we could at least save the \$650,000,000 a year, and in three years replace this capital used in manufactures, and in another three or four years we could pay the national debt. The most serious burden inherent in government is that of taxation. The multiplied forms which it takes in our country, according to the various interests, to enlarge, or change; and as through these various forms and under the sheltering idea of raising revenue the thieves and robbers of the land take cover and work out their concealed purposes of plundering and robbing the producing classes of the country, it becomes in the highest degree important that their interests in this direction should be fully understood, cared for, and protected. Protected, not by summary laws, but by permitting them to have the full benefit of their labor.

The productions of the farmer consist of food and raiment for mankind, without which he cannot exist, and hence the farmer becomes the great banker of the Government, and when he takes its currency in payment for the necessities of life he indorses the pledge made in his name and gives it its circulation and value. It is therefore of the highest interest to the farmer that our currency, created and issued by the Government, to the redemption and payment of which the labor of the farmer is pledged, should not be discriminated against by the legislation of the country; but on the contrary should be maintained and upheld by the Government, and received by it in payment of our taxes at the Custom-house the same as elsewhere. Let us be careful, however, that our motives in the matter shall not be prompted by mere prejudice against the bondholder or any one else; but let it be done as an act of justice and of tribute to the honor and pride of the people, so that the world may see and know that the currency of our Government, in whose stamp the sweat of the plough-holder is to be seen, and for the redemption of which his labor as well as his honor is pledged, is the equal of any currency in the world, and that it is dug from the mines of California and Australia, or bears the impress of the seal of England, France, or of Germany. No prouder or grander people, nor with greater resources, live upon the earth than the American farmer. Severed in their own right, their promises to pay, bearing the impress of their high sovereignty, should not be dishonored at home by a legislative discrimination, which furishes at the same time additional means for their robbery. Let us therefore demand that the honor and interest of the Government in this respect be made harmonize with the honor and interest of the people, which alone should constitute the rule of its action. In this connection it is but proper to call your attention to the fact that we have now two descriptions of currency in the land. One issued by the Government, and being legal tender, is therefore money. The other issued by the national banks, and not legal tender, is consequently an inferior currency.—This national bank currency being predicated upon a deposit of \$100,000,000 of United States six per cent. bonds, and therefore are paying the enormous sum of \$24,000,000 in gold each year for the high honor of having this inferior bank currency of the bankers of the country instead of having our own currency in its place.

Why is it that we should continue this any longer, when by simply replacing the bank currency with our own, thus redeeming our bonds on which it was issued, we would not only have a better currency, but we would save the enormous sum of \$24,000,000 a year in gold as the price we now pay for it. Why is it that we are so anxious, by establishment of a syndicate in Europe, to replace our six per cent. bonds with the new five per cent. bonds, whereby we would save the 1 per cent. interest, when by a law so full of justice and of right and of honor we could not only save 6 per cent. on so large an amount of our interest-bearing indebtedness, and could thus give ourselves a better currency, but at the same time strike from existence one of the great monopolies of the country, which draws its millions from the people on account of its special privilege? No wonder the farmer finds himself unable to bear the burden of the State and national Governments. No wonder they are this day, all over the country, protesting against this continued robbery. A wonder that, weighed down by such loads, they are crying out in such a manner as to startle those who draw these immense sums from their pockets—and who in return are trying to frighten the people of the West by their threats that they will lead us no more money. After drawing year after year every surplus penny from the pockets of the farmer, without a valuable consideration in return, they now send the insulting message through a Philadelphia paper, that they will not even lend our own money back to us, taking mortgages on our farms for its payment, unless we continue quietly to submit to the slavery in which we now find ourselves. Thank God it is not too late to remedy all this. Let them keep their ill-gotten gains, and all we ask in the future is that we be permitted to keep the reward of our own labor. As a nation, and as a people, we are just beginning to comprehend the great question of transportation in its po-

ble as well as in its economical importance. Priding ourselves upon the growth of our railway system, with yet but 40,000 miles of system, we find that we are almost in their power, not so much because of their grasp, but because of the immense lines are really unequal to the task of moving the limitless produce of the country. Looking to the near future, a third of a century hence, when there will be 100,000,000 of people within our borders, one-half of whom will live in the great Mississippi Valley, the people whose labor alone will take up the carrying power of the present system, we are able to realize the fact that the question is really to be decided in the future.

With which we will have to deal, and some system should be inaugurated to-day, which will look after the demands of the multitudes that are so swiftly following us. When we contemplate that forever and ever, with a soil as exhaustless as time itself, this great valley lying between the mountain chains on the east and west, and the lakes and the sea on the north and south, is to be peopled with a race, whose millions upon millions are to feed and clothe the world with the labor of their hands—we may form some conception of this sleeping giant, who is just now but realizing his own strength, and raising himself, as it were, from lethargy, is looking after his future interests, and giving point to his ideas in the development of his purposes, in the working out of the great ends of his resistless destiny. The crowning burden of republican government, is the responsibilities of government itself. Unlike the absolutisms of Europe, this burden attaches to the people themselves, and the happiness and prosperity of the people is the measure of the mode and manner in which we look after this great political inheritance, bequeathed to us by our fathers, and whose paramount duty we annually recognize on this great day. It is, therefore, our highest duty as well as our most important interest, to see that all those who are selected to fill the various offices of the government, from President down to the lowest clerk, should fill to its fullest extent the measure of that grandest of all civil service rules, established by Jefferson himself, and embodied in these simple yet all-embracing questions: "Is he honest? Is he competent? Is he faithful to the Constitution?" The responsibility of education is one that pertains to society and to government, and the day of the school is the greatest power of the world. It performs feats and labor which no amount of muscular strength could approach. Its progress and tendency seems bearing us onward to that unknown and invisible realm, to end it would seem, in the discovery of the very principle of life itself. Everything around us teaches us that our interests lie in obtaining and developing all the knowledge man is capable of receiving, and to no class is this more important than the farmer.

I have thus attempted to call your attention to some of the burdens and responsibilities which rest upon the farmer, thereby the more pertinently to direct attention to his interests. I deduce therefrom that the very highest interests of our class are involved in those questions pertaining to peace and good government.—Peace, that we may have all the leisure allotted to man for the development of his great resources—for the mental and moral training of his children, so that when he leaves the helm of Government in their hands they may be endowed with that high courage to press forward in the great paths that have been opened up before them, bearing proudly in view the high destinies of themselves and their country, until, with the consummation of time, the labors of man are no longer needed. Of good government, that there may grow up within the heart of every one those germs of light and love and strength which give to government its character, confidence, and fidelity, bringing in return happiness, prosperity, and contentment. It is said that over free government is but the index of the average will of the people. That if they are virtuous and honest their rulers will also be, but if not, neither will they be virtuous and honest rulers of their own free choice seems almost impossible, and yet we can readily imagine that a nation of honest people may fall under the control of dishonest men simply from the fact that the people, whilst engaged in attention to their home affairs, allow themselves to be used indirectly in the selfish interests of those who manipulate party and party conventions. A people who are thus blinded by mere party and allow themselves through prejudice or inattention to matters of such vital importance to be thus led by others, may find themselves in the end but vassals, bound in a bondage whose cords may be so strong as to successfully resist every effort on their part to unloose them. Indeed, the pertinency of the hour is, is not such too nearly your condition to-day? If not, what means the existence of this powerful band, composed of the peaceful hosts of agriculturists, extending from the prairies of Minnesota to the sunny glades of Georgia—from the beautiful valleys of New York to the silver waves of the Pacific, who are astounding the world with the rapidity and strength of their organization? Why is it that on this day all over the great State of Illinois and other Western States the farmers have assembled and are putting forth a new declaration of independence? And why is it that, embodied in these hosts, we look in vain for those political lines that have so sharply separated them heretofore? When we see the mighty ocean lashed into waves, piling mountain high, we know that some terri-

ble storm is raging on its bosom; but the coming storm, which presages the greatest political revolution of the age, seems to be gathering itself so quietly within itself that the busy world hardly credits its existence. They think it but the ghost of some dying party, and bid it be quiet; but, like the ghost of Banquo, it will not "sleep" at their bidding, for the spectral illusion springs from a skeleton that is today to be found in the pocket-book of every farmer in the land, and is calling up questions from the dead past into the living present, which, unless settled on the true principles of political economy, may in the end involve the very existence of free government itself. The great problem of self-government is yet unsolved. With us it has been on trial for over a hundred years. During this time we have seen other nations, through the most terrible convulsions, throw off the yoke of monarchy and again lapse back into a despotism more absolute than ever. We have tested the strength of our government through a most unparalleled civil war, the fierceness and bitterness of which has left on our body politic scars as deep as the lightning's bolt on the giant oak, leaving a chasm between the sections which stemmed well-nigh too deep to be filled. We have seen how impotent the people have been, when bound by party shackles, to heal its cankered wounds, until the heart has sunk within itself in despair. Taking fresh courage, it looks upon this great uprising of the people with a hope which brightens every thought, and catching additional inspiration from its quickened impulses, it paints the rainbow of peace on the dark clouds of the retreating storm, and proposes to lay the foundations of this new ark of the covenant so deep in the principles of truth, justice, and good government, that with the authority almost of Jehovah himself, it will be proclaimed, that never more shall this bright and beautiful land of ours be deluged with the curse of civil war.—Thus furnishing at last to the world, the final test of the ability of man for self-government, in the restoration of that love of country, and of truth, and of justice which can find its highest development only in a free country, where the greatest element of strength is in the hands of the men who turn, as well as own its soil. Let us then turn our eyes to this great movement on the part of the farmers. Let us bid them God speed, and cheer them on in their great aims, as they cast behind them the trammels and prejudices of party, in the consummation of their high purposes.—They make war on no honest calling.—They uphold and foster every legitimate enterprise. Religion finds its strongest anchor at their firesides. Educational interests have their greatest strength within their hearts. Themselves bred in the log school-house of the earlier day, their higher degree find in them their best patrons. They make the arts and sciences their hand-maids, and fostering them with their wealth, receive back its knowledge as their compensation, in the development of the resources of the soil and in the refinement of the tastes of themselves and their families. Therefore let this grand movement, which has its basis in the affection and understanding of the man of the furrow and the harvest field be cherished, and in the language of Webster when laying the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill monument, "Let it rise! let it rise till it meets the sun in its coming; let the earliest light of the morning gild it and the parting day linger and play on its summit."

**INSTINCT OF ANTS.**—An observer of the habits and instinct of ants relates that a vase containing a number of ants of the red variety, which was usually filled with fresh violets, was haunted by very small red ants. The insects issued from a hole in the wall above, and gradually increased in number until they formed an almost unbroken procession. He brushed them to the floor several days, but, as they were not killed, the result was that they formed a colony in the wall at the base of the mantel, and ascending thence to the shelf, the vase was soon attacked from above and below. "One day," says the writer, "I observed a number of ants, perhaps thirty or forty, on the shelf at the foot of the vase. Thinking to kill them, I struck them lightly with the end of my finger, killing some and disabling the rest. The effect of this was immediate and unexpected. As soon as the living arrived near where their fellows lay dead and suffering, they turned and fled with all possible haste. In half an hour the wall above the mantel-shelf was cleared."

**CHANGE YOUR FOOD.**—When the warm weather comes on in the spring, people require less carbonaceous food, but instead of changing their diet as the weather changes, they continue to eat the same kinds of food they have been eating the coldest weather of winter, and the consequence is that the already overburdened liver, unable to bear up under the extra load, utterly refuses to perform its function until it has had a chance to rest and throw off its accumulated burden. First, people must eat a less proportion of carbonaceous food at all times. Second, as the weather grows warmer in the spring, they must eat a much less quantity of it than they do in cold weather, and substitute, instead, more vegetables and acid fruits. Every family should have a large supply of excised fruits and green vegetables at this time of year. For a single article there is nothing so good as tart apples, and they should be used in unlimited quantities.—*Herald of Health.*

**SPOTS ON THE SUN.**—Freckles on your boy's face.

## THE SECRET.

Does the dark and soundless river  
Stretch so wide—  
The homeward rolling tide  
Over which have crossed  
Our loved and early lost,  
That their sealed eyes may never see  
The further side,  
Where still amid this toil and misery  
We hide?

Is the realm of their transition  
Close at hand?  
To this our living land?  
Nearer than we dream?  
Can they catch the gleam  
Of our smiles and hear the words we speak,  
And see our deeds?

And, looking deeper than our eyes may see,  
Our needs?  
Do they mingle in our gladness?  
Do they grieve  
When ways of good we leave?  
Do they know each thought and hope?  
While we in shadow grope,  
Can they hear the Future's high behest,  
Yet lack the power  
To stay us from our ill or to arrest  
The hour?

When they find us bowed with sorrow  
Do they sigh?  
Or when we pass by  
For them, do they forget  
The cares that hers best  
Their well beloved? Or do they wait  
(O, be it thus!)  
And watch beside the golden gate  
For us?

We are yearning for their secret;  
Though we call,  
No answers ever fall  
Upon our dullest ears  
To quell our nameless fears,  
Yet God is over all, whatever may be,  
And trusting so,  
Patience, my heart I little while and we  
Shall know.

We wait then, in patience, or  
We wait, we strain, like birds against the wind,  
With beating our bruised wing against the rim  
That bounds our utmost flying,  
When we seek the distant and the dim,  
But—we wait.

## CO-OPERATION.

For more than a year past we have heard and read a great deal about co-operation, and more particularly when it was applied to the farmer's case; but thus far it has only taken that form which, in reality, might more properly be termed a combination, and many, if not all, the benefits of co-operation are lost sight of. We can imagine what co-operation, when applied to the farmer, should be, and what we think it will be sometime in the future. Our trouble now is that we try to do too many things, and as a natural consequence, do nothing well. Under the present system, each farmer makes a little butter or beef, and raises all kind of grain and hay. In order to accommodate this kind of farming, he must fence his farm off into small inclosures, at a great expense of fencing material. When the principle of co-operation is fully understood among farmers, we believe that each one will devote his attention to some particular branch, to the exclusion of all others. The dairyman will need grain and hay for winter feeding, and will buy them of some one near by who will make a specialty of these commodities. He can remove all his fences, and devote his whole farm to pasture in case he does not find soiling more profitable. He will soon be a more nearly perfect in the science of butter-making, and will obtain much above the average price now paid. Twenty years ago it was thought that it would not do to buy grain to feed, but our farmers are beginning to find out that their neighbors' grain is worth no more than their own, and that feeding grain purchased of a neighbor and that raised by themselves is one and the same, and that if one does not pay the other will not.

The farmer who raises grain to the exclusion of other commodities, will need no fences, for it will be far more economical for him to keep up and feed his teams. The idea that grass seed can only be successfully sown among wheat or other grain, is fast being given up by farmers, and hence the co-operative farmer who is so inclined, may raise hay and hay alone. Such a state of affairs will naturally form farmers into small communities, who have a single interest in common, and they will not be pulling in all directions, as is now the case. It is very fashionable for our farmers to shift all their failures and misfortunes upon the shoulders of a class whom the stylish middlemen, but under a proper system of co-operation, no such class will exist. Everything which the farmer needs, with a few trivial exceptions, can be produced by a judicious co-operation. Store goods may be purchased at wholesale rates in large amounts. Not more than one-fourth of the machinery now used would be needed, for but few would need mowing machines, and, in fact, much of the expensive machinery now used would be useless; and this very fact uncovers one of the prime causes of the low profits of farming now.

There is so much capital locked up in expensive machinery, which is used for but a small portion of the year. Each one hundred acres must now have its two hundred dollar combined mower and reaper, but under the system we have sketched out, the same outlay would answer for five hundred acres, and the implement would last much longer in proportion to the amount of work done. Such a system would also give a solu-

tion to the problem of help in the house, which, particularly among farmers, is fast approaching a point at which it will force itself on our attention in a way not to be avoided. Our farm hands on then either board themselves or are boarded at our tenant houses, and our wives will be relieved of the heaviest end of their now heavy burden. Farmers cannot much longer shut their eyes to the fact that some source of relief in this direction must be found, and we imagine that we have at least pointed to a practical plan of relief. We must cease to run boarding-houses for our hands, and allow our families more of a home and less of a hotel.

There are many other advantages which would accrue from such a system, but we have already occupied too much space with one question, and will allude to them hereafter.

**AN UNHAPPY BOY.**—You can always tell a boy whose mother cuts his hair. Not because the edges of it look as if it had been shaved off by an absent-minded horse, but you tell it by the way he stops on the street and wriggles his shoulders. When a fond mother has to cut her boy's hair, she is careful to guard against any annoyance and muss by laying a sheet on the carpet.

It has never yet occurred to her to sit him over a bare floor and put the sheet around his neck. Then she draws the front hair over his eyes, and leaves it there while she cuts that which is at the back; the hair which lies over his eyes appears to be surcharged with electric needles, and that which is silently dropping down under his shirt band appears to be on fire.

She has unconsciously continued to push his head forward until his nose presses his breast, and is too busily engaged to notice the snuffling sound that is becoming alarmingly frequent. In the meantime he is seized with an irresistible desire to blow his nose, but recollects that his handkerchief is in the other room.

Then a fly lights on his nose, and does it so unexpectedly that he involuntarily dodges, and catches the points of the sheets on his left cheek. At this he commences to cry and wishes he was a man. But his mother doesn't notice him. She merely hits him on the other ear, to inspire him with confidence, and goes on with the jacket collar back from his neck, and with her mouth blows the short bits of hair from the top of his head down his back.

He calls her attention to this fact, but she looks for a new place on his head and hits him there, and asks why he didn't use his handkerchief. Then he takes his awfully disfigured head to the mirror and looks at it, and, young as he is, shudders as he thinks of what the boys on the street will say.

**A LAND OF WONDERS.**—The greatest cataraet in the world is the Falls of Niagara, where the water from the great upper lakes forms a river of three-fourths of a mile in width, and then, being suddenly contracted, plunges over the rocks in two columns to the depth of 175 feet. The greatest cave in the world is the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, where any one can make a voyage on the waters of a subterranean river, and catch fish without eyes. The greatest river in the known world is the Mississippi, 4,000 miles long. The largest valley in the world is the Valley of the Mississippi. It contains 500,000 square miles, and is one of the most fertile regions of the globe. The greatest city park in the world is in Philadelphia. It contains over 5,000 acres.—the greatest grass plot in the world is in Chicago. The largest lake in the world is Lake Superior, which is truly an 'n'and sea, being 430 miles long, and 1,000 feet deep. The longest railroad at present is the Pacific Railroad, over 2,000 miles in length. The greatest mass of solid iron in the world is the mountain of Missouri. It is 350 feet high, and two miles in circuit. The best specimen of Grecian Architecture in the world is the Girard College for Orphans, Philadelphia. The largest aqueduct in the world is the Croton Aqueduct, New York. Its length is 40 1/2 miles, and it cost \$12,500,000.—The largest deposits of anthracite coal in the world are in Pennsylvania, the mines of which supply the market with millions of tons annually, and appear to be inexhaustible.—*American Engineer.*

**LEASING A LION.**—One day last week, as Samuel Mattison was riding through the hills of the San Lorenzo, he suddenly came face to face with a large, full-grown California lion. In an instant his lasso, that indispensable article to the mountain ranger, was circling about his head, and with that dauntless courage characteristic of Sam, he sent the fatal noose with unerring aim around the neck of the lion; then suddenly turning, he plunged the bows of his spurs deep into the flanks of his well-trained horse, and dragged the lion a few hundred yards, when he dismounted and buckled a strap around the jaws of the lion, which was completely exhausted from the choking it had received. He then bound and packed it upon the horse, and took it to the house, not far distant, where he secured his lionship, which soon recovered, when Sam found he was like the man who bought the elephant. He has the skin of the animal, and displays it as a trophy of his reckless daring.

People who always wanting something new, should try new things.

Such a system would also give a solu-