THE PAUPERS DEATH-BED

Tread softly; bow the head—
In reverent silence bow!
No passing bell doth toll;
Yet an immortal soul
Is passing now.

Stranger, however great,
With lowly reverence bow!
There's one in that poor shed—
One by that paltry bed—
Greater than thou.

Beneath that beggar's roof,
Lo! Death doth keep his state!
Enter! No crowds attend—
Enter! No guards defend
This palace gate.

That pavement, damp and cold,
No smiling courtiers tread;
One silent woman stands,
Lifting with meager hands
A dying head.

No mingling voices sound—
An infant wail alone;
A sob suppressed—again
That short deep gasp—and then
The parting groan.

Oh! change—oh! wondrous change!
Burst are thy prison bars!
This moment there, so low,
So agonized—and now
Beyond the stars.

Oh! change—stupendous change!
There lies the soulless clod!
The sun eternal breaks;
The new immortal wakes—
Wakes with his God.

A Slight Mistake.

BY WILLIAM M'LEOD RAINE.

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Garrison examined the photograph long and earnestly, as the ethics of the situation seemed to require.

"They're as pretty as peaches, and as like as two peas. I congratulate you on your taste, old man."

"I'm glad you like her looks. I mean her sister for you."

"Thanks, awfully. By the way, which is the sister? To me they look as much alike as the two Dromios."

Blake flushed. "The deuce of it is that I don't know Gladys from Nell. They're twins, you know. I met Gladys one summer in the Adirondacks. That was two years ago, and though we became engaged I haven't seen her since."

"And when did you see the other one last? What's her name—Nell?" asked Garrison.

"I never have seen her. Of course, I've heard a great deal about her from Gladys in her letters. In one way it is the same as knowing her."

"Perhaps—exactly. No difference at all," sageed Garrison ironically. "I must say I like your generosity, Jim. Isn't every man would be so free of his sisters-in-law as you are. You show the proper spirit. Considering the extent of your acquaintance with her she probably wouldn't thank you for disposing of her matrimonially, though. Girls are a little odd that way. They like to meet the man they are going to marry before their friends arrange the details—at least, that has been my experience with American girls."

"Well, you may guy me all you please, Bob, but I'll bet a hat you are running after her before a week is up. She'll lead you a merry chase, too, if she is anything like her sister," returned the other young man composedly.

Robert Garrison examined the photograph again, and when he handed it back said dryly:

"My friend, I see your finish. When those girls get off the train you won't know one from the other. You'll get rattled and make a mistake sure as shooting. Go slow, my son. It doesn't do to be engaged to a girl and not recognize her when you see her. I don't know much about the sex, but I think I know that much."

Blake scoffed. "Oh, I'll know Gladys when I see her. What do you take

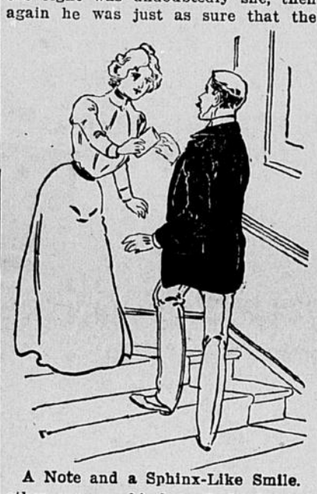
A Second Gladys Standing Beside Him.

me for? They are not so much alike as all that, and there is always the ring as a last resort."

"Well, I have known girls to wear gloves, so you need not bank on the ring. No, you're going to put your [illegible] There's a very pretty di[illegible] the situation. It would [illegible] to show your joy at see[illegible] wouldn't do to mistake [illegible] your lady. I only hope [illegible] the wrong one. Bet[illegible] Chicago and tell your [illegible] to wear a red ribbon [illegible] Send it to the depot, [illegible] her on the train."

[illegible] advice Mr. Bob Garrison [illegible] chanced a cheerful can[illegible], after which he took [illegible] promising to join his [illegible] at the depot.

Unfortunately Blake was of a nervous disposition, and he began to conceive the dreadful results of making a mistake. He told himself the thing was impossible, but it worried him just the same. Two years are two years, and in that time a girl develops into a young woman. Certainly in the photograph he could not make sure which of the girls was Gladys. Sometimes it seemed to him that the one on the right was undoubtedly she, then again he was just as sure that the



A Note and a Sphinx-Like Smile.

other one was his betrothed. He had seen her look exactly like both of them. The more he looked at it the more it seemed to him that the two pair of dancing eyes in the photograph challenged him mockingly for an answer. Finally he threw it down in despair.

"I'm making a mountain out of a molehill," he assured himself. "When I see the girls I'll know which is Gladys fast enough. It's just like Bob to try and worry me about it. I'll just fool him this trip."

Nevertheless he found himself wiping the drops of perspiration from his brow at the mere thought of the possibilities.

He did not find the situation any more tolerable next day at the depot. Bob Garrison was on hand, full of badinage and advice as to the best way of getting out of it. He seemed to take it for granted that Blake was going to make a mistake, and by the time the train drew in Jim had allowed himself to be badgered into a condition in which he would hardly have recognized his own father.

Blake saw a vision of loveliness descending the car steps which he recognized at once as Gladys. There could be no doubt about it, and he went forward with radiant face and outstretched hand. She even wore a brooch with a miniature set in it on the belt about her waist which he remembered to have seen before. Jim had always understood that it was not the proper thing to salute a young woman in a public place, but for this one occasion he made an exception. He was going to show Bob Garrison that he was not so slow after all. A moment later he looked up to see a second Gladys standing beside him with a curious smile on her lips. For just a second doubt crossed his mind, but then he recollected the miniature and smiled complacently. Out went his hand to her in frank brotherly greeting. Presently he became aware of Garrison hovering in the background shaking a fist at him, and introduced him with slight momentary confusion. After which the party gaily drove home in a cab.

Blake devoted himself to Miss Gladys with a lover-like ardor which left nothing to be desired. At the house the young ladies left them for a few minutes while they departed for their rooms to make a change of toilet. Luckily for Jim the miniature was still in evidence when they returned, so that he was sure of his betrothed; otherwise, even he was forced to confess, there was not a pin to choose between them. While they had been absent Jim had taken occasion to make some remarks about the sure instinct of love for finding its mate. He assured Garrison that one glance into the eyes of his Gladys had set his doubts at rest entirely, with some more of the same kind of talk. As for Garrison he simply grinned and hoped Jim had made no mistake, because he expected to lay siege to the vacant heart at once.

By what he considered most adroit management Blake succeeded in getting a minute alone with his sweetheart in the hall before he left, but to his surprise he found that young woman somewhat coy. The reason for it he discovered a few minutes later. As they were going down the steps her sister called him back and handed him a note and a sweet, sphinx-like smile. What the note said was this:

Dear Jim:

Do you remember once telling me that a woman had no sense of humor, that she could not understand a joke and would not recognize one if she saw it walking down the street? I made up my mind then to play a joke on you that you would never forget. My poor old Jim! How tell it for laughing? You have been making love all night to Nell, whom you have never seen before. Five times you have kissed her to my certain knowledge—poor me, who have had to put up with one meager handshake. I want you to be good friends with my sister, but I think you have gone a little farther tonight than the conventions demand. The miniature? Oh, I lent it to my sister for the occasion! I hope you will appreciate the point of this little joke. I am quite sure that your friend Mr. Garrison will see it. Please call tomorrow at three—and do not make any mistakes in identity. Good night, dear old stupid Jim!

Your unkissed sweetheart,
Gladys Harrison.

THE DREADED BACK DRAFT.

One of the Worst Perils That Confront the Firemen.

Next to a dangerous cellar fire nothing is more dreaded by the men than what is known in their own language as the "back draft." This is a sudden veering of the flames, usually caused by the burning away of some portion of the building that gives the fire renewed draft and changes its course completely. The firemen arrive and find the whole second or third floor of a building in flames. Axes in hand, they smash open the doors, and with the hose dash up the stairway. This is all afire, and the flames are rolling above like a red pall. With the engine at work and good pressure on the line, the battle between the two elements—fire and water—begins. Inch by inch the men fight their way up the stairway, now to retreat as the fire gains upon them, and now to advance as it rolls away for a moment. The encouraging words of the commanding officer are heard behind them urging them on: "Now, get in, boys! That's it—get in—get in! Make the next landing! Hit it up boys!" and all the other words of encouragement that he usually gives. They finally reach the landing. They are on the floor with the fire. It rolls toward them, an impenetrable wall of fire—the deadly back draft! Their only chance of escape is to throw themselves upon their faces, in hope that it may roll over them, or to hurl themselves down the stairs up which they have so gallantly fought their way. Better a broken leg or arm than death by roasting, and the water of fifty engines could never stay the progress of that awful wave of flame. Many a brave fellow has lost his life in this manner, and very often all the members of a company return with their eyebrows, hair and beard singed off, bearing evidence that they have been "ketched," as they express it, by a less terrible form of this deadly draft.—St. Nicholas.

Flowers from Penzance.

Imagine a whole freight train loaded with nothing by flowers. Such a train recently came rolling into London from Penzance. The Scilly Islands, lying to the westward of Land's End, are the flower gardens of the British metropolis. There is hardly any other industry on these islands except the raising of flowers for the London market. The Gulf stream "bobs up serenely from below" on the shores of the Scillys in its last expiring effort and brings to them a faint remembrance of the warmth of the tropic seas from whence it comes, thus making the islands of a mild climate, where flowers bloom in March. The cargo for this special trainload of flowers was brought from the island flower farms in a steamship to Penzance, where the train was in waiting. The flowers were in packages and as each package weighed but a few ounces some idea of the enormous bulk of the cargo may be gained from the fact that it weighed twenty-seven tons. The flowers were picked in the morning and loaded on the ship, which got them to Penzance in the early evening. Then the express freight rushed them to London, and the next morning they were for sale in the flower markets of the great city.

Eccentric British Magistrate.

Sir Harry Poland, a British magistrate noted for his brilliancy, is careless in his dress. Once his family persuaded him to go to Poole and order a fashionably-cut suit. To the chagrin of the household Sir Harry looked more outlandish in the new clothes than in his old ones. His brother-in-law went to see Poole about it. "It is not my fault, sir," the tailor assured him. "Every care was taken, but how could we fit a gentleman who would insist upon being measured sitting down?" And the only satisfaction that could be obtained from Sir Harry Poland himself later on was the dry comment: "Well, it's my business, and not yours. I like to be comfortable. I spend three parts of my life sitting down, and I prefer to be measured so."

Nomadic New Yorkers.

New-Yorkers move oftener than the people of any other large city in the world. The city directory shows that on an average 65 per cent of the residents change their addresses in the course of a year. High rents and the apartment system of living are largely responsible for the many changes, but real estate agents hold the prevalent system of permitting a tenant to occupy a flat or a house rent free for a few weeks or more, as an inducement to move into it, to blame for the nomadic tendencies of a large proportion of New-Yorkers.—New York Sun.

BASE BALL MATTERS.

CURRENT NEWS AND NOTES OF THE GAME.

New York Has Another New Pitching Star—Willie Mills Made a Fine Record in the New York State League—Pitcher McJames Release.

AN UNBLUSHING TRUTH.

Pitcher McJames, who was released last week by Brooklyn, declared that his ineffectiveness was due to lack of condition. He frankly admitted that after drawing for almost three months a salary so large that it tempted him to temporarily abandon the practice of medicine, that he is pounds overweight and unable to do himself or his employer justice. This is a confession by McJames that he has not dealt fairly with his club. He contracted to give Ebbets, Hanlon & Co. his best efforts as a ball player for a stipulated sum for the season, but when his manager finds that he has not kept his agreement and discharges him, he unblushingly says that he was too indolent to reduce himself to playing weight. He must have been conscious of this when he reported, but he took money which he did not earn, on every payday without the least hesitation and would have remained on the Brooklyn payroll all season without conscientious scruples about the kind of ball that he pitched. The ball player who has not the honesty and industry to keep himself in condition, does not deserve to draw a dollar from a ball club. Magnates make a mistake by keeping on salary lazy fellows who depend upon their reputations to remain in the game. Half the money wasted on them would develop earnest and ambitious youngsters. The war between the National and American Leagues has made an opportunity for young players to show their worth and there is a number in the National who have more than replaced the old-timers, whom they succeeded.—Sporting News.

DENVER'S STAR PITCHER.

Henry M. Schmidt, one of the pitchers of the Denver club of the Western League, learned to play ball at Nashville, Tenn. His professional career began with the Hopkinsville (Ky.) team of the Blue Grass League in 1893. He remained with that team until the close of 1894. In 1895 he was with the Evansville team of the Southern League, and at the beginning of the campaign of 1896 he was engaged by the Detroit club of the Western League, but later was "farmed" to the Mobile team of the Southern League. That year he participated in fifty-six championship games with the latter, and had a batting percentage of .280. Twice he made five safe hits to a game. He signed with the Richmond club of the Atlantic League, in 1897, and in that campaign he took part in thirty-nine championship contests. His most noteworthy pitching feat was in shutting Paterson out with a run and allowing it only three safe hits. He continued with Richmond until Aug. 18, 1898, when he was released and immediately signed with the Lancaster team of the same league.

A Good Record.

That year he participated in twenty-seven championship games with the two teams. While with the Richmonds he won an eleven inning and also a ten inning game from Paterson, allowing the latter only five safe hits in the first one, and seven in the second. He also won an eleven inning game from Newark. On July 15 he allowed the Allentowns only two safe hits. Aften joining the Lancasters he held Paterson and Hartford down to three safe hits each, and another time allowed Hartford four hits. He began the season of 1899 with the Lancaster team and after participating in twenty-nine championship games, the Atlantic League disbanded on Aug. 6.

Joined Kansas City Club.

His release was purchased by the Kansas City club of the Western League and finished the season with its team. While with Lancaster he allowed the Reading, Paterson and Wilkesbarre (twice) four safe hits each to a game. After joining Kansas City he took part in only six games. He

HENRY M. SCHMIDT.

allowed Grand Rapids only two safe hits and no runs, and Buffalo three hits and two runs. He was reserved by Kansas City for the season of 1900, but was released in April, and then he signed with the Wilkesbarre team of the Atlantic League. He played in eleven games with Wilkesbarre, when the Atlantic League was disbanded on June 11, and he next signed with the Denver club of the Western League and finished the season in a creditable manner. He participated in twenty-one championship games. He was credited with the remarkable pitching feat of allowing Sioux City only two safe hits and no runs in fifteen innings. He held Pueblo down to three hits and Omaha four. At the close of that season he was sold to Chicago club of the National League, but last spring he was turned over to Manager Tebeau of the Kansas City club of the Western League, who transferred him to the Denver club of the same league.

NEW YORK'S LATEST PHENOM.

The New York team of the National League is a great school for developing young pitchers, who speedily jump into prominence in league circles. The Giants' pitching staff is made up this season almost entirely of young players who are in their initial year in fast league company. First on the list of twirlers comes that young man who set the baseball world agog by his marvelous speed and curves, Christie Matthewson. Up to the beginning of the present season he was unknown in baseball circles, but he had only pitched a few games when his name was on the lips of well nigh every lover of the national game in the country. Taylor, a New York state leaguer, has also done good work with the New Yorks, as has Phyle. Both of these are new comers in the league.

An Ex-State Leaguer.

The New York management has recently added to its pitching corps another New York State Leaguer in the person of Willie Mills. Mills was the

PITCHER WILLIE MILLS.

star twirler on the strong Schenectady team, which leads in the race in this league. Mills made a remarkable record with the Schenectady nine this season before he was gobbled up by Freedman. He was in the box in eighteen games and by his fine work, backed up by first-class support, came out victorious in fifteen of them. Mills hails from Schenevus, N. Y., and as he is still young in years has plenty of time to develop into a pitcher of league calibre, if he be not already one. In 1897 he pitched for the crack Gillam team of Canajoharie, N. Y., and the following year was on the slab for the Ilions, one of the strongest amateur nines in Central New York. In 1899 and 1900 he was with Utica, contributing greatly to the team capturing the pennant in the latter year. This year he was transferred to Schenectady with a number of others of the Utica players and of his work there reference need only be made to his record given above. Mills has many admirers among State league patrons, who believe he will "make good" with the New Yorks. In his opening game as a Giant, against St. Louis, that strong team of hitters only made ten hits off of him.

DIAMOND GLINTS.

The veteran Jim O'Rourke is again in form and doing excellent work behind the bat for his Bridgeport team.

Charley Irwin, who has been released by Cincinnati to Brooklyn, will not, it is believed, strengthen the Bridegrooms to any appreciable extent. Irwin comes pretty near being among the back numbers.

Pitcher Waddell has not proved to be the wonder for Hart's Chicago team that was expected. He started out well, but his work recently has not been gilt edge. Waddell has not much confidence in the men behind him, and that means much in a game.

Donovan is not only a good base ball general, but a great ball player, and St. Louis cannot spare him. He is a finished fielder, a daring base runner and scientific batsman. His individual excellence makes him a fitting mate for Heidrick and Burkett, and the trio admittedly are the greatest outfield of the season, says the Sporting News.

Frank Hahn, the great twirler of the Cincinnatis, has been a consistent performer despite the predictions heralded last year that left-hand twirlers last only one season. With a few more men as Hahn the Reds would be higher in the race. Hahn's real merit cannot be judged by his performance in red, because he hasn't got the best team in the land to support him. The failure of the rest of its pitchers to make good has been a sad blow to the Reds.

"Anson once remarked that I was the greatest third batsmen in the business," says First Baseman Dexter. "I was playing third and he hit about half a dozen scorchers down to me. They came so fast that I shut my eyes and stuck out my hands. The ball happened to land right in my hands each time and I threw the old man out at first."

The Boston American Leaguers have done good work this season, and the popular captain, Jimmy Collins, is to be congratulated. He has excellent control of his men and has succeeded in getting out of them all the work there is in them. The utmost harmony seems to prevail in the team, and every player is anxious to secure the pennant of the American League. There is no doubt the Boston American team as now constituted is one of the best in the country.

The pitching staff of the Chicago White Sox is evidently composed of good willow-wielders. Four of the five leading batsmen of the team are slab artists—Callahan, Skopec, Griffith and Harvey—all with averages over .300.

Cy Young, the veteran pitcher, who is with the Boston American League team, has been doing some fine work with the stick this season. He has a batting average of .407 and stands second in the American League, being but one point behind the great Lajoi.

A Pittsburg writer thinks that Wagner of that city has the call as the crack all-round player of the country. There is not a position in which Lajoie cannot give him cards and spades. Lajoie played the positions of catcher, second base, first base and outfield when with the Fall River team, and fairly distanced anyone in that organization in his work. The way he changed from first to second was a fair in idication of his ability. He needed no practice at all and he could take to short or third as naturally as a duck takes to water.

James E. Wilson is engaged to lead the stock company at the American theater in New York next season.

Titled Prisoners

English Nobility Members Confined in Prison Cells

The prisoners of England shelter many titled and aristocratic prisoners, among them begin relatives of his majesty, the king, who have suffered ignominious penalties at the hands of the law. Lady Gunning, widow of Sir Henry Gunning and granddaughter of the second Lord Churchill, is serving a term of several years' penal servitude for having forged the name of her father to notes on which she raised money from London discounters and tradesmen. These forgeries extended over a number of years, and were considered especially unpardonable from the fact that her ladyship was driven to commit them not from her reduced circumstances, but from indebtedness caused by betting on the races. Mrs. Osborne, wife of Captain Osborne, of a crack cavalry regiment, being in destitute circumstances purloined a costly pearl necklace, which she later sold in England, and was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labor. Nor was any greater judicial leniency shown Gwynette Maude, granddaughter of the Earl of Montalt, who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labor for obtaining goods under false pretenses. The Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, presuming too greatly on the latitude allowed her rank, destroyed in the presence of the court a document that would have insured her defeat in a suit she was conducting. For this she was condemned to six months' imprisonment. The Count and Countess Leiningen, distant cousins of the King, are neither of them of great credit to their royal connections. For his many misdeeds the count is confined in an English penitentiary, while the countess is serving time in a Vienna jail as punishment for forgery, blackmail and swindling. Still greater degradation has been undergone by the Marchioness of Donegal, who has time and again been sent to jail, generally for brief periods, following her arrest in London for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. Still another connection of the English royal house, the Countess Waldeck, is now undergoing punishment for forgery and perjury under circumstances that had no extenuating features. No amount of royal influence could save her from jail. Italy has two convict dukes, chiefs of the famous old Sicilian house of Villarosa, who murdered in a most cruel manner a young infantry lieutenant who was betrothed to their sister, the Princess Catarina. The murderer dukes are confined in the great penitentiary of Maddalena, near Naples, which also shelters the Prince Caracciola, sentenced to ten years' hard labor for the murder of his wife. This noble prisoner was once deserted by his beautiful wife. As an effectual revenge he poisoned her with arsenic. In consideration of his princely name, the murderer escaped with a ten years' term.—Pennsylvania Grit.

He Was Clever.

Dr. Guthrie, an authority on military surgery fifty years ago, was a kindly man, though somewhat brusque in manner. Sir Joseph Frayer says: "I was his house surgeon, and we got on very well together. One day, when we were going through the wards with a large following of distinguished visitors, foreign surgeons and others, we stopped by the bedside of an interesting case, when Guthrie, found fault with the dresser for something he had done. The student ventured to reply and Guthrie said: 'I dare say you think you are a remarkably clever fellow, don't you?' 'No, sir,' said the youth, earnestly, 'I don't.' 'But you are, though,' said Guthrie, and passed on."

Natural Tunnel Is a Wonder.

In locating the Virginia and Southwestern railroad through the Alleghanies from Virginia into Tennessee advantage was taken of a natural tunnel which is one of the wonders of the world. The distance through this tunnel is about 1,000 feet, and so nearly perfect is the tunnel that only sixty feet of blasting was necessary. The region is of limestone formation, as always where there are extensive caves. The cliffs at each end of the tunnel are 400 feet high, and the scenery in the locality is remarkably fine.—Indianapolis News.

ARMY AND NAVY NOTES

Orders for the re-establishment of the European station have been issued by the secretary of the navy, and Rear Admiral Cromwell has been ordered to proceed at once to Europe and assume command of the station. For the present his squadron will consist of the cruiser Chicago, flagship, and the cruiser Albany and the gunboat Nashville. The Chicago is now the flagship of the South Atlantic station, but has received orders to proceed from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to Gibraltar, and the Albany and Nashville have already left Havre for Suez, where they are to receive orders from Rear Admiral Cromwell. It is stated at the navy department that one of the new battleships will be ordered to the European station some time in the fall. It is more than probable that either the Kearsarge or the Alabama will be selected for this duty. The European station was abandoned in 1898, just previous to the war with Spain.

H. Phelps Whitmarsh, governor of Benguet province, northern Luzon, who has been ordered to Manila to submit to an investigation, has had an adventurous career, according to newspaper biographies, having been a tramp, silver miner, sheep herder, pearl diver, beach comber, barber and author. He is the son of an English clergyman, and was born in Canada, and was traveling over the Philippines for a monthly magazine when he was, though a British subject, selected for Benguet's governor. He is now accused of using his position to his personal advantage in acquiring land and mining rights from the natives.

Work on two sections of a target representing the sides of an iron-clad warship, to be used for experiments by the ordnance department of the army, is about completed at the New York navy yard. The base consists of large timbers bolted together, with similar beams placed in an upright position and braced from behind. Against the upright beams will be placed steel plates, for the purpose of holding in position the armor. This will consist of Krupp steel eleven and a half inches in thickness and covering the entire surface of the target, which is sixteen feet square. The targets are to be experimented with at Sandy Hook.

American Capital in London.

The invasion of London by American capital, says an Englishman now in New York, has stirred up the English as much as did the arrival of the Dutch fleet off the mouth of the Thames in the olden time. The effect has been to awaken British capital to its possibilities. English pride has been hurt, and every endeavor will be made to keep abreast of the new and aggressive rival. Whether the English will be able to compete with America in the improvement of its own transit properties, however, is a much-disputed question. The success of the "two-penny tube," built by Americans after American methods and operated with American cars, is resulting in the renovation and extension of other antiquated underground lines, in which the Americans are taking the initiative. Englishmen believe, however, that the underground railroad projects of the Americans are only the beginnings of others in their country, and accordingly are bestirring themselves in order not to be forestalled along other lines.

Wealth is a pleasing condition of always having street car fare.

SOME ODDS AND ENDS

Underneath the town of Norwich, England, are numbers of brine springs, which were used for the preparation of salt even before the Christian era. Owing to the immense excavations occasioned by the pumping up of this brine, the main street of the town is now to be raised four feet. As recently as 1892 it was raised five feet, and again the thoroughfare is on a level with the River Weaver, which runs close by. The property to be lifted consists of hotels and large shops, under which hydraulic jacks are placed, and as the structures are raised wooden wedges are inserted. So accurate is the work done that "business is carried on as usual during alterations" and but little inconvenience is experienced by the families.

Nearly every little local custom in England can be traced by the antiquarian back almost to prehistoric times, and in the interesting tradition that the sunrise must be witnessed on midsummer day from the vast piles of Stonehenge is one of these ancient customs. It may have been a habit with the ancient Britons to do homage to the source of light on this, the sun's greatest day, or the custom may date back to those red-haired tribes who came before even the Britons in the history of the island. This world-famed monument of antiquity, the origin of which forever must remain a mystery to the human mind, is now inclosed by a high fence of barbed wire. To this has to be added the novelty of a turnstile, through which persons desirous of inspecting the stones may pass on payment of 1 shilling each.

Gigantic Oregon Mushrooms.

Oregon beats the world for rosy-cheeked girls, big red apples, roses, big cherries, long timbers and lots of other things, including edible mushrooms. Two specimens, the latter of the species "lautinus monstrosus," were found in the cellar of a resident of Irvington. They made their presence known by raising a pile of wood and threatening to lift the house off its foundations. They were secured by William F. Woodward, who sent one of them to Prof. Sweetser of Forest Grove, and has placed the other on exhibition. It is rather a formidable-looking fungus, the stem being two inches in diameter and about ten inches long, while the cap is the size of an ordinary soup plate and about three inches in thickness at the center. Such "vegetables" must not be grown under restraint of woodpiles or anything else short of an Egyptian pyramid, but must be given space according to their strength, which is something tremendous.—Portland Oregonian.

Fertility of Sicily.

The natural fertility of Sicily is indeed remarkable. Without the use of fertilizers three different growths—olives, vines and wheat—flourish in close proximity. Great sections already artificially watered are among the garden spots of the world. The "Piano del Cappucinni" at Trapani, on the western shore, the far-famed "Conca d'Oro," near Palermo, and the entire eastern coast north of Catania are sections which surpass in fertility the favored valleys of Tuscany. Already 10,000,000 orange trees, or two-thirds of the total number grown in Italy, flourish on the island, while cotton, hemp and linseed, the almond, the olive, the carob and the mandarin are extensively raised.

Striking-looking [illegible] made of silk [illegible] stripes, running [illegible] of the parasol, [illegible] of chiffon and [illegible]